

County Record

Vol. 65 No. 11

Distributed FREE in Orange County, Texas

Week of Wednesday, August 7, 2024

Teachers at work, students return next week

On Tuesday teachers and administrators from all five school districts gathered

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Teachers at Orange County public schools are back to work for the 2024-25 school year with students to begin classes next week.

West Orange-Cove students will start on Monday, August 12, with the other districts, Bridge City, Little Cypress-Mauriceville, Orangefield, and Vidor getting students on Wednesday, August 14.

On Tuesday for the first time, teachers and administrators from all five school districts gathered for a convocation at West Orange-Stark High School's new event center, G&G Enterprises Arena. Usually, each district has its own convocation to start the new year.

The featured speaker was Dr. Adolph 'Doc' Brown, an inspirational speaker who got the crowd enthusiastic about working with children and preparing them for the future.

State law requires drivers in both directions to stop for a school bus with caution lights or stop lights on. That includes drivers on busy thoroughfares that have several lanes of traffic, including Texas Avenue in Bridge City and 16th Street in Orange, both of which are

part of Texas Highway 87.

However, if there is a grassy or concrete median between the opposite lanes, the rule is different. If a school bus stops on a boulevard with the median, the traffic going in the same direction of the bus must stop. However, the vehicles in the opposite direction across from the median may continue driving.

Texas law makes it illegal for drivers to pass a stopped school bus. A driver with a first conviction will face a fine of \$500 to \$1,250 for the offense. A second conviction has a fine of \$1,000 to \$2,000 with possible suspension of driver's license.

If a driver passing a school bus causes serious bodily harm to a child, they could have a maximum \$4,000 fine plus up to a year in jail.

Drivers are also asked to slow down and watch speeds in school zones. Fines can range up to \$400 for going faster than the posted speed limit for school hours. Some cities add more based on miles per hour over the limit.

But facing fines isn't the most pressing issue for drivers to be careful around school children, buses, and school zones. No one wants to see a student hurt or killed.



The West Orange-Cove school district Tuesday hosted the first countywide convocation for teachers and school administrators. All five public school districts in the county, WO-C, Bridge City, Little Cypress-Mauriceville, Orangefield, and Vidor participate. Dr. Adolph 'Doc' Brown, an inspirational speaker, helped motivate the crowd and prepare them for students beginning classes next week. The gathering was in the West Orange-Stark High School new event center, G&G Enterprises Arena.

County approves property tax numbers, voting locations

DAVID BALL
For The Record

It's that time of year again in which the Orange County Commissioners' Court certified property tax values and determined early voting locations, dates and times.

Here are the property tax figures that were presented in commissioners' court on Tuesday morning.

Octavia Guzman, interim tax assessor-collector, said at the meeting the 2024 Orange County taxable value is \$8,769,549,099; up \$506,933,866 from last year's taxable value. The 2024 Orange County No New Revenue rate is .496546.

The commissioners also approved the following early voting times, dates and locations as follow:

- Orange Public Library (main early voting location), 2250 N. Fifth St.,

Orange, Texas.

- Mauriceville Community Center, 7441 Cohe-nour Rd., Orange, Texas.

- Orange County Airport, 2640 S. Hwy. 87, Orange, Texas.

- Raymond Gould Community Center, 385 Claiborne St., Vidor, Texas.

- October 21-25, Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- October 26, Saturday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

- October 27, Sunday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

- October 28 – November 1, Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Johnny Trahan, Precinct 1 commissioner, said the present voting locations are a "good move" because residents won't go to the wrong locations to vote. County Judge John Gothia agreed and said it promotes better voter turnout.

The commissioners approved a fee rate increase for the expo center for au-



Octavia Guzman

dio visual equipment use from \$75 to \$175.

Also approved was Orange County's participation in the Clean Water Act Nonpoint Source Grant program meaning sections of the county will receive federal assistance to help cover costs in wastewater repairs.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agency said they have identified human sources of pollution for septic systems, to bring them up to code. The grant limit is \$158,000 to

repair the systems.

Kirk Guidry, county maintenance director, said electrical repairs assessments from the Texas Department of Transportation are underway for the Cow Bayou Swing Bridge in Bridge City. Guidry added things are moving slowly, but surely.

Lastly, the commissioners approved an early hiring of a misdemeanor prosecutor under the district attorney's office current budget. Longtime District Attorney John Kimbrough is retiring at the end of the year and Assistant District Attorney Krispen Walker was elected to the top office and will take over in January 2025, leaving a vacancy for misdemeanor prosecutor. Along with the approval of the action, the sheriff's office reported an increase of population of 287 inmates in the county jail.

Blues Fest includes shag dance contest this weekend

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Brush up your dance steps and show off your shag. You might win money.

A shag dancing contest with a \$100 prize is part of Blues Fest on Saturday, August 10, at the Orange Boat Ramp's Riverside Pavilion. The dance contest will be part of a day and evening of music featuring local musicians and professional blues bands.

The headliner is LJ

Echols, known for his blues and Southern Soul. He grew up in a small town in Mississippi in a musical family and started a gospel group. After a successful gospel recording, he moved to Texas and began playing R&B, blues, and soul. Through the years he has been nominated for several awards and played with artists like Bobby Blue Bland.

Echols will play from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., with the shag dance contest set for



LJ Echols

9 p.m.

The free family event is being sponsored by the Stars of Gate City No. 57 and Gate City Guild No. 42, along with a variety of businesses. People are invited to bring lawn chairs and enjoy the entertainment. No outside drinks will be allowed. Vendors will be selling food and drinks.

The festivities begin at 10 a.m. Saturday with the Wipe & Shine Car Show featuring a variety of vintage cars on display. Tro-

phies will be awarded to winners in each category. The car show will end at noon when the focus will be on the entertainment.

Mayor Larry Spears Jr. will give the opening prayer at noon with the Orange Blossom Dancers on stage at 12:20 p.m. A group of singers from the Orange Community Players will sing at 1 p.m., followed by local guitarist-singer Shon Branham at 2 p.m.

At 4 p.m., Victoria Chanel will be perform-

ing, and then at 6 p.m., Summer Wolfe and the Mississippi Players will play. She was nominated in 2016 for Best New Artist and Video of the Year by the National Southern Soul Foundation.

Ishmael Jack of Orange will serve as master of ceremonies. Benitris Edwards is head of the Stars of Gate City and worked to organize the festival with a team of volunteers. They plan to make Blues Fest an annual event.

Bank from anywhere with our Mobile App!

BRIDGE CITY BANK

BridgeCityBank.com • (409) 735-3516

Member FDIC

LENDER

★ TEXAS STATE NEWS

DPS reinstates Texas Ranger fired for Uvalde shooting response

Uvalde district attorney found no criminal wrongdoing and asked that Ranger Chris Kindell be allowed to return to his job.

Pooja Salhotra
The Texas Tribune

The Texas Department of Public Safety has reinstated a Texas Ranger who the agency previously attempted to fire for failing to respond appropriately to the deadly Robb Elementary School shooting.

DPS Director Steve McCraw said in a Friday letter to Christopher Ryan Kindell that Kindell could return to his former position now that the Texas Rangers had completed their criminal investigation of the shooting. No criminal charges were filed against any DPS officers. McCraw said that Uvalde County District Attorney Christina Mitchell, who convened a grand jury in January to investigate law enforcement's delayed response to the May 2022 shooting that

killed 19 children and two teachers, requested the reinstatement.

Mitchell confirmed that she made that request, noting that rangers in Real County, Val Verde County and Maverick County had been covering Kindell's territory while he was suspended.

"Ranger Kindell has worked diligently to serve the citizens of Uvalde County for approximately seven years and has been the lead investigator on several complicated cases, from child sexual abuse to murder cases," Mitchell said in an email. "It was time that Ranger Kindell got back to work serving Uvalde County."

Mitchell did not share what evidence about Kindell the grand jury considered, stating it is illegal to disclose any information



Texas Ranger Christopher Ryan Kindell outside Robb Elementary School in Uvalde on May 24, 2022, when 21 people — 19 children and two adults — were killed by a gunman. Kindell's firing by was reversed this month. Credit: Texas Parks and Wildlife bodycam

about grand jury proceedings. The Austin American-Statesman first reported Kindell's reinstatement.

The massacre was the deadliest school shooting in Texas history. Law enforcement officers waited 77 minutes to confront the lone gunman, even though 376 law enforcement officers responded to the scene.

The shooter was ultimately killed by a Border Patrol tactical unit.

Kindell was notified in January 2023 that he would be fired. In his termination letter, McCraw said Kindell's actions "did not conform to department standards" and that he should have recognized the incident as an active shooter

situation, not a barricaded subject situation. Kindell was given five days to appeal the decision.

Since January, Kindell has received his annual salary of close to \$100,000, while on suspension.

On Friday, McCraw wrote that he decided to change his initial decision "based upon a review of the com-

pleted Texas Ranger criminal investigation" of the shooting, "an internal investigation on DPS officers who responded to the attack, and subsequent to the review of the Uvalde Grand Jury."

The grand jury in June indicted two former Uvalde school police officers on charges of child endangerment. Those two indictments, against former Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District Police Chief Pete Arredondo and former school police officer Adrian Gonzales, represent the only criminal charges filed after the school shooting. No DPS officers were indicted.

Because grand jury investigations in Texas are secret, it is not entirely clear what evidence the jury considered, though The Texas Tribune confirmed that McCraw was among those who appeared as witnesses.

McCraw has previously blamed local officers for law enforcement's botched response, which was the subject of a January U.S. Department of Justice re-

DPS Page 5

Boomtown's Video Competition a hit



The video for Kosmic Funeral's song, "Kosmic Dreaming," was created from archived cell phone footage featuring family activities, travels in five states, and snippets from past challenges. It had everything from mermaids, to basketball and cows in a flood. It was a very eclectic mix showing the chaotic nature of dreams. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

It was standing room only at the screening of the freshly made entries for the Boomtown Film and Music Festival Music Video Competition Monday night at the Logon Café in Beaumont. Some people were standing outside, looking in the windows. Kudos to this year's festival director Stephanie Orta.

The competition was

part of July's "Halfway to Boomtown" event. On July 26, they held a concert event with three music acts and had the music video challenge kickoff in-between acts. Nine different bands offered original tunes for the competition, including Fresh Grind,

Team member signed up, picked their song and had 10 days to come up with a concept, shoot and edit their video to be screened Aug. 5 at the Logon be-

tween a classic double feature of "Phantom of the Paradise" and "The Ice Pirates."

Seven teams completed the challenge. "Kosmic Dreaming" by Kosmic Funeral was created by Orangefield resident, Penny LeLeux, aka, The Barefoot Director.

"I really hadn't originally planned to enter, but Stephanie Orta contacted me and said she needed one more team to cover all the bands," said LeLeux. "I really didn't have time to shoot new footage, so I did a deep dive in my cell phone archives and used road trips, family events, footage from past 48-hour films, I basically threw the kitchen sink in it."

LeLeux said since it was

BOOMTOWN'S Page 5

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.

Roy Dunn - Publisher
Margaret Toal - News Director
Mark Dunn - Production
Dan Perrine - Sports Editor
Janelle Sehon - Business Manager

409-886-7183
or 409-313-6611
E-mail: news@therecordlive.com
333 W. Roundbunch, Bridge City, Texas 77611

Offices Closed On Wednesday.
 Didn't Get Your Paper? Call 409-313-6611

TheRecordLive.com
Round The Clock Hometown News

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Same Day Appointments Available	School Physicals
Extended Office Hours	Women's Health Services
Prescription Assistance Programs	Behavioral Health
Case Management	Mental Health Counseling
Telehealth Services	Treatment of Hepatitis C
Patient Education Services	Treatment of HIV
Patient Portal Chart Access	Chronic Disease Management

TAN Healthcare provides comprehensive, compassionate, and continuous care for children, teens and adults for primary and preventive care in a consistent and affordable manner for the communities of Southeast Texas with or without insurance. TAN Healthcare offers a sliding fee discount program for all patients based upon household income and size.

TAN Healthcare
 3737 N. 16th Street
 Orange, TX 77632
 (409) 920-4223
www.tanhealthcare.org

WE'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT!

David O. Olson, DDS

Amber M. Hudson, DDS

Professional Dental Center

OLSON & HUDSON

General, Cosmetic and Orthodontic Dentistry

Experience State-of-the-Art Care
In a friendly, comfortable surroundings by caring doctors and staff

- ◆ We Welcome New Patients
- ◆ Emergencies Handled Promptly
- ◆ Dental Insurance Welcomed
- ◆ Flexible Payment Options

- ◆ Complete Dental Care - Adults & Children
- ◆ Orthodontics - No Permanent Teeth Removed
 - ◆ Cosmetic Dentistry - Smile Makeovers
 - ◆ Teeth Whitening ◆ Tooth-Colored Fillings
- ◆ Crowns ◆ Bridges ◆ Partials ◆ Custom Dentures
- ◆ Ill-Fitting Dentures Eliminated ◆ Implants Restored
- ◆ Complimentary Cosmetic & Orthodontic Consultations

409.735.4902

725 W. Roundbunch Rd., Bridge City, Texas 77611
(located next to Bridge City Bank)

www.prodentalcenter.com

New businesses keep Bridge City growing

PENNYLELEUX
For The Record

After noticing an abundance of new businesses opening in Bridge City recently, The Record decided to check in with Mandy Lyda, executive director of Bridge City Chamber of Commerce to see just how many businesses have opened since the first of the year.



Mandy Lyda

"It's exciting to see all the new businesses in Bridge City," said Lyda. She went through the membership list to see how many have joined the chamber since January.

Brooke and Catherine Lending Company (aka: FBC Mortgage), The Mustard Seed and Joy and Stream Boutique are all located in the new Encore Dance building at 2899 W. Roundbunch Road.

The Mustard Seed is in Suite 101 and offers affordable and trendy home décor and gifts.

Their hours of operation are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday and closed Sunday

"We're still working to get the word out," said Jennifer Derouen, owner of The Mustard Seed.

Brooke and Catherine Lending Company are ready to help with your mortgage needs.

"Getting pre-approved before shopping for a loan or a mortgage can provide you with a clear advantage in the home-buying process," states their Face-

book page. Their Bridge City branch ribbon cutting was held April 5.

Joy and Stream Boutique is constantly bringing in fresh apparel. They are open Monday-Wednesday 11 a.m.- 7 p.m., Thursday - Friday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Closed Sunday.

Across the street, at 2970 W. Roundbunch, the new DG Market opened just a couple of weeks ago. Part of the Dollar General family, DG Market has expanded food selections including fresh meat, produce and other foods that aren't normally found at dollar stores. It is open 8 a.m. - 10 p.m., seven days a week.

Scratch Kitchen, a breakfast and brunch establishment recently opened at 1575 Texas Ave. offering southern style meals seven days a week. Their hours are 5 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. They start the day with limited breakfast items and start offering lunch at 11 a.m.

Eastex Armament, an outdoor and sporting goods store, just moved in

next door to Scratch Kitchen at 1597 Texas Ave. In addition to equipment, they offer laser etching, stippling and Cerakote services. Ladies, looking for a different kind of camouflage for your rifle? Check out the LV pattern or pink webbing. Hunting is getting bougie.

Pure Stripe Industrial Painting offers parking lot striping services along with road striping, fire lane and warehouse striping, ADA compliance markings and more.

Their website states they offer services at all hours to get the job done at the most convenient for you. Their office hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week. Call, email or text to get a quote. Their phone number is 409-670-3888.

Luxury First Travel L.L.C. at 720 E. Roundbunch is currently looking for a local storefront location according to Lyda.

Low Tides Restaurant located at 3096 Texas Ave. (near the swing bridge) was featured in an article earlier this year. It is closed Monday - Wednesday, open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday and Thursday and 11 a.m.- 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

"These are locally owned businesses," said Lyda. "Shop local and let them help you with your needs."

This may not be a complete list and there are others scheduled to open soon. Bridge City is on the grow.



Bill Nickum and Dr David Olson recently received recognition from the Bridge City/Orange-field Rotary Club on their 50th Anniversaries as charter members of the Rotary Club. They are among the original founding members of the organization and are beloved in the community for their five decades of service.

Boomtown's Music Video

about dreams and sounded a little 70s psychedelic, it didn't really matter if it made sense. She used some of the footage as it was and threw special effects on other clips. There were mermaids, athletic competitions, cows flooded from Harvey, and even singing jack-o-lanterns.

"It was kind of fun putting it together," she said. "But it didn't hold a candle to the others. There were some amazing entries tonight."

First place was won by team PVO for the song "Glow" by 2ThrewMindz-InnerG, a hip hop rap song the featured a group watching "The Last Dragon," then they become part of the story with Kung Fu action and damsels in distress.

Team Hostile Cinephiles took second place with "One Purpose" by Maxifads. They offered a

music performance with band members in garbage bag masks and improvised instruments, such as a base cut out of cardboard and lead guitar made from a gas can.

Maurice Ableman of Team Warm Oats took third with its animated rendition of "Damn Tired" by Hot Grits. Maurice teaches graphic design at Lamar State College-PA and has painted some of the murals in Orange, including ones for the Lions Club.

Prizes for the top three videos were supplied by the Collab Studio in Beaumont.

Other teams that competed were: The Stellar Team with their creation of "Heavy" by Ariel Bush; Team 37 Pieces of Flair for the vision of "Bad Vibes" by Fresh Grind; and Team Creative Alchemy for "Teach Me" by Hot Grits. Four teams did not cross

the finish line.

"Just completing the challenge makes you all winners," said Christopher Dombrosky of Boomtown Film Society, before the screenings. It is not easy to complete a video in 10 days. The event was a huge success.

After the screenings, one of the audience members was overheard saying, "There wasn't a bad one in the bunch."

DPS reinstates Texas Ranger

From Page 2

port that documented numerous failures in leadership and coordination. A Texas House special committee report also criticized state and federal law enforcement officers' inaction.

A total of 91 DPS officers responded to the incident, alongside local police, U.S. Border Patrol members and Uvalde school police.

Kindell's role in law enforcement's response is not entirely clear. CNN reported that Kindell was inside the school's hallways while shots were fired in a classroom and that Kindell then attempted to negotiate with the gunman. A New York Times investigation found that Kindell was seen on surveillance footage delivering a set of keys to other officers at 12:36 p.m., 14 minutes before the Border Patrol team entered the classroom and killed the gunman.

Kindell joined DPS in 2006 and worked in the criminal division before becoming a ranger in 2016. He had been assigned several high-profile investigations. He could not be reached for comment on Monday.

Families of the victims of the shooting have expressed outrage over what they say is a lack of accountability and transparency following the shooting.

Friday's letter was met with a similar sense of frustration.

VISION QUEST
EYE CENTER
409•330•4324

Full Service Optical and Contact Lenses

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS: WELLNESS VISION EXAMS:
Diabetes Contact Lens Services
Macular Degeneration
Glaucoma Accept Most Insurances
Dry Eye / Allergy •Including Tricare
Infections

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

15% Off All Sunglasses

Mark A. Weaver, O.D.
1502 Strickland Drive Suite 4
Orange, Texas 77630
409•330•4324

Southeast Texas Arts Council presents:

WHAT'S IT WORTH?

AN "ANTIQUE'S ROADSHOW"
TYPE
APPRAISAL EVENT

Bring your:
Family Heirlooms, Jewelry,
Paintings, Collectables, Memorabilia
and more to find out.

SETXAC.ORG

9-5 P.M.

SAT. AUG. 24

ORANGE COUNTY
EXPO CENTER

11475 FM 1442, ORANGE

\$5 General admission ages 12 and under FREE
 \$10 per item appraised
 2 item limit per person
 scan qr code for tickets

DISCLAIMER: These are general verbal appraisals only and not certified. These are expert OPINIONS only. Southeast Texas Arts Council, and any of its sponsors are not responsible and cannot be held liable for any appraisal or advice offered by the experts in attendance.

Funded in part by Texas Commission on the Arts



From the Creaux's Nest HARRIS-WALZ FRESH NEW TEAM

Vice President Harris has chosen Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz to be her running mate, opting for a former high school teacher and **Midwestern Democrat** to complete a newly assembled presidential ticket. In a social media post, Harris said Walz's "convictions on fighting for middle class families" stood out. Walz is scheduled to appear with Harris in coming days in each of the seven most competitive states — Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, North Carolina, Georgia, Arizona and Nevada. Their first appearance a joint rally in Philadelphia Tuesday. In picking the Minnesota governor as her running mate, Ms. Harris gets a partner with **Midwestern appeal** who has lobbed catchy attacks at former President Donald J. Trump. A number of high profile Democrats quickly offered their support for Walz as Harris's running mate, including former President Barack Obama, former Secretary of State and Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and Speaker Emeritus Nancy Pelosi, among others. In a statement posted to X, President Biden said Harris made a "great decision" in choosing Walz, calling him "a strong, principled, and effective leader." "The Harris-Walz ticket will be a powerful voice for working people and America's great middle class," read Biden's post. "They will be the strongest defenders of our personal freedoms and our democracy. And they will ensure that America continues to lead the world and play its role as the indispensable nation." In the first few hours the Harris-Walz campaign raised over \$10 million.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2014

At one time Speaker John Boehner had the votes to pass the senate bill that had cut a billion dollars off of President Obama's request. Then freshman senator Ted Cruz cut his legs out from under him by calling a dozen congressmen to his dungeon and telling them they would not get any Tea Party pac money if they voted for the bill. In disgust Boehner said, "The President will just have to solve it with executive order." Then it hit the fan. Rep. Steve King called for impeachment. ****Gone but not forgotten: June Ellen Middlebrooks Guidry, 58, passed away Friday, Aug. 1, in San Antonio. She was a native of Bridge City. The Middlebrooks family is well known in the community. They not only lost their mom and dad, but also three brothers, Stanley, Allan and Mark. Now only two sisters remain Lynn and Donia. ****We were also sorry to hear of the death of Coach Preston Prince, 84, who passed away Aug. 1. An Orange native, he had been a teacher, longtime coach and assistant principle at LCM. A former Golden Gloves boxing champion, he was known as a fisherman who always caught the limit. Some of his students say he was always upbeat and a great motivator. ****We were glad to hear that our friend Jerry McInnis is up and about and doing quite well after having open heart surgery. ****Our buddy, Ms. Pearl, who has been driving for 75 years has checked her keys in and gave up running the roads as of last month. We miss seeing her going by, tooting her horn, waving and flashing that smile. She was usually headed to Danny's or MacDonald Baptist. She made her rounds, visiting the girls at Wal-Mart, Bealls, etc. Always independent about giving up her wheels she said, "Timing in life is everything, the time had come." Ms. Pearl will turn 94 on Oct. 27. ****We understand our friend of many years, 95-year-old Inez Hearn has slowed down a lot and "Father Time" is taking its toll. ****Melinda Feverjean, of Bridge City, recently had quadruple bypass surgery. Her brother Randy Feverjean is also doing well after having many health related issues, including a kidney transplant and double leg amputations. Randy was a powerhouse basketball and football player for the Cardinals in the 70's. He has retired to Village Mills with his wife Marilyn. ****The singing gambler, our friend Robert Carpenter celebrates on this day. I like the songs he sings. ****One of our favorite guys, Coach Dwight Thacker marks another one on Aug. 8. ****On Aug. 9, a good guy, Judge Dennis Powell celebrates. ****Aug. 10 is a special day for a special guy. Judge Joe Parkhurst and another great guy, William "Bill" Smith, founder of Central Office Supply. ****Judge Derry Dunn attended a family reunion at Chrystal Beach three weeks ago where everyone had a great time. Judge Dunn just went into the Gulf waters once but that was all it took. His right leg got discolored and turned bright red. Wife Jane took a picture of it and emailed it to their two doctor

sons. Both responded within minutes to take him to the emergency room immediately. He was diagnosed with **Necrotizing Fasciitis**, commonly referred to as a flesh-eating bacteria. (That is a media hype term.) Anyway, Saturday, on the Judge's birthday, Aug. 2, he underwent surgery. A six inch hunk of meat was removed from his right leg. The area was cut down past the infected area. The healing process will take some time because it must heal from the inside out. He will be constantly checked to prevent new growth. What went through the Judge's mind was if he lost his right leg, how in the heck was he going to operate his tractor. Derry has been through so much he just takes whatever comes along in stride. He says it's the Lord checking off the list.

20 Years Ago-2004

A real U.S. hero, Red Adair, died Saturday, Aug. 7, at age 89. He put out 2,000 oil well fires in his 50 year career. In 1968 he inspired the movie "Hell Fighters" starring John Wayne. In Kuwait he extinguished fires set by Saddam. Instead of taking years he put out all of the fires in months. He started his business with \$125 worth of equipment. Sunday. ****Aug. 8, a lovely lady, Patsy Fiset, age 65, passed away. She had fought a lifetime battle with Rheumatoid Arthritis. Through all those years she kept a good attitude. She was a good friend to many and truly an inspiration to everyone who knew her. She and Harold were more than man and wife, they were buddies. She was a great mom to their sons Craig, Mark and Curtis. She was also survived by four grandchildren. ****Don and Joyce Kachtick celebrated their 50th anniversary Aug. 7. Don was one of Bear Bryant's Junction Boys at Texas A&M. He also was a U.S. military helicopter pilot and was a longtime Orange County Extension agent. Joyce was a longtime secretary at Little Cypress-Mauriceville. ****Masons dedicate new Bridge City High School. Masonic Lodge 1345 will place "Level" right in front of the new gym. ****Carla Wright became the bride of Bubba Laverne on July 24. ****Heather Nicole Tait and Christopher Raspberry plan an Aug. 14 wedding.

50 Years Ago-1974

Former Gov. John Connally indicted, the main witness against him is his longtime friend Jake Jacobson. The two worked for LBJ for many years. It looks like ole Jake sold John out to save his own hide. He was given immunity from prosecution. (Editor's note: For all these years I've believed that the immunity law, that often turns loose the guilty, is a bad law. Connally beat the rap.) ****Orange Countians spotted in New Orleans: H.D. and Sue Pate, Buddie and Carol Hahn, Betty Haynes and daughter Pat, the V.J. Zetos, Roy and Phyllis Dunn and children and friends. ****A memorial fund has been set up for Cecil Ray Brown, who was killed in an auto accident on Jack Island Road on July 23. ****On August 7, President Richard Nixon announced he would resign the presidency. This was the result of the Watergate scandal. (Editor's note: That break in was blown plum out of proportion. Folks around Nixon caused his downfall. On August 9, Vice-president Gerald Ford was sworn in as president. ****Perry Brothers hold grand opening at Northway store. L.J. Brooks is store manager. Beth Thompson, age 15 wins stereo/radio/record player at drawing. ****James Foyle is a motorcycle bluff. Kirby Ray Granger is an avid shrimper. Steve Carlton and Don Burgess are two of the smartest, young attorneys in Orange. James "Stick" Stringer is the most handsome justice of the peace. ****County Tax Assessor Louvenia Hryhorchuk celebrates birthday. ****Bob Sims is manager of the Orange County Drainage District and is expecting lots of complaints if heavy rains come. Flooding can be expected. ****Officer Randall Ritter resigns at Orange P.D. ****Harmon Chevrolet has a new 1974 Vega on sale for \$2,737, fully loaded. ****Big Mike Treece, football standout at West Orange, Kilgore Junior College and Oklahoma State University, sees action in World Football League game this week. According to his dad, Bill Treece, who lives at 122 Henrietta in Orange, Mike plays for the Memphis Southern.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

John Thomas, Sandy McCormack, and the rest of the staff at OCARC put on another spectacular benefit fishing tournament for the non-profit business that provides work for adults with special needs. It was the 36th annual fishing tournament and held at the city of Orange's Boat Ramp and Riverside Pavilion this past Saturday. Winners in the bass category were Matt Bertrand, Joshua Smith, and Alstin Bertrand. Other winners were Thomas Mayon, Slade Nunnally, and Stella Rico for redfish; Andy Allen, Cliff Digiovanni, and Mike Baker for speckled trout; Andy Allen, Mark Foreman, and Case Tant for flounder; Alex Jackson, Jody Jackson, and Bryer Clark for catfish; Alstin Bertrand and Braydon Bertrand for white perch; Noah McFarlane, Ava Ferguson, and Mitch Laughlin for sun perch; Sophia Lemke, Jaxon Galbreath, Stetson Vaghan, and Rhyse Vaughan for croaker; Lucas Mohan, Trevontae Jones, and Dustin Tillery for black drum; Kasen Jackson for grinnel; Andy Borel for mudcat; and Stella Rico and Kinsleigh Vail for appaloosa redfish based on number of spots. ****Betty Vail, who has had health problems, made it to the tournament, but not to fish. She helped husband Robert Vail at his booth selling his wooden carvings of our local fish and birds, plus mosquitoes. ****Gary Stelly, a board member and big supporter of OCARC was out there once again taking pictures and visiting with everyone, especial-

ly the OCARC clients. ****David Jones of Gopher Industries, who helped sponsor the tournament, was also there. ****Captain Cornbread, aka Eric Ellison, a fishing guide, got bragging rights for his young grandson, Keagan, winning a rod and reel plus a trophy with a sun perch. And speaking of grandpas, Orange County Commissioner Johnny Trahan was puffing his chest out after young grandson Case Tant won \$150 and a trophy with his flounder. ****The Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce held another successful designer purse bingo benefit, drawing a crowd. Of course Ida Schossow was there. Steve Jones and Wade Smith were helping run the show. Others seen in the crowd included Sherry Hommel, Candace Lawrence, Maureen McAllister, Terry Hoyland, Sarah Nash, Sherry Combs, Liz McKee, Leigh Anne Harrell, Jenn Pool, Alison Clary, Wendy Lloyd, Trish Anderson, Hillary Gravett, Rita Monson, and Brandi Justice. ****Bingo is popular and the Orange Train Depot held another Sunday afternoon round of games as a fundraiser. Rose Simar helped run the show with assistants including Kacie Burnitt. Orange City Councilor Paul Burch, wearing a colorful tropical shirt, called out the numbers. He's going to be real busy this coming week. He will be singing with the Orange Community Players at the Blues Festival at the Riverside Pavilion. ****People in this area love to go to Bolivar and Galveston for beach time, but the state health department is warning that several cases of flesh-eating bacteria have been reported. It's a serious infection that can quickly lead to loss of a limb or death. Ask retired JP Derry Dunn. ****Temperatures are in the 90s this week, but Bridge City is already planning the December 7 Christmas Lights Parade. The theme this year is Bayou Christmas. ****Armand Duplantis — the Lafayette, La., native and LSU product who competes for his mother's home nation of Sweden — secured the gold medal in four jumps. Clearing 6.0 meters was enough to win the gold medal at these Paris Olympics. 'Mondo' is the first back-to-back gold medal winner in the Olympics since American Bob Richards, who won in the 1952 and 1956. (Editor's note: Roy Dunn's mother was a Duplantis. Roy's cousin Paul Duplantis, of Groves, at age 96, still golfs three times a week. He says it's in the genes.)

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

A few folks celebrating birthdays in the next few days. Aug. 7: Kimberly Sensal, Don Lyons, Rodney Hanks, Tessa Bailey. ****Aug. 8: O.C. Gunstream, Katie Allen, Fred Brent, Jim Finklea. ****Aug. 9: Paige White, Jada Montagne, Edie Anthony. ****Aug. 10: Joe Allen, Leslie Smit, Max Powell, Timmy Bryd, Bill Loyd, Bill Smith, Bree Anne Collins. ****Aug. 11: Susan Eby, Morgan Taylor, Rene Danna, Deborah Bayliss. ****Aug. 12: Pat Caillavet, Jared Steeman, Jennifer Babin. ****Aug. 13: Chris Bailey, Melissa Cox, Lyn Goodwin Wade Estes, Terry Walles, Aaron MacCammond, Ada Bridges, Andrew Glover. ****Other birthday celebrations: Orange County has lots of nonagenarians, and three celebrated birthdays this past week. Mary Bates turned 98, Betty Bass was 95, and Mavis Worsham was 94. Other people who celebrated birthdays included Jim Cash, Karen McKinney, Scott Coker, Jay Carpenter, Cheryl Donnaud, Connie Stephenson, Frank McCoy, James Foyle, Derry Dunn, Irene Smith, Jerree Powell, Glenda Perry, Olivia Davis, Nancy Dallas, Sheila Odom, Deborah Bedner, and Ron Adcock. ****Celebrating wedding anniversaries are Karl and Karen Wickham had their 52nd and Doug and Shelley Manning marked year No. 32. ****(NOTE: To place a birthday or anniversary free of charge call 409-313-6611 or email news@therecordlive.com)

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Poor Sostan Comeaux him, was on his dying bed, his last breath could come at jus anytime. Den he smelled da most wonderful smell coming down da hall.

Comeaux struggled out of da bed him, too weak to stand up. He crawled down da hall and into da kitchen and pulled himself up to da counter where his wife Marie's brownies were cooling dem.

Comeaux grab one and put it in his mou'h and den stuffed two more in his pajama pocket, den stuffed one more in his mou'h. Den he said, "I just love dat smell and wonderful taste me."

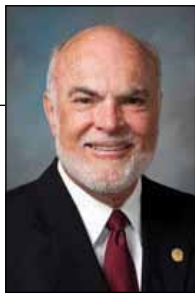
Bout dat time Marie walked up behind him and said, "Comeaux, wat you doing you?" Shame on you, dem brownies are for after da funeral."

C'EST TOUT RECOGNIZING SPECIAL FOLKS

I noticed a few friends are celebrating birthdays in the next few days. Judge Dennis Powell, who now makes his home in the Hill Country, celebrates on Aug. 9, as does everybody's friend Coach Dwight Thacker. ****My buddy, a special lady Windee Jenkins will celebrate on Aug. 12. I bet Judge Chad and the boys have something planned over the weekend. ****Longtime friend, a very likeable guy, Clint Landry, celebrates on Aug. 13. Another good guy, Monty Eshbach celebrates on that day also. ****Gone but not forgotten: August 20th was Judge Joe Parkhurst's birthday. A prince of a guy. I miss him. ****Also, on Aug. 11, 2021, Kerrie Dunn passed away. Far too young. She would be proud of her two girls and their great families. **** Please read us cover to cover and support our "Family of Advertisers" when you can. You will always get the best deal. Take care and God bless.

My Five-Cents

A monthly column from Sen. Robert Nichols by Sen. Robert Nichols, Senate District 3



This month Houston and the Gulf Coast were devastated by Hurricane Beryl, which made landfall Monday, July 8 near Matagorda. Thirty-six Texans died during and after the storm and 2.3 million were left without power, some for almost two weeks. Hearings were held in Austin to assess the response and hold utility companies accountable that did not perform well, including CenterPoint Entergy.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. BDO accepting proposals for broadband grant funding

The Broadband Development Office (BDO) recently released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for \$729.9 million in state and federal funds. Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) is a competitive grant program to build last-mile broadband connections that increase high-speed broadband service to Texans. Proposed projects for this funding will provide service to unserved and underserved locations in targeted counties that demonstrate the greatest need for broadband service, as determined by the BDO. Qualifying projects must deploy broadband service to the entirety of the unserved and underserved broadband serviceable locations in an eligible county. Eligible counties in East Texas include Liberty County, Trinity County, and Newton County. While these are the counties eligible for this program, other programs exist that extend to other areas. Awards will be a minimum of \$1 million and a maximum of \$125 million. Proposed projects must be complete and operational no later than December 31, 2026. Applications are due by August 26, 2024.

2. TRS lowering premiums for next year

The Teachers Retirement System announced it will be lowering TRS-Care Medicare Advantage monthly premiums for next year. This is due to a current surplus balance of over \$3 billion. Retirees will see a decrease in premium costs between \$60 and \$407 per month next year. In addition, TRS is also allowing a limited-time enrollment opportunity for eligible TRS-Care Medicare Advantage participants. Most TRS-Care retirees who are eligible for Medicare will be eligible for the limited-time enrollment opportunity. For more information, visit <https://www.trs.texas.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx>.

3. Texas AG secures \$1.4B settlement with Meta over biometric data privacy

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton secured a \$1.4 billion settlement with Meta, formerly known as Facebook, over capture

of personal biometric data without authorization required by law. It is the largest settlement ever obtained from an action brought by a single state. This is the first lawsuit brought and settlement obtained under Texas' "Capture or Use of Biometric Identifier" (CUBI) Act. The lawsuit centered on a feature Meta added in 2011 initially called Tag Suggestions. The feature used facial recognition software on virtually every face contained in the photographs uploaded to Facebook, capturing records of the facial geometry of the people depicted. Actions such as these are considered capturing biometric identifiers of Texans, which is against the law unless the business informs the person and receives their consent first. Meta will pay the state \$1.4 billion over the next five years.

4. TWIA considering up to 10 percent rate hike

The Texas Windstorm Insurance Association's (TWIA) Actuarial and Underwriting Committee recommended that the TWIA Board of Directors approve a rate filing to increase rates by 10 percent for 2025 TWIA policies. The TWIA Board will meet on August 6 to consider the Committee's recommendation, the rate adequacy analysis, and stakeholder feedback when voting to decide the required rate filing with the Texas Department of Insurance. TWIA's board is mindful of insurance costs on policyholders and has only raised rates once over the past five years. However, based on a 2024 actuarial analysis, TWIA rates would need to increase by 39 percent for residential policies and 45 percent for commercial policies in order to be actuarially adequate. TWIA is inviting the public to comment on the potential rate increases either virtually or in-person during the meeting or ahead of the meeting via email. The public is welcome to attend the meeting at the Tremont House Hotel in Galveston. Submit written comments via email to PublicComment@TWIA.org. If you wish to make verbal public comment via Zoom, find more information on how to register at <https://www.twia.org/>.

5. SpaceX, Twitter moving headquarters to Texas

Elon Musk announced he is moving the headquarters of two of his companies to Texas. SpaceX and X, formerly known as Twitter, will both be relocating from California to Texas after California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law preventing schools from requiring employees to notify parents if a student requests to use different pronouns. SpaceX will move from Hawthorne, CA to Starbase, a complex and launch site near Brownsville, TX. X will move its headquarters from San Francisco to Austin.

Deaths & Memorials

Debrah Helen McAbee, 71, BC

Debrah Helen McAbee, 71, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away on July 30, 2024, at Baptist Hospital in Beaumont.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange.

Visitation was Friday, Aug. 2, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.

Born in San Diego, California, on July 8, 1953, she was the daughter of Wallace Lute and Opal (Cox) Lute. Deborah lived a life filled with compassion, dedication, and unwavering love for her family and friends. Throughout career as a CTC Operator for Kansas Railroad, Deborah showcased her exceptional work ethic and commitment to duty. After 17 years of service, she retired in 2000 with a legacy of professionalism and reliability. Beyond her professional achievements, Deborah will be remembered for the profound impact she had on those around her.

She was known for her selflessness, always putting others' needs before her own. Whether it was caring for her ailing parents with tenderness and grace or babysitting special needs children with patience and kindness, Deborah's nurturing spirit touched the lives of many.



Debrah McAbee

Despite her habit of always running late, Deborah's boundless energy and zest for life endeared her to all who knew her. She was the glue that held her family together, a beacon of strength during both joyful and challenging times. Debrah was deeply loved and will be profoundly missed by all whose lives she touched.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Wallace and Opal Lute; granddaughter, Lauren Brinkley; and brother, David Lute.

She is survived by her loving husband of 53 years, Jim McAbee; children, Jiam Brinkley, Gary McAbee and Charlene Deslatte, and Matt McAbee; grandchildren, Dalton and Dillon McAbee, Tyler Brinkley, Dustin McAbee, Matthew McAbee, Chance McAbee, and James McAbee; great grandchildren, Kyler, Kayden, Oakley and Ryker Brinkley; siblings, Denise Lage and husband Darrell, Rick Lute and wife Cindi, Terry Lute, and numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family and friends.

Serving as pallbearers were Dillon, Dalton, Dustin, James McAbee II, Tyler Brinkley, Matthew and Chance McAbee.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at <https://988lifeline.org>

Become a Master Gardener register now

New Master Gardener training classes begin at 6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 22, at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center on FM1442. The requirements for the certification are 50 hours of education and 50 hours of volunteer time. Classes meet on Thursdays with speakers and programs about gardening that count for the 50 hours of education.

The cost of the class is \$150 which includes a book, supplies, speaker fees, and a banquet on the last day of class, Dec.12.

Master Gardener Training is provided by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Applications for the class are available at the AgriLife office in the Expo Center, 11475 FM 1442, Orange. The Master Gardener training fee can be paid then or any time before the class starts.

Accepting New Patients

Gulf Coast Cardiology Group, P.L.L.C.

A Brand New Concept In Heart Care

- Walk In Heart Clinic - No Appointment Necessary (M-F 830a-5:30p)
- Same Day Testing in Office: Ultrasounds & Nuclear Stress Testing
- In Office Heart Cath Lab - Capable of stenting heart and leg arteries in the office as well as implanting pacemakers and defibrillators.
- Every Patient is always seen & examined by a Board Certified Cardiologist.
- Cath Lab Services are provided the same day with no delays.

Hearts Cannot Wait

If you are tired of struggling with VARICOSE VEINS, set an appointment now for "ABLATION OF THE LEGS" with DR. ABOCHAMH or DR. ABDULLAH.



Pradip J. Morbia, M.D.
F.A.C.C., F.C.C.P.
Board Certified in Cardiovascular Medicine, Interventional Cardiology & Internal Medicine

- Specializing in:**
- Cardiovascular Consultation
 - Critical Care / ICU
 - Invasive Cardiology
 - Cardiac Catheterization
 - Interventional Cardiology
 - PTCA (Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty)
 - Stent Placement
 - Rotoblader IVUS
 - Angiojet
 - Non-Invasive Cardiology
 - Echocardiography
 - TEE (Transesophageal Echocardiogram)
 - 24-Holter Monitoring
 - Stress Testing and Stress Echocardiography
 - Peripheral Vascular Interventions and Stents, Renal, Iliac, Femoral, Popliteal, Mesenteries, Subclavian
 - Pacemaker Implantation & Services
 - Preventive Cardiology
 - Tilt Table Testing
 - Nuclear Cardiology
 - Inferior Vena Cava Filter
 - Biventricular Pacemaker
 - AICD (Automatic Implantable Pacemaker Defibrillator)



Nabeel Abdullah, M.D.
F.A.C.C.
Board Certified in Cardiovascular Medicine, Echocardiography & Internal Medicine, Specialized in Interventional Cardiology



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



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

3921 Twin City Hwy. Jefferson City Shopping Center (Old Woolco Building), Port Arthur, Texas 77642
Open M-F 8:30am to 5:30pm
(409) 963-0000
After hours 724-7389 • (409) 963-1899 Fax

www.GulfCoastCardio.com • We Accept All Insurance Plans

ICANL Accredited Nuclear Stress & Pet Scan
IAC Accredited Cardio Department

We have Spanish and Vietnamese interpreters available in the office.

Place a Memorial In Remembrance of Your Departed Loved One

For Inquiries Call 409-886-7183 or 409-313-6611
Or, email us at news@therecordlive.com

FLOOD INSURANCE

Security For Your Home, Peace Of Mind For You.



DONNA GRAY

BILL NICKUM

CHERYL SQUIRES

Bill Nickum LUTCF

1930 Texas Ave. Bridge City
(409) 735-3595



THE RECORD

- Just \$10 for a 30 word ad in both papers and on the web
- Classified Newspaper Deadline: Mondays @ 5 pm
- You can submit your ad ANYTIME @ TheRecordLive.com

Community Classifieds

409•886•7183

Your ads published in both newspapers, the County Record & the Penny Record, plus on our web site @ TheRecordLive.com

Penny Record & County Record Offices now located at:
333 West Roundbunch, Bridge City, 77611
NOTE: Offices closed on Wednesday

APPLIANCES

HARRY'S APPLIANCES - Used appliances starting at \$99.95, 302 10th. St. (10th. & main) Orange, We also buy used appliances, Call or come by 409-886-4111.

FOR RENT

For Rent: In a community for 55 years of age or older. 3 Bedrooms, 2 bath manufactured home. Has a Covered carport for 2 vehicles and a covered 10'x16' front deck. No pets or smoking. \$950/MONTH. Call or text 409-504-9296

GARAGE SALE

Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat., Aug. 10, from 8am - 2 pm at 15636 FM 105, Orangefield (a little bit past Dirty Harry's Gun Range). Lots of home goods, kids clothes, women and mens and kids toys.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED
FULL TIME & PART TIME GROCERY STOCKERS GROCERY CHECKERS DELI WORKERS APPLY IN PERSON ONLY NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!
K-DAN'S SUPER FOODS - 9604 FM 105 DANNY'S SUPER FOODS 2003 Western

NOTICE: Vehicle stored at Gilbeaux's Towing and Transport Inc. 058449 VSF 16527 Hwy 62 S. Orange, TX 77630 PH (409) 886-0007
Total charges cannot be computed until the vehicle is claimed, storage charges will accrue daily until the vehicle is released. Must demonstrate proof of ownership and pay current charges to claim vehicle. www.tdlr.texas.gov

2002 BUICK VIN #: 2G4WS52J921227424 OWD# 8471.35 2000 PRINOTH MULCHER SER # 104254 OWD# S1716.00

Email us at: news@therecordlive.com OR ads@therecordlive.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **RUBY FATIMO COSTELLO**, were issued on **JULY 17, 2024, in Cause No. P19976**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JOHNNY COSTELLO**.

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: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100

Dated the 22nd day of July, 2024.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Johnny Costello State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JAMES OTTIS O'QUINN**, were issued on **JULY 29, 2024, in Cause No. P20048**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **NELDA JUNE O'QUINN**.

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: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100

Dated the 30th day of July, 2024.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Nelda June O'Quinn State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JANICE MARIE JERNIGAN SIMMONS**, were issued on **JULY 29, 2024, in Cause No. P20042**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **SCOTT ALAN SIMMONS**.

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: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100

Dated the 30th day of July, 2024.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Scott Alan Simmons State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **CHARLOTTE CAMILLE RAYBON**, were issued on **JULY 29, 2024, in Cause No. P20044**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **KENNETH WAYNE RAYBON**.

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: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100

Dated the 30th day of July, 2024.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Kenneth Wayne Raybon State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **PEGGY ANN HARRISON**, were issued on **JULY 30, 2024, in Cause No. P20058**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **LAURIE ANN HARRISON**.

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: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100

Dated the 31st day of July, 2024.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Laurie Ann Harrison State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MAUDINE CHANDLER KELLEY**, were issued on **JULY 30, 2024, in Cause No. P20057**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **DEBORAH CACAK**.

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: James R. Dunaway Attorney at Law P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100

Dated the 31st day of July, 2024.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: Deborah Cacak State Bar No.: 06208000 P.O. Box 100 Orange, TX 77631-0100 jrduunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary were issued in the Estate of **CHARLIE J. MURPHY**, DECEASED on **JULY 30, 2024, in Cause No. P20052**, in the County Court of Orange County, Texas, to: **CYNTHIA M. BONVILLION**.

The address of such Administrator is c/o: Douglas C. Sikes, Provost Umphrey Law Firm, LLP, P.O. Box 4905, Beaumont, Texas 77704.

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

Dated the 3rd day of August, 2024.

Cynthia M. Bonvillion Independent Executrix of the Estate of Charlie J. Murphy, Deceased

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

SHARON LEE BELCHER, Deceased Cause No. P20031 in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed **A SECOND AMENDED APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP** in this estate on the **6th day of August, 2024**, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **Sharon Lee Belcher, 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 **6th day of August, 2024**.

BRANDY ROBERTSON, County Clerk, Orange County, Texas

By: Danielle Kendrick, Deputy Danielle Kendrick

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **ANGELA KAY FEARS**, Deceased, were issued on **JULY 30, 2024, in Cause No. P20010**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **DEBORAH JEAN FEARS**.

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

Dated the 30th day of July, 2024.

George B. Barron
George B. Barron Attorney for Administratrix 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 Testamentary for the Estate of **JANELLE WALLACE RAMSEY**, Deceased, were issued on **JULY 29, 2024, in Cause No. P19832**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **HENRY CLAYTON RAMSEY**.

The residence of the Executor is in Orange County, Texas, the post office address is:

c/o: Smith Law Firm, PLLC P.O. Box 189 Orange, TX 77631

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.

DATED the 5th day of AUGUST, 2024.

John Cash Smith
John Cash Smith

State Bar No.: 18628000 P.O. Box 189 Orange, TX 77631 Phone:(409)886-7766 Fax: (409)886-7790 Email: johncash@smithlawfirmtx.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JOSEPH JOHN KAZMAR**, Deceased, were issued on **APRIL 29, 2024, in Cause No. P19832**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **SUSAN KAZMAR**.

The residence of the Executor is in Orange County, Texas, the post office address is:

c/o: Smith Law Firm, PLLC P.O. Box 189 Orange, TX 77631

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.

DATED the 5th day of AUGUST, 2024.

John Cash Smith
John Cash Smith

State Bar No.: 18628000 P.O. Box 189 Orange, TX 77631 Phone:(409)886-7766 Fax: (409)886-7790 Email: johncash@smithlawfirmtx.com

• PUBLIC NOTICES •
• LEGAL NOTICES •
• WEDDINGS •
• ANNIVERSARIES •
Please call us at:
409•886•7183

HERITAGE CENTER OF ORANGE, INC.
100 S. College, Orange, TX
(409) 886-3505
Bus. Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fri. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (closed Mon 11 p.m. for Lunch)
Equal Housing Opportunity Section 8 and HUD Subsidized
1 OR 2 BEDROOMS

Your Business can advertise here!
Call us at
409-886-7183

BUSINESS CARD LISTINGS

You can advertise your business, services or craft here for only \$25.00 a week.

Contact us at ads@therecordlive.com or call at 409•886•7183

ORANGE'S OLDEST HOMETOWN APPLIANCE DEALER SINCE 1963
HARRY'S APPLIANCE & SERVICE, INC.
• FREEZERS • DISHWASHERS
• REFRIGERATORS • WASHERS & DRYERS
• RANGES • AIR CONDITIONERS
We sell parts for all major brands - We service what we sell!
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY **409•886•4111** 302 10th St. Orange

Homemade Baked Goods
Tea Cakes \$15 dozen
Pecan Pralines \$3.50 each
Yolanda's Cakes & Pies
To order, call or text:
409-313-1271

LESLIE WOODALL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN & MAINTENANCE
409•697•0999
Planting • Mulching • Weeding • Trimming • Mowing
Flower Bed Design & Maintenance

Stakes Electric
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
OLD HOMES • LED UPGRADES
ALL UNDERGROUND
409-749-4873
Licensed
Customer: #25151 Master: #14161

Residential & Commercial Cleaning
Sparkling Clean LLC
CLEANING SERVICE
409-886-1630
3515 Mockingbird, Suite D, Pinehurst

COASTAL
LANDSCAPE SERVICES
Landscaping-Lawn Maintenance
409-738-2070
Quality Landscaping At Affordable Prices
2899 W. Roundbunch Orange TX

- General Landscapes
- Tropical Landscapes
- Spring/Fall Clean Ups
- Lawn Maintenance
- Palm Trees Installed
- Grass Installation
- Tree Removal
- 8 Yard Loads Delivered
- 60/40 Sand/Garden Mix
- Driveway Materials

Are you a mosquito magnet? Could be.

Entomologist talks mosquito menu preferences

Ashley Vargo
Texas A&M AgriLife

If you feel like you're the victim of itchy mosquito bites more often than others, it may not be all in your head.

Sonja Swiger, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist, professor in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Entomology and self-proclaimed mosquito magnet from Stephenville, said there is some scientific evidence that mosquitoes have preferences for who to land and feed on.

Mosquitoes primarily rely on carbon dioxide to locate their targets, Swiger said. Body temperature

and odor also play significant roles, so anything that alters these factors can make someone more or less attractive to mosquitoes.

To separate evidence from anecdotes, Swiger discussed some of the attributes or conditions that studies have shown to entice mosquitoes.

Blood type matters, sometimes

Several studies have shown mosquitoes prefer type O blood. One study published in the Journal of Medical Entomology found a mosquito species preferred to land on type O blood compared to oth-

ers, but the difference was only significant between type O and type A.

Though it's often reported that mosquitoes prefer type O blood, Swiger said it's worth considering the limitations of these studies.

"Some projects have shown that there may be some correlation between blood type and mosquito preference, but in a comparative study, there's always a winner," she said. "That doesn't necessarily mean it's the absolute winner all the time."

Some foods and alcohol People who are intoxicated tend to put out more carbon dioxide and sweat more, which seems to attract mosquitoes — possibly along with other unknown factors.

Swiger said diet can also impact mosquito attraction, though the extent of its effect hasn't been fully explored. Garlic and vitamin B are often anecdotally reported to deter



Mosquitoes looking for a blood meal use sensory cues like exhaled carbon dioxide, body heat and odor to find their prey. (Michael Miller/Texas A&M AgriLife)

attractiveness to mosquitoes based on what you're eating."

Pregnancy attracts mosquitoes

Pregnant women also seem to attract more mosquitoes, primarily because of the increased carbon dioxide output. It's estimated that women in the advanced stages of pregnancy exhale about a 21% greater volume than non-pregnant women.

Swiger said this goes along with other physiological changes, like increased body temperature, that together make pregnant women easier for mosquitoes to find.

A taste for the local flavor

Sometimes mosquitoes develop more specific tastes in a location over

these bugs, but the evidence is limited.

However, Swiger said bananas and other high-potassium foods have shown to attract mosquitoes, perhaps because they lead to an increase in lactic acid production in the body, which helps mosquitoes locate

animals.

This also impacts a person's skin microbiota, or the microorganisms living on the skin.

"There is some research to support that changing your diet will make you give off different scents," Swiger said. "So, it may be possible to change your

MOSQUITO Page 5B

Texas Game Wardens Add Second Helicopter

Larry Johnson
For The Record

AUSTIN — The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has added a new helicopter to its fleet of law enforcement aircraft. The 2023 Airbus H125 helicopter will allow the Texas Game Warden Aviation Unit to expand their statewide response capacity for natural disasters, search and rescue incidents, air patrols and more.

"Adding a second helicopter with updated technology, Texas Game Wardens will be able to better serve the people of Texas by responding to natural disaster events and helping game wardens enhance their conservation law enforcement capabilities," said Brandon Rose, Texas Game Warden chief pilot.

The aircraft is outfitted with the latest law enforcement technology and emergency response equipment, including a rescue hoist, thermal imager, searchlight, public address system, satellite communication, night vision and firefighting equipment. The new aircraft, which cost approximately \$6.5 million, was made possible through legislative appropriation during the 87th Texas legislative session.



The aircraft is outfitted with the latest law enforcement technology and emergency response equipment, including a rescue hoist, thermal imager, searchlight, public address system, satellite communication, night vision and firefighting equipment.

Based out of Austin, helicopter crews consist of a game warden pilot and a

tactical flight officer. Both helicopters in the fleet have the capacity to carry

additional game wardens and personnel, including K9 teams, during remote

search and rescue missions and natural disaster response. The helicopters are also utilized for a variety of aerial surveillance operations such as showing wardens areas of their county not easily accessible by roads, finding hunters in remote areas and helping patrol for poachers.

"Since the new helicopter went into service in May, we have already assisted wardens and other agencies across the state in a variety of ways and have enjoyed the increased footprint two helicopters have provided us," said Rose. "We've helped search for an evading felon in Bastrop County, assisted with a theft case search in Jim Wells Coun-

ty, performed aerial patrols as part of Operation Lone Star, searched for drowning victims across the state, helped with riverbed violations, conducted water safety patrols, as well as numerous training exercises and survey flights."

TPWD has been utilizing aviation assets since 1930. The current unit now consists of two Airbus H125 helicopters and five pilots. Two new Cessna fixed-wing aircraft will be added to the fleet in 2025. Additionally, a team of game warden unmanned aircraft operators are stationed throughout the state to help further protect the natural and cultural resources of Texas.

Become a Master Gardener

New Master Gardener training classes begin at 6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 22, at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center on FM1442. The requirements for the certification are 50 hours of education and 50 hours of volunteer time.

The cost of the class is \$150 which includes a book, supplies, speaker fees, and a banquet on the last day of class, Dec.12.

Applications for the class are available at the AgriLife office in the Expo Center, 11475 FM 1442, Orange. The Master Gardener training fee can be paid then or any time before the class starts.

FLOORING AND MORE!

- ★ CARPET
- ★ HARDWOOD
- ★ LAMINATE
- ★ CERAMIC TILE
- ★ LUXURY VINYL
- ★ NATURAL STONE
- ★ AND MUCH MORE!

- Custom Showers
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Expert Installations
- Custom Design Services
- Professional Floor Removal



SHOP NOW



Top Deck Flooring Co.

1000 South Ashland Street • Vidor • (409) 231-6888

OUTDOORS

Texas Two-A-Days

**OUTDOORS
Capt. Chuck Uzzle
For The Record**



Chuck Uzzle

Now unless you live under a rock in a far dark corner of the planet you probably have some sort of idea about how completely fanatical Texas folks are about football. The summer months in our great state are often looked upon with great enthusiasm as thousands of football players begin their preparations for the fall campaign by first trying to beat the Texas heat.

The football term "2 a days" refers to the common practice of working out twice a day, usually once in the morning and once in the afternoon in an effort to escape the hottest parts of the day. Well football players aren't the only ones trying to beat those high temperatures; fishermen are also trying to combat the heat as well. Triple digit temps not only have an effect on fishermen but also on the fish in some instances.

The whole key to successful summer fishing is figuring out how to cope with the heat and that means focusing on the best times as well as tides to pursue your fish. The folks who have to make the biggest changes in how and where they fish are those that stay in the shallow water areas like the marshes around Sabine and Calcasieu. During the summer months those shallow brackish marshes can have some ridiculously high water temps which in turn really do a number on the fish. Surface temps in the 90's will begin to make things dangerous even for the heartiest of redfish as oxygen levels decrease during the long summer days.

Many times these fish will retreat to the deepest areas of the marsh in search of cooler water. Several years ago I was helping some Florida angler's pre fish for a big tournament and watched them carve out a very unlikely but successful pattern by fishing deep ditches adjacent to larger back lakes and ponds. We watched several other anglers scour the shallow water areas and finally give up after having little or no success while the deeper ditch pattern steadily produced quality fish. Its amazing the difference in temperature that comes from water only a couple of feet deeper than the surrounding area, especially if it has a decent tidal influence.

Another great equalizer for the fish is matted vegetation that acts like a canopy and provides shaded cooler water. Many of the areas I like to fish will get covered in widgeon grass, turtle grass, or even coontail and the fish seem to gravitate to it like a magnet. Besides the immediate relief from the temperature that mats offer there is also the extra added bonus of bait that tends to gather there as well. Shrimp, small crabs, and other baitfish will seek out the safety and sanctity of those grassy areas just like redfish will and that's a great combination for both fish and fisherman. Certain adjustments in tackle and technique will need to be made in order to properly fish these areas and it all starts with lure selection.

For me it's the Stanley Ribbit, hands down one of my absolute favorite ways to fish. After taking a page out of the freshwater fishing playbook on fishing grass and vegetation the Ribbit opened up an entire new world for clients and myself. Being able to fish water that in the past was basically off limits due to the thick grass enabled me to fish virtually anywhere and not be uncomfortable with those conditions. The Ribbit is not only a versatile

CAPT. CHUCK Page 5B

'The Lakes' Fishing

• Toledo Bend Fishing Report

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 91 degrees; 0.85 feet below pool. Water level is still on the rise, but we have finally dried out after 6 days of straight rain. Lake is stained in some of the main creeks, but still clear out on the main lake.

Crappie fishing is just slow. It is always slow this time of year, but it is really slow due to the rising water. Few catches on deep brush and lighted boat docks at night. Use live bait, as it is hard to get them to bite a jig right now. Bass fishing is still fair. Water temperature cooled off the lower 80s, but has increased to the upper 80s and low 90s. Very few bites on topwater now that all the clouds are gone, best bite still has been from 8-14 feet on Texas and Carolina rig worm and mid-running crankbait. An 80 year old birthday boy caught a 7 pound fish on a Texas rig, so while the action may be slow quality is present.

Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

• Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 83 degrees; 5.26 feet above pool. The bite for all species seems to improve when the water is being generated. This stirs the water, breaking up the thermocline. Bass are slow in shallow water with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow in the morning, but improve midday. Catfish are all over the lake in 20 feet of water and in 12 feet of water in the creek channels. White bass are on points in the south end of the lake near the dam. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

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

• Sabine Lake

FAIR. 86 degrees. The influx of freshwater has muddied the lake, so expect fishing to be tough until the water settles. Start fishing for flounder, redfish, drum and sheepshead off points and drops until the freshwater runoff runs to the gulf and green water returns.

Last week trout, redfish, drum, sheepshead, and bull redfish were biting in the jetties on popping cork with live shrimp or quarter ounce glo chartreuse glo soft plastics fished off the bottom. Then we finished our trout limit at the short rigs, along the beach, and offshore on the rigs in 18-30 feet of water ¾ ounce jigs to the bottom working up and down. The best color was LSU with a chartreuse tail.

When the water became rough we moved to the inside the jetties on rock piles and shells for flounder, redfish and trout. Good speckled trout catches during outgoing tides on the South end of the lake on shell reefs dragging a quarter ounce jigs with glo chartreuse soft plastics, or silver flecked 5 inch plastics.

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

• Bolivar

EXCELLENT. 85 degrees. Fishing is excellent and patterns are holding steady. Numbers of redfish, croakers, sand trout, sheepshead, black drum, speckled trout, and crabs caught along the jetty with plenty of stingrays and sharks. The surf is producing redfish and black drum, gafftop, lots of stingrays, and bigger sharks along the whole peninsula with high activity towards Gilchrist or High Island. Finger mullet and croaker have been popular baits. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp.

• Trinity Bay

SLOW. 84 degrees. Water clarity again being affected by freshwater runoff. Western portion of the bay is best for mixed boxes of speckled trout, black drum and redfish. Live shrimp and croakers working best. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. Surprisingly good fishing despite the recent water runoff from Trinity River and the San Jacinto River. The wells seem to be the place to be fishing 5-8 feet of water using live shrimp on the bottom and WACKy Shad XL in the root beer color rigged up with an 1/8 ounce jig head fishing the pads off the wells. Trout are scooped up on the rocks and boat docks on the East side of Trinity Bay. Drum and sheepshead are plentiful in the rocks by the ship channel being caught in live shrimp. Always wear your kill switch while underway on your vessel and pay attention to the weather prior to going out. Report by Captain Zackary Scott, Zack Attack Fishing.

• East Galveston Bay

GOOD. 84 degrees. Bolivar surf has been the place for speckled trout. Marshes and adjacent reefs fair for speckled trout and redfish, along with some black drum. Re-



Chance Hobbs took advantage of a late afternoon summer bite.

port by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

Surface water temperature dropped down to 79 degrees as a result of rains throughout the past week. Once again, the water clarity is still stirred up in the majority of East Galveston Bay. There is clearer and saltier water as you get closer to the western portion of the Bay, with a distinct line as you venture closer over towards Galveston. We are finding a few trout, redfish, and black drum, in the intra-coastal around structure, as well as a few fish over structure on the South Shoreline on tails with 1/8 ounce heads, with darker colors performing the best. The Topwater bite has still been good when utilized on our early

morning and late afternoon trips, so if you like throwing walking baits, now is a great time to get on the water and make it happen, and the color does not seem to be that critical, with bone being one of our favorite colors we have the most confidence in. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Service, LLC.

• Galveston Bay

SLOW. 85 degrees. West shoreline holding good numbers of speckled trout early on live shrimp and soft plastics fished near old pier pilings. Gas wells have been hot for speckled trout, but water is a bit off colored from all the recent rains. Best bite on live shrimp. Spoil islands producing mixed catches of

black drum and sheepshead Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 86 degrees. Good catches of speckled trout from the railroad bridge on live shrimp. Those the deeper reefs in west Galveston bay finding good numbers of trout on live croaker. Marsh anglers are catching good numbers of redfish on live shrimp and artificial baits. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• Freeport

GOOD. 84 degrees. Lots of fresh water in the bays so fishing has been moderate on trout and redfish fishing the Bastrop Bay, Christmas Bay and Chocolate Bay complex. The surf has still been good early in the morning throwing lures and using croaker for trout and few redfish. Report by Captain Jake Brown, Flatie Daddy Fishing Adventures.

• Texas City

GOOD. 84 degrees. The Texas City Dike is still closed as repairs are in progress. Lower Galveston bay producing good catches of speckled trout and some redfish near rocks by Texas City. Jetties still good for trout, black drum, and sheepshead on live shrimp. Few bull redfish being caught and some big sharks still on the outside of the rocks. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The Dike should be open this weekend. People have been fishing along the levee and Moses Lake tidal gate. And I have thrown a couple shrimp and topwaters at the boat

FISHING Page 3B

Better Values, Outstanding Service for 62-Years!

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

HARRY'S APPLIANCE AND SERVICE CENTER

MAYTAG

SAME DAY DELIVERY

America's Top Brands

WE SERVICE EVERYTHING WE SELL!

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED BY MARGIE STEPHENS

302 North 10th Street • Orange • (409) 886-4111

'The Lakes' Fishing

• Toledo Bend Fishing Report

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 91 degrees; 0.85 feet below pool. Water level is still on the rise, but we have finally dried out after 6 days of straight rain. Lake is stained in some of the main creeks, but still clear out on the main lake.

Crappie fishing is just slow. It is always slow this time of year, but it is really slow due to the rising water. Few catches on deep brush and lighted boat docks at night. Use live bait, as it is hard to get them to bite a jig right now. Bass fishing is still fair. Water temperature cooled off the lower 80s, but has increased to the upper 80s and low 90s. Very few bites on topwater now that all the clouds are gone, best bite still has been from 8-14 feet on Texas and Carolina rig worm and mid-running crankbait. An 80 year old birthday boy caught a 7 pound fish on a Texas rig, so while the action may be slow quality is present.

Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

• Sam Rayburn

GOOD. Water stained; 83 degrees; 5.26 feet above pool. The bite for all species seems to improve when the water is being generated. This stirs the water, breaking up the thermocline. Bass are slow in shallow water with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow in the morning, but improve midday. Catfish are all over the lake in 20 feet of water and in 12 feet of water in the creek channels. White bass are on points in the south end of the lake near the dam. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

From feeders to flowers, hummingbird basics

Susan Himes
Texas A&M AgriLife

Few people can watch a hummingbird without smiling. From flight to feeding, nature has designed hummingbirds to delight and captivate us. It's no surprise that hummingbird feeders can be found in yards and gardens from Texarkana to El Paso.

Experts from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and The Gardens at Texas A&M University shared what people should know about feeding hummingbirds and the migration of these fascinating flying machines.

"Hummingbirds can buzz around as fast as 40 mph from flower to flower and have the highest energy output per unit of body weight of any animal in the world," said Mike Arnold, Ph.D., professor and director of The Gardens at Texas A&M University, Bryan-College Station. "They are the smallest birds but need an incredible amount of energy, which means an incredible amount of nectar — or nectar substitute — to keep up with their caloric demands."

Hummingbird feeders

There are more than 300 species of hummingbirds worldwide, but only around 18 are found regularly in the U.S., and nine are common to Texas. Most Texans will start to see the birds around March.

Hummingbird feeders can be kept out year-round in Texas if cared for correctly and in appropriate regions, said Emily Grant, AgriLife Extension Birding with Extension program coordinator. Feeders should be put out ideally two weeks before hummingbirds are expected to arrive. During migration extra nutrients are needed, so spring and summer are crucial months for birds.

Grant said cleaning hummingbird feeders and putting in fresh food every two to four days is crucial. Black mold can grow and multiply quickly — even unseen to the human eye. If birds drink from a



A ruby-throated hummingbird uses its long beak to get nectar from a flower at The Gardens at Texas A&M University in College Station. (Michael Miller/Texas A&M AgriLife)

moldy feeder it can make it impossible to eat if their tongue and throat swell up, and the hummingbird will die. Feeders in direct sun and in more humid climates will need to be cleaned more often.

"Only put out the amount hummingbirds will drink in a few days," Grant said. "There is no point in wasting food, and you'll soon gauge if the amount you put out is too much. However, keep an eye out if you start seeing more visitors than usual to ensure it doesn't run out before you clean and fill it again."

Hummingbirds can become territorial with feeders as well, so you may want to set up another in a different part of your yard if you see one aggressively driving others away from "their feeder."

Hummingbird feeder recipe

Homemade nectar can be made from four parts boiled water to one part white, granulated table sugar. Once the mixture cools, it can be poured into the feeder. If you want to make larger batches, they will keep for one to two weeks in a refrigerator.

Although hummingbirds are attracted to red and other bright hues, do not add color to your store-bought or homemade nectar. Using a feeder with red on it is better and safer than using dye

and additives. You can also paint the feeder pole or hanger to make it even more eye-catching to the birds.

Arnold added that nectar isn't a substitute for water for hummingbirds and that fresh water in a shallow container or a bubbling bird bath are ideal ways to let them drink and bathe.

Feeding with flowers

When planting flowers to attract hummingbirds, Arnold suggested keeping the shape of blooms and how these birds feed in mind. Hummingbirds' long, specialized beaks allow them to feed from tube-shaped flowers.

Firebush, sometimes called hummingbird bush, does especially well in the heat and is a designated Texas Superstar. Other hummingbird favorites include Turk's cap, Lantana, petunia and Pride of Barbados.

"Plants that attract pollinators are usually attractive to hummingbirds as long as the shape is conducive to feeding," Arnold said.

Arnold stressed that it's important to have flowers blooming when the hummingbirds need them, so plant with a plan — blooms should overlap from March through fall, ideally. If all bloom at once, your hummingbirds won't be able to hang around once their food

source dries up.

Arnold said hummingbird feeders are hung as needed at The Gardens, but only when there aren't enough flowers in bloom to provide the birds with nectar.

Migration

Some hummingbirds are indeed fair-weather friends and will migrate south to spend the fall and winter months in a warmer climate.

"Simply put, some hummingbirds migrate, and some don't," Arnold said. "Depending on the part of the state you live in, you can have birds year-round."

Grant suggested Texans check eBird.org to keep

track of their typical migratory patterns and sightings and to learn more about what hummingbirds are in their region and when.

"If you are going to feed year-round, it is a responsibility you must take seriously, as the birds will depend on that nectar to survive," Grant said. "Remove the feeder at the end of summer as migration concludes if you aren't prepared for that kind of commitment."

The Birding with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension program offers in-person workshops, online events and regular Wednesday morning chats on their Facebook page for people looking to become more involved in birding.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

Little Cypress-Mauriceville Consolidated Independent School District offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Construction, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, AV and Communications, Business and Finance, Education, Health Science, Manufacturing/Welding, Process Operations, Engineering, and Computer Science. Admission to these programs is based on interest, aptitude, course prerequisites and age.

It is the policy of Little Cypress-Mauriceville CISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its career and technology programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville CISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Ryan DuBose, at 6586 FM 1130, Orange, Texas, 77632, (409) 882-2232, and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Buffy Knight, at 6579 FM 1130, Orange, Texas, 77632, (409) 886-4245.

Aviso de no Discriminación

Little Cypress-Mauriceville Consolidated Independent School District ofrece programas vocacionales en Agricultura, Alimentos y Recursos Naturales, Construcción, Cosmetología, Artes Culinarias, AV y Comunicaciones, Negocios y Finanzas, Educación, Ciencias de la Salud, Fabricación/Soldadura, Operaciones de Procesos, Ingeniería e Informática. La admisión a estos programas se basa en interés, aptitud, requisitos previos del curso y edad.

Es norma de Little Cypress-Mauriceville Consolidated Independent School District no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville Consolidated Independent School District tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX, Ryan DuBose, en 6586 FM 1130, Orange, Texas, 77632, (409) 883-2232, y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504, Buffy Knight, en 6586 FM 1130, Orange, Texas, 77632, (409) 883-2232.

Sweet Creations, etc.
Gifts • Candles • Candy • Flowers

HELP WANTED
Full & Part Time
Days Only

409.670.5959 or 409.886.1630

Residential & Commercial Cleaning
Sparkling
NOW HIRING
clean LLC
CLEANING SERVICE

409.886.1630

HOME OF THE
INCREDIBLE GARDEN
PLANT STANDS & HANGERS
Open: Mon-Sat 9 AM to 5 PM

3515 Mockingbird, Suite A

Fishing Reports From Page 1B

dock with great results. Anglers are still catching plenty of speckled trout, redfish, and flounder everyday with some occasional black drum, sheepshead, sand trout, and gafftop. Live shrimp and finger mullet have been the best baits. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp.

• Matagorda Bay

FAIR. 84 degrees. The freshwater has pushed the redfish into the bay. Trout and redfish are good drifting live shrimp under a popping cork, or croaker. Report by Captain Charlie Paradoski, Captain Charlie Paradoski's Guide Service.

• Port O'Conner

GOOD. 86 degrees. Trout are biting around Alcatraz Island, Honey Hole, outside of both jetties and in the surf with live croaker or shrimp fished off the bottom. Bull redfish are on the flats between Bird Island and the back of the jetties with live piggy perch and Spanish sardines. Slot redfish are

biting Spanish sardines and blue crab on the outside of the north and South Jetty. Few catches of drum halfway down the inside of the South Jetty on dead shrimp. Black tip and spinner sharks are in the surf. Report by Captain Marty Medford, Captain Marty's Fish of a Lifetime Guide Service.

• Rockport

GOOD. 84 degrees. Trout are great on croaker along grass and rocks in 3-4 feet of water with a popping cork and shrimp have been producing in flats while drifting. Redfish are good on shrimp, cut skipjack or mullet in flats. Black drum are great on live or dead shrimp and fish bites in drains and sand pockets and along oyster beds. Report by Captain Kenny Kramer, Kramer Fishing Charters.

• Port Aransas

GOOD. 84 degrees. Redfish are good on shrimp and cut bait. There have been many bull redfish being caught. Trout are good with croaker or

shrimp free lined along rocks. Surf fishing has been producing good redfish and trout in the first and second gut with an occasional shark. Report by Captain Kenny Kramer,

Jim Sharon
Bearden, Jr.

Local. Versatile. Exceptional.

Attorney Jim Sharon Bearden, Jr., knows the local courts and how to craft strategies to solve your legal matter in a wide variety of practice areas. He will tell you the truth and fight for you!

THE
BEARDEN
LAW FIRM

www.BeardenLawFirm.net

116 Border Street, Orange, Texas

409-883-4501



August brings golden hits, new talents

ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP OF CONCERTS & EVENTS



Three Dog Night will be performing at the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles on August 9.

TOMMY MANN JR. FOR THE RECORD

August is here and the regional concert scene is red hot as national acts perform from Houston to Lake Charles just about every week. Scan the list below and check out the full schedule online at www.therecordlive.com

• **Aug. 9**

Luke Combs, NRG Stadium, Houston; Black Stone Cherry, Nonpoint, The Roxy Event Center, Beaumont; Three Dog Night, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 10**

Luke Combs, NRG Stadium, Houston; The Gaslight Anthem, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; SIR, House of Blues, Houston; Grupo Frontera, Toyota Center, Houston; I Prevail, Halestorm, Hollywood Undead, Fit for a King, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Ashley Cooke, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 11**

Limp Bizkit, Bones, N8NOFACE, Corey Feld-

man, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 14**

Def Leppard, Journey, Steve Miller Band, Minute Maid Park, Houston

• **Aug. 15**

Mountain Grass Unit, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• **Aug. 16**

Kings of Leon, Toyota Center, Houston; Homicide Gang, House of Blues, Houston; The Fray, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 17**

Santana, Counting Crows, Toyota Center, Houston; Deep Purple, Yes, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 20**

AWOLNATION, Neon Trees, 713 Music Hall, Houston; Young Miko, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• **Aug. 22**

Future, Metro Boomin, Toyota Center, Houston; Toni Romiti, Scout Bar, Houston; Stone Temple Pilots, Live, Soul Asylum, Cynthia Woods Mitchell

Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 23**

Sammy Hagar, Loverboy, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Aug. 24**

Chris Stapleton, Miranda Lambert, Grace Potter, Minute Maid Park, Houston; Asake, Toyota Center, Houston; Earth, Wind and Fire, Chicago, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; John An-

derson, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 25**

REO Speedwagon, Train, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Black Flag, Warehouse Live Midtown, Houston

• **Aug. 26**

Ice Spice, Cash Cobain, RiotUSA, 713 Music Hall, Houston

• **Aug. 28**

TEMS, Naomi Sharon, 713 Music Hall, Houston

• **Aug. 29**

30 Seconds to Mars, AFL, Poppy, KennyHoopla, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Squeeze, Boy George, 713 Music Hall, Houston

• **Aug. 30**

Falling in Reverse, Dance Gavin Dance, Black Veil Brides, Tech N9NE, Jeris Johnson, Cynthia Woods

Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Crown the Empire, Dark Divine, Capstan, Oni, House of Blues, Houston; Parmalee, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Aug. 31**

Jennifer Lopez, Toyota Center, Houston; Coal Chamber, Fear Factory, Twiztid, Wednesday 13, Black Satellite, House of Blues, Houston

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.5200 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Orange County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.520000	PER \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.496547	PER\$100
VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.555462	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 20, 2024 AT 9 am 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

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)	.5220	.5200	-.0200
Average homestead taxable value	\$135,059	\$ 140,648	\$ + 5589.00
Tax on average homestead	\$705.01	\$ 731.37	\$ + 26.36
Total tax levy on all properties	\$43,130,851	\$ 45,601,655	\$2,470,804


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




SE TEXAS
R.A.I.N.

Southeast Texas Regional Alerting & Information Network


KEEPING SOUTHEAST TEXAS INFORMED



ABOUT US



SE TEXAS R.A.I.N.



COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DISCLAIMER: THE DATA AND INFORMATION PRESENTED BY SE TEXAS RAIN MAY NOT BE PRESENTED IN REAL TIME, AND SHOULD NOT BE ASSUMED TO BE THE EXACT CONDITIONS IN YOUR AREA. NEITHER SE TEXAS RAIN NOR THE SPONSORING AGENCIES ASSUMES ANY LEGAL LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY OR MAKES ANY GUARANTEES OR WARRANTIES AS TO THE ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, OR AVAILABILITY OF THE INFORMATION FOR ANY PURPOSE. THE PUBLIC IS URGED TO CLOSELY MONITOR INFORMATION PROVIDED BY LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICES DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

EMAIL US:
info@setexasrain.com

QUICK LINKS

- Home
- About Us
- County Emergency Management

Copyright © SE Texas R.A.I.N. 2018. All Rights Reserved. Site by Value Creations.

FOR RAINFALL AMOUNTS & RIVER LEVELS VISIT US AT:

www.setexasrain.org

GOACC cuts ribbon on H.B. Neild Construction

Staff Report
For The Record

H.B. Neild Construction expanded its reach in Southeast Texas and beyond by welcoming the community to the grand opening of its Orange County location.

The new facility sits on nearly 2 acres and includes an 8,000-square-foot main office and warehouse. There is also a 2,100-square-foot equipment bay and secondary warehouse.

At capacity, the location is going to employ a dozen professionals and serve as an Orange County hub for H.B. Neild services within its construction, plumbing and HVAC departments.

The Orange County office is located at 18770 Highway 62 South, just north of Bridge City near the intersection with Highway 105 (Orangefield Road).

Company President Thomas Neild Sr. said the decision to open an office in Orange County is deep-



Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting for H.B. Neild Construction on Tuesday.

ly rooted in H.B. Neild's commitment to the local community.

H.B. Neild Construction has been in operation since 1932 with a main office at 8595 Industrial Parkway in Beaumont.

The firm specializes in large-scale commercial and industrial construction projects, including blast-resistant structures, laboratories and adminis-

tration buildings for petrochemical clients, as well as municipal buildings, schools, churches, and retail buildings for commercial clients.

Having a location in Orange means better serving existing clientele, supporting the local community's needs and efforts, and helping them fulfill their goals, Neild stressed. "Essential personnel

from our general services, plumbing, and HVAC divisions will be officed at this Orange County location," he said. "We are most excited about the chance to support Orange in their own backyard with local response and local manpower. We are the longest-standing family-owned, 4-generation construction company in Southeast Texas and have

roots in Orange County. We can't imagine not investing in Orange and becoming a stakeholder in the community we serve."

Todd Langston is a Mauriceville native and near-decade long employee with H.B. Neild Construction.

So it came natural for the firm's vice president of operations to welcome the community to the Orange

County ribbon cutting. "We've got about 100 team members on staff, and you will see a lot of those guys with their trucks driving around," he said. "They are doing a lot of work in the commercial world, but a lot of what we do that you don't get to see is in the industrial market. Our first industrial job back in the 1940s was clearing land for Dupont in Orange with teams of mules. We're not new to Orange."

Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce President Ida Schosow stressed to the packed house at Tuesday's ribbon cutting that H.B. Neild Construction is a committed Orange County partner.

"They have been here for a long time; they just put a building here, which we are very grateful for and I know the whole town is, as well," Schosow said. "We appreciate you doing that. We appreciate your investment in us."

Mosquito magnet

From Page 1B

time as an evolutionary trait.

"Mosquitoes in certain neighborhoods can become accustomed to specific scents and start to prefer those over others," Swiger said. "Their generations are about two weeks long, and urban mosquitoes that bite humans often don't travel far. As a result, they seem to get familiar with the local scents."

There's still much to uncover as far as mosquito

preferences. Swiger said there seems to be other genetic predispositions for what attracts mosquitoes, but these aren't all clear just yet.

"If you find yourself swatting more mosquitoes than your friends, there is probably some science behind it," she said. "While there's no getting around genetic predispositions, staying covered and using repellent might just help you tip the scales in your favor."

Captain Chuck

From Page

lure but the strikes it provokes from thick grass are heart stoppers! Definitely worth experimenting with if you've never done it before.

Now the shallow water folks are not the only ones who have to adjust to the heat, the open water folks have to adapt as well. The fish in the open lake or bay are not as affected as the shallow fish are but they certainly can be at times. Surface temps, high skies, bright sun, little to no wind can all be factors that stifle a bite. The most obvious factor is surface temperature and that causes perhaps the biggest adjustments. Tons of anglers will habitually patrol the shorelines barely a cast away from the land regardless of other factors. During certain times of the year that program pays off but in the summer it can hurt just the same. I have seen plenty of boats anchored up at marsh drains that empty into Sabine lake during the summer oblivious to the fact that the water coming out is much hotter than the water in the lake. Most of these folks just go there because they fished here one time and caught fish so it must be the same year round. In the summer this can be a bad idea while in the winter it's a perfect pattern. Perhaps one of the best bets during the summer months is to burn a little gas, get off the shoreline, and go see what the open water has to offer. On Sabine you may just run into some of the huge schools of shad and pogies that are often times being destroyed by schools of big redfish and hungry trout. The tell tale signs of feeding slicks along with an oc-

casional shrimp skipping across the surface can be a precursor to some absolute angling chaos without any crowds to dampen the fun.

Now so far we've thoroughly discussed how temperatures affect the fish, it's time to consider what this summer heat does to anglers. For most of us the thought of working in hot temperatures is down right unappealing. The funny thing is that fishing in those same temps somehow doesn't seem so bad. Standard precautions of staying hydrated, using sunscreen, and wearing appropriate clothing go without saying. Many folks also adjust their time schedule and will often leave the dock after dark to get a more comfortable surrounding. Fishing in the dark has its own set of rules and precautions to follow so we'll talk about that at another time. Just be sure if you do decide to prowl the bay after dark to communicate with someone about where you'll be and have all your necessary safety gear in order, especially lights. Back to our schedule change, the pre dawn launch that allows you to grab that first hour or so before the sun starts cooking is a magical part of the morning and a favorite for many fishermen. The same can be said for the last hour of daylight until sunset. These times are tailor made for catching big fish in the summer and there are many anglers I know who try to do both in the same day. The thought of 2 or 3 fishing hours at dawn followed by 2 or 3 fishing hours at sunset is my idea of a "Texas 2 a day".

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Bridge City ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00pm on August 21, 2024 in the Administration Building at Bridge City ISD Bridge City, TX. **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	\$ <u>0.9888</u> /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ <u>0.2988</u> /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	\$ <u>0.9888</u> /\$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	<u>6.13</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)
Debt service	<u>0.0392</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>6.39</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)

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

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>1,873,072,789</u>	\$ <u>2,116,382,413</u>
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$ <u>21,821,808</u>	\$ <u>27,410,583</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>1,567,449,631</u>	\$ <u>1,561,545,269</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>20,760,726</u>	\$ <u>21,318,729</u>

* Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
 ** New property is defined by Tax Code Section 25.012(1).
 *** Taxable value is defined by Tax Code Section 1.07(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 47,289,880

* Outstanding principal.

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	\$ <u>0.9884</u>	\$ <u>0.1511</u>	\$ <u>1.0144</u>	\$ <u>4,244</u>	\$ <u>6,344</u>
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ <u>0.9888</u>	\$ <u>0.2988</u>	\$ <u>1.0074</u>	\$ <u>4,641</u>	\$ <u>6,025</u>
Proposed Rate	\$ <u>0.9888</u>	\$ <u>0.2988</u>	\$ <u>0.9877</u>	\$ <u>4,788</u>	\$ <u>6,477</u>

* 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	\$ <u>222,020</u>	\$ <u>200,764</u>
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ <u>130,031</u>	\$ <u>128,754</u>
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ <u>1.3111</u>	\$ <u>0.9887</u>
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ <u>1,364.14</u>	\$ <u>989.56</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ <u>28.82</u>

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 0.9888. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.9888.

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)	\$ <u>18,172,507</u>
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ <u>558,781</u>

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

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

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 consid-



ered 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 distraction — 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.

Wesley United Methodist Church
401 N. 37th St., Orange (409) 886-7276
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.
Pastor Benny Smith and wife Iberia
Join Us For Sunday Service at 11 AM
Also Streamed Live On Facebook

The Record Church Page Listings
Just \$10.00 Per Week

Bethel Baptist Church
2906 Western Ave. • Orange
Pastor Dr. Hershell Garner
(409 782 5352)
Opportunities for Worship and Fellowship
Sunday School...9:30am Worship 10:30 am

Triangle Baptist Church
6446 Garrison at Hwy. 408 Orangefield
"Come Worship With Us"
409-920-3891
Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
We are a KJV independent Baptist Church

First Baptist Church
Bridge City, Texas
200 W. Roundbunch
735-3581
www.fcbc.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

Cowboy Church of Orange County
Anointed Ministry with Pastor Harland Strother
Sundays at 9 and 10:30 a.m.
Plus rockin' Gospel music by Cowboy Cross Band
673 FM 1078, Orange
409-920-2271
youtube.com/c/cowboychurchfororangecounty

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.
Intercessory Prayer Daily 9:00 a.m.
www.slccorange.org

Living Word Church
Pray For The Sick & Cast Out Demons
7403 FM 1006 (Corner of 87 & FM1006)
409-735-6659
COME WORSHIP WITH US
Sunday 10 A.M. & Thursday 6 P.M.
Dr. Rev. Samuel Karunanithi - Pastor
Rev. Ron Richardson, Co-Pastor

Winfree Baptist Church
19525 Hwy 62 S • 409-735-7181
office@winfreebaptist.org
Dr. Larry Haynes, Interim Pastor
Sunday: Sunday School - 9:15 am
Morning Worship - 10:30 am
Wednesday: Mid-Week Service - 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
Committed... To Christ, To His Word, To His Church, To His Commission

Church Directory

First United Methodist Church Orange
502 Sixth Street 886-7466
10:00 A.M. - BLENDED SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY
All of our services are also available premiered on:
Facebook at 9:00 a.m. (https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOrangeTX)
or online on our Vimeo Page and YouTube.
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:00 A.M.
www.fumcorange.org
Pastor: Rev. Lani Rousseau
Director of Music and Fine Arts: Caroline Dennis

"In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."
John 16:33

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
945 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409-735-4573
Worship Services: Tradition 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m., Contemporary Service 11 a.m., Tuesday Bible Study 10 a.m., Wednesday 'Compassionate Friends' 10 a.m., Thursday Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Paul Zoch 409-988-3003 - golutheran.org
Our church family invites you to join us.
We are a friendly, caring church of the future.

Orange County Community News
In Print & Online

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH ORANGE
1819 16th Street • Orange • 886-1333
We Welcome You To Join Us.
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Nursery Provided

Patronize 'The Record' Church Sponsors

Become A Sponsor And List Your Business Here To Support Local Church News

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."

LIKE NEW AUTOMOTIVE
COLLISION SPECIALIST

Cove Baptist Church
1005 Dupont St. • Orange
DARRYL SMITH, PASTOR
Sunday Service: 10:30 am and 6pm
Wednesday Service: 6 pm
We Love You And God Loves You.