

County Record

Vol. 65 No. 24

Distributed FREE in Orange County, Texas

Week of Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Election results

Vidor school bonds pass, Cruz keeps senate seat



Former President Donald Trump



Vice President Kamala Harris



U.S. Senator Ted Cruz



Democratic Candidate Collin Alred

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Orange County election finals were in before 9 Tuesday night with the Vidor school bond issue passing locally. Donald Trump was leading in early national returns and enough returns in Texas were in for media to call a victory for incumbent Senator Ted Cruz, a Republican, against Democrat Colin Alred.

The Orange County Elections office under the direction of Donna Alford reported the county has 56,515 registered voters with 36,450 voting for 64.5 percent. Of those votes, 6,935 were cast on Election Day. The rest of the votes came from early

ballots.

All the local county offices had incumbent Republican officials running unopposed. However, there were some areas of the county with their own races.

The Orangefield school board had one contested race after the incumbent chose not to run for the Place III at-large spot. Jude Grafagnino won with 1,708 votes, or 49.74 percent. Dustin Loga had 890 or 25.92 percent, and Robert Lasseigne Jr. had 836 or 24.34 percent.

Incumbents Bo Henley and Chris Kovatch ran unopposed.

The Vidor school bond election was for \$98.4

Election Page 5A



Burn ban lifted and eyes on Gulf

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

After a report from County Emergency Management Director Joel Ardoin, County Judge John Gothia said he would lift the burn ban because of recent rains. However, people were still cautioned about outside burning with the high winds and vegetation that is still on the dry side.

The bad news, though, is the county may be getting a bit too much rain this week as Tropical Storm Rafael is predicted to go into the Gulf of Mexico. The system could affect Southeast Texas, but Ardoin said wind sheers off the land mean it will probably not be a hurricane when it hit the U.S.

The National Weather Service Tuesday's forecast had thunderstorms and rain as a cold front is expected to move through from the north.

Ardoin said Tropical



Orange County Commissioners Court Monday approved Hillary Gravett, left, to the board of the Orange County Economic Corporation board. Gravett is next to Megan Layne, executive director of the Orange County EDC. Gravett is currently assistant director of the City of Orange EDC and will become the director when current director Jay Trahan retires.

Storm Rafael is expected to reach a Category 1 hurricane but as it moves into the Gulf of Mexico, the wind sheer from the front will stall it down to a tropical storm, which has

winds from 39 to 73 mph. At this time, the storm's path in the gulf is not pinpointed, but predictions have put the Louisiana coast as a target, meaning it could affect Orange

County. County Tax Assessor-Collector Octavia Guzman reported her office has \$4.5 million in de-

COUNTY Page 3A

LSCO opens new building for public views

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

Lamar State College Orange will have the grand opening its new Academic Building on Green Avenue at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 6.

The \$38 million building in downtown Orange

has 55,000 square feet and includes the latest in technology. Eight classrooms, two computer labs, and student commons areas are included in the building, along with offices for faculty and information technology.

LSCO President Dr. Tom Johnson will preside

over the event. Money for the campus expansion came from the Texas Legislature as the local college has gained a reputation for training people to get good-paying jobs in local industries. Members of the Board of Regents for the Texas State University System, which

oversees LSCO, are also expected.

The building's official address is 305 North Fourth Street, but the multi-story facility is right off Green Avenue between Fourth and Fifth Streets. It was constructed at the site of the modern-style 1970s Orange National

Bank with exterior walls of mirrors. That building had to be carefully demolished to make room for the new Academic Building.

The new building has a town that faces Green Avenue with a vertical light design of the letters LSCO that are already glowing at

night and can be seen in either direction.

The college's Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown Plaza, named in honor of the legendary Grammy-winning musician from Orange, is to the east of the new Academic Building. The plaza was dedicated in October, 2021.

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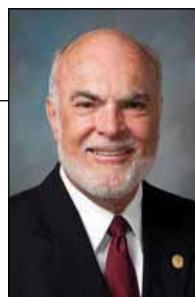
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LENDER

My Five-Cents

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



The holidays are fast approaching and we're busy gearing up for the next legislative session. It will be here faster than we know it!

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. Texas Veterans Commission awards over \$1.4 million in grants to 8 East Texas organizations

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Last month, the Texas Veterans Commission presented over \$1.4 million to eight East Texas organizations that provide services for veterans and their families. Those grants include:

- A \$300,000 grant for financial assistance to Cass County;
- A \$70,000 grant for financial assistance to the Deep East Texas Council of Governments;
- A \$230,000 grant for home modifications to Northeast Texas Habitat for Humanity;
- A \$145,000 grant for transportation programs to Rise-Resource Information Support and Empowerment;
- A \$145,000 grant for peer support services to Sabine Valley Regional MHMR Center;
- A \$100,000 grant to the Salvation Army

– Lufkin;

• And a \$180,000 grant for financial assistance to Trinity County.

These funds are critical to providing direct services to veterans. In total, TVC approved 181 grants statewide that total over \$44 million. The funds are generated primarily from the Texas Lottery Commission's games designed specifically for veterans support. Texans can also donate when registering their vehicles or getting a hunting or fishing license. These funds will help nearly 42,000 veterans, their dependents, and surviving spouses. It's imperative we as a state continue to support those who bravely served our nation and their families.

2. TX Space Commission launches \$150 million spaceflight exploration, research, development program

The Texas Space Commission has opened grant applications for \$150 million of funding available for businesses and nonprofits looking to fuel the budding Texas space industry. The Space Exploration and Aeronautics Research Fund (SEARF) is designed to support projects related to several areas of space exploration or spaceflight including emerging technology related to human spaceflight, research involv-

ing any aspect of space exploration or spaceflight, workforce training, curation of post-mission materials, and development of infrastructure useful or necessary for the establishment of a spaceport. There is no deadline to apply and the commission will consider applications as they come in. To learn more or apply, visit www.space.texas.gov.

3. Neches High School named Blue Ribbon School

This year, the US Department of Education announced that Neches High School is a Blue Ribbon School. They were nominated in the Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing School category. The national Blue Ribbon Schools program awards high-performing schools and schools that are making great strides in closing achievement gaps. Overall, 356 schools were recognized in 46 states, with 31 of those schools in Texas – the most of any participating state. The National Blue Ribbon Schools program is one of the Department of Education's longest-running recognition programs. The program began over 40 years ago as a way to highlight the best schools in the country and to share best practices from those schools. The two categories include "Exemplary High Performing" public schools which have the state's highest high school graduation rates and the highest achieving students in English and math and "Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing" public schools which have made the greatest advances in closing student subgroup achievement gaps in English and math over the past three to five years. Congratulations to all the teachers, students,

and administrators at Neches High School for such a wonderful achievement and recognition!

4. Texas Stock Exchange announces leadership

Late last month, the Texas Stock Exchange officially announced its leadership team, a critical step forward as the exchange plans its launch. The leadership team is composed of professionals with experience in market structure, regulation, and corporate governance and draws on both public and private sector backgrounds. The exchange plans to file a registration to operate as a national securities exchange in the coming months with the goal of opening for trading in 2025.

5. Texas DPS reminds drivers inspections changes coming soon

The Texas Department of Public Safety is reminding drivers of upcoming changes to the state's Vehicle Safety Inspection Program that eliminates most vehicle safety inspections. Beginning in January, non-commercial vehicles will no longer need a vehicle safety inspection before registration. While the state will no longer require a safety inspection, several counties will still require emissions tests for vehicles registered in those counties. Emissions tests are required in major metropolitan areas, including Brazoria, Collin, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Ellis, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Johnson, Kaufman, Montgomery, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, Travis, and Williamson counties. Bexar County will be adding an emissions test requirement in 2026.

Baby ferrets born to a cloned mom

Jaclyn Diaz
NPR News

A cloned black-footed ferret successfully gave birth — marking the first time a U.S. clone of an endangered species produced offspring, and an opportunity to rebuild the black-footed ferret population.

Antonia, a black-footed ferret cloned using the genetic material of a ferret named Willa collected in 1988, gave birth to three kits. One of the three died shortly after birth but the two remaining babies, a boy and a girl, appear to be in good health and meeting developmental milestones, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced earlier this month.

Antonia and her babies

will stay at the Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (NZCBI) in Front Royal, Virginia for further research.

"The successful breeding and subsequent birth of Antonia's kits marks a major milestone in endangered species conservation," Paul Marinari, senior curator at the Smithsonian's NZCBI, said in a statement.

These births are being viewed as an opportunity to restore needed genetic diversity into the species.

Black-footed ferrets are one of the most endangered mammals in North America with an estimated 370 in the wild, according to the World Wildlife Fund. The numbers reached levels so low that by the early 80s it



The baby black-footed ferrets at three weeks old, born to a mother cloned from genetic material collected in 1988.

was believed that the animals were extinct. That is until in 1981, when the black-footed ferret was re-discovered in Wyoming. Efforts to conserve the animals began in earnest.

Habitat loss and disease remain one of the major reasons for the animal's low numbers. The U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service also attributed "genetic challenges" to problems with the animal's recovery.

But the genetic samples from Willa, of which Antonia was cloned, provided an opportunity that resulted in these new births. Willa's genes contained "three times the genetic diversity seen in the current population of black-footed ferrets all of which (except the three clones and new offspring) are descended from just seven surviving individuals," the agency's press release said.

Introducing the new babies' genes into the population could increase genetic diversity within the black-footed ferret species and contribute to a long-term recovery of the animal.

The Record Newspapers

of Orange County, Texas

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Bridge City HS Band headed to Alamodome

**Penny Leleux
For The Record**

“They’ve done it again and are headed to the State Competition,” stated LK Anderson Photography’s Facebook page about Bridge City High School’s advancement to the UIL State marching competition. The photography studio shot the official group photo of the band.

Bridge City came in 3rd place at the UIL Area Marching Contest, which was held on Nov. 2 in Lindale. That entitles them to compete in the Alamodome this weekend in San Antonio.

“The band has demonstrated exceptional skill, precision, and dedication, embodying the spirit of excellence that Bridge City is known for,” stated an

earlier release from the school.

The band’s success is guided by the leadership of the band director Tami Goss and its drum majors: Mallory Bailey, Evan Hull, Gracin Weldon and Emily Jones.

The Band Boosters sold t-shirts online through Tuesday morning for family and friends to wear at the competition in support and are selling pink and purple pom poms for \$10. They held an informational meeting Tuesday after the press deadline to disseminate information on the travel plans.

The band ranked 3rd out of 24 bands in the Area competition. This is their fifth year in a row to advance to UIL State Marching Band Competition.

“The journey to this point has been nothing short of ex-

traordinary, with countless hours of hard work, rehearsals, and teamwork contributing to their success. The Cardinal Marching Band’s unwavering commitment to their craft continues to inspire pride within the community,” stated the school representative after their regional win. “Let’s cheer them on as they represent Bridge City with the same passion and energy that earned them this prestigious achievement.”

“All their hard work, dedication, and talent have paid off, and we couldn’t be more proud,” said Anderson. “Go show them what BCHS is made of!”

The Record Newspapers wishes BCHS Cardinal Marching Band the best of luck in San Antonio this weekend.



Under the dedicated direction of Tami Goss, the Bridge City High School Band has achieved the honor of advancing to state for the fifth consecutive year. This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion of each band member and the leadership of their directors. *Courtesy Photo*

County business From Page 1

linquent county taxes from 2024 with another \$25,134 delinquent from a separate county farm to market account. Tax bills for 2025 are expected to be mailed soon with the taxes due on January 31.

The court approved the appointment of Hillary Gravett to the Orange County Economic Development Corporation board of directors. Gravett currently serves as assistant Economic Development Corporation director to the city of Orange. She will move to become director for the city’s group when current director Jay Trahan retires.

Other county business approved by the court included a \$100,000 payment from the county’s general fund to the county EDC. The countywide EDC is a separate organization supported by fee payments from cities in the county, the county, the port district, and the Sabine River Authority.

The county’s EDC board members include two county commissioners along with representatives from the member cities, the port board, and the SRA.

The city of Orange has

its own Economic Development Corporation that is funded by a half-cent per dollar sales tax that city voters approved in 2002 to set up the corporation. The income has allowed the city’s EDC to give development grants to businesses within the city and pay for extensions of city infrastructure like water and sewer to expand the tax base.

Other bills approved from the general fund included \$21,650 to University of Texas Medical Branch to run a health clinic in Orange; \$3,450 to Memorial Funeral Home in Vidor for indigent funeral expenses; \$84,150 from the records management fund to IDocket.com a website for court records; \$255,500 from the Special Grants Fund to the Lark Group for work on the property where the new public health building will be constructed; another \$20,800 to the Lark Group for demo work on the public health building site; and \$114,700 from the General Fund to the Texas Association of Counties for group medical, dental, and life insurance for county employees younger than 64.

In the citizen comments, Debra Bednar invited members of the court to an unveiling ceremony at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, November 12, at Sunset Grove Country Club. The event is to celebrate the completion of a large mural by local artist Lauren Leigh to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the golf course designed by famed course architect Donald Ross for H.J. Lutch Stark.

Bednar said the mural has been paid for by donations from the county’s hotel occupancy tax, the city of Orange’s hotel occupancy tax, the Orange County Historical Society, plus Trey and Ross Smith.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Chris Sowell thanked the community for supporting a food drive that he and Precinct 2 Constable Jeremiah Gunter started to help a new charity group, Be Blessed, help feed 180 families for Thanksgiving.

The drive lasted a week and Sowell said they collected a truck load of food, plus another \$4,000. Be Blessed was started by local philanthropist Rita Ballard.

Special Angels Rodeo goes Saturday at T2 Arena

The feel good event of the year is coming up this weekend, Saturday, November 9, as the annual Special Angels Rodeo is set to start at 10 a.m. at the T2 Arena, 3810 Old Peveto Road.

The Special Angels Rodeo provides “a fully adaptive rodeo experience for our Special Needs Community.” Special Needs children and adults come from throughout the region to participate in a fun day of rodeo, including riding a mechanical bull.

But the activities are not restricted to those with Special Needs. Families

come to enjoy the excitement of the event and participate in activities. This year’s lineup includes carnival games, bounce houses, a petting zoo, and a variety of vendors.

T2 Arena is covered and will protect against rain.

Special Angels Rodeo was started by the Harris family, owners of Farmers Mercantile for nearly 100 years, started the activity as a gift to Lu Harris, the mother of the latest generation running the landmark downtown Orange store.

Through the years, their non-profit organization

has gained support throughout the area with businesses, industries, and individuals donating money and gifts. Those groups, along with hundreds of volunteers, have made the event something special for everyone.

As the crowds have increased and the rodeo has grown, this year Cowboy Church of Orange County is helping out. This year, volunteers will be able to park at the church on FM 1078 and ride shuttles back and forth from the arena. The plan will allow more parking spaces for attendees at T2.

Historic Ribbon Cutting Nov. 12

The Orange County Historical Society is excited to invite the public to their 4th Quarter 2024 meeting. The meeting will be held at the Sunset Grove Country Club, 2900 W. Sunset Dr., Orange, Texas 77630 on Tuesday

November 12 from 4:00-5:00 PM. Participants are encouraged to join the Orange Chamber of Commerce in celebrating a ribbon cutting for the mural “100 Years of Golf in Orange County”, created by artist Lauren Leigh. The

mural is a joint project between the Orange Historical Society, Orange County EDC, City of Orange, and private citizens.

Light refreshments will be served. All are invited to attend and participate.

Salvation Army’s Red Kettles returning

The Salvation Army is excited to announce the return of its annual Red Kettle Campaign in Orange, spreading joy and the festive spirit of Christmas. As The Salvation Army’s primary fundraising initiative, the Red Kettle

Campaign plays a vital role in providing life-changing programs and services throughout the year. These programs include food assistance, emergency financial assistance, youth programs and disaster response.

From the beginning of November until Christmas Eve, red kettles will be stationed outside various stores and local businesses in Orange from Monday to Saturday.

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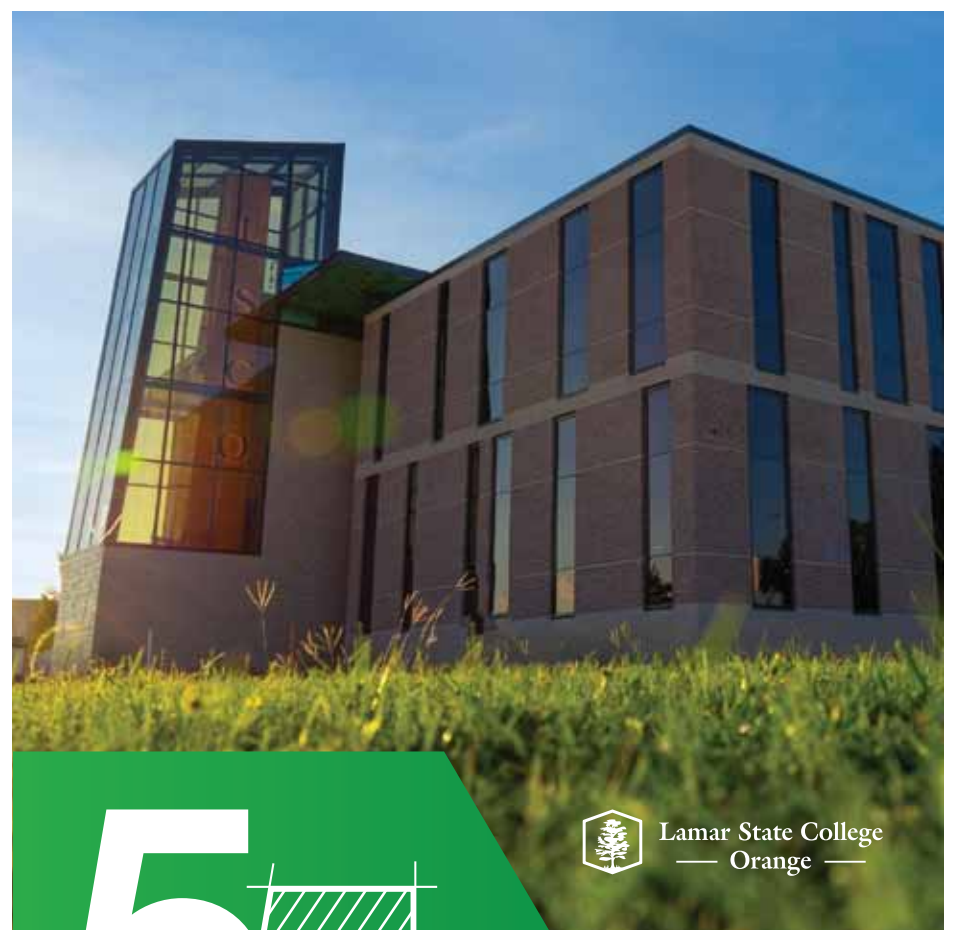
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From the Creaux's Nest

60th US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN HISTORY BOOKS

President Joe Biden pulled out of the presidential race for re-election 108 days ago, leaving just over three months for the Vice-President to mount a campaign that might produce the first woman president. Breaking that glass ceiling was a long shot, making VP Kamala Harris the underdog. Many women, because of female issues, including abortion, had hoped to shatter the glass ceiling. Harris and vice-presidential candidate Tim Waltz ran a good, positive race, while Trump ran a dark, dictator-type race, based on changing our democracy and constitution. The mob he led against his own government at the United States Capitol was forgiven by many Republicans, who voted party over country. I fear a Trump victory will forever change the country and leave it with a danger to democracy that many had fought and died to preserve. Every rating outlet, including The Hill, rated Donald Trump as the worst president ever. I fear in the end, if Trump wins, his next term will be far worse than our Founding Fathers would ever have foreseen or imagined. It was to close to call when I turned in.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, IS VETERANS DAY WE REMEMBER ALL OUR WWII VETS

Just a few years ago a good group of WWII veterans still attended the Lunch Bunch get-together. Once Roy talked Keith Wallace into buying lunch as a treat for the vets. It cost Keith over \$300. Today he could get by for less than \$30. Here is a list of those heroes 7-years-ago, 2017. J.B. Arrington, 92 years old; Althanase Benoit, 88 ; Charles Benoit, 93; Lennie J. Benoit, 94; Joseph Bergeron, 90; Tom Brooks, 93; Maurice Fournet, 94; Harry G. Fulton, 90; Eugene Goudeau, 93; Robert Jackson, 97; Roy McDaniel, 92; Levan Myers, 94; Burdette Oldbury, Sr. 90; John M. Pittman, 91; Robert Rothrock, 92; Paul A. Roy, Jr., 90; Stanley Simon, 95; Donald Slacum, 94; and Cedric Stout, 96. Seven years later there are only three left. God bless all our vets, yesterday and today.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2014

The elections have come and gone for another cycle. In Texas, the state will be governed by Greg Abbott, who has been the Attorney General. He has a 20 year old political machine, started by George W. He had four times more millions than his opponent, Democratic Wendy Davis. It was up hill for her all the way. Texas has no statewide elected Democrats. Locally, Orange County, for the first time in five cycles, will not have the leadership of Judge Carl Thibodeaux. He chose not to run for re-election and he was the face of the Democratic Party in the county. Democrats failed to put up a candidate, leaving the election of a new county judge to the Republican Primary. With no opposition in the general election, Britt Carlton was elected with 2,900 Republican votes. The county will miss Thibodeaux's leadership and accessibility. Locally, only two seats were contested in J.P. Pct. 1 and 3. The candidates did a lot of old time, grass roots campaigning, knocking on doors, especially in Pct. 3 and that really increased the turnout. Congrats to the winners, Judge David Peck who was returned to office and newcomer Joy Dubose-Simonton. I suspect Republicans will blow the opportunity to show that they can do good for the country. Republicans campaigned on the promise that they're somehow going to repeal the Affordable Care Act, "Every word of it." That was their applause line with conservative audiences. Many Republican governors, like in Texas, are resisting the Medicaid Expansion which is a political mistake that hurts many citizens, small hospitals and counties, like Orange, that could save taxpayers \$2 million a year. We were sorry to hear about the death of our friend Earl Church, 85, who passed away Saturday, Nov. 1. He died at home of a heart attack. Earl was a Port Arthur native and a 1947 graduate of Thomas Jefferson. He had many life stories to tell and we enjoyed them all. I saw a report last week that shoe rationing ended on Oct. 30, 1945. The report brought a smile. I recall during the war when we wore shoes made out of cardboard. When the sole got a hole in it, which it always did the first time you walked through moisture, we would slip a new piece of cardboard in the shoes until next time. Nov. 1945 brought back leather and tennis shoes and a lot of other rationed stuff. J.J. Watt's \$100 million contract makes him the highest paid defender in football but he's only the 11th highest paid football player this season in terms of annual salary. The highest is Aaron Rodgers, \$22 million; On Nov. 10, attorney Steve Carlton is a year older. This day also marks the 36th anniversary of Kirk and Shirley Roccaforte. Last week our friend Keith Wallace, his brother and dad, fed 400 deer hunters in West Texas. It was the day before "Opening Day." Keith said they saw a lot of people from back home. Our District Attorney John Kimbrough has become somewhat of an expert in rightly predicting the winner in big time college football. (Editor's note: John

has done to ride the range with. Through all the years he has been good at his word. Hate to see him go.) We are fast approaching the day when our WWII Veterans have served their time here on earth. Most are coming on 100 years of age or have passed it. On a personal note, I honor my friends Millard "Neighbor" Cox, Cedric Stout and all the other great soldiers I have met and known. I miss them. Glad our friend J.B. Arrington is still with us and kicking high.

20 Years Ago-2004

Kristi Hudson is crowned Miss Bridge City at the annual pageant hosted by Community Women in Action. Christine Lemaire was first runner up; Brittany Zenos, second; Megan Hale third. Cayla Angelle was named Miss Congeniality. Debbie Fusilier was named Employee of the Month by Bridge City Chamber. She was nominated by Mark Dunn. Debbie, an employee of the Record Newspapers, has been working for the Dunn publications for over 30 years. She started when she was 15 years old at the Opportunity Valley News. Bridge City High's baseball switch hitter, Hunter Hays, signs with McNeese. GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: Noltan Louis Brown, 85, of Bridge City died Wednesday, Nov. 11. Noltan was a WWII vet. He is survived by wife Jessie Pepper Brown. A Down Life's Highway column, written by Roy, tells of the interesting life these two, married 65 years, had lived. (Since then Ms. Jessie has passed away.) Dr. Thomas J. Hairston, 61, formally of Cove, died Nov. 12, at his home in Nacogdoches. Hairston started working with plastics in high school at Bridge City, where he and his three Cove friends, Joe Parkhurst, Roger Beathard and Tom Hoffpauir graduated. Dr. Hairston currently holds 40 patents, 10 in the USA and 30 in foreign countries. He designed and constructed 127 facilities in 27 countries around the world. He patented the pacemaker, blood oxygenator systems and hemo-dialysis systems in a housing. He remained in the medical field as the most famed Bridge City High grad. (Editor's note: Bet you didn't know this world famous doctor was a Bridge City grad. BCSO should do something to recognize this.)

50 Years Ago-1974

Carl Thibodeaux is elated over the tremendous response to his first anniversary celebration at his West Orange Pharmacy. The newly formed B.C. Rotary Club holds charter banquet and installation of officers. One hundred fifty people attended. Jerry Pesson is to serve as first president. The B.C. club has 25 members and was sponsored by Orange Rotary. The 1974 All-East Zone Football team from District 10-AAA representing Orange County are: (Offense) Craig Couvillion, Stark; Randy Fults, B.C.; John Lee Stack and Rick Smith, LC-M; Jerry Hilburn, Stark; Kelly Burch, LC-M; Reggie Kelly, Stark; Frank Tims, Stark; Lorraine Wills, W.O.; and Andre Robertson, W.O. (Defense) Randy Feverjean, B.C.; Victor Enards, W.O.; Doug Cash, Stark; Charlie Hillebrandt, B.C.; Andrew Martin, Stark; Chris Judge, W.O.; Gary Worster, B.C.; Dale McCall, LC-M; Steve Sims, Stark; and Eddie Lovelace, LC-M. Coach of the Year was Steve McCarty of South Park. Most Valuable Offense Player was Ken Maxson of South Park. Defensive Player was Doug Cash of Stark High School. The Rev. Bob Simmons, just before swinging into his sermon, was handed a note. He read it, "There's a car in the parking lot that has its lights on." It turned out to be the preacher's car. Former Stark High and Lamar Standout Bruce Taylor has been named head baseball coach at Port Arthur's Thomas Jefferson. DeAnn Albright is the 1974 Stark Homecoming Queen. Stark High used three field goals, 22, 21 and 34 yards, by Steve Sims, to upset Bridge City 16-8 last week. Two weeks ago Eddie Lovelace hit a 34 yard field goal to beat the Stark Tigers 17-14. West Orange's Melvin Kyburz put a 48-yarder between the uprights to beat Charlton- Pollard 11-8 as time ran out. Field goals and good kickers have played a big role in this year's win/loss column. Dick Bevins, at Texas Ave. Grocery, is selling five-pound pack of ground beef for \$2.49, T-bone steaks, any thickness, for \$1.29 a pound. (Editor's note: Would you believe I wrote all of the above 50 years ago in a column called "Ear to the Ground" by the Office Hound, and have lived long enough to use it 50 years later.)

NO ONE WILL BEAT A TEXANA DEAL

If you are in the market for a new or preowned vehicle don't buy until you check with Texana Toyota first. They want to move cars and trucks and will take a short profit on most stock during their introductory sale. Great folks to do business with. See Texana Toyota ad in this publication.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

I finally was able to get in touch with my friend Quincy Procell. I have known him coming on 60 years. Quincy turned 80 on Nov. 2. I've noticed in life a person's occupation has much to do with their physical wellbeing later in life. Quincy lost the use of his knees carrying large motors. He was strong as a bull but his knees and hips have paid the price. He and his brother Kirby did great work building the Procell Championship Motors. No one On Nov. 2, Orange native O'Shaquie Foster avenged his contentious loss to Robson Conceicao to win back the WBC super-featherweight world championship. Looks as if the Stark Museum of Art is becoming the fun place to be. Date Night at the Museum this Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m. The free event includes married people looking to get out and singles who want to see exhibits, visit, and listen to live music. David Justin and Haley Barnes will provide the music, and Free State Cellars Winery will have beverages. There will also be free nibbles and patrons can see the new juried art show from regional college students. Plus, Lady Whistle Breaux thinks the museum's Reindeer Games will be a big hit of the holiday season. The museum is bringing in live reindeer for a December 14th family day event. It will all go with the museum's Reindeer Trail special exhibit that will run November 20-December 21. Paula and Randy Ragsdale are about to have a trio of grandchildren running around. Son Ryan and his wife, Kennedie, are expecting a little girl, plus daughter Sarah and husband Jake Nash, are expecting their second child after little

Janie Nash. We expect to see a wide variety of colors in sports jerseys at family get-togethers. Orange County 4-H Director Fallon White is expecting twins, one girl and one boy. Country singing legend Gene Watson performed at the Oaks Event Center in Vidor and Della Gallien was among the fans in the audience. Bridge City native singer-musician Britt Godwin took his big band for another dinner-concert with great jazz at the 7 Oaks Center in Jefferson County. Halloween is over, so what's with the scary chupacabra-sized rabbits over in the Cypress Bayou subdivision in Little Cypress? The LA Dodgers defeated the New York Yankees in five games to win the 2024 World Series. Meanwhile the Houston Astros, who didn't make it to the big show this year, has eight Astros joining the free agent category including Alex Bregman, third base; Justin Verlander, pitcher; Hector Neris, pitcher; Caleb Ferguson, pitcher; Ben Gamel, outfielder and Kendall Graveman, pitcher.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

A few birthdays to be celebrated in the next few days. Nov. 6: Former boxer, ranked third in the world, Johnny Montagne celebrates today. Don't see or hear much from him anymore. Also celebrating are Robert Rubel, Carrie Larson, Derek Grooms, Faye Harrington, Kathy Johnson, Kay Wingate, Robin Schaffer, Jackie Litton, Greg Broussard. Nov. 7: Claris Collins, James Bergeron, Barbara Lopez, Cheryl Swenson, and Chuckie Ganze. The late Cedric Stout, Pearl Harbor survivor, who passed away Jan. 17, 2024, would have been 103 today. On this day also Bridge City's first police chief, Wilson Roberts, would have celebrated his 86th birthday. He passed away Aug. 11, 2022. He and V.J. would have been married 45 years on Nov. 8. Celebrating today are Dee Moran, Bryana Hernandez, Debra Burch, Keith Longlois, Aaron Hommel. Nov. 9: Madalyn Carpenter, Sue Barnes, Eric Meadows, Linda Faulk, Keith Royal, Susan Veillon, Cjarlotte Wooton, Donna Bradley, L.C. Boureaux. Nov. 10: Attorney Steve Carlton, Rana Miller, Troy Crochet, Jeff Bland, Patricia Kemp, Karen Clopp, Trey Todora, George Roberts. Nov. 11: Greg LeBlanc, Michael Fiset, Bree Hanks, Michelle Brown, Ryan Pickering, Allison Ball, Edee Risher, Gerald DeLeon, Jeanelle Cochran. This is also the wedding anniversary of Brad and Carlis Roy. Happy Anniversary. Nov. 12: Sean Gros, Karen's second son and Roy and Phyl's middle grandson, celebrates today. Also Jeanne Blacksher, Kathy Reeves, Larry Gunter, Liz Briggs, Phillip Kimbrow, Sharon Sims, Cyndi Longlois, Steve Fisher, Carol Ware, Charmaine Faircloth, Crystal Jones, Pat Stanton and Danielle Graffagnino. Birthday greetings also go out to retired Orange newspaper reporter Bobbie Earle, who is now living near family in Houston and turned 96. Queen Shirley Parker turned 90 with celebrations including lunch at Lucy's Cafe, owned by her daughter, Lucy Parker Terry. Her son is Dr. Calvin Parker. Grammy Jeannie Ashcraft turned 8 and Carl Parks in Vidor turned 80. Others having another trip around the sun include Josh Peveto, Charlotte Chaisson, Linda Hall Cloessner, D.D. Terry, Dallis Miller, Marilyn Prewitt, Pam Frederick Williams, Laurie Trotter Cook, Sherry Singleton Windham, Cathy Manshack, Dale Dardeau, Geraldyn Blanda Vine, Nicole Meyne, Edith Davenport, Jerry Gray, Yolanda Young, Cristina Nguyen Johnson, Lisa Blowers, and Donna Bell. Happy anniversary to Judge Dennis and Connie Powell, who had No. 43, and Josh and Sally Peveto marking 19 years.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Da Quibodeaux twins, Alvin and Calvin, are not too bright dem. At age 29, dey still live at home wit dere mama Agness.

Dey decide one day to go fishing so Agness can make a big catfish sauce picante. Dey rented a boat and motor, dem. Dey didn't go far wen dey hit a stump in the Henderson Swamp and da motor fell off in bout 10 feet of water.

Calvin look at Alvin and say, "We gotta go down dere and get dat motor."

Alvin tell Calvin, "You go down dere and get dat motor, I'll trow you a rope to bring it up wit."

Da water was clear. Alvin watch from da boat. He sees Calvin on da bottom pulling da starter rope.

Alvin say, "Look at dat stupid idiot, he outta know he can't start da motor like dat." So he lean over da side of da boat and shouts into da clear water, "Calvin, you stupid idiot, Choke it! Choke it!"

WIN OR LOSE MUSK HERE TO STAY

Why did Elon Musk put so much skin in Trump's game? The New York Times estimates Musk's reprogramming is worth \$100 million to Trump's campaign. Musk is betting Trump will also make most of the 20 federal investigations into his companies disappear. He likely expects a Trump administration to expand the nearly 100 contracts that Musk companies have with 17 federal agencies that generated \$3 billion in revenue last year. Perhaps no living billionaire owes more of their fortune to government subsidies than Musk. Tesla would have gone bankrupt without a decade of federal tax incentives for buying EV's. Cameron County gave SpaceX a 10-year property tax abatement in 2014, and Texas taxpayers kicked in \$15.3 million for the \$85 million launch facility in Boca Chica. Musk is worth more than \$200 billion and Tesla faces competition from new EV models, he wants to end EV tax credits. Trump has promised to make him government efficiency czar, a cabinet-level position where Musk has pledged to cut \$2 trillion in spending. Musk feels entitled to overhaul the government and tell us how to live. No matter who wins the White House, Musk will arguably remain the world's most influential Texan. Musk uses America PAC to turn out voters for Trump's Pennsylvania and Michigan, sometimes using brutal tactics. In the past week, Musk has promoted an American PAC ad calling Vice-President Harris the "C-word" and another showing Trump as a gladiator kicking Harris. Musk, a good friend of Russia's Putin, in the long run spells trouble for this country. We can do without his type of citizenship. Check us out on the web at therecordlive.com 24 hours a day. Thanks for your time. Mine is up. Take care and God bless.

Donald Trump wins Texas' 40 electoral vote

James Barragán
The Texas Tribune

Texas voters went for Donald Trump on Tuesday, according to The Associated Press, giving the Republican nominee the state's 40 electoral votes and continuing its streak of going red in every presidential election since it went for Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Neither candidate has yet reached the 270 electoral votes necessary to clinch the race.

Gov. Greg Abbott celebrated Trump's victory.

"Congratulations to President Donald Trump on his overwhelming victory in Texas," Abbott said in a statement. "Texans know who will slash inflation, secure our southern border, unleash American energy and

crack down on violent crime -- and that's Donald Trump. Texans rejected Kamala Harris' leftist agenda and voted to restore freedom, prosperity, and opportunity for all Americans."

Texas was never seriously considered a swing state this election cycle, despite a handful of visits from both nominees in recent months. But Democrats have held out hopes for years that the state is trending bluer.

In recent years, Democrats claimed they were chipping away at the GOP's electoral advantage both through engaging a younger generation of voters that is more racially diverse and by winning over moderate Republicans and independent voters who had tired

of the dominant party's rightward lurch.

In 2012, Republican Mitt Romney won the state over former President Barack Obama, a Democrat, by 16 percentage points. In 2016, Trump beat Democrat Hillary Clinton by 9 percentage points. And in 2020, Trump won the state against Biden by 5.6 percentage points. That was the closest presidential race in Texas since 1996 when GOP nominee Bob Dole beat former President Bill Clinton by 5 points.

Republicans have downplayed progress made by the minority party and pointed to multiple false starts by Democrats including the 20-point drubbing of former state Sen. Wendy Da-



The win continues the state's streak of going red in every presidential election since it went for Jimmy Carter in 1976. **REUTERS PHOTO**

vis by Gov. Greg Abbott in 2014 and the 11-point defeat of Democrat su-

perstar Beto O'Rourke by Abbott two years ago. Both Democratic candi-

dates had raised large sums of cash for their bids against Abbott.

Election results From Page 1

million to build new schools and renovate other facilities. Voters approved the bond 5,215 in favor and 4,449 opposed. A total off 9,664 votes were cast.

The Orange County Emergency Management District No. 1, which provides fire and rescue work for the city of Vidor and areas around Vidor, drew 10,869 voters to choose two of three at-large candidates to sit on the board of directors. Ronnie Herrera led the voting with 5,147, or 47.3 percent to be elected. Wyatt Boyett also won a seat with 4,381


votes or 40.31 percent. Rose Luce had 1,341 votes for 12.34 percent.

The Orange County Emergency Services District No. 3 for the Little Cypress area had a total of 2,825 votes cast to elect two of four candidates to the district's board of directors. Scott McDonald won with 1,237 votes, or 43.79 percent. Also winning a seat was Cathy Drake with 623 votes, or 22.05 percent. Others were Jeremy Kent Nichols with 571, or 20.21 percent, and Jeff Braus with 394, or 13.95 percent.


For U.S. Representative

District 14, incumbent Republican Randy Weber won reelection. Orange County voters cast 29,523 votes for him with 5,629 for Democrat Rhonda Hart.

Donald Trump has carried Orange County by more than 80 percent all three times he has run for the office of President of the United States. This year the Republican carried Orange County by 83 percent, with 30,183 votes compared to 5,931 for Vice President Kamala Harris and Governor Tim Walz.



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ESTATE SALE

Estate Sale this Friday Nov. 8 - Sunday Nov. 10, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m., 6630 Burdine St. in Mauriceville, Tx 77626. Antiques, collectibles, glassware, kitchen wares, small appliances, couch, recliner, end tables, lamps, 52" flat screen TV, drop leaf table, occasional chairs, desk, vintage grandfather clock, coccoo clock, Lane cedar chest, queen size bed sets, full antique tall head and foot board bed, adjusted to fit a queen adjustable mattress, bedding, linens, men, women clothing, shoes, chest of drawers, vintage marble top dresser with mirror, dining table with 1 leaf, 8 chairs, buffet, vintage hutch and armoire, round table with formica top, Luthier (string instrument maker), wood and parts for sale. Any questions call: Agnes Chambers 935-590-8655 or Robbie Hudspeth 936-201-3242.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters of Independent Administration with Will Annexed for the Estate of **VELMA ELAINE CHATLOSH**, were issued on **October 29, 2024, in Cause No. P20128**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **BRADLEY ALAN CHATLOSH**.

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

c/o: **James R. Dunaway**
PO Box 100
Orange, TX 77631

Dated the **29th day of October, 2024.**

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: **Executor of the Estate of Velma Elaine Chatlosh**
State Bar No.: 06208000
P.O. Box 100
Orange, TX 77631-0100
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **MICHAEL ALLEN PRICE**, were issued on **July 1, 2024, in Cause No. P19986**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **BARBARA SNYDER**.

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

c/o: **James R. Dunaway**
PO Box 100
Orange, TX 77631

Dated the **5th day of NOVEMBER, 2024.**

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for: **Administrator of the Estate of Michael Allen Price**
State Bar No.: 06208000
P.O. Box 100
Orange, TX 77631-0100
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **CHARLES JOSEPH HARTMAN**, Deceased, were issued on **OCTOBER 29, 2024, in Cause No. P20136**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **LENIOUS EARL HARTMAN, Independent Ecceptor**.

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

The address of record for the executor is:

Lenious Earl Hartman
c/o Arthur Martin
Attorney at Law
PO Box 456
Orangefield, TX
77639-2001

Dated the 5th day of November, 2024

Arthur L. Martin
Arthur L. Martin

Attorney for: **Lenious Earl Hartman**
State Bar No.: 13051725
PO Box 456
Orangefield, TX
77639-2001
Office: 409-233-2001
Email: amartin@setx-law.com

Notice of Rate Change Request

On October 7, 2024, Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI") filed an application for a Transmission Cost Recovery Factor ("TCRF") with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission" or "PUC"). The application was assigned PUC Docket No. 57162. The proposed TCRF is requested in accordance with the Public Utility Regulatory Act § 36.209 and 16 TAC § 25.239. A TCRF allows a utility to recover its reasonable and necessary costs that have occurred since the end of the test year in the utility's last base rate case for transmission infrastructure improvement and changes in wholesale transmission charges to the electric utility under a tariff approved by a federal regulatory authority. In its requested amendment, ETI is seeking recovery of costs for transmission capital investments it incurred from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. ETI also seeks to recover approved transmission charges that are not otherwise being recovered through rates.

The proposed TCRF as amended would result in total TCRF retail revenues of approximately \$9.7 million on an annual basis, which would be a 0.79% increase in ETI's annualized non-fuel revenue requirement as compared to revenues approved in Docket No. 53719, ETI's most recent base rate case, and a 0.50% increase in ETI's overall annualized revenue requirement including fuel costs as compared to such revenues. The impact of the rate change on various customer classes will vary from the overall impact described in this notice.

The effective date of the proposed rate change would be the date that a Commission order adopting the proposed TCRF is issued. ETI has requested that, if no hearing is requested, the Commission adopt an order approving the proposed TCRF at or before its currently scheduled open meeting on December 19, 2024. All customers in ETI's Texas retail rate classes are affected by this request.

Persons with questions or who want more information on this filing may contact ETI at Entergy Texas, Inc., Attn: Customer Service—2024 TCRF Case, 350 Pine Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701, email tcrcr@entergy.com, or call 1-866-981-2602 during normal business hours. A complete copy of this application is available for inspection at the address listed above.

The Commission has assigned Docket No. 57162 to this proceeding. Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Public Utility Commission of Texas (commission) as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission at (512) 936-7136.

The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is 45 days after the date the application was filed with the commission. Therefore, ETI has requested that the deadline be November 21, 2024 and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date. Instructions for electronic filing via the "PUC Filer" on the Commission's website can be found here: <https://interchange.puc.texas.gov/filer>. Instructions for using the PUC Filer are available at: https://ftp.puc.texas.gov/public/puct-info/industry/filings/E-Filing_Instructions.pdf.

Once you obtain a tracking sheet associated with your filing from the PUC Filer, you may email the tracking sheet and the document you wish to file to: centralrecords@puc.texas.gov. For assistance with your electronic filing, please contact the Commission's Help Desk at (512) 936-7100 or helpdesk@puc.texas.gov. You can review materials filed in this docket on the PUC Interchange at: <http://interchange.puc.texas.gov/>.

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Orange County Football Highlights . . .

All four OC teams chalk big wins



Bridge City Cardinal running back Ashton Sumrall trudges through Liberty Panther defenders as Big Red rolls on to a 24-0 victory.

RECORD PHOTO: Lisa K Anderson



Orangefield quarterback Carson Gonzalez (0) holds off a Buccaneers defender for a nice gain during Friday's 41-20 win over East Chambers.

RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.

TOMMY MANN JR.
For The Record

Orange County teams made statements this past weekend as each came away victorious and two clinched district titles in the process with a week remaining in the regular season.

Orangefield beats Bucs for title

The Orangefield Bobcats defeated the East Chambers Buccaneers 41-20 this past Friday to clinch the outright title in District 10-3A Division 1 in Coach Jeff Breaux's first season leading the program.

The Bobcats leaned heavily all night on running back Mason Manning, who carried the ball 21 times for 258 yards and five

touchdowns and helped power the offense to 455 total yards for the game. Manning had scoring runs of 2-yards, 13-yards, 62-yards, 41-yards and 8-yards, respectively, on the night. Zach Morrow added a 52-yard catch and run for a score from quarterback Carson Gonzalez right before halftime.

Meanwhile, the Orangefield defense kept the explosive East Chambers offense in check for much of the game. Even though the defense allowed 307 for the Buccaneers offense, it never allowed East Chambers to utilize its offensive speed.

Orangefield (7-2, 5-0) travels to Buna (1-8, 0-5) this Thursday night to take on the Cougars in the final district game of the season.

LC-M defeats Huffman, clinches crown

For the second consecutive week, the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Battlin' Bears have defeated an opponent to remove them from the ranks of the unbeaten, and this time the reward was clinching the district's number one playoff seed and the title of District 10-4A Division 1 champions.

The Bears went on the road this past Friday and returned home with a 43-40 victory over the previously unbeaten Huffman-Hargrave Falcons. According to the LC-M CISD website it was Coach Eric Peevey's 30th win as Bears head coach, which makes him only the third coach

in history of the school to reach that many victories.

LC-M gained 360 yards of total offense, while its defense allowed 441 yards to the Falcons. However, the both units did their best when it mattered most in the fourth quarter for the come-from-behind win.

Fuller scored on a 1-yard run to give LC-M a 7-0 lead in the first quarter, but Huffman scored on a 64-yard run and its defense added a 39-yard fumble return for a 14-7 lead over the Bears. Quarterback Braylon Lewis scored on a 4-yard run to tie the game, 14-14, at the end of the first quarter.

Lewis added a dazzling 51-yard run midway through the second quarter to put LC-M back on top, 21-14, but Huffman showed its offensive firepower

with a 44-yard touchdown pass and 29-yard touchdown pass to lead 28-21 at halftime.

The Falcons extended its lead to 35-21 with a 21-yard scoring run in the third quarter, but Kaden Boatman put LC-M back in the game with a 90-yard kick-off return to make the score 34-28 for Huffman. Falcons quarterback Nolan Cook tossed his third touchdown pass of the night, this time for 30-yards, to again extend the Huffman lead, 40-28.

The fourth quarter was all LC-M as the defense stood tall and the offense took control. Lewis threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to Jakson Struwe early in the quarter and then Lewis added a 7-yard touchdown run

ORANGE COUNTY Page 5B

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OUTDOORS

Waterfowl season in full swing

OUTDOORS
Capt. Chuck Uzzle
For The Record



Saturday morning will officially usher in the 2024-2025 waterfowl season for all our local hunters and expectations run the gamut from cautiously optimistic to gung ho. Texas duck and goose hunters cranked up last weekend and the initial reports were good overall. Many local marshes that are historically proven early season producers had limits on average which was a welcome sight.

High water during the late summer jump started vegetation growth in many areas so the food sources have somewhat changed and the birds have obviously followed.

Several great reports came from public lands



Texas duck and goose hunters cranked up last weekend and the initial reports were good overall.
RECORD PHOTO: Capt. Chuck Uzzle

where gadwall, pintails, and plenty of teal made up the majority of the straps. A decent amount of widgeon were also taken by several hunters I spoke with as well.

Local hunters who cross the Sabine River and chase ducks and geese in Louisiana will get their first opportunity as the season opens in the Coastal Zone on Saturday morning. Many hunters running the marshes reported a decent influx of birds last weekend during the Youth Only hunts. Saturday's youth results were much slower compared to Sunday's according to the reports I received as it seemed overnight the numbers of birds in area took a big jump.

These small fronts we have been getting are certainly helping bolster the number of ducks that are already here. Everything right now points to a population of birds on the move as some colder weather is set to invade Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma.

The big push should move some better numbers of birds into Southeast Texas and South Louisiana. Late summer rains have the local marshes flush with good grass which should provide plenty of food and perfect habitat heading into the season.

Farther down the Texas coast the opening weekend brought better reports overall as quick limits were the norm in areas around Matagorda, El Campo, and Garwood. Solid populations of speckled bellied geese were bonus birds for duck hunters fortunate enough to have combo shoots near agricultural fields. The concentrations of birds were a bit more predictable down there for those who had plenty of water. Pumping water onto prime locations is big business and in years past the opportunity to have "duck water" was at a pre-

CAPTAIN CHUCK Page 5B

Gulf Coast Fishing Reports



Outstanding fish are being caught on Sabine Lake. The Record's Capt. Chuck Uzzle displays one of his catches here.

• Sabine Lake

GOOD. 85 degrees. When the winds are calm the gulf rigs are holding trout, ling and cobia in 35-40 feet of water on LSU colored 3inch plastics. Triple tail can be caught in the same area along the weed lines with debris beneath. When the winds are blowing drift in the Sabine Channel and ICW for limits of trout and redfish off the points, drops, shell flats and rock piles with live shrimp under a popping cork. Water has dropped some brining flounder out of the marshes in the channel on artificials. Flounder season ends November 1. Neches River is now fishable, producing a mixed bag of speckled trout and redfish off the points, drops and rock piles. Bait primarily seems to be holding to the rock piles. Forecasted cold front should increase the bird action throughout the system. Birds are still working in Sabine Lake leading the way to redfish fishing a ¾ ounce gold spoon off the bottom. There are a lot gafftops and even sharks beneath as well. Bull redfish can be caught in Sabine Lake and the Neches River. Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.

• Bolivar

GOOD. 77 degrees. Water temperature staying in the upper 70s. Water levels swapping back-and-forth this week with the front and the tides. Anglers are still catching plenty of redfish everywhere. There are plenty of big croakers along with sand trout, black drum, speckled trout, and crabs caught along the jetty with a few small stingrays and sharks. Flounder are still sporadic with small males still being caught until we get some cooler weather. Flounder season ends November 1. The surf is producing lots of redfish and black drum, a few gafftop, lots of small stingrays, and bigger sharks along the whole peninsula with high activity towards Gilchrist/High Island mainly. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp

• Trinity Bay

SLOW. 78 degrees. Birds still active in the northern area of the bay. Shorelines holding better fish in 2-4 feet of water over shell. Schools of redfish in the open bay. Ship Channel spoil islands are producing catches of no a redfish, black drum, a few sheepshead and speckled trout. Best on live shrimp. Report by Captain David

on the bottom and gulf shrimp rigged weedless. The flounder season ends November 1. Report by Captain Zackary Scott, Zack Attack Fishing.

• East Galveston Bay

GOOD. 78 degrees. Surface water temperature 75 degrees, water clarity has been extremely good for East Galveston Bay this past week. There has been lighter than average winds, allowing anglers to fish all over the bay system. Trout and redfish were good off shore oyster reefs. Redfish were also good off grass shorelines, including back in the marsh. Target flats with scattered shell around pinch points with current and nervous bait, with great success, enabling us to land trout, redfish and the few flounder are beginning to show up in their Fall Spots. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Service, LLC.

• Galveston Bay

SLOW. 78 degrees. Wind will be a factor fishing the open bay wells. Look towards protected shorelines as they have produced catches of redfish, black drum, sheepshead, even a few flounder and speckled trout. Best action on live shrimp. Re-

FISHING Page 4B


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'The Lakes' Fishing

• Toledo Bend Fishing Report

FAIR. Water normal stain; 80 degrees; 4.75 feet below pool. Fishing patterns are steady. Water temperature is finally staying in the low 80s, dipping into the upper 70s in the mornings. Bass fishing has improved with catches up to 9 pounds this week. Bass are shallow in 1-5 feet of water on topwater lures, swimbaits and chatterbaits during the first couple of hours. Then target mid range fish in 8-14 feet of water on Texas rigs and crankbaits. There is a deep bite on dropshots and spoons in 18-25 feet. There are a good number of fish, just not many big fish yet. Few more crappie getting caught this week on shallow brush and at night on lighted deeper docks. All live bait. Report by Stephen Johnston, Johnston Fishing..

• Sam Rayburn Fishing Reports

GOOD. Water slightly stained; 77 degrees; 2.37 feet below pool. There is an abundance of shad in shallow water. Shallow bass feeding on the shad can be caught with spinnerbaits and topwater frogs. Crappie are transitioning from brush main lake brush to creek channels. Blue and channel catfish are fair in 24-27 feet of water and in the river bends on cut bait and minnows. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson, Reel Um N Guide Service.



Orangefield running back Mason Manning slashes through the East Chambers defense on the way to a 41-20 victory.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Orangefield Bobcat head coach Jeffrey Breaux speaks to local media after clinching the title in District 10-3A Division 1 in his first season leading the program.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Orangefield Bobcat ball carrier Zach Morrow picks up good yardage against the East Chambers Bucs.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Mason Manning is on the loose for the Orangefield Bobcats during the district title victory over East Chambers.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

Capt. Chuck From Page 2B

mium.
This year the higher than normal summer rainfall helped out the farmers and hunters alike when it came time to pump and many outfitters reaped huge benefits. Some of the prime areas in that part of the state have not looked this good at this time of the year in quite some time. The opening weekend was basically just an extension of the great teal season for hunters in that part of the state. In fact the blue wings and green wings made up a good bit of the numbers of ducks taken for many hunters.

Perhaps the biggest bonus during the opener was the amount of pintails that have already shown up. Several hunters reported taking their pintails early and then getting the opportunity to just watch a few flocks work their decoys.

Going forward for waterfowlers the biggest concern will be weather and that always seems to be the case. It's been a tough stretch for the last several seasons and that trend appears to be continuing, in fact the Farmer's Almanac is actually calling for a dry warm winter and that's exactly what we don't want.

Regardless of the forecast most waterfowlers will continue to battle through the conditions in one way or another. Many hunters will go as hard as they can locally and then get on the road if necessary to seek out other opportunities. Hopefully we can get some cooperation from both the weather and the birds because local hunters are certainly due for a break.



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Waterfowl Hunters Play a Critical Part in Preventing the Spread of Invasive Species

**Staff Report
For The Record**

AUSTIN – The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) encourages hunters to take responsible action in their critical role in protecting waterfowl habitats and the lakes we love from the spread of aquatic invasive species like giant salvinia and zebra mussels.

Hunters can make a difference by simply taking a few minutes to clean, drain and dry their boats and gear.

Aquatic invasive plants can easily become entangled or trapped on boats and boat trailers and moved to other lakes. Hunters should also make sure they aren't inadvertently carrying invasive species on other equipment like waders, decoys, decoy bags and marsh sleds by cleaning, draining and drying this equipment as well. A video to help hunters learn how to properly clean, drain and dry their gear can be found

on the TPWD YouTube Channel.

Giant salvinia, one of the most problematic aquatic invasive plants in Texas, can double in size and acreage in less than a week, quickly becoming a problem and impeding access for boats. Just a small fragment of giant salvinia or other aquatic invasive plants can cause an infestation in a new lake, making it critical for all boaters to clean, drain and dry their boats and gear.

"Giant salvinia is often thought of as a plant that blocks recreational access for anglers and boaters, but it can cause serious problems for waterfowl hunters too," said John Findeisen, TPWD Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Team Lead. "Not only does it form thick mats that block hunters' access to prime waterfowl hunting areas, but it can also outgrow and replace the native plants that waterfowl rely on for food and habitat."

Giant salvinia is currently present on 25 East Texas lakes and numerous rivers, creeks and marshes between Houston and Beaumont.

Other major invasive species



Taking just a few minutes for these simple steps can help prevent impacts on ecosystems, infrastructure and recreation, and make a huge difference protecting and preserve Texas lakes.

include threats in Texas include zebra and quagga mussels. Currently, zebra mussels are found in 37 Texas lakes across seven river basins as well as in river reaches downstream of infested lakes.

These invaders can harm aquatic life, litter shorelines with sharp shells, damage boats, clog water intakes and cause costly damage to water supply and control infrastructure. Invasive mussels attached to plants or boats can travel to new

lakes, and boats, decoys, and other equipment can transport the microscopic larvae of invasive mussels in residual water.

"Waterfowl hunters can help keep invasive mussels and aquatic plants from being moved and harming more lakes by taking a few minutes to remove plants and debris from boats, along with draining water before leaving the lake and allowing everything to dry completely afterward before traveling to a new loca-

tion," said Monica McGarrity, TPWD Senior Scientist for Aquatic Invasive Species. "Taking just a few minutes for these simple steps can help prevent impacts on ecosystems, infrastructure and recreation, and make a huge difference in our efforts to protect and preserve Texas lakes for current and future generations."

On top of the harm invasive species cause aquatic ecosystems, water infrastructure and the recre-

ational experience at lakes, the transport of these organisms can result in legal trouble for boaters.

Transporting prohibited aquatic invasive species in Texas is illegal and punishable with a fine of up to \$500 per violation. It's also the law that boaters must drain all water from their boat and onboard receptacles, including bait buckets, before leaving or approaching a body of fresh water. They must also remove all invasive plants from the boat, trailer and tow vehicle before leaving a lake.

TPWD and partners monitor for invasive species in Texas lakes, but anyone who finds them in lakes where they haven't been reported before — or who spots them on boats, trailers or equipment being moved— can help identify and prevent new introductions by reporting the sighting to TPWD immediately at (512) 389-4848 or by emailing photos and location information for new invasions to aquaticinvasives@tpwd.texas.gov.

To learn more about giant salvinia, zebra mussels and other invasive species in Texas, visit tpwd.texas.gov/StopInvasives.

Fishing Reports From Page 1B

port by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 79 degrees. Decent bite on large sand trout, speckled trout, and redfish, over shell and along the shoreline coves. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• Freeport

GOOD. 85 degrees. Birds have been working over trout and redfish feeding on shrimp in the mornings and in the evenings. Live shrimp under a four horseman popping cork, or gulp with 1/16 jig head has been catching fish. Redfish are good in the surf on live or cut mullet. The old river has been good for trout, redfish,

sheephead and mangrove snapper. The river been good for trout, redfish, drum, sand trout and big croaker using either live or dead shrimp. Report by Captain Jake Brown, Flat-tie Daddy Fishing Adventures

• Texas City

GOOD. 77 degrees. Bull redfish is still the name of the game. Plenty of fish are being caught at night

and some during the day near the end of the dike. Galveston jetties producing bull redfish, black drum, even some speckled trout. Best bite for redfish has been on crab, mullet or shad. Trout are biting live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. Anglers are still catching plenty of speckled trout, redfish, and flounder with the occasional black drum, sand trout, gafftop and big croaker. Successful wade fishing around Mosquito

Island and inside the Moses Lake Tidal Gate in the late afternoons. Along the dike has been productive from the beginning to the end. Live shrimp and finger mullet have been the best baits. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp.


• Matagorda Bay East & West

GOOD. 85 degrees. Weather continues to be warm, with wind. Trout are being caught wading or drifting with plastics, live

shrimp under a popping cork and topwaters. Report by Captain Charlie Paradossi, Captain Charlie Paradossi's Guide Service.


• Port O'Conner

GOOD. 84 degrees. Large trout are being caught on the outside of the jetty on live shrimp. Redfish are biting at the ends of both jetties on Spanish sardines and blue crab. Keeper black drum are biting on the inside of the south jetty halfway down in 25 feet of water. Sharks are biting in the middle of the jetties.




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Bridge City Cardinal Carson Saucedo finds running room in the 24-0 win over the Liberty Panthers. RECORD PHOTO: Lisa K Anderson



Jagger Carlin (5) breaks up a Liberty Panthers pass as the Bridge City Cardinals defense allows less than 12 points per game on average. RECORD PHOTO: Lisa K Anderson

Orange County football From Page 1B



Orangefield Bobcat defensive player Fernando Sandoval-Rodriguez huals down a East Chambers Buc in the title winning 41-20 contest. RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

for the lead. He converted the two-point attempt to give LC-M the win, 43-40, after the defense held once more.

LC-M (7-2, 6-0) is home at Bear Stadium in Week 11 to host the Lumberton Raiders (3-6, 3-3). The Bears have clinched the district's number one playoff seed already and await on which opponent it will face in the highly competitive District 9-4A. Lumberton still has an outside shot at making the playoffs, as the Raiders need a win over LC-M and a Vidor loss to Livingston to clinch the fourth seed.

Cardinals shut out Liberty

The Bridge City Cardinals got back on the winning track this past Friday with a 24-0 win over the Liberty Panthers.

The Cardinals defense remains one of the best units in Southeast Texas as it allows less than 12 points per game on average, and the victory over Liberty was its second shutout of the season.

Quarterback Hutch Bearden led the Cardinals offense with a passing touchdown and rushing touchdown on the night, while running back Ashton Sumrall added a score as well in the win.

Bridge City (8-1, 5-1) returns to Larry Ward Stadium this Friday night to take on the Huffman Hargrave Falcons (8-1, 5-1). The win-

ner will finish in second place in District 10-4A Division 1 and the loser claims third place.

Mustangs stampede over Tarkington

The West Orange-Stark Mustangs had no trouble beating the Tarkington Longhorns this past Friday night and cruised to a 55-8 win in the final home game of the season at Dan R. Hooks Stadium.

The Mustangs generated over 340 yards of total offense on the night, while the defense held the Longhorns offense in check all night. Marcus Turner Jr threw for nearly 100 yards and a touchdown, while

rushing for two more scores. The Mustangs ground game churned out big yards and numerous rushing touchdowns in the win.

WO-S (8-1, 4-0) travels to Fannett this coming Friday night to take on the Hampshire-Fannett Longhorns (8-1, 4-0). The winner will be declared the champion of District 9-4A Division 2 and claim the district's number one seed for the playoffs.

Vidor wins third in a row

The Vidor Pirates appear

to be peaking at just the right time as the team won its third consecutive game on the season, this time in a 57-22 pounding of the Hardin-Jefferson Hawks this past Friday at Pirates Stadium.

The Pirates pounded out more than 400 yards of offense on the ground against the Hawks. Fullback Riley Marlow scored three touchdowns on the night, which included a 12-yard run, 5-yard run and a 28-run up the middle for the final Vidor score of the night. Landon Jones added a 27-yard run and 16-yard touchdown, while Brody Bloss

scored on a 15-yard run and quarterback Daigan Venable added a 32-yard touchdown run.

The Vidor defense kept the Hawks frustrated all night as Skylar Stankovich scored a safety for the defense and Aiden Villafano scored on a 68-yard fumble return to start the 21-point scoring frenzy in the third quarter.

Vidor (4-5, 3-3) will travel to Livingston (0-9, 0-6) in Week 11 to take on the Lions. Vidor clinches the fourth and final playoff spot in District 10-4A Division 1 with a win or a Lumberton loss.

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Brianna Frenzel & Spencer Uribe, along with their families, are delighted to announce their marriage, which will take place on November 24th at the Oaks at High Hill in Schulenburg, Texas. Spencer is a chemical engineer, working in the Lake Charles area. Brianna is currently working as a Speech Language Pathologist Assistant in the Dallas area. After the wedding, the couple will reside in Southwest Louisiana.

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Exhort one another . . . that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13)

I longed to appear brave, mature, and full of faith in front of my revered mother-in-law, Anne Ortlund. But I couldn't control the tears any longer. Her godly son, Ray, who happened to be my magnificent husband, was at yet another meeting with church leaders who were making it clear that he would soon be removed from his ministry as lead pastor at a church we dearly loved. For various reasons (from "we can't explain why, but we just think this is for the best" to "his face is too Nordic-looking"), they were not only planning to let Ray go, but were also hinting that he should leave gospel ministry entirely.

We felt as if we had been run over by a big bus and were left lying on the pavement while life went on for everyone else. This trial was vastly different from any of the difficulties we had dealt with in our 36 years of ministry to that point. We were confused and scared. Mom Ortlund already knew some of the story. And on this visit with us from her home in California, she tried to listen to me patiently.

As she listened, however, she saw something in me that I had overlooked. And with the firm love of a faithful woman, she responded



in a way I never expected — but so desperately needed.

'Jani, Stop It'

Between sobs, I poured out my soul-crushing fears: "O Mom, I'm so afraid. What if they hammer Ray with more vague allegations? What if they keep insinuating that he should leave the ministry? You know how he has always lived in submission to his elders, but this is crazy. And I'm terrified. I never dreamed we'd be in this awful situation at age 58. Ray is even waking up with nightmares. I don't know how to love him through this, how to be his helper. I'm just so scared." I started sobbing even more uncontrollably. Then, as I started my next sentence, "What if . . ." Mom interrupted me.

I'll never forget what she said. She was calm, but she was firm: "Jani, stop it." She didn't raise her voice. She

didn't sigh in exasperation. And when her startled daughter-in-law caught her breath and looked up from her tissue-covered eyes, Mom just earnestly repeated herself. "Stop it, dear Jani."

As you can imagine, Mom's comment shocked me. I caught my breath. I was barely able to blurt out, "What do you mean?" I had been hoping for affirmation, sympathy, and even a bit of righteous anger. But what I received was a strong, brief exhortation from a saintly woman I deeply trusted. Mom went on to tell me that no one would be helped by my all-consuming panic. There were no answers to my "What if . . ." questions. And the best way I could help my dear Ray was to stop wallowing in my fears.

"Did you know, Jani, that 'fear not' is the most repeated command in the Bible?

We are told over 365 times to 'fear not.' That's at least one 'fear not' for every day of the year." Maybe everyone else knows that about the Bible, but I didn't. It was a new thought, and I needed it.

Escaping the Snare

Notice what my mother-in-law was wisely doing. She didn't join my fear-fest, but stayed deeply rooted in her Lord and his word — and she helped me get there too. She lovingly exhorted me, "with complete patience and teaching" (2 Timothy 4:2), to stop letting my fears be my king, reigning over my broken heart and confused mind. She challenged me to ask myself why I was bowing to my fears and allowing them to rule me at that moment.

Mom's faithful and firm exhortation helped free me from the strong trap of fear. How did it help me? Mom understood in that moment that I needed more than sympathy. Fear's deceitful entanglement was holding me captive, and I needed someone not merely to commiserate with me, but to help me escape fear's grip.

Mom faced an emotionally hard choice as I stood there crying. She could either coddle my fears or confront them. If she had coddled my fears out of fear of my disapproval, she would have become ensnared by "the fear of man." Coddling me might have initially felt kind, but ultimately it would have proven cruel

because her "kindness" would have left me trapped by fear. Instead, Mom chose the difficult path of confrontation.

only kind sympathy but firm love.

Blessed Exhortation

My mother-in-law proved to be a faithful sister to me that night, leading me to our wise King. While she cared deeply for her suffering son, she knew that succumbing to fear would only make the situation worse. As believers, we do not fight fear by trying to drum up enough courage. We fight fear by faith — faith in the God who invites us to bring our fears to him and let his peace, which passes all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7).

Only one fear should capture our hearts: the fear of the Lord. As Psalm 112 tells us, "Blessed is the man who fears the Lord. . . . He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord. His heart is steady; he will not be afraid" (verses 1, 7-8).

I'm deeply grateful for my mother-in-law's wise and loving exhortation that night. It was a turning point in my life. What if she had feared speaking into my fears? I would not have been able to clothe myself with "strength and dignity" (Proverbs 31:25) as Ray and I walked through those dark days together — and far beyond. I would not have been a good helper for my beloved husband. And I would not have experienced the peace and strength that come from turning to Christ, for "whoever trusts in the Lord is safe" (Proverbs 29:25).

I'm so glad she pointed me to him. What a blessed exhortation!



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