

Penny Record

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Week of Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Rutledge serving as acting Bridge City manager

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The Texas Municipal League reports that David Rutledge is the acting city manager of Bridge City. He also serves as mayor.

The information on the group's website of incorporated cities in the state. Word from numerous sources is that the man who served as the city's new manager for only seven months resigned. The Bridge City City Council meeting on the night of August 20 had an agenda item listed as a closed-door executive session to "deliberate the employment, evaluation, separation, super visionary, discipline, and duties of the City Manager."

Texas Open Meetings Act allows public entities to discuss personnel in private sessions, but action must be made in public.

Mayor-Acting City Manager Rutledge did not answer phone calls nor return phone calls concerning the change in personnel.

Those agenda words were written legally to cover a number of actions the city council could have discussed against Christopher Baker, who was given a two-year contract when he was hired for city manager in January. At the time, Mayor Rutledge said usually the city manager has a yearly-contract, but the city council wanted someone to stay at least two years.

The Texas Municipal



Mayor David Rutledge

League's recommended contract for city managers has wording that allows a "unilateral severance," which means an agreement with the city manager and city council to allow the two to end the manager's contract.

The municipal league's recommended contract for severance includes a blank space for cities to agree to a number of months or years to for the city manager leaving the job to be paid full salary.

Mayor-Acting City Manager Rutledge has been active in the Texas Municipal League and in recent years served as president of the statewide group, a prestigious position.

The city manager before Baker had resigned for another job after being in the positions one year and six days. He took a similar city management job with a bigger city at more pay. Mayor Rutledge after that resignation said the man appeared to use Bridge City as a stepping stone in

BRIDGE CITY 3A



Treasures appraised at What's it Worth

Shodi and Jay Jacobson, from Sour Lake, attended the What's it Worth? appraisal event Saturday held at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center. Jay purchased the picture he's holding for \$5 at a garage sale when he was 18 years old and found out it was worth \$200. Shodi is holding itty bitty dolls from Germany. One of them that is about half an inch tall is worth \$65-80. Plans are already in the works to hold the event again next year. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

Bridge wait might be three more weeks

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Orange County Judge John Gothia said the East Roundbunch Road swing bridge will not be open to car traffic for another two-and-a-half to three weeks.

Commissioners Court got an update on the bridge that takes vehicular traffic across Cow Bayou from County Engineer Corey Oldbury. The county and the Texas Department of Transportation work together to keep the bridge operating.

Federal marine laws require road bridges allow boat traffic on navigable waters like Cow Bayou. The bridge has manual controls on an electrical system that will swing the

bridge open for boats and barges. If something breaks, the bridge is moved to remain open and all road traffic for cars and trucks is stopped.

Gothia said it will be at least two weeks until the new control panel needed to operate the bridge is delivered and will then need to be installed by experts. Oldbury said the control panel is costing \$14,000, not including the costs of installation.

The bridge was installed in 1961. It was used when it was acquired and moved here. The bridge allows traffic from the Bridge City area to take a short cut by East Roundbunch Road to FM 1006, known as Chemical Row where the industrial plants provide jobs for thousands.



Orange County Judge John Gothia

Also during the court meeting, Precinct 2 Commissioner Chris Sowell mentioned the county has completed 51 miles of re-grading ditches and installed nine miles of new, enlarged ditch culverts throughout the county this year. The work is part

of an on-going project to improve drainage.

Most of the meeting involved finalizing expenditures for the upcoming budget year, which begins October 1. According to state law, commissioners court must approve the budget in September.

The budget is about \$54 million. County Judge Gothia said after years of saving, the county should have \$27 million, or six months of operating expenses, in reserves. The six months of reserves are recommended to help in case of disasters the county will have enough money to do recovery work and keep operations running.

"I guess we're out of the bad financial years," he

BRIDGE WAIT Page 3A

Local garbage workers will toil this Labor Day

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Labor Day was made a national holiday to celebrate the contributions of blue-collar workers to America's economy.

On Monday, September 2, the Orange County Courthouse and city halls will be closed for the holiday along with state and national offices.

However, the men and women who pickup garbage will not be getting a day off. The cities of

Bridge City, Orange, Pinehurst, Vidor, and West Orange will have their regular garbage schedules during the week. Pinehurst has collections on Tuesdays while the day for West Orange is Friday, but the Monday holiday will not interrupt schedules.

However, thanks to federal labor laws, they will get extra pay or time off for their holiday work. And those laws are another reason Labor Day became a holiday.

According to the U.S.

Department of Labor, cities like New York were the first to pay tribute to the labor movement and labor leaders encouraged states and Congress to make a holiday. States started creating a holiday and when Congress adopted the first Monday in September as Labor Day national holiday, 31 of the 44 states at the time had already made the day a holiday.

Labor unions were created to have workers join together to negotiate pay,

working hours, and job safety with employers. Though a few unions existed, the main movement in the U.S. didn't start until 1866, the year after the Civil War ended.

Fans of the Julian Fellowes (Downton Abbey) HBO show "The Gilded Age," set in the 1880s, got to see the beginnings of a labor union in the second season.

Steel workers in mills of the new mega-rich capitalists want 8-8-8, eight hours of work, eight hours

of sleep, and eight hours of what you want.

The American labor movement has led to an eight-hour work day, weekends off, new safety regulations for workers, and in the 1930s, an end to child labor. The Nineteenth Century into the early 20th Century saw children as young as five years of age working in mills and industries.

The Orange-Beaumont-Port Arthur area once had thriving union memberships in the ship-

yards, oil refineries, chemical plants, and mills, but changes beginning in the 1980s led to a drop of power and membership in unions.

Today, the most well-known employer-employee negotiations in the area are likely from public entities with police and sheriff's deputies who organized in the 1980s for contracts.

Also, most of the full-time city fire departments have a union for contract negotiations.

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Traveling Labor Day weekend? Have a back-up plan for cancellations and delays, be patient

DAVID KOENIG
Reported By
Associated Press

Many children have gone back to school in the U.S., and the days are getting shorter, but there is still one more excuse to use the swimsuits and beach towels before packing them up: Labor Day.

Airports, highways, beaches and theme parks are expected to be packed for the long holiday weekend as a lot of Americans mark the unofficial end of summer the same way they celebrated the season's unofficial start: by traveling.

The Transportation Security Administration anticipates screening more than 17 million people between Thursday and next Wednesday — a record for the Labor Day period.

AAA says bookings for domestic travel are running 9% higher than last year for the holiday weekend, while international trips are down 4%.

American Airlines plans to have its largest Labor Day weekend operation

ever and expects a 14% increase in passengers compared to last year.

If you are traveling to get a last blast of summer, here is a rundown of what you need to know.

Why Labor Day?

"Not everyone travels for Labor Day, not compared to July 4th or Thanksgiving — those are the most popular ones," says Aixa Diaz, a spokesperson for AAA. "But certainly Labor Day offers people a way to get away for a final weekend of the summer. You've got people who are either taking the three-day weekend or perhaps taking off the whole week before Labor Day."

What are prices like?

Motorists are getting a break on gasoline compared with last year. The nationwide average was recently \$3.44 per gallon, compared to \$3.86 a year ago, according to AAA.

For electric vehicles, the



More Texans are expected to travel domestically over the three-day Labor Day holiday with gas prices lower than last year, according to AAA booking data.

average price for a kilowatt of power at an L2 commercial charging station is about 34 cents. The average is under 25 cents in Kansas and Missouri but tops 40 cents in several states, including New Hampshire, Tennessee and Kentucky. Hawaii is the costliest, at 56 cents.

Average airfares in July were down 7.1% from June and 2.8% from July 2023, according to the government's consumer price index. The trend appears to

be accelerating as the peak summer-vacation season comes to an end.

"Now we're falling into that traditional fall season when demand slumps, and you're also seeing that in airfares," said Steve Hafner, CEO of the travel metasearch site Kayak. "Airfares are down from the summer about 26% already, and they're down even from the previous fall, about 4%."

When is the best time to hit the road?

ing" — faster than 100 mph — is up more than 50%.

In a surprising twist, however, Arity says distracted driving has dropped on the last three Labor Days.

When will airports be busiest?

Friday, according to the TSA. The agency expects to screen 2.86 million people that day. While an impressive number, it would not even rank in the top 15 days in TSA's history. The single-day record of 3.01 million was set on July 7, the Sunday after Independence Day.

TSA says it has enough screeners to keep the time it takes to get through regular lines to 30 minutes or less and to no more than 10

LABOR DAY Page 5

Texas gas prices fall leading to savings for Labor Day travel

Staff Report
For The Record

Average gasoline prices in Texas have fallen 10.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.87/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 24.7 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 50.8 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

The national average price of diesel has declined 3.2 cents in the last week

and stands at \$3.67 per gallon, a multi-year low.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was priced at \$2.43/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.59/g, a difference of \$1.16/g.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 6.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.30/g today. The national average is down 20.7 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 49.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, ac-

cording to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

"It seems fitting that, in the run-up to Labor Day, the national average has fallen for four straight weeks to its lowest point since February, giving Americans one last chance to hit the road with gas prices being less of a factor," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "GasBuddy is

now tracking eight states where average gas prices are already below the \$3 per gallon mark, along with nearly 20% of gas stations in the country selling gasoline at \$2.99 or lower.

"These numbers will continue to look better every week as we move into fall. GasBuddy's Labor Day travel forecast, to be released tomorrow, will provide more good news about the millions of dollars Americans who are road-tripping will save compared to last year."

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of Orange County, Texas

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The Record News - Something For Everyone



The 45th season will open with the Bacon Brothers on October 19, featuring Kevin Bacon along with his brother Michael. The brothers will perform their unique blend of folk, rock, soul and country.

Individual show tickets on sale at Lutch Theater

**Staff Report
For The Record**

The Lutch Theater, renowned as the premier destination for Broadway in Southeast Texas, proudly announces individual show tickets for the 45th season are available for purchase now. Showcasing six Tony Award-winning Broadway spectaculars, three iconic music superstars, a dazzling holiday Cirque performance and a host of other exciting shows, this season promises an extraordinary array of entertainment. The 45th season will open with the Bacon

Brothers on October 19, featuring Kevin Bacon along with his brother Michael. The brothers will perform their unique blend of folk, rock, soul and country. Known for their dynamic performances and undeniable chemistry, the Bacon Brothers will bring their distinctive sound and energy to the Lutch Theater, ensuring a memorable start to this celebratory season. The season also includes:
• Lonestar, November 3: Country music's iconic band will take a fresh look at all of their chart-topping hit songs.

• Cirque Dreams Holiday, November 16: This family holiday spectacular dazzles with a brilliant and whimsical performance. As the longest running cirque holiday theatrical event, this annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts.
• "Dear Evan Hansen," December 17 and 18: This contemporary musical phenomenon tells a deeply personal and profoundly contemporary story about life and the way we live it.
• "Come From Away,"
Lutch Page 3A

Bridge wait

From Page 1

said. About 12 years ago, before members of the current court had been elected, the county was in a financial hole and had to cut back expenses, including eliminating some employee positions. Last week, Gothia and the commissioners agreed to a \$1 per hour pay raise for county employees and for elected officials. He said a pay increase could be \$1.50 an hour for employees, but not for elect-

ed officials. State law requires a county to post proposed annual pay for each elected official in July before a new fiscal year. Gothia said those pay scales have to be advertised in print before the county receives final property valuations to calculate incoming tax revenues. He said he called the Texas Attorney General's office to ask whether commissioners court could give a pay raise to elected

officials iff it is more than was advertised. After lawyers in the office researched, they told him the attorney general will need to write an opinion on that question. So until an official legal opinion is given, the elected officials will have to keep the raise of \$1. Court members talked about salary increases for employees to help keep them from leaving jobs as the industrial plants pay much higher wages.

Bridge City manager

From Page 1

his career. Before that, Bridge City had the same city manager for 15 years, Jerry Jones, who had been promoted from being the city's public works director for 11 years. Baker is a native of the Mobile, Alabama, area and has a master's degree from the University of Texas at Arlington in city and regional planning. He has experience working in

that field in Texas and Alabama. His previous job before coming to Bridge City was as the development director for a city of 115,000 in the Phoenix, Arizona, area. Baker's resignation comes as the city is finishing approving a budget and tax rate for the 2024-25 budget year, which begins October 1. The Bridge City City Council will next meet at

6 p.m. Tuesday, September 5, at City Hall. The agenda includes a public hearing on the proposed tax for the upcoming year. The proposed rate is 46.8 cents per \$100 valuation on property. It's the same rate as the current year, though many property owners will pay more because of increases in property values by the Orange County Appraisal District.

Orange County Judge John Gothia

Have a safe and happy Labor Day Weekend!

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From the Creaux's Nest DNC TOPS TV VIEWERS

Twenty-nine million TV viewers watched **Kamala Harris's** speech, 14 percent higher than for **Trump's** July 19 address, which scored 25.4 million viewers. **Nielsen** data showed that **Harris'** well-received acceptance speech was watched by viewers across 15 networks. The speech capped a successful week for the **Democratic National Convention**, which topped the audience for the **GOP's** gathering every night last week. **MSNBC**, saw its largest audience ever for a **Democratic** convention, averaging 6 million Thursday and 5.2 million viewers over four nights. **CNN** was second for the week with 3.6 million viewers, followed by **ABC** (3.3 million), **NBC** (2.5 million), **CBS** (2.2 million) and **Fox News** (2.4 million). **MSNBC** also had the most viewers in the 25-to-54 age group. **Fox News**, which injects conservative, pro-**Trump** commentary into its coverage, made a concerted effort to book more **Democratic** politicians this year, four times as many as it did in 2016. The network has never been a first stop for the party's convention. After **Harris** completed her speech, **Trump** called into **Fox News** to criticize it. Several times he pressed the keys on his phone as he ranted to anchors **Bret Baier** and **Martha MacCallum**. **Harris'** speech was probably watched by millions more people on streaming platforms.

CONDOLENCES

Calvin Walter Stakes, Jr., 70, of Orange, Texas, passed away on August 24, 2024, at The Medical Center in Port Arthur. A memorial service will be held 2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 5, 2024, at First United Pentecostal Church in Orange, Texas. Calvin was the son of Calvin W. Stakes, Sr. and Bobbie Jean Granger Stakes. Calvin spent his professional life as an electrician, owner, and operator of Stakes Electric. He is survived by his daughter, Citori Stakes; his sister, Kellie Muckleroy; and numerous other loving family members and friends. Calvin will be missed.

OUR SYMPATHY

We were saddened to learn of the death of **Brent Edward Huckabay**, age 61, who passed away August 18. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 27, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Born in Port Arthur, April 3, 1963, he was the son of Lawrence Earl Huckabay and Geraldine (Landry) Huckabay. Brent was a graduate of Bridge City High School, and earned a bachelor's degree at Lamar. He is preceded in death by his wife, Sandi Huckabay and brother Bruce Huckabay. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 27, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City. Officiating was Deacon Steven Oberneufemann. Burial followed at Greenlawn Memorial Park in Groves. We send our deepest sympathy to Brent's family and friends. May he rest in peace.

ON A SAD NOTE

We learned also of the passing of **Laura Free**. Laura, a former Orangite, died last week in Austin. At this time we have no further information as funeral services are still pending at our deadline.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 11 Years Ago-2013

The **United States** finds itself at the crossroads in Syria. The **Obama Administration** seems all but certain to retaliate over the use of chemical weapons. The gut wrenching images of the dead, including the young, have rocketed around the globe. Calibrating the right response without drawing the U.S. into **Syria's** civil war requires precision, both militarily and politically. The **American** people are weary of war. **Iraq** and **Afghanistan** are hard learned, expensive lessons. However, ignoring the use of chemical weapons killing hundreds, including sleeping women and children, would invite worse. It would hurt U.S. credibility and years of international effort to prevent use of chemicals would be undercut. The Obama Administration has been cautious, wary of war, weighing options, gathering alliances and not just rushing into a war that could see us bogged down for ten years.******Gone but not Forgotten:** We were saddened to learn of the death of **Mildred "Millie" Lemoine**, 83, passed away August 25, 2013. Service were held at **St. Henry Catholic Church**. **Millie** was born in Louisiana but was raised in Orange, in the Cove. At age 17 she was one of the early telephone operators in Orange. She and **Louis** had been married 55 years and had five children, **Jody, Jada, Jana, Jude, June** and many offspring. **Mildred** was the big sister of **Judge Janice Menard** and one of her strongest supporters. Everyone who knew **Millie** had to love her. She was quite a character who never met a stranger.****Aug. 31 is a big day for a pair of twins; it's their **44th wedding anniversary**. **Rosalie** is married to **Judge Pat Clark** while sister **Mary Ann** claims

John Scofield as her longtime husband.****Sept. 12 is the **Bridge City chamber roast** of civic leader, businessman **Ross Smith**. What a great guy. It will be hard to find anything negative to roast him with.****Even though she is retired **Susan Kazmar**, longtime school teacher, is back in the classroom. She is putting in some time as a ninth-grade Algebra teacher at Orangefield.****Wednesday, Aug. 28, marks the exact date 50 years ago that **Dr. Martin Luther King** made his famous, historical "I have a Dream" speech. When you view that day as a citizen that remembers the times and the high hill that was climbed, it is really ironic, almost unbelievable, that 50 years later the **President of the United States** is a **Black man** speaking about the event that led to his election, unlikely before "I have a Dream."

25 Years Ago-1999

West Orange police investigate murder-suicide of father and son. Twenty-two year old **Jason Miller** shot and killed his father, 43-year-old **Kenneth Ross Miller**, then turned the gun on himself. According to **Asst. Police Chief Jesse Romero**, **Kenneth's** wife came home from work and found the bodies of her husband and stepson. **Patrolman Craig Dommert** responded to the call at 2 p.m. The son had recently moved in with his father.****The **Globetrotting Grandmas, Dot Eshbach, 77, and Margaret Saint, 78**, just returned from a month of touring Europe and Asia. (Editor's note: Those two wondering women are gone now. They didn't let any grass grow under their feet after their spouses died. What a joy they were to everyone who knew and loved them. They traveled the country in a big RV bus. What a sight those two old gals were pulling out in that luxury bus saying, "You'll see us when we get back."****Bridge City **Mayor John Dubose** gets national recognition. The National Center of Small Communities awarded **Dubose** for outstanding leadership. Out of the \$5,000 award money, **Dubose** will donate \$2,500 to the Chamber, \$2,000 will go towards building a pavilion at **Bridge City Park** and \$500 will be donated to the **Helen Phillips Memorial Scholarship** fund.******Pinehurst Mayor Pete Runnels** announced a big **Senior Citizen's Labor Day Picnic** which he hopes to make an annual senior citizen gathering. There will be plenty of food, watermelon, etc. served. (Editor's note: **Judge Runnels** is gone now. It's still hard to believe.)****Louisiana **Governor Jimmie Davis** reaches 100-years-old Sept. 3. In the 1940's he recorded "You Are My Sunshine." and later, "Come Home Jimmie, It's Supper Time." He also starred in movies. (Editor's note: **Jimmie** died a few years ago, I believe he was 103.)****The new Bridge City football coach is **James Conway** and former B.C. High star **Jeff Mathews** is the new head coach at Vidor. High school football to start soon. A few names in the spotlight will be, at Bridge City, **Curt Lucia** and **Steve Curl**; LC-M, **Michael White** and **Michael Rowe**; WO-S, **Jartis Soleman, Jamal Warnell** and **Gayron Allen** and at Orangefield, **Charles Chester** and **Jay Bruce**. **Randy Theriot** is head coach.

40 Years Ago-1974

Bob Montagne and **Sue Pate** are the political powers in Orange County. **Bob** has a strong roots organization in the county. **Sue** has far-reaching arms into Austin and state politics.******Doug Harrington** claims he can run a mile and a half in under 13 minutes. Most folks are wondering if that's with someone shooting at him.******Ed Bacon** ends up in a hospital after a feast at **Harper's Party Shack**. More than 100 pints of mountain oysters were prepared--all **Peveto** and **Zummo Packing** could provide--plus a grass sack full of frog legs and a lot of beverages. **Ed** partook of more than his share of it all. **Millie Harper** just couldn't chew the oysters. Doctors said **Ed's** blood pressure going through the roof didn't have anything to do with the choice of food. (Editor's Note: **Milly Harper** and **Roy Dunn** are possibly the only people left who remembers that party.)******Judge Sid Caillavet** was operated on in Beaumont. He's doing better--he was overheard raising hell with **Ms. Dennis** because she wasn't home cutting fire wood for the coming winter. She promised him she would have a cord cut by the time he gets home.******Faye Linscomb** and daughter **Kathy** were in Arlington last week to watch **Bridge City football players Jimmy Lacombe**, her son, and **Mark Dunn** play in an intrasquad game at **UT-Arlington**. She said the two athletes did quite well.******Dewey "Teddy Bear" Cox** challenges **Harrington** to a mile race next month.******Mr. and Mrs. Roger Easterling**, newlyweds, win \$120 in groceries from **Howard's in BC** in **KOGT's Dial-a-Door contest**.******Bridge City State Bank** donates 200 oak trees to the city. **Bank officials** and **Boy Scouts** plant the trees on school district grounds and at local churches. (Editor's note: Now we know all those oaks are 40 years old.)

A FEW HAPPENINGS

What's it Worth appraisal event had a good outcome this weekend. It wasn't wall to wall people, but a steady stream, which gave the appraisers more time to spend with each person. Many happy campers left with good outcomes. Someone brought in a framed photograph of **Calvin Coolidge** and his wife, along with **Charles Lindbergh** and his mother. The picture had been signed by all of them. More research will be done to get a closer valuation, but initial estimates put the picture's worth at **\$800-\$4000**. A **Tiffany vase** came in valued **\$10,000-\$30,000** and a small doll, approximately a half inch tall, sporting a crocheted lederhosen dress, was valued **\$65-80**. The appraisers from Houston visited the **Orangefield Cormier Museum** when they arrived Friday night before the event and were impressed by the extensive collection of items exhibited.****We heard from our longtime friend **Constable Brad Frye**. **Brad** loves being a constable and also serving on the Orangefield school board.******Lady Whistlebreaux** has learned that it's too late to get tickets to the **St. Mary School 100th anniversary gala** on September 14. It's sold out. **Father Jim Sichko**, who grew up in Orange and is now a papal missionary of mercy, is making sure the prizes will and bidding items will be like no one here has seen before.****That date will also have another big local draw, **Bridge City's lighted Hot Air Balloon Glo Festival**. It will be the first time several light-

ed hot air balloons will be on display in OC at once.****The next week, Saturday, September 21, the city of **Vidor** will be having a **big music jam at Conn's Park**. Thanks to cities, chambers of commerce, and local non-profit groups, the OC has family-friendly activities all the time. Don't whine about 'there's nothing to do here.'****Music concerts last week enticed locals to make some day trips to see their favorites. **Sammy Hagar** played in The Woodlands with **Orange City Manager Mike Kunst** and wife, **Jill**, enjoying the show. Local music writer **Tommy Mann** went with his wife, **Dana**, along with **Troy and Annette Jones**, and **Lisa and Kevin Martin**.****The **Claybar crew** all went to Houston to see **Chris Stapleton** and **Miranda Lambert**. **Peggy Claybar** went with sons **David** and **Constable Lannie Claybar** and their families with daughters-in-law **Melanie** and **Sabrina**, plus grandkids **Keller** and **Breelyn**, and **Annabelle** and **Caroline**. **Kelli Patin** also enjoyed the show.******Della Gallien** and daughter **Rita Monson** went across the river to the Golden Nugget to see **John Anderson**.******Brandi Griggs** and **Justin Riesen** took their blended kids all for lots of adventures in Dallas including Six Flags. After all, **Kiley** plus twins **Karson** and **Kolby** had birthdays to celebrate.****The **Bridge City-Orangefield Rotary** had a big turnout for the annual fundraiser **Guy's Game Night**. Money goes to high school scholarships. Internet podcaster **Gary Stelly** called the bingo numbers as **Eric Andrus** served as DJ.******Phillip Welch** and son **Sterling** attended the **Houston Astro** game last week against the **Boston Red Sox**, the team **Bridge City's Chase Shugart** plays for. They had front row seats and **Sterling** was given balls which were autographed by **Houston** pitchers **Yusel Kikuchi**, the new pitcher traded for from Toronto and **Ronel Blanco**, who pitched a no-hitter early in the season. The **Astros** lost the game but **Phillip** and **Sterling** had a great time.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **Aug. 28: J. S Bearden, Charlie Broussard, Randy Elkins, Sierra Hutchison, Debbie Stark Angie Jones, Bobbie Brown** and our special friend **Barbi Childress**.******Aug. 29, Janise Overman, Danny Cole, Gary Bonneaux, Rick Beaulieu, Wendy Fontenot, Blake Tally, Buddy Hancken, Leta Prinrose**. Our friend **Glenda Dyer** would have celebrated her birthday on this day. Sadly she passed away April 20, 2024 at age 80.******Aug. 30: Patty Collins, Mike Cedars, Judy Marsolan, Dotsie Robbins, Jon Weidner, Dal Moreau**.******Aug. 31: Dominic Nguyen, Dorene Scott, Elise Domas, Erin Weidner, Mary Behnke, Paul Vandervoort, Ron Kincade, Alex Murphy, Buddy Cox, Jay Odom**.******Sept. 1: Haley Aldridge, Pamela Layman**.******Sept. 2: Brenda Wilber, Vernon Dixon, Peyton Choate**.******Sept. 3: Mayor T.W. Permenter, Debby Schamber, Doris Harris, Tammy Stevens, Rusty Dubose, Tracy Hollingsworth, Kacey Harrell, Rachel Briggs, Robert Boehme, Ryan Fisette, Cynthia Wedekind**.****Birthday greetings go out to **Louis Nance**, who reached 89. The man in the softball hall of fame still goes on morning walks. **Judy Landry** is another octogenarian with a birthday along with **Darlen Thompson**. Others marking birthdays recently have included **Carly Thibodeaux, Meri Elen Jacobs, Debi Derrick, Paulette Howington, Lynae Sanford, Troyshetta Angelo, Christine Bonneaux, Mia Davila, Glee Lobb, Dax Fregia, Dana Mann, Breelyn Lemaire, Natalee Smith, Mary Jackson, Linda Garrett, Stephnay Holman, Judy Lilback, Melissa Shaw, Theresa Allen, Valli Lott, and Stephanie Roberts**. **Donna Scales** had a great birthday party, but apparently she is partying all the time with granddaughters **Stella** and **Indie Jaymes**. We won't reveal what their Uncle **James** calls them.****Happy anniversary and congratulations to **Bill** and **Ellen Nickum**, who have been married 59 years.*****Ray** and **Ruth Hancock** are just a couple of years behind.***Happy Anniversary also to **Rosalie** and **Judge Pat Clark**. We wish them many, many more.*** Also celebrating anniversaries were **Skipper** and **Gina Yeaman**, plus **Tom** and **Joyce Sanders**.****(Notice: To post birthdays or anniversaries in this publication free of charge email to therecordlive.com or call 409-886-7183.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Tee-Neg Dartez went fishing on Bayou Tech him, wit senior citizen **Clovees Arceneaux**.

While sitting dere **Tee-Neg** axe, "Mister **Arce-neaux**, how old you are hanh?"

Clovees say, "I don't rightly know me, it changes every year. I was born during da depression me, so I know I'm getting old."

Tee-Neg say, "Mister **Arceneaux**, don't worry bout old age you, because it don't las dat long."

C'EST TOUT FORMER REPUBLICAN LEADERS ENDORSE KAMALA HARRIS

Over 200 **Republicans** who previously worked for **Bush, Romney**, or **McCain** have endorsed **Vice President Kamala Harris** for President. The endorsement, announced in an open letter includes 238 signatures, marking a significant political shift. The letter, which follows the **Democratic National Convention** in Chicago, showcases the growing discontent within the **GOP**. At least five former aides to **President George H.W. Bush** also signed the letter. Signatories include prominent figures such as **Mark Salter** and **Chris Koch**, former chiefs of staff to **McCain**; **Jean Becker**, longtime chief of staff for **George H.W. Bush**; and **David Nierenberg**, **Romney's** 2012 campaign finance chair. They cite concerns over **Donald Trump's** leadership and the potential impact of his policies, notably **Project 2025**. The letter concludes with a warning about the consequences of another **Trump** presidency, both domestically and abroad, urging voters to prioritize the country's future over party loyalty. This endorsement represents a growing trend of **Republican** leaders opposing **Trump's** reelection. On Tuesday, it was announced that former four-star general, who served under **George W. Bush's** administration, is endorsing **Harris**.****Thanks for your time, mine is up. **Have a safe Labor Day weekend**. Check us out daily on our website therecordlive.com. Take care and **God bless**.

Lutcher Theater shows From Page 1

January 2: This moving and uplifting musical tells the true story of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed them.

- "Ain't Too Proud," January 14 and 15: The Life and Times of The Temptations, which chronicles the extraordinary journey of this iconic Motown group.

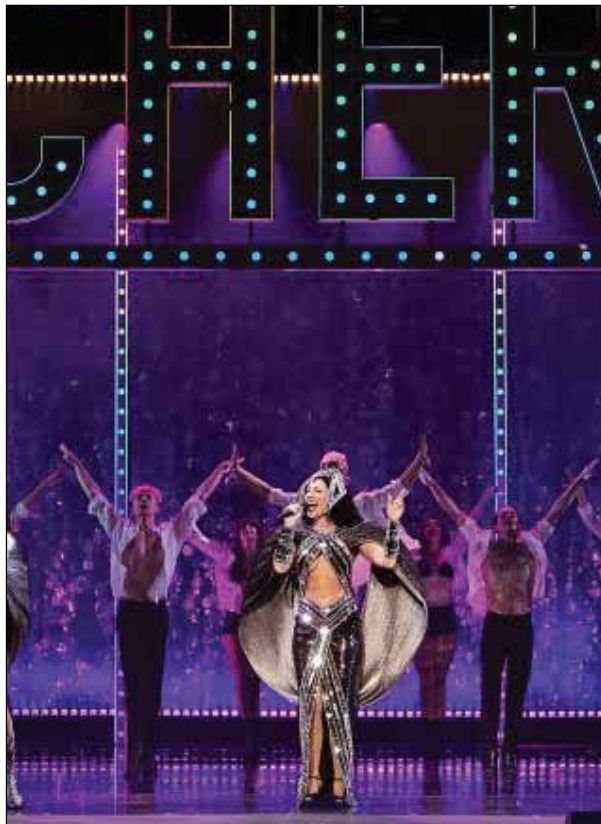
- LeAnn Rimes, January 25: International multi-platinum selling acclaimed singer and ASCAP winning songwriter, LeAnn Rimes has sold more than 48 million units globally, won two Grammy Awards*, 12 Billboard Music Awards, three Academy of Country Music Awards, two Country Music Association Awards and One Dove Award.

- "Chicago," February 20: The longest-running American musical in Broadway history, known for its sizzling music and timeless story of fame and fortune.

- Momix "Alice," March 7: Seamlessly blending illusion, acrobatics, magic and whimsy, Momix sends audiences flying down the rabbit hole in Moses Pendleton's newest creation, "Alice," inspired by Lewis Carroll's classic "Alice in Wonderland."

- "The Cher Show," April 4: Follow the story of the legendary Cher, showcasing her incredible journey through stunning costumes, choreography and her unforgettable music.

- "HadesTown," April 21 and 22: A haunting and beautiful retelling of the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice, winner of eight Tony Awards in-



"The Cher Show," April 4

cluding Best Musical.

In addition to the star-studded line-up, patrons will have the chance to experience Lutcher en Light, a concert series offering a one-of-a-kind experience in a candlelit setting. Lutcher en Light will feature Twitty & Lynn, the grandson of Conway Twitty and the granddaughter of Loretta Lynn, on February 15, as well as the March 29 performance of Gentlemen's Quartet, who offer a modern, elegant take on some of the most famous classical and popular music the world has ever known. From Beethoven to John Legend, their one-of-a-kind arrangements fuse multiple genres together in a perfect symphony of sophistication, virtuosity and humor.

The Lutcher will also offer a sensory-inclusive performance of The Magic of Kevin Spencer, a show for people of all ages and abilities. It features award-winning magician Kevin Spencer in a fun-filled show that combines storytelling, stage magic and audience participation.

"Celebrating a milestone 45 years of excellence in live entertainment, the Lutcher Theater is set to deliver a season packed with unforgettable performances that cater to all ages and tastes," said Lynae Sanford, executive director of the Lutcher Theater. "We thank our community for supporting us these last 45 years and we can't wait to celebrate this season with you."

Deaths & Memorials

Calvin Walter Stakes, Jr., 70, BC

Calvin Walter Stakes, Jr., 70, of Orange, Texas, passed away on August 24, 2024, at The Medical Center in Port Arthur.

A memorial service will be held 2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 5, 2024, at First United Pentecostal Church in Orange, Texas.

Born in Orange, Texas, on April 11, 1954, he was the son of Calvin W. Stakes, Sr. and Bobbie Jean Granger Stakes. Calvin spent his professional life as an electrician, owner, and operator of Stakes Electric. His hard work and entrepreneurial spirit contributed to his reputation as a big businessman, respected by peers and clients alike for his expertise and commitment to excellence. Beyond his professional pursuits, Calvin possessed a deep love for the outdoors. He found joy in hunting and fishing. His adventurous spirit was matched by a nurturing heart, as he was known for his welcom-



Calvin Walter Stakes, Jr.

ing demeanor that left everyone feeling valued and embraced. Calvin's affection also extended to his beloved animals, Bailey, Moana, and Chico, who were not just pets but cherished companions in his life. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Calvin Stakes, Sr. and Bobbie Jean Granger Stakes; his uncle, Derwood Stakes; and his sister, Terrie Linn Stakes.

He is survived by his daughter, Citori Stakes; his sister, Kellie Muckleroy; and numerous other loving family members and friends.

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

Thelma Jean Hebert, 86, Orange

Thelma Jean Hebert, 86, of Orange, passed away on Aug. 21, 2024, at Focused Care in Orange.

Thelma will be placed in her final resting place in Wetumka, Oklahoma, at a later date.

Born in Honey Grove, Texas, on June 20, 1938, she was the daughter of Fred Sanders and Audie Mae Patterson. Thelma devoted her life to her family, her career as a cosmetologist, and the simple joys that brought her happiness. Throughout her life, Thelma found immense joy in being a grandmother to her treasured granddaughter, Shelby. The bond they shared radiated warmth and love, showcasing Thelma's nurturing spirit and unwavering support. As a mother, she was a steadfast foundation for her son. Thelma's vibrant personality shone through in her interests. She was a passionate football fan, reveling in the excitement of the game as it unfolded on the field. Her love for seafood, particularly fish and shrimp, led to gatherings filled with laughter and cherished memories. Her legacy lives on through her family



Thelma Jean Hebert

and friends, who will carry forth her memory with love, gratitude, and a heart full of joy.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Fred Sanders and Audie Patterson; beloved husband, Charles "Butch" F. Hebert, Sr.; and siblings, Eugene Sanders, Stanley Sanders, Walley Dale Sanders, Estoline Williams, Janetta Hollowell, Mary Alice Gregory, and Evelyn Marlene Sanders.

Those left to cherish her memory are her son, Charles "Bosco" Hebert, Jr. and partner, Sarah; her granddaughter, Shelby Hebert, and partner, Reese; siblings, Fred Sanders, Jr., Daniel W. Sanders, James F. Sanders, Betty Matthews, and Sharon Grice; sister-in-law, Carolyn A. Smith; as well as other loving family and friends.

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

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Labor Day travel From Page 2

minutes for PreCheck lines.

American Airlines says Thursday and Friday will be its busiest days, with 6,400 flights per day, followed by Labor Day itself, when the carrier has 6,300 scheduled flights.

Officials at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport worked Monday to restore full service after what they called an apparent cyberattack over the weekend. Alaska Airlines and Delta Air Lines reported no flight disruptions, but airlines warned passengers not to check bags because the bag-sorting system was affected. AAA named Seattle the top Labor Day destination based on bookings.

What should I do if my flight is delayed or canceled?

First, check your itinerary before leaving for the airport. It's better to be stuck at home than stranded at the airport.

If your flight is canceled, the airline might automatically rebook you. That might not be the best option.

"Get on the phone (to the airline's help center), get in front of an agent, reach out to the airline via social media if you have to, but find out what the other options are," says Julian Kheel, the founder and CEO of Points Path, a browser extension that lets users compare fares with deals available using frequent-flyer points.

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: THE 1930s

ACROSS

- Doorframe part
- *The Swing Era or ____ Band Era
- T-cell killer, acr.
- Arabian chieftain
- Actress Sorvino
- Excessively fat
- Chore list
- Second word in fairytale?
- Doled out cards
- *1933 movie monster (2 words)
- Eyeball
- Golf aid
- French vineyard
- *Larry or Curly or Moe
- Between delta and zeta
- ____ B vaccine
- Ciphering machine
- Kind
- Black and white cookies
- ____ chi
- Fender bender consequences
- Light beige
- *First white chocolate manufacturer
- Grasp
- Elbow room, to a ship (2 words)
- Teenagers' emotions
- Belly
- East Indian pepper
- Buzzing pest
- *Prairie crisis (2 words)
- Change, as in U.S. Constitution
- "If all ____ fails..."
- Solomon-like
- Boatload
- Lab gel
- Enthusiasm
- Finale
- Grazing land
- Blood vessel network

DOWN

- Blue Angel
- In a frenzy
- Calf-length skirt
- Ford option
- Two-footed mortar support
- Shoemaker without shoes, e.g.
- *Al Capone's Chicago Outfit, e.g.
- Mend, health-wise
- Small island
- Doctor Dolittle, e.g.
- *Shenyang (China) in 1931
- O in B.O., pl.
- *Cole Porter's "Begin the ____"
- Dashboard windows
- Accounting title
- Oxfords and loafers
24. 9 a.m. prayer
- *George Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess"
- Discharge
- Ding-a-____, pl.
- Eightsome
- Egg holders
- Big-ticket
- Tank filler
- *a.k.a. The Little Rascals (2 words)
- Brightest star in Cygnus
- 1990s negation
- Second of two
- Beat the Joneses
- Angry stare
- Battle of the ____ , a.k.a. Ardennes Offensive
- Test format
- *Bureau of Investigation agent, to "Machine Gun" Kelly
- Smart but awkward one
- *FDR's New
- ____ E. Coyote
- Law school test acronym
- Expert
- Compass point between NE and E

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From turfgrass to touchdowns on Kyle Field

How Aggie turfgrass science students keep Kyle Field game day ready

Adam Russell
Texas A&M AgriLife

Kyle Field has had a busy summer.

The home of Texas A&M Aggie football hosted the Brazil-Mexico soccer match that drew over 85,000 fans and also welcomed nearly 110,000 country music lovers for the George Strait concert. But no matter what events this iconic stadium sees, a team of sports field experts and staff work hard to ensure Kyle Field is game day ready.

At the heart of that team are the future experts: Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' turfgrass science students.

Chris Franks '26 and Cody Patranella '26, two dedicated turfgrass science majors in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, are part of the team responsible for maintaining Kyle Field.

For them, it's more than just a job; it's a passion for grass and sports field management that drew them to Texas A&M.

"I was originally an agribusiness major, but after working on the field and learning about all the science that goes into it, I knew this is where I wanted to be," Franks said. "There's something special about seeing the field come alive on game day and knowing you played a part in that."

Patranella, a transfer from Blinn College, echoed Frank's sentiment.

"The intricacies of keeping a field in prime condition fascinated me," he said. "It's not just mowing grass; it's about understanding the biology, the soil, the weather — it all plays a role in keeping the turf game ready."

Students spend 40-45 hours a week — sometimes up to 60 during game weeks — ensuring



A person in a maroon shirt and cap paints lines on a football field at an empty stadium. He is crouched down, holding a paint sprayer, ensuring the markings are clear and precise. Turfgrass science students play a crucial role in making Kyle Field game day ready. Michael Miller/Texas A&M AgriLife

that the field is ready for 300-pound linemen to battle for position or receivers to make athletic changes in direction in hopes of reaching the end zone.

From repairing divots and daily mowing to painting yardage lines and end zones into the grass with precision, their work is a year-round commitment that begins as soon

as the final whistle blows. The science beneath the surface

So, what makes Kyle Field's grass so special?

The field is covered with Bermuda Latitude 36, a hybrid grass known for its heat tolerance and resilience. You might be surprised that this grass is readily available to any

homeowner, but what makes this grass last under the stresses of the football season is the care from turfgrass experts.

The magic of Kyle Field isn't just in the grass itself. Beneath the surface lies a carefully constructed foundation designed to keep the field in top condition.

The turf sits on layers of sand, fabric and an air-

field, following U.S. Golf Association specifications. This layered system, which includes coarse sand and fine sand, ensures optimal water infiltration, preventing the field from becoming waterlogged during Texas' unpredictable weather. The sand base also makes the playing surface more forgiving for athletes than artificial turf.

"The layers beneath the grass are just as important as the grass itself," Patranella said. "The sand and airfield allow water to drain properly, which is crucial during rainy games. It also helps keep the surface consistent, which is key for player safety."

Painting the field: a week-long process

Painting the field isn't a one-day job — it's a meticulous, week-long process.

The work starts on Monday, with the crew laying out the lines and borders using white paint.

TURFGRASS Page 5B

Orange County Lawn and Gardens...

Gregg's blue mistflower newest Texas Superstar

Adam Russell
Texas A&M AgriLife

Gregg's blue mistflower has been named a Texas Superstar plant for its low maintenance, long bloom period and penchant for attracting pollinators, especially butterflies.

Mike Arnold, Ph.D., professor in the Texas A&M Department of Horticultural Sciences, director of The Gardens at Texas A&M University and Texas Superstar executive board member, said the plant has been a notable Texas wildflower for decades.

Gregg's blue mistflower, *Conoclinium greggii*, goes by several names — Gregg's mistflower, palmleaf thoroughwort, Texas ageratum or its former botanic name *Eupatorium greggii*.

It is a herbaceous perennial Texas native plant. Plants established in spring provide late summer and fall seasonal color in regions where cold prohibits overwintering.

This Trans-Pecos native is quite drought tolerant but does require well-drained soils in more mesic regions, Arnold said. *Conoclinium coelestinum* is a closely related herbaceous perennial with similar flowers but unlobed leaves that is sometimes also known as blue mistflower, however it lacks the drought tolerance and Texas toughness of *Conoclinium greggii*.

"Give it a sunny spot in well-drained soil and forget about it," he said. "It's extremely low maintenance and carefree. It blooms for a long time and into late summer and fall during that period when there is not much color in landscapes, and it is naturally attractive to butterflies and other pollinators. There is a lot to love about Gregg's blue mistflower."

To be designated a Texas Superstar, a plant must perform well for growers throughout the state. Texas Superstars must also be easy to propagate, ensuring the plants are widely available and reasonably priced.

Arnold said Gregg's blue

mistflower is a "king among butterfly plants" for late summer and fall landscapes that attract fluttering clouds of the pollinator insects. Numerous butterfly species, including queens and migrating monarch butterflies flock to the flowers.

Plants produce clusters of small composite sky blue or baby blue to lavender-blue flowers that bloom continuously for months, Arnold said. Yellow flowering perennials such as Mexican mint marigold, *Tagetes lucida*, make excellent compan-

ion plants for contrasting colors.

Growth habits are initially upright, and Gregg's blue mistflower grows taller than wide before spreading out. Cultivars are available with more compact habits or with differing flowering patterns. Plants can slowly sucker or seed to form colonies, which are even more attractive than a single plant.

"If you have grown old-fashioned Mexican ageratum, *Ageratum houstonianum*, think of Gregg's blue mistflower as



Gregg's blue mistflower was named a Texas Superstar plant because it is easy to care for, it provides striking color in a variety of landscape settings and is a favorite for pollinators, especially butterflies like queens and monarchs.

(Mike Arnold/Texas A&M AgriLife)

those on steroids," he said. "They tolerate tougher sites, grow taller and come back year after year to grace our demanding regional gardens. That is a pretty good description of what Gregg's mistflower will become."

How to care for Gregg's blue mistflower

Gregg's blue mistflower can be planted from containers at any time except for the dead of winter in northern parts of the

NEWEST TEXAS Page 3B

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OUTDOORS

September gets it started

OUTDOORS
Capt. Chuck Uzzle
For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

It doesn't make any difference if you're a hunter or a fisherman because this time of the year has something for everyone and it's all good. The brief cool down from near triple digit heat has both hunters and fishermen alike thinking of what's in store for the coming weeks.

The very first hint of hunting season starts with teal and dove season in September and if you look at the calendar it's here. Hunters of all shapes and sizes flock to the field to take advantage of the first opportunities to get back into the sport they love, the whole episode is like "big kid therapy".

Along the coast we look forward to the arrival of the bluewing teal because they will be the first ducks to visit our area on the annual migration south. This year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved a proposal to set the teal season to run Sept. 14-29 after the bluewing population reached the 16-day threshold. Federal waterfowl hunting guidelines allow Texas a 16-day teal-only season when the bluewing population index exceeds 4.7 million birds. If the bluewing population is 3.3 million to 4.6 million, current federal guidelines allow Texas a nine-day teal season. It has already been reported that Texas will indeed have a 9 day early teal season in 2025 but we will have to wait and see if that actually happens. The next full moon will usher in big waves of teal into our area and that trend will continue for the next couple of weeks.

We just had the full moon in August and we have seen some great numbers of birds, especially this early. The next full moon in September, which happens to be on the 17th, will bring the really big groups of teal to our area and that falls out perfectly with the opening day being on the 14th.

Conditions along the Central flyway could not be better for this time of the year as constant rains have made everything to the north of us green and fertile unlike last year. Locally our marshes are in tremendous shape as the big flush of freshwater has certainly sweetened up our marshes and promoted plenty of growth.

On a recent pass through some local marshes I noticed several areas that had begun to grow a couple of different types of grass that had not been in there in a couple of years. The rich fresh water has been a blessing all the way around for everyone except the fishermen in Sabine Lake but that will hopefully change as we get closer to the fall where things in the lake should begin to get back to normal.

Speaking of normal it was nice to see a few birds working in Sabine lake over the weekend. For a few weeks now the best bite in town has been south of the Causeway as the north end of the lake has been quiet. Due to some windier than forecasted conditions I was forced to stay away from the Gulf and spent a day trying to figure out a pattern in the lake. I ran into a few sets of gulls working over mostly ladyfish but we did manage a few nice redfish along with a couple of trout which was a welcome sight.

The conditions in the lake are better than what most folks think and there is good salinity as well.

CAPT. CHUCK Page 5B

'The Lakes' Fishing

• Toledo Bend Fishing Report

GOOD. Water normal stain; 92 degrees; 3.26 feet below pool. The best bite is at night and with the full moon this week, bass fishing has been on fire. With lots of bass caught up to 9 pounds. These fish are coming on Texas and Carolina rigs in 12-18 feet of water on main lake ridges and river drops.

Anglers are reporting the best bite between 1-3 a.m., but there is always a great bite in the last hour of daylight and first couple of hours after dark. The day bite has been slow, with a few fish coming on big crankbaits on main lake ridges. The better bite is midday, but with the Texas heat, it can be hard to stay on the water.

Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

• Sam Rayburn Fishing Reports

GOOD. Water stained; 90 degrees; 1.88 feet above pool. Water is dropping, with no big changes to the summer pattern. Bass are slow in shallow water in brush with many smaller fish being caught on frogs, and spinnerbaits. Deeper bass bite is fair with Carolina rigs. Crappie are slow moving to and from the brush to timber. 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.

Bass are feeling the heat as well. Lake level is fluctuating due to recent rains. Bass are biting on finesse baits, dropshot or jighead minnow or Carolina rig. Mid lake to north lake is the most productive areas. Lots of fish schooling on main lake flats and ledges. Falling water creates current so fish congregate and now that the lake is risen again the fish are scattered.

Report by Hank Harrison, Double H Precision Fishing.

Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

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

• Sabine Lake

FAIR. 88 degrees. Beautiful weather that has calmed the surf at the jetties. Limits of trout can be caught in the morning until 8 a.m. with 3.5 inch plastics, or popping cork with live shrimp at the rocks. Triple tail catches in 35 feet of water near the rigs. Change locations to stay ahead of the sharks. Sheepshead and drum with Carolina rigged live shrimp at the jetties.

Ling are at the buoys in the Sabine Channel. Target shell reefs and rock piles in 8-14 feet of water on the south end of Sabine Lake for limits of speckled trout 3/8 ounce jighead with red shad worms. Sheepshead, drum, trout, redfish over rock piles in Sabine Channel.

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

• Bolivar

EXCELLENT. 85 degrees. People are catching plenty of fish everywhere! Redfish are feeding in the surf and jetty. Lots of speckled trout, redfish, croakers, sand trout, sheepshead, black drum, speckled trout, and crabs caught along the jetty plus plenty of stingrays and sharks. Did I mention redfish? The surf is producing limits of speckled trout, lots of bull redfish and black drum, gafftop, lots of stingrays, and bigger sharks along the whole peninsula with high activity towards Gilchrist or High Island mainly. People are using all kinds of different things for bait with awesome results. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp.

• Trinity Bay

SLOW. 89 degrees. Upper bay spoil islands have been best for redfish and black drum, A few big sheepshead are also being taken, all on live shrimp. Trout catches remain spotty. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

Redfish bite is hot right. Do not mind the muddy water and at high tide they are definitely in the shallows. Find bait and you will find fish. Popping cork and live shrimp are doing well along with WACKy shrimp rigged weedless from WAC Attack Lures. Trout are showing back up on rocks with deep water close by being caught on live shrimp. Sheepshead and drum are mixed in with the 2. Always wear your kill switch when underway. Report by Captain Zackary Scott, Zack Attack Fishing.

• East Galveston Bay

GOOD. 90 degrees. West winds have put a damper on the catches. A few birds are working near Hannas Reef, with most of the trout under them being small. Shorelines producing scattered catches of trout and redfish. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

Surface water temperature 87 degrees. The water clarity is improving slightly for the majority of East Galveston Bay. Clearer and saltier water by the Yacht Basin, and especially as you venture over towards Galveston. We are spending more time locat-



The Record's outdoor columnist Capt. Chuck Uzzle brings in a nice speckled trout caught in Sabine Lake.

SLOW. 91 degrees. Best bite has been in the deeper water along the ship channel, spoil islands and gas wells. A mix of trout, black drum, sheepshead, and a few redfish being caught all on live shrimp. A few fish early on the shorelines. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 90 degrees. Anglers wading with live croakers doing well on speckled trout. Boat anglers catching their share of trout and the occasional redfish on live natural baits. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• Freeport

GOOD. 87 degrees. Christmas Bay, Chocolate Bay, Bastrop Bay in the upper West Galveston Bay have been good drifting and throwing shrimp under a popping cork for catches of trout, redfish,

SALTWATER Page 5B

ing trout, redfish, and flounder in the intracoastal relating to structure, in areas closer to deep water. The topwater bite has still been excellent 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. The crowds are starting to slack up, so now is the perfect time to get out on the water and make some memories. Until Next Time Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Service, LLC.

• Galveston Bay

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Cowboys score Lamb, Prescott remains illusive

The Cowboys and CeeDee Lamb agreed to a four-year extension worth \$136 million. Quarterback Dak Prescott contract in limbo.

Jori Epstein
Yahoo Sports

Stephen Jones knew his vantage point weeks ago in training camp.

The Cowboys executive vice president quoted his father, team owner Jerry Jones, in what he called “an old Jerryism.”

“Santa Claus doesn’t put the bicycle under the Christmas tree every year,” Jones told Yahoo Sports in an Aug. 13 interview. “You gotta come to grips that you gotta pay for it.”

Monday, the Cowboys “came to grips,” in Jones’ words, with paying their 2020 first-round draft pick a handsome contract.

The Cowboys and CeeDee Lamb agreed to a four-year extension worth \$136 million with \$100 million guaranteed, multiple sources with knowledge of the negotiation confirmed to Yahoo Sports.

The deal is easily the Cowboys’ biggest “offsea-

son” move for those who consider the day before final roster cuts still the off-season. This deal inches Dallas a step closer to the urgency many fans have hoped the franchise would show to snap a decades’ long drought of deep post-season play.

And yet the Cowboys know that Lamb’s contract is only one of the proverbial Christmas presents on their wish list.

Quarterback Dak Prescott and edge rusher Micah Parsons are also going to get megadeals from Dallas or elsewhere before long, Prescott’s expiring contract the more urgent of the two.

Jones said Aug. 13 that Parsons was “not pushing to do anything right now,” though his salary will jump from \$2.99 million to \$21.32 million for his fifth-year option even if a more lucrative deal is not reached by the 2025 season.

So as the Cowboys score one contractual win Mon-



Monday, The Cowboys and CeeDee Lamb agreed to a four-year extension worth \$136 million with \$100 million guaranteed, Quarterback Dak Prescott’s expiring contract is the more urgent.

day, they also advance down a road dotted with plenty more questions.

Lamb will celebrate earning the most expensive receiver contract for a team also paying upper-echelon money to a quarterback, while the franchise celebrates Lamb’s extension trailing rather than exceeding Justin Jefferson’s market-defining, four-year, \$140 million deal with \$110 million guaranteed.

“Obviously you plan for

Dak and you plan for CeeDee,” Jones said Aug. 13. “The negotiations remain very cordial and everybody’s goal is to be a Cowboy in the future and come up with solutions to the challenges of their contracts — come up with those solutions that make it to where 1) we can have all three of them and 2) we can put a good team around them.”

Signing Lamb puts the Cowboys 33% of the way toward that goal. The deal

should also give Prescott more confidence in the targets he’ll have if he reaches an extension.

But will he — and if so, when?

In the Cowboys’ contractual orbit, who and what come next?

What might hinder

Prescott, Cowboys’ negotiation?

Jones said it was “our goal” to extend Prescott “before the start of the season.”

Two key factors could hold up that outcome.

The first: Teams often say they want to extend star players without confirming they want to extend said player at the financial level the player requests and, at times, the market dictate. There’s little doubt the Cowboys would want their current \$40 million quarterback at a similar price point beside which they could invest in a talented and well-compensated supporting cast. But do the Cowboys want to pay Prescott the \$55-\$60 million per year that the skyrocketing quarterback market may dictate?

Thirteen quarterbacks have reached extensions worth a higher average an-

PRESOTT Page 4B

Newest Texas Superstar From Page 1B

state. They bloom from late spring to late fall and peak in late summer and fall.

Plants prefer full sun to mostly sunny locations. Flowering reduces as shade increases. They are adapted to a wide range of soil pH levels and textures if they are reasonably well-drained. Do not plant Gregg’s blue mistflower in soils that maintain moisture, especially areas that remain wet during the winter.

Arnold recommends using them as a perennial fixture in mixed borders, as pockets of color, in rock gardens, in mass plantings for slopes, for butterfly or pollinator gardens or small-scale groundcover, and to naturalize wildflower areas or pocket prairies. Gregg’s blue mistflower can also be used in mixed fall patio containers.

Initial pinching of the plants will encourage greater canopy density but

will not be necessary over time. Once it dies back during winter, Arnold said to clear back the dead foliage after the threat of frost has passed.

“Gregg’s blue mistflower thrives on being ignored once it’s established,” Arnold said. “It might need a little water during extended drought to improve blooms, but the ease of care and its adaptability make it a Texas Superstar. That along with its pop of color and reputation as a

pollinator-friendly plant make it a no-brainer.”

Texas Superstar is a registered trademark owned by Texas A&M AgriLife Research. Plants are designated by the Texas Superstar executive board, which comprises nine horticulturists from AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Turfgrass touchdowns From Page 1B

Tuesday is dedicated to the first coat of paint on the lines and logos, followed by touch-ups on Wednesday.

Thursday sees the final coat of white paint on the media lines, hashes and numbers, with maroon paint adding that Aggie flair. Finally, on Friday, the field is rolled, and the last round of watering is completed before game day.

“People don’t realize how much goes into painting the field,” Patranella said. “It’s all about precision. Every line, every logo

has to be perfect because that’s what people see on TV and in the stands.”

On game day, Franks, Patranella and the rest of the crew arrive five hours early to set up sideline tarps and trash cans. At halftime, they make sure the sidelines are tidy. After the game, they pick up the trash cans, remove the tarps and take down the goalpost pads.

When needed, they apply post-game water and fertilizer to keep the field lush for the next event.

Whether it’s a massive

concert or an Aggie football victory that sends fans storming the field, the turfgrass science team at Texas A&M is behind the preparation. When the grass takes a beating, they’re ready to step in and ensure the field is game ready each Saturday.

“We’ve seen the field go through a lot, especially after big games when the fans rush the field,” Franks said with a laugh. “But we’re always ready to get it back in shape. That’s part of the job, and we love it.”

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In accordance with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 USC 2714(c)), the Benchmark Oil and Gas storage facility, operated by Benchmark Oil and Gas Company (“Benchmark”), has been named as the source of a discharge of oil into the Cow Bayou at Texas 105 in Orangefield around 10 p.m. on May 29, 2024. As the Operator of the facility, Benchmark is accepting claims for certain uncompensated damages and removal costs.

Removal costs and damages which may be compensated include removal costs performed in accordance with the National Contingency Plan; damage to natural resources; damage to or loss of real or personal property; loss of subsistence use of natural resources; loss of government revenues; loss of profits and earnings capacity; and increased cost of public services.

Claims should be in writing, signed by the claimant, for a specified amount, and describing the damages alleged to have been caused by the accidental discharge. The claims should include all evidence to support the damages. Claims presented may include claims for interim short-term damages representing less than the full amount to which the claimant ultimately may be entitled. It should be noted that payment of such a claim shall not preclude recovery for damages not reflected in the paid or settled partial claims. Claims should be mailed to the following address:

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1200 Smith St., Suite 1400
Houston, TX 77002
Re: Benchmark Oil and Gas Company

Office hours are from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM EST, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Claimants may call Benchmark counsel’s office at 713-654-9648 for information.

Any claims which are denied, or which are not settled within 90 days after the date of submission to our claims representative may be submitted via email to:

HQS-SMB-NPFC-ClaimsInfo@uscg.mil

Alternatively, claims can be mailed to this address:

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TOMMY MANN JR. FOR THE RECORD

September has arrived and the regional concert scene is announcing new shows with 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. 29**

30 Seconds to Mars, AFI, 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

• **Sept. 1**

America, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• **Sept. 3**

Flor Bertotti, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• **Sept. 4**

Twenty One Pilots, Toyota Center, Houston

• **Sept. 5**

Bush, Jerry Cantrell, Candlebox, 713 Music Hall, Houston

• **Sept. 6**

Hoodoo Gurus, House of Blues, Houston; Nothing More, Set It Off, From Ashes to New, Bayou Music Center, Houston; Imagine Dragons, Cynthia Woods



Parmalee will perform on August 30 at the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles.



Randall King will be in concert at the Golden Nugget Casino in Lake Charles on September 6.

Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Randall King, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Sept. 7**

Dylan Gossett, House of Blues, Houston

• **Sept. 8**

Childish Gambino, Wilton, Toyota Center, Houston

• **Sept. 12**

Creed Fisher, Scout Bar, Houston

• **Sept. 13**

The Mavericks, Asleep at the Wheel, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land; Chris Botti, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.; Jelly Rolly, Warren Zeiders, Alexandra Ray, Cajundome, Lafayette, La.

• **Sept. 14**

Creed, 3 Doors Down, Finger Eleven, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Alec Benjamin, Matt Hansen, Bayou Music Center, Houston; Dwight Yoakam, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Sept. 15**

Rob Zombie, Alice Coo-

per, Ministry, Filter, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; The Mummies, House of Blues, Houston

• **Sept. 17**

Loveless, Beauty School Dropout, Julia Wolf, House of Blues, Houston

• **Sept. 18**

Marianas Trench, Casadee Pope, PIAO, House of Blues, Houston

• **Sept. 19**

Five Finger Death Punch, Marilyn Manson, Slaughter to Prevail, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Niki, 713 Music Hall, Houston; Omar Apollo, Malcolm Todd, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• **Sept. 21**

Glass Animals, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Sept. 22**

Signs of the Swarm, Cane Hill, Ov Sulfur, 156 Silence, A Wake in Providence, Scout Bar, Houston

• **Sept. 28**

Weezer, The Flaming Lips, Dinosaur Jr., Toyota

Center, Houston; Zedd, 713 Music Hall, Houston; Brooks Nielsen, House of Blues, Houston; Brett Young, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

* **Sept. 29**

Sum 41, The Interrupters, 713 Music Hall, Houston; Friday Pilots Club, House of Blues, Houston

• **Oct. 3**

Lorna Shore, Whitechapel, Kublai Khan TX, Sanguisgabogg, House of Blues, Houston

• **Oct. 4**

Rival Sons, Clutch, Black Stone Cherry, Bayou Music Center, Houston

• **Oct. 5**

Justin Moore, Randy Houser, 713 Music Hall, Houston, Architects, We Came as Romans, Brutus, House of Blues, Houston; Danny Ocean, Bayou Music Center, Houston

• **Oct. 6**

Jinjer, House of Blues, Houston

• **Oct. 8**

Zheani, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• **Oct. 9**

Sub-Radio, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• **Oct. 11**

Jon Pardi, Priscilla Block, Larry Fleet, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Oct. 13**

Meghan Trainor, Paul Russell, Chris Olsen, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; tian Nodal, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• **Oct. 16**

Jeff Lynne's ELO, Toyota Center, Houston

• **Oct. 18**

Testament, Kreator, Possessed, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• **Oct. 19**

The Bacon Brothers, Lutch Theater, Orange, Tx

• **Oct. 20**

Korn, Gojira, Spiritbox, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands

• **Oct. 22**

Judas Priest, Sabaton, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• **Oct. 24**

Breaking Benjamin, Staind, Daughtry, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; 10 Years, Conquer Divide, Scout Bar, Houston

• **Oct. 25**

Cody Johnson, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands; Sammy Kershaw, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• **Oct. 26**

Tyler Hubbard, Alana Springsteen, House of Blues, Houston; Cody Johnson, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands


YMCA Afterschool Program available for students

The YMCA will be offering an after school program in Bridge City at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 945 W. Roundbunch. Orangefield students will be hosted at the Orangefield Elementary School.

Registration is \$30 for one child or \$50 for a family. Weekly rates: YMCA member rate is \$65 for the first child and \$55 for each additional child. Non-member rate is \$80 for the first child and \$70 for additional children. In-service and early dismissal dates are included in the weekly fee for school care.


The YMCA offers financial assistance to participants designed to fit their financial situation. The YMCA utilizes the two different types of financial aid available: for more information call 409-962-6644.

To register, visit their website at www.ymcasetx.org.




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Prescott contract

From Page 1B

nual value than Prescott's since his 2020 extension.

Even as the Cowboys will point to Prescott's light playoff résumé in negotiations, Dallas won 12 games last season as Prescott led the league with 36 touchdowns, finishing second in the MVP race.

The second holdup is more atypical. In most quarterback negotiations, leverage tilts heavily toward the club. Teams often negotiate with years of control left on a player's existing contract, not to mention further control tools like franchise and transition tags. Some teams could even threaten to trade a player.

The Cowboys have astoundingly little of that leverage in negotiating with Prescott.

His ninth-year starter is entering the final year of his deal, which negates the ability to offset a pricey next contract with a reasonable current deal. Prescott already won his last negotiation's fight for a four-year extension rather than the Cowboys' pre-

ferred five-year deal. He likely will again push to get back to the market in a preferred time frame, which cuts into the Cowboys' salary cap management flexibility.

And then there's the biggest leverage point Prescott has: He has no-trade and no-tag clauses in his contract.

Put another way: If the Cowboys do not reach an extension with Prescott this year, they cannot "control" him — they cannot force him to play for them.

Would Prescott prefer that?

Prescott isn't angling to leave the Cowboys ASAP.

Just as Mark Twain once said "reports of my death are greatly exaggerated," so too are any surefire reports of a divorce between Prescott and the Cowboys.

But it's a possibility. And perhaps there's a world in which it's best for everyone.

The Cowboys and Prescott must each ask themselves as they negotiate: Can we win a Super Bowl together after eight

years of trying and coming up short? Year 9 was the lucky charm for Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts, as well as Washington and Joe Theismann (his seventh starting). John Elway and the Broncos spent 14 seasons ringless before winning in 15 and 16.

And yet, Elway and the Broncos had advanced to three Super Bowls in their first eight years. Manning made it to the conference championship on his sixth try. Theismann was technically in his seventh season starting when he won it all.

The Cowboys and Prescott have not reached an NFC title game or Super Bowl together. It's possible something changes. Do they want to keep trying?

Prescott thinks about this when considering his next contract.

"I'm deserving of it," he told Yahoo Sports. But also "this game is judged off of winning the Super Bowl and I understand people's angst, maybe their angst and me having not done that. Hey, if these people



Thirteen quarterbacks have reached extensions worth a higher average annual value than Prescott's since his 2020 extension.

want to move on, it's a business.

"It's a two-way street. Things have to be right from my end as well."

Put simply: Prescott can choose not to push for, or even accept, an extension in the coming weeks and months. He could again decide not to sign with Dallas in the spring, testing free agency.

Will he find stronger teams than the Cowboys? The New York Giants, Las Vegas Raiders, New Orleans

Saints, New York Jets and Pittsburgh Steelers are among possible suitors.

Prescott is not rushing to make a decision.

"The best way to put it is I'm free," Prescott said. "To say I'm free means I'm in no rush — whether it happens before camp, during the season or at the end of the season when other people have opportunities."

For now, at least one more year of opportunity exists

for a Prescott and Lamb-led Cowboys offense. Lamb posted videos this week practicing getting in and out of routes in the sand as well as working on body contortion catches in the gym. Dallas expects a smooth return thanks to his workout routine and pre-existing chemistry with Prescott.

The Cowboys expect, too, that Lamb will stay busy on the field. The Joneses didn't want to compensate a receiver this handsomely without that assurance.

"I think he's going to touch the ball a ton," Stephen Jones said. "For what we're going to have to pay him, he better. I told [head coach] Mike [McCarthy] things can't change. He's got to be targeted 12 to 15 times a game, you got to hand it to him a couple more times. So I don't see that changing in the least bit."

"When you pay receivers that kind of money, they got to catch the ball eight to 12 times a game, 15 times, an occasional 15."

"He's our No. 1 go-to guy."

Captain Chuck

From Page 2B

I happened up on a few sharks along the Louisiana shoreline and some really big Jack Crevalle patrolling the same water so it's plenty salty enough for the usual suspects such as speckled trout and redfish. Hopeful-

ly the first batch of north winds usher the shrimp into the open lake and kick start the fall patterns that we all enjoy so much. After seeing what was swimming around I will definitely need top make a few more

trips closer to home because it may break wide open any day now.

I know that first front seems like a long way off so I guess we will have to pass

the time by shooting a few doves as the season opens for the North and Central zones on September 1st. Several hunters I have spoken with recently have been reporting large numbers of doves in our area which always seems to be the case

before opening weekend. Historically we get a huge rain or some goofy storm come through and blows all the birds out, hopefully that's not the case this year and we get to take advantage of a better than average population of birds

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

Saltwater fishing

drum, and few flounder mixed in. San Luis Pass and the beachfront are good early in the morning for trout and redfish throwing topwaters, plastics, live croaker and shrimp on a popping cork. Report by Captain Jake Browing, Flattie Daddy Fishing Adventures

as City Dike to the Galveston causeway bridge remains productive for speckled trout and the occasional redfish. Galveston jetties are good for speckled trout and redfish. Shark catches remain steady in the near shore waters. Anglers are still finding good numbers of red snapper offshore. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• Texas City

GOOD. 91 degrees. Tex-

TPWD launches new mobile app

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN — The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has launched an updated version of the official mobile app used by hunters and anglers across the state for harvest reporting, electronic onsite registration, digital license display, and more.

Formerly named My Texas Hunt Harvest, the mobile app will have an updated look and a new name, Texas Hunt & Fish, but will have all the same great features users are familiar with from the previous version of the app.

With the Texas Hunt & Fish mobile app hunters and anglers can satisfy mandatory reporting requirements for wild turkey, white-tailed deer and alligator gar harvest, as well as complete electronic on-site registration for most public hunting sites accessed when using the Annual Public Hunt (APH) Permit.

Fully digital license holders must use the Texas Hunt & Fish app to execute digital tags for deer, turkey, oversized red drum and spotted seatrout.

One of the newest features, launched during the 2023-24 hunting season, is the app's ability to show Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) zones relative to

the hunter's location if they have the location services turned on.

A full list of features includes:

- Online and offline functionality – use the app regardless of data service once it has been installed and your account is connected
- Connect and display your hunting and fishing license (note that paper license holders must still carry physical tags when pursuing tagged species)
- Perform mandatory hunt harvest reporting for wild turkey, white-tailed deer, and alligator gar
- Digitally tag harvested game and fish (requires purchase of an appropriate digital hunting and/or fishing license)
- Track and view your harvest history
- Perform electronic on-site registration (eOSR) for many public hunt areas
- Download maps of many public hunt areas for use with or without data service
- View CWD Zone boundaries and, with location service enabled, determine your position in relation to the nearest zone.

Get the free Texas Hunt & Fish app in Apple and Google Play stores (links to download also available at tpwd.texas.gov/huntandfish).

Orange County Drainage District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Orange County Drainage District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** at the **Orange County Drainage District Administration Building, 8081 Old Highway 90, Orange, Texas, 77630.** Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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.

FOR the proposal: James Scales, Larry E. Ancelot, Jr., Russell Covington, Hal LaPray
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT: Brent Peveto

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to proposed taxes on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.13410/\$100	\$0.13410/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.00/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$167,801	\$175,810
General Homestead Exemptions Available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemption)	\$32,742	\$35,162
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$135,059	\$140,648
Tax on average residence homestead	\$181.11	\$188.61
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if		
Proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$7.50
And percentage of increase (+/-)		4.14%

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the Board of Directors of the Orange County Drainage District proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of funding the costs associated with multiple planned drainage improvement projects.

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Texas Water Code.

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.

The Beauty of Silver Hair

WHY CHURCHES NEED OLDER WOMEN

Dave Furman
Guest Contributor
desiringGod.org

Sometime in late 2009, on a chilly winter morning in Dubai (still 90 degrees!), Mack and his wife, Leeann, came up to me in the back of our church's worship center. They communicated their intention to join our church-planting team working to establish a new church on the north side of town. They were the first to do so.

As the months unfolded, Mack, as a founding elder, certainly played a huge role in the new plant. His evangelistic zeal and joyful leadership proved contagious. However, Leeann was the unsung hero.

Over the years, through Leeann's leadership and discipleship, a number of women matured and began to lead Bible studies with other women throughout the church. One of these leaders is named Happy (whose personality matches her name brilliantly). Happy has since returned to her home in South Africa and has continued her ministry there, but during the first decade of our church plant, Leeann led our women's ministry and then handed the baton of leadership over to Happy. The spiritual fruit was tangible and beautiful.

I would never call either of these women "old," but they are certainly older than me and older than most in our congregation. In an environment where virtually all expatriates leave our city to retire in their home country, older members are a special blessing to our demographically young congregation. Yet no matter the predominant



generational demographic of a church, older women are always a blessing.

Older Women Teach Younger Women

Leeann, Happy, and many other women have modeled what the apostle Paul wrote to Pastor Titus:

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. (Titus 2:3-5)

Neither male elders, male preachers, nor the word of God itself negate the need for older women to teach younger women in the church. Every church needs older women who will model godliness and teach younger women to follow their

example.

MODELING GODLINESS

First, faithful older women model godliness and Christlike humility. They are reverent in behavior. They walk with God, and out of their relationship with God they model Christ to the other women in the church. Along with these positive descriptions, Paul gives two examples of irreverent behavior they are to avoid. Both areas indicate a lack of self-control.

Older women are not to be slanderers. Older women model what it means to guard their mouths by not gossiping and harming the church. Our words carry great power, and a wise older woman reminds younger women of the truth of Proverbs 12:18: "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." An older woman glorifies her Savior and gives grace to those who hear her when she does not let any unwholesome

words come out of her mouth, but only what builds up, as fits the occasion (Ephesians 4:29).

Older women are not to be slaves to much wine. In other words, older women are self-controlled. Alcohol does not enslave them, nor do the typical preoccupations of this world. They live moderate, commendable lives that other women in the church can emulate.

TEACHING GODLINESS

Second, older women are to teach younger women "what is good" (Titus 2:3). Instead of speaking slanderous words, they train younger women to care well for their family and home. Older women have a plethora of wisdom to share with younger women about singleness, marriage, parenting, and other aspects of life. Regardless of one's situation, older women have likely walked the same paths younger women are now walking. This teaching includes a study of how to love their husbands and children and what true biblical submission looks like. Such topics cannot be relegated to a classroom; they involve life-on-life discipleship.

This teaching Paul has in mind also includes areas like self-control and living pure lives in kindness. And older women teach all of this "that the word of God may not be reviled" (Titus 2:5) — that the godliness of a church's women will display the goodness of God.

Older women are needed to serve all over the local church. They are needed to meet with other women in their homes for Bible studies. They are needed to teach other women in public and private. They are needed to meet one on one (or in small groups) in intentional discipleship relationships. It's one of my greatest joys of pastoring to hear when people in the church meet

with one another simply to open the word and study together.

Older Women Bless the Whole Church

While God calls men to lead and preach in local churches, godly older women tutor the whole church through their faithful ministry, their commendable example, and their Scripture-shaped words. As all watch their godly example of teaching and training younger generations, the result is infectious. Others in the church see their ministry and are challenged to follow in their path as they follow Christ.

By their example, older women instruct the whole church. I still remember learning from Leeann and Happy about godly speech. They were always slow to speak, but at the same time, they were quick to compliment and encourage. Their example still challenges me to build up my fellow church members with God's word. Alongside those two, I can't count how many conversations or testimonies I've heard from older women in our church that have encouraged me personally as a pastor and as a Christian.

I'm so thankful for Leeann and Happy and the long legacy of sages with silver hair who have blessed our church. I am thankful for their ministry to the younger women, but I am especially thankful for the impact they've had on the entire church. They have taught me about living a godly life and equipping the next generation.

Pastors, church leaders, and church members, we would all do well to learn from the older women in our congregations. They have much to teach us about life, ministry, and godliness.

Church Directory

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

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

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

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Just \$10.00 Per Week

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

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

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

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.

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

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

Orange County Community News
In Print & Online

First Baptist Church
Bridge City, Texas
200 W. Roundbunch
735-3581
www.fbcbc.org
Sunday schedule: Bible study 9:15 a.m.,
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.,
Adult, Youth, Children
Discipleship Classes, Sun. 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
Youth & Children's Activities
Pastor: Keith Royal

Winfree Baptist Church
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

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

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Jeremiah 29:11-13
"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare[a] and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

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.