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Week of Wednesday, January 22, 2025

No blizzard, but lots of snow

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Orange County got its first ever Blizzard Warning from the National Weather Service early Tuesday morning. But though strong winds and snow came, they didn't reach the force of an official blizzard. It would not have mattered to kids. They were outside playing, some before daylight.

Official measurements aren't in for the snowfall, but people all around were sharing photographs of rulers stuck in snow. Pat Cook got 5.5 inches in West Orange, Cheryl Farmer measured 6 inches in Pinehurst, while Juston Thibodeaux had 9 inches in Bridge City. Sheets of ice were spotted on marsh water along Bailey's Road in Bridge City.

The January 2025 snowfall may beat the second-place area record set in February 1960. The 1895 event with 31 inches will likely never be broken. Another significant, but not record-breaking, was in January 1973.

The Blizzard Warning came about 4 a.m. To be considered a blizzard by the National Weather Service, the wind must blow at 35 mph with visibility at a quarter of a mile. The NWS station at the Or-

ange County Airport reported sustained winds of 14 mph with the highest gust 23 mph, though 20 mph-plus gusts were common. Visibility went down to a half mile.

Children and many adults were able to go out all day. Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana had basically shut down because of the hazardous conditions predicted earlier. All schools in the county canceled classes until Thursday. Public offices like the county courthouse and city halls closed.

Restaurants and businesses also closed, mostly to protect their employees from having to travel, especially after the Orange County Judge John Gothia sent a warning Monday: "Citizens should only travel if absolutely necessary and exercise extreme caution if they must go out."

The courthouse, city halls, and schools are also scheduled to be closed on Wednesday, January 22. Bridge City has announced that garbage pickup from Republic Services will start on Thursday and the company will run two routes each day.

Staying at home was a good idea. Roads became more hazardous and law

Snow Page 3A





Thick snow lays on the treets and streets in the Orange Historic District on Tuesday.

RECORD PHOTO: Chris Gunn

Valentine's Day Blizzard 1895 still keeps snow record

MARGARET TOAL For The Record

In the year 2025, people across Orange County were huddled inside as heavy snow fell, temperatures dropped into the teens, and the winds blew. This year will be setting snow and cold records, but will not top the "Valentine's Day Blizzard" of 1895. An estimated 31 inches of snow dropped in Orange on February 14-15 that year. The snow was so deep that railroad cars couldn't move and cattle were buried and froze. The Texas Almanac says "what is probably the greatest heavy-snow anomaly in the climatic history of the U.S. resulted from a snowstorm along the Texas coast on the 14th and 15th." Snow even fell as far south as Brownsville, which received five inches. The late historian W.T. Block (1920-2007) wrote in 1979 that 31 inches of snow fell in 24 hours, paralyzing Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana. He said that D.R. Wingate, who had lived in Orange since 1852, was quoted as



Official measurements aren't in for the snowfall, but people all around were sharing photographs of rulers stuck in snow. **RECORD PHOTO** Stella Scales, 8, making snow Angel.

An estimated 31 inches of snow dropped in Orange on February 14-15 that year. The snow was so deep that railroad cars couldn't move and cattle were buried and froze.

saying "the past six days have had the locomotive in the switching forty years."

Block also found a story in The Galveston Daily News about how

more arctic weather in them than yards in Orange "could not plow I have experienced in any week in its way through the snow that av-

Valentine's Day Page 5A

Bridge City icon Beverly Perry moving to Georgia

PENNY LELEUX For The Record

"I love Bridge City," said Beverly Perry. "I'll be crying when I cross that Texas line into Louisiana." She'll be leaving in about a month or so, after she sells her house and has an estate sale.

"Bridge City is home," she said. She doesn't really want to leave but at age 88, her health has taken a turn and she should not be living alone. None of her family lives here, so she is going to live with her son in Georgia. She's looking forward to playing with her great-grandchildren.

Last week the St. Henry's choir had a farewell celebration at Romano's Italian Restaurant on Texas Avenue.

"We had a great time," she said. Perry has been part of the choir for 11-12 years. "It's just such a wonderful group and I really enjoyed it. I'm really gonna miss that."

They presented her with a humongous chocolate cake from Rao's. There was so much cake that she brought the rest of it to Bridge City Bank, where she has worked for the last nine years, for the employees to share.

The bank is throwing a farewell reception for her 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Jan. 30, where friends can stop in and visit with her to say Acres was getting too goodbye and have cake. Her last day at the bank Bridge City," she said.

will be Feb. 14.

Perry started out in Port Acres, living with her maternal grandparents who adopted her and her older sister when Perry was 2 years old.

"My grandparents were from Louisiana. They came to Texas on the barge." Perry said her grandmother didn't speak any English, so Perry spoke French to her grandmother and English to her grandfather. Being bilingual was just natural to her back then.

In 1945, when Perry was 9 years old, they moved to Bridge City.

'They felt that Port crowded, so they moved to



Longtime BC icon, Beverly Perry, is leaving Bridge City and moving to Georgia to live with her son. Bridge City Bank is hosting a "drop-in" farewell reception for her all day, Jan. 30. **RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux**

Texas Avenue. It was in

They bought a house on have air conditioning back then, so all the windows the summer. Houses didn't were open and you could hear everything outside. Just a few days after settling in, she said they heard cars honking, hollering and a major commotion outside, so they went outside to see what was going on.

"People had parked their cars askew all over. You couldn't go through. They were on the road, on the side of the road and the ditch. They were laughing and dancing in the street," she said. "They had just heard on the car radio that World War II had ended."

A couple of things she remembered about the war was a lady that had a table set up in Kresge's

Beverly Page 2A

My Five-Cents

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

Last week session began. It will be an exciting and fast-paced 140 days. We will do our best to keep East Texans informed about the goings on in Austin.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. 89th Legislative Session begins

On January 14, 2025, the 89th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature began at noon. On the Senate side, members who successfully won in the general election were sworn in. There are three brand new members of the Senate: Senators Molly Cook, Adam Hinojosa, and Brent Hagenbuch. I look forward to getting to know my new colleagues and working with them on their priorities this session. In the House, all 150 members were sworn in on Tuesday, including 31 freshman members. Then, House members had to vote for the Speaker of the House. Representative Dustin Burrows won the Speaker election on the second ballot. Congratulations to Speaker Burrows, I look forwarding to working with him and all of our partners in the House this session

Here are some important dates to know as we move through the session:

stricted filing of bills

bills, emergency appropriations, and emergency matters submitted by the governor.

• Monday, June 2, 2025 – 140th day;

2. Comptroller releases Biennial

Comptroller Glenn Hegar released the

years ago a constitutional amendment passed to limit the state's spending to ensure fiscal responsibility. The Legislative Budget Board determines the constitutional tax spending limits before each session. That formula is a combination of the rate of growth of the Texas economy, the growth in population, and the level of appropriations from the previous biennium. This year, the LBB announced the amount of appropriation that can be made without a special concurrent resolution is just under \$147 billion.

3. New laws in effect on January 1

Though most bills passed in the 88th Legislative Session went into effect in September 2023, a few had effective dates on January 1, 2025. Here are a few that went into effect this month:

 House Bill 3297 – Authored by Representative Cody Harris, this bill eliminates the requirement for annual vehicle inspections for personal vehicles. However, some counties have adopted vehicle emissions standards and will require vehicles registered in those counties to undergo an emissions inspection.

• House Bill 4 – This bill enhancing Texas consumer data protections and allow online users to have control over opting out of certain advertisements, business profiling, and digital sales.

• Senate Bill 2 – A section of this bill goes into effect this month. The section makes property tax compression and homestead exemption benefits permanent for elderly and disabled homeowners.

4. Changes to Social Security may allow expanded pool to receive benefits

This month, President Biden signed the Social Security Fairness Act into law. The bill eliminates the reduction of Social Security benefits for certain populations, including some Teacher Retirement System (TRS) retirees. Two provisions were repealed: the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) reduced benefits for individuals who also received a pension or disability benefit from an employer that did not withhold Social Security taxes (like many Texas school districts) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) which reduced benefits for spouses, widows, and widowers who also received government pensions of their own. This will benefit TRS retirees who were subject to these reductions. Monthly benefits will increase on average by \$360 per month and impact 2.8 million recipients nationwide.

5. New leadership at Texas Department of Public Safety

Toward the end of the last year, a new director of the Texas Department of Public Safety was sworn in by Gov. Abbott. Director Freeman Martin began at DPS as a highway patrolman in 1990 and has held various law enforcement positions since then, including becoming a Texas Ranger and serving as a deputy director of DPS since 2018. He takes over for Director Steve McCraw, who led the agency for 15 years and announced his retirement in August.

• Friday, March 14, 2025 – 60th day; deadline for the unreand joint resolutions, other than local

last day of the 89th Regular Session, also known as Sine Die (Latin for "without days").

Revenue Estimate

Biennial Revenue Estimate (BRE) which he does before every regular legislative session. It projects the revenue that lawmakers have available to spend through the upcoming biennium. Because the Legislature meets every other year, lawmakers create budgets on a two year, or biennial, basis. The 89th Legislature will have a surplus from the 2024-2025 biennium of \$23.76 billion. For the upcoming 2026-2027 biennium, the Comptroller estimates the Legislature will have \$194.6 billion in total revenue available for general purpose spending. However, several

Beverly Perry moving way From Page 1

store in Port Arthur. She mended the runs in women's hosiery, because new stockings were not available because of the war.

"The women wore the patches with pride because it was helping the war effort."

She also spoke about the shortage of tires being so severe, people eventually just took the tires off when they wore out and ran the cars on the wheels. She said they painted the wheels red.

'We all had victory gardens," she said.

She also talked about other memories of Bridge City when she was a kid. Her grandfather bought her a horse named Ol' Bill. They owned 19 acres, so there was plenty of room for her to ride.

She would get a quarter to go to the movies on Saturdays.

"We'd walk from my

you're helping your city. I've enjoyed so much the people that that I've worked with in the chamber."

"I've always wanted to work. I'm not one to sit around and watch soap operas," said Perry.

She has beaten cancer three times over the years and has always had a positive attitude.

Her goal was to work until 90, but she said God said "No, not this time."

"It's been a real good life. I have no regret. Yes, there's bad and good. I believe in God and I think that he has a plan for us. It's my time now to go visit and learn to love on my great grandkids in in Georgia.

Her 12-year-old roommate, Senior Pablo, will be going with her. She got him from the Humane Society of Southeast Texas.

"He's been such a lot of solace to me. A friendship that loved me no matter what I looked like or what I did," she said.

She will be leaving behind three friends that have been like sisters to her for over 20 years, Lou Rayburn, Judy LeBlanc and Shirley Vicknair. She has traveled the world with them.

"We've been to New York City. We've been to the Holy Land. We've been to Europe. All of us together. You name it, we've done all of that over the years." She said now they're old. The youngest just turned 80 a few days ago.

"I love this town. It's gonna hurt me to leave It, but then like I said, when I look forward, I see grandkids, great-grandkids, and greatgreat-grandkids."

"Me and my dog are gonna pack a suitcase and we're gonna take off."

Bridge City is going to miss you, Beverly Perry.

Bon Voyage.

Things you probably didn't know about Beverly Perrv:

1.Beverly Street in Bridge City is named after her. Her grandfather built the street, then deeded it to the city.

2. She graduated from Stark High School in Orange. Bridge City school only went from first to eighth grades. Students were bused to Orange for High School.

3. She skipped 11th grade. After she finished the 10th grade, she had enough credits to skip 11th grade and went straight to 12th, graduating in 1954, a year ahead of the rest of her class.

4. Her son Nathan was the "Best Shooter" in the United States. As a competition shooter and a member of the National Rifle Association at the age of 12, he became the top competitor in the nation.

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TheRecord Live.com **Round The Clock Hometown News**

house to the to the movie theater," said Perry. They tore the building down years ago to make way for Market Basket. She said it was nine cents to get into the movie, a nickel for popcorn, a nickel for a coke and a nickel for a Hershey bar. A penny was left over.

Her grandfather would hitch Ol' Bill to a wagon and fill it with hay. All the neighbor kids would pile in and go caroling in Bridge City during Christmas.

"It was a good life."

After school, Perry attended Port Arthur Business School and went to work for an insurance company, then went to work for DuPont in the shipping department.

She got married and moved to Louisiana. They lived about 50 miles south of New Orleans and she felt isolated. After she had her first child, she decided to come back to Texas.

"I didn't want to raise my kids down there. Texas is home for me," said Perry. "I've enjoyed being here so much." She raised a son, Nathan, and a daughter, Toni. She later divorced and never remarried.

Perry worked at many locations in Bridge City including Luv Lingerie, Central Office Supply and of course Bridge City Bank.

She was very involved in the Chamber of Commerce and was an ambassador for years. She has been a member of the Bridge City Council and just resigned her position on the planning and zoning committee last week.

"I love doing that kind of work," she said. "It's just fulfilling to know that

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With snow falling in Bridge City, Lucy Fields takes the opportunity to do a little cross-coun-**RECORD PHOTO.** try skying in her backyard..

Snow blankets county From Page 1

eraged 24 inches on top of the rails...In some places, snow drifted to a depth of six feet and effectively blocked traffic at every (lumber) mill along the river."

According to Block's story, the estimated depth of the snow was between 30 and 36 inches based on how far the snow reached up the locomotive.

The depth of the snow shut down the town in those days when horses were used. Block imagined "every pot-bellied stove glowed a cherry red as each person sought to ward off the bitter cold." He pointed out that firewood would not have been a problem because sawmills had large amounts of

the 14,000 square foot house began in 1893.

February has historically been the month of the coldest weather, mainly during the middle of the month. In 1899, four years after the Valentine's Day Blizzard, a record cold came.

The Texas Almanac reports that on February 11-13 that year "a disastrous cold wave went throughout the state. Newspapers described it as the worst freeze ever known in the state."

The temperature in Southeast Texas was around 8 degrees Fahrenheit for almost three days. It was so cold that Sabine Lake froze over. Block wrote that the new Dutch prise from that time reported Sabine Pass froze enough that ice extended from Texas across to Louisiana. Two schooners, mid-size sailing boats, sank after ice floes put holes in them.

Though the 1899 Orange newspaper is not available online, Rachel Parker has Leader clipping from the hard freeze. The story tells how Joe Weaver and friends took a sail boat on Sabine Lake on that Friday to go hunting.

They anchored near the Catron shell bank on the north side of the lake. However, when they returned to the spot on Saturday, the north winds had blown the water out so far the sail boat was in



Bridge City is transformed into a winter wonderland during Tuesday's rare winter event. COURTESY PHOTO.



LCM Volleyball coach Johnathan Snipes and family created a LCM Bear Snowman. Pictured are Johnathan, Memphis, Maddox, Aubree and Miles Snipes

Livingston, brother-in-law each one." of young Weaver, became Besides the record snow alarmed at the non-appearance of the hunting party and Sunday morning he loaded a light wagsnowfalls. on with warm robes, quilts and restoratives and started out in search of them. He found them on the shell bank and wrapped

and started dropping in the morning. Snowflakes began falling in the afternoon near the times schools were to be released. By late that night, the temperature was 27 degrees and Orange County was blanketed in snow.

waste-wood products that people could get for free.

In addition, people here had coal-burning stoves because the newspaper had stores advertising coal stoves and dealers advertising coal for sale.

The Orange newspaper in 1960, during another big snow, interviewed 79-year-old Lillie Warren of Bridge City. She would have been 14 at the time of the blizzard. She remembered 28 inches of snow in front of the B.C. Turner home in Prairie View, which was a settlement that evolved into Bridge City.

The first known photograph of the W.H. Stark House on Green Avenue is of the house in the 1895 blizzard. Construction on

immigrants to the area that became Nederland, got to use the ice skates they had brought with them from their homeland. They skated on Sabine Lake.

The historian found a Galveston Daily News story that reported "large quantities of fine ocean trout were picked up on the beach Tuesday and Wednesday. They had become helplessly benumbed in the cold waters, and were soon washed ashore by the beach tides, where they quickly froze." The speckled trout were reported to weigh from three to nine pounds each. Block said that in Sabine Pass, residents were shoveling the fish into wagons. The Beaumont Enter-

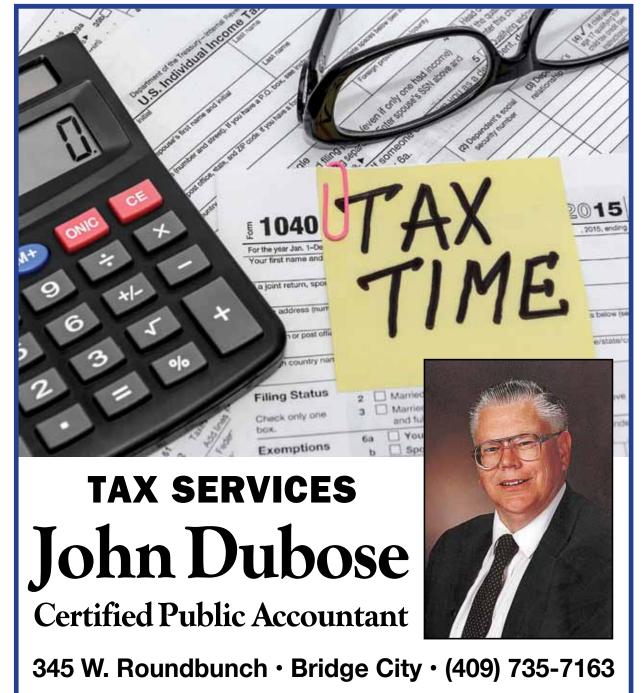
mud yards from the shoreline.

"They were forced to spend the night on the barren shell bank and, in consequence, came very near freezing to death,' the paper reported.

A rescue came. "George

of 1895, 1960 has been at the second of the list of heavy Orange County

An estimated 10 to 12 inches fell on February 12-13, again in the middle of February. Friday, February 12, started at 44 degrees







From the Creaux's Mest WITNESSING UNUSUAL DAY IN HISTORY JANUARY 20, 2025

When I woke up Monday morning, like I do most mornings before opening my eyes, I think about what day and time it is. I realized it was Monday, January 20, 2025, and it was going to be a different day, different than all others. This day was a national holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King but it was much more, it was the day of the inauguration president of Donald J. Trump. After being defeated by Joe Biden, Trump was re-elected as the 47th president. Trump was sworn in as the first felon to become United States president. The celebration lasted all day. Trump and outgoing president Biden had tea together and rode together to Trump's ceremony. Citizens expected **Trump** to be milder and more respectful in his prepared remarks about the former president. Instead he was brutal, very disrespectful to President Biden, who sat five feet away. As Trump spoke it got worse in his unscripted remarks. He turned into his old self. His sick ego kicked in. He spent nearly an hour bragging on himself. He told his usual lies, taking credit for what the Biden administration had accomplished. He lied about the economy, when in fact **Biden** left the country far better than when he got it from Trump. Biden added far more jobs than any first term president while maintain a low four percent unemployment. Trump laid out a very scary agenda that departs from our constitution. His run-away boosting and how he had been the best president ever disappointed some of his supporters who knew better.****The weather folks had predicted that a winter blizzard was headed to Southeast Texas, and the next few days would not only be bitter cold but also unusual for this part of the country. A large accumulation of snow started to fall and by Tuesday morning it was really snowing. By afternoon it was nearly four inches at Bridge City. No other day and time in our history will ever repeat itself like the unusual happenings of January 20, 2025, MLK, Trump Inauguration, historical snow.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2015

Obama addresses first Republican controlled House and Senate. Tuesday evening President Barack Obama addressed a joint session of congress with his State of the Union message. Obama, who is riding an upswing in popularity called on the congress to join him in putting aside the political games and finding areas where they agree so we can deliver for the American people. His message included proposals for tax hikes on the wealthy, tax breaks for the middle class, community college, housing, manufacturing cyber security and paid sick leave for government employees.**** Remembering Dr. Howard Williams. Throughout the 1970's, almost every Monday evening while we were composing the **Opportu**nity Valley News, we could count on Dr. Howard Williams coming in carrying his camera. Back then we received many old photos from the citizens. We had asked anyone who had pictures of old Orange to loan them to us. Dr. Williams would come in and shoot pictures of the photos before we returned them. Some we were fortunate enough to be allowed to keep. Dr. Williams built his own collection from those old photos, many ended up in his book of historical photographs titled "Orange, Gateway to Texas." We had known this fine man, good doctor and his wife Elizabeth since the 1950's. We were sorry to learn of his sudden death at age 89. He and his wife preserved much of Orange County history. They have left a legacy that will long benefit citizens and historians.*****Home Boy Dubose to coach at Bridge City. Coach Dewayne Dubois was hired Monday as head football coach at Bridge City. He and his wife Cristal both graduated from Bridge City and sons Camden and Caleb are residents of the school district and have been despite Dwayne's coaching elsewhere. It's a great opportunity that few get to coach where they started, at the place they call home.***** Texans and Seahawks going to Super Bowl. What a wild, most unexpected finish to a playoff game. The Seattle Seahawks trailed the Green Bay Packers 19-7, with less than four minutes to play. The Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson had thrown four picks and it appeared to be doomsday for Earl Thomas and the team. Finally Russell Wilson came out of the funk he'd been in throughout the game to lead Seattle to score 15 points in 44 seconds. A quick score, two point conversion and a mishandled onside kick in overtime by **Brandon Bostick**, Packers tight end, and the Seahawks were back in business. Green Bay never touched the ball again. The Seahawks won the toss and Wilson put on a show that left Green Bay in shock and Wilson in tears of emotion. The Seahawks pulled a 28-22 miracle win. Feb. 1, 5:30, in Glendale Arizona. Now Wilson, Earl Thomas and the Seahawks have a chance to win two Super Bowls in consecutive seasons. Most of the country will be pulling for the Patriots and Tom Brady to win but not here in the Golden Triangle where home boy Earl Thomas III is a local hero.*****A few folks we know

celebrating their special day. First let me take a line to remember our friend Ray Trahan who died on Jan. 19, 2003. Ray touched a lot of lives.****On Jan. 22, Judge Janice Menard, former J.P. now retired, celebrates.*****On Jan. 23, a special happy birthday to Sandra Peveto, Wayne's better half.*****On Jan. 26, Pat and attorney H.D. Pate celebrate their anniversary. (H.D. has since died and Pat has moved away.)*****Jan. 27 is a special day for a special little guy, Leland Clay Gros, who turns 6 years old. "The Scoot" is Ms. Phyl and Roy's great grandson.***** There has never been as many county department heads heading out the door when a new judge came into office. Those who have left after many years of service are county clerk Karen Jo Vance, emergency management Jeff Kelly, personnel Jill Shores, operations and maintenance director Mark Wimberley, Donna Minter, transportation department director, Janine Denman, secretary for the county judge. Brandy Robertson, appointed county clerk, is the only job that has been filled. Judge Thibodeaux had a good team. Last week "Thib" was honored with a large farewell gathering at the Expo Center. Thanks Judge for 20 years of a job well done and also thanks for the memories. The best to you and Micaela during the coming years.****Our friend Gerald Morris underwent triple bypass surgery this week in Houston.**** When it comes to open carry gun laws I see dark clouds ahead. For one, it could be a nightmare for law enforcement officers. Make no mistake about it, the extreme right Texas Legislature is hell bent on passing the open carry law and new Gov. Greg Abbott says as soon as it's passed he will sign it. We could see open carry in Texas as soon as next September. Already in Texas we can openly carry rifles and shotguns and soon Texans will be able to display handguns as well. The proposal now is that anyone over the age of 18 will be able to carry without requiring a license.

26 Years Ago-1999

Bill Nickum, owner of Nickum Insurance, is the recipient of the 1999 Sam Walton Business Leader award. In his honor the Bridge City Chamber received \$500 from the Wal-Mart Foundation.*****Former Bridge City coach and trainer Moe Litton joined other local sports legends inducted into the South East Texas Hall of Honor. Other 1999 inductees are Bum Phillips, Joe Washington, Alex Durley, Pappy Drenman and Darrel Shaver.*****A full house attended the Bridge City football banquet to honor Coach Les Johnson's players. Several players received All District and other honors. Jared Williams and Jeremy Stolfa received All-State honors. Coach Johnson says at least a dozen of his players will receive college scholarships. Coach Bruchhaus of McNeese was the guest speaker. Two of Johnson's former players, John Hoffpauir and Nicolas Watson, now attending McNeese.

51 Years Ago-1974

The county races are all set. Let the race begin. Incumbent County Judge Grover Halliburton is challenged by James D. Stringer and James A Broussard. Dr. John Greco is the only Republican.***County Court-at-Law David Dunn; district clerk, Edna Enmon; county clerk, Sallie Frazier; county treasurer, Earline Hilliard; county school superintendent, James A. Peddy. County commissioners, Pct. 1, S.P. "Pete" Dickey, Claude J. Broussard, Glenn Seale, George W. Stevens, Morris Collier and Glen Peveto. (A bunch). ***Pct. 4, Raymond Gould, incumbent, C.O. "Goober" Williamson, L.B. "Timer" Williamson; Ray Willie, R.H. Harold Carter and Sam Humberson. (Another bunch).***Democratic chairman, J.L. "Pete" Runnels, incumbent, and Louis Dugas, Jr.***Constable Pct. 2, S.D. "Bill" Dickerson, J.R. "James" Aaron, Leon Frederick, H.D. Tucker, Jr., R.J. "Ronnie" Burns, Robert E. Smith, Donald A. Gunn, Joe D. Shibley. (A whole bunch).***J.P. Pct. 1, Viola Shibley, Claude Wimberly, S. E. Bellfield, C. Arnold Buxton and Allen D. Cary, Sr.***JP Pct. 3, Martin Ardoin.***JP Pct. 4, V.I. "Coon" Constance and incumbent Joe Bunn.*** State Rep. Wayne Peveto, incumbent and Thomas W. Porter. (Editor's note: I knew and remember all of them.)*****Doug Harrington and Roy Dunn are supposed to play the big tennis match this Thursday. Five will get you 10 that Dunn backs out. *****Helen and Truman Hodge became great-grandparents. Daughter Beverly and son-in-law James Francis are the parents of Jamie Lynn.*****Cecil Scales says the only thing lit up in Orange after 10 p.m. is Ken Rainwater. *****Coach Andy Griffin, 37, head football coach and athletic director at White Oak, will assume those duties at Bridge City March 1. Griffin replaces H.W. "Chief" Wilson, who resigned to accept another position. *****The LCM Bearettes are zone basketball champs. They are Tanyia Strickland, DeDe Crawford, Linda Bean, Becky Dunn, Karen Kachtik, Angela Kanoy, Theresa Duncan, Debbie McClelland, Debbie Martinez, Molly Malone, Doris Flanagan, Sheryl Miller, Julia Knight, Dawana Wiggins, Donna Peveto and Brenda Burch. Coaches are Paul Baker and Linda Warner. (It's hard to believe that was 51 years ago.)

thinking about taking his kids to Colorado to see snow. They got to see it in their yard.****The cold bad weather was predicted by the weekend and everyone seemed to be running to the hardware and grocery stores to prepare for 'snowmaggedon.' Grocery stores were running out of milk and bread. Convenience stores had empty beer shelves.****Before the weather hit, the Lutcher Theater had two showings of 'Ain't Too Proud,' the big musical based on the classic group The Temptations. Roderick and Brandy Robertson were to a show. They should have asked him to sing with them. He's got the voice.*****Joe Bob and Bonny Lemley Edwards got to ring the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange Friday as the couple from Orange took their company FlowCo public. Brooke Lemley was there with her sister and brother-in-law.*****Happy Anniversary to Lawrence and Gerry Huckabay of Bridge City who celebrate 76 years of marriage on Jan. 28.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks celebrating birthdays in the next few days. Jan. 22: Cris Anderson, Gary Baker, Janice Westfall, Myra Sherwood, Nancy Sieck, Suzanne Pittard, Betty Stephenson.*****Jan. 23: Sandra Peveto, Caitlyn Lindner, Erin Leroux, Jennifer Grizzaffi, Logan Mitchell, Sue Harris, Karen Anthony. Mayor Essie Bellfield passed away on this date in 2022.*****Jan. 24: Larry Gray, Randy Franklin, Toni Robertson, Eric Shuford.*****Jan. 25: Amy Kidder, Jessica Hobbs, Judy Rogers, Melanie Thevis, Tayler Thompson, Taylor Fraccastoro, Chelsea Anderson.*****Jan. 26: Nancy Vincent, Noreen Cook, Haley Parish, Hayden Anderson, Mike Faulk, Ginny Pelpier, Ron Huebel.****Jan. 27: A special Happy Birthday to 16 year old Leland Gros, Garrett's son, Karen's first grandson and Roy and Phyl's great-grandson. Also Tommy Wolfford, Arnold, Tori Lummus, Virginia Jonathan Pelletier.****Jan. 28: Mary Stanton, Judge David Dunn, Sidney Longrun, Cheryl Gonzales, Hollie Fregia, Justin Gearhart, Chase Rendall, Jim Snider, Cheryl Richard, Kerstin Jewel, Colin Briggs.****Don Futch had his 98th birthday this week with family helping him party. Jack Smith also made it another trip around the sun. Lady Whistlebreaux calculates he is 84.*** Others with birthdays included Miles Hall, Rita Monson, Cecelia Pillsbury, Maya Manning, Roderick Robertson, Gloria Moore, Tyler Reves, Mechille Stinnett, Maggie Jackson, Keith Cloessner, Laurie Hall Leister, Curtis Sonnier, Barbara Feathers, Lori Gonalez, Myra Trahan, and Jude Yeaman.

CAPITAL POLICE OFFICERS RESPOND TO Jan. 6 PARDONS

President Trump has issued roughly 1,500 pardons and commuted the sentences of 14 individuals in connection with the **Jan. 6, 2021, U.S. Capitol** attack. **Trump** declared the pardons "full, complete and unconditional" expressing hope for immediate releases. Former police officer **Michael Fanone**, who was attacked by now-pardoned defendants, stated the **Trump's** pardon has left him feeling betrayed by his country as do other police officers. On January 6, 2021, we were fulfilling our oath to defend this country. We protected all elected officials, regardless of what party they belonged to.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Alex Boudreaux and Marie were speeding along on da I-10 high rise bridge over Whisky Bay when **Boudreaux** saw da red-light flashing in da rearview windew

TRUMP SIGNS FIRST EXECUTIVE ORDERS

After a celebratory rally in downtown Washington, Trump signed a number of orders relating to immigration at the **White** House including a directive to end birthright citizenship. A few **Democrats and some legal groups** have vowed to challenge in court any attempt by **Trump** to do away with birthright citizenship. Another order would change the name of the **Gulf of Mexico** to the **Gulf of America**, although it's not clear whether the **U.S. president** has the authority to rename an area that is considered international waters.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Jody Chesson got his snow, and a lot of it. He's lived his life in Southeast Texas and no matter how old you are, snow is always exciting here with a rare snowfall. Lady Whistlebreaux hasn't heard yet whether he made a snow angel. Orange Mayor Larry Spears Jr. quipped that he was saving money. He had been

dow.

Boudreaux pull over as good as he could to da side of da bridge.

Da state trooper **Landry** walk up to da window wit his clipboard in his hand. He axed, "Did you know dat you was going 80 miles an hour and da speed limit on dis bridge is 60?"

Boudreaux look at da carpet of da truck for dat cigarette he dropped. He say, "Nope, I was going 60, me."

Da trooper sounded fed up as he look at his clipboard and said, "Nope, I clocked you at 80. Den da trooper look over at **Marie** sitting dere looking out of da passenger window at da cypress trees in da water.

Da trooper say, "**Maam**, I clocked dat man at 80. He said he was going 60. Now you tell me, was he going 60 or 80, hanh?"

Marie say, "Me, I never argue wit **Boudreaux** when he's been drinking him."

DEPORTATION OF 1950s HAS BRUTAL HISTORY TRUMP LOOKS TO DEPORT MILLIONS

While pledging to carry out the largest mass deportation effort in history, President Donald Trump has pointed to one example from history that he wants to outdo President Dwight D. Eisenhower's often brutal effort to send as many as 1.3 million migrant workers back to Mexico. Under the operation that began in 1954, the Border Patrol military and state and local police rounded up hundreds of thousands of people nationwide. They were sent across the border by bus, train and boat, in conditions that a congressional investigation later compared to an "18-century slave ship." The military-like "Operation Wetback" after a racial slur used to describe migrants who had crossed the Rio Grande, would eventually expand to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Chicago, where many undocumented immigrants had long been settled. INS, which ran the operation, claimed to have removed 1.3 million immigrants during the operation, though historians say that is likely an inflated figure. Eventually, boats became a more preferred method for deportation. A riot broke out on one ship, which a congressional investigation later compared to a "penal hell ship." Trump has said he will focus on deporting violent criminals first, while also vowing to go further than Eisenhower. South Texas, meanwhile, is likely to be a major staging ground for the operation. Trump has been clear that he is prepared to challenge longstanding constitutional right such as birthright citizenship by deporting even American citizen children.*****I best be going. Come along, it won't do you no harm. Wednesday's temperature will be in the teens all day, with icy roads. This will delay the delivery of the paper until Thursday. Take care and God bless.



The W.H. Stark House in Orange as it was seen on Tuesday.

RECORD PHOTO: Chris Gunn

picked up on the beach

With a day off of school Blue Alexander shows off the small RECORD PHOTO snowman he built to pass the time.

Valentines Day Blizzard From Page 1

eraged 24 inches on top of the rails...In some places, snow drifted to a depth of six feet and effectively blocked traffic at every (lumber) mill along the river."

According to Block's story, the estimated depth of the snow was between 30 and 36 inches based on how far the snow reached up the locomotive.

The depth of the snow shut down the town in those days when horses were used. Block imagined "every pot-bellied stove glowed a cherry red as each person sought to ward off the bitter cold." He pointed out that firewood would not have been a problem because sawmills had large amounts of waste-wood products that people could get for free.

In addition, people here had coal-burning stoves because the newspaper had stores advertising coal stoves and dealers advertising coal for sale.

The Orange newspaper 1960, during another big snow, interviewed 79-yearold Lillie Warren of Bridge City. She would have been 14 at the time of the blizzard. She remembered 28 inches of snow in front of the B.C. Turner home in Prairie View, which was a settlement that evolved into Bridge City.



The January 2025 snowfall may beat the second-place area record set in February 1960. The 1895 event with 31 inches will likely never be broken.

graph of the W.H. Stark House on Green Avenue is of the house in the 1895 blizzard. Construction on Southeast Texas was the 14,000 square foot around 8 degrees Fahrenhouse began in 1893.

February has historically was so cold that Sabine been the month of the cold-

state." The temperature in heit for almost three days. It

Lake froze over. Block wrote

freeze ever known in the

Tuesday and Wednesday. They had become helplessly benumbed in the cold waters, and were soon washed ashore by the beach tides, where they quickly froze." The speckled trout were reported to weigh from three to nine pounds each. Block said that in Sabine Pass, residents were shoveling the fish into wagons.

The Beaumont Enterprise from that time reported Sabine Pass froze enough that ice extended from Texas across to Louisiana. Two schooners, mid-size sailing boats, sank after ice floes put holes in them.

Though the 1899 Orange newspaper is not available online, Rachel Parker has Leader clipping from the hard freeze. The story tells how Joe Weaver and friends took a sail boat on Sabine Lake on that Friday to go hunting.

They anchored near the Catron shell bank on the north side of the lake. However, when they returned to the spot on Saturday, the north winds had blown the water out so far the sail boat was in mud yards from the shoreline.

"They were forced to spend the night on the barren shell bank and, in consequence, came very near freezing to death," the paper reported.

A rescue came. "George Livingston, brother-in-law of young Weaver, became alarmed at the non-appearance of the hunting party and Sunday morning he loaded a light wagon with warm robes, quilts and restoratives and started out in search of them. He found them on the shell bank and wrapped each one."

Besides the record snow of 1895, 1960 has been at the second of the list of heavy Orange County snowfalls. An estimated 10 to 12 inches fell on February 12-13, again in the middle of February. Friday, February 12, started at 44 degrees and started dropping in the morning.

Snowflakes began falling in the afternoon near the times schools were to be released. By late that night, the temperature was 27 degrees and Orange County was blanketed in snow.



The first known photo-

KOLLIN

DONNA

est weather, mainly during the middle of the month. In 1899, four years after the Valentine's Day Blizzard, a record cold came.

The Texas Almanac reports that on February 11-13 that year "a disastrous cold wave went throughout the state. Newspapers described it as the worst ties of fine ocean trout were

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that the new Dutch immigrants to the area that became Nederland, got to use the ice skates they had brought with them from their homeland. They skated on Sabine Lake.

The historian found a Galveston Daily News story that reported "large quanti-

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'The Shadow Proves the Sunshine'

Jon Bloom Staff Writer DesingGod.org

A number of years ago, I was having dinner with a dear friend who was experiencing a season of significant spiritual darkness. He was struggling with doubt. He hadn't given up his faith, but he felt the pull. Internally, he was wrestling over what appeared to him like dissonant truth claims. Externally, he was wrestling over the profound brokenness and suffering of the world, some of which had suddenly emerged in his family.

We're a lot alike, my friend and me. We both take life very seriously and process information, observations, and experiences through a similar inner reality detector, overseen by our skeptical inner inspector. We both have a melancholic streak, and since we're both amateur musicians, we're both drawn to songwriters whose compositions reflect and articulate our complicated perceptions of reality.

So, as my friend described his wrestlings, he read me some quotes from a songwriter who had once been a Christian but had since lost his faith. The lyrics were raw, honest descriptions of life in the world as the songwriter now saw it — like Ecclesiastes, but without any hope that God exists and will bring any ultimate justice or redemption. My friend admitted the lyrics were



dark, but at the time they seemed to him to describe reality more accurately than the gospel-laced songs we sang together at church.

He knew that, years earlier, I had wrestled with similar questions during a spiritually dark season, so he wanted to know what I thought. The first thing that came to my mind was the title phrase from an older song by Switchfoot: "The Shadow Proves the Sunshine." Those five words launched us into a fruitful discussion about the nature of spiritual light and darkness.

What Are Light and Darkness?

Imagine you and I are sitting in a booth at a restaurant, and I asked you the following questions. If you can, pause for a moment after each question and try to answer it before reading on. In the physical world, what is light — that thing emitted by the sun, or a fire, or a light bulb?

If you attempted an answer, my guess is that, even if you found it harder than you expected, you came up with one or more fairly accurate descriptions of what light is.

If you referred at all to darkness in your previous answer, try now to explain what light is without any reference to darkness.

If you made an attempt, my guess is that, perhaps after finding it a little more challenging, your answer likely was essentially the same.

Now, describe to me what darkness is without making any reference at all to light. But you have to say more than "darkness is dark"; you have to describe what darkness is without contrasting it at all with light. Could you do it? Can you meaningfully define what darkness is with no reference or inference to light at all? If you can, please share your definition with me, because I think it's impossible. And here's why.

Why We Have Eyes

Light, as we experience it in the world, is electromagnetic radiation. In other words, light is actually a thing. But darkness is the absence of light. In other words, darkness isn't a thing, it's the absence of a thing. Trying to describe darkness without any reference to light is like trying to describe nothing without any reference to things. Nothing is the negation of things (no thing). Without things, the term nothing would be completely meaningless. And I think the same is true of darkness; it's the negation of light. Without light, the term darkness would be completely meaningless.

The fact that light exists is the reason we have eyes. We wouldn't have them if we lived in a universe in which light didn't exist. And though millions of people can survive and thrive in our world even if their ability to see is for some reason disabled, they're only able to do so with help from others who can see.

What's true about eyes is true of all our physical perceptional abilities. The reason we, as a species, have them is because the reality we live in requires them.

Now, if we live too much in our heads and philosophically ponder how we know what's really real, it's possible to get stuck in a skeptical solipsism and like Descartes doubt just about everything, which leads to some very dark places. Because reality is more complex and multidimensional than our individual reasoning power alone can detect. And here is one way our physical senses can ground us: the very existence of our perceptional abilities bear witness to the nature of physical reality. The reason we have eyes is because light exists.

Why We Have Spiritual Eyes

All of this leads me to that line from the Switchfoot song: "The shadow proves the sunshine." In addition to physical perceptions, we also have spiritual perceptions. And we have these spiritual perceptions for the same reason we have our physical perceptions: because the reality we live in requires them. We wouldn't have them if we didn't need them.

How is it that we even know to call spiritual darkness dark? And when we perceive reality and our own existence to be dark and foreboding, why do we describe it as dark and why does it feel foreboding? Why does it depress us and make us anxious and fearful? I think it's because, even if our reasoning powers alone can't make sense of everything, our spiritual perceptions - what Paul calls "the eyes of [our] hearts" (Ephesians 1:18) tell us that spiritual light exists.

Darkness is not a thing; it's the absence of a thing. We know what darkness is because we know what light is. Light, on the other hand, is not dependent on darkness to exist.

What the Shadow Proves

As I told my friend that evening, this reality doesn't answer all the hard questions or address every doubt. As an apologetic, it's not even specifically Christian. But I do believe it is a pointer to the nature of ultimate reality, and a precious one to those who find themselves walking through darkness.

We have eyes because there is a sun. So why do we have spiritual "eyes" that long for spiritual light? When we're walking through the valley of shadows, how is it that we discern the shadows? If we say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night" (Psalm 139:11), how is it that we can still distinguish day from night?

It is, I believe, because our very experience of spiritual darkness bears witness to the existence of spiritual light. The shadow itself proves the sunshine. And if that's true, if we seek the sun rather than the shadows and all the questions they raise, what we'll find is the light of the world, which is the light of life (John 8:12).

This has helped me in my seasons of darkness, and it helped my friend in his. Perhaps it will shed some needed light into your life or the life of someone you love.

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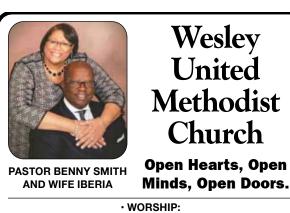
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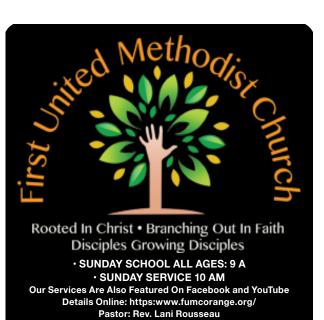
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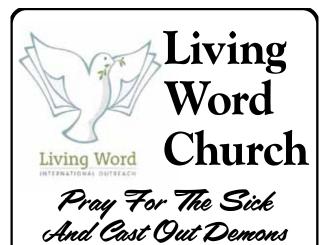
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THE RECORD

'Date Night' Saturday Stark Museum of Art

Staff Report For The Record

The Stark Museum of Art invites you to Date Night at the Museum on Saturday, January 25, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. This special evening will feature live music, delicious refreshments, engaging activities and fun artistic discovery – all in the heart of downtown Orange.

Visitors can enjoy live music from David Justin and Haley Barnes and indulge in free bites and beverages courtesy of Free State Cellars. Guests can also discover the creativity of artist showcases throughout the museum, play interactive gallery games with our talented teaching artists and explore the galleries with a Rimes-themed LeAnn scavenger hunt! This exciting activity takes you on a journey through the galleries to uncover connections between the museum's art and the music of this iconic artist that will also be performing on

the same night at the Lutcher Theater, located just steps away from the Stark Museum of Art.

"Date Night at the Museum is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and experience art in an exciting and interactive way," said Jennifer Dickinson, executive director of the Stark Museum of Art. "We are thrilled to offer an evening filled with music, creativity and fun, all while showcasing the incredible art we have here at the museum."

Admission to Date Night at the Museum is free of charge, making this the perfect opportunity to spend an evening with friends, family or that special someone.

Extend the fun and continue your evening downtown by heading to the Lutcher Theater for the 7:30 p.m. performance of LeAnn Rimes in concert. This incredible show is the perfect finale to a night of art, music and



Admission to Date Night at the Museum is free of charge, making this the perfect opportunity to spend an evening with friends, family or that special someone. **RECORD PHOTO**

culture in Orange. Tickets for LeAnn Rimes are available at lutcher.org. For more information

about Date Night at the Museum or the Stark Museum of Art, please visit starkmuseum.org. The

Stark Museum of Art is located at 712 Green Avenue in downtown Orange, Texas and open Wednes-

day through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the museum is free of charge.

On the Road Again: Willie Nelson to tour



Willie Nelson is 91-years-old and when these shows transpire, he'll be on the brink of 92. In addition to this tour, Nelson recently released the album Last Leaf on The Tree. Pro-

does not sprawl across the whole country. Rather, it will take place over two April weekends and transpire in Mississippi, Georgia, and Alabama. The specific venues include the Brandon Amphitheater in Brandon, MS, the Atrium Health Amphitheater in Macon, GA, the Sound Amphitheater in Gautier,

MS, and The Orion Amphitheater in Huntsville, AL.

Nelson and his team took to Instagram to announce the news by writing, "Just Announced! Willie is headed south to MS, GA, AL this April" and "Club Luck Members get exclusive access to Pre-

sale Tickets and Premium Packages starting today, Wed. 1/15 at 10 AM local. Tickets on sale to the public Fri., 1/17 at 10 AM local."

As of now, it is unknown if Willie Nelson will include more dates in 2025. However, given that the man has the heart of a 22-year-old, it seems

promising. Prior to this tour's start date, Nelson will appear on the 50th Anniversary season of Austin City Limits, which will air on February 15. For Willie Nelson, age is merely a social construct, as this man continues to run and gun across the roads he so often sings about.



duced by his son Micah

Reported by **American Songwriter**

The one and only Willie Nelson still has gas left in the tank, as the man will embark on yet another tour this Spring.

The tour is not nearly as extensive and sprawling as his previous ones, but given Nelson's astounding age, the feat is all the more impressive. Nelson is 91-years-old and when these shows transpire, he'll be on the brink of 92. Needless to say, the man's love for music transcends the ceiling of age.

In addition to this tour, Nelson recently released

As stated previously, Willie Nelson's upcoming tour is fairly minimal and

the album Last Leaf on

The Tree. Produced by his

son Micah, at both the

Hen House in Venice, Cal-

ifornia, and at Nelson's in-

famous Pedernales Studio

near Austin, Texas, the al-

bum includes 13 tracks of

both covers and originals.

Though that is the past,

and Nelson seemingly al-

ways has his sights on the

future, and the announce-

ment of this tour proves

Willie Nelson

Tour Details:

just that.

3 mountain lions spotted in Texas

Wildlife officials have ogists speculated that the confirmed a third mountain lion sighting in North Texas within three weeks, with the most recent incident captured on a surveillance camera in a Plano alley.

It's unclear whether this previously reported in Lake Dallas and western Frisco. However, all three sightings have occurred within a relatively small area of Denton and Collin counties, following an eastward path.

A similar pattern of three sightings took place in late 2020, between Nov. 22 and Dec. 12, in Dallas, Collin and Hunt counties. At the time of the first incident, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biol-

mountain lion was probably a transient juvenile male passing through the area in search of a new home range. Although biologists initially thought it was unlikely that the animal would be seen again, is the same mountain lion it was spotted twice more during that time.

> This year there have been 71 mountain lion sightings. The highest number reported in a single year was 122 in 2016, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

> Are mountain lion sightings more frequent in cold weather?

According to the web-LiveOutdoors.com, site

MOUNTAIN Page 3B



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Us vs. Them

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

old fashioned rivalry it probably wouldn't take you very long to name off a few contenders. Family rivalries like the Hatfield's and

If I asked you to name a good

Chuck Uzzle

McCoy's jump to the forefront at the mere mention of a rivalry. These families had epic grudges and hatred towards one another like few have ever seen.

Sports rivalries such as The University of Texas and Texas A&M are historic and tradition rich. Gun hunters versus Bow hunters are always entertaining as the debate for who is the better hunter rages continually. Live bait versus artificial is a white hot topic that spurs many a heated debate and an occasional bait camp brawl as well. Boat fishermen versus waders has a devoted and boisterous fan base that is not afraid to speak their mind when defending their positions both literally and figuratively.

Here on Sabine lake we have the Texas versus Louisiana battle that always ruffles feathers when the subject of limits and licenses comes up as a topic for conversation. One more great divide amongst sportsmen that runs deep, but is not quite as volatile or potentially violent, is the classic rift between conventional anglers and their flyfishing counterparts. Each side for whatever reason harbors a very preconceived and stereotypical notion of what the other side represents and I live right in the middle of that great divide.

Recently I was fortunate enough to speak at one of the monthly meetings of The Texas Flyfishers of Houston and I brought up the legendary "Us vs. Them" scenario to see where that topic went. Most, if not all, in attendance agreed that in order to promote the sport of flyfishing it was a must for each angler to do a better job of recruiting conventional anglers to the sport. The only way the sport grows is to bring in more people who enjoy the same style pursuits even if they use different methods. The common denominator between the flyfisherman and the conventional angler is that each one wants to put a bend in their rod with a fish on the other end. Period.

I personally take great satisfaction in introducing new anglers to the sport and I have done just that for many years. The initial experience is so important because like the saying goes "you never get a second chance to make a first impression". With that thought in mind I usually wait until I have the best set of circumstances before I even attempt the "conversion". There are a couple of prime times to introduce a new angler to the sport and few are better than late summer and fall when the fish gang up in big schools and eat just about anything that hits the water. The constant bites are just what the doctor ordered so a new angler can get a real feel for exactly what happens on the strike. I usually tell folks this is similar to teaching a person to hit a baseball and putting them in a batting cage because it's no big deal if you miss one when there is another coming right behind it. The last thing I want to do is ask a new flyfisherman to stand up on the bow, make a 1000 casts, and not get bit. Talk about leave a bad taste in your mouth, no thanks. On most occasions I wait until we have a good setup and a school of fish that isn't going anywhere before I break out the flyrod and offer up a little encouragement. Knowing that the fish aren't going anywhere anytime soon makes the whole experience much less stressful for the newbie and that much more enjoyable for me. Hungry school trout are exactly what the doctor ordered for the first timer, it's the perfect scenario. Seeing accomplished conventional anglers pick up

Gulf Coast Fishing Reports- Winter Patterns

Compiled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Sabine Lake

GOOD. 55 degrees. Neches River turnaround drops and points are good for sheepshead, and limits of drum and redfish with Carolina rigs and live shrimp. Some fish can be caught on the edge of points with live shrimp under a popping cork. Channel catfish can be caught mixed in.

Sabine Lake is good for limits of speckled trout on the north Pleasure Island wall near the bank casting 3-5 inch glow chartreuse plastics and dragging along the bottom. Speckled trout can be caught drifting off the mouth of the bayou over the shell in 4-6 feet of water. The winds pick up in the afternoon so get out early.

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

• Bolivar

GOOD. 60 degrees. It is going to be another week of hit-or-miss fishing due to the weather changing back and forth. Two tide davs early in the week turning to four tide changes during the later week when the temperatures climb back into the 60s with some wind gusts and possible rain. Fishing is fair to excellent.

Water temperature is staying in the lower 60s. Water levels change backand-forth per usual for the winter. Anglers are catching numbers of redfish everywhere. A few more nice speckled trout are still being caught along with sand trout, black drum, redfish, occasional sheepshead, and crabs caught along the jetty. The flounder are still there but mixed sizes from small 6-8 inch to 25-26 inches. The surf is producing lots of redfish and black drums, occasional speckled trout and a few sharks along the whole peninsula with more activity towards Gilchrist and High Island mainly. People are using all kinds of different things for bait this past week with varying results either limiting out or not catching much. Check your weather app for barometer changes. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp.

limit the fishable area. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

Galveston Bay

SLOW. 52 degrees. Weather remains raw, bitter, and cold, but a slight warming trend is on tap before the next front. Some areas of the bay system received a little over 2 inches of rain. Back lakes and bayous might be off-colored. Best bets for speckled trout would be to fish locations adjacent and parallel to deep water. The lower part of Chocolate and Bastrop Bayous are good choices.

The deep shell in west Galveston Bay has been producing some decent trout on soft plastics. Sylvan Beach shoreline action has been steady. Upper

man Bridge are good for drum, sheepshead, redfish, and speckled trout, mostly on live shrimp. Galveston jetties seeing better numbers of over sized black drum on live halved crab. Bull redfish are still biting on the same bait and cut mullet. Sheepshead numbers are up on live shrimp fished tight to the rocks. Galveston Bay around Eagle Point is fair for trout, a few black drum and sheepshead. Windy conditions limit the fishable area. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

bays past the Fred Hart-

• West **Galveston Bay**

GOOD. 52 degrees. Weather remains raw, bitter, and cold, but a slight warming trend is on tap before the next front. Some areas of the bay system received a little over 2 inches of rain. Back lakes and bayous might be off-colored. Best bets for speckled trout would be to fish locations adjacent and parallel to deep water. The lower part of Chocolate and Bastrop Bayous are good choices. The deep shell in west Galveston Bay has been producing some decent trout on soft plastics.

Sylvan Beach shoreline action has been steady. Upper bays past the Fred Hartman Bridge are good for drum, sheepshead, redfish, and speckled trout, mostly on live shrimp. Galveston jetties seeing better numbers of over sized black drum on live halved crab. Bull redfish are still biting.







CAPTAIN CHUCK Page 4B

'The Lakes' Fishing

Toledo Bend Fishing Report

FAIR. Water normal stain; 51 degrees; 2.49 feet below pool. Another cold front is in the forecast at the end of the weekend. Bass fishing is slow. Most creeks are still running mud, but the main lake is still clear. Few bass can be caught on main lake points with Carolina rigs and big crankbaits in 12-18 feet. Most of the deeper fish are now off bottom and have started to swim around. No crappie report. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing.

Sam Rayburn Fishing Reports

FAIR. Water slightly stained; 50 degrees; 1.32 feet below pool. Bass are scattered so cast spinnerbaits and crankbaits looking for active schools of fish. Target stumps in creek bends for the best bite. The water is off colored in the creeks and pockets. Crappie and white bass are moving up the creek channels. Catfish are good in 15-26 feet of water on cut bait and minnows. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.

East **Galveston Bay**

GOOD. 51 degrees. Weather remains raw, bitter, and cold, but a slight warming trend is on tap before the next front. Some areas of the bay system received a little over 2 inches of rain. Back lakes and bayous might be off-colored. Best bets for speckled trout would be to fish locations adjacent and parallel to deep water. The lower part of Chocolate and Bastrop Bayous are good choices. The deep shell in west Galveston Bay has been producing some decent trout on soft plastics. Sylvan Beach shoreline action has been steady. Upper bays past the Fred Hartman Bridge are good for drum, sheepshead, redfish, and speckled trout, mostly on live shrimp. Galveston jetties seeing better numbers of over sized black drum on live halved crab. Bull redfish are still biting on the same bait and cut mullet. Sheepshead numbers are up on live shrimp fished tight to the rocks. Galveston Bay around Eagle Point is fair for trout, a few black drum and sheepshead. Windy conditions

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New year features great musical events

Tommy Mann Jr. For The Record

The new year has Has brought no shortage of great, live entertainment. There are several events taking place this month in Orange and Southeast Texas, as well as Southwest Louisiana and the Houston-area. Take a look below and see the full list and more online at www. TheRecordLive.com.

• Jan. 23

Alan Walker, Bayou Music Center, Houston

• Jan. 24

Lisa Loeb, The Clarion at Brazosport College, Lake Jackson, Tx; Silverstein, House of Blues, Houston, Frank Foster, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• Jan. 25

BossMan Dlow, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land; Hudson Westbrook, The Roxy Event Center, Beaumont; LeAnn Rimes, Lutcher Theater, Orange

• Jan. 26

Josh Johnson, House of Blues, Houston, Rittz, Doc

Backer, The Wildcatter Saloon, Katy

• Jan. 31

Warehouse Haliene, Live Midtown, Houston; Casey Donahew, House of Blues, Houston; The Bellamy Brothers, Jefferson Theatre, Beaumont; Jason Boland and The Stragglers, The Venue at Belle Oaks, Beaumont

• Feb. 1

The Gatlin Brothers, The Grand 1894 Opera House, Galveston; Josh Ward, Honky Tonk Texas, Silsbee; Little River Band, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

• Feb. 4

Lyle Lovett and his Acoustic Group, The Grand 1894 Opera House, Galveston

• Feb. 6

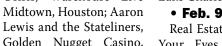
Venom Inc., Warehouse Live Midtown, Houston

• Feb. 7

Caifanes, House of Blues, Houston; Sinach, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land

• Feb. 8

Los Tigres Del Norte, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land; Born of



Osiris, Warehouse Live Lake Charles, La. • Feb. 9

• Feb. 10

Septicflesh, Vitimas, Ex

Hall, Houston

• Feb. 11

Triple S, House of Blues, Houston; NoCap, Bayou Music Center, Houston

• Feb. 13

John Berry, Main Street Crossing, Tomball; Kerry King, Municipal Waste, Alien Weaponry, House of Blues, Houston

• Feb. 14

Shake Russell, Main Street Crossing, Tomball; Dream Theater, 713 Music Hall, Houston

• Feb. 15

Kem + Ledisi, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land; Los Lonely Boys, House of Blues, Houston

• Feb. 16

Marty Friedman, House of Blues, Houston

• Feb. 17

Catch Your Breath, Archers. If Not For Me. Warehouse Live Midtown, Houston; Howard Jones, ABC, Richard Blade, House of Blues, Houston

• Feb. 18

Mary J. Blige, NE-YO,

LOCAL Page 5B

Mountain lions spotted From Page 1B

winter is the prime season for spotting mountain lions. During the colder months, these elusive predators are more likely to be seen while their prey — such as deer and small mammals — actively search for food when vegetation becomes scarce. With a relatively weak sense of smell, mountain lions rely on their excellent tracking abilities, especially in colder environments. Over time, they've developed a historical pattern of using snow to track prey, which helps them close in on their target.

In humid subtropical climates, such as in North



world class facility.

This year there have been 71 mountain lion sightings. The highest number reported in a single year was 122 in 2016, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

lic neighborhoods are rare, and North Texas is generally not considered the commission unanipart of their native range.

ment practices. In a May 23 meeting, mously voted to ban

on the species' abundance, causes of mortality and population trends, helping wildlife officials better understand the state's mountain lion population.

Has anyone been attacked or killed by a mountain lion in Texas?

There has never been a recorded death of a human caused by a mountain lion in Texas — or at least one that has been substantiated with concrete evidence.

In 2020, authorities with the Hood County sheriff's office reported the death of Christopher Whiteley in Lipan, a small town in rural North Texas. However, the cause of death has been contentious for several years, with many, including wildlife experts, refusing to believe that he died from a mountain lion attack. According to The Dallas Morning News, there were not any tracks, prints, scat or signs of a struggle, such as broken tree limbs or drag marks nearby on the

ground. Additionally, there were no signs of predation or feeding on his body, nor were there deep cuts from claw marks or teeth punctures that are normally associated with attacks by wild cats.

In fact, mountain lions are "relatively uncommon, secretive animals," according to the Parks and Wildlife Department. In more than 70 years, only eight such attacks have occurred in Big Bend National Park. Six happened on hiking trails, one at a visitor campsite and one outside the Chisos Mountains Lodge.



Real Estate, Water from Golden Nugget Casino, Your Eyes, White Oak Deo, White Oak Music

Country music artist LeAnn Rimes will be performing at the Lutcher Theater in Orange on Saturday, Jan. 25. Visit www.lutcher.org for information on tickets and other events at this **RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.** Music Hall, Houston

Texas, where snowfall is not as common, mountain lions have adapted their tracking skills to take advantage of other environmental cues. Instead of snow, they rely on their keen ability to follow signs such as disturbed leaves, broken twigs and animal tracks through vegetation, ensuring they can track prey even without the snowy landscape.

Additionally, mountain lions typically hunt from dusk to dawn. With the shorter daylight hours of winter, they might emerge earlier than in the summer, increasing the chances of spotting one during these colder months.

Are mountain lions native to Texas?

Mountain lions are native to Texas, but they are not commonly seen in most areas. They are primarily found in the Trans-Pecos region, the brushlands of South Texas and the western Hill Country. Sightings in pub-

'The Record'



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While an exact estimate of the mountain lion population in Texas is unavailable, it is believed to range from a few hundred to as many as 7,000.

In an effort to get a better understanding of the population, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission recently updated hunting and trapping regulations for mountain lions for the first time in 50 years, a step toward more modern wildlife manage-

canned hunting of mountain lions and introduced new rules for trapping the large wild cat species. The decision followed a period of public comment, with more than 91% of the 7,531 comments supporting the ban on canned hunting and the implementation of a 36-hour trap or snare check.

The next step involves mandatory lion harvest reporting. This standard will provide valuable data

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Biologists Examine Winter Weather Impact on Texas Wildlife

Staff Report For The Record

AUSTIN – As much of Texas has experienced historic winter weather, native populations wildlife throughout the state have also felt the impact. Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) reminds the public that many native wildlife species will be able to survive short durations of historic low temperatures and snow events. However, long-term impacts on a variety of wildlife and their habitats, especially on vegetation, may not be known for weeks.

Native Texas mammals, including white-tailed deer and covotes, grow heavier winter coats that help them survive the colder weather. been observed in early ar-These winter coats are generally thicker and have a well-developed underlayer.

Other mammals, like bats, often migrate to where insects, a common food source, are or hibernate to wait out the winter, depending on the species. Bats that choose to hibernate will find a suitable cave or culvert to settle in. Squirrels will rely on food caches and nests to survive during winter months.

Birds have several strategies to help them survive cold weather. Multiple species will "fluff-up" their feathers to trap warm air. Birds will also flock to food sources to build up their energy reserves. Those that can build up fat stores and have had consistent, reliable sources of nutrition and suitable habitats are generally healthy and will make it through the winter. However, those that have little fat could have a more difficult time surviving the freezing temperatures.

The following observations have been reported by TPWD staff and the public regarding bird health and mortality due to the winter weather:

Mortality events have riving insectivore bird species such as purple martins and other passerine species. These events have been more prevalent in areas where seed resources were covered by recent historic snowfall and that experienced long-lasting, below-freezing temperatures.

TPWD staff have observed waterfowl mortality events due to freezing conditions in wetlands on some TPWD Wildlife Manage-



Native Texas mammals, including white-tailed deer and coyotes, grow heavier winter coats that help them survive the colder weather. These winter coats are generally thicker and have a well-developed underlayer.

ment Areas.

Bird feeders are being heavily relied upon by various species in areas that have experienced a sudden decrease in local food resources due to snowfall.

Biologists have reported that birds are congregating near roads due to melted snow and ice, increasing water availability. This has resulted in an increase in wildlife-vehicle collisions. During cold weather,

many fish slow down and head for deeper waters where it's somewhat warmer. Unfortunately, fish in shallow water, especially in our coastal areas, may not survive a hard freeze, resulting in large 'fish kills' during cold snaps. The TPWD Kills and Spills team collects data on these events to assess the overall impact on Texas fish populations.

When temperatures on the coast fall below freezing, TPWD may close certain areas to saltwater fishing as is already the case this year

Alligators should survive well with short snaps of freezing water. Long-term impacts to alligator populations won't be known until TPWD staff and landowners are able to survey their properties when conditions improve.

Sea turtles can become cold stunned when water

leaves them lethargic and unable to move into deeper water which results in stranding. TPWD Coastal Fisheries Biologists and Texas Game Wardens have assisted in multiple sea turtle rescue operations since Feb. 14 near the Brownsville Ship Channel and surrounding bays, as well as near Matagorda Bay. Once the sea turtles are rescued from the water, they are then transported to the proper facility. When temperatures warm, the sea turtles can be safely released.

temperatures drop. This

If you see a cold stunned sea turtle, please call 1-866-TURTLE5.

As the cold weather continues, along with the continued potential for more freezing precipitation, the availability of high-quality wildlife habitat will be critical for many species to survive through this week's weather in some locations across the state.

TPWD staff will keep monitoring the impacts of this historic weather event on wildlife. When TPWD operations can return to normal, we will continue to update the public on the state's wildlife resources.

Capt. Chuck From Page 2B

the flyrod and have success immediately is always fun. The look on their face as they discover a new style of enjoying their favorite sport is priceless.

I've had beginning flyfishermen hit the "Texas jackpot" as a bruiser redfish decides to come crash the trout party and take off with the fly and head to parts unknown. Watching the fly line peel off in the blink of an eye and then

the backing begin to disappear often leaves the new fly angler with the wide eyed look of both disbelief and exhilaration all at the same time. Most On a couple of occasions new fly anglers are really happy to see their line leave in hurry while attached to a redfish but that look quickly goes away once they realize a fly reel doesn't offer up a 7 to 1 ratio for line retrieval. All the work that goes into landing one of those big

redfish makes the memory of the adventure that much more vivid and serves to only draw the angler back for more. It's usually not long after that when the new fly angler takes the plunge and purchases some gear and begins to experiment on their own. And so it begins, a new obsession focused on the same trophy.

Now in my little part of the world between the conventional angler and the fly

angler there is plenty of room and I encourage everyone to come and "visit". Neither style of fishing is the end be all versions that surpasses all others, it's merely another tool or another club in the bag if you will to enjoy the sport we love even more. I am perfectly happy and content to fish in just about any way from soaking live bait, wading with artificials, sight casting in shallow water, or casting flies because they all are enjoyable to me and they each have particular advantages that help make me a better all around fishermen.

Going forward it will be interesting to see how we fare after this record winter event that saw huge amounts of snow fall on our area and temps down in the lower teens. We are all holding our breath and praying that we escape any fish kills. Speaking of escape, America has finally escaped the clutches of the Biden administration that gripped our nation and tried to run it into the ground with crippling

economic and social failures. The left leaning media is beside itself now that they cannot control the narrative as President Trump hit the ground running and has America rejuvenated again. Big changes have already begun and the future looks brighter than ever as President Trump once again puts America and Americans first which is a far cry from the last 4 years. For the first time in quite a while the future truly looks bright.



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Kathryn Crosby, actor and widow of famed singer and Oscar-winning actor Bing Crosby, dies at 90

Staff Report For The Record

Kathryn Crosby, who appeared in such movies as "The 7th Voyage of Sinbad", "Anatomy of a Murder," and "Operation Mad Ball" before marrying famed singer and Oscar-winning actor Bing Crosby, has died. She was 90.

She died of natural causes Friday night at her home in the Northern California city of Hillsborough, a family spokesperson said Saturday.

Appearing under her stage name of Kathryn Grant, she appeared opposite Tony Curtis in "Mister Cory" in 1957 and Victor Mature in "The Big Circus" in 1959. She made five movies with film noir director Phil Karlson, including "Tight Spot" and "The Phenix City Story," both in 1955.

Her other leading men included Jack Lemmon in "Operation Mad Ball," James Darren in "The Brothers Rico," and James Stewart in "Anatomy of a Murder," directed by Otto Preminger.

Born Olive Kathryn Grandstaff on Nov. 25, 1933, in West Columbia, Texas, she graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in fine arts. She came to Hollywood and began her movie career in 1953.

She met Bing Crosby while doing interviews for a column she wrote about Hollywood for her hometown newspaper. They were married in 1957, when she was 23 and he was 54.

She curtailed her acting career after the wedding,



Kathryn Crosby died of natural causes Friday night at her home in the Northern California city of Hillsborough, a family spokesperson said Saturday.

although she appeared often with Crosby and their three children on his

Christmas television specials and in Minute Maid orange juice commercials.

She became a registered nurse in 1963. In the 1970s, she hosted a

morning talk show on KPIX-TV in Northern California.

After Crosby's death at age 74 in 1977, from a heart attack after golfing in Spain, she appeared in stage productions of "Same Time, Next Year" and "Charley's Aunt." She co-starred with John Davidson and Andrea McArdle in the 1996 Broadway revival of "State Fair."

For 16 years ending in 2001, she hosted the Crosby National golf tournament in Bermuda Run, North Carolina.

She is survived by children Harry, Mary, an actor best known for the TV show "Dallas," and Nathaniel, a successful amateur golfer. She was married to Maurice Sullivan for 10 years before he was killed in a 2010 car accident that seriously injured Crosby.

Local entertainment venues From Page 3B

Mario, Toyota Center, Houston

• Feb. 19

The Wildwoods, Old Quarter Acoustic Café, Galveston

• Feb. 20

Jorja Smith, Bayou Music Center, Houston; Abby Holliday, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; Cowboy Mouth, Main Street Crossing, Tomball; TopHouse, The Wildwoods, Last Concert Café, Houston

• Feb. 21

Cowboy Mouth, Main Street Crossing, Tomball; Soccer Mommy, Hana Vu, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; Stephen Pearcy (of Ratt), House of Blues, Houston

• Feb. 22

Nile, Six Foot Under, Embryonic Autopsy, Warehouse Live Midtown, Houston, Helmet, Scout Bar, Houston; Little Texas, L'Auberge Casino Resort, Lake Charles, La.

• Feb. 23

Jackopierce, House of Blues, Houston, Kash Doll, Warehouse Live Midtown, Houston; Gipsy Kings feat. Nicolas Reyes, Smart Financial Centre, Sugar Land • Feb. 24

Lauren Mayberry, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; Pony Bradshaw, Main Street Crossing, Tomball • Feb. 25

Dave Fenley, Main Street Crossing, Tomball • Feb. 26

Jerry Cantrell, House of Blues, Houston

• Feb. 27

Eric Bellinger, House of Blues, Houston

March 1

Coin, Bayou Music Center, Houston; Gary Clark Jr., 713 Music Hall, Houston; Good Kid, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; The Toadies, The Roxy Event Center, Beaumont; Kansas, L'Auberge Casino Resort,

Lake Charles, La.; Gladys Knight, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La. • March 2

The Plot In You, With Holding Absence, Boundaries, Acres, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• March 3

Pouya, Freddie Dredd, Cursed, House of Blues, Houston; Anberlin, Copeland, The Dangerous Summer, Scout Bar, Houston

• March 5 Pom Pom Squad, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

 March 6 Alexandra Kay, Logan Crosby, White Oak Music

Hall, Houston

March 7

Toby Mac, Toyota Center, Houston; Saint Motel, Angel White, House of Blues, Houston; Attila, Butcher Babies, Ware-Live Midtown, house Houston

 March 8 Apocalyptica, Strauss, Bayou Music Center, Houston; Flogging Molly, The Aggrolites, Slaughterhouse, House of Blues, Houston; Boulevard of Unbroken Dreams, Tantric, Smile Empty Soul, The Wildcatter Saloon, Katy; Atlanta Rhythm Section, Main Street Crossing, Tomball; Babyface, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La. • March 9 Matt Rife, Toyota Center, Houston • March 10

Ian Moore, Main Street Crossing, Tomball

• March 11

Aborted, Ingested, Peeling Flesh, Stabbing, Scout Bar, Houston; The Wellermen, Main Street Crossing, Tomball

• March 12

Coal Chamber, Fear Factory, Twiztid, Black Satellite, House of Blues, Houston; Andy Grammer, Nita House of Blues, Houston; Reverend Horton Heat, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; Cody Canada and The Departed, Camp Margaritaville, Crystal Beach

March 14

GloRilla, 713 Music Hall, Houston; Make Them Suffer, Like Moths to Flames, Aviana, White Oak Music Hall, Houston; Leonardo Aguilar, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La.

March 15

Ty Myers, Camp Margaritaville, Crystal Beach • March 16

Deftones, The Mars Volta, Fleshwater, Toyota Center, Houston

March 17

Inhaler, House of Blues, Houston

• March 18

Violent Femmes, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

 March 19 Tyler the Creator, Toyota Center, Houston

• March 20

Roach, Papa Rise Against, Underoath, Toyota Center, Houston

March 22

Trombone Shorty, House of Blues, Houston; The Driver Era, 713 Music Hall, Houston

March 23

Hulvey, House of Blues, Houston

March 26

Josey Scott, Warehouse Live Midtown, Houston; Blue Water Highway, Main Street Crossing, Tomball

March 27

Weatherday, White Oak Music Hall, Houston

• March 28

Rascal Flatts, Lauren Alaina, Chris Lane, Cajun-Dome, Lafayette, La.; Geoff Tate, House of Blues, Houston; Blackberry Smoke, 713 Music Hall, Houston

March 29

Gentlemens Quartet, Lutcher Theater, Orange

• March 30

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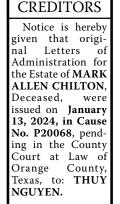
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c/o: THUY NGUYEN 265 LAKE STREET BRIDGE CITY, TX 77611

Dated the 13th day of January, 2025.

<u> Tommy Gunn</u> Tommy Gunn

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

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