

Two decades later child's murder is not solved



DANNARRIAH FINLEY

Margaret Toal For The Record

Twenty years ago, a few people were getting music from the internet thanks to a new device called the iPod. Netflix mailed DVDs. Less than half of Americans had broadband internet service. No one had dreamed of a smartphone that people would allow people to

have a computer in their pocket, or conceived of social media.

Technology has changed the world in two decades. But technology still has not caught up with Orange County's biggest mystery. Who killed little Dannarriah Finley on the Fourth of July, 2002?

Orange Police Detec-

tive Captain Jason Ashworth repeats what others before him have said. "Someday, technology will help us. There's new methods, new procedures, new techniques," he said.

He points out how DNA samples led authorities in 2018 to the Golden State Killer, a serial murderer and rapist whose crimes

spanned 1974-1986. Those crimes were never forgotten and reopened periodically through the years.

And no one in Orange is going to forget 4-year-old Dannarriah Finley, especially in the police department. The little purple shorts and flowered shirt she was wearing when she was taken from

her home and killed are framed on the wall in detectives' offices. Other charts and evidence are also displayed as a constant reminder of the unsolved crime.

Ashworth wasn't even with the Orange Police Department twenty years ago. "I'm the first to be sit-

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County sticks with Feds with high meal tab

Dave Rogers For The Record

Things would really suck the breath out of you if Orange County suffers another storm like Hurricane Harvey.

But first responders and others working out of the Emergency Operations Center at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center aren't likely to complain about the eats.

County Commissioners voted unanimously Tuesday to pay \$30 per meal for four meals a day -- or \$120 per day per person -- for Disaster Food Services served at the EOC.

L3S BBQ & Catering, a business headed by chef Mike Lemoine, former owner of the Boardwalk Cafe in downtown Orange, was the only business to submit a proposal after Requests For Proposals went out, County Purchasing Agent Tim Funch-

ess said.

"I think that's pretty high, \$30 per meal," Commissioner Theresa Beauchamp declared.

"Just so everybody knows," Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte explained to the non-county employees in the audience, "we're talking about these guys pretty much stay there. They supply the utensils, they supply the food, they supply the drinks. They are 24-7 pretty much during a disaster."

"Now I'm not trying to make it sound better. But I want everyone to know, that's not going to be cheap from anybody."

Judge John Gothia brought a sweetener to the discussion.

"Generally, that's refundable," Gothia said, indicating that FEMA would reimburse the county's meal expenses during a

County business Page 2A

Orange continues cleaning with removal of rotting houses

Margaret Toal For The Record

The city of Orange continues its effort to clean up as more sub-standard buildings were torn down. The clean-up goes along with the progress on adding new residences.

Last month the city issued eight building permits for new houses along with seven permits issued for demolitions. The buildings were in different areas with the addresses as 1205 Main Avenue, 1207 DuPont Drive, 2311 Riverside Drive, 2322 Butler, 1110 13th Street, 3915 Meeks Drive, and 1910 Luther Drive.

DSL D Homes Southwest received permits for eight new houses in the Cypresswood Village subdivision between Highway 87 South and FM 105. The city does not list values on residential permits. However, the DSLD website advertises the houses between \$230,000 and \$280,000.

D.R. Horton Homes had a permit for one new house on Allie Payne Road at Mallard Lakes development. The company's website lists a new home on Allie Payne, west of Little Cypress Intermediate School, for about

\$350,000.

Also in the residential category, the city issued two permits for house add-on projects, ten for home remodeling, and two for swimming pools. In addition, a permit for a \$45,000 residential concrete pad was given for 8809 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Three permits for residential fences plus two for home garages were granted.

People continue to prepare for hurricane season and power outages by installing generators. Nine permits were issued to connect home generators to electricity and 15 permits were for gas connections to generators. Rogers Lumber Company on Old Highway 90 had a commercial permit for a generator.

For more than a year, city building permits have included home solar electricity installations. In May, three more were issued.

The commercial permits have Tregre Enterprises, 1813 DuPont Drive in the Cove neighborhood getting a \$43,000 worth of concrete work for a new parking lot. Orange Stationer at 701 Division Avenue in downtown continued to get permits related to its remodeling project.



Terrie Salter, outgoing President of the Orange Lions Club, right, passes the gavel to 2022-23 President Grover Roberts III during Monday night's Officers Installation Banquet at the Brown Estate in Pinehurst.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

Lions celebrate, make history at banquet

Dave Rogers For The Record

The Orange Lions Club celebrated its history Monday night, then made some more.

Lion Butch Campbell highlighted the club's long tradition of service to the community as he installed a new slate of club officers and directors for the 2022-23 term after dinner at the Brown Center in Pinehurst.

He pointed out the Orange Lions had a special history as the presenters of their annual Lions Club Carnival for almost a century as he reminded that the officers had a defined role in staging the carnival.

Outgoing president Terrie Salter, an Orange City



Keith Merritt, left, was recognized as Lion of the Year for 2021-22 by outgoing President Terrie Salter at Monday's meeting of the Orange Lions Club.

RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

Council member and the first African-American to preside over the Orange Lions, then handed the gavel of leadership over to new club President, Grover Roberts III, who is retired from the U.S. Army.

Roberts is the first African-American man to hold the post.

"My expectation for this year is that we will grow," he said.

"Service is what we do and who we are. We will serve, and like the lions in the wild, we will roar."

Going back to Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Orange County has been hammered by one natural disaster after another, including nearly two years of off-and-on shutdowns

Lions Page 6A

July 4th blowouts: entertaining with pop

Dave Rogers For The Record

While the neighborhood children pop firecrackers and shoot bottle rockets Monday night, the big July 4 fireworks displays in Orange County are taking place on the east and west sides.

The City of Orange's celebration of the 246th birthday of the United States of America will be held at Riverside Pavilion, 708 Simmons Drive, beginning at 5 p.m.

Meanwhile, at Vidor's Maplecrest Baptist Church at 7 p.m., the Republican Party of Orange County is hosting an indoor community-wide July 4th Celebration fea-



At 7 p.m. Logan Soileau takes the stage for a musical trip through the ages.

turing U.S. Rep. Randy Weber.

Maplecrest Baptist Church is located at 17684 Interstate 10 East.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Gates open at 5 p.m. for Orange's annual Fourth of July wingding, with food vendors and activities on site.

At 7 p.m. Logan Soileau takes the stage for a musical trip through the ages. The Louisiana native grew up with blues, jazz, Cajun and Zydeco music. After a move to Texas, he embraced flamenco, Latin pop, Texas Boogie and Houston rap.

His setlist includes

July 4 Blowouts Page 3A

Dannarriah Finley murder remains unsolved From Page 1

ting in this chair (head of detectives) who wasn't here at the time," he said. The other detective captains before him are now retired.

However, he can't complain about how the investigation was conducted. Orange police at the time called in Texas Rangers and FBI agents. Dozens worked gathering evidence and interviewing people.

"I've never seen a case before or after that was investigated so thoroughly," Ashworth said. "We have binders and binders full of evidence."

He's read up on the case, as have others who were

not at the department during the summer of 2002. They also keep up with the latest forensic developments. "It's incumbent on us to keep aware of new technology that comes on line," he said. If new technique is developed, they will have their evidence tested again.

Her mother, Jaimie Arnold, reported Dannarriah missing to police the afternoon of Thursday, July 4, 2002. She told officers she had seen the child at 4 a.m. and saw the girl was missing when she awoke about 10 a.m. Before calling police, she looked through the neighborhood and called relatives.

The family lived in a small wood frame house in the 1000 block of Fourth Street, across from historic shotgun houses off Park Avenue and Fourth. The house was demolished after being damaged by Hurricane Rita. Police think the girl was taken from the house, possibly by someone she knew.

The day after she was reported missing, her photograph was taken by every business in Orange and the surrounding area. The photos were displayed everywhere and the little girl was the talk of the town.

On the Saturday after

her disappearance, hundreds of volunteers, including the Equusearch horse team, worked in 100 degree heat to look for Dannarriah. They checked every brush pile and storage shed, and crawled under houses in an area from Green Avenue north to the interstate, and west of Simmons Drive and east of 16th Street. The child was never found.

Mount Zion Baptist Church under the Reverend C.W. Crawford on John Avenue, down the street from the house, became a central gathering place for volunteers searching and those providing food and water.

The church had a special service for the child.

The bad news came on the Monday of July 8. A worker on Pleasure Island in Port Arthur, 27 miles away, found the decomposing body of a child on the hot sand. An alligator had been swimming nearby. Tests were rushed and the victim matched Dannarriah. Port Arthur police also joined the investigation.

The child had been wrapped in a colorful flowered sheet that had been made years before by Springfield. Photographs of the sheet were at businesses next to Dannarriah's picture and police

asked for help in linking the sheet to someone. No one came forward.

Mount Zion Church held her funeral with more than 750 people throughout the community mourning the loss of the child who died days before her fifth birthday.

That loss is still mourned, especially by police. And as a new generation of law officers takes on the case, they promise they will not forget little Dannarriah Finley.

Anyone with information about the kidnapping and murder should contact the Orange Police Department Detective Division at 409-883-1026, or Crimestoppers at 409-833-TIPS.

County business

From Page 1

disaster.

Morgan Taylor, the county's point person for FEMA rules and paperwork, told the judge accepting LS3 BBQ's proposal was proper.

"We're showing that we went out for procurement and followed the (FEMA guidelines). We did reach out to multiple people in Orange County to let them know about the opportunity."

"As long as we follow the FEMA guidelines," Gothia agreed.

"Everything's going up," Taylor said of the price.

Gothia said that during a disaster he provided a daily headcount for the caterer to use to prepare meals.

"The number of meals we serve (each day) depends on the size of the disaster," Taylor said. "It could be just (county EOC workers) or 1,500 people, like Harvey."

Asked after Tuesday's Commissioners Court about the fourth meal of the day, Gothia said that besides breakfast, lunch and dinner, a midnight meal was prepared mostly for law enforcement personnel.

"I don't see we have a choice," Commissioner Robert Viator said.

"I don't like it but we'd be in trouble if we didn't have any food for the first responders," Roccaforte said.

"We'd get no help," Viator agreed.

Money the county won't get back was the \$1.5 million paid in weekly bills for June 28.

Good news is that much of that money -- \$482,000 -- was reimbursement to contractors from grant

funds and another \$50,000 came from storm insurance settlements or drug forfeiture funds, not from the general fund.

A year-plus without a disaster and a \$10 million FEMA reimbursement check received for Hurricane Laura expenses left the county in position to add a new position as Fleet Risk Management Coordinator.

The position will pay \$47,424 per year (\$22.80 per hour) and allow the county to centralize information about the vehicles and heavy equipment under the control of various departments.

"Hopefully, centralizing it into a system will help with reimbursement and Morgan's grant stuff," said Lori Ardoin, Human Resources Director.

Ardoin said currently she and County Risk Management Director Missy Pillsbury have joint responsibility after an auto wreck or other accident.

"They report to HR if there's an injury and to Missy with the cars," she said.

Said Gothia: "We've been trying to do this for two years, but disasters keep getting in the way."

Ad valorem tax payments in May put \$558,732 in county coffers.

Commissioners agreed to pump \$100,000 from the county's contingency fund into the Sheriff's Office fuel, oil, gas and grease account.

Chief Deputy Mark Dubois said the SO was originally budgeted \$200,000 for fuel, oil, gas and grease for the entire fiscal year, which runs through Sept.

County business Page 3A

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION ORANGE, TEXAS. CONCERT & FIREWORKS. RIVERSIDE PAVILION - 708 SIMMONS DRIVE. JULY 4, 2022 | 4PM - 9PM. LOGAN SOILEAU @ 7:00PM. FIREWORKS @ 9:00PM. NO DOGS | NO PETS | 409.883.1011. Explore ORANGE TEXAS logo.

Welcome NEW PASTOR Harland Strother. C'mon and say, "Howdy!" & Welcome on his first Sunday with us July 3, 10:30 a.m. SUNDAY WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S CHURCH, & ROCKIN' COUNTRY GOSPEL WITH THE COWBOY CROSS BAND. 673 FM 1078, Orange.



Jim Wolf, center, was thanked for his 23 years of service to the City of Orange by Mayor Larry Spears, Jr. and City Manager Mike Kunst during a reception for Wolf at the Orange Public Library.

Jim Wolf retirement official with reception

Staff Report
For The Record

A reception honoring longtime City of Orange employee Jim Wolf was held Tuesday in the Ira Williamson Room of the Orange Public Library. Wolf is stepping down as

the Director of Public Works effective June 30. Wolf has been the head of the Public Works Department for 23 years. Wolf is proud of the projects accomplished for the City of Orange during his time with the city. City Manager Mike

Kunst said with Wolf's retirement being official on Thursday the Director of Public Works position will transfer to the Assistant Director James Ingram. Kunst indicated the city has already posted the job vacancy.

County business From Page 2A

30. "That budget was based on average of \$2.20-something per gallon, but now it's \$5," he said. "Nobody predicted \$5 a gallon. Plus, we're getting billed about

\$5 more per oil change." Joel Ardoin, Emergency Management Coordinator for the county, reported the county had 112 new cases of COVID, 19 of which were confirmed

with 93 probable. Three new cases resulted in hospitalization, one of those despite being fully vaccinated.

July 4 blowouts From Page 2A

songs by Johnny Cash, Jimi Hendrix, Marvin Gaye, Hall and Oates, Prince, Guns & Roses, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Gnarl Barkley, Chris Stapleton, Drake, Weeknd and Kendrick Lamar.

He's set to play until 9 p.m. when the pyrotechnics light up the sky over the Sabine River.

Lawn chairs are encouraged, along with coolers, but pets are a no-no at Riverside Pavilion.

Weber, who will become

Orange County's man in Washington in January because of redistricting, is bringing along to Vidor Dr. Rick Scarborough from Weber's hometown of Pearland.

Scarborough is a former Southern Baptist pastor who has a decade or so was called the Christian Right leader by some. He heads up Recover America, a group that pushes for Biblical solutions to real life problems.

He has said, 'I'm not a

Republican, I'm not a Democrat. I'm a Christocrat. He has described AIDS as 'God's judgment, opposes same-sex marriage and said he is willing to be burned to death opposing gay rights.

Along with guest speeches by Weber and Scarborough, the Lone Star Winds, a Vidor-based woodwind group, will perform under the direction of Jacob McWherter.

Wesley UMC to hold Family Fun Days

Please join us each Thursday in July for our Family Fun Days. We will gather from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Wesley United Methodist Church located at 401 N. 37th Street in Orange for food, games and fun.



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From the Creaux's Nest

TRUMP DIDN'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT VIOLENCE AT CAPITOL

The House Committee investigating the Capitol attack Jan. 6, 2021, held an abruptly scheduled hearing Tuesday with testimony from former White House aide Cassidy Hutchinson and 'recently obtained evidence.' Hutchinson witnessed White House strategy sessions to challenge the 2020 election results as a top aide to former Chief of Staff Mark Meadows. Meadows told White House lawyer Pat Cipollone on Jan. 6, 2021, that President Donald Trump didn't want to do anything to stop the violence that was taking place at the Capitol. This is according to Cassidy Hutchinson's testimony.

FINGER POINTING CONTINUES IN UVALDE

In the wake of the senseless tragedy, the people of Uvalde and Texas have demanded answers from their government. To date, they have been met with lies, misstatements, and shifts of blame. While the governor vows that results of Texas Rangers and FBI investigations will be released when completed, the chaos and infighting among law enforcement agencies continues. The governor, who promised the public clarity and accuracy after he was forced to retrace his early heroic depiction of Uvalde police response, has resisted records requests as well, unless they seemed to benefit him. Abbott, up for re-election in November against Democratic Beto O'Rourke, agreed to release to Houston's KTRK-TV his handwritten notes from the day of the shooting that seem to support his claim that he was misled about the facts. The public's right to know and the media's watchdog role is holding officials accountable have never been more important. This back and forth, a disappointing tangle of self-interest, has obscured the truth and eroded trust. Senate Committee Chairman Senator Robert Nichols of Jacksonville, who represents Orange County said, "We don't really know what all to believe because we're learn so much stuff." Nichols asked for clarifications about the classroom door lock. All this maneuvering to protect agencies, officials and colleagues stands in stark contrast to the protection that those 19 children and their teachers didn't get. Grieving families and Uvalde residents deserve more. They deserve the truth. It's the least officials can do after failing the shooting victims so tragically. In some of the most jolting revelations yet, Department of public Safety Director Steve McCraw testified last week to the Texas Senate that, within three minutes of a deranged gunman entering Robb Elementary, there were enough armed officers wearing body armor to "isolate, distract and neutralize the subject" in the classrooms where children lay bleeding, dying and begging a 911 operator for help. Yet no one would go for more than an hour. "The officers had weapons. The children had none," McCraw told senators. "The officers had body armor, the children had none. The officers had training, the subject had none." "One hour, 14 minutes and eight seconds is how long McCraw said the children waited for rescue." During that time, Arredondo, the school district police chief who was recently placed on leave, waited as well, first for a radio he had neglected to bring in, then for rifles that were apparently already there. Then for shields that soon arrived but went unused. Then for SWAT officers, who arrived promptly as well but were made to wait. The, lastly, for a key that was never needed," McCraw said.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 15 YEARS AGO-2007

I don't understand the obsession with a Paris Hilton, Brittany, Anna Nicole Smith or others. This week the tube will be filled with Paris being released from jail. Larry King will do an hour with Hilton Wednesday night. Why? America has a fascination with the unusual, the rich and the renegades. Our Buddy A.J. Broussard spent 10 days in the hospital. The best help he received was the regulation of his medicine. He is very weak and hard to understand. Although he has no appetite, he did have a good day Saturday when his sister Vivian Dorman had the family over and prepared a great meal as only Vivian can fix. We spoke with A.J. Sunday morning and he was still excited about having spent time with family. He faces an increasingly tough deal every day. He expressed his gratitude for all the cards he has received. Our friend Joe Raburn had successful heart surgery and is doing quite well. Nurse Lou is caring for his every need. We were sorry to hear about the passing of Dick Jackson, 83, who died in Coto DeCarza, California on June 16. Services were

held in Orange Friday. We extend best wishes to Jackie Scales on her new job at Fort Bend, a 5-A school. Jackie is a Bridge City native, daughter of Donna and Jimmy Scales, and former B.C. High Girl's basketball coach. We welcome Dr. James Harrison, selected to be the new BCISD Superintendent. The 33-year-old Harrison comes from the Hardin-Jefferson School District, where he has spent the last four years. We were sorry to hear about the death of Lee Ann Denmon, 51, who passed away Saturday. Services will be Wednesday, 10 a.m. at Dorman Funeral Home.

45 Years Ago-1977

Five leagues were represented in the sweetheart coronation held by Bridge City Little League. Crowned Pee Wee queen was Stacy Barclay; Rene' Gulliot, princess; Jennifer Bernard, Patty Kelly and Terrie Moseley duchesses. In Minor League, Misty Bonin was crowned queen; Kimberly Rose, princess; Tammy Walker and Carilyn Smith, duchesses. Major League queen was Denise Barclay; Teresa Benoit, princess; Lisa Trahan, Christine Leblanc, Janice Stone and Christi Gunter duchesses. Lynn Griffin Pony League queen; Therese Gauthier, princess; Stephanie Metner, Christi Shugart and Denise Williamson duchesses. Representing the Colt League was Lori Bergeron, queen; chairpersons were Linda Nick and Penny Harris. Sandi Mobley, D.E. student and Opportunity Valley News employee for the past two years, has left the paper to attend a school of higher learning. Farmer Police Chief Wilson Roberts has bought wife Beverly a new Thunderbird. A payoff probably to get out of the doghouse. Necey Gauthier will be 17 on the seventh day of the seventh month of 1977. She is also one of seven children. Grover M. Lee, a member of Bridge City Lodge #1345 A.F. & A.M. Masonic Lodge, was elected Worship Master for 1977-1978. Lee has been employed at E.I. Dupont Sabine River Works for 29 years. Other officers elected are Charles (Jack) Angelle, H.D. Wright, Elliot Gunnee, Don Clayton, Jimmy Williams, Max Windham, Thomas Lucan and Charles Kihnl. The Bridge City gumbo team, led by Roy Dunn, took first place in gumbo cooking awards at Doug Kershaw's Louisiana weekend festivities. Kershaw was appearing at the Houston Astrodome. The B.C. team was named 'Grand Champion.' Other team members are Ethel and Lawrence Foux, Ann Lieby, Barbara Gillis and Phyllis Dunn. The big sign in the Astrodome flashed the team's names and declared the Bridge City team 'World Champions'. The team had previously been named the 'Over-All Best' at the International Gumbo Festival held in Orange. Wayne Jones opened Fisherman's Reef Restaurant, located in the building formally occupied by Horde's Restaurant on IH-10 (Editor's note: Beautiful Sharon Gregory, of Bridge City, daughter of June and Fred Gregory, was named Miss Texas Teen Queen. The state pageant took place in Dallas. Sharon will represent Texas in the national competition in Memphis in September (Editor's note: Sharon did go on to win the national contest, but gave up the Miss USA Teen title after a conflict with the national committee, which she found to be unethical. The last we heard Sharon was in Florida. Her mother June still lives in Bridge City. Her father Fred passed away several years ago. Funny how time slips away. June was younger than her daughter is today, when Sharon was named the most beautiful teenager in the USA. To me it seems only yesterday). Baxter's Brigade gathered at Harold Beeson's home Wednesday for a big Italian supper. The Baxter troops will gather at the home of Don Jacobs on Friday. Barry Wiseman and Clay Dugas will both take brides in a few days. A time capsule dedication ceremony will be held Monday, July 4, on the Court House lawn. The time capsule contains memorabilia from the Bi-centennial year. Other artifacts include three issues of the Opportunity Valley Newspaper. The program will include William (Bill) Nugent, Hubert H. Meadows, Judge Pete Runnels, Mrs. Frances Reed, Mrs. H.R. (Bubba) Voss and Boy Scout troop #229 and leader T.C. Jacobs.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Cowboy Church welcomes new Cowboy Pastor Harland Strother. Come out and say 'Howdy' and welcome him on his first Sunday with us, July 3, 10:30 a.m., 673 FM 1078, Orange. Join in on the Sunday Worship, Children's Church and rockin' Country Gospel with the Cowboy Cross band. Chad 'Cheese' Dallas, the youngest of Tony and Nancy Dallas, had his 22nd birthday last week. Cheese is pitching minor league baseball after being drafted last year by the Toronto Blue Jays. Congratulations to Benetris Edwards for being named 'Worthy Mother of the Year' by the Stars of Gate City 57. She's out in front leading a lot of civic improvement projects in Orange and has been working hard on the annual school supply give-away. On July 6, 1980, Bud and Tillie Mulholland lost their lives in an auto accident on Highway 87, coming from the beach. Every July 4th that rolls around, I think about that and those fine people. Tillie was A.J. Judice's sister. On July 2, 1962, Sam Walton opened his first store in Rogers, Arkansas. He died in April, 1992. If he were alive today, he would be the world's richest man, doubling the worth of Bill Gates. When Mr. Sam was in town for the opening of the area's first Wal-Mart store in Bridge City, Roy Dunn was master of ceremonies. County Judge Pete Runnels and Roy spent time with Mr. Sam, who invited them to visit him in Bentonville. Dayle Foreman of Cow Bayou already has a second book coming out. This time, it's a novel instead of a memoir. She'll be selling and signing copies

of 'Tempest Fugit' Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Museum of the Gulf Coast in Port Arthur. June wedding anniversaries continue to be celebrated. Larry and Maureen Campbell had their 50th party on the weekend at the restored Southern Pacific Train Depot. Friends and family had a barbecue dinner and reminisced. Randy and Paula Ragsdale marked 35 years of marriage. They officially became grandparents earlier this year with baby Janie. Heard she's already training for softball. Kellie and Damon Vacek have a few more years to go before reaching Ragsdale and Campbell status, but they are well on the way with No. 15 this month. Hammond and Glenda Thompson marked their 43rd anniversary at the lake with lots of boating. I followed the men's college world series. Ole Miss was the last team to get into the NCAA Baseball Tournament and they were the last team standing. I was pulling for the Rebels. Sunday they won their first ever national baseball title, sweeping Oklahoma in the finals 4-2. The player that was most impressive was Sooner pitcher, Cade Horton, who set a new record with 13 strikeouts and no walks. Look for a half-dozen players from the two teams to go high in the baseball draft. It was an improbable journey for Ole Miss and 22-year coach Mike Blanco. College football surprise... Quarterback Arch Manning, the #1 overall recruit in 2023, chose Texas over Alabama, Georgia and family ties Ole Miss and Tennessee. Arch, a five star quarterback from New Orleans high school, is the nephew of NFL greats Eli and Payton and grandson of All American Archie Manning. Betty Garrison surprised husband, Mike, with a 70th birthday party. The biggest surprise was younger brother Gary Garrison, who came from the East Coast to help celebrate. Baby showers were on tap during the weekend. In Austin, former Orange residents Ann and Henry Seals hosted a shower for longtime friend and fellow Longhorn Emily Mellen McKee. Also, Leigh Anne Dallas and Sarah Ragsdale Nash helped put on a baby shower for childhood friend Alayna Jacobs. More new Orange County residents are on the way. Wonder if we'll ever have a hospital here so children can say they were 'born in Orange' again. Summer travels continue for locals. Beth Wheeler took some boys with her, along with Judge Jerry and Susan Pennington, for an Alpine tour through Switzerland and the mountains. They were wearing jackets instead of sweating in 100 degree Southeast Texas. With the price of gas being at record highs, Jim and Sandra Cash decided to take their RV to Crystal Beach and Galveston, closer to home than some of their other travels. Parrish Bird, Amy Worsham, and Cindy Kindle took a girls trip to Waco for the sights and food. Did they come back channeling Chip and Joanne? John and Marla Blanke joined former residents David and Patty Mouton for a trip around Vancouver and then to cruise Alaska, where they enjoyed the clam chowder. Ask Marla what she now has in common with the President. When you reach 90-plus years, your family comes to you. Alma Thibodeaux was surrounded by great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren at her home. We had a nice visit last week with longtime friend Clint Landry, 1974 West Orange grad. I could say a lot of wonderful things about him but everyone who knows him, knows baseball is his passion. Today Clint is wearing a black patch over his left eye because of a detached retina, his second one. I learned when that happens you just have 30 hours to get to a doctor or the eye will die. Besides that Clint also fought a bad case of COVID. Our prayers are with Clint.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the new few days. June 29: Longtime friend Ann Lieby celebrates today. Also sharing birthdays are Jana Fissette, Dwayne Rice, Rebecca Griffin and Katie Keneson. Our late friend Barbara Mulholland would have celebrated today. June 30: Happy Birthday to longtime West Orange Mayor Roy McDonald, also to our feature writer Dave Rogers, Chris Huebel and Sonya Jarreau. July 1: Celebrating today are Charlie Learned, Shirley Dougher, Marcy Strahan, Reilly Shaw, Renee Degeyter, Dian Arnold and Jeff Eby. July 2: Celebrating today are a special lady Nancy Dupuis, Lisa Wilson, Brennon Mitchell, Marla Lemoine, Kristy Davis and Maria Garcia. July 3: Former county judge and Pinehurst mayor Pete Runnels celebrates today, also former county judge Dean Crooks, Ellen Ray, Kathy Simmons, Cyndee Fleetwood, Ashley Baker and Jeanne Donahey. July 4: Today is Independence Day. Celebrating birthdays are Kellie Derouen, Katy Maloney and Kathie Wilson. July 5: Happy Birthday to Dr. Rod Fissette, Shane Hanks, Charlotte Pruter, Billy Boehme and Debbie Moreau.

C'EST TOUT AUDREY BLOWS IN 65- YEARS-AGO

On June 26, 1957, Hurricane Audrey came ashore at Cameron, Louisiana. She was packing 150 mile-an-hour winds. The category four storm put a 12-foot wall of water on the entire coastal area. It wasn't until the next day, June 27, that word got out about the total destruction of the area. Nearly 600 people were killed and almost all of the wildlife. Even though the eye of the storm skirted Orange County, very little wind damage was done. A reunion will be held in Cameron Wednesday, June 27, by survivors and those who lost relatives. Today, with the advance warning systems and technology a killer storm like Audrey is not likely to happen again. She is one for the record books and still lives in the memory of everyone old enough to recall. Have a safe 4th of July Holiday. Thank God for our independence and our many blessings. Take care and God bless.

Deaths & Memorials

James "Jim" Ray Mestepey, 93, Orange

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of James "Jim" Ray Mestepey, age 93, of Orange, Texas, Wednesday April 13, 2022 in Houston, Texas. Visitation was held at St. Francis Assisi, Orange on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 with a Vigil and Rosary. A Mass was held the following day Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at St. Francis Assisi, Orange. Interment followed Mass at Franklin Cemetery, Franklin, Louisiana.

Mr. Mestepey was born in Longville, Louisiana to John and May Mestepey on June 18, 1928. He lived in Orange, Texas for over 50 years.

Jim enjoyed a full life from the time he was born. He played college football for McNeese State and Southern Louisiana Institute (SLI). He graduated from SLI with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and held a Professional Engineer license. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the JCs, and Texas Water Commission. After college, Jim worked at Lockheed Martin, Frees, Sabine Industries, Firestone (US and France), and Dor-



James Mestepey

man Funeral Home. Jim was also a Kentucky Colonel, a member of the National Guard and served in the Army during the Korean War.

Preceded in death by his parents John A. and May Mestepey, brother John B. Mestepey.

He is survived by his wife Ruby Elise Robichaux Mestepey, sons, Todd Mestepey and wife Jodi, Ryan Mestepey, daughters Susanne Mestepey Fuchs and husband David, Marie Mestepey Poirier and husband Charles, Julie Mestepey Morin and husband Mike, nine grandchildren, Ashley Mestepey, Matthew Mestepey, Chloe, Melanie, and Aaron Fuchs, Claire and Henri Poirier, Emerson and Landon Morin.

Pallbearers that honored Mr. Mestepey were Todd Mestepey, Ryan Mestepey, Matthew Mestepey, Charles Poirer, Mike Morin, David Fuchs, Woody Dorman; Honorary Pallbearers were Paul Graffagnino, Patrick Johnson, Alex Dorman, and Darrel Flanigan.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to MD Anderson in honor of his memory.

Katherine McLane Frey, 83, Orange

On June 23, 2022 in the comfort of her home, surrounded by all her children and grandchildren, Katherine McLane Frey, 83, passed from this world to our Heavenly Father's house in the heavens.

She was born April 9th, 1939, in Eunice, Louisiana to Effie Louise and David McLane. She married Will David Frey in 1957.

The Frey Family moved to Orange, Texas in 1966 and she ran Frey's Nursery & Garden Center with her late husband, Will.

Katherine was a larger-than-life personality. She never met a stranger and brought so much joy to everyone she met. Katherine was a vibrant member of the community and had a true servant's heart. Her life was filled love, laughter, family and friends.

She is survived by her daughters and



Katherine Frey

sons-in-law, Kim & David Boyd, Sabrina & Lynn Gray, Karen & Kirk Richard, Stephanie & Ted Leggett; son and daughter-in-law, Mark & Terri Frey and 18 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren.

All services were held Monday June 27, 2022, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Orange located at 4300 Meeks Drive.

A rosary in Katherine's memory will be held at 9:00 am. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 am.

Officiating will be Reverend Francis X. Conroy. Entombment will follow at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Orange.

In true Katherine style, a celebration of life will be held instead of visitation from 12pm to 2pm at the San Damiano Center. The family invites all that would like to attend.

In lieu of flowers, Katherine requests donation to St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Francis of Assisi.

In Memory of Kirby E. Procell, Orange

Kirby E. Procell would have turned 85 this Thursday. Born on June 30, 1937 he passed away on May 22, 2021

Kirby E. Procell was born in Colfax, Louisiana, on July 30, 1937, he was the son of Sam Procell and Pearl Roberts. Kirby did an apprenticeship with Lamar and went on to do a weight and measure school with Texas A&M University. He worked for Sparrow Brothers as a Vice President. Kirby later went to work with his brothers at Procell Brothers Performance Center and worked as a mill wright until retirement. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge 126 and had a 32nd Degree Mason.

Kirby was the most loving and giving



Kirby Procell

man you could ever meet and always gave donations to the Shriner Hospital and St. Jude's. Kirby left an impact on many lives and will be dearly missed.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Kay Kennerly Procell; and second wife, Norma Jean Procell.

He is survived by his step children, Kristy Simons and Keven Poole; niece, Kathy Peltier, Sherry Procell, Marsha Adix, and Eric Procell; great niece and nephew, Michela and Jackson Adix; and siblings, Bill Procell and wife Ann of Houston, Quincy Procell and wife Nancy of West Orange, and Mark Procell; as well as his best friend for 71 years, Myrle Stringer.

Family Funs Days hosted by Wesley United Methodist

Please join us each Thursday in July for our Family Fun Days. We will gather from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Wesley United Methodist Church located at 401 N. 37th Street in Orange for food, games and fun.

First Saturday at First Baptist Church

First Saturday at First Baptist Church was very successful in June; therefore, we will again be giving away hurricane emergency supplies. July 2 bags of matches, water, small first aid kits, canned food, etc will be handed out in the church parking lot at 200 W Roundbunch Road in Bridge City. The hand out will not start until 10 A.M. and will last until 12:00 or when supplies are all gone.

First Baptist Church is also giving away children's backpacks for those who need them; and since we are celebrating Independence Day, a pulled pork sandwich will be free for each person.

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Cowboy Church Under New Leadership

SHERRI PORTERFIELD
Guest Columnist
For The Record

Pastor Harland Strother will usher in a new era at Cowboy Church of Orange County when he takes up the reins July 1. Strother's "Faith Walk" style of ministry encourages believers to kick up a little dust while keeping in mind that working for God's glory is never about "I"; it's about HIM.



Sherri Porterfield

Strother refuses to be cowed by what many may consider the decline of the church in America. A scripture particularly close to his heart is Luke 14:23, "and the lord said unto the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'" It's up to church leaders, Strother says, to provide a compelling worship experience with excellence on every level: music, message, and ministry. Strother's team-based approach to church leadership includes building personal relationships within the church body.

An avid hunter and fisherman, Strother questions the traditional "catch 'em and clean 'em" approach to inviting folks to church. "The Bible," Strother says, "tells us to be fishers of men. It tells us to catch 'em, to bring 'em in. It doesn't tell us to



clean 'em up. The Holy Spirit will take care of that part, working in each of their lives when they accept Jesus Christ."

Strother was raised in a Pastor's home under the daily influence of Ministry. He accepted Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior at the age of 15 and has served in Ministry since age 17. He married his high school sweetheart Denise, and they have two children, both of them grown and serving the Lord. Strother says, "My thought about the church in 2022 is we have to get back to the fundamental basics of bringing people under the influence of the word of God. How do we do that? Any way we can. Nothing is impossible with God."

Strother's plans for the Youth and Children's ministries at Cowboy Church of Orange County include involving the church body in an immediate focus on hiring a Youth Pastor, and in nurturing the Senior Adult Ministry with Wednesday night Bible studies Strother will teach

personally.

The Cowboy Church by-laws state, "God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on Biblical truth." Pastor Harland Strother couldn't agree more. He plans to strengthen and support the Cowboy Church's model of a non-judgmental approach to reaching those with a connection to the Western culture and beyond. He says, "If you're more comfortable on a Harley than a horse, that's fine with me."

The Cowboy Church of Orange County Arena Ministry, Strother says, will include community-wide arena events focusing on fellowship through sports, and not all of those will involve traditional rodeo. Strother hails from Line Camp

Cowboy Church in Devers, where he served as Senior Pastor six years. Previously, Strother served as Senior Pastor at FBC Newton. Strother holds a Bachelor of Science in Theology and a Master of Divinity in Church Administration. He attended East Texas Baptist University and the International Bible Institute and Seminary.

Whether you make your way to church by Harley, Hummer, Honda or horse, Pastor Harland Strother issues a personal invitation to his joyful first Sunday message as Senior Pastor July 3 at Cowboy Church of Orange County, 673 FM 1078, Orange. Sunday worship and Children's Church both begin at 10:30 a.m., with rockin' Country Gospel led by Jackie LaFleur and the Cowboy Cross Band.

**Sherri Porterfield is with the Media Team and Women's Ministries at the Cowboy Church of Orange County. She maintains the church YouTube channel <https://www.YouTube.com/c/CowboyChurchOfOrangeCounty>*

Lions banquet

From Page 1

caused by COVID-19.

Both weather and pandemic had hindered attendance at the carnival and gathering together for monthly meetings.

But it did not keep the Lions from recruiting new, younger members and holding their most successful carnival in four years.

"This is a much younger group of officers than we've had in a while. They have hair,"

Campbell joked.

Both Salter and Roberts joined in late 2017, after Hurricane Harvey.

Before turning over the gavel, Salter made a year-end report, handed out gifts to 2021-22 officers and presented a couple of special awards.

"I'm really ecstatic about Grover being the President because I know where his heart is -- to serve the people. We've been serving people in this community long before we joined this club."

Lions Club members took part in several community activities per month and collected impressive donations of \$5,000 from DOW, \$10,000 from the Stark Foundation in memory of Larry David, and \$7,500 in memory of Tony Del Sasso.

Salter presented former Orange County Sheriff Keith Merritt the "Lion of the Year" honor for his service in 2021-22.

"This is the pinnacle of service award we give out to a Lion who has been in the club many years and has served in all fashions. When there is something to be done and I'm talking about the hard and long-hour jobs, this Lion came out every time," Salter said.

"He served the club with pride and passion and is an example for new members as well as the old to follow. To me, that's what this Lion portrays and displays."

Rachel Hannan took home the Rookie of the Year award.

"This Lion stepped into this club and really went to work," Salter said.

Incoming officers include Jared Wilson as first vice president, Tiffany Bell as second vice president and Benitris Edwards as third vice president.

Also, Ann Ellis is the new secretary, Chris Kovatch is treasurer, Sandra Williams is communications officer, Stump Weatherford is tail-twister in charge of club morale, and Lois Hughes will be membership secretary for the 27th year.

Hughes has been invaluable in finding assistance for individuals coming to the Lions with need, Campbell said.

Members of the 2022-23 are Randall Morris, Hannan, Bill Smith, Chris Horner, Carlene Ortolon, Ed Frieberg, Misty Kibodeaux and John Martin.

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Coach Smalley starts 11th Year at Orangefield



Student athletes work two hours in the weight room each weekday during summer workouts in preparation for the upcoming season. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

OC SPORTS BEAT DAN PERRINE For The Record

The Orangefield Bobcats have been under the leadership of Athletic Director Josh Smalley the last ten years. This upcoming school year will mark the eleventh season for Smalley as their head football coach.

For the second time in five years the Bobcats have been lowered in classification because of enrollment numbers in the Orangefield Independent School District. The next two years at least Orangefield will compete in the Class 3A level for all University Interscholastic League events.

Orangefield will go from being one of the smallest schools in every sport in its



Dan Perrine

classification to being among the largest student bodies in all sports. "The big deal about being 3A for us is we're just on a more level playing field as far as numbers. We're no longer playing teams with three hundred more kids in high school than us. In football we won't be the only team with eight guys going both ways offensively and defensively, now the other teams do too," Coach Smalley analyzed.

Being one of the bigger schools is no guarantee of success for the Bobcats. When Orangefield dropped in classification prior to the 2018 football season the Bobcats struggled and did not even make the playoffs that year.

Smalley accepted the blame for that failure because he was complacent, and the Bobcats did have a successful season the next year in 2019 by going to the post season. Smalley evaluated, "It took a rough year in football for me to realize that complacency is the devil, but hopefully we've corrected that."

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Area motorcyclists rally for safety awareness



J.W. Dalton of Cowboy H.O.G Chapter 4974 gives last minute instructions to motorcyclists before heading out from Community Church to Cowboy Harley in Beaumont.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine



Tony Nunez is the assistant director of Cowboy H.O.G Chapter 4974 which hosted the motorcycle rally.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Dan Perrine For The Record

Motorcyclists rallied on Saturday, June 25, for what they hope will be the first of an annual event to promote awareness for motorcycle safety. The 500 for Life rally began in Orange at the Community Church and concluded at the Cowboy Harley-Davidson dealership in Beaumont.

Cowboy Harley-Davidson cosponsored the event with Columbanus Motor Sports of Orange. Keli Borel of Columbanus Motor Sports said 500 for Life is to emphasize motorcycle safety. "Motorcycle riders are one big happy family, and we're part of that family on the Orange end. We feel very strongly about motorcycle safety. We talk about it to our customers, we talk about it to anybody who visits, and we just want help bring awareness to the fact there are motorcycle riders on the road and everybody needs to look twice and see that rider," Borel explained.

Helping promote 500 for Life was the local chapter of Harley Owners Group or H.O.G. in the

Golden Triangle. Van Jordan the chapter's director, Tony Nunez the assistant chapter director, and other members like J. W. Dalton at Top Deck worked to organize the rally and get as many motorcyclists as possible to take part in this first time event.

Spreading the word to their fellow riders of the event was a major goal for the organizers. "We had to put it on social media, notify everybody, and use word of mouth starting at the Harley shop, through Columbanus, and Dalton's place to get everything and everybody out here together. Thankful that we've got enough people here to show support for motorcycle safety," Nunez commented.

Each participant in 500 for Life registered and signed a waiver with the organizers on Saturday morning. They were given wrist bands to wear and raffle tickets that were used later at the end of the rally at Cowboy Harley-Davidson to award prizes to the lucky recipients.

Henry Gaus bought his first motorcycle in 1979 shortly after he got his first job. Gaus kept an un-

official count of the riders as they registered on Saturday and believed there were at least 250 signed in during registration in Orange. "We're shooting for five hundred this year. At this point in the game we're close to halfway there, so we probably won't make the five hundred this year, but it'll get there in years to come," Gaus responded.

The term family was used by many of those attending 500 for Life to describe the relationship between fellow motorcyclists. Samantha Jordan is the wife of Van Jordan and a new rider of motorcycles. Samantha shared, "It's about family, friends, and everyone coming together as one who all love

motorcycles. I'm just enjoying hanging out with everybody and spending time with my husband and everyone."

Marty Boddie is a pastor at a couple of churches in the Beaumont area and gave a blessing to the group before they departed the Community Church parking lot to head towards Beaumont. Boddie also mentioned the term family in reference to how they feel when one of them is injured. "Our southeast Texas biker community is family, so when one of us gets hurt we all hurt. Unfortunately, we've had way too many motorcyclists killed in the last two or three months so we're trying to bring awareness for motorcycle safety, and of course our heart goes out for families who have lost loved ones to death," Boddie related.

Law enforcement agencies from the Golden Tri-

angle cooperated with the 500 for Life. The Orange County Sheriff's Office had vehicles to help escort the procession of motorcycles leaving the church and riding through the county. Pinehurst, Vidor, and Rose City also provided escorts along the way. The Beaumont Police Department's motorcycle division led the rally as the bikers headed out.

Motorcycle riders came from other communities in Louisiana and Texas to take part in the rally Saturday. Many of the motorcyclists though are members of Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 based locally.

Chapter 4974 has received special recognition from the Harley-Davidson company located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to be part of the company's 120th anniversary in July 2023. "Out of the seven hundred clubs in the Unit-

ed States we've been picked to be the number one club to go out there. We're excited, we want to bring the love, but it's going to take a lot to get there so we're going to start now to get ready for next year," Jordan indicated.

As many members of Chapter 4974 as possible will take part in the anniversary celebration for Harley-Davidson. Jordan expressed, "We're going to ride the Harley-Davidsons all the way to Milwaukee and back. It's going to be a great ride, we're looking forward to it, we've got a year to plan, a year to get ourselves together to get up there but it's an honor to be a special guest of Bill Davidson and Harley-Davidson."

Credit for Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 being so honored by Har-

CYCLISTS Page 4B



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Joe Kazmar

When two great major league baseball teams face each other, one leading the majors in pitching and the other MLB's best hitting outfit, I always pick the team with the best pitching.

And that's the way the four-game series between New York's Pinstripers and the Houston Astros went last week at Yankee Stadium in The Bronx.

The Astros' starting pitching was superlative, completely quieting the mighty bats of the Yankees. Houston's bullpen, which is among the best in the MLB stumbled in two of the four games, while New York's superstar Aaron Judge personally prevented a Houston Astros four-game sweep by driving in the winning runs in both the first and last games of the series.

Ryan Pressly, the Astros superb closer who had saved 14 of 16 games, came into the opener in the bottom of the ninth inning Thursday night to protect Houston's 6-3 lead. The first two batters reached base and Aaron Hicks blasted a three-run homer to suddenly tie the score as thousands of Yankee fans scurried back into the stadium from the parking lot.

Pressly put two more runners on base without retiring anybody and manager Dusty Baker had seen enough and brought in Ryne Stanek, whose earned run average was under 1.00, who got two outs before giving up a game-winning single by Judge to take the first game 7-6. It ruined a quality start for Framber Valdez, preventing him from notching his eighth win against 3 losses.

Friday was an entirely different story as Astros' ace Justin Verlander took the mound at Yankee Stadium and had the Pinstripers eating out of his hand, scattering four hits including a solo homer by Giancarlo Stanton, posting his team-leading ninth victory against three losses and evening the series with Houston's 3-1 win.

On Saturday, the Astros carved out another notch in franchise history with a no-hitter in their 3-0 win as young Cristian Javier threw 115 pitches in his seven innings of mastery over the Yanks, followed by Hector Neris, who walked two in his eighth inning of work and a perfect ninth inning by Pressly, who redeemed himself by notching his 15th save of the season.

This was the 14th no-hitter in Astros' franchise history, with the last one thrown by Verlander on Sept. 1, 2019. The first one was fashioned by Don Nottebart on May 17, 1963.

The last time the Yankees failed to get a hit in nine innings was on June 11, 2003 and the team throwing the six-man no-hitter—Roy Oswalt, Pete Munro, Kirk Saarloos, Brad Lidge, Octavio Dotel and closer Billy Wagner--was none other than the Houston Astros who won the game 8-0.

The Yankees were bound and determined to salvage a split in the four-game series but couldn't muster a hit off Astros' starter Jose Urquidy Sunday until Stanton blasted a solo home run in the bottom of the seventh inning, narrowing Houston's lead to 3-1.

Beginning with the ninth inning of Friday's win, the Astros held the Yankees hitless for 16 consecutive innings, then came Saturday's no-hitter with Urquidy holding them without a hit until Stanton's seventh-inning blast Sunday. No team in MLB history has ever been no-hit in consecutive games, according to Monday's edition of the Houston Chronicle.

Urquidy finished the seventh inning with 100 pitches and Baker was hard-pressed to find fresh, quality relievers. He chose Phil Maton to protect the two-run lead in the eighth inning. Maton struck out two but gave up a single and then a two-run homer to D.J. Mahieu to tie the score 3-3.

Stanek pitched the ninth inning without giving up a run or a hit, sending the game into extra innings. Houston loaded the bases with one out in the top of the 10th innings, but Kyle Tucker and Yuli Gurriel failed to deliver.

Baker turned to rookie J.J. Martinez—who hadn't given up an earned run in his 17-inning young career-- to pitch the bottom of the 10th inning and the Rule 5 pick got two outs but gave up a walk and a single when Judge came to the plate. Baker decided not to intentionally walk him which turned out to be a bad decision by the Astros' skipper.

Judge parked a three-run homer over the left-field wall to win another game for the Yankees, 6-3 and give his team the series split it most desperately needed. Baker said after the game that he didn't want to intentionally walk Judge and then lose the game on a bases-loaded walk by the young reliever.

The Astros began the six games against the two Big Apple teams when they swept the two-game series from the red-hot New York Mets earlier last week at Minute Maid Park before

venturing to Yankee Stadium Thursday.

Houston played the Yankees last night in a make-up game that was canceled during the first week of the season because of the strike.

KWICKIES...

Congrats to the Ole Miss Rebels for winning the 2022 NCAA College World Series in Omaha Sunday 4-2 over Oklahoma. Mississippi scored three times in the bottom of the eighth inning, with two runs coming on wild pitches. It was a mistake-riddled game as the Sooners had a run taken off the scoreboard on what appeared to be a successful squeeze bunt. But the runner was declared out when he failed to stay within the box up the first base line and the scored runner was ordered back to third. Ole Miss won the first game of the best-of-three championship series 10-3 Saturday.

The big talk around college football fans--especially those favoring the Texas Longhorns--is the verbal agreement young high school quarterback Arch Manning gave to attend the University of Texas when he completes high school next year. Manning is the grandson of Archie Manning and is the nephew of Peyton and Eli Manning. But he can't sign any letter-of-intent until Dec. 11.

Xander Schauffele won the PGA Tour Travelers Championship with a birdie on the 72nd hole after temporary leader Sahith Theegala double-bogeyed the final hole. Schauffele began the final round a stroke ahead and finished with a two-under par 68 at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, Conn.

The hearing by the NFL on Deshaun Watson's future with the Cleveland Browns began yesterday, with the league wanting to suspend the former Houston Texan quarterback for the entire 2022 season for conduct detrimental to the league's policy. The NFLPA union is trying to get Watson off without a suspension or fine.

Last week's announced retirement of Tampa Bay

tight end Rob Gronkowski will probably last until Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady says the team needs him. The two have been together during Gronk's entire 11-year career.

JUST BETWEEN US...

The Seattle Mariners and the LA Angels engaged in a full-team brawl in the second inning Sunday after two days of inside pitches boiled over. Both managers and six players were ejected after the brouhaha which stopped and started twice before Angels' closer Raisel Iglesias came back out to the empty field and threw a tub of sunflower seeds and another bucket of gum onto the field. The melee lasted nearly 20 minutes before order was finally restored. The Angels won the game over Seattle 2-1.

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Orangefield Bobcats From Page 1B

A big difference for this season is the Bobcats will be the big fish in the small pond, so to speak, and as a result they will be the ones with a target on their backs. "We haven't had a whole lot of years where we've been the hunted, we've always been the hunters. That's going to be a little different mindset for our kids for sure," Smalley observed.

Continuing with that theory Smalley informed his student athletes during the summer workout on Monday that "Dave Campbell's Texas Football" has picked Orangefield as the favorite in District 10-3A Division I this season. The Bobcats will be trying to win their first district championship since 1988.

Scheduling games for the lower levels like junior varsity and ninth grade teams will be more difficult Smalley admits. Many of the schools Orangefield plays in Class 3A may not have enough kids to field lower level teams, so Smalley will need to recruit games with larger schools in order to have opponents every week for each of the Orangefield teams.

Coach Smalley has surrounded himself with a great group of coaches in his tenure at Orangefield. Todd Trawhon has been with Orangefield the entire ten years since Smalley became athletic director. Trawhon coaches defensive line and doubles as the coach for the boys golf team which sent two Bobcats to the state tournament last year.

The Offensive Coordinator is Chris Pachuca who will be in his fourth year at Orangefield calling the plays for the Bobcats' offense. Head Baseball Coach Tim Erickson joins Pachuca in working with the offensive line.

David Kendrick is the Defensive Coordinator in his second year with the Bobcats. Kendrick also serves as the strength and conditioning coach making the current summer

Cyclists rally for safety awareness

From Page 2B

ley-Davidson goes to the hard work of Van Jordan, Tony Nunez, and the chapter's treasurer Sandra Womack according to J. W. Dalton. "It's a big statement, out of all the clubs to be the premiere guest at Bill Davidson's request is absolutely over the top," Dalton stated.

Plans are in the works to prepare for the long ride to the big event and back. "We've just got to make sure of the hotels, the routing, and all because we do plan to ride our bikes up to Milwaukee and of riding them home. We need to plan the trip out," Dalton reminded. "That's not a short trip that's a good trip, a good run, a good ride. I know we have a lot of enthusiasm right now for it, but we'll just have to wait and see, everyone out of the H.O.G. chapter, H.O.G. members, are invited and we want to make sure they participate."

The next year will be twelve months of preparation for the Cowboy H.O.G. Chapter 4974 to get ready for the second 500 for Life probably again in June of 2023 and the big anniversary celebration with Harley-Davidson. The anniversary celebration will be July 13-16, 2023 in Milwaukee.

workouts an important time for him.

Filling out the varsity football coaches are Peyton Berg coaching defensive cornerbacks, Troy Sumrall works with inside linebackers, Jake Nash handles outside linebackers, Michael Bethea will coach running backs, and Kolby Morgan coaches offensive ends. The coaching staff will be working with the Bobcat players to try to make the playoffs for the ninth time in eleven seasons.

Goals For Bobcats

Goals are set every year by coaches and players for every sport each season and this year will be no different. "One area that I've been disappointed in and we've talked to the kids about all the time is we haven't won a district championship here since 1988. Although that's always our goal, we haven't been able to accomplish that goal. We haven't won a lot of playoff games since I've been here and that's been a disappointment and an area I feel like we need to get better at, we've won two in ten years. Obviously, we'd like to improve that," Coach Smalley summarized.

As athletic director Smalley believes he has done a good job in recruiting quality individuals to serve as coaches not just for the football team but for all the teams at Orangefield. Smalley explained, "I feel like we've hired good people. Not just good coaches, but good

people that are quality human beings and quality coaches. That's our number one objective. Yeah, we want to win games and we want to go as far as we can and win district championships, but we've got to put people with character and integrity in front of our kids so they can see what that looks like and people who not only talk it but walk it, and I feel like we've done a good job of bringing those type of people in during the ten years I've been here to help keep Orangefield relevant."

Orangefield has been competitive in all sports both boys and girls during Smalley's ten years as the school district's athletic director. With the lowering in classification the Bobcats should be contenders for several district titles.

Coinciding with football season is volleyball for the girls. The Lady Bobcats are led in volleyball by Ashlee Broussard Peevey who got married over the summer. She is an Orangefield graduate and has coached at her alma mater since graduating from college.

Smalley said Peevey is knowledgeable and energetic while implementing a special exercise program for her student athletes. "We're excited to have her here as our volleyball coach, she does a great job with our kids, and we look forward to good things this year during volleyball season," Smalley responded.

There is a significant change in girls' sports at Orangefield with Eric Girola as the new girls sports coordinator and basketball coach. Girola comes from

the Buna girls basketball where he had around 250 wins many of those in the playoffs.

Girola takes over a successful girls basketball program with the Lady Bobcats. Smalley elaborated, "Eric's got some kids coming back, and he's excited about the girls since he's watched them playing summer basketball."

Heading up the boys basketball program for Orangefield is Jake McDonald. The Bobcats have done a great job making the playoffs during the time McDonald has been there. The last time Orangefield was at the 3A level the Bobcats went several rounds deep in the post season under McDonald's guidance.

Two time district champions the Orangefield Bobcats advanced to the fourth round of the state baseball playoffs the last two seasons. Tim Erickson is the head coach of Bobcat baseball and has helped create a winning tradition with that program at Orangefield. "The best thing that I ever did was hire Tim Erickson and just get out of his way and let him do what he is good at doing," Smalley confessed.

Coming from a family of coaches is Rebekah Ragsdale who heads the Lady Bobcats softball program. The Lady Bobcats were young last season and fought for a playoff spot before falling just short of making the post season. There are a bunch of freshmen, sophomores, a couple of juniors that will be joined by girls moving up from the eighth grade that are going to help them rebound from last season and be successful.

Smalley compared Ragsdale with Erickson. "You

don't question their work ethic, you don't question their knowledge of the game, you don't question their love for the kids because you see it every day and how they live it out being here all the time doing what they need to do," Smalley praised.

In addition to being the defensive coordinator for the football team David Kendrick coaches the Orangefield power lifting team with Chris Pachuca. The Bobcats have had a lot of their athletes go to the state meet including three last year, and they performed well.

As mentioned Todd Trawhon heads the boys golf program. Ashlee Peevey also is the girls golf coach.

Heading up the cross country and track programs is Conner Wilbur. Brittney Stevens oversees the girls in track and field. The tennis program is led by Richard Drouillard.

In the last two decades Orangefield has seen an upgrading of the athletic facilities around the campus. All of them are top quality to serve the student athletes and give the fans a great place to watch the Bobcats perform.

Artificial Turf?

Artificial turf has been or is being added to every high school football stadium in Orange County except one. F. L. McClain Stadium at Orangefield is the only field where games will be played on real grass this coming football season.

There has been talk especially among Bobcat football fans who want synthetic turf installed at F. L. McClain Stadium.

Coach Smalley indicated administrators in the Orangefield ISD have discussed it. The bottom line though is the cost.

Smalley described the difficulty for answering those requests to add artificial turf at the stadium. "Wanting it and being able to do it the right way are two different things. You've got to put what's best for the community, what's best for the school district above what's best for your football program. Finding ways to pay for it and to be able to afford it without putting people in a financial hole is risky, and it's a tough thing to do and especially in these times with inflation and the prices where they are. It would be kind of selfish to insist on what I want, but there are other things more important right now," Smalley allowed.

With a month before the start of football season Coach Smalley and Bobcats are getting themselves ready with summer workouts. Fifty to sixty high school and another twenty to thirty junior student athletes spend two hours a day in the weight room and once a week they can conduct sport specific drills. Smalley said they are emphasizing work on the passing game to augment the Bobcats' Slot-T Offense running game.

Preseason workouts commence for the Orangefield Bobcats the first week of August followed by scrimmages. The first game of the new high school football season kicks off on Friday, August 26, at F. L. McClain Stadium. The opponent will be the Bobcats' biggest rival the Bridge City Cardinals.

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Spring's now past, a pleasant but hazy memory with summer officially arriving June 21st. So, for the next several months, summer will be keeping us company. This means we can count on a long, hot season for the next several months. Intense sun light and high temperatures have now faded most of our spring flowers, and now is a great time to add color into our gardens for the remainder of the summer here in Southeast Texas. There are numerous flowers which can handle our hot and humid summers, even when rain fall is scarce. There are also many annuals (plants which have only one growing season) and perennials (plants which have two or more growing seasons) that can be grown in our climate.

Petunias – are one of the longest flowering annuals, blooming from spring well into fall and sometimes last throughout our mild winters. To keep them blooming, deadhead them continually by removing spent blooms. Petunias are easily started from seed, but this will take some time before they are ready to provide blooms. If you are like me and don't want to wait, consider purchasing transplants from your favorite garden center, as they will have an assortment of colors. Many local garden centers and nurseries have petunia cultivars (hybrids), such as "Purple Wave" which has a trailing habit and perfect for hanging baskets, in a variety of colors including white, pink, purple, blue and red. For continuous blooms, fertilize them often and ensure adequate moisture is provided without allowing them to dry



Petunias are a long-flowering annual which can span several seasons (Courtesy image).

out completely between watering.

Zinnias – are easy to grow from seed and provide color throughout the summer. They are extremely reliable bloomers that come in a variety of sizes and colors. From compact miniature plants to tall cutting sizes in colors of pink, red, purple, orange, yellow, lavender, white and green, to name but a few. There are 4 types of Zinnias, and each type depends on the rows of petals in a flower.

- Single Flowered – a single row of petals
- Semi-Doubled Flowered – several rows of petals
- Fully Double Flowered – several petal rows, center not visible, its hidden by the petals
- Cactus Flowered – petal rolls toward the underside, petals twist to form a unique flower

Gaillardia – is a terrific summer-flowering plant which blooms all season. It comes in bright colors of yellow and shades of red and orange, and even deep maroon. They continually bloom without deadheading and are perennial which should be divided every 3-5 years.

Coreopsis – is considered by some gardeners as an old-fashioned flower but it remains as one of my favorites. I grow coreopsis

as an annual from seeds gathered from the previous year and scatter them into new locations. Grown as an annual, it sometimes will come back year after year from self-seeding. The flowers must be deadheaded and colors range mainly from yellow to orange but is now available in red as well.

Yarrow – is a sun-loving perennial with colors of white, yellow and red. Deadheading keeps them from self-seeding and the foliage will remain green during our mild winters.

Coneflower – is a perennial coming in a multitude of colors. Purple is the most common color with hybrids coming in many other colors. All parts of the Purple Coneflower are used for medicinal properties. Coneflowers are great for cut flowers and attract pollinators. They are easy to grow, capable of blooming for months and are heat and drought tolerant.

Marigolds – are an annual many gardeners', including myself, use in our vegetable gardens for companion planting. There are many varieties from the French type to the Af-

rican Amazon variety. They are easily grown from seed and bloom all summer. Marigolds are easy to grow and can take the heat with minimum fuss but need deadheading to continually bloom.

Additional summer flowering plants are Rudbeckia, Monarda (Bee balm), Dahlia, Angelonia, and Gaura. Many can be grown from seed except the Angelonia.

If you have specific gardening questions or need more information, contact the Orange County Master Gardeners Helpline: (409) 882-7010 or visit our website: <https://txmg.org/>

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THE STATE OF TEXAS
 TO: The Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Bonnie Catherine Green, Deceased

Respondent, NOTICE:
YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If your or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

The petition of Tanya Lunsford, et al, Petitioners, was filed in the 360th District Court of Orange County, Texas on the 6th day of June, 2022, against the Unknown Heirs of Bonnie Catherine Green, Deceased, Respondent(s), numbered 22195-C. The Suit requests:
DEFENDANTS BE CITED TO APPEAR AND ANSWER HEREIN
 The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement which will be binding on you.
ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas on June 20, 2022.

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **ROBERT CALVIN RHINES**, Deceased, were issued on the **JUNE 23, 2022, in Cause No. P19292**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **LANA LINCOLN**.

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

c/o:
 Lana Lincoln
 9510 Landis Drive
 Beaumont, TX 77707

Dated the 23rd day of June, 2022.

Giles R. Cole
 Giles R. Cole

Attorney for:
 Lana Lincoln
 State Bar No.: 24122741
 PO Box 2538
 Orange, TX 77632
 Phone: (855) 387-4629
 Fax: (800) 985-7851
 Email: aegediulaw@gmail.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **KARYN S. BEAUMONT**, Deceased, were issued on the **JUNE 21, 2022, in Cause No. P19378**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **HEIDI DOUCET**.

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

c/o:
 Heidi Doucet
 8400 Regal Pointe
 Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 23rd day of June, 2022.

Tommy Gunn
 Tommy Gunn

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MARGARET YVONNE JEANIS**, Deceased, were issued on **JUNE 23, 2022, in Cause No. P19374**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JOSEPH BEN JEANIS**.

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

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

Dated the 27th day of June, 2022.

James R. Dunaway
 James R. Dunaway
 Attorney for:
Joseph Ben Jeanis
 State Bar No.: 06208000
 P.O. Box 100
 Orange, TX 77631-0100
 Telephone: 409-886-7453
 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **CAROL JOYCE MEYERS**, Deceased, were issued on **JUNE 23, 2022, in Cause No. P19390**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JON EDWARD MEYERS**.

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

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

Dated the 27th day of June, 2022.

James R. Dunaway
 James R. Dunaway
 Attorney for:
John Edward Meyers
 State Bar No.: 06208000
 P.O. Box 100
 Orange, TX 77631-0100
 Telephone: 409-886-7453
 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MARY RAE BERLINGER**, Deceased, were issued on **JUNE 23, 2022, in Cause No. P19363**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **TROY ROBERT BERLINGER**.

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

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

Dated the 27th day of June, 2022.

James R. Dunaway
 James R. Dunaway
 Attorney for:
Troy Robert Berlinger
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HAPPY 4th of July

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ONLINE AUCTION
ORANGE COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT
 Auction Starts: July 14, 2022 at 10:00 AM
 Auction Closes: July 27, 2022 at 10:00 AM
 A complete list and description of items will be available for viewing and bidding at www.renebates.com beginning on July 14, 2022 at 10:00 am.
 The auction will remain open for bidding until it closes at 10:00 am on July 27, 2022.

CAT 320DL Trackhoe Long Stick
Komatsu PC78US-8 Trackhoe
John Deere 6330 Tractor
1999 Ford F350 Truck
2004 Ford F150 Truck
2005 Ford F150 Truck
2006 John Deere 125A Riding Lawn Mower
R124A Recovery Unit
3 Sets of 4 Tires - General Grabber HTS 255/70R17
3 Sets of 6 Tires - Continental Conti Hybrid HS3 255/70R19.5
Spectra Precision Ranger TSC3WIN Data Collector (Survey equipment)
Spectra Precision SP80 Head (Survey equipment)
Used Tin
Variety of Filters

Reno' Bates Auctioneers, Inc. (972)548-9636 TX LIC 6644
On Site Public Viewing BY APPOINTMENT ONLY @409-745-3362
 Monday, July 18, 2022 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Monday, July 25, 2022 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location:
 Orange County Drainage District
 8081 Old Hwy. 90 Orange, TX 77630 (409)745-3225

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