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County Record

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Week of Wednesday, March 29, 2023

County will keep same exemptions on taxes

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Orange County Commissioners unanimously voted to keep the same property tax homestead exemption at 20 percent for the upcoming tax year. Senior citizens will continue to get an additional \$25,000 exemption on their homes.

Tax Assessor-Collector Karen Fisher asked the commissioners to set the rates for 2023-24 so she can begin income calculations as the time comes for estimates for a new county budget.

The county has long had those exemptions, with the 20 percent homestead exemption the maximum the state has allowed.

In other business, Chris



Gothia

Robbins, chief financial officer with Jefferson Energy, told commissioners his company has now paid \$32.3 million in tax payments to the county since a tax abatement agreement in 2013.

The company built a \$200 million refinery on the Orange County east bank of the Neches River and has expanded since the beginning 10 years ago. The company has 238 full time employees and 1,400 contract workers.

Jefferson refinery has a dock, tank yard, and is on

County Page 3A

Roberts Ford hosts Grand Reopening Celebration and Sale



Orange County's Roberts Ford celebrated its grand re-opening celebration with entertainment, door prizes and a ribbon cutting by the Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday. According to Will Palasota, general manager, "The dealership is operating with the concept of serving the local community and region. People do not need to go to Beaumont or Louisiana to shop for vehicles and good deals," he said. The dealership also offers a great selection of preowned vehicles and a full service Quick Lane center. Santy Roberts became the new owner of the Ford dealership just over a year ago and is stepping up its involvement and service to the Orange County community. Pictured are: Santy Roberts, owner, cutting the ribbon and to her right is Will Palasota, general manager. They are surrounded by Roberts Ford staff, members of the community and GOACC officials.

Methodists started with 'alligator' ministers, celebrates 150 years

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Ministers often need a bit of help with expenditures and the Methodists of Orange County have a unique history for a part-time income. Early denomination ministers here rode the "Alligator Circuit," nicknamed that because the traveling preachers killed alligators to sell the hides.

First United Methodist Church of Orange is a direct offshoot of those circuit riders, with records showing the ministers came here as early as 1859. The first Methodist Church here was formally formed in 1873, a 150 years ago.

The congregation of the church is now celebrating the landmark anniversary, which coincides with the 100-year dedication anniversary of the towering Gothic-style church building on Saturday



Members of First United Methodist Church in downtown Orange have been dusting and polishing their historical church for an open house on Saturday as part of Art in the Park nearby. The congregation is celebrating its 150th anniversary and the landmark Gothic-style building was dedicated 100 years ago.

ing in downtown. As part of the celebration, the church is offering free guided tours of the historic building on Saturday

during the Art in the Park festival in Stark Park, a block away. The church is at 502 N. Sixth Street at Elm Avenue.

Youth of the church will be selling a special ornament created for anniversary.

First United Page 5A



Art in the Park Saturday will honor the town's newest local sports hero, O'Shaquie "Shock" Foster, who won the World Boxing Council's super featherweight championship in February.

Art in the Park will honor local boxing champ

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Orange's 21st Annual Art in the Park will be this Saturday, April 1, with live music, arts and crafts, food trucks, a car show, and this year, a parade.

The festival, sponsored by the city of Orange Convention and Visitors Bureau, this year will honor the town's newest local sports hero, O'Shaquie "Shock" Foster, who won the World Boxing Council's super featherweight championship in February. The 130-pound fighter now has a giant world championship belt.

Art in the Park will open at Stark Park along Green Avenue from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The special parade to honor Orange's champion boxer will begin at noon at First Street, then travel down Green Avenue to the old city hall. Mayor Larry Spears Jr. will preside over a ceremony that will include giving the champ the ceremonial key to the city.

The parade will begin staging at First Street at 10 a.m. and entrants may sign up until 4 p.m. Friday on the city's website or by calling 409-221-3325. Entries may include cars, trucks,

Art in the Page 3A

SBA offers low-interest storm damage loans

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The federal Small Business Administration has set up a disaster center this week at the Orange County Expo Center to help businesses, homeowners, and renters affected by the January 24 tornadoes and thunderstorms apply for low-interest loans.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared several Southeast Texas counties, including Orange County, as a disaster area because of the strong storms and tornadoes on that date. The National Weather Service reported Orange County had two tornadoes, including an F-2 that traveled 26 miles across the county into Louisiana.

The SBA office opened on Monday and will remain open Wednesday, March 29; Thursday, March 30; Friday, March 31; and Saturday April 1. The hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the week days and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. The Expo Center is on FM 1442 south of Interstate 10.

The low-interest loans are available for people who

had losses not covered by insurance or FEMA reimbursements for damage suffered in the storms. The loans may also be used to help prevent future damage from storms.

Businesses and individuals may borrow up to \$2 million for real estate, machinery, equipment, or inventory damaged by the storms.



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My 5-Cents By State Sen. Robert Nichols

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

One hundred years ago this week, Lamar University in Beaumont originated as South Park Junior College when the Beaumont ISD superintendent sought to develop plans for a junior college. Later that year, the institution's doors opened, and the name was changed to Lamar College and later Lamar University. I'm a proud alumnus of Lamar University!



Sen. Nichols

increase the homestead exemption to \$70,000. This is an increase from the current homestead exemption of \$40,000.

The bill also raises the over-65 and disabled homestead exemption to an additional \$30,000, meaning if a homeowner is over 65 or disabled their exemption will total \$100,000. The bill is co-authored by all 31 senators and was unanimously voted out of Senate this week. SB 3 is the enabling legislation for the requisite constitutional amendment this would require. Senate Joint Resolution 3, which proposes the constitutional amendment, also passed the Senate unanimously. It would put the issue to the voters in November.

Senate Bills 4 and 5 were also passed unanimously. SB 4 compresses school

district tax rates beyond the current rates. Essentially the state is appropriating tax dollars to buy down school district tax rates. Senate Bill 5 raises the personal property tax exemption for businesses. Currently, businesses only have a \$2,500 exemption for personal property owned by the business. Senate Bill 5 would raise that exemption to \$25,000. That measure is also included as part of the ballot measure that will go to the voters in November. I was proud to co-author all of these bills to provide meaningful property tax relief.

2. TRS cost of living adjustment heard in Senate Finance Committee

This week the Senate Finance Committee voted to give our retired teachers a well-deserved cost-of-living adjustment. Senate Bill 10 passed the Senate Finance Committee unani-

mously and all 31 Senators have signed on. The bill would provide a four percent increase for teachers who retired before September 1, 2013, and a two percent increase for those who retired after September 1, 2013, and before January 1, 2022. The bill also gives a one-time \$7,500 supplemental check to any retirees 75 years old or older. The total cost will be \$4.7 billion. Our retired teachers deserve a cost-of-living adjustment, and I was proud to sign on and vote for this bill.

3. Broadband bill heard in committee

Senate Bill 1238 was heard in Senate Business and Commerce Committee this week. Last session, the Legislature took incredible steps toward ensuring all Texans are connected to high speed Internet in House Bill 5. It directed the Broadband Development

Office to create and publish the state's first broadband map and plan – which it has, and both are now publicly available. Senate Bill 1238 increases the speed threshold for an area to be considered "served," brings state statute in compliance with federal guidelines, which includes the preference for fiber deployment; and updates how broadband access is defined and adopts standards for what constitutes served, underserved, and unserved areas, among other things.

This bill is vital to our continued efforts to support broadband proliferation throughout the state. I'm excited to work with my fellow Senators and Rep. Trent Ashby to get this done.

4. Ankle monitor removal increased penalty bill passes Senate

This week the Texas Senate passed a bill that would increase the penalties for tampering with or removing an ankle monitor that a person is required to wear. Senate Bill 1004 by Senator

Joan Huffman increases the penalty to a state jail felony, unless the person is in a super-intensive supervision program in which case the penalty would be a third degree felony. Ankle monitors are used to ensure that there is accountability for defendants who are out on parole or on bail. This bill enhances public safety for our communities, and I was proud to support it in the Senate.

5. Bail reform moves to House

The Senate passed Senate Joint Resolution 44 this week which would deny bail to offenders accused of violent or sexual offense or human trafficking. In recent years, there have been instances of violent offenders being let off on low or no bail. This bill would ensure a defendant's appearance in court, the safety of the community, law enforcement, and the victim. This is another proposition that would appear on the ballot in November should it pass both chambers with enough support.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. Property tax relief passes Senate

This week the Senate passed Senate Bills 3, 4, and 5 which would provide \$16.5 billion in tax relief. All three bills are primarily authored by Senator Paul Bettencourt.

Senate Bill 3 would in-

BOOKS

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

Fortunately our forefathers had the wisdom to guarantee certain freedoms in our constitution. The freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, freedom to participate in government and the freedom of speech – both spoken and written. All of these are freedoms which should be jealously protected.

A student of history knows well that curtailing what citizens can say, read or express in writing is a precursor to a domineering type government. The same was true of the German Nazis, Italian Black Shirts and is true today in Russia where speaking out is subject to a 15-year prison sentence if it is contrary to the teachings of Putin's



Former State Senator Carl Parker

government.

Unfortunately today, our governor, lieutenant governor and some "right-wingers" in our legislature are busily making lists of books that should be removed from our public and school libraries. Perhaps some books listed have controversial views; but the whole matter is

simply a political stunt in support of the governor and lieutenant governor's effort to authorize vouchers and educational welfare for rich folks. Books are being banned allegedly because they contain dirty words, descriptions of immoral conduct, sex, incest, murder, robbery and human discrimination among different types of the population.

For the life of me, I have yet to understand why Huckleberry Finn is offensive enough to merit being pulled off school library shelves. There is no doubt that it references unacceptable names for minorities and a few curse words. A well-grounded young person should be capable of making his or her own judgement and not be warped by simply the words, even the book

banners seem to be having a little trouble now trying to figure out standards by which they can justify keeping books away from other people. Recently, in the Legislature it was brought out that a great western classic Lonesome Dove would be banned because it contains bad language, descriptions throughout of prostitution and certain discrimination of one race against another.

If we are to consider those things as indicators of why the book containing them should be banned, there is another book that is widely published that we need to ban as well because it contains all those elements, many of which are written about in great particularity. The book is called the *Bible*.

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County business From Page 1



Orange County Commissioners Court declared April as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month with a proclamation. Amanda Selemo with the Rape and Suicide Crisis Center of Southeast Texas, which is a free service for victims. RECORD PHOTO: Margaret Toal

three pipelines.

The company in the past has presented commissioners court with a large ceremonial check for their taxes, but Robbins said the taxes were due at the end of January and they paid then.

Industry was another subject as the court agreed to hire KMY Consulting

to help with the administration of the \$200,000 grant given by Chevron Phillips Golden Triangle Polymers plant for the Local First Program.

The Local First Program is to recruit and help find local and regional workers and suppliers for the construction of the new \$8.5 billion chemical plant off

Highway 87 South between Orange and Bridge City. County Judge John Gothia said the county will pay the consultants \$6,000 a month. However, the printing of materials and other advertising costs will be paid by the county.

County Economic Development Director Me-

gan Layne asked for an amendment to the tax abatement agreement with Optimus Steel. She said the company asked for the starting date to be made clear and moved it back to 2024.

Lisa McCraig with the Texas Association of Counties Risk Management told the court the county's insurance could increase this year because of the increasing costs of materials to rebuild and rising property values. She said the county's insured properties value increased to \$109 million from \$96 million. Actuaries will be calculating the new rates and the county should know how much the insurance on buildings will go up by May 1.

Commissioners approved a number of purchases for county departments, including \$35,599 for a 2022 Ford F150 pickup truck for mosquito control from Silsbee Ford. Also, a \$40,919 for a 2022 Chevrolet Traverse from Lake Country Chevrolet to be used by emergency management.

The county is also reim-

bursing the Mauriceville Municipal Utility \$46,800 for extending waste water lines to Kinard Estates off FM 1130. The money is coming from federal ARPA, the American Res-

cue Plan grants.

Another payment was \$39,266 from ARPA for updating the camera system at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center.

Lady Bobcats win four straight district softball games

The first half of district softball action is completed in District 22-3A. The Orangefield Lady Bobcats are tied for first place but have a difficult road ahead to start the second half of their district schedule.

The Lady Bobcats won their fourth straight district game on Friday, March 24, at Hardin 12-3 over the Lady Hornets. The victory raised Orangefield's district record to 6-1 which is tied with Kirbyville for the best in the district and one game ahead of Kountze and Anahuac.

Pitcher Abigail Curphey had another strong game in the circle for Orangefield giving up three runs all of which were unearned on six hits. Curphey struck out seven Lady Hornets in the game.

One of the top hitting stars on Friday for Orangefield was leadoff batter Hallee Becker who had three hits. Hallee scored two runs and drove in two runs.

Another Lady Bobcat who swung a big bat was Charlee Sanches who homered, drove in two runs, and scored two runs. Aubree Beck and Abby Broussard both scored two runs while Hallee's sister Paris had an RBI and a run scored.

This week Orangefield has the two second place teams Kountze and Anahuac on the schedule. The Lady Bobcats beat Kountze 3-1 at Orangefield in the first district game this season and lost at home to Anahuac 10-5 before starting their four game winning streak.

Art in the Park, Saturday From Page 1

trailers, gas-powered golf carts, four-wheelers, motorcycles or walkers. No horses, dogs, pets, skateboards or bicycles will be allowed. Cars and trucks entered must show proof of insurance upon registration.

Art in the Park has attracted lots of local residents along with those from out of town. City Events Planner Leigh Anne Harrell said this year more than 100 booths and vendors will be set up. About half of those will be from the people who return annually and about half newcomers.

Non-profit groups also set up information booths and many have arts and crafts activities for children, including the Stark Cultural Venues and Heritage House Museum.

The American Association of University Women Orange Chapter will hold its annual used book sale under the porte cochere of the Lutcher Theater at the south side of Stark Park. Paperback books are as low as 10 cents with like-new hardbacks at \$1. Proceeds from the sale of the donated books helps the club provide scholarships to local high school girls.

Stark High graduate and former school quarterback Joel Robins will be at the Orange County Historical

Society booth talking about a book he wrote about the old Orange High and later Stark High football programs. He spent years researching the football teams back to the first one in 1909.

Vendors will have a variety of artwork and crafts, including drawings, paintings, photographs, sculptures, pottery, and books.

This year, First United Methodist Church in downtown will be celebrating its 150th anniversary of the congregation. The 1921 Gothic-style church building will be open for guided tours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The church is at 502 North Sixth Street, a block north of Stark Park and within easy walking distance of festival.

Once again, the city is hosting a car show in conjunction with Art in the Park. Harrell said the cars will be displayed along Front Avenue in downtown. Entrants may sign up Saturday morning beginning a 7 a.m. Awards for the prize categories will be announced at 2 p.m.

Musical entertainment will be from a stage set up on the dead end of old Seventh Street between the old city hall and Stark Park. Sam Hardin and Band performing current

and older popular songs will be there from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Osmosis Jones, a cover band of 1980s songs, will play from 1:30 to 3 p.m. The band has played here before.

Harrell said the city has lined up eight food trucks that will sell a smorgasbord of foods including spicy wings, hamburgers, loaded baked potatoes, fried fish, and nachos.

Art in the Park is free with free parking available through the downtown area. No dogs, pets, skateboards, bicycles, or coolers will be allowed inside the festival.

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From the Creaux's Nest

FIREARMS NUMBER ONE KILLER OF CHILDREN

The killer in a Nashville school shooting on Monday had drawn a detailed map of the school, including potential entry points, and conducted surveillance before killing three students and three adults in the latest in a series of mass shootings in a country growing increasingly unnerved by bloodshed in schools. The suspect, who was killed by police, is believed to be a former student at **The Covenant School in Nashville**. The shooter was armed with two "assault-style" weapons, a rifle and a pistol, as well as a handgun, authorities said. At least two of them were believed to have been obtained legally in the Nashville area. Communities around the nation are reeling from an outburst of school violence, including the massacre at an elementary school at **Uvalde, Texas**, last year; a first-grader who shot his teacher in **Virginia**; and a shooting last week in Denver that wounded two administrators. "We have a manifesto, we have some writings that we're going over that pertain to this date, the actual incident," Metropolitan Nashville Police Chief **John Drake** said Monday during one of several news conferences. "We have a map drawn out of how this was all going to take place." **President Joe Biden**, speaking at an unrelated event at the **White House** on Monday, called the shooting a "family's worse nightmare" and implored **Congress** again to pass a ban on certain semi-automatic weapons. "It's ripping at the soul of this nation," **Biden** said. Before Monday's violence in Nashville, there had been seven mass killings at **K-12 schools**. Monday's tragedy unfolded over roughly 14 minutes. Two officers from a five-member team opened fire in response, fatally shooting the suspect.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2013

Kree Harrison, with strong ties to our area, performs Wednesday evening on FOX. She is already in the top final eight. One contestant is eliminated each Thursday. The Wednesday performance is judged by the public with their votes. "U.S.A. Today" says **Kree**, who is one of the top talents on the show, may be at a disadvantage as she gets closer to the top because of a smaller voter base. An example of that is **Tuesday's Houston Chronicle** that featured a two page lay out on contestant **Amber Holcomb**, an 18 year old from **Spring, TX**, located near **Houston**. **Amber** was picked eighth last week, **Kree** came in second. However, the large **Houston base of voters** plus the backing of a 700,000 circulated newspaper and **Houston television audiences** can benefit a contestant in large metro areas. **Kree** must overcome that with talent and by voters who judge on the merits, also what base support she picks up from **South-east Texas**. **The George W. Bush Presidential Center** at **SMU** will hold a ribbon cutting April 25. It will open to the public May 1. The 24 acre site has a 226,560 sq. foot center and 15 acre park and a beautiful **Texas rose garden**, a version of the **White House** rose garden. **SMU** is the **Alma Mater** of first lady **Laura Bush**. I'm not sure if **VP Dick Cheney** is invited to the ribbon cutting. **March 28** is the special day for **Garrett Gros**, **Phyl** and **Roy's oldest grandson**, who celebrates his number 28. By the way, he's "Scoots" daddy and **Karen Dunn Gros' oldest**. **Also** celebrating this day are **Mike Roberts**, **Rayford Spurgeon**, **Jean Jackson** and **Steve Hollard**. **Al Granger** celebrates on **Good Friday**, **March 29**. **Also** getting older is former **Bridge City High** principle and longtime educator **Terry Stuebing**. **As I recall**, **March 30** is also the date my friend "Red" **Garrett** died in 2010. **Easter Sunday**, **March 31**, finds **Dana Myers** and **Danny Carter** celebrating. **April 1**. Born on **April Fool's Day**, or **All Fool's Day**, take your choice, are **Pam Savoy**, **Tracie Ray**, **Steve Adams**, **Elizabeth Weir**, **Angie Sellers**, **Allison Asbusy** and **James Williams**. **Happy "Fool's Day"** to you all. **A decade ago** the **Dixie Chicks** were selling millions of records then one night in London, they said they were ashamed that **President Geo. Bush** was from Texas. They were banished from country music. The April issue of **Texas Monthly** has a long feature story on the rise and fall of the **Chicks**. Sisters **Martie Maguire** and **Emily Robison**, on fiddle and banjo, and singer **Natalie Maines** were the hottest country act until that fateful day. **Toby Keith** started flashing a photo shopped image of **Natalie** hugging **Saddam Hussein** on a screen above the stage when he played "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue" in concerts. He helped kill them off. It was the tongue in cheek statement in London that did them in. They became the **darlings of the anti-war crowd**. **Rush Limbaugh** and the **FOX News crowd** worked to destroy them. They played eight dates with **James Taylor**, **REM** and **Bruce Springsteen** but the radical right wouldn't let them survive. **"The Voice"** (musical chairs) returned Monday and Tuesday night for season four. The coaching panel has changed but country super star **Blake Shelton** and Grammy winner **Adam Levine** remain. Two new coaches have been added. Multi-

platinum selling Grammy winners **Shakira** and **Usher** bring a different perspective to the show. They replace **Christina Aguilera** and **CeeLo Green** and his cat. It's a good show, highlighting great talent from around the country. How the panel meshes is key to the success of the **Voice**.

25 Years Ago-1998

On April 1, **Sam Lucia**, a native of **Orange** and graduate of **St. Mary High School**, returns to the area as new superintendent of the **Bridge City School District**. Since 1995 **Lucia** has been superintendent at the **Palestine School District**. He and wife **Judy** will live with his mother while searching for a home. **Judy** is also a native, and her parents still live in **Rose-lawn**. Her sister is county clerk, **Karen Jo Vance**. **This coming weekend Snappy's in B.C.** will hold its grand opening. (Editor's note: **Glenda**, I can't believe it, we were 25 years younger and full of pep.) **J.P. Thibodeaux**, a **Bridge City** native who owns several auto dealerships in **Louisiana**, has purchased the **Austin-Lee dealership** on **IH-10** in **Orange**. **Clay Higgins** will be general manager. (Editor's note: **J.P. has since died**, as has his brothers **Lloyd and Gordon**, who were raised in **Bridge City**. **Bennis Lee** was owner of **Austin Lee** when it sold.) **Last Saturday, Marialeice Colletti** became **Mrs. Lester Saucier**. **Friday night, 20/20** will run a feature on the new "resurrection pill" called **Viagra**. Everyone is talking about it. Older married women are said to oppose it. (Editor's note: It's been 25 years since the "Blue" pill, and the percentage of old men charged with rape hasn't gone up.) **Vickie Edgerly**, democratic nominee for district clerk, thanks her supporters. **Inez Hearn**, former **Bridge City resident**, has been named "Senior Citizen Worker of the Year" in **Louisiana**. She received a plaque and roses from **Gov. Foster** but she didn't make the ceremony, she was too busy working. **Inez**, 79, soon to be 80, is retired from **Montgomery Ward** after 25 years. She runs a route feeding the elderly. **Recently she totaled her car**, got another one and saw to it that the old folks got lunch, milk and juice. (Editor's note: **Today, Nez is gone**.) **Janice Overman** is her daughter and **Ray Hearn** her son. She was one of a kind. I'm glad the **Lord** put me and **Nez** down in the same place and gave me the privilege to know her and be her friend.) **Terri Gauthier** and the staff of **Total Impressions** are excited about the grand opening of **Grace Plaza**. The ribbon cutting is **April 3**. **Jacey Marie Walker** celebrated her first birthday **March 22**. **Zara Killman** turned three **March 24**. **Kaley Patnaude** celebrates her eighth birthday **March 27**. (Editor's note: Just add 25 years girls. **I hope life is good**.) **Voting made easy**. You can cast your vote at **Wal-Mart**. (Editor's note: In 1998, every effort was made to make voting easy and assessable. Today, around the country, **groups are attempting to suppress the vote** by making it harder for minorities to vote.)

45 Years Ago-1978

George Easterling has moved to the country (Mauriceville) from **Bridge City**. Son **Roger** is teaching school in **Houston**. Son **Ben** is a backfield football coach at **Ball High** in **Galveston**. His daughter **Becky** and her husband make their home in **Corpus Christi**. They're all expected to come home to Mom and Dad's for Easter. **Birthday wishes to Skipper Nance** who is 30 this week. Also **Janet Hall** is four on **March 28**. **Gail Rogers** notches another year on **March 29**. **David and Debbie Fusilier** became parents of a baby girl on **Monday**. **Gordon Harvey** is mayor of **Bridge City**. **Bill Forte** is manager of **KOGT**. **"Airport 77: and "Silver Streak"** are showing on **Liberty Cable Showtime**. **James Stewart** stars in one and **Gene Wilder** in the other. **Sandy Sanford** announces for **West Orange-Cove School Board**. **Mike Feagan** and **Daryll Petry** are motorcycle racers. **Tommy Humphrey** catches a 7 pound, 14 ounce bass. **Deanna Linscomb** is manager of the month at **Sak-N-Pak #13** on **Hwy. 87**. **C.W. Holt** is pastor of the **West Orange Assembly of God**. **A few CB handles floating around on the airwaves are, Undertaker, Window Buster, Gabby, Lonely Lady, Warrior, Good Times Express, Texas Viking, Lady Porky Pig** and **Texas Lady**.

50 Years Ago-1973

Elizabeth Black is 92 years old and happiest when she is busy working in the soil. She keeps up the flower beds at **Green Acres Nursing Home**. **Kathleen Cook** is **Orange Public Librarian**. **Charlie Warner** plays baseball for **BC High**. **Fred Bailey** has a large magnet on a rope to find keys lost in the lake. Last weekend he retrieved **Phyllis Dunn's keys**. **El Matador Barber** and **Style Shop** features **Lewis Gay, Jim Dugas** and **B. David**. **Ralph Smith** solicits your vote for **BC Council**. **Jack Brooks Sr.** is a candidate for **Pinehurst Council**. **Joe Kazmar** picks the **West Orange Chiefs** to win the **10-AAA** baseball championship. On the team are **Danny Longmier, Ray Pousson** and **Paul Richardson**.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

On **Easter Sunday, March 28, 1948**, a crowd of 4,675 visitors turned out for an **Easter open house** at **Shangri La**. The **Stark family**, on special occasions, would open the grounds, then at some time, I believe around 1950, it shut down for good until it was reopened by the **Stark Foundation**. Today, it is the crown jewel of **Orange**. **The rain held off** for the first week of the annual **Lions Club Carnival** and it looks like the wet weather will hold off for this second week. **The Lions Club** has joked about rain and storms affecting the carnival for the past 20 years that they are now selling an orange and white umbrella with a seal saying "Orange Lions Club Charity Carnival, Bringing the rain since 1939." You can order a \$25 umbrella at the token booth. The carnival will run again this week on **Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday**. Last week ended up a good time for the carnival with lots of people turning out for the rides and food. **Kenneth** and **Patricia Kemp** scored a funnel cake after an hour in line. But who cares about the wait? **Kenneth had his 77th**

birthday and he wanted funnel cake. **Steve Maddox and crew** were grilling the burgers trying to keep up with the lines for **Lions burgers**. **The Team Granger crew**, including **Katina Olivier** and **Dillon Gaspard**, was helping at the **kiddie cars**. **Brandy** and **Roderick Robertson** took grandson **Zay**, now a toddler to the carnival and the **Beaumont fair**. **Constable Lannie Claybar** took his mother, **Peggy Claybar** out to the carnival along with daughters **Annabelle** and **Caroline**. **Gina** and **Skipper Yeaman** worked in the **Blinky Booth** selling the kiddie designs with colorful blinking lights. **Gina** is a model for the headpieces. Of course all the **Lions Club** members volunteer, but the community event relies on lots of other volunteers to keep the tradition going. **First United Methodist Church** sent a group out to help and kids from **Bridge City High** were among those helping. I hear **Port Commissioner Keith Wallace**, besides running his four **Reliable Cleaners**, is neck deep in the **Lions Club Carnival**. We are hearing great reports, fun for all and all for a great cause. **Donna Scales** is back from her spring break trip to **Canada** with son **James, Devon**, and exchange student **Eli**. **Donna** is an international traveler, but don't get her upset at **Walmart**. She is not happy with the way some people park at the **Walmart in Bridge City**. **Terri** and **Brad Childs** made a spring trip to **Fredericksburg** and saw lots of bluebonnets. **Iva Kay** and **Lawrence Odom** are taking a country break in **Comfort, Texas**, in a quaint cabin. **Lots of people** were celebrating **March birthdays** this past week. **Larry Fisher** marked his **72nd** by posing on the steps of **West Orange's Carl Godwin Auditorium**, where he posed for a class picture in the first grade. **Carolyn Gorby** turned **82** and partied with family. Former **Orange police chief Jack McClelland** was **78** and took off on another multi-state motorcycle trip. **Bridge City ISD Police Chief Cliff Hargrave** also had a birthday. Retired **OPD officer Kelly Griffin** also turned another year older. **Brittany Pipkin** had her **big 4-0** and had a couple of parties, including traveling to **Houston** with **Fletcher Pipkin, Edie Burch** and **Richard Teague**. **Melissa Monson Ashby** had a birthday and went to **Bullfish in Orangefield** for a celebratory dinner with mom **Rita Monson** and grandmother **Della Gallien**. Lawyer **Michael Catt** had a birthday, but also lost a beloved dog this week. Condolences to him and his family. Another lawyer with a birthday was **Christine Brown-Zeto**. Others with birthdays included **Sissy Willey, Kelvin Knauf, Annette Payne** and **Denise St. Pierre**.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to a few people we know. **March 29**: For over 30 years, we have been wishing **Al Granger** a happy birthday in this column. I know he is at least older than that. Happy Birthday **Al**, best wishes for continued good health. Also celebrating are **Kaydee Wingate, Robert Clark Jr.** and **Julie Norwood**. **March 30**: **Chase Ballou**, One of **Mark's** grandsons, turns 5-years-old today. Also celebrating is former **Bridge City high school principle Terry Stuebing, Karen Bergeron, Lisa Smith**. **March 31**: **Christy's** daughter, **Coree Guerea**, turns 19 years old on this day. I remember when she turned six. Thirteen years have flown by and she is off to college. Also celebrating are **Terry Seal, Dana Myers, Danny Carter, Hunter Wilson** and **Rebecca Hunter**. **April 1**: **Happy April Fools Day**, also Happy Birthday to **Tracie Ray, Pam Savoy, Steve Adams, Allison Asbury** and **Angie Sellers**. **April 2**: **Today is Palm Sunday**. Happy Birthday to **Michael McAllister, James McDonald, Vickie Foreman, Dalica Marie Bienivides, Jason Vincent, Kellie Fontenot, Kent Pierce**. **April 3**: **Constable Lannie Claybar** celebrates today, also **Aliceson Haynes, Desirea Wilson, Eddie Asbury, Linda Currie**. **April 4**: Celebrating today is our long-time buddy and former **Record "Super Salesman" Al Deroche**, also Happy Birthday to **James Wroten, Debbie Kendrick, Jason Ballard, Jeremy Simmons, Joe Peery, Kathie Dorman, Kird Jordan, Sandra McRight**. This is also the day **MLK** was killed by **James Earl Ray** in 1968. (Note: For birthday and anniversary announcements please call 409-886-7183 or email therecordlive.com.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Joe Gillbeaux's boy, **Ned**, wat is not too sharp in da head, is in his turd years as a **LS&U freshman**. While sitting in his **U.S. Government** class, his professor axed **Ned** if he knew wat **Roe vs. Wade** was about.

Gillbeaux's boy pondered da question, talking to himself he repeated "Roe vs. Wade."

Finally he said, "Prof, I got it me, dat was da decision **George Washington** him had to make before he crossed da **Delaware**."

C'EST TOUT TEXAS LOSS KILLS MY INTEREST IN MARCH MADNESS

Miami beat **Texas 88-81** in the **Elite-Eight**, a game **Texas** should have won. They led by 13-points in the second half before blowing the game. **Miami Hurricanes** face **UConn** in **Final Four Saturday** in **Houston**. **Wade Phillips** and his **Houston Roughnecks** lost a second game. **Two in a row now**. They were beaten by the **D.C. Guardians** Monday night. **D.C.** is undefeated, while **Houston** is at 4-2. **Trump's** rally was held deep in the **Heart of Texas**, at **Waco**, which sits between **Houston** and **Dallas**. From the center of the state **Trump's** first campaign stop could pull from all parts of **Texas**. His campaign committee expected to draw 25,000 to 60,000 people. Local press reported attendance was around 15,000 to 18,000. **We were very sad** to learn of the death of our friend, longtime **Precinct 3 Constable John Ford**, formerly of **Bridge City**. Our friend **Patty Collins** notified us right at press time of his passing earlier this month. Arrangements will be planned for local services. **According to Judge Derry Dunn**, the group is still working to get the **Wednesday Lunch Bunch** attendance up. This week promises to be a good turnout. **Y'all come**. **My time is up**. Until we meet again happy trails to you. **Take care and God bless**.

First United Methodist celebrates 150 years From Page 1



Members of First United Methodist Church in downtown Orange have been dusting and polishing their historical church for an open house on Saturday as park of Art in the Park nearby. The congregation is celebrating its 150th anniversary and the landmark Gothic-style building was dedicated 100 years ago. **RECORD PHOTO: Margaret Toal**

sary as a fundraiser. The ornaments will be \$20 each.

The book "Orange: Gateway to Texas" by the late historian Dr. Howard Williams, said the oldest church in Orange is Old First Orange Baptist Church, which "legend says" goes back to 1957. The Methodists first congregated in a Methodist Epis-

copal Church in 1866 and then formed the Methodist congregation in 1873.

First United Methodist church history says 44 members signed the original papers with Mrs. Emma George Latham as the first name. They bought land for their church on College Street across from Evergreen Cemetery. The first building was

"tiny" and wood-frame with the Reverend Gillum as the first pastor. The church would let other Evangelical denominations use the building.

That first building burned in 1889 and the congregation met at the Orange County Courthouse for a while. They then bought property at Border and Henderson streets and in 1892, build a new church. The one-story, wood-frame building had a large sanctuary with a room at the back for Sunday school. Miss Annie Sells was the Sunday school superintendent.

By 1894, the congregation had expanded to 334 members with the Reverend W.W. Watts as pastor. W.H. Malone at the time was Sunday School superintendent, a position he held for 37 years.

As the town of Orange moved northward, the Methodists looked for a new site and chose land at Sixth and Elm streets north of Green Avenue in 1910. They moved the wooden church from Border Street to the new location.

Then in 1919, the congregation hired local architect and building Thomas Avant Howell, a longtime church member, to design a new sanctuary and church building. He had been on the church's board of stew-

ards since 1903.

Howell designed a Gothic-style brick church with a second-story sanctuary that includes a balcony area, cathedral ceiling, and is surrounded by stained glass windows.

The three windows at the front were created by the Texas Art Glass Company of Houston and tell the life of Christ. The windows are reproductions of famous religious paintings like "The Good Shepherd," "Jesus Among the Lowly," and "Jesus and the Little Children."

The congregation moved into the new church in 1921 while it was still under construction. It was completed and dedicated in 1923. The sanctuary for a number of years was the biggest gathering spot in Orange with high school graduation ceremonies and other community events held there.

The church history says the congregation continued paying the loans on the building until 1937, when the Reverend Ed Barcus came and raised the money to pay off the debt.

Since those early years, First United Methodist has had additions to its campus, including the Slade Memorial Chapel, a gift from the late Edgar and Gladys Slade Brown Jr., plus the Family Life Center. The downstairs has also had renovations.

Deaths & Memorials

Jerry Leon Roach, 66, Orange

Jerry Leon Roach, 66, of Orange, Texas, passed away on March 22, 2023, in Beaumont, Texas.



Jerry Roach.

Born in Pensacola, Florida, on August 14, 1956, he was the son of Robert L. Roach, Sr. and Shirley Ann (Hibbitts) Roach. Jerry was a hardworking man who owned and operated his own floor installation business. He was also an avid lover of watching ghost stories and flea markets, having his own stall at the Vidor Flea Market that he enjoyed working more than anything. His family remembers him for his humor and mischief. Jerry loved his dogs and family like no other. His loved ones will always

cherish the memories they have of him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Robert Roach, Sr. and Shirley Roach.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Vickie Roach; daughter, Heather Roach and husband, Greg; grandchildren, Macie Roach, Pyper Roach, and Gavin Roach; siblings, Anita Sykes and husband, Richard, Charles Roach and wife, Delva, Robert Roach, Jr. and wife, Helen, Cynthia Edmonson, and Joe Roach; as well as numerous other loving family and friends.

Cremation will be held under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

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GARAGE SALE

3 Family yard sale on Sat., April 1st at 835 Connecticut St. in Bridge City.

House/Garage Sale for Essie Bellfield Estate at 1907 Link Street in Orange this Fri., 3/31 and Sat., 4/1 from 9 am to 1 pm. Large Hat collection, California King bed, crystal, lamps, vases, furniture, clothing, kitchen ware, microwave, hospital bed, washer/dryer, even free items. Everything goes.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JIMMY SMITH** Deceased, were issued on **MARCH 24, 2023, in Cause No. P19629**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **LINDA D. SMITH**.

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.

Linda D. Smith
c/o: Stephen C. Howard
Attorney at Law
903 W. Green Avenue
Orange, Texas 77630

Dated the 27th day of March, 2023.

Stephen Howard
Stephen Howard

Attorney for:
Linda D. Smith
State Bar No.: 10079400
903 W. Green Avenue
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)883-0202
Fax: (409)883-0209
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LEGAL NOTICE

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To: Unknow 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'Lyaa 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'Lyaa 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

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THEME: COLORS

ACROSS

- Partner of pains
 - "Raiders of the Lost"
 - Opposite of flows
 - Flesh of fish
 - Grazing area
 - Soft palate hanger
 - Boatload
 - Wood-shaping tool
 - Old episode
 - "Alice of "Color Purple" fame
 - "Fruit and color
 - Long reef dweller
 - Sound of pain
 - Math class total
 - Excessively abundant
 - "Royal" color
 - Arrival times, acr.
 - "Color quality
 - Shininess
 - White House "sub"
 - Spritelike
 - Cupid's counterpart
 - Serengeti grazer
 - "Feeling blue
 - Hokkaido native
 - "Color wheel inventor
 - Walk with a hitch
 - "Malcolm X" (1992) movie director
 - Stare open-mouthed
 - Napoleon of "Animal Farm," e.g.
 - "Between blue and violet
 - _____phobia, intense fear of colors
 - Opposite of cathode
 - North American country
 - Run _____ of the law
 - Geography class book
 - Local area network
 - It's firma
 - Has divine power
 - Banned insecticide, acr.
 - German surrealist Max
- DOWN
- "General Hospital" network
 - Crop of a bird
 - Zeus' sister and wife
 - Two under par on a golf hole
 - Meat-cooking contraption
 - Winglike
 - "Predominant color of Mars
 - Type of membrano- phone
 - Like never-losing Steven
 - Town
 - "Primary color
 - ____ Juan, Puerto Rico
 - 7th planet from the sun
 - Chosen few
 - Nicki Minaj's genre
 - Not womenfolk
 - "Number of colors in a rainbow
 - Of service
 - Colorful parrot
 - "The LumiEre brothers' colorful creation
 - "Cheers" actress Perlman
 - Jeopardy
 - Sergio of Spaghetti Westerns fame
 - Follow as a consequence
 - Email folder
 - Cone-shaped quarters
 - Naiad or maenad
 - Motherless calves
 - Old horse
 - Long John Silver, e.g.
 - Modified "will"
 - Bottom-ranking employee
 - Opposite of "out of"
 - Hall of Fame Steelers' coach
 - June 6, 1944
 - "____ Buy Me Love"
 - Between dawn and noon
 - Yours and mine
 - Expression of pleasure
 - Melancholy
 - Latissimus dorsi, for short

CROSSWORD

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BC Cardinals and LCM Bears split two



JS Bearden pitched four strong innings for Bridge City and Connor Riojas had a key double in a three-run rally to help the Cardinals beat LCM in the first game between the two teams last week.



Parker Seago threw four shutout innings and Cameron Bilbo brought home four Bear runners with his hits as LCM defeated Bridge City in their second game against each other last week.

Field on Friday, March 24. It did not take the Cardinals long to grab the lead in Tuesday's game as leadoff hitter John Van Huis singled and scored on a two-out single by JS Bearden. A walk to Dax Latiolas and a single by Aidyn Mulhollan brought Bearden home with a se-

cond first inning run for Bridge City. Little Cypress Mauriceville threatened to score in the first inning loading the bases with two walks and a hit batter. Cardinal starting pitcher Braylen Collins got out of the jam with a fly ball to center to retire the side.

Collins was not so fortunate in the second inning. Walks to Landon Richards and Clay Raney followed by a bunt single by Parker Seago loaded the bases with one out. Pierce Brown hit a soft liner to right that Cardinal second baseman Hunter Ford made a convincing

bluff he was going to catch it keeping Seago close to first. The ball landed safely in front of right fielder JS Bearden who rifled a throw to second for the force out on Brown but Richards did score. The Bears' Marco Band-

BC, LCM Page 4B

DAN PERRINE Orange County Sports For The Record

County rivals Bridge City and Little Cypress Mauriceville played two times last week. The District 19-4A baseball schedule has opposing schools playing each other twice in the same week as opposed to the previous format of playing each dis-

trict opponent once before repeating the pattern of playing the other teams. The Bridge City Cardinals won the first meeting 7-3 on Tuesday, March 21, at Don Gibbins Field on the Little Cypress Mauriceville campus. The Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears returned the favor twice in the second game 7-5 in eight innings at Bridge City's Chuck Young

Orangefield Bobcats alone in First Place



Orangefield has rested pitcher Jason Bodin the first four games of district because of a sore arm and Jason threw three shutout innings against Hardin during his first game back on the mound. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

DAN PERRINE Orange County Sports For The Record

Last week began with three undefeated teams tied for first place in the District 22-3A baseball standings. This week there is only one team without a loss in the district and it is the Orangefield Bobcats.

On Monday, March 20, the Bobcats handed the Buna Cougars their first loss in district by a score of 5-2 at Orangefield. Friday night the Bobcats did the same to the Hardin Hornets shutting them out 15-0 at Hardin.

Orangefield pitcher Jason Bodin had been nursing a sore arm through the first four games of district without throwing any innings on the mound. Bodin threw three shutout innings Friday allowing no hits, walking one, and striking out five Hornets to earn the win.

Tim Erickson the coach of the Bobcats said they gave Bodin ten days or so off to rest his arm. "We started to work Jason back into the rotation this week. We'll extend him

out and kind of work him more as far as pitch count duration," Erickson explained.

Colten Myers pitched one hitless inning to complete the shutout and the no-hitter over four innings when the 15-run rule was invoked. The Bobcat fielders played well not committing an error in the victory.

The Bobcats scored in the first inning on a stolen base. Rusten Traxler doubled home another run in the first. Rusten joined teammates Camden Fountain and Logan Cheek with multiple hits in the game.

An eight run explosion in the fourth inning gave Orangefield their fifteen-run lead. Matthew Johnson, Adam Tran, Brycen Tait, Gavin Pollock, and Traxler all had runs batted in during the big inning.

A schedule change has Orangefield playing on Monday this week at Kountze instead of on Tuesday. Friday's game will be at Anahuac for the Bobcats and marks the end of the first half of district competition.

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Astros chances of repeating grows slimmer

KAZ'S KORNER Joe Kazmar For The Record

Tomorrow, the Houston Astros will begin the long 162-game trek to become the first team since the 2000 New York Yankees to repeat as world champions when they open the new season at Minute Maid Park against the Chicago White Sox and try to extend their opening-game success to 11 straight victories.

Houston also could become the first team to win three consecutive pennants since the Yankees' run of four straight from 1998-2001. More notably, of course, Houston won World Series titles in 2017 and 2022 along with American League pennants in 2019 and 2021.

The Astros also became only the second team to appear in six consecutive League Championship Series, joining the Atlanta Braves, who made eight straight NCLS appearances from 1991-1999 (with no playoffs in 1994 due to a season-ending playoff strike) according to the Houston Chronicle's special edition "Astros 2023" that appeared Sunday.

All this hype looks great and can really get Houston Astros fans higher than a kite, except in reality, the team will be much weaker than it was at this time last season.

There should be no debate about the Astros becoming world champions last season because of their strong pitching staff.

And in reality, only three of Houston's five starting pitchers will be available. Cy Young Award winner Justin Verlander was traded to the New York Mets last fall and Lance McCullers III is still having arm problems that kept him out of action for more than half of last season.

So the ace of this year's Astros' pitching staff will be Framber Valdez, who is scheduled to start tomorrow's season opener against the White Sox.

Behind him is Cristian Javier and Luis Garcia from last year's staff plus Jose Urquidy and rookie Hunter Brown. Most teams would be happy to have a starting pitching



Joe Kazmar

staff that strong, but for the Astros it's weaker than last season and a concern to Manager Dusty Baker.

Baker is also concerned that three of his best offensive producers have had tough spring trainings—outfielder Michael Brantley is still having problems with his shoulder that was surgically repaired last fall, slugger Jordan Alvarez who just started swinging a bat last week because of a hand injury and Jose Altuve, who suffered a broken thumb and will be out until the end of May.

One of Houston's top off-season deals involved free agent Jose Abreu, who spent the last nine seasons with the Chicago White Sox. He will replace aging Yule Gurriel, who slumped more than 100 points after winning the American League batting title in 2021.

The Astros tried to obtain Abreu six years ago, but their offer was \$4 million shy of the \$68 million, six-year contract that he accepted from the White Sox. He had one of his best seasons in 2022 when he batted .304 with a .378 on-base percentage. Both were his highest figures since 2014.

Right after the World Series concluded, the Astros offered Abreu a three-year \$58.5 million contract that signaled the end of Gurriel's tenure in Houston.

Despite the fact the Astros will probably be slow coming out of the gate this season, all seven baseball writers on the USA Today Sports Weekly staff picked Houston to win the American League West Division Championship in this week's edition.

The New York Yankees (4) and Toronto Blue Jays (3) garnered all of the votes in the AL East Division while the Cleveland Guardians (4) and Chicago White Sox (3) nabbed all the votes in the AL Central Division.

The Atlanta Braves corralled all seven votes in the National League East



The ace of this year's Astros' pitching staff will be Framber Valdez, who is scheduled to start tomorrow's season opener against the White Sox.

Division, the St. Louis Cardinals grabbed all seven votes in the NL Central Division and the San Diego Padres (5) and the Los Angeles Dodgers (2) led the NL West Division.

KWICKIES...

Sam Burns sunk eight birdies on the final 10 holes for a 6-5 victory over Cameron Young Sunday in the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play in Austin. It was the second-largest margin in an 18-hole match in this tournament. It was the fifth victory for Burns on the PGA Tour, moving him up to No. 10 in the world. It also was worth \$3.5 million while Young collected \$2.2 million.

A nosebleed seat in this weekend's Final Four NCAA national championship game at NRG Stadium in Houston will run about \$240 on Ticketmas-

ter. But when the consumer checks out, the online ticket retainer tax on a \$45.79 service fee and \$2.95 processing fee will bring that same ticket price to around \$300. Seat prices for the Final Four start in the hundreds and will reach thousands of dollars.

Adam Schefter of ESPN reported Monday morning that Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson requested a trade on March 2 and hasn't heard anything back from them. Jackson said "The Ravens have not been interested in meeting my value," It's hard to know what his val-

ue might be because he had been offered around \$300 million with \$175 million guaranteed previously.

JUST BETWEEN US

This undoubtedly has been one of the wackiest Men's March Madness Tournaments in history. Normally, if you add up the seeds in the Final Four, the total will be way under 10. This weekend's field has Florida Atlantic University (9) vs. San Diego State (5) playing Saturday at 5:09 p.m. followed by Miami (5) vs. UConn (4). The seed total is an unbelievable 23. San Diego and UConn are the early favorites, but that shouldn't mean a thing. Nobody had the Hurricanes, Owls, Aztecs and Huskies on the last four of their golden bracket. I really like the way the San Diego State Aztecs and UConn Huskies played last week and am picking them to play in Monday night's championship game, with the Huskies coming out as the champion.

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Dischler among Orangefield athletes that signed scholarships

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Three outstanding student athletes at Orangefield High School signed scholarships on Wednesday, March 22, to play their sports on the college level. Mackenzie Haley will play volleyball at Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana, Morgan Sampson signed with Lamar University to play football in Beaumont, and Cameron Dischler will be going to Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas to play football. Dischler received more great news on Monday, March 27, when he was named a finalist for the Willie Ray Smith Award on offense.

Dischler was outstanding his junior year as a Bobcat, but far exceeded that this past season as a senior. Cameron led the area in rushing with over 2400 yards to become the all-time leading rusher in Orangefield school history with more than 4,000 yards.

Coach Josh Smalley recognized Dischler's work

ethic and character. "Those are the things that matter most. Cameron's not a guy you have to worry about cutting reps in the weight room. He's the only guy in twenty some years of my coaching that when we watch film on Saturday ever voluntarily brought in a notebook and took notes to learn from it," Smalley pointed out.

Haley was a leader for this year's Lady Bobcat volleyball team at Orangefield. Her coach Ashlee Peevey praised Mackenzie's work ethic and explained how other Orangefield coaches wanted Haley on their teams too except the senior was geared only to playing volleyball her last year as a Bobcat.

Peevey described Haley's dedication and commitment. "I just knew if she got the opportunity to play at another level that her coach would not regret that Mackenzie was on their team. We know Centenary is getting a gem of a human being. Mackenzie's the type of kid that I want my younger kids to look at in the classroom,



Morgan Sampson, Mackenzie Haley, and Cameron Dischler signed college scholarships during a ceremony at the Orangefield High School Gymnasium.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

on the court, and off the court with her tenacity, her willingness to work, to show up, and put in the hours that no one else wants to do. It was exactly

what I wanted from those that wear the orange and white," Peevey explained.

As Orangefield Athletic Director and head football coach Smalley had both

Sampson and Dischler on his Bobcat football team the last two seasons as starters and major contributors. In addition Morgan and Cameron were leaders

for the Orangefield boys basketball team that advanced to the third round of the state playoffs this past season before losing to the eventual state champions.

Smalley mentioned that Sampson sustained a knee injury during football season, but instead of sitting out the rest of the games and getting ready for basketball and baseball which he plays, Morgan took a couple weeks off and came back to help Orangefield win the district championship playing offense and defense.

Smalley reminded, "Morgan does a lot of stuff for us besides football. We're excited about him going to Lamar. We know he's going to do great things and is going to be close to home. We're proud of Morgan."

Haley, Sampson, and Dischler signed their scholarships on the court of the Orangefield Gymnasium. Family, friends, and students attended the ceremony to congratulate the three students' achievements.

BC Lady Cardinals get two gems from Fall

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

The Bridge City Lady Cardinals and their fans are excited to have their star pitcher back in the circle after she missed the first three district softball games. Carson Fall returned to the lineup to pitch a pair of gems for Bridge City at Lumberton on Tuesday, March 21 and then at home against Jasper on Friday, March 24.

A leg injury kept Fall from pitching for almost three weeks in early March. Carson apparently was not hindered by anything on March 21 holding the Lady Raiders hitless in a 10-0 shutout while striking out 14 Lumberton batters.

The Lady Cardinals scored six runs in the top of the seventh to secure the victory. Nicole Sasser and Brooklyn Drodody both had two hits in the game for Bridge City. With the return of Fall as the starting pitcher freshman Cambree LaComb who filled the void in the circle for the Lady Cardinals during Fall's earlier absence has moved to first base and is still swinging a potent bat.

The Lady Cardinals got more of the same from Fall against the Jasper Lady Bulldogs on Friday as she pitched her second straight no-hitter with 18 strikeouts in a 6-1 victory. The Lady Bulldogs did coax a walk in the fifth inning from the Bridge City hurler and used two stolen bases with an errant throw on

the second steal at third base to score their only run.

In fourteen innings during the two games since returning from her injury Carson Fall has struck out 32 and not given up a hit. "That kid is something special. She shows up with a different intensity then we have normally. When Carson comes out here she means business and that gets the rest of these girls in the right zone," Bridge City Coach Raven Harris expressed.

Nicole Sasser had another good game with the bat for the Lady Cardinals. Coach Harris also recognized Haley Munoz as an excellent leadoff batter who sees a lot of pitches and finds ways to get on base. Munoz had a bunt single to drive in a run against Jasper.

Undefeated and at the top of the District 19-4A softball standings is Little Cypress Mauriceville. The Lady Bears won their fourth straight game to start district with an exciting 5-4 triumph over the Lady Bulldogs at Jasper on Tuesday, March 21.

The game was scoreless in the bottom of the third inning. Jasper got its first two batters on base and threatened to take the lead but Lady Bear shortstop Eden Frenzel snared a line drive then threw to Lexis Moss at second to double up the runner there before Moss relayed to Anasley Moore at first base to com-

plete a rare triple play and stymie the potential rally for the Lady Bulldogs.

The outstanding defensive play sparked the Lady Bears' offense. To begin the top of the next inning Keylie Washburn laid down a bunt single. Moss immediately followed with a monster homerun over the centerfield fence to give LCM a 2-0 lead.

The Lady Bears padded their 2-1 lead in the sixth as Ava Wright drew a lead-off walk and was sacrificed to second by Tessa Erickson. Ava White doubled to drive in Wright and White scored when Moore reached on an error by Jasper.



Bridge City's Haley Munoz caught both of Carson Fall's no-hitters last week and was a leader for the Cardinals on offense.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Little Cypress Mauriceville hung on for the 5-4 road win using a sacrifice fly from Wright in the seventh inning to bring home what proved to be the deciding run.

Erickson threw all seven innings to get the pitching

win. She gave up six hits, walked seven, and struck out eight. Only one of the four runs Tessa allowed was earned.

Little Cypress Mauriceville moved to 5-0 in district with an 18-3 win over the West Orange Stark Lady

Mustangs on Friday, March 24. After a rough start for Ella Stephenson in the circle Tessa Erickson relieved and faced ten batters giving up no hits, walking two, striking out six, and not yielding a run.

The Lady Bears banded out ten hits in the game. Erickson had three singles while Eden Frenzel and Anasley Moore both drilled doubles.

This Tuesday's game against the Silsbee Lady Tigers marked the end of the first half of district play for the Little Cypress Mauriceville Lady Bears. The second half starts Friday which is a bye date for Little Cypress Mauriceville. The Lady Bears play at Bridge City on Tuesday, April 4, against the second place Lady Cardinals who played the West Orange Stark Lady Mustangs on Tuesday.

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S.A.L.T. Series opens a success

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

For many years local anglers have long been loyal the S.A.L.T. Club and the fantastic traditions they are a part of.

The club annually hosts one of the most prestigious events for local anglers and the new PRO Series is just another exciting addition to their great lineup.

The new PRO Series event is a redbfish tourney with 3 separate events along with a Team of The Year award. The SALT Pro helps to benefit the SALT Club which in turn uses the funds to purchase lifetime fishing licenses for kids.

Last year the club was able to gross approximately 5500 dollars for the purchase of these licenses and



Chuck Uzzle

that much back to kids as well as the sport we enjoy so much.

This past weekend the anglers in the first event of the series put on show at the weigh in table as the solid redbfish just kept coming in.

The top 5 stringers, 3 fish each, all averaged 25 pounds plus which works out close to 8.5 pounds per fish and that's about as solid as you will find anywhere.

The SALT Pro series stresses the importance of catch and release so there is a penalty for anyone bringing in a dead fish. Of

the 125 fish weighed in all were alive, that's an incredible stat right there. There are 2 side pots that are included in the entry fee, one for heaviest fish and one for fish with the most spots.

The overall top team of Roland Brown and Daniel Duong bested the field by a whopping 2 pounds with 27.28 pound stringer. Logan Lopez and Colt Westbrook finished second with 25.38 pounds while Jeff Simmons took home third with 24.64 pounds. In fourth place were Lawrence Sanchez and Lawrence Sanchez Sr. with a nice bag weighing 24.43 pounds while Jeremy and Hunter Reeves rounded out the top 5 with a very respectable 23.96 pounds.

The heaviest fish of the tournament belonged to Roland Brown and Daniel Duong with a great fish

weighing in at 9.32 pounds which is huge considering it has to be 28" or under according to the rules.

The fish with the most spots ended up in a tie if you can imagine that. The team of Brian Fredrick and Trey Fournier along with the team of Jeremy and Hunter Reeves both brought in fish with 11 spots a piece.

Hard to imagine they could pull that off together.

Congrats to all the winners and the especially the SALT Club for putting on such a great event for a very worthwhile cause.

The next event is scheduled for April 29th.

If you would like any information on the event you can contact Tony Viator 409-284-7934 or Sean Enyon 409-926-1662.



The Texas state boys powerlifting meet was conducted last weekend of in Abilene. Akilles Garcia from Orangefield High School placed in third place in the 220-pound weight class. Garcia lifted 1,570 pounds during the statewide competition.

BC, LCM baseball splits two From Page 1B

iero singled to center scoring Raney to tie the game 2-2. Dean Reynolds then drew the fifth base on balls allowed by Collins and Bridge City Coach Chad Landry pulled him.

Bearden was moved from right field to the mound for the Cardinals. He struck out Cameron Bilbo to end the LCM rally and keep the score tied.

It only took until the next half inning for Bridge City to reclaim the lead. Bearden appeared to strike out but the third strike got away from the Bears' catcher and JS sprinted to first base safely.

A passed ball moved Bearden to second base with two outs. Back to back doubles by Mulhollan and Connor Riojas got the Cardinals two runs and Landon Reeves delivered another two-out hit to drive in Riojas to give Bridge City a 5-2 lead.

Leading off the top of the fourth Van Huis rocketed a drive to centerfield. The ball cleared the wall for a homerun and that was the last pitch for Bear starter Landon Richards. Dylan Istre took Richards' place on the mound, and he pitched the final four innings for LCM.

The Bears put two runners on base in both the fourth and the fifth innings against Bearden but could not get any of them home. In the sixth Seago got his third hit of the game, went to third on a single to right by Bandiero, and scored on Reynolds' infield single to cut the Cardinals' lead to 6-3.

Bridge City got that run back in the seventh as Latiolas singled and scored after hits by Mulhollan and Reeves. Justin McCarver started the bottom of the seventh for LCM with a double down the left field line and Richards walked which was all for Bearden on the mound. Reeves came in from left field to pitch and retired the next three batters to end the game sealing the 7-3 Cardinal win.

Bearden was the winning pitcher for Bridge City allowing just one run in four and one third innings. JS gave up six hits, walked two, hit a batter, and struck out nine Bears.

Coach Landry expressed the contributions made by Bearden for the Cardinals. "He's been a huge part of our program the last four years. I'm glad it's finally showing up for him. He's an incredible kid. What JS did tonight was extremely impressive throwing strike after strike. I'm really proud of him. What a great effort

by JS Bearden," Landry lauded.

Friday night was another entertaining game with both teams taking leads and making comebacks before it was over. Just as Bridge City scored early in Tuesday's game Little Cypress Mauriceville did the same on Friday.

Pierce Brown reached base on an error with one out in the first for the Bears. Marco Bandiero singled and Dean Reynolds walked to load the bases. Cameron Bilbo singled to left bringing home Brown and Bandiero for a 2-0 Bear lead.

Little Cypress Mauriceville appeared poised to break the game open after Parker Freeman reloaded the bases with an infield hit. Cardinal third baseman Austin Frederick made a heads up play on the next batter when he fielded a grounder to him, stepped on the bag at third, and then fired across the diamond to first for an inning ending double play.

For the second straight game John Van Huis got a leadoff hit and scored a run in the first inning for Bridge City. Justin Abate hit a sacrifice fly to bring Van Huis home.

The Cardinals took their only lead of this game in the second with two runs. Dax Latiolas began the inning with a walk and went to third on a bloop single by Connor Riojas just inside the right field line. Landon Reeves doubled off the left field fence to drive home Latiolas, and Brice Swanton hit a grounder to first that scored Riojas to give Bridge City a 3-2 advantage after two innings.

Bears Brown and Bandiero brought the lead back to LCM in the third. Pierce singled and Marco hit a high fly ball to right field that may have been aided by the wind sailing over the fence for a two-run homer that put Little Cypress Mauriceville ahead 4-3.

Bandiero delivered his third hit of the game in the fourth with a double that rattled off the right field fence to drive home Parker Seago who had been hit by a pitch. The Bears led 5-3 but left runners at second and third as the inning ended.

Bridge City bounced back in the bottom of the inning with two runs using a bunt single by Chasse Goodwin and four walks to tie the game 5-5 after four innings. Seago replaced Dean Reynolds on the mound for the Bears issuing two of the walks before getting a strike out to end the Bridge City rally with the bases left loaded.

Reeves came in to pitch

for the Cardinals at the beginning of the fourth inning. Reeves and Seago duelled for the next three innings neither one allowing further runs between the fifth through the seventh innings.

The top of the eighth began routinely as Reeves retired the first two Bears on ground outs. Bandiero was hit by a pitch and Reynolds walked on a three-two pitch before a passed ball moved both runners ninety feet closer.

Bilbo blasted a shot in the gap to the right field fence driving in Bandiero and Reynolds for the Bears to take a 7-5 lead. Bilbo had three hits in the game that produced four runs for LCM.

This week is the bye week for the Bridge City Cardinals. Their only game scheduled was on Tuesday against non-district opponent Sam Houston. The Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears play their other cross-county rival the Vidor Pirates twice. Tuesday's game was in Vidor and Friday, March 31, the Bears and the Pirates play at Little Cypress Mauriceville.

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Entertainment: Music events move into spring

TOMMY MANN JR.
FOR THE RECORD

There are a lot of big shows being added to the schedule for spring and summer. Recently added concerts for the region include Guns N' Roses, Jelly Roll, Beck, Mark Chesnutt, Diamond Rio, Pat Green and more. Check out the schedule below for upcoming shows and see the full listing of events online at www.therecordlive.com

- **March 30**
Skid Row, Buckcherry, Rise Rooftop, Houston
- **March 31**
Sammy Kershaw, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **March 31**
Smile Empty Soul, Horizon Theory, Fire Follows, Scout Bar, Houston
- **April 1**
New Edition, Keith Sweat, Guy, Toyota Center, Houston
- **April 5**
The O'Jays, The Spinners, Smart Financial Center, Houston
- **April 6**
Charlie Robison, Courville's, Beaumont, Onyx, House of Blues, Houston
- **April 9**
Gorod, Cognitive, Summoning The Lich, Flub, Scout Bar, Houston
- **April 14**
Styx, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **April 15**
Wynona, Christus 40th Annual Gala, Beaumont Civic Center, Beaumont, Stryper, Vixen, Rise Rooftop, Houston
- **April 17**
Keshi, 713 Music Hall, Houston
- **April 22**
Diamond Rio, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **April 22**
Taylor Swift, NRG Stadium, Houston
- **April 23**
Spiritbox, House of Blues, Houston
- **April 26**
Robert Plant, Alison Krauss, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **April 28**
Mark Chesnutt, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **April 29**
The Kentucky Headhunters, The Toman Brothers Band, Honky Tonk Texas, Silsbee, Scarface, Doug E Fresh, Rakim, Slick Rick, Big Daddy Kane, DJ Jazzy Jeff, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land
- **May 4**
Pony Bradshaw, Courville's, Beaumont, (hed)PE, Crazy Town, Adema, Tan-



Sammy Kershaw will be performing at the Golden Nugget in Lake Charles, La on March 31.

- tric, Rise Rooftop, Houston
- **May 5**
Carly Pearce, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Tom Jones, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land
- **May 6**
For King and Country, Ford Arena, Beaumont
- **May 7**
Santana, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **May 11**
Natali Rize, Kumar Minor, Scout Bar, Houston
- **May 12**
38 Special, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Hammerfall, Warehouse Live, Houston, Hunter Hayes, House of Blues, Houston
- **May 13**
Tanya Tucker, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **May 14**
Loudness, Warehouse Live, Houston
- **May 18**
Joshua Ray Walker, Courville's, Beaumont
- **May 19**
Pat Green, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Dave Matthews Band, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **May 26**
Morgan Wallen, Hardy Ernest, Bailey Zimmerman, Minute Maide Park, Houston, The Sisters of Mercy, Bayou Music Center, Houston
- **May 27**
Morris Day and The Time, Zapp Band, Rose Royce, Confunkshun, Ohio Players, Atlantic Starr, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 3**
Janet Jackson, Ludacris, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 9**
Duran Duran, Nile Rodgers and Chic, Bastille, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 10**

- Jo'El Sonnier, The Oaks Event Center, Vidor
- Koe Wetzell, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 15**
Liliac, Rise Rooftop, Houston
- **June 16**
Thomas Rhett, Cole Swindell, Nate Smith, CajunDome, Lafayette, La.
- **June 23**
Pixies, Franz Ferdinand, Bully, Bayou Music Center, Houston
- **June 27**
Fall Out Boy, Bring Me the Horizon, Royal and The Serpent, Daisy Grenade, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 28**
Bryan Adams, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land
- **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
- **July 23**
Nickelback, Brantley Gilbert, John Ross, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 27**

- Disturbed, Breaking Benjamin, Bush, Jinjer, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, Young the Giant, 713 Music Hall, Houston
- **July 30**
ZZ Top, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Uncle Kracker, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Aug. 3**
Big Time Rush, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Aug. 4**
Thomas Rhett, Toyota Center, Houston
- **Aug. 12**
Foreigner, Loverboy,



Rock band 3 Doors Down (pictured) announced a summer tour to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its "Away from the Sun" album and will conclude its tour with a Sept. 23 concert at the Smart Financial Centre in Sugar Land with special guest, Candlebox. Other recently announced shows include Willie Nelson in The Woodlands, The Oak Ridge Boys at LAuberger Casino Resort in Lake Charles and much more.

- Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Aug. 14**
REO Speedwagon, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land
- **Aug. 20**
Beck, Phoenix, Weyes Blood, Sir Chloe, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands,
- **Sept. 2**
Lainey Wilson, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Ghost, Amon Amarth, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Sept. 7**
Pentatonix, Lauren Alaina, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Sept. 13**
Madonna, Toyota Center, Houston
- **Sept. 22**
Jelly Roll, Three 6 Mafia, Struggle Jennings, Josh Adam Meyers, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Sept. 23**
Beyonce, NRG Stadium, Houston
- **Sept. 24**
Beyonce, NRG Stadium, Houston
- **Sept. 28**
Guns N' Roses, Minute Maid Park, Houston
- **Oct. 21**
Kansas, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land



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Bridge City Library host program for widows

The Bridge City Public Library is hosting a new program for widowed individuals. 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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ORANGE COUNTY GARDENING:

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Gardeners, spring is here, newly arrived and what a welcome respite, as winter 'seemed' to linger much too long! This week's discussion, if you haven't already done so, is what I call the Great Migration! Yes, that means it's time to relocate, houseplants from indoors to outdoor areas, which are protected from the blistering sun. Before moving houseplants outdoors, closely inspect each plant for powdery mildew, mites, white flies, and other pests which have decided to overwinter indoors, snacking on your "captive audience"! Once discovered, these marauders can be killed with a quick spray of an insecticidal soap solution, though it could take a couple of spray applications, make certain to follow the manufacturer's directions printed on the label.

Remove diseased stems, yellowed or brown leaves, and water thoroughly. Plants which are top-heavy 'leggy', fill their container, or no longer look attractive need focused care and attention. So, gardeners, it's time to "Spring" into action (pun intended...I couldn't help myself) as spring is a good time to repot houseplants before relocating them outdoors.

Begin by selecting a new container that's one size larger than the plant's cur-

rent pot unless you plan to divide the plant. Now for the fun part, which is to remove the plant from the existing container, so make certain to water the plant thoroughly before attempting to remove it, otherwise the plant roots, stems and foliage will be damaged. The amount of force necessary to remove root-bound plants from pots can destroy plants where roots are separated from stems and leaves... not a good thing (I'm speaking from numerous personal experiences)! Gently pull the plants base and remove the root ball from the container by rolling and tapping the container. Once removed, inspect the root ball for damaged or diseased roots, and using a sharp knife or hand pruners (disinfected with isopropyl alcohol), remove damaged areas. Where roots are grossly tangled, gently 'tease' apart sections using your fingers as claws, untangling the roots slowly. Repot the untangled root ball into fresh houseplant potting soil and water the plant thoroughly.

Every year, well-intentioned gardeners choose to move houseplants and return overwintering tropical plants outside for the warmer months (me included). Unfortunately, an immense number of houseplants will suffer from the intense, and often dire effects from too much sunlight. Transitioning a houseplant from dimly lit areas within our

Time to Relocate 'Houseplants'



It's time to relocate, houseplants from indoors to outdoor areas, which are protected from the blistering sun.

homes to intense, extremely bright sunlight causes sunscald, or severe leaf burn. The direct sunlight overwhelms chlorophyll in plant leaves causing the leaf temperature to rapidly increase and overheat (a plants version of sun burn-ouch!) One hour of direct sunlight can cause extreme leaf damage that could take a plant many months to recover. Use these tips to allow houseplants to survive the great migration:

Provide Them Shade (The Good Kind)- many indoor plants prefer bright light, not direct sunlight, so it's in the best interest of plants when moving them outdoors to position them underneath the canopy of a tree or beneath a large shrub. They can often remain in place, in these shady areas until fall

and usually perform well. Even sun-loving plants such as cacti, Bird-of-Paradise, and Fiddle-leaf fig, need to be moved into a shady spots initially, then slowly transitioned to more brightly lit areas over time. Remember the most intense sunlight level occurs between the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Plant enthusiasts and gardeners alike will want to limit houseplants' midday sunlight exposure to protect plants from sunburn. Migrating houseplant collections for many gardeners and plant enthusiasts outdoors for spring and summer months is either an overwhelming chore, or a labor of love dependent on the size of the collection and ones' perspective (image courtesy backyardboss.com).

Protected Areas (Porch-

es and Patios)- numerous Extension horticulturists recommend placing houseplants on porches and patios during the summer months, since these areas can provide bright light, though care must be taken not to place plants with exposure to direct sunlight. Gardeners note that each time any plant is moved, it will require an acclimatization period, and often changes may become evident. While plants adjust to a new location, leaves might yellow or lighten, partially folding. Typically, once adjusted to their new environment, leaves return to normal green hues. Once houseplants have adjusted to their new 'digs' and light intensity, it's time to provide them with additional food, and begin a fertilization program us-

ing organic or water soluble fertilizers of choice, naturally following the manufactures guidelines and labeled instructions. Remember less is more when it comes to fertilizing plants and over fertilizing any plant is to the detriment of our environment! Spring is a great time to divide houseplants which have outgrown their pots. Sansevieria (Mother-in-law's tongue) are easily divided by separating the root ball when transplanting to larger pots (image courtesy: ruralsprout.com).

Provide them Drinks-water plants often and as needed, the majority of container grown plants do best if the soil is allowed to become slightly dry before watering, then water thoroughly until water runs from the pots drain holes. Once summer arrives most container plants require daily watering or a least every other day, since you don't want to allow plants to become stressed or wilted before watering.

So long for now fellow gardeners, let's go out and grow ourselves a greener, more sustainable world, one plant at a time!

To have gardening questions answered in detail contact me by email to: jongreene57@gmail.com. Or reach out to Orange County Master Gardeners Helpline: (409) 882-7010, visit our visit website: <https://txmg.org/orange>, Facebook: Orange County Texas Master Gardeners Association or by email to: extension@co.orange.tx.us.

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www.fumcorange.org
Pastor: Rev. Lani Rousseau
Director of Music and Fine Arts: Caroline Dennis

St. Paul Methodist Church
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Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.
(Nursery provided)
Wednesday SPICE 5:30 p.m. Includes meal, bible studies, children and youth activities. (Nursery provided).
Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

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