

# County Record

Vol. 64 No. 05

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Week of Wednesday, June 28, 2023

## State hampers county RV park rules

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

As land across Orange County is being cleared to make room for RV parks to contend with an influx of construction workers at the new \$8.5 billion chemical plant, County Commissioners found themselves stymied by a new state law.

County Engineer Corey Oldbury had prepared new regulations for the RV parks, but a decision was delayed pending an interpretation of a new state law.

Governor Greg Abbott signed the bill, which was passed by the Texas Senate and House of Representatives, last week. The new state law forbids local entities, including counties and cities, from implementing stricter laws than the state. That means cities like Austin and Dallas, which passed ordinances making employers give water breaks to outdoors workers in the heat, cannot enforce those ordinances now.

Assistant Orange County Attorney Denise Gremillion told commissioners Tuesday the new law means the county cannot add extra rules to the ones the state already has to regulate RV parks. "It does tie our hands," she said about the law.

The state regulations include that a park owner must provide water and sewer connections for each individual RV site.



Gothia

The county will still revise its RV rules and will conduct a public hearing on the rules August 8. The Record newspapers will give the proposed rules before the public hearing.

Before the meeting began, Precinct 3 Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte said the new Dishon RV park on East Roundbunch Road is in county jurisdiction outside the city limits of Bridge City. He said about 100 RV sites are planned for the land, which is across the road from Dishon Plantation, an upscale subdivision.

Commissioners Court approved a proclamation supporting the Texas Department of Transportation taking over the maintenance of East Roundbunch Road and make it part of FM 1442. Currently, East Roundbunch, which begins in the city of Bridge City at Texas Highway 87, is an extension of FM 1442, also known as West Roundbunch Road in Bridge City.

Commissioner Roccaforte said commissioners when they went to the state capital in Austin talked to state officials about officially making East Roundbunch part of FM 1442 for

COUNTY Page 3A

## Firecracker hot weather won't stop Fourth celebrations

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

The scorching temperatures across Orange County will continue through Tuesday, July Fourth next week, but it won't stop the festivities and traditional fireworks.

The city of Orange's Convention and Visitors Bureau is once again hosting a countywide event celebrating Independence Day. The festivities, including a grand finale fireworks show, will be at the Boat Ramp off Simmons Drive. The gates will open at 5 p.m. and kids activities will be provided.

The Drywall Band will play from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Riverside Pavilion. Then the professional fireworks show will start at 9 p.m. along the Sabine River.

People will be allowed to bring coolers to the event, but no pets will be allowed. Attendees should bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

For those thinking it's too hot to barbecue outside, the city has lined up a number of food vendors, including Carnival Sneaux shaved ice, Benetris Edwards Cajunxion, Rudy Ka-Bobs, Home Plate Bobby's, Mice Ice, Got Them Dogs, C'est Bon Snack Shack, and Terrell's Ice Cream.

As everyone celebrates Independence Day for the United States, all public offices for federal, state, county, and city entities will be closed except for emergency services. Many local businesses will also close for the holiday, which is a federal bank holiday, too.

## Amateur Radio Club makes contacts home and abroad

DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

The Orange Amateur Radio Club conducted another success field day on Saturday and Sunday, June 24-25, at the American Red Cross building in Orange. The local amateur radio operators made numerous contacts with other members of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) from around the nation.

The ARRL Field Day is conducted annually the fourth weekend in June. Thousands of radio amateurs gather with their clubs or groups in the United States and Canada to make radio contacts with fellow radio operators.

This annual event is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate that amateur radio might serve the community in case of an emergency. The ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of the radio operators annual calendar.

Four radios were setup at the American Red Cross in Orange. Nine members of the Orange Amateur Radio Club used the radios to make over eight hundred contacts with other locations in the North American continent.

The youngest radio operator in Orange is Eli Holloway who is 12 years old. Eli's father Mike Holloway is also an amateur radio operator and was the inspiration for Eli to take up the hobby.

Eli responded, "I always wanted to do something that isn't a video game or binge watching stupid TV. It's something fun, it's relatively easy, and there's a whole bunch of different stuff you can do with it, a whole bunch of different ways you can go."

Eli and Mike made several contacts during the Field Day. "Eli has his own station in his bedroom that he can operate separate from mine. Additionally, the station we're operating on today (Saturday, June 24) is my emergency go kit that either one of us can operate on the fly," Mike described.



Karen DeLeon and Mike Manshack are members of the Orange Amateur Radio Club who participated in the ARRL Field on Saturday, June 24. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine



Eli Holloway is a 12-year old amateur radio operator who took part of the ARRL Field Day with the Orange Amateur Radio Club RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Longtime amateur radio operator Bill Crawley greeted visitors to the American Red Cross facility to show them the radio equipment and explain how the instruments operate. Crawley shared with those novices that stopped by the enjoyment of amateur radio and answered their questions concerning getting started in amateur radio.

One of the four radios used on the Field Day actually communicated with outside stations using morse code. One of the radios used very high frequency for close contacts within a 50-mile radius and two more radios were setup to communicate worldwide or basically across the country during

the field day. The number of contacts vary every year on the Field Day. Crawley explained, "It really depends on what the radio propagation is. Radio propagation changes during the day and into the night even late at night. The areas of where you can make contacts change and also radio frequencies change

AMATEUR Page 5A

## BCISD names new administrators

STAFF REPORT  
For The Record

The Bridge City school district has named Dr. Tara Fountain as the new assistant superintendent and is promoting high school principal Tim Woolley to become the district's chief financial officer.

In addition, Jason Yeaman will be the new principal for Bridge City Elementary.

Dr. Fountain will be replacing Gina Mannino, who

retired at the end of this past school year. Fountain has a total of 25 years in education with a total of 19 years with the Bridge City ISD.

She has a doctorate degree in education leadership from Lamar University in addition to bachelor's and master's degrees. In addition, she has a certification as a school superintendent.

After beginning her career with the West Orange-Cove CISD, she then

moved to Bridge City, where she has served in leadership positions. Those include two years as principal of Hatton Elementary, 13 years as principal of Bridge City Intermediate School, and four years as the district's director of curriculum.

She and her husband, Tip, have two daughters, both graduates of Bridge City High School. Daughter Taylor is studying for a doctorate in pharmacy, and Taylor is studying educa-

tion. Tim Woolley is a 2000 graduate of Bridge City High and has 19 years in education. He has served as principal of the high school for the past five years. His parents, Tom and Sharon Woolley, were longtime educators for BCISD.

Tim Woolley began his career in education at Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School as a teacher and coach before moving to

BCISD Page 5A

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# Malaria case in Texas among the first in U.S. since 2003

Ashley Westerman  
Reporter for NPR

Five cases of the mosquito-borne infection malaria have been detected in the United States in the past two months, marking the first local spread in the country in 20 years.

Four of the cases were found in Florida, while the fifth was logged in Texas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The cases are believed to be locally acquired, a statement from the organization read, though the developments pose a concern for a potential rise in imported malaria cases with increased international summer travel.

Malaria, which is mostly found in tropical countries, can be life-threatening but is preventable and curable. The World Health Organization says in 2021 there were an estimated



This 2014 photo made available by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows a feeding female *Anopheles gambiae* mosquito. The species is a known vector for the parasitic disease malaria.

247 million cases of malaria worldwide. Of those cases, an estimated 619,000 people died from the disease.

And it could get worse around the world, according to a scientific study published by The Lancet in 2021, which found that climate change will increase the suitability for

both malaria and dengue, another mosquito-borne illness.

“Rising global mean temperature will increase the climatic suitability of both diseases particularly in already endemic areas,” according to the study’s authors. “The predicted expansion toward higher altitudes and temperature

regions suggests that outbreaks can occur in areas where people might be immunologically naive and public health systems unprepared.”

Mild symptoms of malaria include fever, chills and headaches, according to WHO, while severe symptoms can include difficulty breathing, fatigue, confusion and even seizures. However, it is preventable with medicine and taking measures to not get bit by mosquitoes carrying the organism.

The CDC said all of the recent cases in the U.S. have received treatment, “and are improving.”

About 2,000 cases of malaria are logged in the U.S. each year, according to the agency. The last time mosquito-borne malaria occurred in the U.S. was in 2008, when eight cases were identified in Palm Beach County, Fla.

## GUN LAWS

Sen. Carl Parker  
For The Record



Former State Senator  
Carl Parker

Next to California Texas leads the nation in gun ownership as well as deaths by guns. Obviously, we have a large number of gun ownership advocates. However, I have yet to meet a gun advocate who opposes keeping guns secure and away from children or criminals. I also find no one who wants to allow mentally challenged people or known violent criminals to own guns. My question for the day is that if even the strongest gun advocate favors laws to enforce these particular things, why haven’t our elected representatives put such restrictions into our laws? It seems to me it would be a good ques-

tion to ask our elected representatives.

tion to ask our elected representatives.

### First Saturday giveaways this weekend

First Saturday will be giving away school supplies for July! Please see us on the 1st of July from 10:00 am until 12 noon at the blue canopy will be in the parking lot of First Baptist Church of Bridge City, 200 W Roundbunch Rd. in Bridge City. The basics of supplies such as pencils, paper, erasers, Crayolas and markers will be in bags ready to hand out.

## BCISD new administrators From Page 1



Tim Woolley is a 2000 graduate of Bridge City High and has 19 years in education. He has served as principal of the high school for the past five years. Wolley is seen above with his family.

Bridge City Elementary after working since 2018 as a junior high principal for LC-m. He has also been middle school principal at Vidor, assistant high school principal at LC-M, and assistant principal at Orangefield Junior High. he has a bachelor’s of science degree and a master’s in education degree from Lamar University. In addition, he received a superintendent’s certification from Lamar in 2021.

In 2018, he was named secondary school principal of the year for Texas education Region V.

Atascocita High School, where he worked for seven years. Then he returned to LC-M as an assistant principal. He was hired as Bridge City High principal in 2018.

Two years ago, he was named the Texas Education Region V outstanding principal of the year. he has a bachelor’s of science degree from Texas A&M, plus a master’s of education degree in school administration from Lamar University. He holds mem-

berships in the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals, Texas Association of School Administrators, and Leadership Southeast Texas.

Woolley and his wife, Sally, who is librarian at Bridge City Middle School, have four children. Addison will be graduating next year from the high school. Carter and Callie will be graduation in 2033, and Reid will be in the class of 2034.

Yeaman is coming to

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## The Record Newspapers

### of Orange County, Texas

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

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## County business From Page 1

state maintenance. That would include the old swing bridge, which the county has had to maintain.

“This (proclamation) doesn’t mean it’s going to happen, but it’s the first step to make it happen,” said County Judge John Gothia about the road request.

The swing bridge, which is older than 70 years, often has mechanical problems. It was closed for maintenance on Monday and Tuesday, right as new traffic lights and traffic patterns were going into effect on Texas 87 and FM 1006, known as Chemical Row.

Hundreds of plant workers use East Roundbunch Road to go to the chemical plants on FM 1006. In addition, the bridge will need to be opened more often in the future as Chevron Phillips brings in barges carry pre-fabricated pieces of the new \$8.5 billion Golden Triangle Polymers Plant. That plant will be on 2,000 acres between Texas 87 and FM 1006 at FM 105.

As Orange County continues on its economic boom, Commissioners Court gave the final approval to the first phase of the new Orange Gardens subdivision being built off FM 105 by Texas Highway 62.

County Engineer Oldbury said all the rules and payments for the final plat has been approved and construction will be able to start on the 75 houses planned in the first phase. The subdivision is in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city of Orange, and city boards and officials had to also approve the plans.

The subdivision will have water and sewer service provided by the Orange-field Water Supply Company. The houses will be in the Bridge City school district.

Commissioners Court approved requesting \$47,664 to help finish Bluebird Park and boat ramp off Simmons Drive in Orange. The county-owned park is

along Little Cypress Bayou with straight access to the Sabine River.

Commissioners had allocated some of the money from the Chevron Phillips plant permit fees to be spent on a park in each of the four precincts. Bluebird is in Precinct 1 and Commissioner Johnny Trahan said the county’s budget had run short.

The grant money from SRA, if approved, will help finish the wooden dock and concrete sidewalk, plus elevate the pavilion and the picnic area.

Commissioners voted to seek new bids for a new walking trail at Raymond Gould Park in Vidor. Precinct 4 Commissioner Robert Viator earlier reported bids were too high.

On Tuesday, he said the precinct’s road and bridge workers will renovate the restrooms at the park. New bids will come soon for the walking trail.

The county had good news about one possible new state law. The Texas Senate had voted to outlaw voting centers right after Orange County worked years to implement the voting centers system.

Voting centers allow any registered county voter to go to any voting box on election day instead of the assigned neighborhood box, which may frequently change. The county had its first successful voting center election in May for cities and school boards.

Even with the elimination of the centers passing the state senate, the Texas House of Representatives did not vote on it and it died during the session.

So Orange County will be buying 12 more voter kiosks from Votec Corporation, the only company that manufactures them. The Texas secretary of state’s office will help buy the voting machines, which produce a paper ballot for each voter to proofread and then deposit in a locked box.

## Orange charter changes eyed

**MARGARET TOAL**  
For The Record

The Orange City Council Tuesday reviewed possible city charge changes Tuesday, but voters must approve any changes.

One of the biggest changes will be the requirement that all people who hold public office or candidates for office must not be indebted to the city because of back taxes, fines, or other charges.

City Attorney Guy Goodson said the charter provision is unenforceable.

Another proposed big change would be requirements for city ordinances to become official. In the current charter, every ordinance must go through two separate votes by the council. Under the proposal, ordinances would require only one reading.

The city charter now holds the city and council borrowing money through bond sales to have a 20-year limit to pay back the bonds. The state constitution allows for longer periods of bonded indebtedness. Goodson suggested the city follow the state rules.

Voters approved the current city char-

ter in 1960. Charter change elections were later held in 1986, 1997, 2005, and 2010. The 2010 charter change added two seats to the city council and set up four single-member districts.

The council Tuesday also voted on first reading an ordinance regulating the placement of electric charging stations for vehicles, accessory transportation, and hybrid vehicles.

Private homeowners will be allowed to have their own charging station. Public charging stations will be limited to various commercial and industrial areas, plus high-density residences like apartment complexes, town homes, and condominiums.

In other business, the council approved an economic development corporation grant of up to \$150,000 for the new Cove Marina and Storage at 1804 Mississippi Street. The project is estimated to cost \$383,000.

Also, the council approved an agreement with the Stark Foundation to use Stark Park on Green Avenue for the December 2 Gumdrop Shop event sponsored by the city.

## First Saturday giveaways offers school supplies at FBC July 1

First Saturday will be giving away school supplies for July! We are getting ready early because school will be starting soon. Please see us on the 1st of July from 10:00 am until 12 noon at the blue canopy will be in the parking lot of First Baptist Church of Bridge City, 200 W Roundbunch Rd. in Bridge City. The basics of supplies such as pencils, paper, erasers, Crayolas and markers will be in bags ready to hand out. Supplies will be for all grades. Over a hundred bags are being prepared. As always, prayer will be offered as well as Bibles and helpful brochures.



### July 4th - Independence Day

#### Where in the World is America?

Where is America? I know looking at a map of the world exactly where it is. I know in my heart exactly where America is. Yet the question comes to mind-- where in the world is America?

America has changed so much since my childhood and most of my adult years. If we the people want our country to be as most adults remember and love it and all it stands for, we must demand our government support and abide by the Constitution. The government works for the people, not reverse.

Government control will destroy all that we love, which includes our freedom! Our present government is putting us so far in debt, will we ever get out?

WHERE HAS AMERICA GONE? America is here-- in our hearts. America will survive. We have strength to survive and love in our hearts for what our country stands for. With God's help and blessing we will survive. May we never forget what our country stands for and how it was formed by our wonderful forefathers.

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## From the Creaux's Nest

### TEXAS MONTHLY "BEST AND WORST LEGISLATORS"

The new ratings are in this month's issue. Our own senator **Robert Nichols**, is listed in the **Best** column. T.M. says "There are no Republican mavericks in **Dan Patrick's** senate, but until a real iconoclast shows up, **Robert Nichols** will do." **Nichols**, represents largely rural **East Texas** from his perch at **Jacksonville**, where few private schools exist. He has long opposed creating vouchers, which siphons money away from public schools. **Patrick** has long supported creating them. **Nichols** also is one of few **Republican legislators** to support a rape exception to the state's abortion ban. Also raising the legal age for purchasing certain semi-automatic weapons to 21, a minority stand that **stands for real courage**. Somehow **Nichols** has maintained a relationship with **Patrick** and has gotten several bills passed. Perhaps the senator's greatness accomplishment is duplicating what another area senator, **Carl Parker**, was able to accomplish many years ago, bringing **Lamar Orange** and **Lamar Port Arthur** into the Texas state system. This session, **Nichols** accomplished making **Stephen F. Austin State University** into the **University of Texas** system. Membership in the U.T. system will provide this **East Texas** institution with a much needed infusion of money and energy. **S.F.A.** at **Nacogdoches** celebrates its centenary this year. **Robert Nichols** is not only one of **Texas Monthly's Best**, he is without a doubt **East Texas'** most popular **Republican**.

#### GOV. GREG ABBOTT'S BIG BET

**Abbott** bet big on school vouchers; and easy sell in the Senate, but not the House. **Abbott** attempted to exert pressure on rural **Republican** representatives by holding rallies at private Christian schools across the state. He misjudged how political power in the **House** works. The regular session ended in defeat for many of **Abbott's** priorities, especially the voucher proposal. **Texas Monthly** says the bright lights of **Right Wing** television such as **Fox and Friends**, **Hannidy**, etc, gave him unconditional love. He has long been overshadowed nationally for **Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis**.

#### MATTHEW McDADE PHELAN TEXAS SPEAKER

In January, 2015, when **Abbott** and **Patrick** were sworn into their current post, freshman **Dade Phelan**, of **Beaumont**, was just arriving in **Austin**. Six-years later, he ascended to **Speaker of the Texas House**, an astonishing rise but it wasn't until this year that **Phelan** stepped into his power. He faced pressure from **Abbott**, **Patrick** and the **State Republican Party** officials, each pulling him in different directions. **Phelan** seemed to be losing control but the opening brought a series of extraordinary developments and reversals. **Phelan** boldly and quietly empowered the **House** to investigate **Ken Paxton**, the indicted **Attorney General**, who is awaiting a trial in the senate. **Patrick** and **Abbott** began sparring, relieving pressure from the **House**, while **Phelan's** other enemies scrambled to react to the **Paxton** inquiry. The **Speaker** emerged stronger. Left to be settled is whose property tax bill, between **Abbott**, **Patrick** and **Phelan**, will become law. **Abbott's** special session came to a close Tuesday. Constituents in **Orange County** are better represented right now than in years past.

#### TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2013

It just hasn't been the same here on **Henrietta** for the last few weeks without our buddy **Don Harmon** around. **Don** has been away battling cancer. His strength is slow coming back. He was always the **first one at work** at the car lot. Every morning you could count on **Don** sweeping the outside entrance carpet and walking the grounds picking up any trash and all cigarette butts. He would then come in and ask, "Is my education holding me back?" No one loved his line of work any more than **Don**, who has been in the **car business over 60 years**. (**Don** passed away Dec. 2, 2004.) \*\*\*\*\*Our friend **Lester "Buckshot" Winfree** died on this day in 2010. \*\*\*\*\*The old **Elliot Ness TV weekly series**, in the 1950's, was a favorite viewer choice. Then came the **Godfather shows**. As crime shows go, I don't believe they can ever be duplicated, but the **Soprano's**, that **ran on HBO from 1999 to 2007**, set record ratings. The acting was good and one guy was born to play the lead of the **mob boss Tony Soprano**. The part was played by actor **James Gandolfini**, 51, who died of a heart attack in Italy last week. **Tony Soprano** showed violent tendencies yet somehow was a **relatable family man** and appealed to a broad audience. For some reason Americans have love affair with crime shows. Despite **Tony Soprano** being a crime boss, **Gandolfini** played the part so well the audience always pulled for him. The world lost a great actor at a young age. \*\*\*\*\*It probably went unnoticed to most people but not to me and **Neigh-**

**bor Cox**. Last week, at ago 90, **Slim Whitman** died. Who was he you ask? **Slim** was a **country pop singer** in the early 1950's. He was a regular on "The Louisiana Hayride." His first hit was "Indian Love Call." In the 1970's and 80's, his career was revived by telemarketing campaign that blanketed country's local TV stations with his "All My Best" hits collection. No one sang like **Slim Whitman**. \*\*\*\*\*One thing we can all agree on is that the **United States Congress** is doing absolutely nothing to help the economy, especially jobs. Their argument is to give more **tax breaks** to the top one percent. I believe a **jobs bill** and an **immigration bill** will do more to help the economy than anything. \*\*\*\*\*The **Republican controlled Supreme Court** struck down key parts of the **1965 Voting Rights Act**, opening the door for voter suppression. Look for **Texas** to go to **photo identification** by next election.

#### 17 Years Ago-2006

**Jessie Domingue**, anxious to see his home on **Gilmer Street**, in **Bridge City**, after **Hurricane Rita**, let a film crew from the **Weather Channel** tag along. Last week, a 30 minute show "Hurricane Rita" aired on the network and featured **Jessie and his neighbor, Arthur Connor**. "Storm Stories" series is narrated by **Jim Cantore**. \*\*\*\*\*Last week, in the aftermath of **Hurricane Rita**, **Bridge City Bank** officially returned to its main facilities. The bank had been conducting business in portable buildings until the renovations were completed. \*\*\*\*\*An **Orange County soldier**, 30-year-old **Benjamin Dwayne Williams**, was killed in Iraq. He was on his third tour of duty. The **Marine Staff Sergeant** was a career soldier. He is the second **former LCM student** killed; **Lance Corporal Shane Goldman** was killed in 2004. \*\*\*\*\*Three former **Bridge City High students** received degrees from **Texas A&M**. They are **Freeman Michael Peart, Jeffrey Ryan Lack** and **Katie Elise Hoffpauir**. \*\*\*\*\***Barbara Mulhollan, Roy McDonald, Doris Norwood** and **Nancy Dupuis** celebrate birthdays.

#### 47 Years Ago-1976

In a few days, the United States will celebrate its **200th birthday**. On June 31, 7 p.m., the **Bridge City Bi-Centennial** beard contest will be held next to **Bridge City Bank**, on **Texas Avenue**. \*\*\*\*\***Sak-N-Pack** opens a new convenience store at 1510 **Texas Avenue**. \*\*\*\*\*A two-day community wide picnic in the park will be held Saturday, July 3, and Sunday July 4, at **Adams Bayou Park**, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wear your **Bi-centennial outfits**. Over 30 booths and displays, live radio, free games will be on the grounds. Sunday will be **Edgar Brown Jr., Memorial Day**, with plenty of live entertainment and fireworks show. Everything is free, presented by **Sabine Area Bi-Centennial Commission**. **Roy** and **Crystal Wingate** are co-chairmen. \*\*\*\*\*A **USA softball game** was held between **Carl Parker, incoming Texas senator** and a team put up by **Roy Dunn**, made of **members of the media**, with **H.D. Pate** thrown in. **Richard Cordor** is umpire. All proceeds, plus a donation from the losing team, will go to the **Bridge City/Orangefield Community Center fund**. \*\*\*\*\***Ann** and **Jimmy Segura** took a flying trip to North Carolina to visit son **Tommy and wife, Becky**. They are stationed at **Polk Air Force base**. \*\*\*\*\***Mark Dunn** writes a feature story on **G.G. Shinn** and the **TSC Trucking Company**, made up of **Kenny Babb, Gerry Mouton, Rat Brown** and **Oran Guidry**.

#### A FEW HAPPENINGS

The new **Golden Triangle Polymers** plant by **Chevron Phillips** knows how to pack 'em in at the **Orange County Expo Center**. Vehicles were parked along the highway Saturday as **job-seekers waited in line** to get in to find out job opportunities for contractors at the construction site, along with permanent jobs once the plant opens. **Texas Workforce Solutions** is helping and more than **600 people** attended the first job expo. The company will be having another **expo for vendors and contractors** next month. The economic boom is beginning on the big project for which many locals have prayed for a half of century. **Traffic is already congested** around the plant site on **Highway 87** as the company is doing highway adjustments to **accommodate the heavy haul trucks** that will be coming into the site. **RV parks for construction workers** are starting to pop up across the county and affordable apartments are getting hard to find. \*\*\*\*\*As the heat wave continues, people are taking to the water to cool off. **Orange County Commissioner Johnny Trahan and wife, Becky**, took off for a weekend in **New Braunfels** and went **river tubing** They got back in the OC to watch the **LSU baseball team** win the **National championship**. Of course he had to brag about the **Tigers** at Tuesday's commissioners court meeting. **Commissioner Robert Viator**, though, got him with a zinger. \*\*\*\*\***Brandi Griggs, Justin Rieson, Cindi Gipson**, plus **Chris and Chasity Lampman** went boating on the Sabine. This time, **Brandi** didn't get a flat tire while wearing a bikini. \*\*\*\*\***Janois Grizzaffi** along with **Bobbie Weldon, Terri Buchanan, Shannon Halliburton, Renae Andreu, Rhonda Ritter-Fenton, Terri Childs**, and **Jacki Tate** got some beach time at **Bolivar**. \*\*\*\*\***Drs. Clay and Amber Greeson** recently spent two week in **Hawaii** with their three sons, **Luke, Lian** and **Rowan**. It took two days to get home due to plane delays. \*\*\*\*\***Patty** and **Pat Cook**, though, had the most cool water trip as far as temperature and adventure. They are on an **extended road trip** for their **50th anniversary** and on the **West Coast**, took a tour boat to see whales, which had been on **Patty's bucket list**. They traveled down the coast to **San Francisco** and saw the giant redwoods. And to make all their **South-east Texas friends jealous**, they have had to wear sweaters or jackets. \*\*\*\*\*Speaking of anniversaries, **Ron and Sue Cowling** had their **60th** one this past week. **Hammon** and **Glenda Thompson** celebrated **No. 44**, while **Randy** and **Paula Ragsdale** marked **36**. **Taylor** and **Jonathan Friend** had their **tenth**, while **Brandon** and artist **Lauren Leigh Stanley** are now married for **eight years**. He doesn't mind the paint stuck to her. She's one of **Southeast Texas' leading mural painters**. She's also painted a lot of the decorative oranges in front of businesses. \*\*\*\*\*Birthdays this past week included **County Clerk Brandy Robertson**

turning 47. **Hubs Roderick Robertson**, who serves as a **WO-C school board member**, took her out for seafood. They went all the way to **Destin, Florida**. \*\*\*\*\*Another couple getting away to the water. **Kathy Marsh**, wife of longtime friend **Dwayne Marsh**, turned 60. \*\*\*\*\*Little blonde **Indie Jaymes** turned 3. She may be the only person in the world who can give some sass to **Donna Dorman Scales**. **Indie** is **Donna's granddaughter** and the namesake of her uncle, **James Scales**, who holds so many civic titles it's hard to name them. \*\*\*\*\***Faith Moore**, daughter of **Chester** and **Lisa Moore**, turned another year older. Besides being an animal expert alongside her father, she's also a big wrestling fan. Her great-grandmother is the late **Ruby Pickard**. \*\*\*\*\*Also celebrating this week were **Patricia Hebert** and **Terry Sonnier**. \*\*\*\*\*Haven't set eyes on **Keith Wallace** in a couple of years, however, I hear that like so many businesses today, **Keith** is having a hard time finding enough help at his **Reliable Cleaners** in **Orange, Bridge City** and **Vidor**. He has full and part-time job openings. He and his wife are great folks to work for. \*\*\*\*\***The Lunch Bunch** gathers every **Wednesday, 12 noon**, at **Robert's Restaurant**, a great place to congregate.

#### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Celebrating birthdays this week are the following. **June 28: Kelly Kimbrough, Kathy LeBlanc, Karen Tomlin, Kourtney Derouen, Tina Bernard**, and **Connie Berry**. \*\*\*\*\***June 29: Ann Lieby, Wayne Rice, Jana Fisette, Cobey Sonnier Rebecca Griffin, David Sandlin**. \*\*\*\*\***June 30: Chris Huebel, Angela Schram, Beverly Haggard, Roy McDonald, Sonya Jarreau, Deanna Shuford** and **Betty Derrick**. \*\*\*\*\***July 1: Shirley Dougher, Marcy Strahan, Wendy Young, Charlie Learned, Dian Arnold** and **Jeff Eby**. \*\*\*\*\***July 2: Marla LeMoine, Kristy Davis, Sonja Cooper, Lisa Wilson, Maria Garcia, Brennon Mitchell** and **Nancy Dupuis**. \*\*\*\*\***July 3: Cyndee Fleetwood, Dean Crooks, Jean Scott** turns 90, **Jeanne Donahey** and **Ellen Ray**. \*\*\*\*\***July 4: Kathie Wilson, Katy Maloney** and **Kellie Derouen**. Happy Birthday to all. (To publish birthday or anniversary announcements free of charge email [therecordlive.com](mailto:therecordlive.com) or call 409-886-7183.)

#### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

One day **Clovis Comeaux** and **Sostan Thibodeaux** went to a job interview, da boss came out of his office and gave dem a test. It took bout two hours to finish dat test.

The boss pick dem test up and graded dem. Wen he finish, he came back out of his office and said, "Ya'll bot did very well and pass da test. In fact, ya'll scored da same grade. Den he tol **Comeaux** he got da job.

All of a sudden **Thibodeaux** jump up and said, "Well wait, if we bot scored da same grade, din why does **Comeaux** get da job?"

Da boss said, "Well because of your answers, for example, on number 25, **Comeaux** wrote, "I don't know," and you wrote, "Me either."

#### C'EST TOUT LSU 2023 WORLD SERIES CHAMPS

**LSU** on Monday night prevailed over **Florida** in the deciding Game 3 of the **Men's College World Series finals 18-4** and with the win claimed the **Division I national championship** for 2023. **LSU's** dominating performance, in which they pounded out 23 hits, came one night after the **Tigers themselves were dominated 24-4** in Game 2. It's **LSU's seventh national title** in baseball. From their **19 College World Series appearances**, **LSU** has now emerged with **seven national championships**. In addition to 2023 under second-year head coach **Jay Johnson**, the **Tigers** also won both belt and title in **2009, 2000, 1997, 1996, 1993**, and **1991**. Prior to Monday night's outcome, **LSU** had been tied with **Texas** with six titles. Now **only Southern Cal has more championships** with 12. The **Trojans**, however, haven't won it all since 1998. Helping keep them from eight titles, coincidentally, is **Florida**. Back in 2017, they bested **LSU** in the **MCWS finals** for their one and only **national championship**. **Florida's 24-4** win in Game 2 was the biggest beat down in **MCWS finals history** and the **second-largest win** in any **MCWS game**. When **LSU** responded with an 18-4 butt-kicking of **Florida** in the clincher, it went against trends, only the **fourth time in the past 11 MCWS** that a team lost Game 2 of the finals but came back to win the title in Game 3. **No team had scored more than six runs** in a game in this year's **MCWS** before Game 2 of the title series. No team had ever scored **18 or more runs in an MCWS game** at The Chuck, and then it happened in consecutive days, **by opposing teams**. The **Tigers won it all on Monday** and set one last record in the process. Their **24 hits** were the most cracked off the bats of any team to participate in a **Men's College World Series game**, 592 squads of baseball players from 1947 through Monday night.

#### LSU's Dylan Crews wins Golden Spikes Award

**LSU center fielder Dylan Crews**, projected to be the **No. 1 pick in the amateur draft** next month, on Sunday was honored as the **winner of the Golden Spikes Award** as the top amateur baseball player in the country. **Crews, the Southeastern Conference Player of the Year** for the second straight season, led the **Tigers to the Men's College World Series finals** and is among the national leaders in most offensive categories. "Dylan Crews has been one of the **nation's best college baseball players** since he arrived at **LSU** in 2021," **USA Baseball executive director and CEO Paul Seiler** said. "His extraordinary 2023 season, in addition to his generous charitable work off the baseball field, make him an extremely **worthy winner of this award**." \*\*\*\*\*My time is up. We wish you and yours a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Take care, be safe and **God bless America**.



## Deaths & Memorials

### Maydel "MeMe" Sheppard, 79

Maydel "MeMe" Sheppard, 79, of Orange, Texas, passed away on June 24, 2023, in Orange.

A memorial gathering will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 2, 2023, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. The family asks that you bring your favorite recipes to swap with other guests.

Born in Washington, Louisiana, on May 30, 1944, she was the daughter of Eillard Landreneau and Lena (Richard) Landreneau. Maydel was employed as a baker at Orangefield Independent School District for over 20 years. She was always helping underprivileged kids at her school by secretly giving extra food to those in need. Maydel was known to be an amazing cook and skilled in crochet. She used to make all of her daughters' clothing by hand. Maydel had a love for shopping and was a collector of many things. Her loved ones will treasure their memories of her, and she will be missed by all who knew her.

She is preceded in death by her parents,



Maydel Sheppard

Eillard and Lena Landreneau; first husband, Lloyd Fontenot; husband, Windel Sheppard, Sr.; and siblings, Jessie, Elizabeth, Hester, Helen, Judy, and Bernice.

She is survived by her sons, Danny Fontenot of Port Acres and Windel Sheppard, Jr. and wife, Shanna of Klondike, Louisiana; daughters, Rena Louvier of Port Acres and Susan Sheppard and husband, Sonny of Orangefield; grandchildren, Devan Fontenot, Katelyn Vicars, Ricky Herring, Rachel Melancon, Savannah Trahan, McKenzie Sheppard, Alexander Sheppard, and Christopher Sheppard; three great-grandchildren, and one on the way; and numerous other loving family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family of Maydel asks to pay off students' lunch debt at a local school of your choosing.

The family would also like to extend a special thank you to Maydel's great niece and nephew, Jamie and Robert Smith, for their wonderful care.

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



Amateur radio operator Andrew Hopkins hooked his computer to his radio and used morse code to send messages during the ARRL Field Day. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

### Amateur Radio Club From Page 1

with the sunlight and the change in the atmosphere."

A relatively new innovation in amateur radio is using computers with the radio. "Radio is fun, and then computers are fun, but when you combine the two it makes a powerhouse. You can do a whole lot of fun things when you combine the two together," Andrew Hopkins exclaimed.

Hopkins has been an amateur radio operator for about seven years, and the radio hooked up by Hopkins used morse code to send messages.

Hopkins said using morse code has its advantages because you can hear signals that are lower powered and is more reliable in a noisy environment.

Contacts made by the Orange Amateur Radio Club officially began at 1:00 PM on Saturday. In just the first two hours 113 other radio clubs from 26 states were contacted by the club in Orange.

The Field Day concluded at 1:00 PM on Sunday with 836 contacts made with operators from every state, six Canadian provinces, and Puerto Rico.

### Free men's health screenings on Saturday

The Julie Rogers Gift of Life program will be giving free health screenings for men this Saturday, June 10, at the campus of the former Baptist hospital on Strickland Drive.

Appointments are necessary for the screenings, which will include a PSA for

prostate cancer, along with testing of blood pressure, cholesterol, hepatitis C, and blood glucose. A physician will be on-site for a consultation.

Appointments may be made through [giftoflifebmt.org](http://giftoflifebmt.org), or by calling 409-833-3663.

### BC Library hosts widows support group

The Bridge City Public Library will continue its Widows/Widowers group after the success of its opening meeting. The group's purpose is to provide an opportunity for those who often lead lonely lives after the death of a spouse to have an outlet to share with others in the same situation. It is not a dating group but a place to gather, share with others and to play games as entertainment. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

We do require participants to call the library the Monday before the Friday of the meeting so that we can know how many to plan for.

Planned meetings will be from 10 am to noon on the following Fridays, May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16 and July 7 and July 21. If you have any questions, call the library at 409-735-4242. We look forward to getting to know you.

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THEME: BIOLOGY 101

#### ACROSS

- \*Lactuca sativa dish
- Banned insecticide
- Doorframe part
- \*Group of #3 Down
- Top seed number
- \*Blood \_\_\_\_\_, diabetic's concern
- \*Food poison causing bacterium
- Galley tool
- Sushi restaurant staple
- \*Giant sequoia, e.g.
- \*Measure of energy
- Auction call
- Animal coat
- Tolstoy's first name, in Russian
- \*Plural of cecum
- \*Fastest growing woody plant
- Footnote acronym
- Mosquito net, e.g.
- Attention-seeking
- Skier's aid
- Certain saxes
- Sheltered, nautically speaking

- Wive's mother, e.g.
- "\_\_\_\_\_ we forget"
- Christian of haute-couture
- Based on two Colorado's neighbor
- European Nuclear Society
- Beauty salon sound
- Official language of Laos
- \*Dissolving agent
- \*C6H12O6
- \*Relating to trunk, neck and head
- Lamb's momma
- With clear mind
- Itty-bitty
- The Weather Girls' "It's Raining \_\_\_\_\_"
- Fill with spirits
- Ceases
- Get the picture
- Ascended

#### DOWN

- Design detail
- Big name in gasoline stations
- \*Genus Panthera member
- Improvise
- Godlike
- Point of entry
- \*Genetic information carrier, acr.
- 9 a.m. prayer
- Saturn's daughter, Roman goddess
- \*Petri dish gel
- The Wise Men
- French appetizer
- Scheherazade's listener
- Swelling of human organs
- Priestly garb
- Book cover prototype
- \*Fatty acids
- Piano key material
- Pancho of Mexican Revolution fame
- \*Basic unit of life
- Fermented honey libation
- Misrepresentation
- Theater, to Socrates
- Deed hearings
- "Wanted!" operation
- \*Parasite's ride
- Stable room
- Sagely
- Major news network, acr.
- Cargo carrier
- Agenda entries
- Round openings
- Fill to satisfaction
- Ox, pl.
- What Pinocchio did
- Popular walking shoe brand
- \*Basic unit of heredity
- South American tubers
- Web location
- Paradise garden
- Like Willie Winkie

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# WOS Mustangs advance to top in 7-on-7



The West Orange-Stark Mustangs for the 7-on-7 competition  
**FRONT:** #7 Taydren Perrault and #1 Marcus Turner **SEATED:** #18 Jamorion Davis; #8 Jalen Gilmore; #3 Amyrian Scott; #4 Andrew Cooper; #5 Nicholas Crosson; #2 Chris Jones; #11 Jamarr O'Neal; #19 Ja'Mikael Davis **STANDING:** #6 William Pitre; #14 Ricky St. Julien; #9 Jacob Higginbotham; #20 Elliott Adams; #17 Ja'Veon Rubin; #10 Michael Turner; #16 Arthur Hayes Jr.; #15 Khelvy Jefferson; #13 Ja'Cuincy Walker **NOT PICTURED:** #12 Tahj Amerson **COACHES:** Kevin Knolley and Eric Williams  
**RECORD PHOTO:** Dan Perrine.

The 32 teams in Division II including the Mustangs, the Tigers, the Bulldogs, and the Longhorns were divided into eight pools where the four teams in each pool played the other three teams of their group in a round robin format.

The Mustangs got off to a good start defeating the Sulphur Springs Wildcats

13-7 in their opening game. West Orange-Stark stumbled 19-12 in its second game on Thursday to Lubbock Christian. The Mustangs bounced back and won a close one 20-19 over LaFeria to go 2-1 in the pool round.

The elimination round started early on Friday morning, and the Mus-

tangs may have still been rubbing the sleep from their eyes. West Orange-Stark fell behind the Dumas Demons 13-0 in the first half.

The comeback started with five minutes left as Taydren Perrault caught a long touchdown pass from quarterback Marcus Turner. Tahj Amerson

made a sensational catch and took it to the house for the tying Mustang score. West Orange-Stark won the contest 20-19 in overtime.

No time to rest on their laurels as the Mustangs' second game of the morning followed immediately

Dan Perrine  
 For The Record

West Orange-Stark was one of four local high schools that advanced to the championship rounds of the state University Interscholastic League 7-on-7 competition. West Orange Stark went 4-2 in its matches played on Thursday and Friday, June 22-23

at College Station. Joining West Orange-Stark in College Station were three of the Mustangs' district opponents in football. Silsbee, Jasper, and Hamshire-Fannett also advanced from the regional bracket played in early June.

The pool round was played on Thursday, June 22, in College Station.

## Chess Clubs to hold tourney in Orange



Jacoy O'Hara and Charles Dupuis enjoy the game of chess and are members of the Beaumont Chess Club which will be playing a tournament on July 15 at the First Presbyterian Church in Orange.  
**RECORD PHOTO:** Dan Perrine.

DAN PERRINE  
 For The Record

An historic location in the City of Orange will be the site on the third Saturday in July of a special confrontation featuring one of the oldest games played. The century old First Presbyterian Church in Orange will host a chess tournament on July 15 between the Beaumont Chess Club and the Casa De Ajedrez (Spanish for House of Chess) club from Sulphur, Louisiana.

The game of chess dates back over fourteen hundred years. Texts referring to the origins of chess date from the beginning of the seventh century, and the oldest known chess manual was in Arabic and dates to about 840 AD according to chess aficionados.

Modern day consensus regarding the origin of chess is in northwest India in the early seventh century. The game has changed some over the centuries but remains one of the most popular contests for people of either gender, any ethnicity, and for just about any age to learn and play.

The attraction of chess as an abstract strategy game is that it involves no hidden information and no elements of chance. The two opponents in

chess begin their game with identical pieces which they must maneuver on a board to capture their opponent's pieces.

The game is played on a chessboard with 64 squares arranged in an eight-by-eight grid. At the start each player controls sixteen pieces: one king; one queen; two rooks; two bishops; two knights; and eight pawns. White moves first, followed by Black. The game is won by checkmating the opponent's king which is achieved by threatening it with inescapable capture.

The Beaumont Chess Club and the Casa De Ajedrez have different histories. The club in Beaumont was started about thirty years ago while the club in Sulphur has been active about a year and a half.

An original participant in the Beaumont club is Will Chamberlain who first learned how to play chess in 1957 when he was about fifteen years old. "I kind of quit playing after 1960, and I really got back into the game in 1965 and since then I've played chess pretty steady," Chamberlain remembered.

Casa De Ajedrez was started by Andy Rivera

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# Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

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

# The Lakes

## • Toledo Bend Fishing Report

**SLOW.** Water stained; 81-85 degrees; 0.74 feet below pool. The water level is 171.27 with both generators running from 1:00-6:00 p.m. daily. Water temperature at the Dam is 83 degrees. North of the three-mile Pendleton bridge, temperatures have been running 81-85 degrees. Air temperature will be around 95 degrees this week, with the feel like temperatures reaching 109 degrees. Fishing has been very tough for the bluegill, bass and crappie. Bass are good on topwater frogs over vegetation early in the morning and after dark. Bass are being caught in 20-25 feet over brush piles and ledges. Texas and Carolina rigs have been producing in the outer swings of the creek bends. Best colors for a 10 inch worm are watermelon red, June bug red and Tilapia gold. The bass are a little selective right now over brush piles and you might catch one or two and the school will shut down. Just move on, find another spot, and catch one or two again. Keep moving, do not stay in one spot for too long. White bass are showing up in big schools in the main lake over humps and river channels, sometimes schooling on the surface south of the Pendleton bridge. White bass use a black/blue back ½ ounce rattletraps or a jigging spoon in ½ and ¾ ounce, and a medium diving crankbait. Stay hydrated, wear sunscreen and cover up. Just a reminder, the summer pattern brings quick developing showers, high winds, hail, and lightning. Watch your weather radar and if you hear lightning, 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 Shop.

## • Sam Rayburn Fishing Report

**GOOD.** Water stained; 83-85 degrees; 0.33 feet below pool. Bass are good with topwater in the pencil grass and

FISHING REPORT SAM RAYBURN Page 3B

## • Sabine Lake

**GOOD.** 82 degrees. Fishing slowed due to the west winds, heat wave and low tides. The bite should improve in the lake and the jetties as we head into the weekend.

The marsh is good for catches of redfish, flounder and trout along the intracoastal canal flats using a popping cork with live shrimp. Flounder are good on the Texaco Islands bulkheads and rock piles with plastics tipped with shrimp.

Neches River is full of bait and produces catches of redfish and bull redfish in 15 feet of water fishing silver and gold spoons off the bottom. Flounder, redfish and undersized trout are in the turnarounds live shrimp under a popping cork.

Shrimp still trickling out of marsh into Sabine Lake with some bird action to accompany.

Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.

## • Bolivar

**GOOD.** 80 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.** 86 degrees. Open bay rough and off colored. far northwest corner of the bay system is producing numbers of black drum and redfish on live shrimp. Speckled trout bite is slow overall, with a few fish coming from the northwest region of the bay. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

## • East Galveston Bay

**FAIR.** 87 degrees. Open bay water is off-colored due to southwest winds. Best catches coming from protected shorelines, few speckled trout and redfish on soft plastic and live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter.

Surface water temps 85 degrees, water clarity good in most places within East Galveston Bay. Winds have been out of the Southwest most of the week, in the 12-25 mph range, making it difficult to fish the open water reefs on most days. When the conditions allow, we have been catching solid trout and bull reds over reefs, making for some great fun. When the wind is up, we have been limited to fishing drains, grass lines, and protected shell beds. This week we have been throwing White Ice artificials, as well as shrimp imitation lures under popping corks, with both working well when we locate bait fish and shrimp in the area. Birds are still working in the



Redfishing is good on Sabine Lake and the surrounding Gulf Coast area as seen in this week's fishing reports. PHOTO: Bassmasters

bay, but this week they only produced small trout and plenty of gafftop when we found them. Please remember to drink plenty of water and bring plenty of sunscreen, as we have ventured into the time of year when it gets extremely hot on the water and it is critical you stay hydrated and do not get overheated or sunburned. 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 artificial 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.** 87 degrees. Speckled trout catches slow overall due to off colored water in the open bay. A few trout showing up along protected rock groins, along with good numbers of black drum and a few sheepshead, with the occasional redfish. Best bite on live

shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The piers on the island are on fire for redfish, sharks, and jack crevalle. Before the storm the surf was 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 crevalle mixed in being caught on spoons as well as bait. The causeway and Pelican Island Bridge are holding redfish. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

## • West Galveston Bay

**GOOD.** 88 degrees. Far west side of San Luis Pass producing scattered catches of speckled trout by those wading. Campbell's Bayou and Swan Lake few trout being caught on live shrimp, along with black

drum, and the occasional redfish. 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.

## • Houston

**FAIR.** Water stained; 85 degrees; 0.07 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.

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Advocating for the good of the Orange County community, Tommy is a former President of the Bridge City Independent School District school board and a past President of the Bridge City-Orangefield Rotary Club. He is also a former Director of the Orange Chamber of Commerce and serves as City Attorney for the City of Pinehurst since 1988. At present, Tommy is a former director and Chairman of the Board of Orange Savings Bank and First Financial Bank.



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# Chess Clubs come to Orange From Page 1

who was born in Puerto Rico and has been playing chess since he was very young. Rivera indicated, "My family and friends were and are still very involved in chess. Coming here I wanted to start a club to share with other people the feeling of joy and love that I had while playing chess with my friends and family in Puerto Rico."

The current director and CEO of the Beaumont Chess Club is Kirk Tribes who started playing chess when he was just about seven or eight years old. By the time Kirk was in junior high school he and his best friend played chess during lunch every day at school.

His chess club sponsor Brenda Tantzen at Vidor High School is who Tribes credits with really accentuating his interest in the game. Tribes praised, "She made me a lot better player because she was rated by the United State Chess Federation, and her assistance helped me win two tournaments back-to-back my junior and senior years."

Tribes ran the Lamar University Chess club while a student there prior to joining his current chess club about twenty years ago. "The Beaumont Chess Club has a lot of rich history to it. There's been many people that have come and gone through the years and the members have met at different places with the club." Tribes informed.

The chess clubs meet weekly for games with members and visitors alike. The Beaumont Chess Club gathers on Thursday evenings at the Food Court in Parkdale Mall and holds tournaments on the first Saturday of each month. Casa De Ajedrez meets at The Village Coffeehouse in downtown Sulphur on the first and third Saturday evenings each month. In addition the club meets at the Imperial Calcasieu Museum in Lake Charles on the second and fourth Saturdays to play chess and introduce the game to novices.

Most meetings draw twelve to fifteen people to play a game or two or three. A newcomer to one of the meetings will find five or six games going on, and visitors are always welcomed to sit down to

play a game with someone or to learn the game of chess from one of the helpful members.

New members and new players are introduced to chess at the clubs' meetings. Charles Dupuis has only been playing chess for a little over a year and has found a home with new friends at the Beaumont Chess Club.

The club previously met at Sertinos Cafe where Dupuis was a frequent customer, and he started playing chess there. Dupuis said, "I wanted something challenging, and none of what I was doing was working, so I decided to venture out on my own and try my hand at chess."

The members taught the game to Charles and he was hooked. "I like strategy games and I caught onto chess," Dupuis admitted. Charles has been appointed the Chief of Staff for Executive Affairs and is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs at the Beaumont Chess Club.

Checkers got boring so why Dacoy O'Hara switched to playing chess. O'Hara recounted that his grandfather persuaded him to try chess which ever since has become his game.

Dacoy has been playing about five years and is steadily improving. O'Hara replied, "I use chess now in my everyday life. I like the pawns, they can be sacrificed for something else and for the greater good. If you move them right you'll achieve success through strategy."

As Rivera pointed out chess can be a family affair one shared with all the members of the household. Michael Hunter is a member of Casa De Ajedrez as is his adult son Sloan who learned the game from his father.

Michael shared that when he was a young boy his family got him interested in chess, but they did not actually have a chessboard or chess pieces, so he improvised. He found a checkerboard which doubled as a chessboard, he used little toy soldiers for pawns, toy cowboys on horses were the knights, small toy cars were the rooks, and a small trophy he won represented the king.

Rivera teaches chess one on one with new players in his club. Another feature of Casa De Ajedrez is

Chess With a Purpose on Thursdays.

Every Thursday members go to a retirement home in Sulphur and play chess for about ninety minutes to get the residents involved. "We're always looking for opportunities to reach out through the game of chess," Rivera pointed out.

The game of chess has been popular in the medium of television. Most familiar may be the character Paladin in the series "Have Gun-Will Travel" whose memorable business card featured a chess knight in the middle of it and his holster stood out with an iconic white knight on the side.

A not as well-known television series "Checkmate" starring Sebastian Cabot and Doug McClure aired on CBS for two seasons. The opening and closing theme music for the show was composed by the renowned John Williams.

More recently Netflix ran the miniseries "The Queen's Gambit" based on the novel of the same name about a young orphan girl who reveals an astonishing talent for chess. Despite many personal problems including addiction she rises to the top of the chess world.

Chess has had significant scenes on the big screen in movies. Maybe the most famous was the film also based on a novel in which Harry Potter's best friend Ron Weasley played and won a masterful game of chess in the first movie of the series "The Sorcerer's Stone" to help Harry find the magical rock.

The July 15 tournament to be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Orange will be the result of a challenge issued by the Casa De Ajedrez to other local chess clubs. The Beaumont Chess Club was the first group to accept the challenge in what is hoped to be a recurring event between these two chess clubs and other clubs that have accepted the challenge from Casa De Ajedrez.

Both clubs will choose their eight best players to compete in head to head chess matches. Rivera said there will be a perpetual trophy awarded to the winning club. Plaques can be added to the trophy to show the winning club for each challenge.

The tournament in Orange will be four rounds with each game having a one hour time limit for players to make their moves. A point will be awarded to the winning player for their team and a half point will be given to both teams in the case of a draw with the team achieving the most points at the end of the tournament receiving the trophy.

Visitors are strongly invited to attend the tournament. "We're going to have tables and chessboards available for play-

ers who are not part of the tournament that just want to be there. If they know chess or if they don't know chess they can just enjoy the company of everybody. We're wanting to bring awareness of chess to the local community. Hopefully, we can spark new chess clubs to form so we can have more fun chess tournaments together," Rivera concluded.

Chairs will be set up for those wanting to watch the games and there will be free coffee for everyone attending. The neighboring Lutcher Memorial

Church building which held its first services in 1912 will also be opened for anyone interested in taking a tour of the beautiful worship facility with its opalescent stained glass windows.

The chess tournament will be held in the Gillespie Building of First Presbyterian Church located on Ninth Street between Green Avenue and Elm in downtown Orange. The chess tournament games are scheduled to start at 12 Noon and go until 6:00 PM on Saturday, July 15.

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## Fishing Report From Page 1B

hydrilla. Bigger bass are moving towards points and humps biting crankbaits and Carolina rigs. Crappie are stacking up on brush with bluegill mixed in biting on minnows or jigs. Catfish are good on brush and around creeks. White bass are schooling on points biting jigs and crankbaits. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

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**ORANGE COUNTY GARDENING:**

# Saving Plant Seeds The Right Way, Part II

**JOHN GREEN  
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Gardeners, another intensely 'hot' week is in store with daytime temperatures soaring, 'flirting' with triple digits throughout most of our SETX areas. Its clear summers arrived with a vengeance and in 'full swing', so be mindful when working outdoors and plan accordingly. Start garden tasks early in the morning or late in the evening, take numerous, frequent breaks in sheltered areas. Replace fluids lost due to exertion by drinking plenty of water to maintain hydration and keep a small towel nearby, you'll be needing it (if you're working outside or not)! Let's 'dig' into the 2nd part of our discussion on how to harvest and save seeds. Last week we discussed the basics (seed types). Now, let's review 6 steps in seed saving to ensure viable seed for future use, let me begin by stating seeds must be dry, completely dry!



**Successful seed savers always ensure seeds are thoroughly 'air' dried before storing seeds. Removal of moisture will discourage mold and mildew formation during storage increasing the viability of seeds (image courtesy: Alamanac.com).**

which produce seeds quickly, i.e., beans, peas, pak choi, tatsoi, peppers, eggplant, tomatoes, radish, and lettuce. Plants falling into the annual plant category have a single life cycle-start to finish within one season. Biennials and most perennials will not produce seeds until their 2nd growing season (2 years).

**•Cross-pollination**

Open-pollinated plants must be isolated from other varieties of the same type of plant because if cross-pollination occurs between open-pollinated plants and another variety within the same species, seeds produced will demonstrate dif-

ferent characteristics and may not retain the desired traits. This is easily managed by planting varieties at a distance apart from each other. Note: tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, radish, beans, and peas are self-pollinating plants having little chance of cross-pollination. Seed Maturity

Before harvesting seeds, ensure the seeds are mature or they will not germinate. Harvest 'dry' seeds, such as beans and peas once the seeds are hard and dry inside the pod. They are ready to harvest if they rattle inside the seed pod when shaken. 'Wet' seeds, such as tomatoes, squash, peppers, and eggplant: wait until overripe before harvesting the seeds. Personally, I find it best to mark fruit or vegetables intended for seed harvesting, allowing them to remain 'on the vine' or plant until fully mature.

**• Dry Thoroughly**

It doesn't matter if collecting 'dry' or 'wet' seeds, what is important is that the seeds are thoroughly dried after harvesting. Open the seed pods of beans and peas, placing the seeds onto a paper towel in a single layer. Keep the seeds out of direct sunlight, in a well-ventilated area for 3 to 4 weeks or longer until

dry.

**• Fermented Seeds**

Tomato seeds benefit from fermentation before drying and produce more viable seeds, since fermenting tomato seeds breaks down compounds on the seeds exterior which hinder germination. Choose the most robust fruit from the healthiest plants, then slice them in half, removing 'pulp' (gelatinous membrane) and seeds and placing into a jar. Add 3-inches of water to pulp/seed mixture, gently swirl the jar, then cover the jar with a towel. A surface layer of mold will form in 4 to 5 days, simply remove the mold, and rinse the seeds through a fine strainer. Place the seed onto a layer of paper towel and allow the seeds to dry for 6 to 7 days before storing. I use the 'fingernail' test to determine if the seeds are dry. Press a fingernail into one seed, if an indentation is

made on the seed, continue drying the seeds.

**• Dark Storage**

Remember dark, cool, and dry! Seeds are best kept in airtight containers, such as a glass jar, or a pill bottle. Placing the container in a dark, cool, dry place with minimal changes in humidity is key for guaranteeing seeds viability. For long term storage, I store seeds in the freezer. Some seeds can last for many years when stored properly, while others may not. It's best to research seed storage recommendations for the specific plant species to make sure they won't expire before you plant them. Always, always, always label seed containers with plant type, variety, date harvested, and date placed into storage. Seeds stored in the freezer must be allowed to warm to room temperature before opening to stop condensation from forming on the seeds.

**Seed Saving in 6 Steps**

The process of seed saving varies slightly depending upon plant species, but these are the general steps to follow for saving seeds:

- Annual Plants
- Save seeds from plants

## WOS Mustangs

From Page 1B

against Ponder which had eliminated Jasper 26-14 in its first game on Friday. West Orange-Stark had the offense working well scoring 34 points to win 34-25 advancing to the elite eight in Division II.

West Orange-Stark next went up against Hitchcock the Division II defending state 7-on-7 champion. The Mustangs were running on fumes in their third game of the morning against the experienced Hitchcock club which platooned its players very effectively throughout the tournament.

Hitchcock defeated West Orange-Stark 29-12 eliminating the Mustangs. Hitchcock won its second straight Division II state championship in 7-on-7 winning 27-20 over Anna which had eliminated the Silsbee Tigers 39-28 in the semifinals.

The Mustangs 7-on-7 were coached by Kevin Knolley and Eric Williams. No coaches with West Orange-Stark High School were allowed to participate in the matches.

Coach Hiawatha Hickman the head football coach at West Orange-Stark applauded the play of his Mustangs in College Station starting with the quarterback and the wide receivers. "Our quarterback Marcus Turner who is going to be a junior this year and started nine games for us last year played really, really well throughout the tournament," Hickman analyzed.

This is the second straight year that West Orange-Stark has competed in 7-on-7 after not participating in the competition for the previous decade. The Mustangs lost all four of their games last time so this past weekend showed a strong improvement winning four of their six games.

This competition will prepare West Orange-Stark for the fast approaching football season. "We went back this year, and we kind of had a routine. We knew about the traveling and what it was going to take on offense and defense to win. We took as a business trip. We got there a day early with the kids to do some bonding and tried to create as close to a Friday night experience as we could, and our kids really took to it. We went into it in a different way, and I think it worked out for us. I think it's going to help us, I think we grew as a team," Hickman evaluated.

In conclusion Coach Hickman emphasized, "The biggest thing I wanted to see was the Mustangs maturing from one year to the next. I think this year the kids are believing what we're doing, they're more confident, and you can see the growth from last season."

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# Fish structure in all kinds of places



Scattered shell along protected shorelines is magnet for holding trout. RECORD PHOTO: Capt. Chuck Uzzle

## OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

In many ways our freshwater counterparts have it made; no tides to worry about, no fish stealing sharks, and you couldn't step on a sting ray if you tried.

The saltwater folks on the other hand have plenty of positives as well like how many hard pulling species of fish one can encounter on a single trip, or the simple fact that you have the potential to hook a creature that may indeed be bigger than your boat. Both sides have great arguments that back up their claims to being the best bite going. One thing the freshwater folks have that we don't is an over abundance of fishable structure, or do they?

Saltwater structure varies in many ways and can be as simple or complex as you want to make it. For instance let's talk shallow

runs out into the river.

Points like these are fish magnets; we have had some incredible days fishing the down current sides of these areas and we continue to use them still.

Now a more classic version of structure for saltwater fishermen are reefs made from various types of shell such as oyster, clam or mussel. These areas are perhaps the most targeted pieces of structure in all the bay systems along the gulf coast. A good productive reef can and will attract plenty of attention from both fish and fishermen. Each bay has its own big name reefs where fishermen congregate regardless of whether the fish are biting or not, it doesn't matter because everyone knows the area so consequently it must be good.

The real hidden gems in any bay are the small reefs that not many folks know about because they receive little pressure and often produce big fish. I know guys who guard these areas like they were gold; they will often abandon the area if a boat gets near only to return when the area is vacant. GPS numbers to small hotspots like these are closely guarded and rarely shared with someone outside "the circle" of close fishing partners. If you are fortunate enough to find a place like this you would be wise to keep it to yourself.

Now what about finding one of those hidden gems, one of those "go to" spots that seem to always attract and hold fish. There are all kind of methods to locating a reef or pile of shell and they all have one thing in common, they take time and effort. Many anglers will use the winter months to locate shell because the fishing is slower during that time of the year. I have seen people drag chain, conduit, or some other contraption that will make

noise when it hits shell.

Others will carry a push pole or some conduit and randomly probe the bottom as they drift an area. I have spent hours watching oyster boats work and recording GPS numbers on places where I never knew there were oysters. You can use all kinds of methods as long as you are willing to put in some time because that is the key.

Now back to our freshwater friends and one advantage they have over us in the salt, they can build

their own structure. I am sure most folks have heard about anglers up on the lakes sinking Christmas trees or other forms of structure to attract crappie and other fish, the technique is simple and it works.

Saltwater folks have to contend with a few more rules so this technique is a little more

difficult to pull off. It is my understanding that you just can't go out and start dumping shell or rocks in a bay and make an artificial reef, if this was legal you can bet there would be some folks out there who would just go crazy with

the practice. I will say however I have found wooden pallets, box springs, bathtubs, and even commodes make great artificial reefs when you find them sunk

in a particular area. How these items got to where they are I don't know, all I can say that they hold fish and can certainly be classed as fishable structure. I can just see it now the next time I catch a bunch of fish telling everyone "yeah that commode and bathtub pattern is really holding strong". Only an upper coast Cajun could appreciate a report like that.



Chuck Uzzle

structure, small very minor depressions in a flat can be called structure because they fit the mold. Structure is something different in an area that fish relate to or use for certain purposes like food or shelter. The small depressions can offer fish an opportunity to escape a stronger tide or aid them in ambushing baitfish, they are structure. More noticeable structure could be grass lines or other vegetation growing in or near the water.

Some grass can actually help you find certain types of structure like underwater points. Along the banks of the Sabine River we have a certain spartina like grass that grows along the shore, each place where this grass grows usually indicates a shallow point that



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# The Seeds None Could Afford

Joe Rigney  
Teacher  
desiringGod.org

When the emperor Nero blamed Christians for starting the fire that destroyed much of Rome in AD 64, persecution became official policy for the first time. Though it remained sporadic, many early Christians never knew when they might be forced to pay the ultimate price for their faith.

Pictures of such Christians facing lions in the Colosseum or being burnt at the stake are familiar to many of us. Those who lost their lives in this way are venerated as martyrs, a term that originally meant witnesses but that is now reserved for those who died for their beliefs. To be sure, some of the stories told about the early martyrs have been exaggerated. (We need not believe the legend of Dionysius, for example, which says he was put to death in Paris but managed to walk ten miles or so with his severed head!) Nevertheless, there were certainly many people who went to their deaths because they refused to renounce their devotion to Christ. Why was this? The church father Tertullian (c. 155–c. 220) offers a fascinating window into early Christian martyrdom — and how God used it to build his church.

## Jesus's Unique Death

The idea that someone might be put to death for his or her beliefs was not entirely unknown in the ancient world, but such deaths were uncommon and generally



disapproved of. The classic case is that of Socrates, the Athenian philosopher who was executed in 399 BC by his fellow citizens because they thought he was an atheist who was leading young people astray. The scandal caused by that injustice was so great that nothing like it ever happened again in Athens.

Though some have compared Jesus to Socrates, the early Christians saw him differently. They knew Jesus had suffered because Jewish leaders had accused him of blasphemy, and the Roman authorities in Palestine were too cowardly to resist their calls for the death sentence. Jesus was no mere philosopher. He didn't die as a victim in the cause of free speech. His death was a sacrifice that God had foreordained as the fulfillment of his promise to the Jews that he would save them from their sins. The men who condemned him were certainly guilty of shedding innocent blood, but they were also unwitting agents of a divine plan that they did not understand (Acts 4:24–28).

Jesus died to pay the price for our sins, but he did not

stay in the grave. Three days later, he rose again from the dead — and forty days after that, he ascended into heaven.

## Christian Martyrdom

The disciples of Jesus were unpopular, particularly with the Jewish establishment, which thought they were destroying Judaism by claiming that Old Testament sacrifices were no longer valid. Many of the earliest Christians were arrested and subjected to severe beatings. Some even lost their lives at the hands of their Jewish persecutors (Acts 7:58–60; 12:1–2), though these occurrences were rare. And then, after fire consumed Rome, persecution became a matter of imperial policy.

Curiously, neither the Christians nor their persecutors could explain what the crimes were. Christians were typically model subjects of the Roman Empire and did nothing to offend anyone beyond refusing to worship the pagan gods. The Romans disapproved of that, of course, but Jews did not worship the gods either, nor did many of the philoso-

phers who regarded all religion as superstition, and nobody tried to put them to death.

Educated Christians did not hesitate to write defenses of their faith in which they pointed out how wrong it was for pagans to persecute them. Among them was Tertullian, a North African convert to Christianity. Tertullian, who seems to have escaped execution, wrote a number of books in which he expounded his faith to unbelievers and encouraged martyrs to stand firm as witnesses to Christ, even regarding their martyrdom as proof that what they believed was true.

## Tertullian's Witness

Tertullian was the first Christian to write specifically about martyrdom and persecution, though there is no sign that he suffered either himself. He wrote a couple of short books to other Christians who were facing martyrdom themselves or who were tempted to run away from persecution and save their lives. In *To the Martyrs* and *On Flight in Persecution*, he told them to stand firm and sacrifice

themselves for the spiritual truth that they cherished more than life itself. As he put it, Jesus had died for them, so it was a privilege to be able to die for him. It was also a sign to unbelievers that Christians meant business. Just as Jesus came back from the dead, so too they would rise again to a higher life with him in heaven.

Tertullian's most important treatment of the subject, however, was in his *Apology*, a lengthy argument addressed to the pagans who were putting Christians to death. Many pagans were blaming Christians for causing earthquakes and floods, an absurd charge that was easy to refute. Natural disasters had been occurring long before the coming of Christ, so how could his followers be responsible for them? On the contrary, Christians prayed for the welfare of all people, and when disasters occurred, it was they who helped the victims, not the pagans.

Moreover, people who saw Christians going to their deaths, often praying and singing as they went, were moved by their courage and tempted to examine their beliefs more carefully, which was the exact opposite of what the persecutors wanted. In fact, it was often the martyrs' witness that persuaded others to believe in Christ. The world was against them, but Christians had nothing to fear, and they demonstrated their faith by being willing to die for it.

## 'I Will Build My Church'

Tertullian was grieved by the injustice inflicted on his fellow believers, but he was able to see beyond the horrors of persecution to the

purposes of God that lay behind it. As he explained to his pagan contemporaries, the more they persecuted Christians, the more their blood bore witness to the truth of their faith. As modern writers have paraphrased his words, "The blood of martyrs is the seed of the church."

Many people who saw what was happening were not indifferent to the wrongdoing they witnessed. The martyrs who went to their deaths willingly, often joyfully singing hymns, were sending a more powerful message to bystanders than even the Christian preachers they may have heard. That believers acted this way led many to think there must be something to this faith. Imperceptibly and incrementally, the church began to grow. One by one, people who were hostile or indifferent began to ask questions and, as they got answers, became convinced of the truth of what they were seeing and being told.

Tertullian did not hesitate to remind his readers of the legendary heroes of early Rome, who had stood up against the city's enemies and rescued it from destruction. Centuries later, their devotion had produced a worldwide empire.

As Christians today, we naturally do not want to suffer for our faith any more than they did, but we can see from their example that our sufferings have a purpose in the mind of God that will be revealed in his good time, to the honor and glory of his holy name. Like the martyrs of old, we walk by faith, knowing that death in this world is but the gateway to eternal life in the world to come.

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"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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