

Orange County 2023 V'Ball Preview

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Community News for Orange County, Texas

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Week of Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Dry summer leads to Bridge City asking to curb water use

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Brown leaves are falling off of trees and the grass is dry and brown. But now in Bridge City, residents are being asked to restrict their watering.

The National Weather Service's gauges at the Orange County Airport on Tuesday afternoon reached 105, which could set a record for heat. The county remains under an excessive heat warning by the weather service.

The service warns that "very dry conditions and accumulated heat increase the potential for heat-related illnesses and wildfires."

On Tuesday, the city of Bridge City implemented an emergency water restriction plan as the region continues to sizzle with afternoon temperatures topping 100 and no measurable rain

for days and days.

Bridge City's action comes on top of a 90-day burn ban ordered last week by Orange County Commissioners Court, plus Governor Greg Abbott including Orange County in a disaster declaration for fire danger. The special declaration allows local fire agencies to use state resources to help stop and put out wildfires.

Bridge City on Tuesday sent a press release saying, "Due to the extended drought conditions we are currently experiencing, we're asking the citizens of Bridge City to voluntarily reduce their water usage."

The city of Beaumont on Monday issued a Phase 2 for their water contingency plan and then went to Phase 3 on Tuesday. In that city, use of sprinklers connected

RECORD Page 3A

Dilapidated buildings cleared around Second St.

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Piles of rubble stand along a block of the an old apartment complex, ready to be loaded into trailers to be hauled off for disposal.

The rubble is from condemned buildings at the Sabine Park Apartments between First and Second Streets in the Old Orange Historic District.

Last week the demolition began on the wood-frame one, and two-story buildings. The city is paying the Lark Group \$145,000 to demolish nine of the complex's buildings. A lien for the amount will be added to the property so the city can be paid back.

The old apartments weren't the only clean-up in the neighborhood. Across Second Street, between Green Avenue and Pine Avenue, a private landowner had a vacant, dilapidated

nursing home demolished. The site has already been cleared with only a concrete foundation remaining.

The nursing home was built on the site between Second and Third streets in the early 1970s after the three-story brick Frances Ann Lutchter Hospital was demolished.

The live oak trees planted in the 1920s around the hospital block have been left standing. In addition, the city had the company demolishing the old apartments protect the live oak trees there.

The old apartment complex was originally named Gilmer Homes and built in the early 1940s for the influx of shipyard workers moving to Orange during World War II.

During the past 80 years, the apartments have changed ownership several

CLEAN-UP Page 3A



WOS Mustang cheerleaders ready for kick-off time

The West Orange-Stark varsity Mustang cheerleaders for 2023-24 are, from left to right, front row: Makenzie Newberry, Re'Yona Peebles, and Ja'Marion Brown. Back row: Meaira Gobert, Bre'Asia Hunt, Angel Cooper, Jestiny Bias, Aysia Perault, Rheana Phillips, Tyleira Montgomery, Latessa Turner, and JaKaila Janice.

New LSCO marketing manager is at home in Orange County

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Daniel McLemore knows he found his work home at LSCO. He only has to spend 15 minutes now to travel from his residence in Orangefield.

As a veteran of marketing and advertising, he's not accustomed to being so close to his family. For years, he's had to travel 30 to 35 miles to his office.

McLemore, an Orangefield resident, is the new LSCO director of marketing and communications. Before he lived in Orangefield, he lived in Bridge City. He and his wife, Chelsea, have a daughter, 8-year-old Lorelei, and a son, 6-year-old Jensen. "They are Bobcats through and through," he said.



New LSCO marketing manager Daniel McLemore.

He grew up from Nederland and graduated from high school there before heading on to Lamar University in Beaumont. "I was one of the rare kids that went to college knowing what I wanted to do," he said. "I wanted to be creative."

Her pursued his creativity in television and communications, graduating with a BS in communications with a concentration in advertising and marketing. He later earned a master's of business administration (MBA) degree from Lamar in marketing and

management.

After working with a couple of television stations making commercial videos, he decided to go full-time into advertising and marketing with Cornerstone Media in Beaumont. There, he used his skills in copywriting, graphic arts, and marketing.

His wife, who is also a graphic artist, was working at Lamar and saw that the university's marketing and communications team had an open position. He applied and was hired by the now-retired director, Brian Sattler. McLemore worked his way up at Lamar to become associate director of marketing and communications.

During that time, he and

DANIEL Page 3A

Former president notches 4th indictment

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

The fourth indictment of former President Donald Trump may be the most sweeping yet reports the Associated Press.

The sprawling, 98-page case unveiled late Monday night opens up fresh legal ground and exposes more than a dozen of Trump's allies to new jeopardy.

But it also raises familiar



Trump

legal issues of whether the First Amendment allows a politician to try to overturn an election. Already,

Trump and his supporters are alleging the indictment is the product of a politicized, corrupt process to hobble him as he competes

for the GOP nomination to face President Joe Biden next year.

This may be the last of the Trump indictments, but it was the big one. The indictment lists 18 defendants in addition to Trump, all joined together by Georgia's unusual anti-racketeering, or RICO, law.

Many of the defendants aren't even based in Georgia. The better-known defendants include former

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and attorney Sidney Powell, who appeared in numerous hearings and on television spreading false claims about unfounded incidents of purported election fraud. Giuliani and Powell were among the unnamed co-conspirators in the federal indictment against Trump for his push to overturn the election

TRUMP Page 2A



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Trump indictment From Page 1

that was released earlier this month.

Other defendants include Mike Roman, a Trump campaign official who the indictment alleges helped arrange slates of fake Trump electors whose votes Congress could count rather than those of the actual appointed ones for the winner of the election, President Joe Biden. Another person charged is Jenna Ellis, who has become a prominent conservative legal personality after working on the Trump campaign and helping spread Trump's false allegations of widespread fraud.

The charges also fall upon several Georgia players, including Ray Smith and Robert Cheeley, lawyers working for Trump in Georgia, and David Shafer, then the state GOP chairman, for serving as a fake Trump elector along with fellow co-defendants Shawn Still, then the state GOP fi-

nance chairman, and Cathleen Alston Latham.

Critics may argue this is an overreach for a local prosecutor's office. But the Georgia RICO statute gives Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis' office the ability to construct a wide-ranging narrative by citing and charging other players in the alleged wrongdoing, even those out of state.

Some legal analysts think that Jack Smith, the federal prosecutor who filed the earlier charges against Trump for trying to overturn the election, didn't charge people identified as co-conspirators in his case, like Giuliani, because he is aiming for a trial as quickly – and with as much time as possible before the 2024 presidential election – as feasible.

Willis on Monday night said she hoped for a trial date in six months. But her office is taking a notably

different, more sweeping approach from the more streamlined federal indictment. She vowed that she would seek to try all 19 defendants together.

Others, however, had to date escaped mention in charging documents, like Trump's then-chief of staff Mark Meadows, who was on the call during which Trump urged Georgia election officials to "find" him the votes he needed to be declared winner of the state.

But the indictment argues they were all steps in what it calls "a conspiracy to unlawfully change the outcome of the election in favor of Trump." For example, it alleges that those fake elector meetings were part of an attempt to convince Georgia state lawmakers to "unlawfully" appoint the phony Trump electors, rather than the Biden ones they were bound to by law.

The indictment contends the tweets about phony voter fraud and even the lawsuit were part of a similar scheme. And, finally, it says some of the lies trying to persuade Georgia's top election official, Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, and Gov. Brian Kemp to declare Trump the victor could be considered another crime under state law, solicitation of violation of oath by a public officer.

A document briefly posted to the Fulton County Clerk's Office website earlier Monday snagged the day's proceedings and gave Trump a window to further disparage the case against him.

People were still waiting to testify before the grand jury when Reuters reported on a document listing criminal charges to be brought against Trump, including state racketeering counts, conspiracy to commit false statements and solicitation of violation of oath by a public officer.

Reuters, which later published a copy of the document, said the filing was taken down quickly. A

spokesperson for Willis said the report of charges being filed was "inaccurate," but declined to com-

ment further. A statement was subsequently released by the Fulton County courts clerk.

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of Orange County, Texas

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NEW ADVENTURE

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

After you pass your 80th year, things that were routine become an adventure. My most recent mental exercise and physical adventure was renewing my driver's license. Thanks to our legislature this process has been made into somewhat of a challenge. You need to take your old license, insurance card, a valid passport or birth certificate. You can get an appointment, but you can't rely on being processed at that time.

The ladies processing the paperwork were nice, but only half the stations were manned. There were 20-25 folks waiting for service, confirming my belief that Texas taxpayers would be better served if Governor Abbott would spend some of the eight billion, he sent



Former State Senator
Carl Parker

Carl Parker was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and the Senate in 1976.

to the border on license workers.

The Legislature has spent millions on more requirements claiming it needed to stop voting under someone else's name (Our attorney general located about 40

such cases out of millions of voters)

Another adventure can be a visit to a state representative or senator. The days of dropping by and visiting our state capital are over. Now you need an appointment to see them. Also, you must be searched for weapons, have a permit or be a lobbyist to easily access our capital. I recommend a taxi because it is almost impossible to park nearby. If you are only a loyal, voting Texan driving through to the capitol grounds you are prohibited.

Figuring out how to access a government program to help with medical problems opens many more chances for "adventure." Hopefully, thinking of these things as an adventure could help your attitude and ease the frustration.

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The rubble is from condemned buildings at the Sabine Park Apartments between First and Second Streets in the Old Orange Historic District. Last week the demolition began on the wood-frame one, and two-story buildings. The city is paying the Lark Group \$145,000 to demolish nine of the complex's buildings. A lien for the amount will be added to the property so the city can be paid back.

RECORD PHOTO: Margaret Toal

Daniel McLemore From Page 1

his wife started a family and she began working part-time as a graphic artist. Currently, she works at Bridge Point Fellowship Church, where he is also active.

After working for years at Lamar, he started working with a good friend who is an executive at the Calcasieu Teachers and Employees Credit Union in Lake Charles. The friend asked for help, and McLemore's assistance turned into a full-time job and a position as vice president of marketing.

But recently, when the LSCO position became open, McLemore knew he had a chance to get back to promoting education with an opportunity to work close to home.

Education marketing is "fun and engaging," he

said. And LSCO is in an exciting phase as it keeps growing to meet the area's demand for industrial training.

"I've always believed in education and what education can do for a person," he said.

LSCO is now offering many practical training courses to work in the region's petrochemical industry and oil refineries. "We have a lot of hands-on training that other places don't have," he said.

But it isn't all career training at LSCO, either. He said the school is perfect for college-bound students to begin at locally to get credits that will transfer to any accredited university.

LSCO is now one of the fastest-growing public colleges in Texas. The

school is growing in downtown Orange and is even expanding into Lumberton. LSCO has a new 55,000 square foot, \$38.1 million academic building being constructed off Green Avenue in Orange between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

Plus, the historic brick First Baptist Church on Green Avenue and Fifth Street has been acquired by the college and is being converted for use as a reception center and a one-stop center for registering, advising, and financial aid. McLemore said the historic aspects of the church with its unique features will be incorporated into the new center.

"There's a lot to be excited about at this campus," he said.

Clean-up in Orange From Page 1

times and gone through several renovations.

However, in recent years, the complex fell again into disrepair. During the Christmas 2022 hard freeze, a number of water and sewer pipes in the apartments broke. Management would not fix the problems and residents complained to the city.

The city shut down some units for

health violations as water and sewage ran into the streets and units did not have running water or flushing toilets.

After many tries to get responses from the out-of-town property owner, the city filed condemnation papers against some of the units. City Judge Jim Bearden condemned the buildings and ordered their demolition.

Record-breaking heat From Page 1

to hoses are now banned.

Bridge City adopted a drought contingency plan in September 2016 and the move Tuesday is the first step of the plan.

"Some of the requirements of the Stage 1 Response include voluntary water use restrictions to limit the irrigation of landscaped areas to Sundays and Thursdays for customers with a street address ending in even numbers (0, 2, 4, 6, 8), and Saturdays and Wednesdays for customers with street addresses ending in an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7, 9)," the release reads.

The city points out that it is better for the vegetation if the watering is done between the hours of midnight and 10 in the morning, or after 8 p.m. on designated watering days.

In addition, the city said this phase of the plan is needed "as a precautionary measure to ensure that we have adequate supplies of water for domestic use and fire protection."

The fire protection may be needed as the wildfire danger increases daily under the scorching, dry temperatures.

Texas Keetch-Byram Drought Index, which keeps track of moisture in the soil as a way of determining fire hazards, has Orange County and the surrounding counties in the 700-

800 red zone, with 800 being totally dry inches deep into the soil.

Though no large wildfires have been reported in Orange County as of Tuesday morning, a few grass fires have broken out and been extinguished. One was Friday afternoon near the historic Orange Train Depot and the tall, dead grass along the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way.

Last week, 160 acres of forest burned in Newton County and Louisiana parishes across the Sabine River had also had some extensive wildfires.

Orange County's burn ban means no outside burning is allowed with violators facing the possibility of a misdemeanor charge and fine. That could increase if an outdoor fire leads to a wildfire.

The Texas health department also warns that smoke from wildfires may be hazardous to the health of people with lung or breathing problems. People with health problems should wear a tight-fitting N-95 mask when outside if it is smoky.

The Orange County Office of Emergency Management is also advising people to keep their pets safe. If the pets are outdoors, they need to be provided with lots of cool wa-

ter and shade. They should never be left alone in a car during the heat. Even with a window open, the temperatures can become deadly within minutes.

That advice also goes for children, especially babies. Luckily, no child car deaths have been reported in this area this summer.

At this time, the National Weather Service in Lake Charles has a forecast that continues hot and mostly dry conditions for the next week. A slight chance of rain is set for Sunday, with chances going up to 40 percent for a shower or thunderstorm on Monday. However, lately, those long range predictions of rain have fizzled out before the day arrives.

The height of hurricane season has also arrived, but at this time, the National Hurricane Center has no systems in the Atlantic basin, which includes the Gulf of Mexico, under watch.



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From the Creaux's Nest

THE LISTA'S GREAT FIRE LOSS

We were sad to learn that fire had destroyed **Pete** and **Lori Lista's** home last Wednesday. The house was located on **Ollie Road** in **Orangefield**. The call came to the fire department about 3:00 a.m. We understand **Lori** was at the beach in their R.V. **Pete** was home alone. Thank God he was awakened by a smoke alarm and was able to get out. Makes me wonder why unlucky or bad things happen to good people. **Pete and Lori** are the salt-of-the-earth folks who are kind and generous. I personally know that **Pete** is helpful to old folks. The house and contents were a total loss. **Pete** said "His Pop's hand-carved chair from the 1935 **Warwick Hotel**, letters and Christmas card to **Mom and Pop** from **President Roosevelt**, **Mom's** passport from England, and tons of family treasures and photos from both families. One hundred years of history gone." **Pete** says he's heartbroken but alive. What is so sad is all those personal items can never be replaced or handed down. Over time they will recall things that were lost that they are not now aware of. Like many other local people I've lost a lot of collectibles in several hurricanes but nothing like losing to a fire when everything is lost. After a hurricane you can pick up the pieces, after a fire you have nothing but ashes and memories. I really do feel for the **Lista's** on the loss but thank God for that fire alarm. For years **Pete** has been the owner of **Coastal Landscaping** and one of the great people that will do to ride the range with.

TRUMP AND 18 FRIENDS INDICTED IN GEORGIA

Donald Trump and 18 allies were indicted Monday by an Atlanta-area grand jury on state criminal charges stemming from their efforts to overturn the former president's 2020 electoral defeat in Georgia. The sweeping 41-count indictment includes 13 charges against **Trump** and accuses him of being the head of a "criminal enterprise" to reverse the election. **Trump's** lawyers **John Eastman** and **Rudy Giuliani**, as well as former **White House** chief of staff **Mark Meadows** are among the defendants. The 19 defendants have until next Friday, August 25, to voluntarily surrender to Georgia authorities, **Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis** said Monday. **Trump** is now facing four separate indictments at the same time that he's running for president in 2024. He denies any wrongdoing and says they are politically motivated. He continues to blame everyone from the judges, prosecutors, even **FBI**, for all of his grand jury indictments.

REMEMBERING 'SUE' COLLINS

Cora 'Sue' Collins, age 88, of **Bridge City**, passed away August 12. Funeral services will be held at **St. Paul Methodist Church**, Saturday, August 19. Visitation will be at 11:00 a.m., service at 12 noon. If you ever met this wonderful, friendly lady you would never forget her. **Sue** never met a stranger. Start up a conversation with **Sue** and you would learn she could filibuster with the best of them. We had known **Sue** and **Don** since the 1950's. As neighbors, our children grew up with **Debbie**, **Mike** and little **Patty**. They were raised, along with the **Melder's**, in what was called 'Collinsville,' on **Gilmer** and **Lake**. **Sue** and her sister-in-law **JoAnn Collins**, who lived next door, were like **Thelma** and **Louise**. (One side story.) In earlier years, I stopped daily at **Dick Bevin's Texas Grocery** to pick up items like milk, etc. Most often I would run into **Sue**. She loved to talk and if you asked her a question she recited the entire book. I also liked to talk, that made for a long visit. When I got home and was asked why I was late, "Ran into **Sue** at **Bevin's**," I would say. It became a standard joke whenever I was late to say, "Ran into **Sue**." She was a great person and we lived in fun times, all scratching for a living while raising youngsters. I hadn't seen **Sue** in a long time but through the years I remembered her with fondness. She loved her family and she will surely be missed. Please read her obituary, it tells her story.

CONDOLENCES

We were sorry to learn of the passing of **J. Meritt Ayers**, age 89, a longtime **Orange All State** insurance agent. **Jay** was always most active and had plenty "Big Boy" toys. He was quick on his feet with just the right one-liners. His great personality always came through. I never heard an unkind word about **Jay Ayers**. Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 16, at **Claybar Funeral Home**, in **Orange**. Our condolences to **Judy** and his family. Please see obituary.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2013

At 8:15 a.m. on **Aug. 6, 1945**, a **B-29 bomber** dropped the **Atomic Bomb** on **Hiroshima** and another on **Nagasaki, Japan**, killing **90,000 Japanese**. The **Japanese** had built up an **army of several million soldiers** and had vowed that **395 thousand U.S. soldiers** would be killed. **President Harry Truman** ordered the dropping of the **two bombs** in a move to **end WWII**. At the time the **U.S.** was the **only nation with the bomb** and could have taken over the world. There are still many of us around who recall that day **78 years ago this week**. Last week several local people attended the funeral service for **Coach "Chief" Wilson** held in **College Station**. **Darrell Segura** and **Troy Woodall** picked up **Johnny Miller** in **Dayton**. They brought the **large state championship trophy** for a presentation to **Chief's son, Rusty**. The trophy was later returned to the **Bridge City High School trophy case**. Those spotted were **Harry Chester**, **Chief's nephew, Steve Sanders**, **Warren Ducote**, **Rodney Jaynes**, **Chief's son-in-law, Dr. Chuck Majors**, **Ben Esterling**, **Kent Buford** and many other former players coached by **Chief**. Amazingly, **Chief's church family** had no idea that he had ever been a **football coach**. On the other hand, his **football family** had no idea about his **church involvement**. A witness says it was like **Chief had lived two lives**. No one seems to know if he was buried or cremated; his body was not at the service.

19 Years Ago-2004

Buffalo invade **Bridge City** and residents who were up early Saturday morning were treated to the sight of a **small herd of buffalo**. The **buffalo, from Louisiana**, swam across **Lake Sabine** and the **Intracoastal Waterway** before roaming the streets of **Bridge City**. **Orange County** animal control officer **Will Winfree**, with some volunteers, rounded up the rogue herd. The **three bulls and five cows** weren't quite full grown according to **Winfree**. The buffalo were loaded up in a trailer and returned to **Gray Ranch in Louisiana**. **Debbie Fusilier's son David Jr.** and her mother **Helen McCardle** both celebrate birthdays this week. Spotted celebrating at **Van Choate's Cajun Cookery** were **Judge Pat and Rosalie Clark** and their crew including mom and dad. Also seen were **Commissioner Owen** and **Nelda Burton**, **Richard and Ruth Corder**, **Roy and Phyl Dunn** and **Judge Pete Rannels**, **Constable Parker Thompson** and **Judge Carl Thibodeaux**.

47 Years Ago-1976

Fire destroys **Howard's Supermarket** in **Bridge City**. The blaze was discovered **Aug. 15** at 2:45 a.m. The **Howard Morse family** operated the store. **Bill Townes** was recently hired as general manager. He thanked **fire chief Richard Solomon**, **fire marshal Bill Kihni** and all the firemen for saving the adjacent stores. A new 12,000 square foot store will be rebuilt on the spot and will be called "**Big Red Pantry**." **A.J. Judice** and wife **Lois** are now making their home on **Cow Bayou** their permanent residence. He promised city officials he wouldn't cause any trouble.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Last Saturday, **J. B. Arrington**, everyone's friend, was presented his **70th year Masonic pen** by the **Masons**. Through all these years he has lived the life put forth by the **Masons**. **Dr. W. Mike Kelly**, superintendent at **Bridge City ISD**, will have some bragging rights on Monday. The high school's new **CTE (career and technical education) Building** will have a grand re-opening of for the **Cosmetology Lab**. The lab is the first to open for students in the building, which was constructed with money from the bond issue. The high school will have a come-and-go open house from 5 to 6:30 p.m. **Meet the Cardinals** will then begin at 6:45. It's a perfect time to see the new facilities and meet the **Cardinals**. And speaking of **Cardinals**, football season is here and the big **Bayou Bowl** between **Bridge City and Orangefield** is coming up. There will be a special community wide **Bayou Bowl** for players and fans of the **Cardinals** and **Bobcats** on Sunday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the **Bridge City Community Pavilion**. Congratulations to **Christopher Ward**, who was honored by the local **Madison Lodge of the Masonic Order** with his 40 year service pin. The local **CCA (Coastal Conservation Association)** had a full crowd at their annual banquet last week held at the **Orange County Convention and Expo Center**. **Lou Moore**, a longtime organizer of the event, was there and looking good after his recent health battles. **Mike Lemoine** and his **Spanky's crew** catered the event with **Mike's** special grilled steaks. **Gary Stelly**, a longtime supporter was there. And of course, **Al Granger** and **Rodney Townsend**, who seem to be everywhere these days, were there. Travel has slowed down as schools start back up, but when you're retired, it doesn't matter. Longtime friends **Rosalie** and **Karl Eason**, plus **Cindy** and **Ambrose Claybar**, headed to **Galveston** for sights and food. **Kent** and **Sue Hannegan** were seeking cooler temperatures and went on an **Alaska cruise**. **LSCO** had a graduation luncheon at the **Brown Estate** for the recent graduates of the court-reporting certification program. Veteran court reporter **Christy Smith** is the director of the program with **Rene Mulhollan** as adjunct instructor. The graduates included **Kyndall Harrison**, whose grandmother is **Mickey Litton Gisclar**, is a well-known local court reporter. **Mickey** got to go to the luncheon, along with **Kyndall's mom, Brooke Harrison**. **Kyndall's** official graduation was on her 21st birthday. And speaking of birthdays, a lot of happies go out across the county. **Judy Lynn White**, who showed off her singing voice with **Orange Community Players** during the **Broadway for Funds** show, celebrated.

Not only was she singing but her great-granddaughter, **Zelda Vasquez** won the hearts of the audience with her version of 'Tomorrow.' **Roderick Robertson** celebrated his birthday with buddies and a round of golf at **Eagle Point Golf Club**. **Pat Caillavet** got a **Tucker shirt** for her birthday when she traveled to **Houston** to see the **Astros** with husband, **Phillip**. Others making another orbit around the sun included **Liz McKee**, **Paris Greer-Petterway**, **Beverly Simon**, **Hector Vela**, **Detra Alexander King**, **Myra Sanders**, **Rebecca Flickinger**, retired judge **Dennis Powell**, **David Bryan**, **Phyllis Hennigan**, **Clint Ray**, **Britney Rushing**, **Jessica Hargis**, car racer **Chase Murray**, **Betsy Batchelor Bland**, **Jerrid Scales**, **Mark Ricks**, and community tree-saver **Sandra Cash**. Congratulations to **Judge Carl Thibodeaux** and **Micah**, celebrating their **58th anniversary** on August 21. Time flies. It was just the other day **Carl** was 58, serving as **County Judge**. **Carolyn** and **Gary Martin** marked their **55th wedding anniversary** this past while, while **Ronnie** and **Cara Naizer** had their **31st**. **Thomas** and **Felica Conway** hit the **five-year milestone** and celebrated by traveling to **Atlanta, Georgia**, for a special vacation including time at the hotel spa. **Gina Simar Yeaman** watched **Heston Cheshire** grow up and this past week, she was a hostess for a wedding shower for his bride-to-be. Of course, mother of the groom, **Lori Ardoin**, was there. **Heston** and **Ashley Eby** will soon be traveling with family and friends to **Mexico** for a destination wedding. Last Saturday **Judge Chad Jenkins** was busy preparing a meal requested by wife, **Wendee**, for her birthday. **Chad** prepared a brisket and all the trimmings, including coleslaw. The boys arranged for the cake and at 1:00 p.m. **Wendee** was crowned family monarch for another year. **Orange County** lost one of the great educators last week after the death of **Ken Wernig**. He was a longtime teacher and then principal. He later left as an administrator to become a teacher again and his former students say that was his true calling. Many adults now call him their **all-time favorite teacher**. Another person lost this past week was the country fiddler, **Shoji Tabuchi**. Though he became known for entertaining in **Branson, Missouri**, for years, he had a **special place in Orange**. He played a couple of times at the **Lutcher Theater** and always loved coming here because of the fishing. And speaking of the **Lutcher Theater**, season tickets have been on sale for the upcoming season with individual tickets going on sale soon.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating in the coming days. **Aug. 16**: Happy Birthday to **Gwen Boehme** and **Joe Sanders**. **Pop Star Madonna** turns 65 today. **Aug. 17**: **Brenda Gage**, **Jordan New**, **Nancy Finchum**, **Shandi Conner** celebrate. **Happy Anniversary** to **Ken** and **Carolyn Hillsten** on their **60th** wedding anniversary. The **Orange** couple were married in 1963 in **Polo, Illinois**. **Aug. 18**: **Carolyn Ward** and **Ian MacCammond** are a year older. On this date in 1984, **Chester Holts**, **Orange County's** longest serving sheriff passed away at the age of 86. **Aug. 19**: Celebrating today are **Linda Tibbitts**, **Ryan Prejean**, **Ted Shensky**, **Braydon Denison**, **Brett Johansson**. **Aug. 20**: Our longtime friend **Tammy Davis** celebrates today. Also **Kelsie Matlock**, **Melinda Ja'arah**, **Sarah Byers** and **Dorothy Lee**. **Aug. 21**: Happy Birthday to **Karen Fisher**, **Mariellen Jacobs**, **Johnny Montagne**, **Mike Johnson** **Connie Forse**, **Jason Delano** and **Kimberly Hubbard**. Former county judge **Carl** and **Micah Thibodeaux** celebrate 58 years of wedded bliss.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

On a beautiful spring morning towards the end of da school year, four **Abbeville High School** boys, **Roy Lee**, **Bobbay**, **Gomez** and **Tee-Mac** decide dem dat dey would skip morning classes and go fishing. After lunch dey reported to da teacher **Ms. Trahan** dat dey had a flat tire dem.

Ms. Trahan smiled and said, "Well you couldn't help dat but you missed a test dis morning." "I will give you a test now."

Da boys felt relieved dem.

Mrs. Trahan say, "Take a seat apart from one anotter, take out a sheet of paper." Wit a smile da teacher axe, "Ready?" Den she said, "I'm going to axe da first question, "Which one of dem tires was it hanh?"

(Editor's note: **Old teachers are wiser than youngsters think**.)

C'EST TOUT DALTON'S BIKE TO STURGIS RALLY

Our friend **J.W. Dalton** and wife, **Becky**, **Orange County** residents, made the 1390-mile round trip to attend the 10 day **Sturgis Motorcycle Rally**, the largest motorcycle rally in the world, held annually in the **Black Hills** and **Sturgis South Dakota**. It was started by local **Indian dealer Pappy Hoel in 1938**. Since its beginning, private area businesses have thrown events such as races, concerts, and rides, and have made and continue to make the **Sturgis Rally** what it is today. This year, 2023 marks the **83rd annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally**. While most local people hauled their bikes in trailers and road them in parades, etc, the **Dalton's** made the entire trip on their bike. **J.W.** said it was fun. They enjoyed the sights and food along the way. However, it was a hard trip and some people got sick. The heat in one place was 124 degrees. He said **Becky** is tough and didn't get sick like many of the other women did. (Editor's note: I've known her since she was a teenager as **Len** and **Millie Harper's** daughter. She 's **Harper** tough like old **Granny Harper**.) Gotta go, thanks for your time. Please read us cover to cover and make it a habit to check us out daily on our website, **TheRecordLive.com**. Also when you can and please shop our family of advertisers. **Take care and God bless**.

Deaths & Memorials

Cora "Sue" Collins, 88, Bridge City

Cora "Sue" Collins, 88, of Bridge City, Texas, passed peacefully into the glory of Heaven on August 12, 2023, after a nearly 6-week long struggle to recover from numerous complications of a broken hip. She was born in Southside, TN on October 17, 1934, to Hattie Sue Groves Wall and Herman Burney Wall into a large farming family. She was the last surviving of the nine Wall siblings, having been predeceased by three sisters and six brothers, including a baby brother who died at 6 months old.

Sue loved her home state and was always proud to say she was a Tennessee native. However, a handsome young Army man, Donald Melder Collins, stationed at Fort Campbell, KY, just across the state line from Clarksville, TN, easily convinced her that becoming a Texan was a very good plan. Sue and Don married and set up a housekeeping in what the family jokingly calls "Collinsville" in Bridge City, TX. It was a perfect place to raise a family, surrounded by neighbors who were also relatives.

Nothing was more important to Sue than family and dear friends. She worried over and faithfully prayed for them, and always put their needs first. She was as loving and compassionate a person as you'd ever meet. She was the CEO of the Collins household, and managed all the jobs raising a busy family entailed. She was a great cook, and always prepared a delicious Sunday afternoon family dinner which the kids showed up to enjoy long after they had left home. A more particular housekeeper would have been hard to find, and the family often teased that Sue's floors were so clean, they could eat off them. She was just as meticulous about laundry and ironing, an art she passed on to her children.

Sue and her best friend, Geraldine Ford, set a great example for their children about the importance of education and it never being too late to achieve a goal. When Sue was in her late 30's, she and Geraldine studied for and obtained the G.E.D. Sue was exceptionally bright, and if she'd had an opportunity for more education, there's no doubt she would have done well.

In addition to every-summer vacations to visit her home in Tennessee, there were many family camping trips, fishing, and shrimping with Don and the kids on the weekends. She was never a big fan of the water, but her family loved it, so she was right there with them, and helped Don fry fish and her best-ever hush puppies. Sue was an avid fan of horse racing and could handicap a race like a professional. In later years, she and Don enjoyed weekend get-aways to play the slot machines, and she seemed to have the most amazing luck. Despite a number of health problems over the years, she always remained an optimist with a strong faith, and made the best of whatever life handed her. She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend who will be deeply missed.



Cora "Sue" Collins

Sue is preceded in death by her parents; her sisters Edna Harrell, Dorothy Nelson, and Etta Smithey; her brothers Cullom Wall, Bennie Wall, Herman "Junior" Wall, Van Wall, Clarence "Bubby" Wall, and baby brother Lonnie Wall; and her niece and nephew who were also like siblings to her, Sue Harrell Hughes and Bobby Harrell.

Sue is survived by her loving husband Don, who has taken care of her everyday with the most beautiful selfless devotion following her dementia diagnosis 6 years ago. She is survived by her daughter, Debbie and Randy Petty; her son, Mike Collins and Trisha Clement; and her daughter, Patty Collins and Chuck Kennison. She was the much-loved MawMaw to grandchildren (and great-grandchildren) Tiffanie Bannon and husband Tom (Makayla and Kirsten); Jenny Jung and husband Nic (Axel and Emerson); Cory Woodson and wife Alicia (Cortlyn, Lexie, Anthony, and Kelycyn); Joshua Schmuck and wife Amanda (Maddison, Silas, and Maxwell); and Michael Petty. She is also survived by her loving sisters-in-law, JoAnn Collins and Bell Wall, as well as many beloved nieces and nephews, and their families.

The family wishes to thank the Visiting Angels caregivers who were with Sue around-the-clock the last several weeks and who became like family to us, especially Sherri, Charline, Shirley, Jeanina, Mia, Shelby, and Faith. The family also deeply appreciates the care and guidance of Southeast Texas Hospice in Sue's final days.

The funeral, under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home, will be held at St Paul Methodist Church, 1155 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, TX on Saturday, August 19, 2023. Visitation begins at 11am, with the funeral immediately following at 12 noon. Interment will be at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, 4560 Hwy 87, Orange, TX. Serving as pallbearers will be Gary Collins, Jody Hollier, Dicky Melder, Cory Woodson, Joshua Schmuck, and Michael Petty. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Sue's memory to the St Paul Methodist Church Prayer Garden in Bridge City would be welcomed.

BC First Baptist hosts family gospel singers

Bridge City First Baptist Church is inviting the public to a gospel singing concert by The Hoppers, known as America's Favorite Gospel Group.

The concert will begin at the church at 6 p.m. Saturday, August 19. Doors will open at 5 p.m. The church is at 200 West Roundbunch Road and the phone number is 409-735-3581.

The Hoppers family singers began in 1955 in Madison, North Carolina, a rural farming community. Through the years, the changing family singers have performed in the Gaither Homecoming tours

and videos, plus on venues from churches to Carnegie Hall in New York. The group has also had songs at the tops of different gospel music charts, including 'Billboard.'

The current group has husband and wife Claude and Connie Hopper singing with their son, Dean, and his wife, Kim; plus son Mike Hopper, and Karlye Hopper, the daughter of Dean and Kim.

Connie Hopper, who has survived cancer, is a member of the Southern Gospel Music Hall of Fame and has won numerous awards.



School supply drive a big success in Bridge City

Karen Collier's Edwards Jones Branch Office in Bridge City held a School Supply Drive. All of the donated School Supplies were presented to Bridge City ISD. Pictured are Madison Elmore representing Karen Collier's branch office and Tara Fountain of Bridge City Independent School District.

Happy 67th Anniversary



James & Betty Nezat

Mr. & Mrs. James & Betty (Landry) Nezat celebrated their 67th Wedding Anniversary on August 14th. They were married in Port Arthur at the "Lady of Guadalupe Church" on 15th street. They have 3 children; June Ann and Ken Shulte of Lake Jackson, James (JD) and Tina (Downey) Nezat of Denham Springs, LA and Tamela Kay and Alfred (PeeWee) Adams of Orange. They have 8 Grandchildren and 14 Great Grandchildren. The Nezats are members of St. Henry Church in Bridge City.



For the past year, Betty has been in care of Vidor Health & Rehab Center with dementia. Thanks to all...James

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Dia A. Abochamh, M.D.
Board Certified in Cardiovascular Medicine, Specialized in Interventional Cardiology & Electrophysiology



Mohammed A. Islam, M.D.
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Board Certified in Cardiovascular Medicine, Echocardiography, Nuclear Cardiology & Internal Medicine

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The property commonly known as 4785 Evangeline Dr., Vidor, TX 77662 is scheduled to be sold at public foreclosure auction on 09/05/2023 at 01:00 PM or no later than 3 hours thereafter at the back door of the Courthouse in Orange County, Texas, or if the preceding area is no longer the designated area, at the area most recently designated by the Orange County Commissioner's Court. The Substitute Trustee will be Margie Allen, Angie Brooks, Kyle Barclay, Tommy Jackson, Keata Smith, Stephanie Hernandez, Selim Taherzadeh, or Michael Linke, any to act. The winning bidder buys "as is" and must pay at the auction with certified funds.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JOHN MORGAN PITTMAN, JR.** A/K/A **JOHN M. PITTMAN, JR.**, Deceased, were issued on AUGUST 8, 2023, in Docket No. P19767, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **CHERYL LYNN PITTMAN ELLIS.**

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

c/o: **Paul M. Fukuda**
Attorney At Law
312 Border Street
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 14th day of August, 2023.
Paul M. Fukuda
Attorney for:
Executor of the Estate
State Bar No.: 00789915
312 Border Street
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409) 883-4357
Email: pfukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION

The State of Texas
To any and all Unknown Heirs and all Persons Interested in the Estate of

RICKY GONZALES, Deceased
Cause No. P19757
in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in this estate on the 8th day of AUGUST, 2023, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of RICKY GONZALES, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court may act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse, 801 W. Division., Orange, Texas 77630.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to this Application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention or response in writing with the County Clerk of Orange County, Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on the 8th day of August, 2023.

BRANDY ROBERTSON,
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas

By: **Danielle Barrow**, Deputy

Danielle Barrow

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice to all persons having claims against the Estate of **PATSY RUTH PAPANIA, Deceased. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on AUGUST 7, 2023, administration of the Estate of **PATSY RUTH PAPANIA, Deceased.** Cause No. **P19258**, was commenced by an Order of the Court that, among other findings and directives, authorized the issuance by the Clerk of the Court of original Letters Testamentary to for an independent administration of that Estate to **BILLIE EWING, Independent Executrix.**

All persons having claims against the Estate are notified to present those claims within the time prescribed by law, in writing, to the attorney for said Estate representative shown below.

Respectfully submitted,
Moore Landrey, LLP
P. Alan Sanders
P. Alan Sanders

Attorney for Billie Ewing, Independent Executrix
Texas Bar No.: 17602100
PO Box 629
Galveston, TX 77553
(409) 763-2481
Email: PASanders@MAPALaw.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **KATHRYN PAULINE PENNINGTON, Deceased,** were issued on AUGUST 9, 2023, in Cause No. P19759, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JERRY V. PENNINGTON.**

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

Jerry V. Pennington
c/o:
Barron Law Office
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX 77631-0279

Dated the 10th day of August, 2023.

George B. Barron
George B. Barron
Attorney for Executor
State Bar No.: 01817500
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX 77631-0279
Email: george@barronlawoffice.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of **NICHOLAS JOSEPH BROUSSARD, Deceased,** were issued on AUGUST 15, 2023, in Cause No. P19719, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Mary Mae Broussard.**

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

c/o:
Mary Mae Broussard
3014 Kelley Street
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 15th day of August, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of **WILLIAM E. SMITH, Deceased,** were issued on AUGUST 9, 2023, in Cause No. P19769, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Carolyn A. Andrus.**

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

c/o:
Carolyn A. Andrus
9005 Quail Drive
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 9th day of August, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of **BARBARA ANN TAYLOR, Deceased,** were issued on AUGUST 9, 2023, in Cause No. P19760, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Kenneth Lee Taylor.**

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

c/o:
Kenneth Lee Taylor
8325 Bridgefield
Orange, TX 77630

Dated the 9th day of August, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of **LARRY JOE PERRY, Deceased,** were issued on AUGUST 9, 2023, in Cause No. P19770, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Shirley Mae Perry.**

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

c/o:
Shirley Mae Perry
2661 FM 3247
Orange, TX 77632

Dated the 9th day of August, 2023.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

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

LEGAL

Notice is hereby given that ANYONE knowing the whereabouts of **BRITTANY PIERCE**, last known address, 7716 Alice Street, Orange, Texas 77632, please contact R. Michael McHale, McHale Law Firm, 921 Ryan Street, Suite A, Lake Charles, LA 70601, phone (337) 802-9259.

Dated the 1st day of August 2023.

Michael McHale

Michael McHale
921 Ryan Street,
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Bridge City looks to reclaim championship



Savanah DeLuna is looking for her third straight district championship in volleyball with the Bridge City Lady Cardinals.

RECORD PHOTO

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

The queens of the volleyball courts in Orange County the last three years are the Bridge City Lady Cardinals. This season they will be attempting to win their fourth straight district title.

Coach Savanah DeLuna helped her Lady Cardinals win their third straight district championship last season. "The Lady Cardinals went undefeated again and we got to the third round of the playoffs, so it was a great year last year. We've gone three rounds the past two years and they went three rounds the year before I got here so we're trying to



Sophomore Cambree LaComb will be the setter and playmaker for the Lady Cardinals this season.

RECORD PHOTO

get over that hump to get to the regional tournament," DeLuna replied.

Losing only one senior from last year almost all of the Lady Cardinals are back for this season. The big girl in the middle is Demi Carter who is a senior. Carter is an impact player at the net and is also very good when she serves.

A sophomore who played substantial touches last year is Makenna Knight. She will be the outside hitter for Bridge City and much more in the spotlight with a year on the varsity already.

Junior Nicole Sasser is nursing an ankle injury and should be back in the lineup later in August moving from a right out-



Demi Carter is the big impact player at the net for the Lady Cardinals leading them in kills and she is also a very good server with a high number of aces.

side hitter to a middle blocker. Sasser has improved tremendously over the summer according to

LADY CARDS Page 3B

Orangefield Lady Bobcats prepare for volleyball season

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

The high school volleyball season began this month for Orangefield. The Lady Bobcats will be playing in tournaments for the most part until the district games start in early September.

Head Coach Ashlee Peevey of Orangefield said the Lady Bobcats had a successful season last year. "We played in a pretty tough district with Hardin and East Chambers which accounted for our three losses in district action. The Lady Bobcats made it to the second round of the playoffs before being eliminated in a tough five set match. We went out fighting, a sad



Ashlee Peevey is coaching the Lady Bobcats' volleyball team and is hopeful of a district championship at Orangefield.

RECORD PHOTO

way to end, but still a lot of fun, I'm very proud of that group," Peevey recapped.

Several Lady Bobcats return from last year's squad with six of them seniors.

LADY BOBCATS Page 3B

Griggs to coach WOS Lady Stangs in volleyball

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

The West Orange-Stark Lady Mustangs will be playing for a new head coach this volleyball season. Aaliyah Griggs has been promoted from the assistant volleyball coach to the head position this season.

Coach Griggs recapped last volleyball season for the Lady Mustangs. "We had a very young team. We only had four seniors, and last year we were actually trying to get ourselves together to improve on this year. We actually did that. We didn't have too great of a season, but this year I think we'll have a much better season than we did last year," Griggs believes.

Three Lady Mustang



West Orange-Stark Head Football Coach Hiawatha Hickman.

RECORD PHOTO

starters return from last year. Kierra Robinson, Meair Gobert, and Deja Judge will be leaders for West Orange-Stark on the volleyball court and all three are better than they were last season. Griggs

WOS Page 5B

Snipes takes over LCM Lady Bear volleyball

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Little Cypress Mauriceville has a new volleyball coach this year. Jonathan Snipes comes to LCM with lots of experience coaching at other area schools before moving here.

Snipes spent ten years at Hamshire-Fannett as an assistant coach, transferred to East Chambers where he was the head track coach for seven years, and moved his family to the Little Cypress Mauriceville school district in 2021. When the volleyball



Jonathan Snipes brings his years of coaching in the area to be the head volleyball coach for the Little Cypress Mauriceville Lady Bears.

RECORD PHOTO

coaching position became open Snipes applied for it and got the job as the head volleyball

coach at LCM this season.

The Lady Bears' volleyball program has been successful for many years and last season was no exception. Little Cypress Mauriceville went 10-2 in district to finish in second place. "They had a tough matchup in the first round against Splendora, and ended up unfortunately on the wrong side of that, but it happens to half of the teams that play in the first round of the post season," Snipes informed.

Last season the Lady Bears graduated seven

LADY BEARS Page 4B

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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

GOOD. Water clear; 90-93 degrees; 2.60 feet below pool. The bass bite is tough with very few fish on the bottom primarily suspended in 9-18 feet of water.

The bite is on swimbaits and big crankbaits. The thermocline has settled in keeping the fish above 18 feet. Crappie bite is slow to nonexistent. Catfish are good with numbers of eater size catches on baited holes in 14-19 feet of water using stink bait or cut bait.

Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

• Sam Rayburn Fishing Report

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 92 degrees; 3.20 feet below pool. Summer pattern is holding steady as the weather remains hot. Fish are staying near older wood where the PH is lower and the water continues to be off color.

Bass and white bass are schooling on the flats. Bass are good with topwaters in the pencil grass and hydrilla. Bigger bass are on points and humps biting crankbaits and Carolina rigs. Crappie and bluegill are stacking up on brush in 16-22 feet of water biting on minnows or jigs. Catfish are good around the brush piles, and points in the creek channels 12-24 feet of water. White bass are good on jigs and crankbaits.

Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

• B.A. Steinhagen

SLOW. Water stained; 83 degrees; 1.21 feet below pool. Water levels have increased. Check ramp status before heading out. Fish should be migrating out of the river returning to the main lake.

• Lake Livingston

GOOD. Stained; 85 degrees; 1.60 feet below pool. Fishing patterns are similar with consistent hot weather. Be sure Limits of White bass are excellent jigging off the bottom of main lake humps with 3/4- 1 ounce slabs in deeper water can still produce. Catfish are on humps off the river feeding on large schools of shad. Crappie are slow.

Report by Jeff Friederick, Fishin' Addiction Guide Service.

ing live shrimp. A few trout, redfish and black drum being caught by those setting up lights. Offshore seas became a little bumpy with increased wind. Anglers are still finding good numbers of snapper. Those going deep reported a good amberjack bite. Kingfish and ling closer to shore. Galveston jetty action is good for sharks and bull redfish. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The Dike has trout at the end close to rocks on popping cork with live shrimp. The shoreline on the right side of the dike is holding nice trout for wade anglers. Mosquito Island to Halfmoon Shoal holding some nice trout with artificials, popping cork with shrimp or free-lined croaker. The rock Shoals south west of the Dike are holding trout and redfish on live croaker, shrimp.

• Sabine Lake

GOOD. 90 degrees. Jetties are good but when the southwest winds start blowing, they move inland. Trout and redfish are good on white glo chartreuse plastics with a 1/16 ounce jig head off the bottom of the rock piles in the ICW. Mangrove snapper catches mixed in the ICW rock piles, indicating the salinity is higher than usual. In fact, there are reports of sharks near the Neche River.

Redfish and trout are good in Sabine Lake making long drifts off the points and drops along the bank, but the southwest winds create difficult conditions. Look for bird action earlier in the morning on outgoing tides for trout and redfish. Lots of gafftop in the lake. North Levy continues to be excellent in the morning for solid trout along the first or second pike with topwaters, live shrimp under a popping cork, or crankbaits. Pleasure Island is good for trout drifting on the flats in 3-6 feet of water with popping cork and live shrimp. Sydney Island points and drops off the ICW for trout. Neches River redfish along the rock piles, buoys and points and drops with live shrimp under a popping cork or those 5 inch plastics.

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

• Bolivar

GOOD. 87 degrees. The surf is holding numbers of black drum, sharks, and some big redfish on cut bait or live on the bottom. The gulf side of the North Jetty is holding limits of sheephead and trout against rocks with an occasional redfish early near the end with a popping cork and shrimp. The wreck has good numbers of trout early on free-lined shrimp or croaker close to rocks. Channel side holding some nice trout close to the rocks and big redfish on the bottom. Sharks are at the end of the jetty towards the gulf side. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Trinity Bay

GOOD. 89 degrees. A mix of black drum, redfish, and a few speckled trout catches near the far northwest region of the bay using live shrimp. Increased south to southwest winds have curtailed open bay catches. Report



Trout and redfish are good on white glo chartreuse plastics with a 1/16 ounce jig head off the bottom of the rock piles in the ICW.

by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• East Galveston Bay

FAIR. 89 degrees. The Bolivar pocket is the best chance for speckled trout. East Galveston bay is off-colored due to increased southwest wind. Bite is slow for speckled trout over reefs. Best catches coming from those wading early. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter. Surface water temps 88 degrees, water stirred up again in East Bay due to the West, Southwest winds, as the further East you venture the darker the water gets. Winds have been out of the West to Southwest in the 8-10 mph range in the mornings, increasing to 12-20 mph as the day progresses, limiting our off the shore reef tactics. Shrimp imitation lures under popping corks have still been producing the most bites for our anglers, and Purple Reign has worked well with 3/4 oz jig heads. Catches of our targeted species of keeper Trout and Redfish are down this week compared to last week. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Services, LLC.

Little Hanna's Still holding speckled trout early and an occasional flounder, or redfish. The drains are holding lots of fish early in the day. Yates Bayou drain is holding redfish against grass line on popping cork and shrimp. Siever's Cut holding redfish near grass lines. Look for birds and slicks in Hanna's, Deep Reef, Moody's Reefs. Gas wells A1 to Eagle point are holding some trout biting live croaker. Goat Island is holding redfish, with the occasional speckled trout, under a popping cork with shrimp or Carolina rigged live mullet finger mullet. Look for birds, slicks, and restless bait. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service

LLC.

• Galveston Bay

FAIR. 89 degrees. Gas wells are producing the occasional keeper speckled trout, and lots of undersized fish. Rocks along the Houston Ship Channel are fair for speckled trout. Black drum catches have been good, along with the occasional sheephead, and redfish. Best bait has been live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. With the blue water moving closer again the piers should be back on for redfish, sharks, and jack crevalle. Todd's Dump to Redfish Island holding some nice trout on croaker and strawberry with white artificials. The gas wells off the ship channel bordering Brothel Island are holding some nice speckled trout, and occasional redfish on croaker. The South Jetty holds some big redfish with a few nice slots. Some nice sharks can be found at the end. The Gulf side of the jetty is on fire for speckled trout, sheephead, pompano and redfish close to rocks on popping cork with live bait free-lined shrimp, or Carolina rigged float with shrimp, or chatterweight and croaker. Channel side

holding trout and redfish close to rocks with popping cork and live shrimp. The railroad bridge is holding redfish drum and a decent number of speckled trout early on live bait. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 89 degrees. West Galveston Bay is the bet for those anglers in search of keeper sized speckled trout. Waders are producing the best catches using live croaker. Boat anglers are catching their share of trout on live croakers and shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. West Bay's South Shore is holding a lot of speckled trout and redfish for wade anglers around the coves and grass lines from South Deer Island to San Luis Pass. Both sides of Bird Island and the flats continue to hold good numbers of speckled trout and redfish for wade anglers. North shorelines between Carancahua Reef and Confederate Reef holding good trout and redfish with the occasional flounder drifting, or off pole A to D with chatterweight and croaker or popping cork with Shrimp. The pass is holding some redfish and speckled trout using live bait. Seeing a few Tarpon surfaces between the pass and Jamaica Beach. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Texas City

FAIR. 88 degrees. Anglers fishing off the dike are reporting a slow bite during the day, with the best action is at night us-

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The BRIDGE CITY ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, August 28, 2023 in the Bridge City ISD Administration Building, 1031 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.6994/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters	\$0.3150/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	3.73% increase
Debt Service	79.22% increase
Total expenditures	10.11% increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$1,693,365,891	\$1,873,072,789
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$22,324,011	\$21,921,808
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$1,418,314,891	\$1,357,368,918
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$18,752,167	\$19,208,655

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$83,244,991

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$0.8656	\$0.1920	\$1.0576	\$4,976	\$4,644
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.73400	\$0.37607	\$1.11006	\$4,529	\$5,756
Proposed Rate	\$0.6994	\$0.3150	\$1.0144	\$4,589	\$5,863

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$202,098.00	\$222,629.00
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$162,098.00	\$130,031.00
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.0576	\$1.0144
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,714.34	\$1,319.03
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		(\$395.31)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.103729. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.103729.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$18,780,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$515,000



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Lady Bobcats From Page 1B

Peevey insisted, "Those six kids have some pretty important roles. They got their feet wet last year then this year we expect them to play like veterans."

Greenlea Oldham plays the middle for Orangefield and should be a strength there. The setter is Brianna Moore who runs the offense for the Lady Bobcats and is very good too.

Kaylea Gravett and Hannah Block will work in the backcourt. Kaitlyn Jenkins and Lela Francis are returning as outside hitters for Orangefield exhibiting strong efforts in the early workouts.

A backup setter to her older sister Brianna will be Addisyn Moore moving up from the junior varsity. Right side hitter Ava Dyer also has moved up from the junior varsity for this season and was strong in the early scrimmages.

Charlee Sanches and Haylee Spears are two other move ups from the junior varsity playing on the right side and the middle respectfully. "Haylee has had a great summer,



Greenlea Oldham is strong at the net and is a leader in kills for the Orangefield Lady Bobcats.
RECORD PHOTO



Dylan Payne won the competition to be the starting quarterback for the LCM Bears this season.
RECORD PHOTO

and she has really shined in our scrimmages thus far taking over the important role of being in the middle," Peevey analyzed.

A freshman Eliese Gravett should see some time on the varsity for the Lady Bobcats. Peevey responded, "Eliese will play some on our back row. She's just a very fearless competitor, and it's going to be really fun to watch her with her big sister Kaylea playing together."

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats enter the current

season with a strong team, but there is room for improvement. "The main thing we need to improve upon and one of our focuses this year in the scrimmages has been our mentality especially on offense. We want the girls to have the mentality that they play fearlessly, we want them to not be afraid, to take a chance, know their role, and play within their means, but not to be afraid. To play fearlessly and growing enough trust with each other to allow us to play

that way," Peevey explained.

Carrying over from last year to this season Coach Peevey hopes the Lady Bobcats continue to hustle and play their never quit defense. Peevey added, "That's something I would always want my kids to embody."

Orangefield played its opening game of the non-district schedule on Tuesday, August 8, at Lumberton. The Lady Bobcats won in three tight sets 27-25, 28-26, and 26-24 against the Lady Raiders.

The Moore sisters Brianna and Addisyn had a great night setting with 14 and 11 assists respectfully. Brianna topped Orangefield with 9 digs.

Greenlea Oldham and Lela Francis each had 6 kills to lead the Lady Bobcats in that category. Francis also served 2 aces and made 7 digs.

Haylee Spears had 5 kills, a block, and an ace serving. Hannah Block served 3 aces and had 4 kills.

Orangefield's next game on Friday, August 11, was a lot tougher against Hampshire-Fannett from a higher classification. The Lady

Bobcats dropped the match at home in three straight sets.

Greenlea Oldham was the leader in kills with 9, and Eliese Gravett led with 10 digs. Brianna Moore assisted on 14 points while Kaitlyn Jenkins, Addi Moore, and Lela Francis each had 2 aces.

The opening game of district for the Orangefield Lady Bobcats will be Friday, September 8, at Kirbyville. Coach Peevey expects, "It's a tough district that we play in, but I wouldn't have it any other way. Our eyes are always on making as deep a run into the playoffs as we can get. Our eyes are more and more on a district

championship. I want that for our program, and our girls want that for each other."

The volleyball program at Orangefield is definitely building to be a strong one. "We had a very competitive junior varsity last year going undefeated the entire season, so that just makes us that much better. We have a great freshman class that's coming in. Our eyes are on some pretty big goals this season. We are a little green in the youth aspect, but definitely are knowledge of the game is there and our work ethic is there. We've just got to hopefully put it all together as the season goes on," Peevey concluded.

Lady Cardinals From Page 1B

DeLuna who is excited to see how Nicole does when she returns.

A knee injury has another sophomore Anna Kelly out for right now. Coach DeLuna is hopeful to get Kelly back before the season is over.

A third sophomore Cambree LaComb will be the setter for the Lady Cardinals. DeLuna indicated, "Cambree set a lot last year, but she'll be our lone setter out there this year."

Senior Lexi Nugier will be the libero for the Lady Cardinals. Nugier should be a key defender on the back row.

Kaylee Britten also a sophomore saw some time on the varsity last season but was an impact player for the Bridge City junior varsity. Britten has been solid for the Lady Cardinal varsity in the early games this year. "I'm excited to see Kaylee's progression," DeLuna commented.

Despite returning so many players from last season's district champions the Lady Cardinals are still pretty young. DeLuna explained, "There's still a lot of sophomores and even a freshman on the team. Truly this team loves each other and they love being around each other and they're willing to lay out on the floor for each other, and that's really some-

thing you can't teach. A team's either got it or they don't and this team's got it.

I think that comradery and that grit they have is going to take them a long way and I'm really excited to see that."

Bridge City started the season with two impressive wins. The Lady Cardinals swept both Liberty and Dayton in straight sets.

On Tuesday, August 8, Bridge City won 25-12, 25-7, 25-13 over Liberty. Demi Carter led the Lady Cardinals in kills and aces with 8 apiece. Makenna Knight nailed 5 kills and 3 aces. Cambree LaComb made 16 assists, and Kaylee Britten served 6 aces.

Three nights later the Lady Cardinals bested Dayton 25-7, 25-18, 25-22 at Bridge City. The Lady Cardinals dominated the first two sets never trailing at any time. Dayton took a 13-9 lead in the third set before Bridge City rallied winning six of the last eight points to eventually win by three points.

Demi Carter was dominate inside again with 17 kills and 4 blocks while also serving 7 aces. Makenna Knight smashed 7 kills and had 4 aces. Cambree LaComb added 3 kills to her 25 assists. Kaylee Britten was the leader in digs with 11 followed by Lexi Nugier with 8 and

Natalie Chavez with 6 digs.

Another district championship in volleyball is desirable for the Bridge

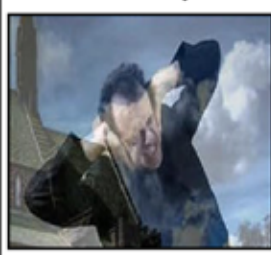
LADY CARDS Page 5B

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LCM Lady Bears

From Page 1B



Ava White of the Lady Bears will be a leader and is a strong outside hitter for the LCM volleyball team.
RECORD PHOTO



Lexi Tubbleville is one of the more experienced Lady Bears and will be a key player on the back row for LCM this season.
RECORD PHOTO

seniors from the volleyball program. Snipes evaluated, "We're replacing one outside hitter, both right side players, replacing both center positions, and we're replacing about half of the back row. We're replacing a lot of touches, so it's going to take a little bit of time to find our groove and adjust to the varsity speed, but the girls are doing a great job so far."

There are some Lady Bears back for Coach Snipes to work with. Ava White is an outside hitter who played on the varsity most of last season, and should be a key returner for LCM probably having the most

ille ran a 5-1 scheme last year, but Snipes plans to use a 6-2 this season. This will put more responsibility on the two setters according to the coach.

Addi Russell who was a backup setter last year will be a starting setter for Snipes. Jada Montagne will be the other setter. Snipes replied, "For both of them this really will be their first full season of being primary setters with all the touches and us relying on the two of them. They've done a great job so far."

New on the outside will be Paisley Angelle and on the right side will be Asia Woodson with Maya Meadows. "Of all our front row hitters I don't think there's going to be one that we have to rely on, and I don't think there's one that an opposing team can concentrate on. I think all six girls are very quality hitters and at any point any of them could catch fire to have a night that takes over the game," Snipes predicted.

Filling the back row with Tubbleville and Nazario are newcomers Eden Frenzel and Allee Palmer. They will all be getting good touches for the Lady Bears from the back row.

touches coming back. In the middle will be Lindi Perry and Jazel Guilbeaux who were rotational last year. Snipes explained that either Perry or Guilbeaux would start while the other would be used as a substitute.

Two Lady Bears return on the back row in Lexi Tubbleville and Janniliz Nazario. Tubbleville sometimes played as the libero while Nazario rotated in on the back row. "The only two Lady Bears returning that I know for sure that had a lot of touches were Ava and Lexi," Snipes analyzed.

Little Cypress Mauriceville

The strength for Little Cypress Mauriceville from what Coach Snipes has seen as the new season begins is the athletic ability of the Lady Bears. Snipes described, "You can't teach people how to be athletes, and I think they've been flying all over the court on defense showing that athletic ability."

"I think we need to grow in our consistency on high level play. Right now we have these moments of playing really high then we'll dip down for a little bit and then we'll get up high again. This is expected of a young team as part of growing up, and the sooner we can just get up to where we don't have those lulls where we're dropping down for five, six, seven points I

think we'll maximize our ability a lot quicker," Snipes added.

Another facet of play that needs improvements for the Lady Bears is their swings. Snipes indicated, "We need to swing a lot more often than we are right now. We need to be more confident in our swings in placing the ball and that will come through practice. Like I said I think we have the athletes and we have the players. They have to trust themselves and ultimately they've got to allow themselves to make mistakes to learn how to be successful in those certain situations with those type of balls that are coming at them or being set to them."

The district in which Little Cypress Mauriceville

plays volleyball includes several very good teams the Lady Bears will compete with for the district title starting with Bridge City which has won the district the past few years and returns a lot of girls. Vidor is absolutely loaded with seniors and those seniors can play.

Snipes gave his expectations. "You can't sleep on anybody. If you don't bring you're A-game you're going to go home with a loss. We don't want that. My expectations really are not anything about wins and losses, I think every year as a coach your job is to just do your best to maximize the ability of the kids you have and so that's my goal," Snipes concluded.

Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN— It's August, which means kids are back in school and the fall hunting and fishing seasons are quickly approaching. Before packing your favorite tackle and camo for trips, be sure to purchase an annual fishing and hunting license for 2023-24.

Current-year Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except the Year-from-Purchase All-Water Fishing Package) expire at the end of August. Licenses for the 2023-24 season went on sale Aug. 15.

Texans purchase more than 2.7 million hunting

and fishing licenses annually, directly funding a multitude of conservation efforts and recreational opportunities. Some of the many projects made possible by license sales include fish stocking, wildlife management, habitat restoration, public hunting leases, river fishing access and Texas Game Wardens.

Outdoorsmen and women can purchase a variety of licenses online through the official TPWD website, by phone at 1-800-895-4248 during regular business hours or in-person.

New this year, hunters and anglers can purchase additional types of digital licenses including Youth

Hunting (Item 169), Lifetime Hunting tags (Item 991), Lifetime Fishing tags (Item 992) and the Exempt Angler tag (Item 257).

The Super Combo license (Items 111, 117 and 990) continues to be available for purchase as a digital license this year as well.

The digital license option is available through online purchase only when licenses go on sale Aug. 15. Digital license holders will not receive a printed license or tags but must keep their digital license available while in the field. Digital tagging is required of digital license holders through the My Texas Hunt Harvest mobile app.

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SE TEXAS R.A.I.N.



COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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FOR RAINFALL AMOUNTS & RIVER LEVELS VISIT US AT:

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Trout, teal and doves take center stage

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

For some strange reason I feel like I'm stuck keep repeating the same week over and over. We continue to have extreme heat, no rain, plenty of southwest wind and more of the same nonsense from those engaged in the witch hunt of our former president. It's just more of the same stuff we can't control but unfortunately have to live with but good things are on the horizon.

It doesn't make any difference if you're a hunter or a fisherman because this time of the year has something for everyone and it's all good. A brief glance at the calendar has both hunters and fishermen alike thinking of what's in store for the coming weeks. The very first hint of hunting season starts with teal and dove season in September and if you look at the calendar that's not too far off. Hunters of all shapes and sizes flock to the field to take advantage of the first opportunities to get back into the sport they love, the whole episode is like "big kid therapy".

Along the coast we look forward to the arrival of the bluewing teal because they will be the first ducks to visit our area on the annual migration south while still others will be looking to take advantage of good numbers of doves that are currently calling our area home. Conditions along the Central flyway are really all over the board as inconsistent rainfall has left many hunters staring at empty skies and dry rain gauges. The drought and excessive heat

have done little to help out most hunters and many are starting to get antsy the closer we get to opening day.

Locally our marshes are in pretty fair shape overall but a good dose of rain or freshwater wouldn't hurt any feelings. We have had extremely low tides for a while and the salt content in most marshes is unseasonably high. The annual wigeon grass die off has begun and we won't see another bloom for several weeks or even longer if the water doesn't freshen up a little. On a recent pass through some local marshes I noticed several areas had begun to grow some grass so it's not complete gloom and doom. I also so our first blue winged teal of the year and that wipe away any frown I may have had at the moment. Be assured that good things are coming as the calendar pages continue to turn because the really good stuff is not far away.

Speaking of "good things" it's been good to see the huge populations of shrimp in the marshes and bayous. I was running up Black's Bayou last week and stopped to take advantage of some gulls picking shrimp that had been pushed to the surface by a herd of hungry trout. The fish we caught were small but there were plenty of them and plenty of shrimp. When we get that first little cold front towards the end of September and the north wind blows all the water out of the marsh Sabine Lake will go nuts with schooling activity and the fishing will be as hot as the summer was.

I know that first front seems like a long way off so I guess we will have to pass the time by shooting a few doves as the season opens for the North and Central zones on September 1st and South Zone on the 14th. Several hunters I have spoken with recently

have been reporting large numbers of doves in our area which always seems to be the

case before opening weekend.

The coming weeks are full of promise and the seasons will overlap causing sportsmen to make a choice to either hunt or fish, either one will certainly be a winner.

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WOS Lady Mustangs From Page 1B



Aaliyah Griggs is coaching the West Orange-Stark Lady Mustangs to show more energy on the volleyball court and play hard from beginning to the end of each game.

RECORD PHOTO

observed, "They were key players last season and they do have a better energy than last year, so I do believe having them back will help with our freshmen."

Robinson will play the important libero position as she did last year. "Kierra was definitely learning a lot, but she took in a lot and she made us better than what we were last year when she was just a freshman. It was hard but she did her thing," Griggs praised.

Judge and Gobert will contribute to the West Orange-Stark cause with their experience. Deja will be an outside hitter while Mear plays in the middle for the Lady Mustangs.

Six freshmen are coming to play for the varsity Lady Mustangs this season. Griggs evaluated, "They have shown tremendous effort, and everything that we're telling them to do they're doing it, so I do believe that they will be a great contributing factor to our winning season."

Of the half dozen fresh-



Kierra Robinson returns as the libero for the West Orange-Stark Lady Mustangs volleyball team.

RECORD PHOTO

men Lady Mustangs the one that stands out to Griggs is Riley Block. "She's our starting setter this year, and anything I tell her to do Riley does it with no complaints and she does it right, so I do believe that we have a good setter. Riley is going to be a great setter by her senior year," Griggs predicted.

The Lady Mustangs are young this season. What Coach Griggs hopes to see is growth for her young ladies especially in terms of leadership.

Griggs explained, "Since we're a young team our leadership is close to non-existent. Some are trying to help, but we still need more leadership on the team because we are so new to the game and we need to know what to do, and right now I'm telling them everything that they need to do, and the leadership amongst the girls just needs to be increased."

Griggs is looking for one of the Lady Mustangs to be her coach on the court. "I think I have an idea, I just need Riley Block to be more

confident in herself," Griggs elaborated.

There is optimism that West Orange-Stark will be more competitive this season in volleyball. "I do see a lot in our girls right now. I'm throwing a lot at them, and they're taking it so well for being such a young team. This year I do expect the Lady Mustangs to show more energy on and off the court, support each other, and never give up at the beginning or at the end of the game. I want them to play all the way through. That's my expectations for my girls," Griggs concluded.

Lady Cardinals From Page 1B

City Lady Cardinals, but Coach DeLuna admitted, "I'm not really looking for anything in particular. Truly, I just want the girls to go out there and do their best and win games. I think it's going to be a little bit of a learning curve this year. They're going to have to fight and be more conscious in the things that they do on the court instead of just kind of swinging away. They have to be able to place the ball, outsmart the other team, and find the weak spots in the other team. We watch film and the girls love that."

The Lady Cardinals have some tough competition to face in their district. "I think that teams like Vidor, Lumberton, and LCM are all very competitive this year, so I'm excited to see how that is going to work into district play. It's always fun whenever you get to play the kids in this area, and all these girls know each other," DeLuna concluded.

Just prior to the start of district action Bridge City will participate in an exciting tournament out of state. The Lady Cardinals will travel to Orlando, Florida to play some teams not from Texas at that tournament.

Notice of Meeting and Agenda
August 11, 2023

John H. Gothia, County Judge
Johnny A. Trahan, Commissioner, Precinct One
Chris Sowell, Commissioner, Precinct Two
Kirk Roccaforte, Commissioner, Precinct Three
Robert L. Viator, Commissioner, Precinct Four

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING NOTICE
NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA
OF THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT
OF ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS
AUGUST 22, 2023

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Orange County, Texas, will hold a **Public Hearing regarding the Proposed Tax Rate on Tuesday, AUGUST 22, 2023 at 10:00a.m.** in the Commissioners' Courtroom of the Orange County Administration Building, 123 South 6th Street, Orange, Texas for the following purpose to-wit:

HEARING PURPOSE:

A Public Budget Hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Orange County Administration Building, 123 South 6th Street, Orange, Texas. This is a public hearing on the proposed 2023-2024 Orange County Budget. This Budget will raise more total property tax from last year's budget by an amount of \$ 6,125,127, or 17%, and of that amount \$ 347,604 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year. Any taxpayer of the county may attend and participate in the hearing.

(John H. Gothia, County Judge)

Dated this 11th day of August, 2023.

Posted at 3:00 p.m.

JOHN H. GOTHIA, COUNTY JUDGE
ORANGE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.5220 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Orange County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.5220 PER \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.4695 PER \$100
VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.6108 PER \$100

The no-new-revenue rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for ORANGE COUNTY from the same properties in both the 2023 and 2024 tax year.

The voter approval rate is the highest tax rate that ORANGE COUNTY may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that ORANGE COUNTY is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 22, 2023 AT 10am AT 123 S 6th ST Orange Tx 77630.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, ORANGE COUNTY is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by the contacting the members of the Orange County governing body at the offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:
PROPERTY TAX AMOUNT= (TAX RATE) X (TAXABLE VALUE OF PROPERTY) / 100

- FOR** the proposal:
AGAINST the proposal:
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT:

The 86th Texas Legislative modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by ORANGE COUNTY last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by ORANGE COUNTY THIS YEAR.

	2023	2024	CHANGE
Total tax rate (per \$100 OF VALUE)	.5320	.5220	-.0100
Average homestead taxable value	\$6,621,433,215	\$7,470,96,9072	\$849,535,857
Tax on average homestead	\$630.26	\$705.01	\$74.75
Total tax levy on all properties	\$38,883,176	\$43,130,851	\$4,247,675

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for ORANGE COUNTY at 409-882-7971 or visit www.co.orange.tx.us for more information

Live Against the Drift

Marshall Segal
Staff Writer
desiringGod.org

The danger of drifting, spiritual or otherwise, is in just how subtle and comfortable drifting can feel. Often we don't even notice it's happening at all.

I grew up outside Cincinnati, Ohio, a far drive from any ocean. I can't even remember a lake near our house. The largest body of water might have been the man-made pond next to the local golf course. So when I finally met the ocean, I would never forget it. I had never seen anything so large and alive and frightening — and yet my little brother and I could splash and wrestle in its wake.

I distinctly remember, on one of those early beach days, mustering up the courage to swim out a little farther, and then a little farther, floating over wave after wave, learning how they obediently march in rows and yet dance in their own way. And then, as happens to so many first-timers, I realized (with great fear) just how far I was from safety. Suddenly the waves were coming higher and faster, pulling me farther than I wanted to go. My feet searched frantically for the bottom. My arms and legs suddenly felt like logs, like they were somehow taking on water. I looked and looked along the beach, but couldn't see my brother, my dad, my mom, anyone. Another wave crashed over my head.

In a panic, I swam frantically, and soon found my



feet back on land, but I had learned just how easy and dangerous it is to drift away from shore. How much more dangerous, then, to drift away from Jesus — to realize, after weeks or months or years, that the waves of life have carried us farther away than we ever expected.

Focus or Drift

One mark of Christian maturity is learning that none of us passively drifts toward Christ, not even after we've followed him for years or even decades. The currents of the still-sinful soul, weathered by constant waves of temptation, still pull us out to sea. We can't sluggishly float in place. We're either swimming toward God or drifting somewhere else.

The writer of Hebrews had felt the undertow of sin battling our love for Jesus. After lifting up the supremacy of the Son in creation, in redemption, in authority, in glory, he writes, "We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it" (Hebrews 2:1). In

other words, if we take our eyes off of this Christ, we'll soon find ourselves further from him. In the life of faith, we either focus or drift.

For his immediate hearers, the tide threatened to pull them back into the Christ-less rituals of old-covenant Israel. Jewish persecution made following Jesus painful and costly, leaving some in prison (Hebrews 13:3). Many considered retreating from Christ to being mistreated with him. Our souls may drift along similar lines. We might drift because people we love hate the God we love, making belittling comments about our convictions or distancing themselves from us because of them. Or we might drift in other, very different directions.

We might drift after unrepentant sin, allowing some lust or bitterness or craving or envy to take hold and slowly drag our souls from safety. We might, like Demas, drift away into worldliness, slowly allowing our affections and imaginations to be absorbed with some distract-

tion — deadlines and promotions, headline news, sports triumphs or losses, shopping trends and deals, social media controversies. We might even drift away because of a fixation on friends or family. Each of these loved ones is a gift of God meant to lead us to God, and yet how often do they instead become gods?

We might drift any number of ways to any number of places. The warning is that if we're not currently swimming closer to Jesus, we cannot stay where we are. Paddling in place is not an option. And the tide will choose where we go — if we let it. The human soul is designed to wax or wane, to drive or drift. So do you know, in the moments of greater preoccupation and weaker resolve, where your soul tends to drift?

Because of Who He Is

Wholly apart from our tendency to drift, Jesus really is worthy of our whole attention. He really is endlessly fascinating. When my family visited Yellowstone, we came across two grizzly bears playfully wrestling in

a field. We were far enough away to be completely safe, but close enough to see it all. I can still picture those enormous, furry brawlers running and tackling and rolling. No one had to convince us to pay attention or keep watching. Someone could have easily made off with our car, which we had left running.

Similarly, if we could catch a glimpse of who Jesus really is, we wouldn't struggle to focus on him. In fact, we'd probably have a hard time noticing all the things that capture and consume so much of our attention now. When we read our Bibles and feel little, it's like we're scanning the field but can't see the bears. Or we can, but they're too far away and fuzzy. When we stop reading our Bibles, we've stopped even looking in the fields. We're driving right by while we stream some series on our phones.

Hebrews 1 is a trailer to the glory we're missing when our eyes drift away from the field. The boy born in Bethlehem is the heir of all things — in part because he made all things (Hebrews 1:2). This Jesus is the beauty of the universe — "the radiance of the glory of God" — and he upholds that universe with his all-powerful breath (Hebrews 1:3). And though he is the pure, spotless image of God, he stepped between the wrath of God and the enemies of God, to make his enemies his brothers. After dying on the cross, he proved even death was under his feet, rising from the grave and then ascending in even greater glory than he came.

And if you could see him as he now is, even

mouth-stopping, sword-wielding armies of angels would grow dull by comparison. He's always worthy of more attention, and he rewards whatever focus we give him.

Because of Who You Are

We pay exceedingly close attention to Jesus because he's worthy of such attention, and because we know how easily we drift away from him. "We must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it." We keep our eyes fixed on him because of who he is, and because of who we are — tempted, distracted, sometimes wandering.

Staying close to Jesus means steadily moving toward Jesus. Scripture's language of "walking by faith" is a great encouragement here. There are times to run (or swim) hard, but most of the Christian life will be walking with Jesus against the drift, like the disciples who walked with Jesus during his ministry. In an age of driving, riding, flying, and hurrying, many of us have lost the art of walking. Resisting the tide often means just taking the next few steps — reading the next chapter, praying the next prayer, preparing for the next Sunday gathering. As we do, we'll find, on some days and in some seasons, that the waves actually turn to serve us, to lift us higher and farther in the right direction.

As we fight the drift within us, we don't have to try to finish our race today. We just need to go as far as we can in these few hours with our eyes on Jesus.

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Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
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Church Directory

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www.fumcorange.org
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Director of Music and Fine Arts: Caroline Dennis

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

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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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