Community News for Orange County, Texas

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New plant names first manager

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

The new Chevron Phillips plant continues to stay in the spotlight as the \$8.5 billion development has its first plant manager and is offering opportunities for local individuals and vendors to get work during the construction.

The company will hold a Local First Job Fair this Saturday, June 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Orange County Expo Center on FM 1442. Golden Triangle Polymers Plant, the official name of the new petrochemical manufacturing plant, is co-sponsoring the event with Southeast Texas Workforce Solutions to help individuals apply for jobs with contractors during the construction.

On Tuesday, the company announced that a special fair for vendors and suppliers will be held at the Expo Center on Wednesday, July 26, from 1 to 5 p.m. Registration is available through www.eventcreate.com/e/localfirst.



Chad Jennings

In addition this week, the company announced that it is opening a Local First office at 1537A Strickland Drive to help individuals, contractors and vendors get work at the plant. The office will be open Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The office will have a grand opening on June 29.

Orange County Commissioners Court negotiated with the company to promise use local workers, contractors, and vendors as much as possible as part of

CHEVRON Page 3A

LSCO will use landmark building

West Orange-Cove CISD Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. Rickie Harris attended the Summer Leadership Insti-

tute presented by the Texas Association of School Boards in San Antonio last week. Pictured left to right: Donny Teate Jr.,

Roderick Robertson, Tricia Stroud, Superintendent Dr. Rickie Harris, Linda Platt-Bryant, Gina Yeaman, Tommy Wilson Sr.

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

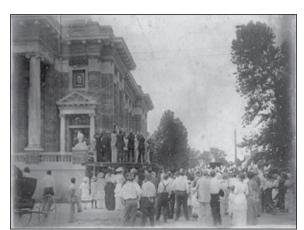
and Demetrius Hunter.

A landmark historic church building abandoned in 2008 will once again have people congregating. But instead of seeking salvation, they will be seeking

The domed Greek Revival brick former First Baptist Church on Green Avenue will become a reception center for Lamar State College-Orange.

Dr. Tom Johnson, president of LSCO, said last week that the Stark Foundation will be donating the building to the college. The 110-year-old church at 800 Green Avenue is catacorner to the college's new \$38.1 million academic building under construction. In addition, the church building is across Fifth Street from the LSCO Wilson Building, where industrial classes are

being held.
Dr. Johnson announced



This 1915 photograph from the Heritage House Museum collection shows the ceremonial cornerstone for First Baptist Church's new building being set before a crowd. The building was preserved by the Stark Foundation, which is giving it to LSCO.

the donation last week at the Lunch Bunch gathering for The Record Newspapers' founder Roy Dunn, who has turned 89. Attendees including all members of Orange County Commissioners Court, a member of the Orange City Council, two justices of the peace, and a state district judge. Dunn is the only surviving founder of the informal group of leaders and friends who for many years met weekly to share and meal and exchange stories.

The addition to the college campus expands LSCO across the old downtown area as it has grown to become the state college with the fastest growing enrollment. It also preserves a

historic building to help in promoting the rich history of the county with its roots back to settlers some 200 years ago.

The church's history goes back to 1879 when the Rev. Andrew Peddy helped 18 charter members form the congregation, according to the Texas Historical Marker at the Green Avenue site.

In 1883, Sarah A. Finch, along with Ann and L.L Bettis donated the land on what is now Green Avenue. Then in 1884, a 40-foot-by-60-foot woodframe building was constructed. An old photograph from a 20th Century newspaper shows the building had a steeple and was at a wooden bridge where a creek crossed Fifth

Street.

The church congregation named itself Green Avenue Baptist Church as part of its name. By that time,

LSCO Page 3A

AAUW gives scholarships to girls pursuing dreams

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

The Orange Chapter of American University Women last week awarded two graduating high school girls with scholarships to help them pursue their career dreams through higher ed-

ucation.

Both have chosen fields in which they can help others and were inspired seeing others dedicated to serving people.

Asia Stewart of West Orange-Stark and Jessica Johnson of Little Cypress-Mauriceville were honored during a special AAUW luncheon at the Garden District. Unfortunately, Stewart had to cancel her appearance earlier in the day because of a family medical emergency.

Stewart will be attending Houston Christian University to major in nursing to become a registered nurse. Her great-grandmother and grandmother were nurses and inspired her to seek their career.

While at WO-S, she was a member of the Fillies dance team and served as first lieutenant and social officer of the group. She also participated in UIL events and the Book Club, plus she volunteered at her church to help shut-ins and the sick.

During high school, she was in honors classes for English, math, history, and science, along with attending classes at LSCO. She graduated from WOS with 43 hours of college credits, and has been certified in CNA and phlebotomy.

Jessica Johnson of LC-M is following her childhood dream of owning and operating a ranch to offer horse therapy. She was inspired to

AAUW Page 3A

Cities, county keep sales taxes stable

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Sales taxes were mixed across Orange County for April, with Bridge City and Pinehurst showing slight drops for the month this year. However, the sales across the county remain stable compared to last

The information is from the Texas Comptroller's Office and the monthly sales tax returns to the local entities have been sent. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the inflation rate was 4.9 percent for April of 2023 compared to April of 2022, meaning average prices went up that much. Some of the increases in local sales tax returns will reflect the increases in prices.

The city of Bridge City has a 1.5 percent sales tax and collected \$160,445 for April this year, a slight drop of 1.25 percent from the \$162,478 collected at the same time last year. The

city currently has received \$1.12 million during the year to date, compared to \$1.13 million for the same time last year, a drop of 1

The city of Orange with a 1.5 percent sales tax has \$749,647 for the month, a 6.18 percent increase from April 2022 returns of \$705,964. The city now has \$4.48 million for the year to date, an increase of 14.7 percent from the \$3.9 million last year.

The city of Pinehurst has a 1.5 percent sales tax and earned \$52,434 for April, a decrease of 3.51 percent from April last year with \$54,347. For the year to date, the city has collected \$327,650, compared to \$335,484 last year, a decrease of 2.33 percent.

Vidor has a 1.5 percent sales tax and received \$265,073 for April, compared to \$266,495 for the

SALES TAX Page 3A



Worldwide amateur radio Field Day on Saturday

DAN PERRINE For The Record

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day will begin Saturday, June 24, in Orange. The ARRL Field Day is held annually on the fourth weekend of June when thousands of radio amateurs gather worldwide to operate their radios from remote loca-

The ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio in the United States representing over 170,000 FCC-licensed Amateur radio operators. The Orange Amateur Radio Club is such a club that will be operating radios on June 24 from the American Red Cross building off of Interstate 10 in Orange.

The Amateur Radio Service often called "ham radio" has been around for a century. During that time Amateur Radio has grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology and includes people ranging from youngsters to



Larry Spears, Jr. the mayor of Orange visited with the Orange Amateur Radio Club members during the winter Field Day held at Claiborne West Park

grandparents.

Local Orange County businessman Mike Manshack is an amateur radio operator and serves as the Public Information Coordinator of the South Texas section. Manshack said the last winter field day was

held at Claiborne West Park in Orange County. The Orange Amateur Radio Club made between nine hundred to a thousand contacts during that twenty-four field day.

The members of the Orange Radio Club are all offitheir radios, but they invite the public to attend the ARRL Field Day. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcomed to attend the free event with the opportunity to see how the radios work and hear contacts with other radio operators from around the state and throughout the nation.

Manshack encourages visitors to attend the field day this Saturday. "We have different means and ways of introducing the amateur radio to the novice that wants to get into it but does not know how to start. We can sit down and talk to them and give them some information how they can do it

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cially licensed to operate online for free and the books they can buy to study, and we also do the testing to get their license," Manshack informed.

The ARRL Field Day officially starts on Saturday, June 24, at 1:00 PM at the American Red Cross building in Orange located at 3901 Interstate 10 and continues until 1:00 PM on Sunday. The Orange Radio Club will be installing antennas and radios at that location Friday night and early Saturday to test the equipment in preparation for the field day. Manshack reminded anyone interested in radio to come out and listen to all the contacts made that day.

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN?

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

Around our house while I was growing up unionization was considered almost at the level of religion. My dad, a 40-year refinery worker, saw unions as the route to a better life and a way to better living conditions. He saw this firsthand as a seventeen-year-old refinery hand.

Labor conditions in the 20s included approximate \$.25 per hour wages, little or no concentration on safe workplaces, and little or no respect of workers by those paying these minimum wages. There was no job security and a dedicated employee, no matter the quality of his work, could lose the ability to feed his family simply for the way he might have responded or looked at one of his supervisors.

My dad, Harvie Parker, joined a union and became one of its leaders. He served as president of one of the largest oil worker unions in the United States and held various other important leading positions. Unions not only improved working safety, job security but also was largely responsible for the tremendous upsurge in America's economy. I recall growing up in the 40s and 50s in Port Arthur when there were few employees of Gulf or Texaco who were not dedicated, dues paying union members. In some respects, belonging to a union as an hourly wage earner is a little like prayer, pretty much ignored so long as you are comfortable on your own. It's when you need a little help you start searching for a better an-

Unfortunately, the effect of wide-spread unionization has long term effects, both good and bad. The de-



Former State Senator Carl Parker

cline of unionization precedes a down spiral in the nation's economy while heavy unionization does the opposite. The attack on unionization began with Ronald Reagan and has had an ill effect with us today. If you recall, to show how tough he was on labor unions, Reagan fired the air controllers as they were demanding better wages and more help doing their job. While Reagan's actions received good reviews from the right-wing, we are paying a price today in the near-miss collisions both on the ground and in the

In my opinion returning to widespread unionization of America workers is the best tool we have to stave off cheap labor and economic downturns that seem to be on the horizon in our competition with nations like China.

The effect of wide unionization of wage earners in the United States unfortunately sometimes does not show up for generations. Unfortunately too many have forgotten the many benefits of unionization. Sadly, Trump led the Republican party opposing unions. Dividing hourly workers by race was accepted by too many. I can tell by the number of hard hats I see with MAGA printed on

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The Orange Chapter of the American Association of University Women honored two high school scholarship winners during a special luncheon. Jessica Johnson of LC-M in the pink dress was one of the recipients and she is standing between her parents. AAUW President Linda White is on the far left. Other AAUW members to the right of Mr. Johnson are Joan Tharp and Carolyn Hillsten.

AAUW scholarships

that dream after serving as a volunteer at the Orange County Special Angel Rodeo while in the seventh grade.

The rodeo is an annual event established by the family of Lu Harris to give special needs children and adults a rodeo experience. Johnson said she was first paired with a young man described as nonverbal. However, he loved riding on a horse and laughed a lot.

"I will never forget the way his eyes glowed and the way he laughed when he was even around the horse. Later that evening when I got home, I told my family what I wanted to do in life," she said.

While at LC-M, she entered the special veterinary program and volunteered as at a local veterinary clinic, where she picked up the love of helping sick and injured animals. She earned a school certificate in animal science and another certificate as a veterinary tech assistant.

She plans to attend McNeese University to study animal science and psychology with intentions to eventually earn a doctorate to become a veterinarian. Then she will continue to pursue the dream of owning a horse therapy ranch.

The American Association of University Women is one of the oldest women's groups in the U.S. The Orange chapter will be turning 75 next year and has given dozens of scholarships to help local women get higher educations. In recent years, the group has raised the scholarship money through its annual used book sale held at Orange's Art in the Park.

Chevron Phillips

From Page 1

the tax abatement contract. Company officials said its Local First was created for that purpose.

Monday, Chevron Phillips announced that Chad Jennings, with a background in chemical engineering and business administration, will be the first manager of the new Golden Triangle Polymers.

Jennings has had a 26-year career in the petrochemical industry. He has a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Tennessee Tech University and a Master of Business Administration from Rice University.

He was previously senior vice president of manufacturing for S-Chem, a joint venture between a Chevron Phillips subsidiary and the Saudi Industrial Investment Group. He has also been plant manager of Chevron Phillips Chemical in Pasadena and held a leadership position at Ras Laffan Olefins Company in Qatar. In addition, he worked in Chevron Phillips corporate office to give technical expertise in the company's worldwide ethylene business.

Jennings is married and has two children. He has worked with chambers of commerce and other civic groups while working at other facilities.

"For the past three years, Chad has led one of the company's largest manufacturing sites in the Middle East, where he and his team have achieved exceptional safety and operational results," said Bryan Canfield, senior vice president of Manufacturing at Chevron Phillips Chemical. "He has a strong commitment to the community and will be an excellent leader for our new facility in Orange."

Golden Triangle Polymers, now under construction in Orange, Texas, will be a world-scale integrated polymers facility. Chevron Phillips Chemical is managing engineering, procurement and construction for the project and will operate the facility after start-up. It is a joint venture between Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP and a subsidiary of QatarEnergy.

Sales tax report From Page 1

month in 2022, a decrease of half a percent. The city is up 2.83 percent for the year to date with \$1.8 million, compared to \$1.75 million at the same time last year.

The city of West Orange has a 1.25 percent sales tax, slightly less than the other cities in the county. The city collected \$116,134 in April, an increase of 4.88 percent from \$110,725 for April 2022. The city for the year to date is up 5.6 percent, with \$732,436 this year, compared to \$693,038 for the same time last year.

Orange County has a 0.5 percent sales tax rate. The county was up in April sales and received \$631,710 for April, an increase of 11.56 percent from the \$566,238 last year. For the year to date, the county now has \$3.86 million, an 8.11 percent increase from the \$3.57 million collected for the same period last year.

Orange County Emergency Services District No. 3 has a 1.5 percent sales tax. The district supports the Little Cypress Fire and Rescue Department and is the only special district in the county with a sales tax. The district collected \$19,041 for April, down from \$23,329 for April 2022. However, the district is up 17.5 percent in sales taxes for the year to date with \$165,211, compared to \$140,583 last year.

Rotarians fund new refrigerator for Ministerial Alliance



The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club presented a check to the Director of the Ministerial Alliance, Melissa Issac, for the purchase of a new refrigerator. Pictured are Rotarians: Sam Comer, Kirk Roccaforte, Jack Comer, Mike Lund, Melissa Issac, Mark Bunch, Jerry Jones, Courtney Arkeen, Mark Messer, Karen Collier, Lucy Fields, David Olsen and John Dubose.

Chevron Phillips helps local get work

Green Avenue was becoming a trendy place to live. As the town grew, so did the Baptist congregation.

By 1902, the Orange Daily Tribune newspaper reported the Green Avenue Baptist pastor had announced the church needed "more commodius quarters."

In 1909, the congregation merged with the Eighth Street Baptist Church and renamed itself First Baptist Church of Orange.

Later members called the grand Greek Revival sanctury soon constructed as the "people's church." The women members of the church held bake sales, and others did more fundraisors

First Baptist Church was not like the First Presbyterian Church. Frances Ann Lutcher, the wife of the wealthy timber baron Henry Jacob Lutcher, paid for First Presbyterian Church as a tribute. The price has never been revealed.

The First Baptist Church building was constructed of brick, instead of pink granite. The dome was covered, and not made of handcrafted stained-glass angels. The two churches, though, shared the Greek Revival style popular at the time. Both have pillars and domes.

Through the next 80 decades, the church campus expanded with additions of Sunday School buildings and a family life cen-

ter. However as the 21st Century arrived, Orange's population was dwindling as more people moved northward. The congregation, too, was shrinking and members voted to move to land along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in the Little Cypress area.

Hurricane Ike in 2008 flooded downtown Orange with several feet of storm surge waters. The basement of the historic First Baptist sanctuary flooded, as did the other buildings. The church congregation left the complex alone and never moved back.

The Stark Foundation

bought the complete complex in 2013, five years after the flood waters had receded leaving mold to build. The foundation demolished all the buildings but the historic sanctuary and restored it.

Though the foundation had announced the building could be used by its venues, it never was. The building though has been preserved to its poststorm restoration shape.

Dr. Johnson said LSCO has remodeling plans to put the building to use for the community once again.

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From the Creaux's Nest

LUNCH BUNCH MARKS 32TH ANNIVERSARY

Last week an anniversary gathering of Lunch Bunch members was held at Robert's Restaurant after being delayed a week due to the passing and service of former County Commissioner Marcell **Adams.** The previous week would have also marked the 89th birthday of one of the **Lunch Bunch** founders and only survivor Roy Dunn. The attendance was reduced due to the delay with several members attending state required classes. Cole Michalk, with Speaker of the House Dade Phelan's staff, presented Roy, on behalf of the Speaker, with a Texas flag that had flown over the state capital on his birthday. Roy also received a delicious strawberry pie, fresh from Lucy's, loaded with large, fresh strawberries. He and his family agree it was the best they had ever eaten. The pie was compliments of **David Bailey**. He was given more "Top Hog" smoked sausage from the Jenkins gang. **Judge Chad,** after someone gave him a large box of fresh blueberries, told his gang, "we're going to learn how to make jelly." After much study Blue Berry Hill Jelly was produced by the "5-J's." Great taste. **Windee**, one of the "J's," who has spent her entire life at the school house, has given up teaching. The longtime Orangefield special teacher has joined County Attorney John Kimbrough and his staff. She says she will miss the kids but after 30-years it was time for a change. "I bet she will miss being off all summer." The Lunch Bunch is made up of a great bunch of folks; "Cream of the Crop," who meets at noon at Robert's each week. For names of who was in attendance see list in C'est Tout in this publication.

HUNTER BIDEN TO PLEAD GUILTY ON MISDEMEANOR TAX CHARGES

The **Trump**-appointed **U.S. Attorney** for Delaware has reached a plea agreement with Hunter Biden, in which he is expected to plead guilty to two federal misdemeanor counts of failing to pay his taxes. Biden also faces a separate felony gun possession charge that will likely be dismissed if he meets certain conditions, according to court documents filed on Tuesday. Two sources familiar with the agreement told NBC News that it includes a provision in which the U.S. attorney has agreed to recommend probation for Biden for his tax violations. Legal experts also said that the tax and gun charges will most likely not result in any jail time for President Joe Biden's **son**. It's the first time the Justice Department — part of the executive branch, headed by the president has brought charges against a child of a sitting president. The decision by U.S. Attorney David Weiss, who was nominated by President Donald Trump in 2018, indicates an end to the sweeping, five-year investigation by federal prosecutors, FBI agents and IRS officials into Hunter Biden's conduct. The Biden administration has kept Weiss in place in order to avoid having a U.S. attorney appointed by the president oversee his son's criminal case. The president and first lady said little in response to the filing. "The president and first lady love their son and support him as he continues to rebuild his life," a White House spokesman, Ian Sams, said in a statement. "We will have no further comment."

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2013

Darrell Segura and the Bridge City Historical Society will present the 2nd annual "Born on the Bayou" 4th of July celebration on Cow Bayou. The event starts at 5 p.m. with live music by "Three Legged Dawg," performing until dark, when the fireworks start. Food will be available also the **Bridge City Fire Department** will sell links. The party will take place at one of the most beautiful spots in **Orange County**, the old Joe Bailey location, *****Believe it or not but an opera is developing on the life of Orange native Bum Phillips. Texan Luke Leonard is producing the epic based on Bum, football, Houston Oilers and the Astrodome. If everything goes well, the Bum opera is set to open in New York in early 2014. Bum, who had been in poor health, is approaching 90 years old. His health has improved but these days he's often **confined to a wheel chair** but can still get around. He and son Wade are both natives of Orange. ***** Rick Perry took off for Hartford, Conn. In search of gun manufactures to come to Texas after Connecticut, Gov. Darnel Malloy signed new gun restrictions into law after 26 children and teachers were killed in New Town. Perry pitched Texas as a place to make guns.****Former State Representative Wayne Peveto was in the County Clerk's office recently telling Karen Jo, "He should have retired sooner" and she was taking notes. Oh no, Karen Jo can't go.**** Patsy Pecks' escorted traveling group just returned from a fantastic trip to Napa Valley, with San Francisco highlights. It was a small group of couples with Patsy and Ellen Ray attending to every need. Patsy also did another trip for a longtime Bridge City couple Dale and Debbie Etheridge in celebration of their 40th

wedding anniversary. **Dale** got **Patsy** to plan the entire **Mediterranean cruise** out so he could present it to **Debbie** as a surprise.******Ride **Sally Ride.**" I sit here on Tuesday, June 18, wondering where the years have gone. It was 30 years ago today that **Sally Ride** became the **first woman to fly in space**.*****Chris **Cuomo**, formerly with **ABC**, has launched a new morning show on **CNN**. The show airs from 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. in direct competition with **MSNBC Morning Joe**. Meanwhile, **FOX News** has brought back **Sarah Palin**.

17 Years Ago-2006

BCISD shuffles cards. Principals reassigned. Four new teachers hired. When Gina Mannino graduated from Bridge City High School in 1984, she never imagined she would one day become principal of her **hometown Alma Mater.** She becomes the first graduate of **BCHS** to head the school as principal. She replaced Terry Stuebing when he and wife, Ella, both retired. Tara Fountain replaced Ella at Intermediate. She is a 1993 grad of Orangefield.*****Jessica Blanda, daughter of Coach Joe and Terri Blanda, a Bridge City student was named "Student of the Month" by the Bridge City Chamber.****Donna Peterson, 70, on Wednesday threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Astor game at Minute Maid Park. She was nominated by her daughter, Major Donna Peterson Jr., for her mother's heroics during Hurricane Rita. *****Eugene Pousson, 76, died June 14. *****Freda Ross Dunn, 73, of Mauriceville, died June 17. She is survived by husband of 53 years, **Bill Dunn**, and four children. (Editor's note: Since then Bill has also passed away.)*****Paula Kay Broussard Swiney, 47, died June 17. She was the wife of William "Perry" **Swiney**.*******Paige Leanne Smith** became the bride of Mathew Kyle Austin, June 17, at Winfree Baptist Church.****Bridge City Little League 11-year-old All Stars named. Bryce Sampere, Preston Pittman, Collin Gros, Hayden Guidry, Eric Truncale, Revel Diabo, Colin Smith, Adrian Schubarth, Ashton Hasyter, Aubrey Harrington, Reagan Ficken, Clint Delahoussaye.***12 Year-old All Stars, Matt Menard, Mitchell Hubbard, Jacob Lemoine, Cameron Dishon, Camaron Coulter, Austin Scales, Jacob Brown, Jeremy Watkins, Justin Bradley, Kenton Hill, Sterling Deslatte, Zachary Smith. (Editor's note: Both teams advanced after winning region to the state playoffs.)

47 Years Ago-1976

Chairman W.T. Oliver, of the Bridge City-Orangefield Community Center fund drive, reports that \$20,000 has been collected of the \$400,000 goal. He predicts the money will be raised and a victory banquet will be held August 12 at Wayside Inn. (Editor's note: W.T. was the world's greatest optimist.)*****Sam Naifeh, of Orange, was nominated at the **Demo convention in Fort Worth**, to be a delegate to the National convention by the Fourth Senatorial District delegates. Orange County Democratic Chairman, Pete Runnels, and longtime **Demo activist, Bob Montagne**, came away from the convention with the feeling that Orange County hadn't gotten its share and weren't treated fairly by our neighbors. Montagne said, "That's alright, there will be another day." (Editor's note: Bob meant that someone was due payback, he didn't forget his friends or his enemies.)*****Bridge City policemen Bernis Bobbit and Steve Faircloth, under the direction of Police Chief Wilson Roberts, arrested KOGT manager Richard Corder for entering Bridge City without wearing a beard. The officers reported the hardest part was fitting him in the back seat while handcuffed. He paid his fine and was released. B.C. folks are growing beards in observance of the 1776 Bicentennial.*****Louisiana Hayride comes to Little Cypress- Mauriceville. Perry Lapointe, Karen Wiltz, Pam Folsom and Doug Childers, local talent, will entertain.*****Sis Keogh was excited to meet Sen. Ralph Yarborough at the Democratic convention. Bob Sanders, former Orange County Democratic chairman, visited the delegation. (Editor's note: sis is now a resident of an assisted living home in Beaumont. Husband Mike has passed away.)

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Dr. Tom Johnson gave a report at the Lunch Bunch gathering Wednesday about good things yet to come at LSCO. Doc is always working to grow the school.**** Once again, a record-breaking heat wave hit right when Orange's big Juneteenth Festival was going on. Still, the river breezes offered a bit of respite to people who showed up to enjoy the evenings with live music, food, drinks, and friends. Russell Bottley with the **Krewe de Onyx**, which sponsors the event, was running around taking care of business as usual. Hard to tell whether he's busier at Bassmasters or Ju**neteenth.** At least his community knows his dedication, he's a former chamber of commerce Citizen of the Year. Jazz saxophonist Perry Richard, who is originally from Orange, on Friday evening kicked off three days of music. **Zydeco** bands and others provided dance music, though most people seemed to enjoy sitting in their lawn chairs instead. Nancy Dallas, Roderick and Brandy Robertson, Orange City Councilor Terrie Salter and Mayor Larry Spears, but probably no one enjoyed the music more than **Beverly Richard Robinson**. At the Sunday morning prayer service, **Wayne Sparrow** served as the MC for the year's special honorees for community service. The Krewe surprised him by naming him at the event as one its honorees. Others included Mayor Spears, Al Granger, and Benny Smith.****Peggy Claybar's house in the Old Orange Historic District was the place to be Thursday as her three grandchildren, Annabelle, Caroline, and Keller, held their seventh annual cookie and lemonade fundraiser for Traci's Texas Tails dog rescue group. What started as a simple gesture for children to help puppies by baking cookies and lemonade to sell has become a big event. The cookie-baking has been taken over by Chef David Claybar of the Old Orange Cafe, who is Peggy's son and Keller's father. Businesses and individuals have donated gift baskets for drawings for donors. This

year, the kids raised nearly \$4,000 for the rescue group.****Even with the heat wave, people are traveling. Elvis and Melissa Anne Rushing took off for adventures including a stop in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee*****Randy and Paula Ragsdale visited the now-legendary Luckenbach, Texas*****Orange City Councilor Caroline Hennigan and husband, Mike, took grandchildren to San Antonio for all the sights, including the Alamo. At least Sea World offered cooling sprays of water****Brandy and Roderick Robertson were also in San Antonio for a school board seminar. Roderick is a trustee for the West Orange-Cove district. They managed to get in a trip to the city's famous riverwalk...Former Orange Mayor Jimmy Sims and wife Kaye traveled a long way for cooler temps. They celebrated their **50th anniversary** with a tour of Iceland*****Pat and Patty Cook were also on the road for their 50th anniversary. They are spending three weeks traveling the western U.S., including a stop in Tombstone, Arizona, and riding along Route 66. Christine Brown-Zeto and grown child Audi went to Mackinac Island on a vacation trip to honor the 60th wedding anniversary Christine's parents.****Others with anniversaries this past week included Earl and Suzanne Williams marking No. 61. Margaret and Ronnie Peveto have now been married 54 years. John and Marla Blanke have 35 years of marriage, with Billy and Wendy Young celebrating their 36th. More anniversaries were Loretta and Thanh Minh Vo, Scott and Jolene Clark, and Logan (of The Hut barbecue fame) and Abbey Poluk.*****Birthday celebrants included Beth Wheeler, Rachael Parker, Alaniz Vasez, Kaitlyn Ellison Guillory, and Alice Cole-Hartsfield. Special wishes to dear Beverly Perry, who turned 87 and was treated to lunch with friends, including Charlotte Chaisson. Vivian McMillan's family paid her a big tribute for her 90th...Justice of the Peace Joy Dubose-Simonton has a different celebration. She learned son, Christian and his wife, Jessica will be having twins in December. Sage Simonton will become the **big** sister instead of the only child.****This week's edition was a bit taxing with all of the internet and cell tower interruptions, but we managed to work around it.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the coming week. June 21: Coach Wade Phillips, born in Orange, turns 76 years-old this week, also Shelly Arceneaux, Jane Johnson, Tyler Bailey, Dustin Harts**field** and **David Dubose** celebrate. A special Happy Birthday to our own Dr. Clay Greeson.*****June 22: Paul Richardson, Caitlin Wells and Charlene Braus celebrate today.*****June 23: Happy Birthday to Ken Johnson, Sissy Braus, Kim Turbeville and Jaden Trahan.*****June 24: Blake Amy, Amanda Adams and the clown's better half Kathy Marsh have birthdays on this day.*****June 25: Celebrating today are Gary Savoy, Elise Becker, Cher Becker, Chris Humble, and a special shout out to Mark's youngest grandson Rowan Knox Greeson.***** June 26: Happy Birthday to Phyllis Davis, Jan Henry, Judy Cagle, Shelby Dixon, Bridgett Teaff and Claudine Hogan.*****June 27: Lynn Nell Guidry, Judy Lewis, David Ball, Kristin Lollar, Shanna MacCammond, Trevor Kimbell, and our special friend Jody Raymer all celebrate. (Note: To place birthday or anniversary announcements free of charge email news@therecordlive.com or give us a call at 409-886-7183.)

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Clovis Fontenot was reading da Laffayett paper when he came across an ad for a cow for sale in Ville Platte wat gave tree gallons of milk a day. He hook up his trailer and went to see bout buying da cow.

Da owner confirmed that she sure gave tree gallons but dat she did something strange. He told **Clovis** to pull on one of her utters. He did and **the cow mooed**. He tried it again and **she mooed again**. **Clovis** thought, I can put up wit dat for tree gallons of milk a day.

Da next day his friend **Sostan Comeaux** stopped by. **Clovis** showed him his new cow and told him to pull on her utter. **Sure nuff, she mooed.**

Sostan axe, "Clovis, did you buy dis cow in Ville Platt?"

"I sure did, " he answered, "But how you know dat

Sostan say, "Mais, because I use to date an ol' gal from **Ville Platt**, me."

C'EST TOUT

Those attending the 32th anniversary **Lunch Bunch** gathering were C.E.O. of Top Deck J.W. Dalton, Commissioners Chris Sowell, Johnny Trahan, Robert Viator, Kirk Roccaforts; Judges Rex Peveto, John Gothia, Chad Jenkins and wife Windee, Hershel Stagner, Jr., and Rodney Price; LUO President Dr. Tom Johnson; school official Phillip Welch; attorney Jim Sharon Bearden; Orange city councilman David Bailey; from Texas Speaker's office Cole Michalk; from the Record Newspapers, editor Margaret Tole, sport's writer Dan Perrine, office manager Janelle Sehon, production manager Mark Dunn, publisher Roy Dunn; former county employee Alice Cole Hartsfield; and Boilermaker Local 587 retiree Allen Dunn. ***** Well, that's the way the world turns in 2023. I've gotta get out of here. Thanks for your time. Please read us cover to cover, shop our family of advertisers and check us out at therecordlive.com. Take care and God bless.



Deaths & Memorials

Marjorie "Latance" Burch, 90

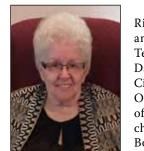
Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m., Friday, June 23, 2023, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Officiating will be Reverend Ray Murry of Bridge City United Pentecostal Church. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange.

Visitation will be from 1:00 p.m., Friday, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

Born in Center, Texas on September 11, 1932, Marjorie was the daughter of Harry and Eva Egan. She was a longtime member of First United Pentecostal Church in Bridge City, Texas. Latance was a Registered Nurse and was employed as the House Coordinator of Baptist Hospital. She loved to pray, read her bible, look at cookbooks, and cook for her family, especially during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

She loved her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren dearly. Marjorie brought great light to those who knew and loved her. She will be dearly missed by her family who knew her as "Momo B".

She is preceded in death by her mother, Eva Egan; father, Harry Egan; brothers, Doug (Jeanette) Egan, Don (Jackie) Egan, and Paul Egan; brother-in-law, Johnny Jones; and newborn great-grandchild, Kaleb Weeks.



Mariorie Burch

She is survived by her sons, Rick Hamilton of Jarrell, Texas and Bobby Burch of Houston, Texas; daughters, Nancee and David Kleinknecht of Bridge City, Texas, Tammy Campbell of Orange, Texas, and Becky Carter of Cypress, Texas; eight grandchildren, Melissa and Keith Du-Bois, Michele Weeks, Miranda Ruffin, Crystal and Trent Rogillio, Cody and Angelina Soape,

Zachary Visage, Morgan Carter, and Ethan and Kathelyn Carter; 16 great-grandchildren, Kaden Weeks, Kolten Weeks, Abigail Weeks, Isabella Weeks, Kason Monceaux, Gracie Hebert, Kaitlyn Hebert, Tanner Hebert, Cainan Terry, Trent Terry, Darian Pence, Kendin Hampton, Dereka Ruffin, Wilder Rogillio, Lizzy Soape, and Johnny Soape; sister, Johnnie Jones; her life-long friend, Pat Furlough; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, friends, and other loving

Serving as pallbearers will be Kaden Weeks, Kolten Weeks, Tanner Hebert, Zachary Visage, Ethan Carter, Raylan Riley. Honorary pallbearers are Roger Quinn, Cody Soape, Johnny Soape, Cainan Terry, Trent Terry, Kendin Hampton, Darian Pence, Wilder Rogillio, and Kason Mon-

Take a slow look at hunting art exhibition at Stark Museum of Art

Staff Report For The Record

(ORANGE, TX) - An art museum might be the only place that it's acceptable to stop and stare. The Stark Museum of Art invites the community to do just that now through July 8 to take a longer look at "A Noble Pastime: Hunting Pictures from the Collection of the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation."

Since October, guests to the Museum have been able to view a different perspective on a common theme in Southeast Texas — hunting — in "A Noble Pastime." Now the museum wants visitors to take a different look at that exhibit before it closes, and try the method of Slow Art Viewing.

Slow Art Viewing encourages the viewer to look carefully at works of art. On average, museum visitors spend less than eight seconds viewing any given works of art. The Slow Art Method counteracts that tendency by encouraging the viewer to look at a few works of art for 10 minutes each.

to take control over the viewing experience and to make discoveries," said Stark Museum of Art Curator Sarah Boehme. "You do not need special knowledge or training to enjoy and appreciate art. You bring your own perceptions and experiences to bear." The Museum has a brochure available to

"Slow Art Viewing empowers the viewer

guide guests through the process of Slow Art Viewing. It provides recommendations for looking closely and carefully at works of art to enhance their experience.

"A Noble Pastime" includes 16th- to 19th-century representations of various aspects of the chase, such as hunting expeditions, game pieces, and portraits of hunters, as well as animals. This exhibition seeks to illuminate various hunting methods, to underscore the role of the hunt as an exclusive pursuit in early-modern European culture and to emphasize the use of hunting imagery as a conscious tool for fashioning one's self-identity.

The exhibition has 56 works of art including paintings, prints, illustrated rare books and a decorative arts object.

Edward Jones Bridge City kicks-off annual school supply donations drive

Staff Report For The Record

Local residents may help make a positive impact in the community by bringing items to our Edward Jones office in town during regular business hours from July 5, 2023 to August 4, 2023. Monetary gifts, including gift cards, cannot be accepted.

The branch address is: 715 Texas Ave, Suite D Bridge City TX 77619.

Edward Jones is a leading financial services firm in the U.S. and through its affili-

nancial advisors serve more than 8 million clients with a total of \$1.7 trillion in client assets under care at the end of March 2023. Edward Jones' purpose is to partner for positive impact to improve the lives of its clients and colleagues, and together, better

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COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce announced last week that former Bridge City City Manager Donald Fields has been named Father of the Year for 2023.

Pictured are: Hunter Mosquera (friend), Kirsten Hoefling, granddaughter, Don "Father of the Year", Brantley Forester and Hayden Mayberry (great grandsons), daughter Misty Mayberry and wife Lucy Fields, Back row: Rhett Mayberry, great grandson, Christian Mayberry, grandson, daughter Shelley Fields and Jennifer Mayberry, granddaughter in law.



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that Edgerly Dentistry has been named Business of the Month for June 2023. They were presented an award at the June Networking Coffee hosted by Factory Outlet Flooring Center. Pictured are: Dr. Alex Edgerly, Lori Silva, Mitzi Carpenter, Letisha Curl and Trista Leonard.

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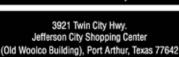
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GARAGE SALE

Multi family yard sale this Fri., 6/23 from 6:30 to noon and Sat., 6/24 6:30 to 1 pm at 14164 FM 1442. Orange, 77632 (1 mile north of I-10) Clothes up to 4X, mens tools, household goods, kitchen items, blan-

Yard & Back Porch Sale Thur., 6/22. Fri., 6/23 & Sat., 6/24 from 9 am to 6 pm at 2718 Singletary St. Orange, 77632 Books, DVD, CD, collectables, kitchen ware, tools, tent & camping gear, small kitchen appliances, clothing, misc items

American Legion Post 49 409-886-1241 **Hall Rental**

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CAROL BOYER, Deceased, were issued on the APRIL 3, 2023, in Cause No. P19601, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: SHANNON

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

c/o: Shannon Miller 1812 Erin Drive

Vidor, TX 77662

by law.

Dated the 3rd day of April, 2023.

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time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Barron Law Office P.O. Box 279 Orange, TX 77631-0279

Dated the 24th day of May, 2023.

George B. Barron

George B. Barron Attorney for Administratrix State Bar No.: 01817500

Orange, TX 77631-0279

george@barronlawoffice.net

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given that origina Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of CLAUDE KILLIAN, Deceased were issued on May 24, 2023, in Cause No. P19699, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: MARY ANNETTE

All persons having claims against this Estate which is cur rently being adminis tered are required to present them to the undersigned within the

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ANNIVERSARIES

ENGINEERING SERVICES PUBLIC NOTICE RFQ-2023-04-LAWRENCE ROAD DETENTION POND-HMGP

The Orange County Drainage District seeks to contract with one or more engineering service providers ("Respondents") to provide engineering services to the District. Interested Respondents may find copies of RFQ-2023-04-LAWRENCE ROAD DETENTION POND-HMGP ("RFQ") on the District's website at: https://www.ocddtx.com/purchasing/ (search under "Current Procurement Opportunities") and at http://civcastusa.com (search for "Orange County Drainage District"). Interested Respondents must submit five (5) physical copies of its statement of qualifications ("SOQs") to Mr. Joe Escobedo, District Purchaser, at the Orange County Drainage District located at 8081 Old Highway 90, Orange, Texas 77630 ("District Office"). To be eligible for consideration, the District must receive SOQs no later than 12:00 pm on July 5, 2023, at the

District Office. The District will publicly open the submitted SOQs at 2:00 pm on July 5, 2023, at the District Office. The District reserves the right to negotiate with all Respondents submitting eligible SOQs.

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24. *"From the forest to the Gulf Stream wa□ ters" 25. *Old 26. Waterwheel 27. Hymn of praise

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29. *Popular dec□ oration 31. *"Rockin' in the USA" band

32. Certain church member

36. Kind of rock 38. Heroic tale 42. B on Men□ deleev's table 45. "Where heard a discour□ aging word..." 49. Sushi restau□ rant staple 51. Shiny cotton 54. High-strung 33. Yiddish busy□ 56. Car rack man□ 67. Farm structure

57. Charlie Chap□ lin's prop 58. "Oh, my!" 59. Agrippina's slayer 60. "I'll second that" 61. Great Lake 62. State of mind 63. One in a litter 65. *King George

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Towery to direct BC Cardinal offense



The Bridge City Cardinals played well in the regional competition of Seven on Seven. **RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine.**

Dan Perrine For The Record

There is a new face in Bridge City that is working to improve the football fortunes for the Cardinals. Coach Chris Towery is the new offensive coordinator and conditioning coach for Bridge City High School.

Towery is a native of Pineville, Louisiana, and played football at the University of Southwestern Louisiana which is now known as University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He was a reserve quarterback



Chris Towery

for the Ragin' Cajuns. Upon graduation from college Towery coached at several jobs in Louisiana. This included a couple of head coaching positions.

Two Lady **Bobcats** named All State



bers of the TGCA 3A All-Sate Softball Team.

DAN PERRINE For The Record

More accolades were bestowed on two members of this season's outstanding Orangefield Lady Bobsoftball team. Harleigh Rawls and Charlee Sanches were named to the Class 3A All-State

Rawls was a standout in her senior year at Orangefield. Because of an injury to her throwing arm incurred during the basketball season Harleigh began the softball season as a utility infielder to relieve the stress on that arm.

The injury did not prevent Rawls from swinging a really robust bat. Harleigh batted .407 with 9 doubles, 2 triples, and 7 homeruns. Her on base percentage was .515 and her slugging percentage was .722 for the season.

The last ten games of the district season and playoffs Rawls moved back behind the plate to catch. In the 59 innings as catcher Harleigh allowed only two stolen bases.

Sanches was only a freshman this past season for the Lady Bobcats. Playing primarily second base and some at third base Charlee also was the number two pitcher in the circle for Orangefield.

It did not matter where she played in the field because Sanches swung a sensational stick. Charlee hit .391 on the year socking 11 doubles, 2 triples, and 4 homers for a .636 slugging percentage.

Both Rawls and Sanches were big run producers for the Lady Bobcats. Harleigh scored 34 runs and drove in 41 as well while Charlee tallied 37 runs and knocked in 31 Lady Bob-

Orangefield Coach Rebekah Ragsdale is proud of her two Lady Bobcats. "Both Harleigh and Charlee were very important in our historic run this season. They are hard-working and competitive athletes. I am thankful the work they have put in was rewarded," Ragsdale responded.

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats won the 22-3A District Championship winning their last six district games to clinch the title. Orangefield advanced to the fourth round of the state softball playoffs for the first time in the school's history before being eliminated.

A highlight of his coaching career was serving as the offensive coordinator at Redemptorist Catholic High School in Baton Rouge. The Wolves were

the class 3A state champions in Louisiana for the 2005 football season with Towery guiding the offense.

In addition to coaching

at high schools, Towery has also coached at a couple of division one universities. He has worked at the University of Houston and at his alma mater the

University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

More recently Towery coached as the offensive

BC CARDINAL Page 3B



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Automatic Trans., V6, 18 CITY / 25 HWY, Stock No. 8738 MSRP: \$55,950

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Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

This week's Texas Gulf Coast Fishing Reports was compiled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Sabine Lake

GOOD. 85 degrees. Winds have been gusty so fish wind protected areas. The channel has been good for speckled trout using shrimp under a popping cork. Redfish are good on artificials and topwaters on rock edges and points in 5-15 feet of water early morning. Intracoastal Canal producing limits of redfish on live shrimp under a popping cork with some trout mixed in. Speckled trout are good in the marsh using glo chartreuse plastics with a quarter ounce jighead or live shrimp under a popping cork. Redfish are biting in the Neches River and Bessie Heights marsh on flats using live mullet Carolina rigged, or live shrimp under a popping cork. Deeper water holding trout in the canals, sift through many small fish to find nice keepers. Fishing in the jetties should improve as the wind lays. Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.

Bolivar

GOOD. 84 degrees. The surf is holding lots of black drum, pompano, sharks and redfish biting live or fresh dead shrimp. The North Jetty Gulf side holding limits of sheepshead and trout against Rocks look near the end on popping cork with shrimp. The wreck has good numbers of trout on free-line shrimp or croaker close to rocks. Channel side holding some nice trout close and big redfish on the bottom. Shark on the end of jetty towards gulf side. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

Trinity Bay

SLOW. 84 degrees. When winds allow, open bay reefs are holding speckled trout on soft plastic and live shrimp. East shoreline redfish bite has been fair. Northwest corner of the bay producing redfish and speckled trout on live croakers and shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

East Galveston Bay

FAIR. 85 degrees. Scattered catches of trout taken on live shrimp and soft plastics over the open bay



The Record's Capt. Chuck Uzzle shows off a nice Sabine Lake redfish.

reefs. Winds may limit this action the coming week. Fair catches of redfish and trout on the shorelines and up in the deeper bayous. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter. Surface water temperature is 85 degrees, water clarity good in most places for East Galveston Bay. There is a good number of baitfish, and shrimp and the predators have been close by. Grass lines up in the marsh and in and around drains have produced redfish, flounder, and black drum utilizing live shrimp, under a popping cork, as well as paddle tails and 4 ounce jig heads. Purple with Chartreuse worked well for us this week. Open water reefs are producing, but the fish are hard to find, but once you find them you can really get into some good action if the timing and tides are for redfish, sharks, and right. This week the best jack crevalle. Before the catches were on artificial storm the surf was on fire shrimp imitation lures under a popping cork and a 12 inch leader. This produced bull reds as well as a number of solid trout over the past week. Do not ignore the birds either as redfish and trout are mixed in with the Gafftops. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Services, LLC. Yates Bayou and Siever's Cut are still holding redfish against grass line on popping cork and shrimp. Hanna's Reef and Deep Reef are holding fair numbers of speckled trout early on shrimp under a popping cork or twitching ar-

tificial paddle tails. Look for birds, baitfish and slicks- watermelon smell in the air look down and you may find a slick. Deep Reef, Pepper Grove Cove to Moody's Pass holding fish. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

Galveston Bay

FAIR. 86 degrees. Still some trout in the gas wells off Eagle Point when the wind allows. Protected areas off rock groins producing good numbers of black drum and some speckled trout on live shrimp. Protected shorelines producing black drum, and redfish, along with the occasional trout. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The piers on the island are on fire from Pleasure Pier to Surfside is hot for redfish, speckle trout, pompano, jacks all on live shrimp under a popping cork, croaker on an OCTO Circle with small chatterweight. The South Jetty holding big redfish, some nice shark on the end. gulf side on fire speckled trout, sheepshead, pompano and redfish close to rocks on popping cork with live bait, free-lined shrimp, or Carolina rigged float with shrimp, or chatter weight and croaker. Channel side holding trout close to rocks popping cork with live shrimp. 61st Pier has

some bulls with a few jack

caught on spoons as well as bait. The causeway holding redfish as is Pelican Island bridge. Report provided by Captain Ray-Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

crevalle mixed in being

West Galveston

GOOD. 87 degrees. Anglers throwing live croakers are fairing the best over deeper shell reefs. Waders near San Luis Pass are finding speckled trout and a few redfish using live croakers. Fishing structure such as rocks, on the east side of the causeway bridge with live shrimp producing speckled trout, black drum, redfish and a few sheepshead. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. West Bay's South Shore holding a lot of speckled trout and redfish around the coves and grass lines from south deer Island to San Luis pass. Both sides of Bird Island holding fish Bird Island flats holding good numbers of speckled trout, and some redfish for Wade Fisherman. North shorelines between Carancahua and green cut holding fish under birds. Mecoms Reef will have fish on it early up by rocks with artificial or live bait free-line or under cork. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

The Lakes

Toledo Bend Fishing Report

FAIR. Water stained; 80-84 degrees; 0.73 feet below pool. The water level is 171.28 with both generators running from 1:00-6:00 p.m. daily. Water temperature at the Dam is 81 degrees. North of the three-mile Pendleton bridge, temperatures have been running 80-84 degrees. Air temperature will be up around 95 degrees this week. Fishing has been very tough for the bluegill, bass and crappie. Bass have good topwater frog bite over vegetation very early and at dark. Just a reminder, the summer weather brings quick developing showers, high winds, hail, and lightning. Watch your weather radar and if you hear lighting, get off the water. Remember, it is always better to play it safe by telling a loved one or friend the area you will be fishing, how many people are in your party and the expected return time. Good luck and keep casting forward! Report from Master Captain Steve "Scooby" Stubbe, Mudfish Adventures LLC, Orvis Endorsed Fly Fishing Guide, and Mudfish Custom Rod

Sam Rayburn Fishing Report

GOOD. Water stained; 84 degrees; 0.16 feet below pool. The lake is at full pool with more rain to come. Water is off color, and the best bite is areas with clearer water. Bass are shallow early and late on topwater frogs around the pencil grass. Later in the day move to humps and creeks with Carolina rigs and crankbaits. Crappie are fair on brush piles in clearer water. Blue and channel catfish are good in the channels and humps with cut bait. White bass are running the points with slabs and silver spoons. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

Houston

FAIR. Water stained; 78 degrees; 0.31 feet above pool. Catfish are good in 15-20 feet of water on shad and cut bait. Crappie are good on submerged structures with jigs and minnows. Bass are fair with an early morning topwater bite, transitioning to deeper structure with soft plastics and crankbaits. White bass are starting to school biting humps with slabs and rattletraps.

Texas City

FAIR. 83 degrees. TFair speckled trout catches coming from the jetties during the day and at night under lights on the Texas City Dike. Lots of sharks being caught off the ends of the jetties, along with the occasional bull redfish. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The Dike has trout at night.



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BC Cardinal football From Page 1

coordinator at Tyler Junior College in north Texas. The last three years he was the head football coach at nearby Sulphur High School in Louisiana before accepting the position as the offensive coordinator for the Bridge City Cardinals.

The assets Coach Towery brings to Bridge City are his experience working with offense and conditioning. "I kind of coached a little bit of everything on offense, but I'm kind of known as a quarterback guy while also working with the kids on strength and conditioning," Towery summarized.

The Cardinals' offense under Towery will be a heavy 11-personnel team using one running back and one tight end primarily or in some occasions they may switch to two tight ends. Towery explained, "I guess what you would call it is kind of a pro-style Spread or a hybrid Spread. We have about six base run plays. We get into a lot of formations, we're going to be extremely formation heavy, and we'll have different facets of the drop back passing game."

As would be expected operating from the Spread formation the passing game will be the primary focus for the Cardinals. "We'll change the launch points in the passing game from play action throws to sprint outs. We're going to be very RPO (run pass option) heavy. I think that's the one thing that's going to be a little bit different. A lot of different kinds of RPOs to put the defenses in conflict built into our run game, so I think that's what were going to try to master the most," Towery described.

Bridge City's new head football coach Chad Landry is happy to have Chris Towery on his staff as the season is only a little over two months away. Landry elaborated, "Coach Towery is a guy with a ton of experience, and has done a great job leading our strength and conditioning program right now this summer. He's doing a great job relating to the kids, Seven on Seven has been great, and the kids are really gravitating towards him. It's been really good."

Seven on Seven practice is allowed during the summer football workouts which allows the quarterbacks and wide receivers to work against defensive



Coach Chris Towery is working with the Cardinals on strength and conditioning in prepara-**RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine** tion for the upcoming football season.

secondary personnel on the passing game. This is important because the Cardinals will be emphasizing the pass during the upcoming season.

Towery has only had since the middle of May to work with the quarterbacks and wide receivers to make them familiar with his offense so many of the players were working off of cards to learn the offense. The Cardinals have done a good job picking up the concepts of Towery's passing schemes despite the fast paced learning experience.

During the recent the Seven on Seven regional competition Bridge City played in Sour Lake at Hardin-Jefferson High we're trying to get better School. Towery was not at playing football, and actually on the sideline for the Cardinals so they got to call their own plays.

The Cardinals made it to the qualifying game against West ange-Stark with a chance to reach the state tournament. "We were up a halftime, but those West Orange-Stark guys are pretty good, and they got us in the second half. We kind of ran out of gas, so give credit to the Mustangs they did what they had to do to beat us to make the state tournament. Our Cardinals gave a great effort just to get to that lev-

Bridge City went to Wimberley for another Seven on Seven tournament. The Cardinals won two of the three games they played there including beating Wimberley the defending state 4A Division II runners-up Towery recalled.

The quarterbacks and the receivers have done well during the summer workouts. Towery said, "We just want to see them compete. The one thing about Seven on Seven is I don't want it to become its own sport in the minds of the kids. I want them to understand that this relates to football and that this is only important because it's going to enhance our play on Friday nights."

Two of the quarterbacks used by the Cardinals last season are back and should see time on the field. Both Hutch Bearden and Josamany Robleto had

injuries that curtailed their playing time, but Hutch and Josamany are healthy now and will split time at quarterback for Bridge City.

Towery evaluated Bearden and Robleto as quarterbacks. "Both of them have a lot of talent with their arms. There's some things we need to tweak a little bit, but both of them can be really good players. I have no qualms about getting them both in the game at quarterback since they bring different talent sets to the table that help us be successful," Towery stated.

Bearden and Robleto are both smart which Towery added he is finding out in the workouts. Towery analyzed, "Both of them can process things quick, and then they can help out at another position. If one is on the field at quarterback the other may play some as a wideout."

There are some Cardinals showing their stuff

during the summer who will be catching passes from whichever quarterback is throwing the ball. Seniors Gavin Bodin and Jerris Brown saw playing time last season on the Bridge City varsity.

An up and coming wide receiver for the Cardinals is sophomore Abraham Munguia. "He has been really good in Seven on Seven during the summer. Mungia is a dynamic little football player and a good little corner on defense too," Towery insisted.

The Cardinals could be dangerous offensively with their talented quarterbacks and receiving corps. Towery believes, "I think Abraham is going to bring some things to the table with Jerris and Gavin which are going to make us better if we can get these guys throwing and catching together on the same pace."

standout Another during this summer is junior Bryce Linder who played mostly defensive end last year. Towery is hoping to have Linder also play on the offensive side of the ball.

Bryce is slotted to be the tight end for the Cardinals in their 11-personnel offense. "We are trying to get him bigger and stronger while trying to teach him how to run routes, but I think Bryce is going to bring some things to the table for us from a tight end perspective," Towery responded.

The offensive line at Bridge City is still under development. Towery credited coaches Jimmy Converse and Jimmy Hallman with doing a really good job in getting the Cardinal lineman ready to play.

Towery indicated, "As we get further into the summer we'll figure out who those five guys are that will start. I will say they've got to play together, they've got to be a good unit together, they've got to work together, and they're the most important five guys on the field when we are on offense."

The Bridge City offense struggled last year and was plagued by injuries. Four or five different Cardinals were shuttled in at quarterback at various times because of injuries.

Avoiding injuries or at least keeping them to a

minimum will be a key for Bridge City this coming season. "I think if we can stay healthy we've got the two guys at quarterback that can make a difference there for us. I'm not against playing both of them in certain situations," Towery replied.

A key though is the Cardinal players learning the new offense. Towery advised, "If we can focus in on learning it and get really ingrained in it I think we will be improved offensively. It comes back to making sure we're teaching the kids the right way to run the offense. They have to understand it. It's not what we know it's what they know. If we can make them understand the concepts that we're going to put in then I see us doing some good things on offense."

The other job Towery serves as an assistant is the strength and conditioning coach. Again the coach is taking on that assignment a bit late because strength and conditioning is a January through summer preparation for football season and he has only been in Bridge City since May.

With the shorter time frame Bridge City is doing some outside of the box stuff. Towery has the Cardinals doing speed training including sprint mechanics, hip explosion techniques, and deceleration sprints instead of just running straight forward sprints.

In the weight room Towery has the kids doing specific lifts according to a chart he has on the importance of what is done with weight lifting. The Cardinals are doing a lot of power cleans, a lot of Olympic lifts, a lot of plyometrics, and a lot of hip explosions while also benching and squatting like everybody

In the order of importance how much weight a kid can lift is not necessarily the top priority. "I don't really care what a wide receiver bench presses. Can he come out of his hips, can he run, can he accelerate, can he be an explosive guy, so we're emphasizing those things that are a little bit more dynamic," Towery concluded.



A Little Something For Everybody The Record Newspapers - In Print & Online



Everybody likes a little "lagniappe" sometime

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

For most of us who have spent time around the Cajun French way of life or culture the word "lagniappe" usually brings a smile to your face because it means "a little something extra". I could not think of a better word to describe how things are going in my little part of the world at the moment, it finally feels like a corner has been turned and destination, though it may be farther than we think, is actually beginning to come into view. After more days than I care to recount it appears that some of the old reliable patterns that we counted on for so long to catch fish are finally starting to produce again and make things resemble something normal.

I am personally trying to temper my enthusiasm with caution because it could all



as fast as it showed up. Until that time comes lets all enjoy it. Looking

disappear

back Chuck Uzzle many years

of notes it's not hard to put a plan together based on all that historical data accumulated. Several patterns jump out to be noticed right from the start. Consistent weather does nothing but increase every anglers odds because every inch of water becomes fishable..

A couple of patterns that

usually grab the lions share of attention are hustling big trout off the jetty systems and near shore rigs before daylight as well as working flocks gulls picking brown shrimp in the open bay. Both of these patterns are paying big dividends right now and that should do nothing but get better as we

get deeper into the summer months.

The pre dawn topwater bite is one that no angler should miss down on the rocks, it can be absolutely epic in every sense from numbers of fish to the size of some these brutes, it's impressive. Topwater plugs and swim baits rule the roost down there so be prepared to do battle when you

The open water program of chasing the flocks of feeding gulls is a bit less technical but just as much fun and action packed. A vast assortment of baits work under these conditions from topwater plugs to soft plastics and virtually everything in between, it's really your preference when the fish are feeding. Perhaps the most consistent producer under these circumstances is a rattling cork and plastic shrimp imitation rigged on a 2 foot leader with 1/4 ounce jig head. The rattling cork is hands down the great time understanding people equalizer under the birds because it gives you all the attraction you could ask for and just flat out catches fish for everyone from a pro to a novice. My personal favorite corks are the ones made by 4 Horsemen, they have a unique sound that really seem to work well, especially on redfish.

If there is any draw back to the summer months and the fishing that goes with them it's the fact the shallow water fish in the marshes become much more fragile. The water temps in the back lakes and ponds get so high that fish get somewhat lethargic and less aggressive. The high temps and dying grass also deplete oxygen so these fish really need to be cared for, especially when you release them. Please take time to show some respect to these fish and revive them properly, they deserve that opportunity. Now speaking of respect, I have a difficult that ignore the rules or lack the common courtesy to treat the shallow water areas with a little regard. Running boats through areas that are classified as "no motor" while destroying grass and harassing fish at the same time is inexcusable. Just because you have a boat that will run in a couple of inches of water doesn't mean you have to do it, especially at the expense of the habitat.

Now earlier we mentioned "lagniappe" and the fact that it meant "a little something extra". As a guide, or just people for that matter, we tend to get in ruts and stay there for periods of time until something snaps us out of that and we either get refocused or find something to renew our enthusiasm. Easily one of the things that I consider lagniappe is when I get to help new anglers learn more and catch more fish. So many of the things we take

tually producing seed pods

for granted every day as a "ho hum" experience are really big occasions for some young or novice anglers. I enjoy talking fishing with young anglers and helping them to understand some of the methods so they can be successful. Many times after sharing a few tips or techniques I'll get a text with some pictures from a young angler or their parent showing off their catch and saying how excited they are to keep getting better. Few things are more satisfying than helping others to enjoy something that you care about and seeing them succeed as a result of just sharing some knowledge with them. Each and every time this happens I make it a point to stop and take things in, appreciate the opportunities, and be thankful for the experiences. Get out and enjoy the great conditions and be sure when possible to bring a kid fishing.

ORANGE COUNTY GARDENING:

JOHN GREEN ORANGE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

The easiest vegetable seeds to save for a 'novice' seed saver: beans, lettuce, peas, tomatoes, peppers, and okra. Legumes (bean & peas) are by far the easiest seeds to save, and also the easiest to germinate. There are numerous flowers which easily lend their seeds, such as marigold, zinnia, morning glory, cleome, nasturtium, poppy, snapdragon, and sunflower (Image courtesy: giantveggiegarden.com).

Gardeners, so you want to save your own seeds this season but don't know where to start? Some readers have requested that I write about saving seeds, but more specifically how to harvest seeds and store them but also want to share them with friends, neighbors, fellow gardeners, and family-while keeping a few to germinate next year and for future use. This is the 1st installment of a 2-part series on how to harvest and save seeds, so let's begin with some basics!

Seed saving doesn't have to be complicated and is a useful, and relatively simple method of propagation. For many home gardeners (me included) collecting seeds that plants produce saves time and money year after year, since saving seeds is more cost effective than purchasing seed packets or transplants from online merchants and local nurseries. Saving high quality seeds can help develop plants with ideal traits that will thrive in your garden's specific environment, providing you in time with exacting characteristics you deem important. Before we can begin discussing how to save seeds and the steps involved to correctly save them, we need to understand seed types, ensuring we're not wasting our time, since the seeds we harvest we want to grow 'true' to the parent plant.

Seed Types

The only guarantee that saved seeds will produce the identical plant variety the following growing season if gardeners select and grow 'open-pollinated' and 'heirloom' varieties. Let me break this down a bit more: all heirloom seeds are produced from 'open-pollinated' varieties but not all 'open-pollinated' plants are 'heirloom' plants.

Open-pollinated seeds are plants which are fertilized utilizing natural means through pollinator insects (bees, moths, but-

Saving Plant Seeds The Right Way, Part I



Seed saving doesn't have to be complicated and is a useful, and relatively simple method of propagation. For many home gardeners (me included) collecting seeds that plants produce saves time and money year after year, since saving seeds is more cost effective than purchasing seed packets or transplants from online merchants

are 'cross-pollinated' using a natural means and when seeds are produced will grow into a plant very similar to the parent plants, presenting ever-so slight variations, leading to genetic diversity, and allowing seeds to slowly adapt to our local environments.

• Heirloom seeds originate from open-pollinated plants which have a history of passing 'desired' traits (parent plant to child). These prized characteristics are developed through years of cultivation. Examples of these traits are hardiness, flavor, productivity, pest and disease resistance, as well as adaptability. An heirloom variety originates from plant varieties which are at minimum 50 years old, Seeds produced are always true to the parent plant, allowing gardeners to save seed for the following

• Hybrid seeds grow plants which are a mix of two different plant varieties and plant breeders produce hybrid seeds by cross-pollinating two plant varieties, creating a 'hybrid' demonstrating definitive traits from each variety, a process known as "Hybrid vigor". Let me note that saving 'hybrid' seeds is not ideal, since most offspring of hybrid varieties do not resemble the parent plant, nor will they have desired characteristics. F1 hybrids (first-generation hybrid plant seeds) produce higher yields of plants, often with the desired mix of traits, it's a different story if you save seeds from that new batch of plants to grow the following season. Note that these '2nd' generation hy-

terflies, etc.), birds, rain, brid varieties (F2 hybrids) wind, or manually. Two will produce a very small plants of the same variety percentage of plants which are identical to the FI hybrids. In this gardener's opinion, seed savers should stick with saving seed from 'heirloom' varieties which is exactly what I do, and I never include hybrids!

Growing Plants: Eating or Harvesting-The Differences

Gardeners, to be clear it's usually not both (food and seeds), since for a plant, such as lettuce to produce seed, there is a time requirement for the plant to send up flower stalks, evenas the lettuces' leaves yellow and shrivel, becoming bitter. The good news is that a single plant produces numerous seeds, meaning only a few 'extra' plants are needed for seed-saving purposes. Now, here is where seed saving becomes the most interesting (at least for me it does)-gardeners who chose to save seed are participating in the natural selection process! How might you ask? Well, let's say for example, you decide to save the seeds from your largest tomato or pepper each year, and then plant the seeds each year subsequent year, continuing to save seeds from the largest fruit. Eventually, you will have seeds which produce plant traits where all the tomatoes or peppers are bigger! This holds true for almost any trait. Another example might be if you'd like earlier ripening tomatoes, then the initial fruit and continue doing this yearly! No need to get too scientific, simply save seeds from the healthiest, most robust, and tastiest plants that demonstrate the qualities you

want in the plants.

Saving Seeds Can Be-Tedious Large seeds, such as bean and pea seeds are easily removed from their pods, but this is the exception not the rule. Pak choi or carrot seeds, for example, are tiny and disappear quickly when liberating them from their seed heads. Plants hold their seeds in numerous ways: husks, pods, capsules, and other shrouds, most of which are not easily removed. The process varies depending on the species but involves threshing (removing the seed from the plant), drying them, before winnowing (separating seed from the pod) and for home gardeners, these tedious tasks are completed by manually, by hand.

Next week we will continue our discussion on seed saving, so long for now fellow gardeners, let's go out and grow ourselves a world, one plant at a time! If you have gardening questions, email me: jongreene57@gmail.com phone the Orange County Master Gardeners Helpline: (409) 882-7010.



Entertainment: Summer concert scene

TOMMY MANN JR. FOR THE RECORD

The summer concert season is underway and, just like the temperatures, it is already red hot. More big shows are on tap in the coming weeks, so be sure to check out the schedule below for upcoming shows and see the full listing of events online at www.therecordlive.com

• June 23

Pixies, Franz Ferdinand, Bully, Bayou Music Center, Houston

• June 24

Twice, Toyota Center, Houston; Venom, humed, Acid Witch, Scout Bar, Houston

^a June 25

Twice, Toyota Center, Houston

• June 26

Bebe Rexha, House of Blues, 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 Centre, Sugar

• June 30

Matchbox Twenty, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• June 30

Robert Randolph Band, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• July 1 TLC, Shaggy, En Vogue, Cynthia Woods Mitchell

Pavilion, The Woodlands • July 2

"Outlaw Music Festival" feat. Willie Nelson, Whiskey Myers, Brittney Spencer, Particle Kid, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• July 8

Chris Golden Cagle, Casino, Lake Nugget Charles, La.; Blink-182, Turnstile, Kennyhoopla, Toyota Center, Houston;



Legendary rock act Foreigner will perform at the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion in The Woodlands on Aug. 12 with special guest Loverboy. The band announced its farewell tour earlier this year. **RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.**

Louis Tomlinson, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

a July 11

Foals, Paramore, The Linda Lindas, Toyota Center, Houston

• July 14

Everclear, Saliva, Golden Nugget Casino, Charles, La.] Ace Frehley, House of Blues, Houston

• July 16

Tears for Fears, Cold War Kids, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, Woodlands

• July 20

Overkill, Exhorder, Heathen, Scout Bar, Houston

• July 21

Sublime with Rome, Slightly Stoopid, Atmosphere, The Movement, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Kenny Wayne Shepherd, House of Blues, Houston

• July 22

Shania Twain, Mickey Guyton, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Between the Buried and Me, Warehouse Live, Houston

July 23

Nickelback, Brantley Gilbert, John Ross, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

July 26

Lil Baby, The Kid Laroi, Glorilla, Gloss Up, Rylo Rodriguez, Hunxho, Toyota Center, Houston

• July 27

Disturbed, Breaking Benjamin, Bush, Jinjer, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Young the Giant, 713 Music Hall, Houston

• July 28

Tom Keifer Band, John Corabi, Rise Rooftop, Houston; Greta Van Fleet, Kaleo, Toyota Center, Houston; Rema, Revention Music Center, Houston

• July 29

Steve Miller Band, Cheap Trick, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• July 30

ZZ Top, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Uncle Kracker, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• Aug. 3

Big Time Rush, Max, Jax, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, Kenny Loggins, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• Aug. 4

The Woodlands • Aug. 19

Land

• Aug. 17

• Aug. 18

Pantera, Lamb of God,

Ted Nugent, Ford Park

Arena, Beaumont, Sam

Hunt, Lily Rose, Cynthia

Woods Mitchell Pavilion,

Cynthia Woods Mitchell

Pavilion, The Woodlands,

Trapt, Scout Bar, Houston

Rick Springfield, The Hooters, Paul Young, Tommy Tutone, L'Auberge Casino Resort, Lake Charles, La., Snoop Dogg, Wiz Khalifa, Too Short, Warren G., DJ Drama, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The

Woodlands • Aug. 20

Beck, Phoenix, Weyes Blood, Sir Chloe, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• Aug. 21

Lil Durk, Kodak Black, Toyota Center, Houston

• Aug. 22 Ice Nine Kills, Set It Off,

Thomas Rhett, Toyota

Center, Houston, Black

Flag, House of Blues, Hous-

Great White, Slaughter,

George Clinton, House of

Post Malone, Cynthia

Boy George and Culture

Club, Howard Jones, Berlin,

Cynthia Woods Mitchell

Cynthia Woods Mitchell

Pavilion, The Woodlands,

Stevie Nicks, Toyota Cen-

Mudvayne, Coal Cham-

ber, GWAR, Nonpoint,

Butcher Babies, Cynthia

Woods Mitchell Pavilion,

REO Speedwagon, Smart

Pavilion, The Woodlands

Revention

Loverboy,

Woods Mitchell Pavilion,

Golden Nugget Casino,

• Aug. 5

• Aug. 6

Blues, Houston

The Woodlands

• Aug. 10

• Aug. 11

• Aug. 12

Foreigner,

ter, Houston

• Aug. 13

The Woodlands

• Aug. 14

Underoath,

Music Center, Houston

• Aug. 8

Lake Charles, La.

The Plot, Revention Music Center, Houston • Aug. 24

50 Cent, Busta Rhymes, Jeremih!, Toyota Center, Houston

• Aug. 25

LL Cool J, The Roots, Big Boi, Juvenile, Goodie Mob, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Toyota Center, Houston Aug. 26

Jodeci, SWV, Dru Hill, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

Sept. 1

Yngwie Malmsteen, House of Blues, Houston

Sept. 2

Lainey Wilson, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Lionel Richie, Earth, Wind and Fire, Toyota Center, Houston, Ghost, Amon Amarth, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• Sept. 3

SuicideBoys, Ghostmane, City Morgue, Sematary, Ramirez, Toyota Center, Houston, Danzig, Behemoth, Twin Temple, Mid-

• Sept. 5

Kamelot, Battle Beast,

Financial Center, Sugar Houston

• Sept. 7

Pentatonix. Lauren Alaina, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, Woodlands

• Sept. 8

Dance Gavan Dance, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• Sept. 9

Parker McCollum, Jackson Dean, Tyler Halverson, Ford Park Arena, Beaumont, 5 Seconds of Summer, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, Flogging Molly, The Bronx, House of Blues, Houston

• Sept. 13

Madonna, Toyota Center, Houston, Tenacious D, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• Sept. 14

Madonna, Toyota Center, Houston

• Sept. 14 The Mission UK, White

Oak Music Hall, Houston

• Sept. 17

Drake, Toyota Center, Houston • Sept. 18

Drake, Toyota Center, Houston

• Sept. 20 Chicago, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land, Max and Iggor Cavalera, Ex-

humed, Incite, House of

Blues, Houston • Sept. 21

Christian Nodal, Toyota Center, Houston

Jelly Roll, Three 6 Mafia, Struggle Jennings, Josh

• Sept. 22

Adam Meyers, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, scape the Warehouse Live, Fate. Houston • Sept. 23

Beyonce, NRG Stadium, Houston, 3 Doors Down, Candlebox, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

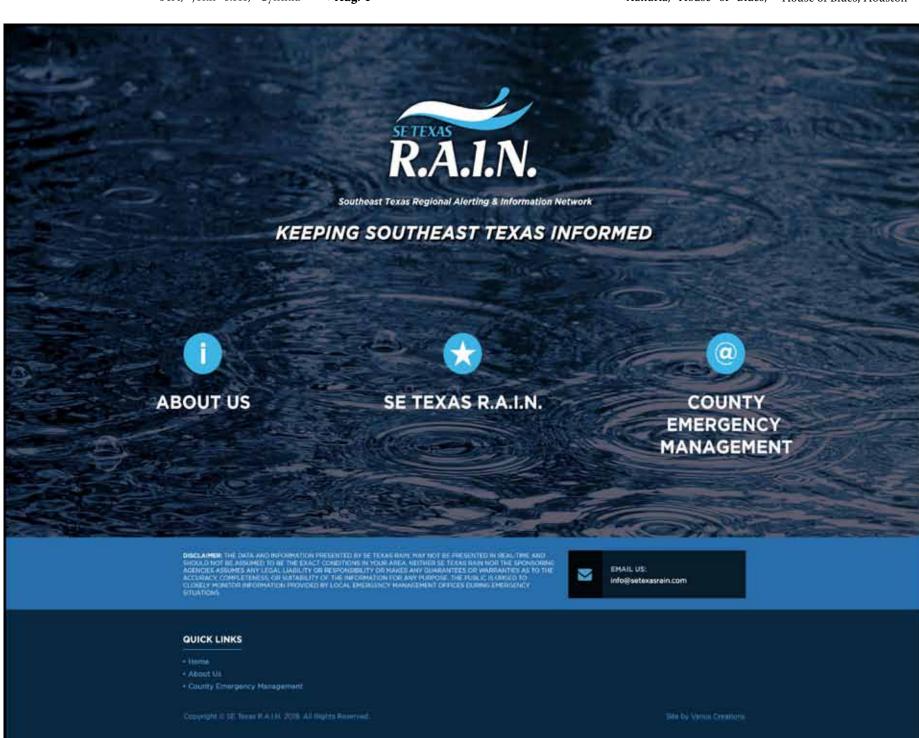
• Sept. 24 Beyonce, NRG Stadium,

Houston • Sept. 27 Boys Like Girls, Reven-

tion Music Center, Houston • Sept. 28

Guns N' Roses, Minute Maid Park, Houston

Sept. 30: The Mavericks, Xandria, House of Blues, House of Blues, Houston



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Resisting Grumbling Obedience

Joe Rigney **Teacher** desiringGod.org

If you were giving an exhortation to an obedient people, what temptations would you urge them to guard against? Most of us would likely highlight the danger of pride and self-righteousness. And we'd be right to do so.

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul is addressing an obedient people. Unlike the Galatians or Corinthians, Paul does not write to them in order to rebuke and correct substantial failures and errors. Outside exhorting a few quarreling women, there isn't a hint of "You foolish Galatians!" (Galatians 3:1) or "Are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?" (1 Corinthians 3:3). Instead, to the Philippians, Paul says, "As you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence" (Philippians 2:12). The Philippians are an obedient people.

So how does Paul exhort them? What does he see as a key danger for this obedient people?

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. (Philippians 2:14-16



Grumbling and Disputing

A major temptation for the obedient is to murmur and grumble in our obedience. That's why Paul says to everything without grumbling or disputing, without murmuring or complaining, without sulking or arguing, without whining or backtalk. A temptation for an obedient people is to offer frustrated, grumbling

In other words, Paul is clear that how we obey matters. The spirit beneath our actions matters. God's standard and expectation for us isn't merely to obev.

This means that partial obedience is disobedience. Delayed obedience is disobedience. And grumbling obedience, irritated obedience, frustrated obedience is disobedience.

Confronting Reluctance We each have various sources of hardship and frustration in our lives. It might be a boss or a co-worker. It might be a tone of voice or an annoying habit from your spouse or child or parent or sibling or friend. It might be a deep unmet desire, like the desire to be

Whatever the frustration, how often do you find yourself attempting to obey God while muttering and murmuring about the hardship? How often is there a hitch in your obedience, or an edge to your obedience, or selfpity in your obedience?

Now some of us grumble directly about God. "Why is he doing this to me?" Or we grumble about our circumstances, conveniently "forgetting" the truth that nothing comes into our lives except by his hand. Others of us grumble about people. We disguise our complaints against God by focusing them on the people around

This is precisely where we must press. It is important distinguish faithful groaning from ungodly grumbling, lamenting from sulking. Groaning and lamenting can be good and right. They can be faithful responses to real pain. So what distinguishes them from grumbling and sinful complaining? Often, it's honesty. Do we take the pain to God directly, or does it come out sideways, as com-

disguised as observations about other people?

Murmuring in Marriage

We can press this truth into our marriages. Simply put, grumbling obedience is a marriage killer. Mumbling exposes that you're in the comparison trap and that you're keeping score. Which of us has the tougher job? Who has sacrificed more? Grumbling and complaining is an outworking of self-pity, that subtle and sneaky form of selfishness.

And we sometimes wield such self-pity as a tool of manipulation. We wield our sacrifices as a weapon to get our way. We try to steer others by our complaining. We recognize this when we're the target of the manipulation. We know that someone is seeking to steer us by throwing a pity party. And we should ask ourselves hard questions about it. Has such manipulation ever brought us deeper into joyful fellowship with the grumbler? Did it ever call forth the gratitude and joy that it supposedly sought? Of course not.

But seeing such manipuplaints about God's wisdom lative grumbling in our spouse is the easy part. The hard part is recognizing it in ourselves, removing the log from our own eve, and treating others the way that we want to be treated.

So ask yourself, "How am I doing with my marital obedience? How am I doing with those marital vows? Having and holding, in sickness and in health?" Husbands, how is your leading and loving? Wives, how is your honoring and obeying? What's the spirit beneath your obedience? Grumbling disputing? glad-hearted and grateful?

Is there a hitch in your efforts to love and give yourself to your spouse? Are you keeping score? Or are you keeping short accounts? Will the record of wrongs from last week follow you and your spouse into next

Frustrated in Families

We can widen and press this into family and parenting. If you're a father, try this scenario. You're in one room working on something. Could be your job, could be the honey-do list. From the other room, you hear the quarreling break out. Or you hear your kids talk back to your wife. And you listen for a minute to see if it will resolve itself. And it doesn't.

And so now you must interrupt your work to go deal with it. You're the head of the home, and it's your responsibility to reprove, correct, and discipline. You've resolved to obey God. But will your obedience shine? Are you going to walk into a big mess of sin and bring more sin? Because grumbling obedience, frustrated obedience, exasperated obedience is disobedience.

As parents, we're called to

bring up our children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord, in the teaching and admonition of Christ. Do we pursue that task with joyfulness and gladness of heart? Do we do it heartily, as unto our Lord? Or are we regularly asking irritably, "How many times do I have to remind you to pick up your room or take out the

Gladness in All Things

We could go on. Do we show hospitality without grumbling (1 Peter 4:9)? Most of us have enough social tact to avoid grumbling at guests, but do you harbor resentment and bitterness toward your husband (or wife) or your kids because of all of your labor? Do you have an edge about you? Do you find yourself thinking, Nobody appreciates all that I do. Nobody appreciates how many details I manage, how much time I spend trying to make everything spe-

Of course, this isn't to excuse ingratitude and selfishness in others. But we may not use the failures of others to justify our own disobedience. A difference exists between addressing sin and grumbling about unaddressed sin.

In the end, we remember a simple truth: God loves a cheerful giver, not a grumbler. He loves cheerful obedience, not murmuring and complaining obedience. Such obedience, especially when things are hard, signals God's grace to us, a sign that he is at work within us to produce an obedience that shines, an obedience that makes apostles proud and God happy. So as you obey, do so all the way, right away, with a happy heart.

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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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