

Penny Record

Vol. 64 No. 43

Distributed **FREE** To The Citizens of Bridge City and Orangefield

Week of Wednesday, March 20, 2024

County sets free junk boat turn-in for April



Codie Vasquez and Halee Watkins from the regional CASA accepted a proclamation from Orange County Commissioners Court declaring April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. The group for volunteers to help abused children go through the legal system during the process to separate them from abusive family, has its regional offices in Orange.

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Orange County's free vessel turn-in program to take in junked boats is set this year for April. County Judge John Gothia said

the program helps keep them from being dumped in the waterways.

The program, sponsored by the Texas General Land Office, allows owners to turn in boats and trailers for proper

disposal. The fuel, oil, and batteries are removed and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will verify the ownership to clear them.

The dates will be April 6, 9, 11, and 13 at the Citizen Collection Station off FM 1442 by the County Expo Center. The times will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Commissioners Tuesday officially set the times

and dates during a court meeting. Precinct 1 Commissioner Johnny Trahan was absent because of recent surgery. John Gothia said the commissioner was doing well and had planned to attend, but had a follow-up doctor's appointment.

Mosquito Control Director Patrick Beebe got permission to spend more money to help in the effort to stop mosquitoes.

He also warned that he may need more money because he has already spent 50 percent of his operating budget with six and half months left in the budget year. Those months include the summer, when the pests are usually worse.

Beebe said more spraying has had to be done this winter than is average.

The court approved

him taking \$10,500 from his contingency fund to go toward the price of a new pickup truck. Judge Gothia said the county was lucky to find one available. The pickup will replace one that is now 18 years old. The smaller pickup model is easier to use on narrow county roads in the dark where it is difficult to turn larger

COUNTY Page 3A

Fans of 'Gatemouth' working to replace gravestone

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Fourteen years ago, a grave marker carved with a Fender guitar was placed at the grave site of Grammy-winning singer and musician Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, who is buried in Orange's Hollywood Cemetery.

But flood waters continually damaged the marker, which included his quote engraved "I won't limit myself to one type of music. There's a lot of universe out there, and what is the universe? Music."

Now, a fan and family friend has started an online fundraiser for money for a new marker.

Stephen "Doc" Watson earlier this month posted on Facebook a link to givensendgo.com hoping to raise money for a new marker. He has permission from Brown's daughter, Renee, who lives in New Orleans. The donation site is GiveSendGo.com.

The hometown son was featured at the first Art in the Park festival, which was held in the fall of 2003. Orange Mayor Brown Claybar gave him a proclamation and the key to the city.

In 2021, Lamar State College-Orange built and

dedicated the "Gatemouth" Brown Plaza at the campus in downtown.

In addition, a Texas Historical Marker was dedicated to Brown in Hollywood Cemetery in 2012.

Brown was born in 1924 on the Louisiana side of the river in Vinton, but was raised in Orange, learning to play several musical instruments, including guitar, mandolin, and fiddle. His father was a musician and worked for a railroad. Brother Bobby Brown, who still lives in Orange, once recalled the father and son used to play for tips on Saturdays outside the Holland Hotel in Orange in the 1930s when downtown was busy.

Clarence Brown served in the army in World War II. His biography tells that he was discovered in 1947 at the Bronze Peacock Club in Houston when T-Bone Walker became ill. Brown got his guitar and wowed the crowd with his playing the original "Gatemouth Boogie."

He was pegged as playing the blues, however his musical style combined Cajun, jazz, country, R&B, and blues. He could move from smooth Duke Ellington to the blues and on to

Gatemouth Page 3A



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that the March Student of the Month for Orangefield is Paris Becker. She is ranked 50 of 124, with GPA: 3.5 Pictured are: Rea Wrinkle, Shaun McAlpin, Britni Briggs, Paris Becker, Dihlon Becker, Essence Becker, Halle Becker, Don Glass, and Nicole Glass.

Lions dub rain pattern 'El Carnivale'

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Everyone has heard of the El Nino and La Nina weather patterns. The new pattern is "El Carnivale." It's guaranteed to bring on rain.

That's the latest joke from the Orange Lions Club as the community crosses its fingers for good weather during the last four days of this year's charity carnival. But yikes. Rain is in the forecast.

The 83rd annual Lions Charity Carnival in Orange will open this

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at Lions Park in Orange.

For years, the carnival was held in the fall, but hurricanes and tropical storms beginning in 2005 ruined the fall locally for a number of years. The Lions Club then moved the carnival to the spring. Heavy spring rains and wet grounds in have brought the Lions to cancel days of the carnival.

Last year, Lions sold commemorative umbrellas linking the event to rain.

This past week, the club lucked out for Saturday. Thunderstorms Friday night led to the cancellation that night, however the rainfall expected throughout Saturday mostly moved to the north. The carnival went on Saturday with volunteers and guests wearing boots to protect against the mud.

The carnival will be open on Wednesday and Thursday from 6:30 to 10 p.m., and from 6:30 to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Entry is \$3 for adults, \$2 for ages 13-17, and free

to children. This year, only cash will be accepted and a local credit union has donated ATMs placed on the grounds.

The carnival began in the 1930s with only the Orange Lions Club and as the county grew with more Lions clubs forming, the other groups joined in. The Orange Lions own and operate the carnival rides, which are now vintage, including a 1950s carousel. The 1930s Ferris wheel was destroyed by Hurricane Rita. Rides are

Lions Page 3A

Shangri La starts Wellness Wednesdays

Staff Report For The Record

Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center invites the public to escape from the hustle and bustle of daily life and partake in their new health-focused program, Wellness Wednesdays. This unique wellness experience provides visitors with an opportunity to start their day with a rejuvenating combination of physical activity and nature. The gardens will

open at 7 a.m. every Wednesday through October. Admission to Shangri La Botanical Gardens is free of charge.

"Lace up your sneakers and come enjoy a dose of nature's healing at Shangri La. This spring, commit to healthy habits by engaging your mind and body in practices that promote your physical health, as well as nurture your mental well-being. We encourage individuals to also take advantage of the social opportunities made

possible with this initiative by forming a walking group, spending quality time with friends and family or setting collaborative wellness goals together," said Marlene Cox, guest services coordinator at Shangri La.

Visitors of all ages and fitness levels are invited to experience the tranquility of early mornings in nature. During Wellness Wednesdays, walk your way to better health, energize your mind with meditation, strengthen your

body with yoga, read a book or watch nature's art. Visitors are encouraged to dress comfortably, wear walking shoes and bring water to stay hydrated.

A free, guided yoga class will be offered on select Wellness Wednesdays. On March 20, visitors may enjoy adult gentle yoga in the garden to move, stretch and awaken their mind and body. Participants will learn unique connections within the body to

WELLNESS Page 3A



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COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS . . .



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that the March Student of the Month for Bridge City is Jessica Nguyen. Jessica is ranked 23 of 204 with a GPA of 4.55. Pictured are: Barbara Moore, Chloe Tucker, Jessica Nguyen, Biet Le, Huynh Thi Ai, Dr. Amanda James, Dr. Mike Kelly.



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that Nichole Brown with Global Green Insurance Agency has been named March Employee of the Month. Pictured are: Robin Liscano, Nichole Brown, Emily Siau, and Candace Mulhollan.



The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club has named Nicolas Fuentes as their Bridge City Student of the Month for March. Nicolas has a GPA of 3.27 and ranks 46 out of 204 students. He plans to attend Lamar University for a computer science degree. He is accompanied by his Fuentes family and Shannon King, assistant principal at BCHS, and Mark Bunch.

Texas Labor Market Growth Continues into 2024

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN-- The Texas labor market marked record-breaking growth with January over-the-month increases in jobs, Texans employed, and the civilian labor force. Following annual benchmarking revisions to the 2023 labor market data, Texas' seasonally adjusted

job count increased by 18,900 in January to reach 14,053,400 jobs and achieve growth in 43 of the last 45 months.

According to the revised data, Texas' total nonfarm employment grew by 263,900 jobs from January 2023 to January 2024, which represents a 1.9 percent annual growth rate.

The Texas seasonally adjusted civilian labor force grew over the month by 12,800 people to reach 15,143,400 in January. This included the addition of 16,000 employed Texans over the month. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate registered at 3.9 percent for the eighth consecutive month, based on the revised 2023 data, while

dropping from the January 2023 rate of 4.1 percent.

"Texas continues to lead the nation in job growth and economic stability," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "As we make our way into 2024, the Texas labor force continues to up-skill and become the workforce of tomorrow."

Over the month in January, five of 11 major industries in Texas achieved series highs. The most significant private sector growth occurred in Other Services with 5,000 jobs added, while 4,400 jobs were added in Professional and Business Services. Another 4,000 jobs were added in Private Education and Health Services over the month. In addition, Construction industry annual growth outpaced the nation by 0.3 percentage points in January.

"TWC helps Texans get the training, guidance, and support they need to continue our industry growth and remain the second largest economy in the U.S.," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III. "The Texas Workforce System continues to assist more than 15.1

million people in the civilian labor force with employment and long-term careers."

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

maintained the lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 2.6

TEXAS LABOR Page 3A

MIXED EMOTIONS

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

As a long time, Democrat, I must admit I have mixed emotions about the way Dade Phelan is being treated by the Republican Party. While I am pleased to see the Republicans are so disorganized, I am convinced that having the Speaker of the House representing this area is a great benefit to us all.

There is a time and place for an area to benefit. The time is while the Legislature is in session. The place is various committees of the House and Senate. As an example, had I not been chair of the Senate Education Committee, there would not



Former State Senator
Carl Parker

Carl Parker is a 1958 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law. Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and the Senate in 1976.

have been a Lamar at Orange or Port Arthur. A new nursing program would not have been created.

People of District 21: would it not be foolish to dump an honest, young man because he allowed the House to impeach our attorney general who has been sued by his employees and is under indictment? Or that vouchers did not get passed by the House?

Think before you vote!!

The Record Newspapers

of Orange County, Texas

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

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Round The Clock Hometown News

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COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS . . .



Rodney Christman, left, was named Bridge City ISD Bus Driver of the Year through the Property Casualty Alliance of Texas (PCAT), a consortium of public school districts. The award is for his outstanding service to the students and staff.



The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club named Brianna Moore as their Orangefield Student of the Month for March. Brianna ranks 3rd out of 124 students and has a GPA of 4.7. She plans to attend McNeese for a Pre-Medical Degree. Pictured are: Shaun McAlphin, OF Superintendent, Brittany Pittman, Laura Pittman, Brianna, Mark Bunch, Britni Briggs - Counselor and Rea Wrinkle - OFHS Principal.



Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center invites the public to escape from the hustle and bustle of daily life and partake in their new health-focused program, Wellness Wednesdays. The gardens will open at 7 a.m. every Wednesday through October. Admission to Shangri La Botanical Gardens is free of charge.

Gatemouth gravestone From Page 1

playing Orange Blossom Special on fiddle. He became great friends with country legend Roy Clark and the two cut an album together. Brown also regularly appeared with Clark on "Hee Haw."

He won the 1983 Grammy for Best Traditional Blues Album for "Alright Again!"

Brown traveled the world playing his unique music and joining in with some of the biggest legends in rock, jazz, and country music. He developed a fashion of wearing black cowboy style clothes with black cowboy boots and black cowboy hat. He was called "The Guitar Slinger." He drove a big, black Cadillac and parked it near the stage at the first Art in the Park.

In 2004, Rolling Stone Magazine reported he had lung cancer and was not going to take any treatments for it. He continued playing, carrying an oxygen tank to performances.

He had settled along the water in Slidell, Louisiana, outside of New Orleans. As Hurricane Rita approached, relatives begged him to evacuate. He came to Orange to stay with relatives, and soon went to a Port Arthur Hospital.

News reports said he left the hospital without medical clearance. He died in Orange at his grandniece's house on September 10, 2005. The death made national news and his funeral here the next week drew news media from New Orleans, Houston, Austin, and New York, in addition to local ones. Floral arrangements came from musicians. Guitarist and singer Jimmy Vaughn attended.

Brown was buried in Hollywood Cemetery on September 17, 2005. On September 24th, Hurricane Rita devastated Orange County and blew down some of the old trees in the cemetery.

It wasn't the first of the storms that have affected Gatemouth Brown.

Hollywood Cemetery dates back to at least the 1860s and was in a low-lying area along Cooper's Gully, which runs into the nearby Sabine River. Most of the graves in the cemetery are in the coastal style of concrete vaults that are partly above ground.

Hurricane Ike in September 2008 sent a coastal surge up the Sabine River and flooded the southern part of the county. The strong waters forced off the concrete lids of the vaults. Come 50 caskets floated out, with some traveling down Sim-



The original sculpted tombstone of Grammy-winning singer and musician Clarence 'Gatemouth' Brown in Orange's historic Hollywood Cemetery has been damaged by storms. Temporary repairs have not lasted, and now a musician and friend is leading an online effort for fans to get a new marker. mons Drive.

Brown's casket was among them. Authorities said it was pushed against a fence and never left the cemetery. He was quickly identified and reinterred.

His daughter Renee placed artist-designed tombstone at the grave in the spring of 2010.

The cemetery flooded again with the record-breaking Sabine River Flood of March 2016, and then again, with Hurricane Harvey in August 2017. The pressure of the waters broke the marker. Though volunteers made repairs, the sculptured marker has continued to break, especially after two more hurricanes in 2020.

Wellness Wednesday From Page 1

increase muscle elasticity, loosen joints and gain flexibility. The class starts promptly at 10:30 a.m. Participants are encouraged to check in starting at 10 a.m., as well as bring their own yoga mat and wear comfortable shoes.

"We're thrilled to launch Wellness Wednesdays as a part of our dedication to provide opportunities for individuals to foster a deeper connection with na-

ture. Spending time outdoors can enhance your mind, body and soul. Step into serenity at Shangri La Botanical Gardens during Wellness Wednesdays this spring," said Cox.

Shangri La Gardens and Nature Center is located at 2111 West Park Avenue in Orange, Texas. For more information, please visit shangrilagardens.org.

Lions Carnival opens From Page 1

inspected according to state laws.

All food and game booths are operated by Lions, plus volunteers around the community, including other civic clubs, businesses, and individuals. The foods include hamburgers, fries, pork-a-bobs,

corn dogs, funnel cakes, pretzels, cotton candy, popcorn, and snow cones.

All the hours and effort are made to help raise money for a wide range of local charities, including providing eye care and food baskets for those in need.

Texas labor growth From Page 2A

percent in January, followed by the Amarillo MSA at 3.1 percent, and College Station-Bryan at 3.3 percent.

"The Texas labor market is continuing its forward momentum with 14,000 private sector jobs added over the month in January," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Joe Esparza. "Texas employers are creating thousands of opportunities for Texans, and TWC has the resources they need to train and upskill

their workforce."

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). *All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit TexasLMI.com.

The Texas Labor Market & Career Information Data for February is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. (CDT).

County business From Page 1

spray trucks around.

Beebe reported he has received the budgeted forklifts and lowboy trailer to transport them. The forklifts are used to move materials and barrels around at the county's hangar for the spray plane and at the center where the spray trucks are. The county airport will also have access to a forklift.

The vote for Beebe's request was unanimous and Judge Gothia joked "I don't think anyone wants to go on record being against anything for mosquito control."

The court also approved the preliminary infrastructure development plan for the Orange Shadee Mobile Home Park. County Engineer Corey Oldbury said commissioners have already approved the plans for the adjacent park for recreational vehicles. The new part will be for

rental spaces for manufactured homes.

The development is off Highway 62 south of Interstate 10. Oldbury said the Orange County Drainage District has given the okay for the drainage plans for both sections.

Oldbury also talked to commissioners about applying for the net Safe Streets and Roads grants available. He thinks the county could qualify for the program, which could pay 80 percent of fixing some of the county roads already targeted for repairs.

The court passed a resolution making April Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. Codie Vasquez with the Sabine Neches Region CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates, said Texas had 173 children die from abuse in 2023, with one in Orange County.

BC fundraiser features 'mad' hats, designer purses

Crazy hats will be the fashion for the next designer purse bingo party sponsored by the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce and tickets went on sale this week.

The fundraiser offers food, drinks and fun, plus a chance to win an expensive designer purse during bingo games. The upcoming one will be Thursday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m. with the theme Mad Hatter, Alice in Wonderland.

Each ticket includes dinner, two drink tickets, one bingo card for each round, plus one raffle chance. Tickets are \$65

each, or \$550 for a "girlfriends table" seating eight, or \$650 for a sponsorship table seating eight.

Tickets and sponsorships are available through the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce at 150 West Roundbunch Road in the historic teacherage building. The number is 409-735-5671. Queries may also be emailed to director@bridgecitycoc.com. The chamber office is open Mondays through Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



CHRISTUS Hospital - Orange is now open.

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SUPREME COURT PERMITS TEXAS TO ARREST PEOPLE WHO ILLEGALLY CROSS THE BORDER AS LEGAL CLASH CONTINUES

The U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday allowed Texas to start enforcing **Senate Bill 4**, a new state law that allows Texas police to charge people with illegally entering the state from other countries. The federal government argued that the law is unconstitutional because enforcing immigration laws is a **federal responsibility**. The legal case is far from over. The case will now go back to the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. SB 4 seeks to make illegally crossing the border a **Class B misdemeanor**, carrying a punishment of up to six months in jail. Repeat offenders could face a second-degree felony with a punishment of two to 20 years in prison. Earlier this year, a bipartisan immigration bill failed in the U.S. Senate after **Trump told Republicans** not to vote for it, in part so that he could campaign on the issue. The bill proposed overhauling the nation's asylum system to provide quicker decisions on **asylum requests** and allow presidents to order immediate deportation of migrants at the border when immigration agents get overwhelmed. **Trump** has said that immigration enforcement will be among his priorities if he wins back the presidency in November. During his presidency he was heavily criticized for a **"zero tolerance" policy** that required **Border Patrol agents** to **separate children from their parents** and using racist language to describe migrants.

CRUZ FACES TOUGH FOE IN ALLRED

According to **Jeremy Wallace**, Texas political writer, U.S. Sen. **Ted Cruz's** campaign is warning donors that he's already tied with **Colin Allred** and bracing for a tougher 2024 reelection campaign than **GOP** voters might expect. **Cruz** has been telling **Republicans** for weeks that they can't take things for granted in Texas anymore. "I will say, my race here in Texas is a battleground race," **Cruz** told **Fox News** host **Maria Bartiromo** last month. "My last race I won by less than three points because I'm the **Democrats'** top target." **Allred** has been telling supporters he has a real shot at toppling **Cruz** based on limited early public polling and fundraising data. The **congressman** acknowledged being the underdog but pointed to his history of knocking off veteran U.S. Rep. **Pete Sessions**, a **Republican**, in 2018, but his upbringing as the child of a single mother and making the **NFL** as a linebacker despite being undrafted. The early polling is mixed. A University of Texas at Tyler survey released two weeks ago showed **Allred** and **Cruz** tied, but nearly 20 percent of voters were undecided. **Allred's** already shown one big difference from **O'Rourke's** campaign in 2018: he's hitting **Cruz** early and often. When **O'Rourke** started his 2018 campaign, he intentionally refused to hit **Cruz** directly, insisting his campaign was rising above politics. **Allred** spent much of his victory speech in the March 5 **Democratic primary** blasting **Cruz** on several fronts, most notably his 2021 decision to vacation in **Cancun** while winter storms left hundreds of **Texans** dead and millions more without power. "When 30 million **Texans** were freezing in the dark, he decided to go to **Cancun**," **Allred** said. **Cruz** apologized in several interviews after that trip.

SCARBOROUGH SERVICES TO BE HELD

Mary Frances Scarborough, 97, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away on March 14, 2024, at The Medical Center in Port Arthur. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Officiating will be Darrell Segura. Burial will follow at Oak Bluff Memorial Park in Port Neches. Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday, March 22, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Please see obituary.

LONGTIME POLICE OFFICER SAMMY MILLS REMEMBERED

We were sorry to hear about the death of **Sammy Burnell Mills**, age 64, who passed away February 18. Sammy was a retired deputy sheriff. I go back many years with his family, even before Sammy was born. I was a personal friend of his grandfather Burnell Luther, one of the most highly respected men I've ever known. For years they lived on Hwy. 62, in the Win-free Community. His mom Arlene, Burnell's daughter, is a beautiful, kind lady who for several years helped us here at The Record where she ran a delivery route until her husband Lee got sick. She loved the job which she treated as a hobby and we always respected her loyalty. It is so sad that Sammy left us at such a young age. This good man is sure to be in Heaven. A celebration of life for Sammy will be held at the Orange Train Depot Museum, Sunday, March 24, at 2 p.m. Please see obituary.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2014

At 86, Gov. Edwards launches comeback. Edwin W. Edwards, the 86-year-old former four term governor of Louisiana, announced this week that he was running for congress of the Baton Rouge District as a Democrat. For many years the Feds tried to put Edwin in jail but each time they failed. Finally, he was charge with racketeering and extortion and sentenced to 10 years. He completed eight years of the term. His son also served time in the joint. While in prison, Edwin gave his beautiful wife a divorce. He said it was the right thing to do. She was much too young and pretty to just sit around waiting for him to get out of jail. Since his release, he has gotten married, fathered a child and starred on a reality television show. Edwards, known for his wit, listed potential obstacles to a race including his age, his criminal record and Louisiana moving so far to the right. Then he explained why that wouldn't keep him from a new career in Washington. "I acknowledge there are good reasons why I should not run but there are better reasons why I should." An old Cajun said to me, "Edwin him, he took his medicine and served his time like da man he is. Many of dem no good politicians have stole a lot more dan Edwin and got away wit it." ****I understand that Dist. Judge Courtney Akkeen's coordinator, **Latouia Leverett**, finally accepted longtime boyfriend **Aaron DuBois'** marriage proposal with a July 18th wedding date set. Judge Courtney came back to work March 4 after giving birth to twins looking as great as ever.****Matt Bryant, Bridge City native in the NFL, was honored last week with Atlanta's **Community Spirit Award** for his charity work. If my memory serves me right, he received the same award when he was in Tampa Bay.

20 Years Ago-2004

Bridge City coach Troy Woodall retires. All but six weeks of his 40 years in coaching were spent at one school district, BCISD. Woodall said, "I graduated from East Texas Baptist College on a Friday and was coaching Monday morning. Glen Pearson had been my wife Brenda's basketball coach at Bridge City and he knew of a temporary opening at Stark High in Orange. In the middle of a spring training session, Bridge City coach Chief Wilson, walked up, tapped me on the shoulder and announced that he was adding me to his expanded staff at Bridge City." For the next 40 years, Woodall remained a Cardinal. He was there during the Steve Worster/Chief Wilson/Cardinal glory days and state championship. (Editor's note: for all those years I've known Troy he's been a prince of a guy. He has caught a million pounds of fish. I still think he's a great guy and still active.****Sherlock Breaux judges **Rosalie Clark's** baked fish, stuffed with small shrimp, as the best eats at the St. Joseph Altar.

45 Years Ago-1979

For 68 years, Orange master tailor, Clayton L. Meredith, known professionally around the United States as "Meredith the Tailor" has been practicing his trade. He and wife Grace are the parents of two daughters, Mrs. Laverne Parish and Mrs. Feagin Windham. Meredith the Tailor provides everything expected of a modern tailor. Fabric for custom-made suits cost as much as \$58 per yard and a suit requires from three and a half to three and five eights yards of material plus 32 to 36 hours of labor. His customers have included Gov. Huey Long, Pres. Harry Truman and Gov. Jim Ferguson. His most notable client was Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink, famed operatic contralto. (Editor's note: When Mr. Meredith passed away he was Orange's last master tailor that made everything from scratch to custom fit. He used imported fabric from around the world. Betty Jo Spence recorded his life in a story written for the Opportunity Valley News in 1979.)****Eight Bridge City guys compete for the title of Miss Community Center. Contestants who displayed their "feminine" talents were Miss La- **Donna (Don Breaux)**, Miss **Latrina La Munch (Terry Bourdier)**, Miss **Little Egypt (Troy Broussard)**, Miss **Geraldine (Curtis Lee)**, Miss **Tootsie (Donald Cole)**, Miss **Fannie Barr (Tim Libby)**, Miss **Charming Charmaine (Charles Johnson)** and Miss **Trixie Delight (Steve Baker)**. **Miss La- Donna won the competition** and swimsuit. Richard "Deanna" Solomon was usherette. W.T. Oliver was master of ceremonies.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Nothing says American community like Orange's **Lions Club Carnival**. The great local tradition now has grandparents with grandkids, and when they were kids, their grandparents were there, too. Families travel from out of town to bring their own kids. Longtime Lion **Debbie Hughes** had all four grandchildren of her grandchildren, her daughter, **Dr. Kayla Cheek**, helped **Debbie** on the carousel. Former local Lions members **Ron Sigler** and **Jay Hall**, who have moved away for jobs, came back to volunteer. **Ron's** usually hanging around the pork-a-bobs on the grill. **Steve Maddox** is cooking the famous **Uncle Larry hamburgers**, named for the legendary **Larry David**. **Gina** and **Skipper Yeaman**, along with **Denisha** and **Matthew LaFleur** were at their now traditional spot selling lighted novelty items. **Donna Scales** was with granddaughter **Indie** and daughter-in-law **Jackie** while granddaughter **Stella** went to the daddy-daughter dance. **Gary** and **Allisha Bonneaux** took in the fun and social scene, but we haven't heard how many food booths he hit. **Elvis** and **Melissa Rushing** were seen laughing with their granddaughter.******The Lutch Theater** scored another hit with the Broadway musical **Come From Away**. It was based on the true story of how a Newfoundland town with a population of 9,000 took care of 7,000 airline passengers grounded outside the U.S. on 9-11. Three women members of the **99s Lake Charles Chapter of women licensed pilots** came. A female pilot captain is one of the featured characters. Because the **Salvation Army** in Canada helped feed the stranded travelers, the

Lutch asked patrons to bring food donations to the **Orange County Salvation Army**. **Captains Tiffany and Dante Salgado** attended to personally thank everyone. **Adam Conrad** was with **Jody Chesson** and **Dana McMillan**. The crowd included **Marla** and **John Blanke**, **Sue Harris**, **Karen** and **Jack McKinney**, **Bridge Trahan**, **Angie Smith**, **Jennifer Smith**, **Linda Kay Mazzola**, **Lisa Taylor**, **Emily Mazzola**, **Ben Wernig**, **Lisa Taylor**, and **Emily Mellon**.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **March 20: Dana Portacci, Ashley Ashworth, Abby Ludwig, Ben Wallis, Jamie Preston, Jan Savage, Diane Sims, Keely Benefield, Kamela Latiolais, Brittany Backer, Erma Gross.********March 21: Alayna Jacobs, Ester Brown, Barbara Mosier, Terry McFarlane, Ronelle Irvine, Kyle Anderson, Otto Whisenant, Ramona Huff, Ruth Mason, Stephen McKenzie, Tanya Simon, Lisa Roberts.** (Hard to believe **Johnny Dishon** turns 35 today.)******March 22: Sharon Boling, Robert Thomas, Kyle Leyendecker, Carroll Kile, Carsen Carpenter.********March 23: Abigail Gauthier, Mary West, Kenneth Kemp, Lance Eads, Corbin McLellan, Kurt Haggard, Chad Gearheart, Margaret Boehme, Natalie Sarvar, Renee Dillon, Tiffany Smith, Cambree Williams, Grady Rawls.********March 24: Attorney Michael Catt, Forrest Wood, Hannah Drane, James Stone, Joseph Blanda, Matt Hanson, Mary Ann Smith, Zara Killman, Brenda Edwards, Grant Kimbrough.********March 25: Kim Faulkner, Warren Claybar, Katie Birdwell, Mary Grimes, Matt Thompson, Scott Mangham, B.J. Walker, Mike Vincent.********March 26: Karen Bozman, Kevin "Radar" Kelly, Sherry Stevens, Christy Day.********Gene Broussard** had a big family get-together for his 90th. Other birthdays included **Karen Ratcliff**, who turned 86, plus retired longtime courthouse employees **Ruth Corder** and **Betty James**. More trip around the sun celebrators were **Amy Peevey, Marla Blanke, Cody Carr, Brittney Chandler, Thelma Woodrow, Becky Burch, Debbie Savoy, Robin Thomas, Victoria Perry, Katie Caillavet, Kenedie Beadle, Rose Thayer, Kyle DuBose, Teshayla Brown, Tammy Young Stak, and Patsy Duncan.********Tony** and **Glenda Perry** marked their 33rd anniversary and got a new granddaughter. **Joey** and **Melanie Claybar** had their 23rd.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Clovis Badaeux wat is flying for da first time in his life, taking a plane trip to visit his very ill sister, **Agnes**, in California. **Clovis** is really nervous about da trip, him. Not too long after dey take off dem, da pilot is making da usual welcome announcements over da PA system.

"**Ladies and gentlemen**, dis is the captain. I would like to welcome you aboard **Cajun Airlines**. We are flying non-stop from New Orleans to Los Angeles. Me, I expect a smooth and uneventful flight. Jus sit back and enjoy da----Oh My God!"

Den dere is nuttin but silence. A minute later, da pilot comes over da PA again and say, "**Ladies and gentlemen**, I'm sorry me if I scared you but da stewardess accidentally spilled a big cup of hot coffee in my lap. Boy, you should see da front of my pants."

Badaeux him, breath a big sigh of relief. He say "**KeeYaw**," to da passenger sitting next to him, "Da front of his pants ain't nutten, you should see da back of mines."

C'EST TOUT COMMENTARY

Last week **Lamar Orange's** president **Dr. Tom Johnson** spent time in Washington hustling funds for his college. What I had not realized is that all four **Lamar** campuses are in one congressional district. **Randy Weber** is our U.S. Congressman. It's easier for the schools to work with one representative rather than two or three.****Speaking of **Lamar**, I got a call from **Sen. Carl Parker**, the granddaddy of **Port Arthur** and **Orange** campuses being in the **Texas State** systems and not junior colleges with a tax base. Anyway, **Parker's** heart valve replacement has been delayed but not for long. I enjoyed talking about the old political times. Not many of us old political grinders left. We got a lot done in our time. Think how much we could have accomplished if the speaker of the house would have been in our district. With **Dade Phelan** as speaker and **Robert Nichols** as our state senator our district is no longer being treated like an unwanted stepchild.****We had a nice visit with **Charlie Warner** Saturday. We have known him since he was in short pants. He has an interesting life story. By the way, he and his wife **Karen** will be eclipse watching April 8 in Wimberley, Texas with her sister and brother-in-law, **Matt and Dana Portacci**. The former Bridge City folks have a beautiful place in the Hill Country perfect to see the upcoming eclipse. Their son, **Nick**, former BCHS athlete, is now a banker, married and living in Arizona. By the way, **Dana** will be celebrating a birthday today. Happy birthday **Dana**.****Our friends at **Brown Hearing Center** will be celebrating their 62nd anniversary April 1 thru 12. We have known **Dorothy** and the late **Lee Brown** since the day they arrived in Orange County. **Dot** still hangs around the hearing center which is run by son-in-law **Eddie Toohey** and his boys. Great people to do business with. They have cared for my hearing for nearly 20 years. With hearing aids it's the service that really counts. You don't get that with over the counter cheapies.****I finally heard from our friend **Van Choate**. They are doing fine and have the last child in college at Sam Houston. Van's not doing much, **Josette** is making the living. (That what he says anyway.) She always was an active partner teaching school and raising kids. **Van** was always the biggest kid of all but thankfully she's finally got him off of his motorcycle.****I've got to end this column for one more week. Thanks for your time and loyalty. Read us cover to cover and check out therecordlive.com. Take care and God bless.



Christus-Orange technician instructs OHS Health Science class

Guest speakers from Christus Orange and the Port Arthur Fire Department visited with Orangefield High School Health Science classes recently.

Angela Webb, RN, and Jeremy Kaskos, PAFD Captain, shared information on heart function and statistics on CPR survival rates. Students got hands-on practice of both adult and infant chest compressions, as well as the opportunity to learn about a new technology that is currently beginning to be used in our area.

The PAFD has a device called an AutoPulse that is used as part of resuscitative measures for patients undergoing cardiac arrest. The machine is able to provide chest compressions that are more effective than manual compressions and has been proven to increase survival rates following sudden cardiac arrest. The students were excited to learn about this device and see it in action.



OHS Patient Care Technician students visit Lamar

Orangefield High School Patient Care Technician students were able to get an in depth look at the Lamar University Nursing Department and campus this week. Along with learning about the in's and out's of the nursing program and application process, students also got a tour of the building which included a stop at their state of the art simulation lab. Students were able to get hands-on practice, listening to breath sounds and palpating pulses, as well as view a simulation in progress.

First Saturday Giveaways April 6

First Saturday in April is the 6th at First Baptist Church in Bridge City. We will be giving away pantry items such as sugar, flour, corn meal, and corn oil. We are located at 200 West Roundbunch Rd in Bridge City and will be ready for everyone to receive a bag by 10 a.m. Look for the red

flags at the driveway to the parking lot. For those who request it, we will pray for you and the things that concern you; your health, family issues, or lost job. Hispanic and English Bibles are free for those who want one. The event will last until 12 noon. We look forward to seeing you April 6th.

Deaths & Memorials

Sammy Burnell Mills, 64, Orange

Sammy was born on August 30, 1959 to Arlene Luther Mills and Lee Samuel Mills in Orange, TX. After graduating from Bridge City High School in 1977, he went on to study at Lamar University.

After graduating with a degree in Criminal Justice and Business Administration, he started his first job in his desired occupation with Orange County Sheriff Office as a Deputy and then to Jefferson County Sheriff Office where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant and retired in 2020 after 30 years of service.

Sammy met Anissa Sims while working at the Jefferson County Sheriffs Office and went on to marry her July 26, 2010. Sam enjoyed retired life and devoted his time to family, gardening and travel. His days were often spent with his wife and granddaughter, Scarlet Mills who was the apple of his eye.



Sammy Burnell Mills

Sammy's life was filled with service to his community. In addition to his commitment to public service he was a volunteer fire fighter in Vidor TX for many years and he also was a volunteer rescue diver. Among his other achievements, Sammy served as President with the Lyons Club Chapter in Orange, TX and was also student body president at Lamar University.

Sammy Mills was preceded in death by his father, Lee Samuel Mills in 2023. He is survived by his wife of 13 years, Anissa Mills and his son, Kyle Mills, (Rosemary Mills) and his granddaughter, Scarlet Mills, his mother, Arlene Luther Mills, and his brother, Jerry Mills (Donna Mills).

A celebration of life for Sammy Mills will be held at the Historic Orange Train Depot Museum at 1210 W Green Ave, Orange TX 77630 on Sunday March 24, 2024 at 2 pm.

Mary Frances Scarborough, 97, BC

Mary Frances Scarborough, 97, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away on March 14, 2024, at The Medical Center in Port Arthur.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 23, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Officiating will be Darrell Segura. Burial will follow at Oak Bluff Memorial Park in Port Neches.

Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday, March 22, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.

Born in Port Neches, Texas, on August 10, 1926 she was the daughter of Earnest E. Keltner and Jessie Williams Keltner. Mary was known for her passion for cooking; her savory meals brought joy to the hearts and bellies of all who had the pleasure of tasting them.

Her mornings were brightened by the simple pleasure of sipping coffee out-



Mary Frances Scarborough

doors, embracing the beauty of each day as it unfolded. A social butterfly at heart, Mary treasured the moments spent surrounded by friends, engaging in lively conversations and sharing stories. She found delight in getting her hair styled, always looking her best with a smile that radiated genuine happiness. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Earnest and Jessie Keltner; her husband, James Scarborough; and her children, James "Jim" Scarborough, Jr., and Susan Strange.

She is survived by her grandchild, Adam Venable; and numerous other loving family members and friends.

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

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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

ALICE KATHERINE YOUNG, Deceased
Cause No. P19959
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 18th day of March, 2024, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of ALICE KATHERINE YOUNG, 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 18th day of March, 2024.

BRANDY ROBERTSON,
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas

By: *Danielle Kendrick*, Deputy
Danielle Kendrick

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME:
FINISH THE LYRICS

ACROSS

- Swell up
- Pendulum's path
- Type of salmon
- *Steve Miller Band: "I want to fly like an _____"
- Simon & Garfunkel, e.g.
- Popular winter boot brand
- Ohio city
- Lodge
- Squirrel away
- *Glenn Frey: "The pressure's high just to stay alive 'cause _____ is on"
- *John Travolta in "Grease": "I got _____, they're mulletty!"
- Automated teller
- Clarified butter
- Bad-mouth, slangily
- Stag
- Tartans
- "I'm _____ you!"
- Commies

- Monocot's alternative
- Road's edge
- Living room centerpiece?
- Prefix meaning "left"
- Deadly snake
- Sasquatch's cousin
- Court petition
- Blood infection
- Indian flatbread
- Opposite of post-
- Sound of impact
- *Duran Duran: "Her name is _____, and she dances on the sand"
- *The Beatles: "Take a sad song and make it _____"
- *Elvis: "We're caught in a trap, I can't _____"
- Relating to a mode
- Scrooge's exclamation
- Memory failure
- Bouquet thrower
- Number of candles on a cake
- Musketeers' weapons

- Picnic invaders
 - "Just kidding!"
 - Did, archaic
- DOWN
- *The Go-Go's: "They got the _____"
 - 100,000, in India
 - Cameron Diaz' Fiona, e.g.
 - Hula dancer's hello
 - These are held to be true
 - Miners' passage
 - *Tainted Love: "Once I ran to you, now I _____"
 - *Lord of the Flies' shell
 - Like the other side of the pillow?
 - Certain kind of exam
 - Not his
 - Antiquated
 - Protection from a sword
 - To death, in French (2 words)
 - _____ B vaccine
 - Manna from heaven
 - *Bon Jovi: "Tommy used to work on the _____"
 - Habituate
 - Spaghetti _____

- *Don McLean: "Drove my chevy to the _____"
- Pains
- Frost over (2 words)
- Capital of Delaware
- *Tennessee Ernie Ford: "I owe my soul to the company _____"
- Geishas' sashes
- "_____ good example"
- Royal topper
- _____tattle
- Pronoun
- Refused to act, archaic
- City-related
- Giraffe's striped-legged cousin
- *Bruce Springsteen: "Tramps like us, baby we were _____ to run"
- Change a manuscript
- Small amounts
- Make sharper
- Newspaper piece
- Applications
- Midterm, e.g.
- Wharton degree, acr.
- Back then

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CROSSWORD

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Cardinals, Bobcats on a roll in district ball

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Baseball action in District 19-4A started Tuesday, March 12. The Bridge City Cardinals got a good jump in the district winning both games with the Silsbee Tigers.

On Tuesday the Cardinals rallied for a 4-3 win scoring two runs in the sixth inning at Silsbee. The pair of runs came home on back to back base on balls with the bases loaded.

Bridge City got good pitching from four Cardinal hurlers who allowed just one earned run. Max Pachar threw three solid innings, Owen Tucker went two frames, before Brayton Tregre pitched the sixth to get the win,

and Austin Frederick got a save closing out the final inning.

Heavy rain on Friday postponed the second game until Saturday morning in Bridge City. The Cardinals followed a similar script to the first game using five pitchers to capture a 4-2 victory over the Tigers.

Landon Reeves got the start on the mound for the Cardinals and surrendered two runs only one of which was earned in four and a third innings. After a one out walk Reeves fielded a very good bunt down the first base line by the Tigers and his throw to first hit the batter in the helmet allowing the two Tigers to advance two bases. Both runners eventually scored to tie the game



Bobcat Caleb Fregia had a great week with multiple hits in both Orangefield wins over East Chambers and Warren.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

2-2 in the top of the fifth inning.

The Cardinals had taken a two run lead in the third as Hutch Bearden doubled to left center and John Van Huis followed with an excellent bunt for a single. Hunter Ford hit a sacrifice fly to center to bring home Bearden and Van Huis made it 2-0 scoring on a wild pitch.

The game was won in the sixth just like it was on Tuesday with two runs for the Cardinals. Ford provided the big hit driving in the first of two runs before scoring the second himself to give Bridge City the lead 4-2 with an inning to play. Frederick relieved Pachar to get the final out in the seventh inning and

BASEBALL Page 3B

Bridge City softball undefeated through three

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Two weeks into the district softball schedule the Bridge City Cardinals have moved to the top of the District 19-4A standings. The Cardinals were undefeated in their first three district games.

Bridge City opened with shutouts by pitcher Carson Fall against Silsbee and Little Cypress Mauriceville during the first week of the district schedule. The only district game scheduled for last week was actually played on Monday, March 18, because of rain on the previous Friday.

Playing at Vidor the Lady Cardinals defeated the Lady Pirates 3-1 for Bridge City's third straight win in district. The win by Bridge City set the stage for a showdown on Tuesday, March 19, at home for the Cardinals against the also undefeated Lumberton Lady Raiders who were averaging 13 runs a game in their four district victories prior to the contest with Bridge City.

The Cardinals travel to Jasper on Friday. Bridge City's next home game will be Tuesday, March 26, against the West Orange-Stark Lady Mustangs.

Little Cypress Mauriceville evened its district softball record at 1-1 on March 12 which was a special night for a ceremony naming the softball field "The Pete" to honor Pete Mota a longtime fan of high school sports in Orange County. Mota has supported all the athletes at LCM since 1975, and both his daughters graduated from Little Cypress Mauriceville High School.

The Lady Bears won the ball game that followed the ceremony to honor Pete Mota defeating the Vidor Lady Pirates 10-1. The game was much closer than the final score indicated.

Tessa Erickson started in the circle for the Lady Bears and escaped the first inning without allowing a run. Vidor had two runners on with two out when Erickson got a strikeout to end the threat.

In the bottom of the first LCM scored two runs without the benefit of a clean hit. Eden Frenzel and Jaceyln Cook reached base on infield grounders that were either bobbled or thrown away by the Lady Pirates. Frenzel came home on Cook's bunt that was fielded but



Paris Becker of the Lady Bobcats accounted for nine runs in Orangefield's last two district wins.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine



Pitcher Carson Fall has led Bridge City in winning its first three district games.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

the throw was wide of first base.

Batting after Cook was Lexis Moss who walked and was courtesy run for

by Alex Pinder. Erickson grounded out which moved Cook to third base from where she scored the second run on a sacrifice

fly to left by Ava White.

The Lady Bears' lead went to 3-0 in the second as Asia Woodson doubled to left center field. Wood-

son advanced to third on a passed ball and scored on a sacrifice fly by Frenzel to left field.

The pitchers Erickson

and Sophia Aguirre for Vidor handcuffed the opposing batters in the middle innings. Erickson kept the Lady Pirates from scoring through the first four innings and Aguirre retired ten straight Lady Bears before Frenzel got their second hit of the game in the fifth inning.

The Lady Pirates threatened to score in the third after their leadoff batter Tylen Cassell reached on a single and an error, but Woodson gunned Cassell out at third when the Lady Pirate attempted to advance on a fly ball to right field.

In the fourth Vidor got a double to start the inning before Erickson struck out the next two batters. Frenzel then saved a run for LCM when she went

SOFTBALL Page 3B

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OUTDOORS

New Trout regulations take effect

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

Texas saltwater anglers will once again see the limits change on speckled trout starting March 23rd after the Texas Parks and Wildlife commission passed the new proposal. In what has been described as an attempt to help the dwindling population of specks after the last 2 major freezes the commission approved a 3 fish limit with a 15" to 20" slot. The commission also approved keeping one fish over 30" as part of the daily limit. The new limit takes the place of the current regulations that allow for 5 fish between 15" and 25" with 1 one of those being over 25". Last November Louisiana changed their speckled trout limits also, they kept the 15 fish limit but increased their minimum size to 13" and put an upper end to the slot at 20". So you can keep 15 fish between 13 and 20 inches as well as having 2 of those 15 fish being over 20" as well. Louisiana also did away with guides being able to keep their limit of fish on charter trips as well which was already a law in Texas.

Now here's where it gets interesting or frustrating depending on where you stand. Due to the fact that Sabine lake is on the border of Texas and Louisiana there has always been a divide between many local fishermen about being able to keep Louisiana legal fish and coming back into Texas. There are plenty of local folks who exploited a very gray area in the law for many years in order to keep the more liberal limits from Louisiana. There are just as many folks who were heavily against that practice. It wasn't until the law changed to state that if you launched in Texas you must bring back Texas legal fish regardless if you had a Louisiana license. That law curbed most anglers from exploiting the perceived loophole and for the most part shut the majority of that practice down. Just like passing any law there will be those who are dead set on finding a way around it and that's exactly what a surprising number of anglers are willing to do.

If you take a ride to any of the boat launches on the Louisiana side of Sabine Lake you will find that the overwhelming percentage of license plates on the trucks and trailers are from Texas. These are the folks who are interested in numbers of fish and regardless of what anyone thinks they are legal to do so. Here in lies the problem, now that Texas has reduced their limits again for the entire state you can bet that there will be a major increase in fishing pressure as folks from the Galveston and Trinity areas will head east to Sabine so they can also fish using the much more liberal Louisiana limits. The last thing Sabine needs is increased pressure on a fish population that is still in recovery. During the Covid scare Sabine was virtually left untouched and that allowed the lake to rebound from the freeze in 2021. At this time Sabine has shown progress in both numbers and size of speckled trout and that trend should continue as long as nothing natural or man made gets in the way.

For all the good that TPWD hopes to accomplish on the rest of the Texas coast by changing the limits it could all go the opposite way for us here on Sabine. Until some sort of compromise, like the one on largemouth bass on Toledo Bend, can be made between Texas and Louisiana Sabine lake will be at the mercy of those who are willing to put conservation ahead of the need for numbers. As we enter into some of the better months for catching those bigger trophy class fish please remember to take good care of them before you let them go and release everything you don't intend to eat.

Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

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

• Sabine Lake

GOOD. 65 degrees. ICW rock piles are good for catches of trout, redfish and sheepshead with live shrimp under a popping cork. Speckled trout are good on the North Levee wall with popping cork under live shrimp, but best midday with any dark 5 inch plastics 1/16 ounce jighead. Redfish, drum and a few trout are being caught in the Sabine Channel shell flats on live shrimp under a popping cork. Strong winds have kept anglers in the wind protected areas.

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

• Bolivar

GOOD. 60 degrees. It has been a beautiful week for fishing! More and more people are catching fish with the weather changes. The water has been beautiful as well. There were sightings of bioluminescence at night off the surf. Black drum and sheepshead are prevalent this week ahead of whiting, sand trout, redfish, speckled trout, plus the occasional pompano and alligator gar. Report by North Jetty Bait Camp. The surf is starting to hold some black drum, pompano, small shark and the occasional redfish. The North Jetty surfside is holding sheepshead and trout against rocks. Look for baitfish. Redfish in the channel hitting Carolina rigged mullet, shad, or crab. The end holds nice schools of trout and sheepshead. Report by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service.

• Trinity Bay

FAIR. 67 degrees. Water is beginning to clear and fish are being found on shorelines, especially on the northwest side. Speckled trout bite has been good for those throwing soft plastics, scattered reds mixed in. Further north catches have been mixed. Anglers throwing live shrimp have caught reds, black drum, and speckled trout. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

Trinity Bay trout are picking up at a rapid pace using shrimp under a popping cork and saltwater WAC assassins in the rollover moon and people passion. The bite lasts a good



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

bit of the morning, then transitions to reefs in about 2-4 feet of water. Redfish are feeding aggressively if you are in the right spot with live shrimp under a popping cork and gulp shrimp. Hint, look for better water next to your good spots. Drum are mixed in with the reds and sheepshead are around docks and piling being caught free lining shrimp. Pay attention to the weather as winds can ruin a fishing trip and be safe. Report by Captain Zackary Scott, Zack Attack Fishing.

• East Galveston Bay

GOOD. 67 degrees. Speckled trout are beginning to show on reefs near the shorelines. Scattered catches of redfish and black drum near the marsh and bayou drains. Best bite on soft plastics and live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

Surface water temperature 65 degrees. Water clarity stained for the most part, with a couple areas with better clarity back in the marsh and protected shorelines. We are still catching fish back in the marsh and bayou areas, but have begun to catch a good number of trout on the shell flats. This redfish bite remains consistent in areas where good current flow has bait up against the shorelines and grass lines in 1-3 feet of water around oyster shells on Wac Attack Tails in Chartreuse, fished with 1/8 ounce heads, as well as weightless presentations.

The trout have preferred an erratic presentation with pauses, targeting deeper pockets close to channel bends/deeper drops with shell, triggering the most bites. Our experience has been that if you see bait flipping on the surface you will find some fish, if not, you are best to move on. The lighter the jig head the better, determined by the wind and current, and tails without paddles, performing the best. Fish Smack Popping corks with a 3 foot leader above an artificial shrimp lure has done equally well on our trips, with a hard pop and about a 5 second pause gathering the most strikes. Spring is getting close and fishing will continue to heat up as the water warms and the days continue to get longer. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Services, LLC. Yates Bayou drain is holding redfish against grass line on popping cork and shrimp. Hanna's Reef is great early in the day with twitching artificials or a popping cork with shrimp. Look for birds and slicks. small slicks could be just getting started. Watermelon smell in the air don't pass on them. Look for bait moving. Pepper Grove Cove to Moody's Pass holding fish. Smith Point to Moody National Wildlife. Redfish look for schools and birds. Report by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service.

• Galveston Bay

SLOW. 68 degrees. Open bay waters are still off-colored. Sheepshead

are still active in the gas wells for those fishing live shrimp on the bottom. A few speckled trout showing along shorelines with shell, along with some black drum. Best bite on live shrimp under corks. Upper Galveston bay seeing better numbers of speckled trout and bull reds have been schooling in open water. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The South Jetty is holding trout, sheepshead and redfish near the rocks on free-lined shrimp, or Carolina rigged float with live shrimp or soft plastic. SWP Holding Redfish from Pier and from Rocks. Sheepshead are in front of the concrete Seawall. The drains out of Swan Lake Campbell Slough holding sheepshead with an occasional Redfish. Report by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service.

• West Galveston Bay

FAIR. 68 degrees. Speckled trout are scattered along the south shoreline. Deep structure holding some redfish and black drum and the occasional trout. Anglers drifting open bay reefs with soft plastics catching fair numbers of trout, bigger fish being caught by those wading the shorelines. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. Greens Lake holding redfish against grass lines and by sandy shores early. ICW holding fish through greens cut and Carancahua cut holding trout and redfish with the amount of wind we are getting. Mecom Reef will have fish on it early up by rocks with artificial or live bait free-line or under cork. You'll need to find protected waters with bait moving around as the winds pick up. Report by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service.

• Texas City

FAIR. 66 degrees. Good numbers of large oversized black drums coming off the rocks of the Texas City Dike and the Galveston jetties. The best bite has been on live halved crab. Sheepshead, slot redfish, keeper drum, and a few speckled trout being caught by anglers throwing live shrimp tight to the rocks. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The Dike is holding bull redfish along the rocks with scattered catches of drum and flounder. Dickinson Bayou holding some redfish and drum on popping cork and shrimp.

'The Lakes' Fishing

• Toledo Bend Fishing Report

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 63 degrees; 2.07 feet below pool. The bass are spawning with most of fish in 1-5 feet of water. Best baits are wacky worms, Senkos, or frogs. A few fish are still deep at around 8-15 feet deep. Those will bite a Texas or Carolina rigged worm or medium size crankbait. Big weather coming this weekend will make for a difficult bite but then back on track into next week. The Crappie bite is good in the creeks in 3-8 feet of water using jigs, roadrunners and minnows. The North end is better than the South end at this time. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

• Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 64 degrees; 4.43 feet below pool. Bass are trying to spawn deeper than normal in 4-12 feet of water. Bass are hitting jigs, crankbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs in the creeks. Catfish are hitting cut bait off the bottom in the river channel. White bass are up the river hitting roadrunners and small rattletaps. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service. Large groups of bass are making the push shallow in 3-15 feet in the grass and hydrilla. Bass are hitting Texas rig stick bait, lightweight Carolina rig, rattletap, and chatterbait.

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Baseball roundup From Page 1B



Zach Nation had the Mustangs only hit and scored their first run in Saturday's loss to the Vidor Pirates. **RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine**

earn another save. Cardinal Coach Chad Landry responded, "The defense has got to improve. We know that because we did have some errors in the two games. Just some young guys in their first district ball games a little nerves is expected, but it was good to come out on top."

This week the Bridge City Cardinals play their cross county rivals the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears in two games. The Bears had the bye last week and traveled to Bridge City on Tuesday, March 19, before hosting the Cardinals at Don Gibbens Field on Friday.

The West Orange-Stark Mustangs opened their district schedule with the Vidor Pirates the other Orange County team in the district. Vidor swept the two games.

Bryce Bushelle threw five shutout innings for the Pirates on Tuesday to get the win 10-0 over the Mustangs in a game shortened to six innings. William Lee got the only hit

for WOS. Daigan Venable had the big blow with a three run homer for Vidor. Saturday was a makeup game for the rainout on Friday at Vidor. The Pirates won 9-2 with Aiden Sims getting the win throwing three perfect innings with four strikeouts.

The Mustangs got their two runs in the fourth inning as Zach Nation got the only hit in the game for WOS, Lee walked, and Blade Williams was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Nation scored on a ground out by Grayson Gregory and Lee came home on a wild pitch.

West Orange-Stark has two games with the Lumberton Raiders this week. Tuesday's game was at Lumberton and on Friday the Raiders come to Ronnie Anderson Park.

The Orangefield Bobcats had a very good week winning both of their games to improve to 2-1 in District 21-3A action. The Bobcats played on Saturday after the rain on Friday and defeated the Warren Warriors 8-0 as Bryce

Tait threw a no hitter.

Tait issued just two walks with 10 strikeouts in his seven innings of outstanding work on the mound at Warren. Providing the offense for Orangefield were Kane Smith, Caleb Fregia, Camden Fountain, and Matthew Johnson each with multiple hits. Johnson drove home two runs in the fifth to help break the game open. Earlier on Tuesday, March 12, the Bobcats blew out the East Chambers Buccaneers 19-2 at Orangefield. Smith and Fregia were offensive leaders with multiple hits and four runs batted in apiece. Cameron Dearing and Logan Cheek both had two hits in the runoff for Orangefield. Kaleb Menard pitched three and a third shutout innings for the win allowing one hit and striking out six Buccaneers.

Orangefield played at Buna on Tuesday, March 19. The Bobcats return home for a game with the Hardin Hornets on Friday night.

Softball recaps From Page 1

into shallow center to snare a liner that appeared to have base hit written all over it.

The Lady Pirates broke through in the top of the fifth inning. A hit batter and a pair of two out singles produced a run for Vidor that made the score 3-1 with two innings to play.

The score was still 3-1 when Little Cypress Mauriceville came to bat in the bottom of the sixth. White was hit by a pitch with one out to start a Lady Bear rally.

Ava Wright singled to center and Keylie Washburn lined a base hit to left on which White tried to score, but was thrown out at the plate on a very close play. The Vidor catcher then tried to throw out Wright at third base but her throw went into left field allowing Wright and Washburn to come home to give LCM a 5-1 advantage.

The hits kept coming for the Lady Bears as Woodson singled, Ella Stephenson doubled, Frenzel doubled, Moss tripled after a walk to Cook, and Erickson singled. Seven Lady Bears scored in the sixth to stretch the LCM lead to 10-1 going to the seventh.

Erickson got the win throwing a complete game. Tessa in her seven innings yielded just one run on six hits, with no walks, two hit batters, and struck out seven Lady Pirates.

"I tell my girls every time we step on the field for this district it's going to be a scrap, and we have to bring our best game. We were not really killing the ball early on, but I



Asia Woodson scored a run after she doubled and threw out a runner at third base from right field while pitcher Tessa Erickson held Vidor to just one run in the Lady Bears' district win.

know my girls. They never lost their heads, they stayed calm, and they put the bat to the ball in the sixth inning to come out on top," Coach Dena Adkins reminded after the game.

Strong pitching and solid defense were the other keys to the Lady Bear win. Adkins described, "Tessa stayed locked in and she had great defense behind her with probably one of the best outfielders I've gotten to coach in a long time. The Lady Bears had Tessa's back when Vidor had runners in scoring position her defense was there to stop it."

Rain postponed Little Cypress Mauriceville's next game to Saturday and the location was changed to The Pete after originally being scheduled to be played at Lumberton. The Lady Raiders pounded out an 11-10 win over LCM. Lexis Moss of the Lady Bears drove in seven runs hitting two homeruns and

a double.

Little Cypress Mauriceville (1-2) played at Jasper on Tuesday, March 19. The Lady Bears play at West Orange-Stark on Friday before entertaining Silsbee next Tuesday at The Pete.

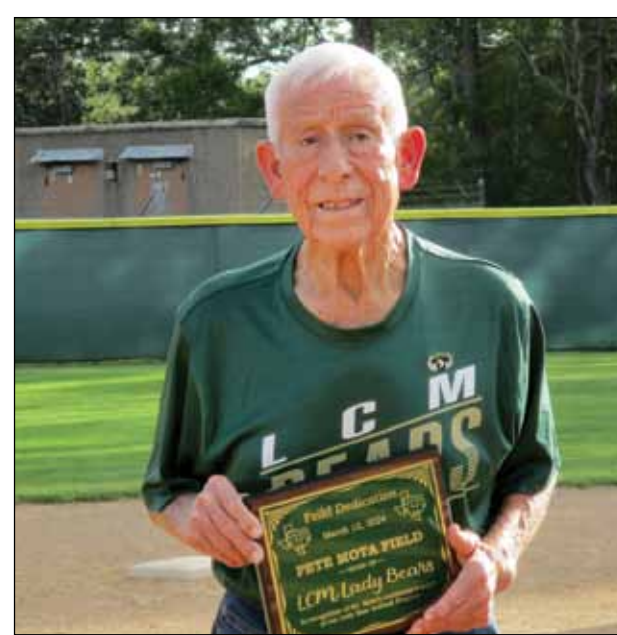
The West Orange-Stark Lady Mustangs were looking for their first district win with Jasper on Tuesday, March 12. The Lady Mustangs lost in three innings 18-0 with Alexia Guyton and Christian Berry getting the only two hits for WOS.

Last Friday was a bye for the Lady Mustangs before they played at Silsbee on Tuesday of this week. West Orange-Stark (0-3) plays its next game at home on Friday, March 22, against Little Cypress Mauriceville.

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats (4-1) have won four straight District 21-3A games. The last two triumphs have been very impressive with the Lady Bobcats outscoring their two opponents thirty to nothing.

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats won 13-0 over East Chambers on Tuesday, March 12. Abigail Curphey got the win in the circle going four innings giving up three hits. Charlee Sanches threw a hitless fifth inning to finish the game for Orangefield.

The hitting star was Paris Becker ripping three hits including a double, with three runs batted in, and a run scored. Curphey doubled and drove in four runs. Aubree Beck reached base three times as did Hallee Becker and both scored three runs. It was a team effort for the Lady Bobcat bats as Sanches, Greenlea Oldham, Abby Broussard, Paisley Reeves, Aubrey Sonnier, and Alysén Vincent all accounted for one or more runs in the blowout.



Longtime LCM supporter Pete Mota was honored on March 12 with the softball field at the high school being named "The Pete." **RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine**

Rain postponed Orangefield's next game until Monday at Warren. It was more or less a repeat of the previous game with the Lady Bobcats rolling 17-0 in five innings.

Curphey and Sanches combined to throw the shutout. Abigail struck out five in three innings of pitching and Sanches had a pair of strikeouts in her two innings in the circle while both surrendered a hit apiece to the Warren hitters.

Sanches socked a double and a single while scoring three runs and driving in three. Aubree Beck tripled, singled, and walked

twice to score two runs and drive home two more. Paris Becker banged out a pair of hits including a double scored three runs and knocked in two runs. It really was a hit parade for all the Lady Bobcats as Abby Broussard, Abigail Curphey, Audrey Sonnier, Hallee Becker, Greenlea Oldham, Alysén Vincent, Paisley Reeves, and Brennah Lee also accounted for Orangefield runs.

Orangefield played at Buna on Tuesday, March 19. The Lady Bobcats play again at home on Friday, March 22, against the Hardin Lady Hornets.



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Bearden takes second in state powerlifting meet



Cortez Robertson hit a bases loaded triple for the Mustangs in their win over Port Arthur Memorial on Friday night.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Bridge City had a defending state champion in girls powerlifting competing for back to back titles on Friday, March 15. Hallie Bearden actually lifted the same amount of weight as her closest competitor in the event, but Hallie had to settle for second place because she had a body weight one pound heavier than her opponent.

Bearden a junior at Bridge City High School competed in the 123-pound weight class at the competition on Friday. Last year she won the 114-pound weight class lifting a total of 820 pounds in the three

powerlifting categories.

In Friday's meet Bearden lifted a total of 870 pounds with 325 lbs. in the Squat, 230 lbs. in the Bench, and 315 lbs. in the Deadlift. Hallie exceeded her totals from last year by at least thirty pounds in the Squat and Bench, but fell a little short of her mark from last year in the Deadlift which has frequently been Bearden's best lift.

Having been a leading power lifter since her freshman year has resulted in Bearden holding some state and national records for her previous weight class. Hallie will be working hard over the next year to regain a state title.



Hallie Bearden powerlifting for Bridge City at the state meet on Friday.

Bridge City Farmers Market to begin March 23

Bridge City Farmers Market to begin on March 23 from 8-11 AM at 101 Parkside in Bridge City.

We will have a FULL line up of vendors including locally produced beef, pork, and chicken, a coffee bar, a BBQ food truck, live music, jams/jellies, sourdough baked goods, sweets and treats (yes, even for your

dog), skin care products and so much more. There will be limited fresh produce and we are also having a plant sale and seed swap.

You are not going to want to miss out on this season. We have been working hard to bring the community together with some really cool things (stay tuned)



West Orange Mustang powerlifter D'Ziya Evans earned a 3rd place finish at the THSWPA State Powerlifting Championship. She won with all three lifts with, squat 365 lbs, Bench Press 185 lbs and Dead Lift 370 lbs. This is the best Mustang finish since 2016.

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ENTERTAINMENT: Spring brings more shows this year

TOMMY MANN JR.
Entertainment Writer
For The Record

Several concerts have been announced for late summer and fall, such as Five Finger Death Punch and Marilyn Manson, Breaking Benjamin and Staind, as well as Clint Black.

Glance through the list below to find something that appeals to you and visit the full list of concerts online at www.therecordonline.com.

- **March 21**
Laura Pausini, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land
- **March 23**
Los Lobos, L'Auberge Casino Resort, Lake Charles, La., Dylan Scott, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.
- **March 24**
Twiztid, Blaze, ABK, Reddstar, Scout Bar, Houston
- **March 28**
Madonna, Toyota Center, Houston, Busta Rhymes, Spliff Star, DJ Scratchator, 713 Music Hall, Houston
- **March 29**
Jackson Dean, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Madonna, Toyota Center, Houston, Ministry, House of Blues, Houston
- **March 30**
Michael Bolton, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Waterparks, Loveless, House of Blues, Houston, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Home Run Dugout, Katy, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Arena Theatre, Houston
- **April 4**
Last in Line, Black Heart Saints, Ware-



Country music star Clint Black is celebrating the 35th anniversary of his 1989 debut album, "Killin' Time," and will perform the album in its entirety on Saturday, Nov. 9 at L'Auberge Casino Resort in Lake Charles. Tickets start at \$65 and are on sale now.

RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.

house Live Midtown, Houston

- **April 5**
Home Free, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., The Black Crowes, 713 Music Hall, Houston
- **April 6**
Eric Johnson, House of Blues, Houston, Trace Adkins, L'Auberge Casino Resort, Lake Charles, La.
- **April 9**
Starset, House of Blues, Houston
- **April 10**
Tasha Cobbs Leonard, Israel Houghton, Erica Campbell, Jonathan McReyn-

olds, Jekalyn Carr, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

- **April 12**
Parker McCollum, Corey Kent, Catie Offerman, Lake Charles Civic Center, Lake Charles, La.

- **April 13**
Bernadette Peters, Grand Opera House, Galveston, Primus, A Perfect Circle, Puscifer, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, Last Starfighter, Facetime, White Oak Music Hall, Houston, Asking Alexandria, Memphis May Fire, The Word Alive, House of Blues, Houston

- **April 19**
Melissa Etheridge, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., ZZ Top, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Black Stone Cherry, Cajun-Dome, Lafayette, La.
- **April 20**
Goo Goo Dolls, Christus Gala, Beaumont Civic Center, Beaumont, Scott Mulvihill, Lutchter Theater, Orange, Adam Ant, The English Beat, Bayou Music Center, Houston
- **April 22**
Tyr, Trollfest, Another Realm, White Oak Music Hall, Houston, Social Distortion, Bad Religion, Julian James, White Oak Music Hall, Houston
- **April 26**
Great White, Slaughter, Quiet Riot, Liliac, Rise Rooftop, Houston, Trout Fishing in America, Old Quarter Café, Galveston
- **April 27**
Set It Off, Crown the Empire, Caskets, House of Blues, Houston, Kane Brown, Tyler Hubbard, Parmalee, Toyota Center, Houston
- **April 28**
Say Anything, House of Blues, Houston, Grupo Bronco, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land
- **April 30**
Bad Bunny, Toyota Center, Houston
- **May 1**
Bad Bunny, Toyota Center, Houston
- **May 2**
Ashley McBryde, Bella White, House of Blues, Houston
- **May 4**
Flatland Cavalry, White Oak Music Hall, Houston
- **May 5**
Motionless in White, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

Solar Eclipse: SE Texas will see sun like crescent moon April 8

Adam Zuvanich
Houston Public Media
University of Houston

Southeast Texas will not go dark on the afternoon of April 8, when other parts of Texas to the north and west will experience a total solar eclipse.

But the region will come close to seeing the moon completely cover up the sun, according to Angela Speck, a professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio who serves as the chair of its physics and astronomy department.

The sun should appear between 93%-95% covered up depending on where you are within the Houston region, Speck said, noting that locales northwest of the city will see more significant coverage compared to those to the southeast. During the annular solar eclipse on Oct. 14, when the moon was farther from the Earth and a "ring of fire" was visible to those in the path of totality, Speck said those in the Houston area saw up to 86% of the sun being blocked out.

"It's going to look kind of like a crescent moon," Speck said. "If you block out enough of the sun, what's left is just a crescent of it. That's pretty cool, and it's

going to look like a fairly skinny crescent."

The peak of the upcoming eclipse is scheduled for about 1:40 p.m. in the Houston area, according to Speck, who said the sun will appear partially covered for a span of about three hours. The moon and sun will appear to first touch at about 12:20 p.m., she said, with the eclipse event ending at about 3 p.m.

Speck said no one should look directly at an eclipse without special glasses that meet the ISO 12312-2 safety standard, adding that those who obtained glasses for the October eclipse can use them again in April. For those with or without viewing glasses, Speck said there are other ways to enjoy the rare sights associated with an eclipse.

Crescent shapes will appear in shadows created by tree leaves – and in any instance in which sunlight passes through a hole in an object – and reflective disco balls also could come in handy.

"If you take a disco ball outside during a partial eclipse, all the little spots on the disco ball will be the shape of the sun," Speck said. "They will be that moon shape."

But as long as you're in



The upcoming solar eclipse will be the second within six months that is viewable from Texas, which will not see another solar eclipse for two decades. On April 8, the sun should appear to be about 93%-95% covered up to those in the SE Texas.

Houston or close to it, your view of the eclipse likely won't be as spectacular as it

could be from other parts of the state. Speck said areas north and west of Austin

and San Antonio are projected to be in the path of totality, where the daytime sky will temporarily turn dark.

And because those are densely populated metropolitan areas that already expecting an influx of eclipse-seeking visitors, a day trip to a small town in the path of totality might be more feasible. Among those options are Dew, which is along Interstate 45 about 145 miles north of Houston, and Hammond, which is about 135 miles to the northwest along State Highway 6.

When the moon blocks out the sun, the sun's outer atmosphere, or corona, appears and looks like a white mist in the sky.

"If they can find the time

to get in the path," Speck said of Houstonians, "it's totally worth it."

That's partly because, while Texans are getting two solar eclipses within a span of about six months, the viewing opportunity on April 8 will be their last for quite a while. Speck said the next time a solar eclipse will be viewable from the state will be in 2045, and that will apply only to the very northernmost part of Texas.

The next solar eclipse that will be viewed here around in 2200 when the city is projected to be just southeast of the path of totality.

"So people should make the most of it while they can," Speck said.

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5 Ways Palm Sunday Reminds Us Christ Is King

Debbie McDaniel
Crosswalk Newsletter

What Is Palm Sunday?

Palm Sunday is the day we remember and celebrate the day Jesus entered Jerusalem as Savior and King. As Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, a large crowd gathered and laid palm branches and their cloaks across the road, giving Jesus royal treatment. The hundreds of people shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

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Palm Sunday is a moveable holiday that changes yearly based on Lent and the spring equinox. Many churches celebrate Palm Sunday by waving palm branches, singing traditional hymns, and making crosses out of palm fronds. But while this is a triumphal entry, it is Jesus' first step toward His death.

This year, Palm Sunday will be on Sunday, March 24, 2024. Find more dates of Holy Week in 2024.



The Palm Sunday Triumphal Entry Bible Story

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while

others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowd answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

On the heels of Palm Sunday, as we begin this Holy Week, may we be reminded of its significance and value for our lives today. That very important day in history when Jesus began His journey towards the cross.

Yet maybe amid busy lives, on the heels of Spring Break, or in all of the upcoming thoughts about Easter, the real meaning of it may, even unintentionally, get missed.

His Word reveals such great truths in every part of

this story. These truths draw us closer to Christ, reminding us that He alone is King.

Five Ways Palm Sunday Reminds Us Christ Is King

• 1. God's Word tells us the people cut palm branches, waved them in the air, and laid them out on the ground before Jesus as He rode into the city. The palm branch represented goodness and victory and was symbolic of the final victory He would soon fulfill over death.

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" 1 Cor. 15:55

• 2. Jesus chose to ride in on a donkey, which directly fulfilled the Old Testament prophecy of Zech. 9:9. In Biblical times, it was common for kings or important people to arrive by a procession riding on a donkey.

The donkey symbolized peace, so those who chose to ride them showed that they came with peaceful intentions. Jesus even then reminded us that He is the Prince of Peace.

saalem and saw the city, he wept over it, and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes." Luke 19:41-42

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." Zech. 9:9

• 3. When the people shouted "Hosanna!" they were hailing Christ as King. That word means "save now," and though in their minds, they waited for an earthly king, God had a different way of bringing true salvation to all who would trust in Him.

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!" Ps. 118:26

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Rom. 10:9

• 4. The Bible says that Jesus wept for Jerusalem. Amid the moment's praise, He knew in His heart that it wouldn't be long before these same people would turn their backs on Him, betray Him, and crucify Him. His heart broke with the reality of how much they needed a Savior.

"As he approached Jeru-

• 5. Palm Sunday reminds us that the reign of Christ is far greater than any man's mind could ever conceive or plan. Man looked for someone to fight their battles in the present-day world. Yet God had the ultimate plan of sending His Son to fight the final battle over death. This is the greatness of why we celebrate this week. We can be free of death because of Christ's ultimate sacrifice.

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,'" John 11:25

We have so much to be grateful for this week. The enemy knows that, and you can bet He will do everything he can to distract us from this Holy Week's true meaning. Don't let him win.

In this Holy Week, may God direct our thoughts and attention towards what matters most, Jesus Christ our King...

Let's focus on worshipping our Lord, thanking Him for the gift of His sacrifice, celebrating the power of the Resurrection, and the new life found in Him alone. Grace.

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" 2 Cor. 9:15

Church Directory

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502 Sixth Street 886-7466
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John 16:33

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Bethel Baptist Church
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Pastor Dr. Hershell Garner
(409 782 5352)
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Sunday School...9:30am Worship 10:30 am

Starlight Church of God in Christ
2800 Bob Hall Road • Orange • 886-4366
Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. VIM Youth 6 p.m.
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www.fbcbc.org
Sunday schedule: Bible study 9:15 a.m.,
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.,
Adult, Youth, Children
Discipleship Classes, Sun. 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
Youth & Children's Activities
Pastor: Keith Royal

Winfree Baptist Church
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Dr. Larry Haynes, Interim Pastor
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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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