



**Orange County
High School Sports**

Dan Perrine - Page 1B



**Kaz's Korner
Sports Commentary**

Joe Kazmar - Page 2B



**DOWN LIFE'S
HIGHWAY**

Roy Dunn - Page 5A

Community News for Orange County, Texas

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Subdivision residents having to pay for roads

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The roads are so bad in the Battlin' Bear subdivision, that the residents are ready to pay \$3,500 per lot to fix them. And their problem raises some issues that could face Orange County as the influx of huge construction projects brings more housing developments.

Builders and developers must get their roads to local code standards for the county to assume permanent maintenance and repairs. Plus, buyers need to make certain the subdivisions do not have cheap, substandard roads.

Orange County Commiss-

sioners Court held a public hearing Tuesday to set a special election for the Battlin' Bear property owners to vote on whether they want to be assessed the costs of materials for the county rebuild the roads.

The subdivision is in the Little Cypress area off FM 1078 south of FM 1130. It is within Commissioner Johnny Trahan's Precinct 1 and he has been working with the residents since he took office.

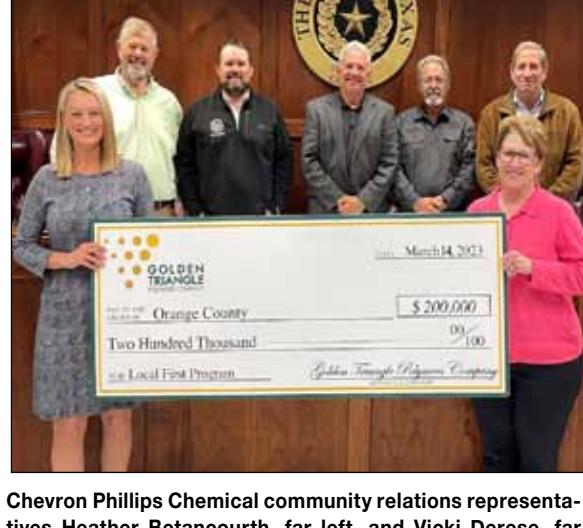
He said the first house was built in 2009. The subdivision is within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city of Orange. He said the city was supposed to in-

Subdivision Page 3A



During the past five weeks, Local Final Competitions of the 119th Miriam Lutcher Stark Contest in Reading and Declamation, a program sponsored by the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation, have been held at each Orange County public high school: Bridge City, Little Cypress-Mauriceville, Orangefield, Vidor and West Orange-Stark. Between preliminary and Local Final rounds, 100 students competed across the five schools. Winners will advance to the County Final round of the competition.

Among the many scholarship winners were West Orange-Stark High School students (From left to right) Ryan Paz (2nd Place in Declamation), Alexis Baumgartner (1st Place in Declamation), Ciara Dunn (2nd Place in Interpretive Reading), and Camryn Nevils (1st Place in Interpretive Reading).



Chevron Phillips Chemical community relations representatives Heather Betancourt, far left, and Vicki Derese, far right, presented a \$200,000 donation to Orange County Commissioners Court on Tuesday in support of the Local First program. The donation will be used by the County's economic development corporation to grow its small-business development capabilities and assist local companies interested in being a vendor or supplier on the Golden Triangle Polymers Project. Picture from left: Precinct 1 Commissioner Johnny Trahan; Precinct 2 Commissioner Chris Sowell; County Judge John Gothia; Precinct 3 Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte; and Precinct 4 Commissioner Robert Viator.

Golden Triangle Polymers Company donates \$400,000

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

Golden Triangle Polymers Company LLC, a joint venture owned by Chevron Phillips Chemical and an indirect subsidiary of QatarEnergy, announced today \$400,000 in donations to create a community economic and workforce development program called Local First.

Through the Local First program, the company is

collaborating with Orange County and Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas to prioritize Orange County and the Golden Triangle region first when sourcing suppliers, vendors, and workforce for the Golden Triangle Polymers Project.

Golden Triangle Polymers, now under construction in Orange County, Texas, will be a world-class, integrated polymers facility. Chevron Phillips Chem-

Local First Page 3A

Sheriff's drone helps community with a variety of needs

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

A brush fire burns in a rural area away from roads and easy access. Is it in danger of going near houses?

A tornado travels across the county on a late afternoon. Where did it go and how many buildings did it damage?

A child is lost in the woods. Volunteers are ready to search, but could use guidance for directions.

A suicidal person jumps from the Rainbow Bridge. Their body needs to be recovered.

The list can go on and on for the time emergency personnel in Orange County call on the help of Captain Joey Jacobs. He's the chief operator of the Orange County Sheriff's Office's drone program.

Jacobs said now-retired sheriff Keith Merritt started the drone program back



Captain Joey Jacobs the chief operator of the Orange County Sheriff's Office's drone program.
RECORD PHOTO: Margaret Toal

in 2017. Sheriff Lane Mooney expanded the program when he took office in 2020 and now the department has two.

It's a tool now used in va-

riety of law enforcement and public service needs, but Jacobs stresses the drones are not used to spy on people. Privacy laws and evidence rules restrict

some of the uses of the drones.

"Every flight we take has to be logged and filed with

Sheriff's Drone Page 3A

Shangri La sets Community Fun Walk

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

Families will be able to have a special stroll through Shangri La Botanical Gardens and have a picnic breakfast as the nature center, along with the Salvation Army's Boys and Girls Club hold the second annual Community Fun Walk on Saturday, April 8.

Registration is now open through Shangri La's website for the special morning event that will include a booklet of family-friendly activities with a guide through the mile-long pathway through the gardens. In addition to learning about nature plus the flora and fauna, participants will learn about the importance of health habits and exer-

cise.

After completing the walk, they will have a picnic breakfast to enjoy on the Great Lawn area. The walk, along with breakfast, are free.

The sponsors are Shangri La, Chevron Phillips Chemical, plus the Orange County Salvation Army and the Boys and Girls Club.

Registrants will check in

at the welcoming center from 9:15-9:45 a.m., with the fun walk starting at 9:45 a.m. Breakfast will be served from 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Online registration is available through the website shangrilagardens.org under "Upcoming Events." The number for Shangri La is 409-670-9113.



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SEE OUR AD PAGE 1 SECTION B

My 5-Cents By State Sen. Robert Nichols

A weekly column by Sen. Robert Nichols, Senate District 3

It's time to spring forward! Daylight Saving Time begins this weekend. Remember to set your clocks forward Saturday night.



Sen. Nichols

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. Bill filing deadline

Last Friday, March 10 marks the end of the bill filing period for the 88th Legislature. After Friday, no more general law bills can be filed. There are exceptions for local bills. After the deadline, the Legislature and the public will have a good idea about the total number of bills filed and what they do.

Then, the real work begins. More bills will be voted out of committee and begin to make their way through the process. From

now until May 29, we'll be hearing and voting on legislation at a rapid pace.

2. Senate school safety legislation filed, referred to committee

Last week, I filed Senate Bill 11 which builds on the work of previous legislatures on school safety. The bill is based on the work of the Senate Special Committee to Protect All Texans, which I chaired. There are six main components of this legislation: increasing the school safety allotment by creating a per campus funding formula, establishing the Office of School Safety and Security, delineating responsibility between TEA and the Texas School Safety Center, creating School Safety Review Teams, enhancing truancy prevention tactics, and allowing districts to share

discipline records for students who transfer schools.

During our committee hearings, we heard from school districts that the current school safety allotment rate of \$9.72 per student per year was insufficient to meet their needs. For districts that get little funding, maintaining a high standard of safety and security depletes already limited funding for their classrooms. In the bill as filed, each district would receive \$15,000 per campus in their district. On top of that, districts would receive \$10 per student per year for school safety. The creation of School Safety Review teams is another essential piece to school safety. The team would work with districts on school safety and physically go to each campus and evaluate the school's safety and security. These important reforms will help enhance our children's safety at school.

3. Supplemental budget bill heard in committee

This week, the Senate Finance Committee heard Senate Bill 30, the supplemental appropriations bill. The supplemental appropriations bill is used to close out the previous biennium budget process and appropriate any left over funds. Included in the supplemental appropriations bill is \$3.8 billion to pay customer rate relief charges associated with Winter Storm Uri, \$2.3 billion to expand inpatient mental health care capacity, \$600 million for school safety and security grants, and \$1 billion for a benefit enhancement for retired teachers, among other things. The funds come from a mix of federal and state dollars. The bill was voted out of committee and will go to the floor soon.

4. First bills voted out

of Senate

This week Senate Bill 372 and Senate Bill 728, both by Senator Joan Huffman, were voted on the Senate Floor and sent to the House this week. This marks an important milestone in the legislative session. Senate Bill 372 creates a criminal offense for the unauthorized disclosure of non-public judicial opinions and judicial work product.

In the summer of 2021, someone working at the US Supreme Court leaked a draft of the majority opinion in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, an opinion which overturned Roe v. Wade. This bill would protect Texas judicial opinions from being leaked.

The other bill, Senate Bill 728, brings the state in line with the federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. This bill would require clerks to report certain information related to juvenile mental health records to the Department of Public Safety, which reports information to the National Interstate Criminal Back-

ground Check System (NICS). These records will be part of the background check conducted when a person buys a firearm from a Federal Firearms Licensee.

5. THECB offers new low-interest loan option

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is now offering a new low-interest loan option for Texas students. The Future Occupations and Reskilling Workforce Advancement to Reach Demand (FORWARD) Loan Program is designed to help students who are seeking to obtain a high-value credential in a high-demand occupation.

The loan should help reduce the debt burden on students by allowing students to repay the loan over 10 years.

The loans are open to students that will be able to complete their program in two years or less and are in high-demand programs like technology, nursing, teaching, supply chain/transportation and logistics, and energy.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

The common practice of senators and representatives is to give names to legislation they have introduced. Often a bill with a great sounding name has a better chance of passing than one without. Unfortunately, oftentimes as well, a name has little to do with the content of the bill.

We need to examine the words of proposed laws rather than simply accepting the name at face value. A good example is the long-lasting bill in Texas legislation which has been on the books many years. It has gained a lot of support in large measure because of its great sounding



Former State Senator
Carl Parker

name.

A perfect example of how a name can affect acceptance of legislation is the so-called "Obama Healthcare Bill." When polled the Obama Care measure received more negative comments than positive. However, when called by its actual name "The Affordable Care Act"

the attitude switched to positive.

A long-time mis-named legislation in Texas is the so-called "Right to Work" legislation. Under federal law when a union by a vote has gained representation at a particular workforce, the union is obligated to represent all employees within the designated workforce, whether they belong to the union or not. The union is obligated to negotiate the same deals for non-union members as members in arbitration cases, defend them if they are wrongly discharged, discriminated against or even go to court for them at the union's expense when and if necessary. It has been common for many years that some union contracts provide

the union dues to be automatically deducted at payday, just like normal deductions. Under the Texas Right to Work Law, such a practice is illegal.

Even though the Right to Work Law would be more appropriately called "the right to a free ride deal" it has the name on the books in Texas for years. In probability because its name has convinced many Texans that somehow it gives you a better opportunity to be employed.

As I have pointed out many times before, it is not necessarily easy to be a good citizen. Knowing what our elected representatives in our legislative body are doing, we as good citizens should not shirk.

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

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News Tips and Photos

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Sheriff's drone program

the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) and we keep back-up logs. Those logs are public information and are available under open records.

Jacobs said anyone who operates a drone is required to have an FAA license, either a regular pilot's license or one for drone's only. He opted a few years ago to get a full pilot's license and he knows all the flight regulations to follow.

In addition, the sheriff's office has a list of the rules for using drones posted on its website for public viewing.

"We're going to be 100 percent transparent in all we do with our program," Jacobs said.

Frank Carpenter also has a license to work with the drone.

The newest, smaller drone, which makes a buzz like a blow fly, has computer capacities that record the time and GPS locations of the video it takes. The footage is relayed to a big TV screen that Jacobs keeps in his department SUV so he and others can watch. The drone also records the video on a jump drive that can be copied and shared.

For instance, the stormy late afternoon in January when an EF-2 tornado traveled across the county, Emergency Operations

Director Joel Ardoine called on Jacobs. When daylight came the next morning, Jacobs took the drone up to follow the pathway of the damage. That allowed a count of the buildings that were damaged.

The video with GPS was given to the meteorologists with the National Weather Service in Lake Charles to study and track the tornado. It was another tool they used to show the twister went 26 miles through the county.

Another recent use came when Emergency Services District 1 in the Vidor area had a brush fire that was in a remote marshy area. Houses were near, but firefighters did not know whether the flames were spreading in a direction that would touch the residences.

Jacobs said the county in the past may have requested the use of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office helicopter. But Orange County would have been charged for the use. Jacobs said the trip would have cost at least \$1,000 in fuel.

The drones "really can save the county money," he said.

The recent Ohio train derailment with chemical cars brought back memories of one in Mauriceville in October 2020. Jacobs

was out with a drone helping to determine the extent of the damage, whether tank cars were leaking, and if houses were nearby.

The first drone was about three-feet wide, but the newer one is like cigar box with antennas. It fits into a large briefcase-size container that also includes the remote and other equipment. Jacobs, who also serves as the captain of the criminal investigation department, keeps the drone case in his sheriff's SUV. It's handy when needed.

Other uses have included checking the scene of double murder-suicide

cases as SWAT officers stood by, observing a fatal boat accident, and investigating fatal vehicle crashes.

He recalls a time when he was at the park practicing and a 7-year-old boy nearby was watching intently. He invited the boy to watch. When the boy told him he had a drone-style video game he used, Jacobs let him pilot his drone for a minute. The captain will never forget the boy's face.

Jacobs once had an extra special audience. A couple of days after Hurricane Laura hit in 2020, President Donald Trump flew to Orange and met with officials at the county's Emergency Operations Center. Governor Greg

Abbott came in to meet with the President. The two leaders got a demonstration on the use of the drone after the storm.

Jacobs has been in law enforcement for 27 years and has worked for three sheriff's. Back in 1996, he could not have dreamed of the technical advances that would allow deputies to use a drone in their work. It's another tool for the job.

And there are some priceless benefits. Sometimes when using the drone for a job, Jacobs catches a sky shot of a view like a sunset that leaves him in awe. "Sometimes you set there and you are amazed at God's paintings," he said.

Local First program

From Page 1

ical is managing engineering, procurement and construction for the project and will operate the facility after start-up.

The project is expected to create more than 500 full-time jobs and about 4,500 construction jobs and generate an estimated \$50 billion for the community in residual economic impacts over 20 years. Local First will assist area workers and businesses to compete for opportunities through public communications, public fairs and information sessions, and resource referrals.

"Hiring local talent and supporting businesses in the area is important to Golden Triangle Polymers. We're excited about the community collaborations we've developed to promote and manage Local First over the next four years," said David Godard, project director for the Golden Triangle Polymers Project.

Golden Triangle Polymers Company donated \$200,000 to Orange County to expand its economic development program to include the Golden Triangle Polymers Proj-



Chevron Phillips Chemical on Monday awarded a \$200,000 donation to Workforce Solutions for its Local First program, which encourages the hiring of local talent at facilities like the Golden Triangle Polymers plant now under construction in Orange. GTPC community liaison Heather Betancourt, far right, made the donation to representatives from Workforce Solutions, from left to right, Stephanie Rupple, Mary Hammon, Maris Peno, Roxanne Acosta-Hellberg, Dana Willis, Brandy Perkins and Gregory Steward.

ect. Orange County will work closely with Orange County Economic Development Corporation (OCEDC) and area chambers of commerce to host public supplier and vendor fairs. Small-business owners will also be able to work with Orange County staff to learn what qualifies a small business to be an approved vendor or supplier on any major project.

"Orange County has a

long history of supporting business growth, and the Local First program will help us continue to do that," Orange County Judge John Gothia said. "We look forward to this collaboration and hope it will help our local small-business community be competitive when bidding for work on the project."

Golden Triangle Polymers Company made a second \$200,000 donation

to Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas to expand workforce development efforts in the Golden Triangle region. An online job database created by Workforce Solutions includes available jobs from the project and a list of the primary companies carrying out engineering, procurement and construction work.

"The job portal we created is a one-stop-shop solution for people interested in working on the project. It's much easier to go to one website than seven different websites to find work," said Mary Hammon, executive director of Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas. "This collaboration will allow Workforce Solutions to stay true to its mission to help job seekers put their best foot forward when competing for work."

Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas maintains a storefront at 2415 N 16th St. in Orange, Texas, where job seekers can go for basic screening, online application assistance and referral to local education institutions if additional training.

Subdivision residents pay

From Page 1

spect the roads to make sure they meet standards.

The county maintains many miles of rural roads, but for new developments, the roads must meet certain standards for the county to legally accept the ownership and maintenance.

Trahan said the Battlin' Bear developer never met those standards and his bond, or insurance on the job, expired before any officials inspected the roadways.

Right now, the property owners own the roads and the adjacent drainage ditches.

Trahan said he has been working with the Texas Association of Counties legal department on the issue. The roads also fall within the Texas Transportation Act and procedures set up for maintenance. In addition, Assistant County Attorney Denise Gremillion has been researching the legalities of the county maintaining the roads.

The county has determined the costs of materials to rebuild the roads will be \$3,506 per lot. If a homeowner has two lots, they were be assessed that amount for each lot. Trahan said property owners could pay the costs over five years, for a yearly payment of about \$700 per lot.

When a woman asked if they could pay it all at once, Trahan said that could be arranged.

The county will provide the equipment and manpower for the job. County Engineer Corey Oldbury said those costs could have doubled the charge for the property owners.

County Judge John Gothia told about 20 property owners gathered at the public hearing "this is absolutely your deal." A show of hands showed most support the proposal and they want an election.

The county will have 10 days to send the property owners ballots. They will return them to show they support or oppose the project. Gothia said the ballots must total 50 percent plus 1 vote of the total received. All property owners will be assessed the fees whether or not they vote for the county to rebuild the roads.

Envelopes with the ballots will be opened by the county clerk and tabulated by the county clerk and then presented to Commissioners Court for public review.

When someone asked about the responsibility of the developer, Trahan said "that's a civil matter. You can contact your own attorney and decide what to do."

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From the Creaux's Nest

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY THANKS FOR YOUR READERSHIP

We don't think to thank our faithful readers enough. We have some longtime followers that cover the last 50 odd years. We keep picking up new readers along the way. Our reporters and writers do a great job. Our feature writer **Margaret Toal** is a real professional, with many years of experience. The former Orange Leader editor graduated with a Journalism major from Denton Women's College in the 1970's and has been a very well read writer, with several publications, including the **New York Times**. **Joe Kazmar**, for over 40 years, has written about national sports in his popular column "Kaz's Korner." **Dan Perrine** does a great job covering high school sports. His weekly coverage of area schools is widely read. **Capt. Chuck Uzzle** is our feature writer for hunting, fishing and outdoors. For many years he and the late **Dickie Colburn**, both fishing guides, were the writers sportsmen looked forward to reading for their opinions on fishing and hunting. Since **Dickie's** death, **Chuck** continues to publish an interesting and informative weekly column. Former senator **Carl Parker** and Senator **Robert Nichols** keep us informed and up to date to what's happening in the state senate. The others contributors, plus **Sherlock Breaux** and the **Creaux's Nest**, make for an informative and interesting publication. Thanks to our readers for making **The Record Newspapers**, "The Penny Record and The County Record" the most popular and most read newspapers. Thanks to all the sponsors who make it possible. Our success has been the **Luck of the Irish** since we published our first newspaper on St. Patrick's Day, 1971. You the reader have kept us popular. Now I have to move on, come along, I promise it won't do you no harm.

REMEMBERING SID CAILLAVET

Sidney John "Sid" Caillavet, Jr., age 93, passed away on March 6, 2023. Gravesite services will be held at a later date. I had known Sid and his wife, Peggy, since back in the 1950's. Peggy was a special lady, one of a kind and Sid was a chip off the old block. His roots ran deep in Orange County. His grandmother, Ms. Dennis' mother, married a Bland. She was one of John Harmon's children. John Harmon was one of the first settlers of Orange, who arrived by barge down the Sabine River and docked near where Farmers Mercantile is today. Sid's dad, Judge Sid Caillavet, was a native of Biloxi, MI. In later years he, Dennis and daughter "Pruney" moved into a new home on Cherry Street along side the railroad track. Sid Jr. and Peggy lived down the street. Judge Sid and I became great friends and went many places together. He passed away at age 91, in 1984. With the passing of Sid Jr., another chapter of Orange County history ends, going back to the settling of the county. Sid Jr. had many friends, most gone now. The latest being Ray DalSasso. Over 40 years many of us bought our suits and dress clothes from Griffin's Men's Wear where Sid worked and later owned the store. He loved music and playing golf and was very active in the community. He was a good guy. Our condolences to the many offspring and family. Please see obituary.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2013

A little something for everyone will be going on along the bank of the **Sabine River** in Orange County March 14 through March 17. The events include the **Bassmaster's Elite Series**, the first of its kind for this area. Thanks to **Judge John Gothia** and his team, ESPN will be here to cover the action for delayed broadcast. The events also include the **Sabine River Challenge**, a carnival, plenty of food, games, fireworks, a catch and release 6000 gallon fish tank for the youngsters, a laser light show, **Art in the Park**, always a favorite, vendor booths and a free concert featuring country artist **Neal McCoy**. This guy will knock your socks off. Of course, the excitement is about the **Pro-Bass Fishermen**, it will be tough competition, with anglers

eliminated each day. Only the best and luckiest will survive. The champion will receive a \$100,000 prize. Excitement can be felt around town as pros and their rigs are spotted making the rounds. We ran into a few of the 102, **Brit Myers**, **David Walker**, **Zell Roland**, **Paul Elias**, **Davey Hite**, **Mike McClelland**, **James Niggemeyer**, **Kurt Dove**, **Michael Simonton** and also **Shaw Grigsby**, host of "One More Cast." **Mike Iaconelli**, **Ish Monroe**, **John Murray**, and **John Crews**. I understand Chris Berman, from ESPN, came in this week. These guys and their fellow pro-fishermen will put **Orange County** on the map nationwide. We were also sorry to hear of the death of **Franklin Scales**, 76, on March 10. Our sincere condolences to his wife **Sarah** and family. We had known **Franklin** since 1960 when he would visit his uncle **Cecil Scales** used car lot. We remained friends

through the years. Like **Cecil, Franklin** liked playing jokes on people and became famous for his **electric charged car**, when he pushed a button, it gave his passengers a little charge. When they complained, he claimed he didn't feel anything. He was just a fun loving guy who had a million **Orangefield stories** about the characters around the "Field" in his youth. **Kree Harrison**, 22, whose roots run deep in **Orange County** and the **Triangle**, has made it to the 10 finalist on **American Idol**. To advance she will have to rely on her talent, but that alone won't keep her on the show and a shot at winning it all. The public voting is what determines the outcome. There is no doubt **Kree has the talent** but she is at a disadvantage when it comes to voter base. **Southeast Texas** doesn't have the population enjoyed by some other contestants from larger and more populated areas. **Kree** was born at **St. Mary Hospital in Port Arthur**, the same place **Janis Joplin** was born years earlier. Many **Orange Countians** were born in that hospital. Life has been difficult for her. She lost her dad in a plane crash and her mom, a Bridge City native, in an accident when **Kree** was only a teenager. **We hear our friend Quincy Procell** had surgery in Houston, Tuesday morning. We wish him the best. A bank merger announced last week between **Beaumont** based **Community Bank** and **Houston** based **Vista Bank** will put 35 branches and more than \$2.3 billion in assets under one ownership. **Uncle Walter Umphrey** will still be the big dog. The banks will carry the **Community Bank of Texas** name. The **Community Bank** name and birth started right here in Orange by **Carlos, Glenn and others**, who sold out to **Walter** and he grew it. **Bridge City native Mike Hatton** was one of **Walter's top guns**. March 18, is an important day for a great friend of nearly 60 years. Everyone's friend **Corky Harmon turns 85**. Hard to believe. Anyone would like to be as spry at his age. (Editor's note: Corky passed away May 3, 2017.) The **GOP political pacs** are already spending money on negative ads against **Ashley Judd** in Kentucky and she hasn't even announced that she will run against "liver lips" **Mitch McConnell**. Polls in Kentucky show **Mitch** only four points ahead of **Ashley**, 47-43. They are afraid. **Ashley** is a native, attended school in Kentucky.

24 Years Ago-1999

Winter isn't going till the pecan trees bud. **Easter** this year is **April 4**. Meanwhile, **Margie and Harry Stephens** are in Lake Tahoe. **Coach Rick Coulson**, wife **Sarah** and the kids have sold their **Bridge City** home to move to **Florence** where **Rick** will be head football coach and AD. (Editor's note: **Sarah** had a couple more children and became a teacher. The **Coulson's son, Jake**, who attended school in **Bridge City**, is now a coach in **Florida**). **Louisiana music legends** to perform at **Orange VFW**. Local promoter, **Tim Courville**, is presenting the swamp pop legends, **Lil Alfred, Charles Mann and Warren Storm** in a concert and dance. City manager at Orange is **Chuck Pinto**; Mayor is **Essie Bellfield**. **Pauline Hargrave** is principal at LC-M High School. **Richard Carder** is the morning mouth of **KOGT**, plus he does his weekly "Let's Go Fishing" show and he sells on the side. (Editor's note: I don't recall now when **Richard** had a stroke and left the radio. He had been on the air since he was a youngster in Port Arthur on **KOLE** with **Baxter** and **Les Ledet**.

65 Years Ago-1958

State Rep. Louis Dugas will be the main speaker at a convention for the fourth district **Texas Federation of Women's Clubs**. Three Stark seniors win merit awards: **Jack D. Copeland, Carroll Shaddock and Mical Wood**. **Andrew Jackson** was arrested in Memphis for robbing **Delores Simian**, cashier at **First National Bank of Orange**, on Jan. 23. The first woman ever to file for an office in a West Orange election, **Mrs. E.W. Hammontree** filed for the alderman's post. **Texas Lumber**, a sawmill company in Mauriceville, burnt down. Damage is estimated at \$150 thousand. **County School Superintendent J.B. Pddy** predicts an increase of 1,101 students. Next September will see 15,000 students county-wide. **Little Cypress girls** ousted by Waco in regional basketball meet. "Pookie" Daughtry, despite a knee injury, sunk 17 points. Other stars were **Francis Coward, Mary Brown and Mildred Teat**.

105 Years Ago-1918

Miss Allie Bland, County School superintendent, announced that an **appropriation of \$500** has been allowed for School District 8. (Editor's note: Running a school district for \$500 a year doesn't sound realistic does it?) **American troops in France** have fought their hottest skirmish of the war with the **Germans**. The "Doughboys" fought until their guns ceased firing and then used their fists on the invaders until their sector was free. The **fighting of the Doughboys** is a glow of pride to Army men stationed everywhere. (Editor's note: Roy Dunn's father, Clay, was one of them). **National shipbuilding** of Orange launches the "War Mystery," the largest wooden steamer ever built. Over 300 men helped build the boat. **American citizens** are asked to deny themselves meat, (beef and pork), one day a week on Tuesday. **Wheat is also restricted** because of the war in Europe.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Local attorneys **Sharon Bearden** and **Jim Sharon Bearden** will be attending the state powerlifting championship in **Frisco**, south of **Dallas**, on Friday. **Jim Sharon's** daughter and **Sharon's** granddaughter, **Hallie**, will be participating in the 114-pound weight class, along with **Avery Weidner**, in the 97-pound class. Both youngsters are expecting to do well at state and possibly come back to Bridge City with a state championship. Don't try to find a lawyer on **Border Street** Friday, they will be cheering for the girls. **Coach Wade Phillips** and his **Houston Roughnecks** continue to dominate the XFL. They remain undefeated with a victory over the **Orlando Guardians** Saturday. The top team in each division will meet for the championship. The **Roughnecks** are

averaging around 30,000 in attendance and growing. They play an exciting brand of football. Some folks know that **Judge Chad Jenkins** is a very good auctioneer but folks don't know that he's a master meat smoker and sausage stuffer. He produces **Top Hog** smoked sausage made only with grand champion sows, slow smoked, with a touch of Cayenne. Until recently his wife **Wendee** mixed the special ingredients with a hand blender, two pounds at a time. He now has acquired a large commercial mixer enabling him to mix a whole bunch at a time. **Top Hog** also vac-paks all its products with a commercial packer. **You Bet It's Good.** **Eckrich** would be proud to put their name on **Jenkins Top Hog** sausage. It appears the contested **Orange City Council** race is a neighborhood feud within the **Old Orange Historic**. Signs for **Paul or Junior** are up all over. Some yards even have both to show they don't want to pick a side. Wonder if the "old wood is sexy" man could shed some light. Last week was above average hot, but a cold front came into **Orange County** right as spring break was beginning. That didn't stop **Brandi Griggs** and **Amber Fisette Jennings** from donning bikinis and heading to the beach. They took their kids to **Pensacola Beach** for the warmth and seafood. Maybe some beer? **Margie Stephens** may have a new sideline outside of **Harry's Appliances**. Maybe she can write love notes on driveways with a pressure washer. She was showing off a picture she took after writing "Margie Loves Harry" with the pressure washer she was using to "clean." **Steve Maddox** was enjoying spring break this week at **Crystal Beach** with son and daughter-in-law, **Kelley** and **Stephen Maddox** and his grandsons. Little redhead **Jackson Johnson** lost his first tooth this week. Proud parents are **Justin and Jade Johnson**. Little Jackson is the great-grandson of the late Pinehurst legend **Mayor Grady Johnson**. **Adam Conrad** celebrated his 40th birthday with celebrations including a big party and a trip to **Jones Center in Houston** to see the Broadway musical "Moulin Rouge" with partner **Jody Chesson**. They weren't the only ones from **Orange County** in the audience. **Scott Hasty** was there with his sister. **Peggy Claybar** took granddaughters **Annabelle** and **Caroline** on a spring break trip and they ran into some old friends of **Annabelle** who had moved. Not only that, they got to meet **Mattress Mack**, the renowned **Jim McIngvale**. Lawyer **Phillip Smith** has some bragging rights. Daughter **Kaitlyn Smith** is the executive managing editor for the latest edition of the **Texas Tech Law Review**. **Donna Scales** went along with son **James** to Canada where they took their Italian exchange student for spring break. Birthdays this past week included everyone's favorite redhead, **Lori Ardoine**, the mother of the groom for the upcoming September wedding on the Mexican coast. Local singer and songwriter **Chad Richard** celebrated another year. He seems constantly booked at gigs around a few states, with a lot in the **Texas Hill Country**, where they appreciate great talent. **Ruth Corder** turned 80 and was treated with a family party by sons **Bart** and **Craig**. Also, marking birthdays were **Rusty Henry, Marla Blanke, Janet Roy, and Doyle James Carter**. **Kim and Paul Dickerson** had their 35th wedding anniversary. Another anniversary this week was marked by **Justin and Kendall Trahan**.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few friends who will be celebrating birthdays in the next few days. March 15: **Jan Trahan, Ricky Glenn Roberts, Jr., Dusty Jennings, Jennifer Kelly, Julie Myers, Amber Doiron** all celebrate. March 16: **Amy Peveto, Chelsea Coleman, Colton Sterling, Steve Kidwell, Buffy Doiron, Jordan Doiron, Karli Anderson and Cody Edwards**. March 17: St. Patrick's Day and also the birthday of the Opportunity Valley News, born in 1971. Happy Birthday to **Brenda Swan, Sally Wingard, Stephanie Hughes, Tiffany Moreau, Ty Moreland and Josh Sims**. March 18: **Kellie Miller, Robert Sehon, Beth Shepherd, Tammy Stark and Blaine Slaughter** all celebrate today. March 19: Today is the feast of St. Joseph. **Lori Johnson, Barbara Roy, Deborah Miller, Courtney Campbell, Roman Carpenter, Brandy Mayo and Donna Fong** are a year older today. March 20: **Ashley Ashworth, Dana Young, Jamie Preston, Jan Savage, Diane Sims, Keely Benefield, Kamela Latiolais, Brittany Backer**. (This is the First Day of Spring). March 21: Happy Birthday to **Alayna Jacobs, Johnny Dillion, Donnie Harmon, Barbara Mosier, Pam Nugent, Terry McFarlane, Kyle Anderson, Tanya Simon and Lisa Roberts**. (Notice: To announce birthdays or anniversaries please email therecordlive.com or call 409-886-7183.)

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Joe Thibodeaux was in da back seat of a cab driven by **Oris Comeaux** when he tapped **Comeaux** on da shoulder to axe him sumptin.

Comeaux him, he let out a bloody scream dat would curl da hair on da back of your neck. He lost control of da cab, nearly hit a bus, drove over da curb and stopped jus inches from a large glass plate window.

For a few moments dere everything was silent in da cab. **Comeaux** him, was still shaking, den **Comeaux** said, "Look Thib, don't never do dat again man, you done scare da poo-poo out of me."

Thibodeaux was scared him too. He apologized and said

he didn't know dat a tap on da shoulder could scare him so

bad.

Comeaux say, "Mais, I'm sorry Thib, it don't be you fault no. You see Thib, today is my first day to drive da cab, me I've been drivin a hearse every day for da last 25 years."

C'EST TOUT

The Wednesday Lunch Bunch will be at **Robert's** this week to dine. Everyone is always welcome to break bread and fellowship, 12 noon. ****My time is up. I certainly appreciate yours. Be sure to check out the great bargains by **our family of advertisers** throughout these pages. Tell them we sent you. Thank them for sponsoring this publication free to you each week. Have a nice week. Take care and God bless.

Irish roots run deep

'Swamp-Irishman' on St. Patrick's Day

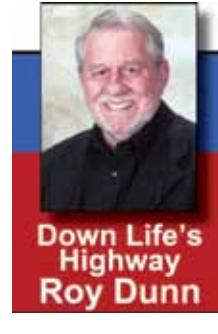
Roy Dunn
Down Life's Highway
For The Record

Often I've written about the Cajun side of me, but I seldom have said much about the fighting side of me. That's my Irish side. While a kid in Abbeville, I was a strange youngster, the only person in the little Cajun town with the Irish name of Dunn. The real kick in the behind was that this Irishman couldn't speak a word of English until I was nearly seven. I was poor and endured a lot of abuse because of the way I dressed or didn't. I didn't own any everyday shoes, but I had a side of me that many of the abusers didn't know. That was my fighting side. I'm not so sure whether I fought so much of necessity or because my bloodline came from a fighting bunch of Irishmen.

My Cajun side is interwoven of German, Spanish, French and a little Gumbo. I'm not sure what you get when you breed pure Irish with those other mixtures, a strange kid, I suspect, and an even stranger adult. Anyway the Cajun culture is so strong that, like most other folks who are exposed to it and can't help falling into its fun-filled, spicy-seasoned trap, though I have little Cajun blood in my veins, I'm all-Cajun in my heart.

It was Abe who said, "Character is like a tree; reputation like its shadow. A shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing. So, it's coming up on St. Patrick's Day, and I thought it would be a good time to 'fess up that I'm more Irish than Cajun.

My Irish forefathers were a hearty bunch. The Civil War had come to its conclusion in 1865. Dr. Stephen Dunn was



Down Life's Highway
Roy Dunn



A young Clay Dunn started the first cab business in Port Arthur. Cabs were called HACKS. Shown in picture standing far left is Clay Dunn, the drivers are Joe Tigue; middle unknown and far right driver is Little Joe Viator. The cars are on Proctor Street in or around the year 1925. Mr. Linn, standing on sidewalk later owned car dealership.

one of the war's casualties. Left behind were wife Sarah Jane and eighty-year-old Allen.

Alone and penniless, Sarah headed to Texas from Arkansas with her son and sister-in-law. The left Searcy traveling by covered wagon and headed for Eastland County, where Sarah had a brother. The trek took most of the year and met with many hardships and delays. They camped each day where water and wild game were available. They stayed some time at what is now Grapevine. Old maps show it as Dunnville.

Arriving eventually in Eastland County, their biggest fear was marauding Indians. The group settled in Sipes Springs, near Rising Star. Allen grew up and married Laura Dunn, 14, of De Leon. His mother and father were both Dunn's and so was his wife. Laura's mother was a Blair, that's English, the daughter of C.C., for whom Fort Blair in Eastland County was named. Laura's mother had been captured as a child by Indians; she was rescued. A historical marker indicates the site of the fort today at Desdemona which was built

by her father and his son.

Laura and Allen raised a family of six boys and two girls on that peanut land. Allen, at the age of 15, had become a scout and Indian fighter. He then became a trader and merchant. With a pair of oxen and a wagon, he traveled the 400 miles to Galveston. He traded furs and peanuts for other goods which he sold back home. My father, Clay, said he would be gone three months, depending on the rise of the Brazos, Trinity and other rivers. He often made two trips a year.

Laura raised an intelligent and industrious houseful of youngsters. She contributed to their strength and perseverance. Every one of her children grew up to become wealthy. Dunn Bros. Pipeline Stringers started with mules and barrels at that time and became the nation's largest. Clay rode a mule out of Sipe Springs to Comanche at age 14 and made his mark as a pioneer. He established the first cab business in Port Arthur, before serving in WWI, the first night club in Orange County, the Silver Slipper in Bridge City (1928), the first liquor store in Orange,

"The Warehouse," and in 1946, the first liquor store in Bridge City, "The Midway." He also built what was the first and only motel in Bridge City, which was finally destroyed in 2008 by Hurricane Ike. His story goes on for volumes and would be an amazing book. He lived a short but colorful life.

The little cemetery on the hill was cold, windy and laden with snow when we brought Dad on his last ride. He was buried next door to where he was born. The house had been preserved by the family. There is a fence around the ground and a nice sign that says "Dunn" where both branches of my Dunn roots are buried—Allen, 92, Laura, 86, aunts and uncles and Clay; he was only 65. He left me and Mom behind when I was a baby. Later in life we got together and closer. I moved to Burleson County to be near him. He died a year later.

I named one of my sons after my father and the original pioneer granddad, Allen. Today three generations carry Clay's name, my son, grandson and seven great-grandsons. I'm proud of my Irish Dunn heritage. Though I never knew my kin very well, I know of their strength. I'm now oldest of the large, two-sided Dunn clan and only my two sons, daughter, two granddaughters and I carry the name; my three grandsons don't carry the name but Dunn blood floods their veins. As time goes by the Dunn connection gets watered down more. After this generation, there won't be anyone to carry the name on, but this industrious pioneering heritage will live on.

Now you know the rest of the story. Well almost. On St. Pat's Day, March 17, 1971, I started the Opportunity Valley News. It became a very popular publication. It was luck of the Irish. On my birthday, nine years later, on June 5, 1980, I sold it to Cox Enterprise for a bunch. Later after Cox bought The Leader, they ran the OVN down the tube.

Something I find ironic is that my dad Clay died on Feb. 19, yet his marker, which was erected several months after his death, shows he died on March 17, St. Pat's Day. I don't know how or who is responsible for the error but Clay, who took so much pride in his Irish heritage, would probably smile and say, "Leave it, don't change it, that's a better day than most." So from this swamp Irishman to the rest of you, Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Deaths & Memorials

Sidney John "Sid" Caillavet, Jr., 93

Sidney John "Sid" Caillavet, Jr., 93, of Orange, Texas, passed away on March 6, 2023.



Sid Caillavet Jr.

Born in Orange, Texas, on December 9, 1929, he was the son of Sidney John Caillavet, Sr. and Dennis Bland Caillavet. Sid was a faithful and devoted member of St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange. Being the smart man that he was, it's no surprise that Sid skipped two grades in elementary school. He graduated from Stark High School with the class of 1946 before going on to attend Lamar University and graduating from Stephen F. Austin University, where he married the love of his life, Peggy, his senior year. Sid was a lover of music and enjoyed playing the piano, playing the trumpet in high school, and even singing with the Cardinal Singers while attending Lamar. He spent many years with the Boy Scouts of America working his way up to the ranking of Eagle Scout as well as being a member of the Order of the Arrow. Sid loved spending time outdoors whether he was on the water boating and fishing, playing numerous rounds golf with his buddies at Sunset Country Club, or watching sports—especially baseball—having played men's fast pitch softball himself in his twenties. He was a member of the Orange County Jaycees and attended many of the Orange County Rodeos over the years. Sid went on to work as a Haberdasher for over 40 years at Griffin's Men's Wear where he eventually took ownership of the business making lifelong friends with the customers he served. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather, who adored his family. Sid will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is preceded in death by the love of his life for 66 years, Peggy Louise Caillavet; parents, Sidney and Dennis Caillavet; and his sister, Martha Marie "Pruney" Caillavet.

Those left to cherish Sid's memory include his sons, John Caillavet and wife Linda, of Beaumont, TX, Phillip Caillavet and wife Pat, of Orange, TX; daughter, Tammy LaVergne and husband Wayne, of Orange, TX; grandchildren, Stacy Carlock and husband Jake, of Mauriceville, TX, Chris Caillavet and girlfriend M., of Bangkok, Thailand, Cindy Sinclair and husband Martin, of Chicago, IL, Phillip Caillavet, Jr. and wife Katie, of Broken Arrow, OK, Elisa Moye and husband Jeff, of Bridge City, TX, Katie Shepley and husband Tim, of Dronfield, England, Adam Caillavet and wife Shanna, of Bullard, TX, Amy Close and husband Jeff, of Lenexa, KS, and Jared LaVergne and wife Sarah, of Lumberton, TX; great-grandchildren, Mackenzie Hoffmeyer, Luke Hall, Presley Caillavet, Kenley Moye, Charlie Caillavet, Livy Shepley, Emerson Sinclair, AJ Caillavet, Samuel Shepley, Paxton Caillavet, Leo Close, Merritt Sinclair, Jack Shepley, Maya Close, and Mason LaVergne; great-great-grandchild, Hallee Holmes; along with numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family and friends.

They would also like to thank "Sid's 19th Hole" buddies that always came to spend time with him and have a cold one on the patio.

Sid chose to donate his body to science, which is a valuable gift for training the doctors of the future.

Sid's family would like to extend a special thank you to everyone at Harbor Hospice in Beaumont, especially Dr. Lavalais, Luis, and Lydia, for their compassion and care during his time with them.

Graveside services will be held at a later date.

"Family, like branches of a tree, we grow in different directions but our roots remain as one."

Bridge City Public Library widowed program

The Bridge City Public Library is hosting a new program for widowed individuals beginning next Friday, March 17th, at 10am in the library's meeting room. We know that life can be lonely when living alone and want to provide a means of meeting others in similar situations. This is not intended as a dating club but just a comfortable place to greet others, drink coffee, eat doughnuts, and play board games such as scrabble, checkers etc. while interacting with others. Just come show up at the library and get to meet us and others. Call 409-735-4242 if you have any questions.

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NOTE: Offices closed on Wednesday

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HOME FOR SALE

Home for Sale by owner: a must see at 318 Bell Avenue in Bridge City. Located in a fantastic and clean neighborhood. 3 BR, 1 1/2 B w/ Handicap shower, ceramic tile throughout home, big pantry, nice size closets, shed and fenced in yard. Apprx. 1120 sq foot, move in ready now, appliances stay. \$230K Call 409-553-8775 for appointment.

BURIAL PLOT

2 Burial plots in Hillcrest memorial, located in Garden of Last Supper, Lot 33, Block C, spaces 1 & 2. Please call 817-709-8107 for more information. Price negotiable.

TRAILER

For Sale 2016 Gooseneck Livestock Trailer, \$7800.00, Bridge City. Please call 409-656-2960

GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale on Sat., 3/18 from 7 am to 1 pm at 847 Sharp St in Bridge City. Lots of everything, fund-raising for an Africa Mission Trip this summer.

AUCTION

Public Auction Furniture and house hold items not paid for by Demertrius Hunter. Auction is being held at A1 Storage, 1945 Miller Dr, Bridge City TX, 77611 on Thursday March 16th, 2023. The sale will begin at 10:00am. All are welcome.

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THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: Unknown Father, Respondent,

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

The petition of Josie M Roque Roberts, Petitioner, was filed in the 260th District Court of Orange, Texas on 15th day of March, 2023, against Ja'Quandrea Ya' Chelle Ceasar, numbered 220186-D and entitled "In the Interest of Na'Lya Elesia Ceasar, a child." The suit requests Original Petition To Terminate Parent-Child Relationship And for Adoption Of A Child.

The date and place of birth of the child who is the subject of the suit:
Name of Child Date of Birth County Place of Birth

Na'Lya Elesia July 03, 2017 Jefferson County Beaumont, TX

The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child/ren's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the Parent-Child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas, this March 6th, 2023.

Anne Reed

Clerk of the County Court at Law, Number 2
Orange County, Texas

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testimony for the Estate of MARY E. FISSETTE, Deceased, were issued on the MARCH 13 2023, in Cause No. P19612, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: JANA DIANE FISSETTE.

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:
JANA DIANE FISSETTE
P.O. Box 605
Bridge City, TX 77611

Dated the 13th day of March, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for:

JANA DIANE FISSETTE

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 of Testimony for the Estate of JAMES C. FISSETTE, Deceased, were issued on the MARCH 13 2023, in Cause No. P19611, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: JANA DIANE FISSETTE.

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:
JANA DIANE FISSETTE
P.O. Box 605
Bridge City, TX 77611

Dated the 13th day of March, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for:

JANA DIANE FISSETTE

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 of Testimony for the Estate of RALPH O. WALTERS, JR., Deceased, were issued on the FEBRUARY 27, 2023, in Cause No. P19603, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: KAYE WALTERS BURKE.

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 28th day of February, 2023.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for:

Kaye Walters Burke

State Bar No.: 06208000

P.O. Box 100

Orange, TX 77631-0100

jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testimony for the Estate of JOAN MARILYN NELSON, Deceased, were issued on the MARCH 13 2023, in Cause No. P19613, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: SHERRY NELL SHUGART.

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:
SHERRY NELL SHUGART
2617 Milam
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 13th day of March, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for:

SHERRY NELL SHUGART

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 of Testimony for the Estate of CHARLES W. LYTTLE, Deceased, were issued on the FEBRUARY 27, 2023, in Cause No. P19605, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: CATHRYN RENEE DRAKE.

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 28th day of February, 2023.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for:

Catheryn Renne Drake

State Bar No.: 06208000

P.O. Box 100

Orange, TX 77631-0100

jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testimony for the Estate of LEON HENRY PITTMAN, Deceased, were issued on the MARCH 13 2023, in Cause No. P19599, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: DONALD GLENN STANLEY, SR..

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:
Donald Glenn Stanley, Sr.
2705 Terrace Circle
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 13th day of March, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for:

Donald Glenn Stanley, Sr.

State Bar No.:

08623700

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Baseball tourneys final preparation for district action

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

District baseball action started this week for four local high school teams. The Bridge City Cardinals, the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears, and the West Orange Stark Mustangs will compete in District 19-4A and the Orangefield Bobcats in District 22-3A.

Orangefield played its first district game Tuesday, March 7, against the Kirbyville Wildcats. The Bobcats beat the Wildcats 11-0 at Kirbyville.

Brycen Tait started the game for the Bobcats and got the win throwing four shutout innings allowing one hit, walking one, and striking out six. Garrett Rawls pitched the final inning and got a strike out to end the game.

The Bobcats had eleven hits in the game. The big inning was the second when Orangefield scored seven runs. Kane Smith, Kyle Michael, and Caleb Fregia had key hits during the rally.

Tournaments occupied the weekend's action for all four local teams. Little Cypress Mauriceville and West Orange Stark were the host teams for the Orange County Classic with five other area schools participating in the tournament.



Dan Perrine

West Orange Stark opened up against the very good Woodville Eagles on Thursday night losing

8-0 at Ronnie Anderson Park. Four Eagle pitchers combined for the shutout. The Mustangs got just two hits with a single in the fourth by Travarii Beasley who also walked twice and a double by Noah Robles to lead off the sixth when the Mustangs left the bases loaded to end the game.

Little Cypress Mauriceville had its Thursday game cancelled when an eighth school backed out of the tournament. The Bears played two games on Friday winning both in blowouts 11-1 over the Good Samaritan Hornets and 15-0 against the High Island Cardinals.

The Mustangs got a terrific pitching performance from Tyrone Wilson on Friday night. Wilson had not yielded a hit going into the final inning and finished with a one-hitter in West Orange Stark's 14-0 win over the Shepherd Pirates.

West Orange Stark scored ten runs in the first inning and coasted to a 15-1 win on Saturday against High Island. Noah Robles scored three runs

Lady Cardinals take district softball opener



Makenna Knight and Nicole Sasser were hitting stars for the Bridge City Lady Cardinals in their winning the opening game of district. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Despite playing without several regular starters the Bridge City Lady Cardinals hit the ball hard to win their district opener. The Lady Cardinals beat the Silsbee Lady Tigers 16-6 at Bridge City on Tuesday, March 7.

Three or four regulars in the Bridge City lineup did not play, but the Lady Cardinals showed some true depth as the replacements with the other starters pounded out sixteen hits. They were able to invoke the ten-run rule in the sixth inning.

Haley Munoz opened the bottom of the first with a single to left field for Bridge City. Makenna Carey had a sore throwing arm so was only used in the role of courtesy runner in the game. Carey ran for Munoz the Lady Cardinals' catcher and Makenna scored the first run on a ground out by Kyleigh

Hamilton.

Lexi Nugier started the second with a base hit to left that eluded the Lady Tiger outfielder allowing her to go to second base. Makenna Knight brought Nugier home with a double to the left field fence.

With two outs Munoz reached base again when she was hit by a pitch and Carey ran for her. Nicole Sasser singled to drive in Knight before Hamilton singled to center scoring Carey and Sasser. Anna Autrey drove in Hamilton with the fifth run of the inning to put the Lady Cardinals up 6-0 after two innings.

Four more runs crossed the plate in the fourth for Bridge City. Sasser got a one-out single then stole second and third. Hamilton walked and Cambree LaComb was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Autrey blooped a fly that just stayed fair inside the right field line to score Sasser as

BC LADY Page 2B

and Tyrone Wilson drove in four Mustangs with two hits and a sacrifice fly.

Another great pitching exhibition was given by Grayson Gregory for the Mustangs. Gregory retired the first thirteen batters he faced and lost his no-hit bid against High Island in the seventh inning. In his six and one third innings Grayson gave up one run on one hit, with three walks, a hit batter, and ten strikeouts.

West Orange Stark Coach Sergio Espinal was obviously pleased with the

OC BASEBALL Page 3B



Orangefield's Garcia powerlifts to state meet

Akilles Garcia recently competed and took first place at the regional powerlifting meet and is headed to Abilene to compete in the state powerlifting meet. He competed in the 220 pound weight class and had a total of 1600 pounds including a 650 pound squat.

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March Madness begins with 9 Texas teams competing

KAZ'S KORNER
Joe Kazmar
For The Record

There's a great chance that the top seed in the Midwest Regional could be playing the Final Four at home in a couple of weeks with those crucial games scheduled for NRG Stadium in Houston where the feeble Texans play their NFL home games.

I'm of course referring to the University of Houston Cougars, who reigned as the No. 1 college team in the country for several weeks during the regular season.

But that's all water under the bridge as the most meaningful part of the men's college basketball season is under way this week.

However, the Coogs are only one of nine Lone Star State's teams that have earned the right to play for the 2023 National Championship.

They were upset Sunday 75-65 in the American Athletic Conference (AAC) championship game by Memphis. But the Coogs were forced to play without injured star guard Marcus Sasser, who will be 100 per cent healthy for tomorrow's game, and fell behind by 20 points before making a late run.

And to make matters even tougher for the U of H, there are three Texas teams in the Midwest Regional. There's a chance that the Cougars will meet either the Texas Longhorns or the Texas A&M Aggies in the Elite Eight for the right to play in the Final Four.

The Cougars (31-3) aren't expected to have much trouble overpowering No. 16 Northern Kentucky (22-12) in tomorrow's first-round game that tips off at 8:20 p.m. and can be seen on TNT.

The second-seeded Texas Longhorns (26-8) are expected to take care of business tomorrow against No. 15 Colgate



(26-8) in a game that begins at 6:25 p.m. on TBS.

No. 7 seeded Texas A&M (25-9) is a slight favorite tomorrow at 8:55 p.m. against No. 10 Penn State (22-13), also on TBS.

If both teams win as expected, it will set up one of the biggest rivalries in the tournament when the two teams meet this weekend in the second round.

The tourney began yesterday with a pair of No. 16-seeded teams—Texas A&M-Corpus Christi (23-10) and Southeast Missouri State (19-15)—played followed by 11th-seeded Mississippi State (21-12) and Pittsburgh (22-11). The winners get on the Big Board while the losers go home.

The same is true today when 16th-seeded Texas Southern (14-20) and Farleigh-Dickinson (19-15) meet in a 5:40 p.m. game on truTV followed by a pair of No. 11's—Arizona State (22-12) and Nevada (22-10) that meet at 8:10 p.m. also on truTV.

Besides the U of H Cougars, the three other No. 1 regional seeds are Kansas (27-7) in the West, Purdue (26-5) in the East and Alabama (29-5) in the South.

There probably are plenty of teams that college basketball fans feel are mis-seeded, but it happens every year and the selection committee comes out smelling like a rose. All four No. 1 seeds seem capable (on paper) of reaching the Final Four, but it doesn't happen too often.

KWICKIES...

Orange lost a good guy last week when Sid Cailavet passed away at age 93. Sid was always good natured and loved to talk sports. He was a very good

golfer with his late friend Joe Hargrove referring to him as "Cornbread". He played nearly every day with his regular group and when he couldn't play anymore, he followed his group around while sipping on some sudsy refreshment. Sid worked as a haberdasher at Griffin's Men's Shop and eventually bought the business. His humor and wit will be missed by many, including me.

And while on the topic of golf, 26-year-old Scottie Scheffler began the final round of the Players Championship Sunday with a two-stroke lead that at one time faltered to a tie. But Scottie ramped it up on the back nine and won the \$4.5 million first place money by a whopping five strokes and returned him as the World's No. 1 golfer.

The Beaumont United Timberwolves missed on their three-peat effort of winning the state championship trophy for the third straight year, losing to Lake Highlands 55-44 in their first season in Class 6A, after winning the Class 5A state title the last two years. The 'Wolves ended the season with a sensational 36-2 record.

A handful of Houston Texans fans are implying that Lovie Smith's swan-song game, which resulted in an upset victory for the Texans but cost them the NFL's No. 1 draft pick after scoring a late touchdown and a clutch two-point conversion. Show me a head coach who doesn't try to win every game for his team and I'll show you a person that doesn't belong in the coaching profession.

The Houston Roughnecks won their fourth-straight XFL game Saturday night by clobbering the winless Orlando Guardians 44-16 and keeping their head coach and Orange native Wade Phillips undefeated in the new league.

As expected, the Chica-

go Bears traded their No. 1 draft pick for being the lousiest team in the NFL last season to Carolina who sent the Panthers the No. 9 overall pick and a second-round pick in 2023, a first-round pick in 2024, a second-round pick in 2025 and wide receiver DJ Moore. Now newly-hired head coach Frank Reich gets to decide between Alabama's Bryce Young, Ohio State's C.J. Stroud, Kentucky's Will Levis or Florida's Anthony Richardson. The Houston Texans will probably take one of the three remaining quarterbacks with their second overall pick.

The 13-3 Lamar Cardinals baseball team plays at Missouri today and then three games this weekend against St. Louis while the Lady Cards try to improve their 2-1 Southland Conference softball record against Southeastern Louisiana this weekend.

JUST BETWEEN US

It seems like every year when the March Madness is getting all the sports attention, Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers dumbfounded whether he will retire, asked to be traded to another NFL team or remains with the Packers, but with a new restructured contract.

This year it's a bit different because the Packers are hoping Rodgers either retires or puts on a New York Jets uniform for the 2023 season, despite the fact he still has three years left on his latest extension. In fact, those in the know claim a deal is in the works for the Jets to give Green Bay a No. 1 and No. 5 in the upcoming draft, a No. 1 for and No. 5 draft in 2024 plus a player to be named.

The free agent period began Monday and the "new" 2023 NFL season begins today. The word around Green Bay is "it's time for the Jordan Love Era to begin."

The Lady Cardinals opened the scoring in the



Tessa Erickson was the winning pitcher and Jacelyn Cook had four hits in the Lady Bears win over Bridge City.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Lady Bears and Lady Cardinals duel in district match-up

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

A big rivalry game and a key contest in the district standings was played Friday, March 10, in girls softball between two of the predicted favorites in District 19-4A. The Little Cypress Mauriceville Lady Bears beat the Bridge City Lady Cardinals 4-2 at Little Cypress Mauriceville.

The game was the district opener for the Lady Bears. Bridge City dropped to 1-1 in district having won earlier on Tuesday against Silsbee.

Two freshmen started in the circle for the cross-county rivals. Tessa Erickson pitched for Little Cypress Mauriceville and Cambree LaComb started for the second straight game because of an injury to Lady Cardinal ace Carson Fall.

After a couple of rough early innings both young ladies settled in and pitched well. Erickson struck out seven Lady Cardinals in her seven innings giving up two runs on six hits and two walks.

LaComb surrendered four runs in the first two innings and then held the Lady Bears scoreless her last four innings.

The Lady Cardinals opened the scoring in the

top of the first with lead off batter Haley Munoz getting a walk. As she did in Tuesday's game in Bridge City Makenna Carey who is out of the starting lineup with an arm injury courtesy ran for Munoz and scored on a two-out double down the right field line by Makenna Knight.

In the bottom half of the inning Eden Frenzel bunted for a hit to start. Jacelyn Cook laid down a beautiful bunt fielded by third baseman Anna Autrey who had no play until Frenzel tried to stretch her advance all the way to third thinking it might be left uncovered. Left fielder Amaris Larkin was very alert and came in to cover the bag taking the throw from Autrey in time to tag out Frenzel at third.

Keylie Washburn walked to put Lady Bears at first and second with one out. A fielder's choice retired Cook at third before Ava Wright singled to drive home Washburn with the tying run.

The Lady Bears grabbed the lead in the second inning with three runs. Ella Stephenson reached on a two-base throwing error with one out. Ava White lined a single off the top of a Lady Cardinal's glove to

OC SOFTBALL Page 3B

BC Lady Cardinals From Page 1B

the Lady Cardinals increased their lead to seven runs with the bases still loaded.

Knight was starting at second base because of Carey's injured arm. Knight cleared the bases with her second double of the game making it 10-0 in favor of Bridge City.

Freshman pitcher Cambree LaComb got the start in the circle because of an injury to last year's district

MVP Carson Fall. LaComb was almost untouchable the first four innings allowing only two hits and three walks while striking out five Lady Tigers.

Silsbee scored three runs in the fifth that were added by a couple of loose fielding plays by the Lady Cardinals. Knight made a nice grab of a line drive to retire the Lady Tigers and end the rally.

As expected, the Chica-

go Bears stayed alive tallying three more runs in the sixth. LaComb picked up her sixth strikeout of the game in that inning.

The Lady Cardinals wasted little time securing the win in their half of the sixth. Autrey doubled off the center field fence and Nugier doubled to drive her home going to third on the throw to the plate.

Having a great night was Makenna Knight who

drove in her fifth run of the game with a single and taking second on the throw home. A sacrifice

Munoz reached base for the fourth time when she was hit by pitch again allowing Carey to courtesy run. Sasser ended the game by smashing a pitch to the left field fence scoring Larkin with the clinching run but also scored

Carey with another run had the ten-run rule not been invoked.

Coach Raven Harris was obviously pleased with a Lady Cardinal win to begin district action. "We hit the ball well. I'm really proud about that because we've been working on situational hitting and just getting runs across. We did not play as well defensively, but we've got us something to work on in practice."

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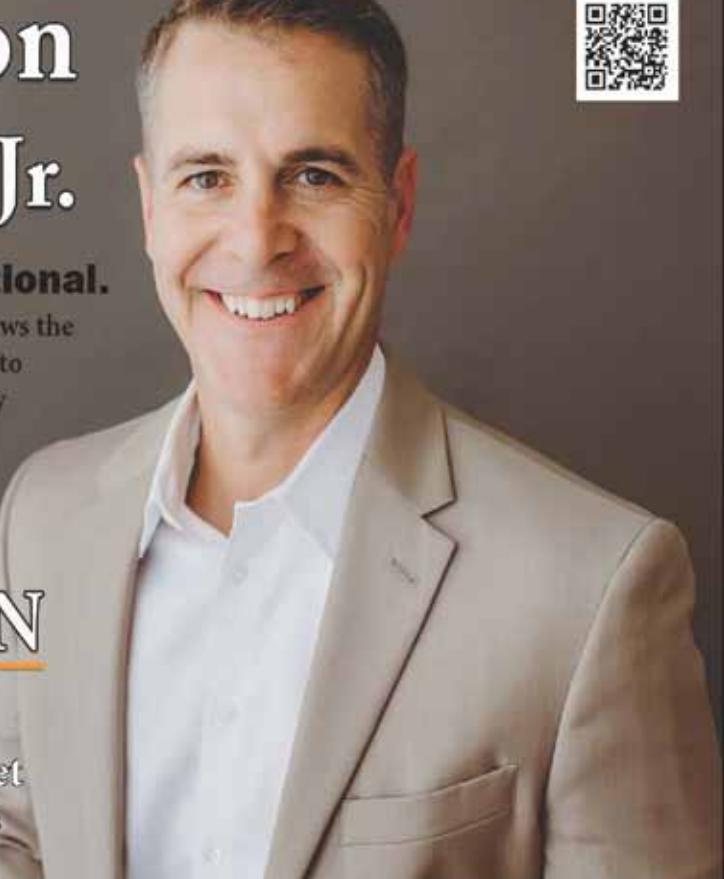
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OC baseball tournaments From Page 1B

way the Mustangs played in their two tournaments leading up to the start of district. "We're doing a good job getting on base. Our bats woke up the last couple of games, we're putting balls in play which is what we need to do especially when we start to face tough pitching. The Mustangs are doing a good job defensively. We still need to get better and there are some situations that we need to correct. Overall, I've been pleased with our defense and pitching let's just see if we can continue and be consistent with it," Espinal evaluated.

The Bears played two games on Saturday losing 9-3 to Woodville before scoring eleven runs in the first inning against the Shepherd Pirates to win 11-2 in their final game. The highlight blow of the LCM first inning was a line drive two-run homerun to right field by Marco Bandiero. Cameron Bilbo, Dylan Istre, and Parker Freeman combined to throw five innings for Lit-

tle Cypress Mauriceville giving up just two hits and two unearned runs while striking out ten Pirate batters.

The tournament allowed Coach Hunter Hagler to play all of his Bears in preparation for the start of the district. "I think there's still some things we need to correct and continue to work on making sure we're grinding each day just to get better winning each pitch. We want to stay locked in and focused on what we're doing and how we're trying to achieve different things. I think we played all right, but I think we could have played better though," Hagler analyzed.

The Bridge City Cardinals had their final tune up for district at the Jasper Tournament over the weekend. The Cardinals won three games all by lopsided scores outscoring the opposition 30-4 in the tournament.

The Orangefield Bobcats interrupted their district schedule over the weekend by participating



Garrett Rawls struck out the last batter in a district win for Orangefield before combining with another Bobcat pitcher to throw a no-hitter over the weekend

RECOED PHOTO: Dan Perrine

in the Tatum Tournament. The Bobcats went undefeated winning all four games they played to improve their record to 10-3 on the season.

The Bobcats shutout Gladewater Sabine 8-0 on Thursday. Colton Myers got the win for Orangefield throwing four and a third innings with reliever Matthew Johnson getting the last two outs.

Orangefield won two games on Friday both by scores of 10-1, and the Bobcat pitchers did not give up a hit in either game.

Garrett Rawls and Camden Fountain combined in the first game for a no-hitter before Jason Bodin threw a five-inning no-hitter in the second game that day.

Brycen Tait got a complete game victory 6-3 on Saturday as Orangefield defeated Carthage. Catcher Rusten Traxler went three for three with a homerun, a double, and two runs batted in to lead the Bobcat offense.

The District 19-4A baseball schedule will be different this season. Schools will play the same opposing team on Tuesday

and Friday during a week instead of playing each school once before facing them again in the second half of the district schedule.

The Bridge City Cardinals open with the Silsbee Tigers. They played on Tuesday at Bridge City and will go at it again on Friday at Silsbee.

The West Orange Stark Mustangs played Tuesday at Vidor. The Mustangs and the Pirates play again on Friday night at Ronnie Anderson Park.

Little Cypress Mauriceville has a bye this week. The Bears play their first district games the week of March 21 and 24 against the Cardinals. The Tuesday game will be at Little Cypress Mauriceville and Friday will be in Bridge City.

The Orangefield Bobcats traveled to Winnie for a game with the East Chambers Buccaneers on Tuesday. The Bobcats play at home against the Warren Warriors this Friday with the varsity game to start at 7:00 PM at Paul Cormier Field.

OC softball duel From Page 1B

put Lady Bears at third and first.

Successive LCM batters Frenzel, Cook, and Washburn all singled to center to each drive in a run. After a second Bridge City fielding error LaComb escaped further damage inducing a soft liner and a ground ball to shortstop Lexi Nugier leaving the bases loaded.

The next half inning the Lady Cardinals answered. Nicole Sasser got a hit to right and advanced to third when the ball bounded over the head of the Lady Bear outfielder. Autrey sacrificed with a bunt to the pitcher Erickson scoring Sasser to make the score 4-2 still in favor of Little Cypress Mauriceville.

Despite there being no further scoring in the game both teams had chances to put more runs on the board. Cook led off the fourth for the Lady Bears with a triple, but

Lady Cardinal right fielder Kyleigh Hamilton made a perfect throw after catching a fly ball to allow catcher Munoz to tag out

Cook at the plate for a double play.

Munoz of Bridge City ripped a double high off the centerfield fence with one out in the top of the fifth. Erickson retired the next two batters on a pop-up and a strikeout so no damage was done.

The Lady Bears got two runners on in the fifth but a popout ended the threat. LaComb got a single to begin the sixth for the Lady Cardinals and two bunts moved her to third. Washburn made a nice play on a grounder to third that took a tricky hop to retire the side and keep LCM up by two runs.

Little Cypress Mauriceville Coach Dena Adkins was excited for her Lady Bears after the important game. "I told the girls after that win it was a team effort from the first pitch to the last pitch everybody did their job. I couldn't be prouder of them.

"We prepared all week, that's all we thought about, that's all we talked about, and the Lady Bears came out here and execut-

ed and they did a great job," Adkins praised.

The coach credited the pre-district tournaments for helping to find out that freshman Erickson had what it took to win a big game like this in the circle.

Adkins explained, "I like to see what the girls can do in different situations. Tessa proved herself a couple times along the way, and I just felt like she'd be the girl to start this game and she did a great job."

Little Cypress Mauriceville played at Vidor on Tuesday, March 14. The Lady Bears' next game is Friday at home against Lumberton.

West Orange Stark had a tough start in district. The Lady Mustangs lost their first two games to Vidor and Lumberton. WOS played Jasper on Tuesday night and have a bye on the schedule for this Friday.

The Lady Mustangs play again at home on Tuesday, March 21, against the Silsbee Lady Tigers.

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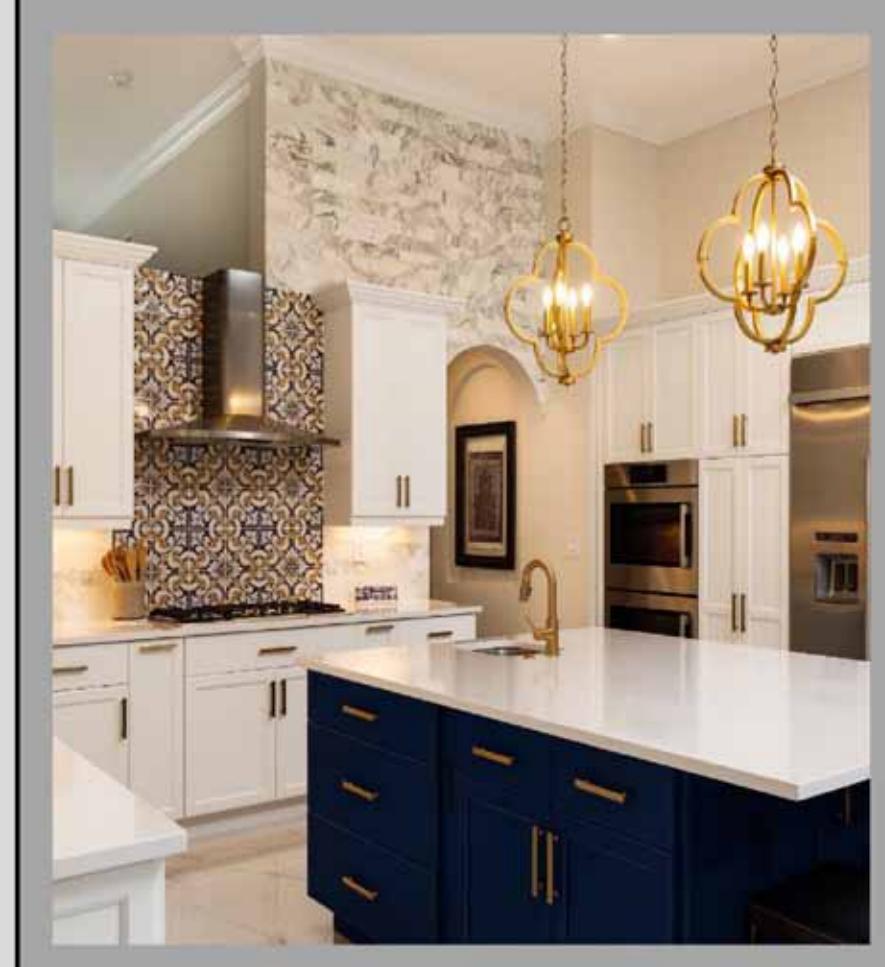
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Why Ask Why?

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

Not too long ago I read a very interesting quote, "In your thirst for knowledge, be sure not to drown in all the information." Anthony J. D'Angelo" which sparked a thought and subsequent conversation with several other anglers. Over a cold beverage with the tailgate dropped down a "redneck think tank" evolved and all manner of observations about the great sport of fishing began to be debated, deliberated, cussed and discussed all at the same time. The myriad of topics that were addressed ran the gamut from truly serious to just plain silly. After some time had passed and we were out of theories the group dispersed and each member left the gathering enlightened in some ways and yet still curious in others.

One of the really cool things I enjoy about being a guide is the interaction



with so many people from varying backgrounds and experience. It really makes no difference if the folks on my boat are the most seasoned anglers or the newest rookies, they all have great stories and most of all they have great questions. Fishermen as a whole are generally wired to be problem solvers, seekers of answers to a great puzzle. Often times I feel like the man who lives on top of the mountain that's supposed to have all the answers for the pilgrims who seek the "truth". Those pilgrims make the great trek to the top of the mountain with high expectations for technical answers that will unlock the great mysteries that plague them only to find out those answers are much simpler than they could imagine.

Reflecting on years of in-

teraction with customers I started thinking about some of the questions that I get asked most often and the first one that came to mind actually made me laugh. I don't care who you are or where you are from if you have spent anytime in a boat on the coast the question of "why do mullet jump" has been debated. I have no clue on how many times I have been asked that question and I smile every time it comes up. Usually kids are the ones who ask that question the most but adults certainly ask their share as well. In most instances I try to give an informed answer such as "they jump to knock off parasites" or "to loosen egg sacks before the spawn". I also remind the person who asked the question that nobody really knows but the mullet, everything else is just speculation except when they jump to avoid a predator. Perhaps the best answer I ever heard to that question came from a young angler who said "they

jump because they are happy and jumping is fun".

Another debate that rages in my boat centers around why fish do what they do or how come they act in one way or another. I have sat back and listened to some very knowledgeable folks argue their point with their partners and then turn to me like I'm the judge on People's Court to render a decision. My standard answer on the subject comes from my good buddy Doug Pike who enlightened me one day while we were wading on Sabine. When asked about fish behavior Pike summed it up by saying "fish are worried about two things, what they are going to eat and what is going to eat them, beyond that not much else matters". All the intricate theories about how they live, why they do certain things, and most anything else is again at best speculation. Trying to come up with a detailed day to day "activity planner" for a fish in my opinion does nothing but complicate a simple process. I tell folks in my boat if you can find food, structure, and some tide start there and work

your way to a full stringer. Keep your approach simple and the majority of the time you'll be rewarded for it.

Speaking of keeping things simple I was driving through town a few days ago and stopped next to a "rocket ship" disguised as a bass boat. While I was waiting for the light to turn green I was looking over the layout of the boat and just could not believe how crazy some folks have gotten with their electronics. The console of this boat looked like you could land the space shuttle, play Call of Duty, and write a research paper all at the same time, it was absolutely crazy! The screens on the drivers console were at least 12 to 15 inches apiece, so large in fact I wondered how the steering wheel would turn. The front deck had another massive screen on it as well, nearly as large as the ones on the console. I thought it was the perfect size to kick, no way could you miss it. I have no idea how in the world anyone would have time to fish while monitoring the big screens and evidently searching for life in other solar systems. All the

electronics in the world are worthless if you don't possess the skills to interpret the information.

As the spring season gains momentum more and more anglers will be out on the water looking for a chance to shake off the winter cobwebs. The consistent breeze that will plague most bay systems during April will do a number on water clarity and visibility so any advantage an angler can get at this time is a great help. Quality eyewear is a must for any angler and often times can be the difference between catching a fish and missing an opportunity. For the past several seasons I have been wearing polarized glasses from Bajio and I have been very happy with both their performance and durability. I particularly like their light weight and absence of rubber on the frames. The clean frames and great glass combine for a very functional pair of eyewear that I really like.

If you get an opportunity to check them out be sure to give them a try, they are a great product.

East Texas turkey hunting prospects favorable

STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN – While the 2022 drought and heat have reduced wild turkey numbers across Texas, hunters who hit the field this spring should see plenty of birds in areas that typically house huntable populations of wild turkeys.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) biologists say hunters will have the most luck in the Cross Timbers, Edwards Plateau and South Texas ecoregions.

"Much of the state had poor recruitment last spring and summer, but hunters should still expect to see quite a few 2-year-old and older gobblers," said Jason Hardin, TPWD Wild Turkey Program leader. "The lack of juvenile hens may improve hunting conditions. Juvenile hens or jennies put little effort into nesting most years, and therefore are usually a distraction from hunters and their decoys. Once adult hens begin nesting, hunters should be able to find plenty of workable gobblers."

In East Texas, only 12 counties have an open hunting season. Areas in the region that have traditionally supported a good population of turkeys will see similar conditions this year. Hunters are reminded to report their harvest of wild turkeys through the My Texas Hunt Harvest app or online within 24 hours of take. East Texas counties with an open spring season and mandatory reporting include Bowie, Cass, Fannin, Grayson, Jasper, Lamar, Marion, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Red River and Sabine.

The Rolling Plains has

been a longtime destination for wild turkey hunters. Historically, this area has held very good numbers of birds along major and secondary watersheds like the Canadian River, the Salt Fork and the Red River. The drought of 2022 has reduced overall turkey numbers, but there are still huntably populations across the Rolling Plains.

The past decade has seen a decline in overall turkey numbers in parts of the ecoregion. TPWD biologists are hoping recent winter moisture will continue to set the stage for a good nesting season.

The Edwards Plateau has long been a stronghold for wild turkeys, providing some of Texas' highest bird densities and annually producing some of the highest harvest numbers. This is especially true in the western portion of the region though, like the rest of the Rio Grande wild turkey range production and recruitment were down significantly in 2022, with very few poult produced. The good news is there are still lots of mature birds on the landscape.

As with most large ecoregions, TPWD biologists have mixed reports of turkey numbers and recruitment in South Texas. While the areas around Uvalde reported below-average production and recruitment over the last two years, other areas in the Coastal Sand Sheet in Brooks, Kenedy, Kleberg and Willacy counties reported fair recruitment. Hunters should expect to see lots of 2-year-old gobblers across most areas that hold wild turkeys in South Texas. Hunters should focus their efforts

on creeks and drainages with larger trees in the central and western portions of South Texas and around oak mottes in the Coastal Sand Sheet.

Ten counties in the Oaks and Prairies ecoregion of Central Texas (Bastrop, Caldwell, Colorado, Fayette, Jackson, Lavaca, Lee, Matagorda, Milam and Wharton) offer a spring season from April 1–30. Historically, there hasn't been a significant number of turkeys in the region so only a spring season is offered, and hunters are only allowed a one-bird bag limit per county. Starting last year, all wild turkeys harvested in these counties now have mandatory harvest reporting requirements and must be reported within 24 hours through the My Texas Hunt Harvest app or online.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved a digital tagging option for those hunters who purchased a Super Combo license online. All hunters who chose to use the digital tagging option must report their harvested wild turkey at the time of harvest. Rules and guidance associated with the new digital tagging option can be found on the TPWD Website.

The data obtained from these harvest reports helps TPWD better manage this population. TPWD encourages turkey hunters to learn about and share these new rules with fellow turkey hunters and landowners in the region to help TPWD keep tabs on these populations.

The traditional North Zone spring season boundary has moved south to Highway 90 west of San Antonio. Several counties in the southern Edwards Plateau that were previously in the South Zone are now part of the North Zone. The South Zone Counties open annually on the Saturday closest to March 18 and the North Zone opens the Saturday closest to April 1.

Hunters are reminded to review the Outdoor Annual before opening day to ensure they are hunting during a legal season. Hunters can check the TPWD website for exact season

dates for the county where they plan to hunt. Hunters must possess an Upland Stamp Endorsement to hunt wild turkeys in Texas.

The spring season dates are as follows:

Youth Only

Rio Grande: North Zone — March 25–26; May 20–21

Rio Grande: South Zone — March 11–12; May 6–7

Spring Regular Season

Rio Grande: North Zone

— April 1 – May 14
Rio Grande: South Zone
— March 18 – April 30

Rio Grande: Special One Turkey Bag Limit — April 1–30

Eastern Turkey: April 22 – May 14

Additional information about harvest reporting, bag limits and more can be found in the Outdoor Annual on the TPWD website or via the Outdoor Annual app. Both apps are available for free download from Google Play or the App Store.

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Lady Bobcats win second straight

DAN PERRINE

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats improved their district record to 2-0 on Tuesday, March 7. Orangefield defeated the Lady Wildcats 3-1 at Kirbyville.

Pitcher Abigail Curphey led the way for the Lady Bobcats holding Kirbyville to just one run. Curphey yielded three hits and struck out seven Lady Wildcats.

The game was tied 1-1 in the top of the seventh when Orangefield scored the two deciding runs. Rylee Dougray had a hit and scored a run. Harleigh Rawls hit a sacrifice fly in the seventh to bring home one of the runs. Hallee Becker and Rawls scored the other two runs in the game for the Lady Bobcats.

Orangefield will look to stay undefeated in district on Friday when the Ana-



Orangefield pitcher Abigail Curphey won her second straight district game both by the score of 3-1 over Kountze and on Tuesday against Kirbyville.

huac Lady Panthers come to Paul Cormier Field. The junior varsity starts at 5:00 PM and the varsity plays at 6:30 PM.

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Entertainment: Music events move into spring

TOMMY MANN JR.
FOR THE RECORD

A multitude of excellent live music opportunities are on tap for the next several weeks offering a variety of musical styles for nearly everyone.

Big events such as the annual Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, as well as regional concerts have set 2023 off to a frenzied pace.

• **March 15**
Kenny Chesney, Rodeo Houston, NRG Stadium, Houston

• **March 16**
Chris Stapleton, Rodeo Houston, NRG Stadium, Houston, LT and The Zydeco Mob, Mardi Gras Southeast Texas, Beaumont

• **March 17**
Uncle Kracker, Sons of Bocephus, Mardi Gras Southeast Texas, Beaumont



Uncle Kracker and Sons of Bocephus will perform at the Mardi Gras Southeast Texas, Beaumont, March 17.

mont, Cody Johnson, Rodeo Houston, NRG Stadium, Houston

Beaumont, Powerman 5000, Scout Bar, Houston, Brad Paisley, Rodeo Houston, NRG Stadium, Houston

Ma\$\$oro, Mardi Gras Southeast Texas, Beaumont, Luke Bryan, Rodeo Houston, NRG Stadium, Houston

• **March 18**
Paul Wall, Slim Thug, Baby Bash, Lil Keke, Mardi Gras Southeast Texas,

• **March 19**
Tropa Estrella, Grupo

• **March 25**
Newsboys, Adam Agee,

Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont

Ernest, Bailey Zimmerman, Minute Maide Park, Houston

• **March 31**
Sammy Kershaw, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Smile Empty Soul, Horizon Theory, Fire Follows, Scout Bar, Houston

• **April 1**
New Edition, Keith Sweat, Guy, Toyota Center, Houston

• **April 6**
Charlie Robison, Courville's, Beaumont

• **April 15**
Wynona, Christus 40th Annual Gala, Beaumont Civic Center, Beaumont

• **April 22**
Taylor Swift, NRG Stadium, Houston

• **May 6**
For King and Country, Ford Arena, Beaumont

• **May 26**
Morgan Wallen, Hardy

• **June 3**
Janet Jackson, Ludacris, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **June 16**
Thomas Rhett, Cole Swindell, Nate Smith, CajunDome, Lafayette, La.

• **June 30**
Matchbox Twenty, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **July 8**
Blink-182, Turnstile, Toyota Center, Houston

• **July 22**
Shania Twain, Mickey Guyton, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 12**
Foreigner, Loverboy, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands



Orangefield High students participate in Texas Citizen Bee

The Texas Citizen Bee is a statewide civic education program and competition. Public, private, home school, and parochial schools compete in the program each year.

This year it was held at Lamar State College Port Arthur. Orangefield High School Bobcats participated on Thursday, March 9.

Sponsored by Melissa Hyatt, team members Major Copeland, Jackson Dreddy and Paxton Skibo represented Orangefield and all three of them did an excellent job. They are energized and prepared to get ready for next year's competition.

Pictured are: Jackson Dreddy, Major Copeland, and Paxton Skibo.

TAX SERVICES
John Dubose
Certified Public Accountant
345 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • (409) 735-7163

St Mary invites public to Feast Day of St. Joseph

Staff Report
For The Record

St Mary Catholic Church in Orange invites Parishioners and the General Public to join in celebrating the Feast Day of St. Joseph.

Sunday, the 19th of March, is the annual Feast Day of Saint Joseph.

The Feast of Saint Joseph commemorates the end of a drought and looming famine in Sicily during the Middle Ages.

Sicilians usually build a "St. Joseph Table" and wear red as a symbol of the celebration. This table is decorated with flowers and candles, and filled with abundant foods as a plea for good fortune and thanksgiving.

As Sicilians immigrated to the United States, they brought the tradition of the St. Joseph's Day Altar with them. Today the artistic breads and pastries, which are baked in the shape of religious symbols, and rival the beautiful and delicious foods of the originals.

Although Sicilian immigrants introduced the custom to America, today the celebration is an open table welcoming people of all faiths and ethnicities to participate in the festivities. Families believe that a St. Joseph's Altar is a show of thanksgiving for answered prayers or as a petition to

St. Joseph for his intercession in their prayer requests.

The meal will consist of traditional Italian spaghetti along with specially prepared vegetable sides, breads, and desserts. (Dine-in Only) There will be additional homemade Italian cookies and breads available for purchase.

This year's Altar and Prayers are being dedicated to and for Peace in the World.

SCHEDULE AND DETAILS

Sunday, 3/19/2023
10:00 am The Altar will be open for viewing
10:30 am St. Joseph Chaplet will be recited
11:00 am Blessing by Fr. Antony Paulose
11:20 am Representatives of the Saints will be served
11:45 am General Public will be served, buffet style

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME TOWARDS THE FRUIT, FOOD, AND FLOWERS FOR ALTAR.

Please join our celebration and enjoy the good food and fellowship.

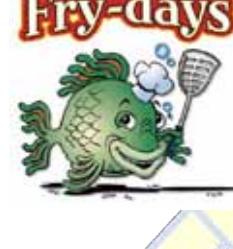
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Don't be afraid to fill gaps in beds with plants, flowers, and objects – the most beautiful flower bed ideas, borders and pots are teaming with color and plants of multiple heights and varying structure.

The past two weeks I've been on a mission which started with the mundane, but necessary task of scrutinizing each flower and vegetable bed, thoroughly weeding rogue plants and removing the roots where possible. Another layer was added, and yes, this is the second top-dressing for each bed in as many weeks. Our growing season is long and we as gardeners must ensure soil structure is enhanced, enabling plants the best chance for survival during the arduous Texas summer months. To this end, this gardener again added another two-inch layer of cured livestock manure, followed by three inches of garden soil, and using a garden spade and pitchfork, turned the amendments into the soil. Initially, gardening requires a considerable amount of 'sweat equity' before the first plant is placed into the ground, and for this seasoned gardener it's pure enjoyment (at least during the spring months), don't even think about asking me to demonstrate the same level of enthusiasm during the summer months, it's simply not there, and I'm certain to mutter something (not

quite audible but certainly snide).

We are going to discuss plant selection, which is a critical aspect and one of many important steps to creating a garden design or transforming an outdoor living area effectively. Choosing the best plants for a garden space depends on numerous factors. Let's begin with the size of the area and knowing the exact amount of space to fill with plants, as well as understanding the intended areas characteristics, like soil type, determining the aesthetic to create. The exciting elements to consider are plant structure, color, habit, growth, texture, while determining the planting plan. Adding vibrant, colorful, blooming plants can brighten porch? Are pops of color needed to brighten a shady area or perhaps use monochromatic shades to create a serene meditation seating area for reflection? Need to diminish the impact of an existing structure? Use the following to assist you in making plant selections.

1. Accurately Measure

This step is the most important step, and planting decisions must be based upon actual measurements, without guessing the amount of area available. Plants need space to grow and are not going to perform well if interplanted too closely, so be realistic with garden plant ideas. On a sheet of paper, roughly sketch the planting area dimensions, then accurately measure the area. Garden-



This garden flower bed demonstrates the ease of creating the 'Wow' factor, through the gardener's effective use of annuals (verbena and vinca), red mulch border while adding a star, creating a 'floral' Texas flag

ers, this simple step provides you with the ability to develop a plant spacing plan, since all plants need optimal room for growth. The same process can be used to create container garden plans or adding potted plants to patios and porches. Add circles on the diagram to designate plant locations with accurate measurements between containers as well as container dimensions. The diagram provides the gardener with a visual representation of how plants or containers fill up the space. Once you understand the area available for planting, you will have a better idea of what can be achieved in your planting scheme using flower beds, shrubs, trees, and borders.

2. Soil Type

We all know Southeast TX does not have the great-

est soil type, mostly clay, this doesn't have to be a limiting factor when planning a new garden area. Many plants grow in our soil which has a pH range between 5.5 and 7.0. For maximum nutrient availability, most plants need to be grown in pH range of 6.0 to 7.0, except for acid loving plants, like blueberries, azaleas, hydrangeas, which require acidic soil. Knowledge of the soil's pH is needed before planting plants! I highly recommend soil analysis if planting or creating a new garden area which is not a raised bed. Gather a few soil samples for analysis and provide them with the nearest county extension office which will provide guidance on where to submit samples for analysis. The cost of soil analysis is mini-

mal, usually less than \$20 with results arriving by email in about 7-10 days.

3. Sun and Shade Characteristic including 'hot zones'

There are varying degrees of shade such as, heavy, partial, light, or dapple. For example, shade beneath a weeping willow tree is dappled, where heavy shade is provided by a large structure, house, or tree with a dense canopy (think Live Oak). Many plants for shade grow well in light or partial shade, such as hydrangea, and viburnum, and even some rose varieties. Plants for heavy shade are a bit more challenging, and not likely to have colorful blooms but will add texture, such as: Hosta, bleeding heart, vinca, and ferns to provide a lush "green background" enhancing the visual appeal of more colorful plants by contrasting with vibrant blooming plants. Just as important as knowing the type of shade is knowing the number of hours direct sunlight, including the dreaded 'hot zones' locations. Hot zones are areas that receive full sun from morning, throughout the entire day without shade during the day (8 to 12 hours). Gardens benefiting from full sun have vast, almost limitless choices of plants! In Southeast Texas (Zone 9a & 9b), summers are long and temperatures extreme, well above 90 for many months. It is imperative plant selections for full sun locations can take the heat and thrive, especially in hot zones, as

these areas require plants which can endure the heat yet flourish despite it. Once established, drought tolerant plants like Lantana, Black-eyed Susan, Purple coneflower, Salvia, Gulf-coast muhly grass, Vitex, Plumbago, Firebush, Esperanza, are a few which will thrive.

4. Encourage Pollinators

Encourage pollinators, birds, bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and other animals and insects as each are needed in our gardens! Incorporate bird feeders, baths, nesting boxes, toad, and butterfly houses into patio, porch, garden, and outdoor space plans for added amusement while providing habitats for pollinators. Design a unique space integrating garden art which appeals to you made of metal, stone, or wood. Large planters in bold colors are statements that draw attention and why not add water features, including basins that attract feathered and winged guests. Include unusual or geometric shapes and obelisks to elevate uncommon elements, and by all means repurpose broken and worn objects, staging them with plants spilling over their boundaries for increased garden dimension and to pique visitor interest! Experiment and have fun, it's your garden space so make reflect your personality! Don't be afraid to fill gaps in beds with plants, flowers, and other objects, found or new – the most beautiful flower bed ideas, borders and pots are teaming with color and plants of multiple heights and varying structure and texture.

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www.fumcorange.org
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Jeremiah 29:11-13

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare[a] and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

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6B • The Record • Week of Wednesday, March 15, 2023