

Penny Record

Vol. 65 No. 22

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

Week of Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Dry plant life leads to burn ban vote

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The burn ban for Orange County is extended until further notice of the county judge as the county continues to be in a drought with windy conditions and grass fires breaking out.

Commissioners Court Tuesday voted to extend the burn ban previously called by County Judge John Gothia. He said Orange County was the first to declare a burn ban in this area, but other counties have joined in.

Other business included awarding a construction contract for the new Public Health Building. G&G Enterprises of Orange is the contractor and had the low bid of \$5.6 million. The new building is being constructed by the County Expo Center on FM 1442. The county is using federal ARPA grants given during the Covid pandemic.

The latest U.S. Drought Monitor issued Thursday, October 17, has Orange County in a moderate drought condition, along with adjoining parts of Jefferson, Newton, and Jasper counties, plus Calcasieu Parish on the Louisiana side.

The burn ban is for all non-incorporated areas in the counties. The cities have their own ordinances that prevent open burning at all times within city limits.

The county has not had measurable rain for a few weeks as drying north winds have created even more hazards with vegetation, especially as leaves begin to all. Judge Gothia said the burn ban was made at the recommendations of the emergency services districts in the county, which provide paid and volunteer fire



Orange County Judge John Gothia

protection.

No rain is in the forecast for this week, but the U.S. Weather Service out of Lake Charles reports rain could move into the area by Thursday, October 31, which is Halloween.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Johnny Trahan was not at the meeting, however, Judge Gothia said the commissioner is out of the hospital and making phone calls. Trahan was hospitalized for several days because of an internal infection that began at the site of a hip replacement. Gothia said the commissioner hopes to be back at work soon.

County Engineer Corey Oldbury, who oversees the Road and Bridge Department covering all four precincts, reported his office had 445 new work orders made in September. The Cow Bayou Bridge was opened and closed only 30 times in September, which is down from recent months, he said. The county collection station for residents to drop off trash and recyclables had 570 people during the month.

A lot of the Commissioners Court meeting was used to approved a number of business that is routinely passed early in the annual budget year,

COUNTY 3A



Bridge City cheerleaders pose with Hallie Bearden Homecoming Queen

Hallie Bearden was crowned Bridge City High School Homecoming Queen. She was escorted by her father, Jim Sharon Bearden. Hallie is an outstanding student leader, serving as a Varsity Cheerleader and Executive Student Council D17 Representative. In addition to her leadership roles, she is Captain of the Powerlifting team and an officer for Cardinals For Christ. Her dedication to her school and community truly shines through her involvement in these diverse activities.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

PALT offers local talent thespians opportunities

PENNY LELEUX
For The Record

Orange County's community theater, the Orange Community Players, Inc. has been without a functional theater since TS Harvey in 2017. They were almost up and running again, then the HVAC system went out. Currently they are raising money to replace it and they should be back in action sometime in 2025.

In the meantime, Port Arthur Little Theater has been able to take up some of the slack offering Orange County actors opportunities to continue plying their trade.

Last weekend the just completed a three-week run of "Legally Blonde the Musical" with several Orange County residents in key roles. Bridge City Middle School theater teacher Chase Slaughter played Emmett Forrestt, the character that played op-



Robyn Nobles as Elle Woods and Bridge City Middle School theater teacher Chase Slaughter as Emmett Forrestt belt out the finale number in "Legally Blonde the Musical" at Port Arthur Little Theater.

posite Robin Nobles who portrayed the main character, Elle Woods. Elle's best friends, Margot and serena were played by BC graduate, Raven Hankins

and Vidor graduate, Sabrina James, respectively. Elle's Mom was played by Orangefield's Amy Carroll and Michael Vu of LCM played Grandmaster Chad

and Pforzheimer. Isabella Sandino of Little Cypress-Mauriceville played Vivian Kensington, Elle's

LOCAL Page 3A

Friends, neighbors, run local elections

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

All the voting machines in Orange County have been calibrated and tested before being put out to the public. Plus, the machines are not connected to any internet server or wifi connection to allow hacking.

Orange County Elections Administrator Donna Alford made these assurances late Tuesday as accusations flew on a political Facebook page. The unverified comments drew so much attention that Precinct 2 County Commissioner Chris Sowell issued a Facebook

statement reminding citizens that the 25 people running the local elections are our friends, neighbors, and relatives.

Sowell is a Republican, as is every other elected county official. City councils and school boards have non-partisan elections here.

The accusations came after word about some nine people finding a voting mistake on their paper ballot and asking an election judge to cancel, or "spoil" it, for a new ballot.

Elections Administrator Alford said that is part of the system to allow voters to double check that their ballot is being cast

the way they want.

The voting advice is basically like every grade school teacher advised for tests--proof read. The screen asks the voter to proof their computer votes before printing out a paper ballot with those votes. Then the voter should proof read the paper ballot. That's how the voters with "spoiled" ballots discovered their mistakes.

This local system has been used in the past several elections.

Donald Trump won more than 80 percent of Orange County's votes in the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections. State-

wide Texas officials are all Republicans and Trump carried the state by large margins in 2016 and 2020 to receive all the state's electoral votes. He is predicted to do the same this year.

Orange County during the past 30 years created a separate elections administration office. Grants have helped the county build separate facilities for elections with a full-time staff specializing in operating elections.

The grants have come from federal and state levels as both national and state legislators have recognized the need for fair and honest elections.

The local election administration office works closely with the Texas Secretary of State, who is appointed to the position by the governor. Texas has had Republican governors since George W. Bush took office in 1995.

Before the Orange County Elections Administration Office was created, elections were overseen by the county clerk's office.

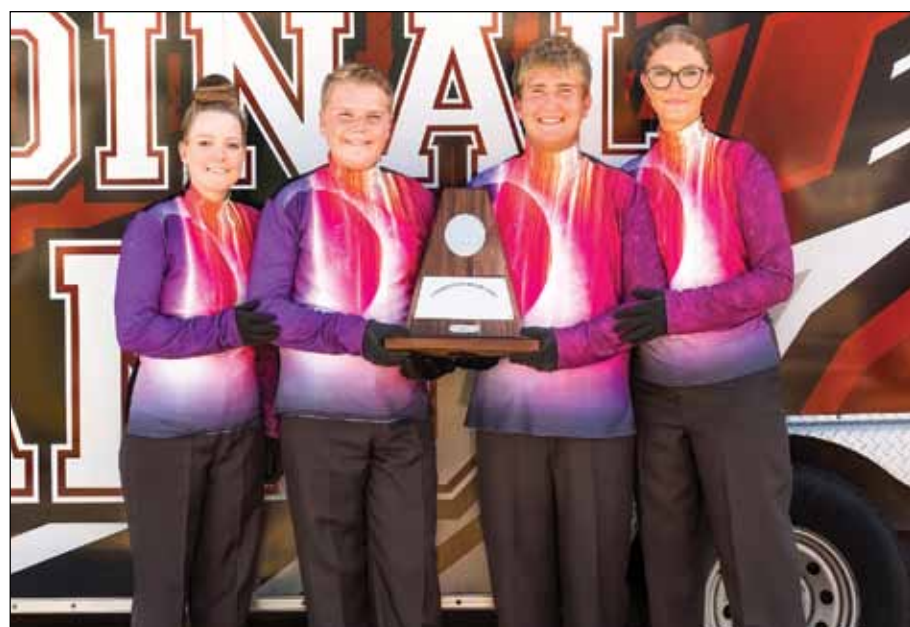
Donna Alford, the current Orange County Election Administrator, has worked in the office for 33 years and replaced the original administrator when she retired.

Alford and her staff are

paid by Orange County. They are constantly trained on changing election laws and how to operate and choose equipment.

In the past few years with the county acquiring electronic voting machines and keeping up with the election laws, the cities, school boards, and special districts in the county have contracted and paid the elections administration office to oversee their elections. The political parties also pay to have their primary elections held by the county elections adminis-

EARLY PAGE 2A



Cardinal Marching Band Earns Straight Ones at UIL Regional Contest, Advances to Area

Staff Report-For The Record

The Bridge City Cardinal Marching Band achieved a remarkable feat this past weekend, scoring straight ones at the UIL Regional Marching Contest. This outstanding performance has secured their advancement to the UIL Area Marching Contest, which will be held on November 2 in Lindale, Texas.

Under the expert direction of Tami Goss, the band has demonstrated exceptional skill, precision, and dedication, embodying the spirit of excellence that Bridge City is known for. The band's success is also guided by the leadership of its talented Drum

Majors, whose names are as follows: Malory Bailey, Evan Hull, Gracin Weldon and Emily Jones.

The journey to this point has been nothing short of extraordinary, 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.

Best of luck to the band as they prepare for Area! Let's cheer them on as they represent Bridge City with the same passion and energy that earned them this prestigious achievement.

Historic Ghost Walk Saturday

The ghostly people from Orange's past will come out to the downtown area Saturday as Heritage House Museum presents its Eighth Annual Historic Ghost Walk. Family-friendly walks will be from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and "night fright" walks will be from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The event to teach true stories and facts from Orange's history has become the museum's main fundraiser. High school drama students dress in costumes from different periods and tell true history researched and written by Margaret Toal, chair of the Orange County Historical Commission.

The event has turned into a community festival with food trucks, Free State Winery, family games on the museum lawn, plus arts and crafts.

Tours will leave Heritage House Museum, 905 West Division Street, every 10 minutes. The tour goes eastward down Division and past the Orange County Court-

house to the Sabine River. The tour then goes along the riverwalk and to Ochiltree-Inman Park along Front Street. Then along Front Street to circle back to the museum.

The walk is about half a mile and participants should wear comfortable shoes. Families bring wagons and strollers for their children.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children younger than 12. This is the first year the museum is selling advance tickets for reserved times. The advance tickets are on sale at the museum's administration office behind the 1902 J.O. Sims House. The office will be open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for ticket sales.

Contact museum director Charlotte Alford during those hours at 409-886-5385 for more information about the Historic Ghost Walk and tickets.

Early voting From Page 1

tration office.

Election judges and poll workers are paid for hourly contracted work. The pay is close to a local fast food restaurant worker. The poll workers and election box judges all have training on rules and regulations for taking identifications, checking voter roles, and overseeing the operations at each voting box for each vote.

Many of those workers have spent several years at their jobs and take it seriously as part of a democracy. Some of the local election workers participate in Republican politics and some in Democratic politics. Some are non-partisan. Elections Administrator Alford said the voting machines Orange County uses have paper backups on every step. A voter verified with accepted identification and listed as a registered voter goes to a machine. The ballot choices are shown on a computer screen. The voter can use a finger or a stylus.

Alford said sometimes a finger could accidentally drop a bit and hit an unintentional choice, and that is why people should pay attention. The voter may go back and change a touch choice at any point until the button is pushed to submit. Then the paper copy is printed out for the voter to place into the registered lock box.

If the voter notices a mis-

take on the paper ballot, they should go to an election judge at the poll and report it. The ballot with the mistake will be "spoiled" and registered. At the end of Tuesday, the second day of early voting, Orange County had a total of 7,036 ballots with 6,378 in person and 650 mail-in votes.

Early voting polls will be open this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Then on

Saturday, October 26, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and again on Sunday, October 27, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Polls will then be open 12 hours a day, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Monday, October 28, through Friday, November 1.

The early boxes are at the Orange Public Library, the Orange County Airport, the Mauriceville Community Center, and Raymond Gould Community Center.

The Record Newspapers

of Orange County, Texas

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

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Oct. 29TH - Nov. 1st

9AM-5PM

Local talent From Page 1

nemesis. Whitney was played by Olivia Haynes of Bridge City. Olivia Hayes played the Second Perfume Salesgirl and the Cashier.

They have already auditioned for their next two shows: "Candle in the Window" and the children's Christmas show, "The Christmas Crisis." The cast list wasn't available, but there are multiple Orange Countians in both of those shows as well. They will begin rehearsals now that "Legally Blonde" has finished its run.

"Candle in the Window" is a tale where a small group of weary travelers discover the power of the season while trapped in a lonely train station on Christmas Eve. As a blizzard rages outside, the troubled people are forced to turn to each other for companionship. Trying to make them more comfortable is the old stationmaster, Charlie. When the clock strikes midnight, there is a knock on the station door and seven youngsters appear. They've seen the station lights from the nearby church where, in secret, they've been practicing the story of the nativity which they plan to present at regular service. They offer to perform their play for the travelers and afterward, speak to the travelers individually, giving advice which is seemingly wise beyond their years. The next morning, as a new, young-

er stationmaster lights a Christmas candle, we realize the mysterious stop in the travelers' journey was more than accidental and has given them a renewed spirit and resolve. "A Candle in the Window" runs Nov. 29-Dec. 8. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$11 for Students.

The Christmas Crisis has Santa and Mrs. Claus forced to confront the digital world head-on when video game addiction strikes the North Pole and threatens Santa's Christmas delivery. The shows are December 13-15, 5:30-7 p.m. and tickets are \$10 each.

Tickets can be reserved by calling 409-727-7258 or purchased online at palt.org.

OCP may have been without a home since 2017, but they have held some musical reviews at various locations in Orange over the years and are currently rehearsing for a dinner theater fundraiser that will be held in November for two performances, one at the Orange Depot and one at the First Methodist Church of Orange in November. Directed by Rico and Cydney Vasquez, more information will be given later. Once the new HVAC system is purchased and installed, Orange will once again have a live theater and local actors will have even more opportunities through both OCP and PALT.



Golden Triangle Polymers donates \$250,000 to BC

Bridge City Mayor David Rutledge, center wearing bow tie, accepted a ceremonial check for \$250,000 from the new petrochemical plant Golden Triangle Polymers. Plant manager Chad Jennings, to the right of the mayor, attended the council meeting to give the check. The city plans to build public pickball courts with the money. The city had a leaders forum earlier this year with 40 citizens and pickleball courts topped the list of requests. Other members of the Bridge City City Council are Terry Gauthier, Aaron Roccaforte, Patty Collins, Sherby Dixon, Bryant Champagne, and Gina Mannino.

County business From Page 1

which began on October 1.

The routine business included allowing the U.S. Food and Drug Administration pass along information to the Orange County Health Department concerning investigations and outbreaks.

Cheryl Warren, a local citizen and chair of the Orange County Republican Party, was concerned about the agreement setting up where the county would share information from the new public health clinic.

Judge Gothia said no local information will be given, but the county can request information from the FDA on any investigations or outbreaks they have. The judge said the exchange could be important for something like a food poisoning outbreak like salmonella. The county could get information to see if the same foods carrying the outbreak in Orange County have been tied to outbreaks investigated in other places to see if the sources could be the same.

The routine agreements also included

six related to different grant programs to help the county pay for flood control projects. Different commissioners and county employees were appointed to committees overseeing the grants. One of the grant programs is looking at elevating at least 23 residences in the county with a history of flooding so the houses will be above future flood levels.

Bills paid included \$103,600 from the general fund to the Texas Association of Counties insurance program to cover medical, dental, and life insurance for employees under the age of 65. Also, \$86,160 from the general fund to the Amwins Group Benefits for insurance for retired county employees age 65 and older.

The court approved \$38,733 from the general fund to the city of Orange to cover maintenance on the Orange County Sheriff's Office dispatch console. The radio system under the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission covers the area and the city of Orange oversees the county's equipment.

Scarecrow Festival grand finale this week

The grand finale of Shangri La's fall season and Scarecrow Festival is celebrated at Autumn Fair on Saturday, October 26. This family friendly event begins at 10:30 a.m. and includes multiple opportunities for hands-on activities.

"This celebration of the fall season provides families with both a fun and educational nature experience. There are a variety of opportunities for visitors of all ages to delight in nature with activities such as scavenger hunts, a Shangri La obstacle course, pumpkin decorating, hay-

rides and pontoon boat rides along Adams Bayou. Visitors may take a closer look at nature by investigating some of the critters that call Shangri La home," said Katie Krantz, associate director of Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center.

Autumn Fair activities are free to the public and will last until 3:00 p.m., but visitors are welcome to enjoy the gardens until 5:00 p.m. This day is also the final opportunity to see the creative scarecrow exhibits.

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Oct. 28 – Nov. 1st 7:00am - 7:00pm

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From the Creaux's Nest

JAN. 6 RIOTER JUDGES FEAR REPRISALS

According to the **Associated Press**, over the past four years, judges at Washington's federal courthouse have punished hundreds of rioters who stormed the **U.S. Capitol** in an unprecedented assault on the nation's democracy. On the cusp of the next presidential election, some of those judges fear another burst of political violence could be coming. **U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton** said he prays Americans accept the outcome of the next election. But the veteran judge expressed concern that **Donald Trump** and his allies are spreading the same sort of conspiracy theories that fueled the mob's **Jan. 6, 2021, riot**. "That sore loser is saying the same things he said before," **Walton** said earlier this month without mentioning the **Republican presidential nominee** by name. "He's riling up the troops again, so if he doesn't get what he wants, it's not inconceivable that we will experience that same situation again. And who knows? It could be worse." **Walton**, a nominee of **President George W. Bush**, is not alone. Other judges have said the political climate is ripe for another attack like the one that injured more than 100 police officers at the **Capitol**. **Trump's** distortion of the Jan. 6 attack has been a cornerstone of his bid to reclaim the **White House**. **Trump** has vowed to pardon rioters, whom he calls "patriots" and "hostages," if he wins in November. "We're in a real difficult time in our country and I hope we can survive it. I've got a young daughter, I've got a young grandson, and I would like for **America** to be available to them and be as good to them as it has been to me," he added. "But I don't know if we survive with the mentality that took place that **Janu-ary day**."

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2014

For the first time since **Jim Turner** was our congressman we will elect a congressman that is not from the Houston area.****We received a call from **Debbie Bisson** shortly after 8 a.m. Monday, telling us **Steve** was, at that very time, undergoing liver transplant. The surgery lasted four hours and **Steve's** color is returning and the liver is a #1, the best. He is getting dialysis to get his kidneys working which is normal operating procedure. **Steve** will be required to stay on all anti-rejection meds. There are about 13 of them and the first four alone will cost \$500 ******Judge Derry Dunn** attended the **Lunch Bunch** get-together last week and brought with him a photo record and emails from the time he first went into the hospital and everything afterward. It is a very impressive chronicle of care of a patient who is a victim of the **flesh eating bacteria**. The **Judge** still goes to Houston every other week but he's healing well and the bacteria should be stopped. He was very fortunate.******Denver Broncos'** quarterback **Peyton Manning** is now the **NFL's** all-time touchdown leader. **Manning** threw touchdown number 508 to tie **Brett Favre** and then threw no 509 to **Demaryius Thomas** to break **Favre's** record. It came in the second quarter. **Manning** threw four touchdowns passes in the game and was 22 for 24 to beat the **SF 49ers**. The record football was bagged and headed for the **Hall of Fame** in Canton, Ohio. **Roy**, who has a signed **Brett Favre** football, is wondering if it's less valuable now. ****I understand our friend, banker, **Carlos Vacek**, who is a former **TCU football player** and strong supporter of the school drove to Fort Worth to attend the game Saturday. He attends most games but this time he ended up watching the game in a hotel room after getting aggravated over a parking space. Anyway, he got to feeling bad and ended up at the hospital with a light heart attack. He was due to be released this week. Now here's a guy who runs over 30 miles a week, never smoked and practices good health habits. **It goes to show you**. ****We understand **Gerald Morris** is doing much better and will be moved to a nursing home for rehab. ****On Oct. 23, our buddy, **Judge Claude Wimberley** turns 80. Also **VFW's John Clark**, the boy from Old Dime Box.****On Oct. 28, **Heather Dubose, Commissioner David's** lovely wife, celebrates.****Here in our congressional district we have one distinguish ion, we have the nuttiest U.S. Congressman ever. **Steve Stockman** said out loud, "I'm wondering if **President Obama** has launched the **Ebola virus** in America so he can take over the economy."

20 Years Ago-2004

The **Willie Nelson show** at the **Lutcher Theater** Oct. 25 was a big hit. Tickets went on sale Sept. 10 and in a few hours they were all gone. He kicked off the show with "Living in the Promise Land," a large flag came down behind the band and the crowd came to life. **Willie** followed up with "Whiskey River" and the Texas flag appeared. **Nelson**, 71, is from Abbott, Texas. For an hour and a half, he belted out one song after another. He even did some **Hank and Gospel**. The Orange crowd praised his performance. (Editor's note: I'm sure some of you recall when the country legend played the **Lutcher**. **Willie**, who is 91 now, still

picks and sings.)****The **Bridge City Cardinals cross country team** is ranking first in the state according to the coaches poll. **Coach Miller** has been running against 4-A and 5-A schools and beating them. They haven't been running in their 3-A class. ****A unique date in the annals of baseball history will be recorded on Wednesday, Oct. 27, when for the first time in history, a **total lunar eclipse** will occur during a **World Series game**. Millions will watch game four at **Bush Memorial Stadium** between the **St. Louis Cardinals** and the **Boston Red Sox**. An hour after the game begins the moon will be in total eclipse for one hour and 22 minutes.

45 Years Ago-1979

Patricia Horn crowned homecoming queen at **Little Cypress-Mauriceville**. Bears quarterback **Clint Plant** leads LC-M to victory over liberty. The **Bears** are coached by **Randall Dorsett**. ****Bridge City quarterback **Richard Slaydon** leads **Cards** to shut-out over **Jasper** 14-0. **Slaydon** completed 10 of 14 passes with no interceptions. Running back **Tony Mulhollan** rushed for 127 yards.****The **Bridge City Volunteer Fire Department** returns from East Texas' annual fall convention in Jasper with several trophies. B.C. fire chief, **Jerry Pesson**, is installed as president of the association. **Harold F. Lee**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. H.F. Lee, Jr.**, was chosen as mascot. The three-man team winning trophies were **Tommy Comeaux, Bobby Aycock and Fred Lee**. Ladies winners were **Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Pesson and Mrs. Lee**.****West Orange homecoming beauties are; queen, **Christi Hall**, band sweetheart, **Terri Nimitz** and **Pat Siebert**, football sweetheart.******P&S Tire** celebrates 2nd anniversary. Owners are **Jerry and Bobbie Pesson and Bobby and Peggy Smitherman**. Employees are: bookkeeper, **Jean Addison**; office manager, **Donna Hinton**; **John "Frenchie" Greuder**, head mechanic; **C.V. Brookins** and **Robert Hebert**, mechanics; **Eddie Quebodeaux**, appliance tech; **David Soileaux**, tire man; **Richard Donnelly**, fleet service; **Kevin Alexander**, utilities and beginning mechanic, **Mike Hale**.******Conn's Appliance** slates grand opening in Orange. **Fain Holbrooks**, a native of Alabama, will be store manager. An eight year resident of Orange, he has 15 years experience in the appliance business. His first job here was for **Jimmie Conn Furniture**. He has been manager of **Verrett's, Wilshire's and Morrow's** appliance stores. **Conn's** is located at 5648 MacArthur Dr. ******Corky Harmon** brings a couple of newspapers from **Brazil** that cost \$3 each. It's the only English paper in Brazil. (Editor's note: By today's price that would be about \$10.)****A big birthday party is held for **Ed Lovelace** at the Airport Towers. ******Tim Hughes of Superior Tire** is giving away sugar with a set of tires and calling it a 'Sweet Deal.'******Sharon Bearden** is on a diet. Any idiot can see that it ain't working. (Editor's note: It took 45 years but **Sharon** finally lost all those pounds.)

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

Former President **Donald Trump** delivered unusual and vulgar remarks Saturday about the late golf legend **Arnold Palmer** and VP **Kamala Harris**. **Palmer's** daughter **Peg Palmer Wears** said, "What would my dad think of **Donald Trump** today? I think he'd cringe."**** "I need the kind of generals that **Hitler** had;" **Trump's** obsession with dictators and disdain for America's military is deepening.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Our buddy county commissioner **Johnny Trahan** is home after undergoing total hip replacement in Houston. Everything went well and he should be back on the court in two or three weeks.******Texana Toyota**, the new folks in town, invite everyone to come by to visit and learn about the improvements that are in the works and also the great deals on new and pre-owned cars and trucks.**** In pop culture, Orange is now only one degree of separation from **Kevin Bacon**. The legendary actor of TV and movies is also an accomplished singer and guitarist. He and his brother, with their **Bacon Brothers Band**, opened the season at the **Lutcher Theater** on Saturday. But the **Bacons** didn't stay inside during the sunny fall weather when they were here. **Theater Director Lynae Sanford** helped them takes in a lot of sights, including a trip to **Shangri La Gardens** to see the pumpkins and scarecrows. They also went on **Captain Eli Tate's Sabine River tour** to see the natural beauty of our water, swamp, and marshlands. **Bacon** was also spotted getting food at **Chick-fil-A** on 16th Street. The concert was a smash hit with **Bacon** including singing and dancing to 'Footloose,' one of his iconic film roles. The **Lutcher** audience included **Janois and Mark Grizzaffi, Janet Bland, Sue Harris, Jody Chesson** and mom **Jane Chesson, Bonnie Kendrick, Adriana Smoak, Melanie Dion, Paula Aven, Terri and Brad Childs, Sherry and Ricky Sturdivant, Theresa Fukuda, and Dana McMillan Strokos**.****The **Stark Cultural Venues** were busy last week and will be as the holiday season rolls around again. The big **Shangri La Autumn Fair** is on Saturday with free fun and sights for kids, plus the announcement in the afternoon of the winners of the **14th Annual Scarecrow Festival** competition. Voting will continue that morning. **Shangri La** also drew a crowd this past Thursday for the fall **Sip and Stroll** with **Free State Cellars selling wine** and people allowed an evening stroll. **Tony Dallas** made it out in his custom wheelchair with wife, **Nancy**, as they visited with lots of friends. Others seen in the gardens included **Sherry Hommel, Lucy and D.D. Terry, Denisha and Matthew LaFleur, Eva Smith, Paul and Raul Burch, and Corrie Terry**.******Brandi Griggs and Justin Riese** took in a trip to Louisiana to see the **Lost Hollows, Mark and Elaine Cook** traveled to Houston for the **ELO concert**. Congratulations to **Jamie and Tay Alexander** on the October 19 birth of daughter **Ke'ari Lynn Alexander**, who enters this world with two big brothers. Grandmothers are former **KOGT** personality **Bobbie Lynn Hudson**, and **Detra Alexander King**.******Haley Anders** is now engaged to **Chason Burch**.****Congratulations to **Bridget Trahan and Tara Greenwood** for being named **Teachers of the Month** at the Orangefield school district. **Superintendent Dr. Shon McAlpin** presented them to the school board during the meet-

ing on Monday. Students of the month are **Greyson Evans** from first grade at the elementary, **Nori Coleman** from the fourth grade at the elementary, **Levi Broom** from the junior high, and **Jackson Broddy** from the high school.******FRIENDS LOST**: On Oct. 25, 1962, we lost **Doris Holts**, who died at the age of 62. A former Orangeite, **Doris** was a hairdresser in the McLewis area and was the ex-daughter-in-law of **Sheriff Chester Holts**.***On Oct. 29, 1959, pioneer businessman and WWI veteran **Clay Dunn** died at age 66.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **Oct. 23**: **Eric Brinson, Jewel Merchant, Jimmy Byrd, Pat New, Sarah Halliburton, Sherry Martz, Brandy Cardner, Lainey Zenos, Larry Myers**.******Oct. 24**: Our favorite "Girl Friday," **Debbie Fusilier**, longtime friend and employee, **Mary Stanton, Jordan Shamber, Cheyenne Sweet, Bailey Berry, Ron Batchelor, Tammy Scales, Victoria Brown**.******Oct. 25**: **Marilyn Fonthiel, Ramona Scott, Ramona Valentine, Connie Curphey, Roy Lee Helm, Ken Soileau, Rachel Sanders, Tanner George, Connor Ziller**.******Oct. 26**: **Evan Swenson, Phyllis Yeats, Toni Dyer, Don Cummings, Geneva Buker, Hunter Smith**.**** **Oct. 27**: The late **Joe Kazmar** and **Pearl Burgess** both celebrated on this day. Both were very interesting people. **Pearl** lived the early history of Orange County and both of her grandfathers were county judges. She had many stories I wish I had recorded. **Kaz**, for many years, wrote **Kaz's Korner** in this publication.***Also born on this day is our long-time friend **Betty Harmon** who spent her life in civil service, such as chamber of commerce and many other projects. **Betty** now lives in Bridge City.***Other very community minded people born on this day are former commissioner **Ron Sigler** and **Maxine Smith, Judge Don Burgess, Maxine Smith, Dan Sanders, Brent Burch, David Dupuis**.******Oct. 28**: **Heather Dubose, Derrick Cole, Chris Stone, Ronnie Moerbe, Cori Woodard, Beverly Brown, Brandon Allensworth**.******Oct. 29**: **Emma Scott, Vicki Cormier, Zach Corbello**.**** Other birthday greetings go out to **Dayle Ezell Foreman** who celebrated No. 79 by going out dancing in high heels, local real estate icon **Loretta Hughes** turned 86, Orange City Councilor **Brad Childs** gets his Medicare card for turning 65, and **Queen Aimee Fregia** turned 27. Others with birthdays included photographer and country singer **Kimberly Manning, Rosie Hurst, Case Lee Tant, Julian Gross, Debbie Boyd Mazzola**, mother-to-be **Alana LeBlanc, Aadi Day, Dianne Broom Stephenson, Casey Comeaux, Tiffany Jacobs Sanchez, Samantha Patronella, Kristopher Marple, Dana Dorman, Dina Derates, and Arlen Tate Wallace**.******Keith and Cyndi Longlois** marked their 34th wedding anniversary. Bet he celebrated with a cigar outside and a glass of whiskey.*** **Joel and Lori Ardoin** have made it 22 years, even with his accordian practicing.(To publish birthdays or anniversary announcements free of charge please email therecordlive.com or call 409-886-7183.)

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Two old Jewish men, **Sid and Abe**, have been traveling throughout South Louisiana when they found themselves at **Shuck's Oyster Bar**, in Abbeville. **Sid**, him asked **Abe**, "Do you know if any people of our ancestry were ever born and raised here in the Cajun country?"

Abe replies, "I don't know, let's ask the waiter." **Bosco Comeaux**, da waiter, arrived. **Abe** says, "Tell me young man, are there any Cajun Jews here?" **Bosco** say, "Me, I don't know, I go axe da cook." **Bosco** returns and says, "No sir, da cook say no Cajun Jews."

Abe is not satisfied and asked, "Are you absolutely sure?"

Bosco realize he is dealing wit some persistent old mens so he says, "I go check one more time me."

While **Bosco** was gone **Sid** said, "I find it hard to believe that there are no Cajun Jews, our people are scattered everywhere."

Bosco returns and says, "I check wit everybody, even da boss, we don't got none."

"I can't believe that," says **Abe**.

Bosco frustrated say, "Look mister, we got orange jews, grape jews, prune jews, tomato jews and apple jews, but we don't got no Cajun jews, jes like I tote you."

C'EST TOUT ALLRED ENDORSED BY ALL MAJOR TEXAS NEWSPAPERS

Congressman Colin Allred earned the endorsement of the **Dallas Morning News** and the **Fort Worth Star-Telegram** editorial boards in his campaign to beat **Ted Cruz**. **Allred** also earned the endorsement of the **San Antonio Express-News** and the **Houston Chronicle**, completing his sweep of every major Texas newspaper editorial board that chose to endorse this primary cycle. **Dallas Morning News**: "Allred stands apart from the field as the most capable leader and with the most nuanced and serious policy plans. Fort Worth Star-Telegram: "U.S. Rep. **Colin Allred** of Dallas, whose mild manner and bipartisan approach make him the best choice to possibly win the race and the most likely to be an accomplished senator." **Houston Chronicle**: "Allred, we believe, is more likely to be a doer in the Senate. We enthusiastically endorse his candidacy." **San Antonio Express-News**: "Allred stood out for his six years of experience in Congress, depth of knowledge on federal and international issues, history as a bipartisan and independent lawmaker, and more moderate approach." Additionally, **Allred** also earned the endorsement of the **Texas AFL-CIO**, the American Federation of Government **Congressman Colin Allred** earned the endorsement of the **Dallas Morning News Employees (AFGE)**, the **Human Rights Campaign**, the **Congressional Black Caucus PAC**, the **College Democrats of America**, the **League of Conservation Voters**, **Foreign Policy for America**.****Got to go, thanks for your time, mine is up. If you are registered but don't usually vote, this is a good time to start. Go do it. ****Be sure and check us out 24 hours a day on our website, therecordlive.com. Take care and God bless.

Deaths & Memorials

Jeremy Taylor Culp, 32, BC

Jeremy Taylor Culp, 32, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away on October 15, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and unwavering dedication to those he cared for.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange, Texas, with Reverend Keith Royal officiating. Burial followed at St. Mary Cemetery in Orange. Visitation will begin at 12:00 p.m. prior to the service at Claybar Funeral Home.

Jeremy was the beloved son of Stephen and Kathryn Culp and Jennifer Johns, born on December 5, 1991, in Port Arthur, Texas. A man deeply committed to his craft and a family legacy, Jeremy began his career as a Refractory Brick Mason with the International Masonry Union – Local 5, where his skill and dedication earned him respect throughout the industry. In his most recent role as a Field Representative, Jeremy was on a mission to grow the union back to its former strength, passionately advocating for his fellow tradesmen and the opportunities available to those looking to change their lives through a career with the BAC. His work took him around the world, and wherever he went, he left a mark of excellence, pride, and craftsmanship.

Before his career in masonry, Jeremy proudly served in the United States Army with the 82nd Airborne Division, completing a tour in Afghanistan. His service was a testament to his courage and devotion, earning him numerous honors, including the Afghanistan Campaign Medal w/ Campaign Star, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Parachutist Badge. Jeremy embodied the spirit of a true soldier, facing every challenge with strength, bravery, and integrity.

Jeremy was known for his kind and generous heart, always ready to lend a hand to those in need. Whether offering the shirt



Jeremy Taylor Culp

off his back, sharing a meal with the homeless, or patiently assisting a fellow traveler on his latest flight, Jeremy's compassion knew no bounds. His friends and family lovingly referred to him as "Fresh J" or "Gator," and they cherished his quick wit, sense of humor, and ability to bring joy to any room. His natural charisma and warm presence made him a true light in the lives of those around him.

Jeremy's passions were as diverse as his heart was big. He found peace in music, drawing, and writing, and loved fishing and swimming—even when that meant dealing with seasickness or alligators. He fondly reminisced about his youth, filled with skateboarding, speedskating, and snow skiing. But above all else, Jeremy's greatest joy came from time spent with his family, who meant everything to him.

Jeremy is preceded in death by his grandparents, his uncle Randy Culp, and his great uncle, Joseph "Lynn" Culp.

He is survived by his parents, Stephen and Kathryn Culp, and Jennifer Johns; his aunts, Cheryl Culp and Maraline Culp; uncles, Scott McKnight, Craig McKnight and his wife Ginger, and their children Allen and Troy; Daren Johns and wife Kym; T. Patrick Culp and wife Gayle; cousin, JT Culp and the McKnight family, and the Johns family; his siblings, Jill Culp Kelly and husband Ryan, Zoe Johns, and Chance Davis and wife Kalika, along with their children, Damon and Felicity; his loving girlfriend, Natasha Blouin; The Arrington Family, known to Jeremy as Nonna and Pops, Uncle George, Aunt Gina, and her children Megan and Ryan; and many other beloved nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

Jeremy's legacy of kindness, strength, and devotion will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. Though he is gone too soon, his memory will continue to inspire and uplift those fortunate enough to have been a part of his life.

Ronald Wayne Norwood, 69

Ronald Wayne Norwood, 69, of Orange, Texas, passed away on October 10, 2024, at St. Lukes Hospital in Houston.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, October 19, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Officiating will be Reverend Jeff Bell. Burial will follow at Harris Cemetery in Orange. Cove Baptist Church offering lunch after.

Visitation was held Friday, October 18, 2024, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

Born in Orange, Texas, on February 27, 1955, he was the son of Harlon Norwood and Margaret (Williams) Crowder. Ronald will be remembered fondly for his love of family and his enthusiasm for life's simple pleasures. He had a passion for driving, famously owning several Corvettes that he enjoyed taking out on the open road. In addition to his love for cars, Ronald was a dedicated coach for his son's little league to senior league sharing his time and energy to foster young talents. Member of West-Orange Lions Club serving as President. He was a 26yr member of Pipefitters



Ronald Wayne Norwood

Local 195 / 211 now. He cherished watching sports, proudly rooting for the Cowboys, Astros, and Texans. Ronald also loved to cook, especially for the holidays. That smell of his BBQ could be smelled down the road & throughout the house. Ronald will be remembered fondly for the love he shared and the joy he brought to those around him.

He is preceded in death by his father, Harlon Norwood, and grandparents, R.C. and Adell Norwood, and Charles "Toby" and Della Williams.

He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Telisa Norwood; mother, Margaret Crowder; son, Michael Norwood and wife Meritta, step-son Davian Cormier fiancé Jaelyn Dorman, Grand Children Aaron Norwood, Kaylee Ellis, and Harley Bertrand, mother Crystal Bertrand; brother, Raylon Norwood and wife Sherry; stepsister, Renee Thomas and husband Chris; special friend, Dr. James Jones, Bobby Young and Todd Longron; and other loving family and friends.

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Scarecrow Festival open now

Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center is thrilled to invite the public to come experience the changing season at the 14th Annual Scarecrow Festival. This beloved community event offers visitors an opportunity to stroll through the transformed autumnal gardens featuring flowering displays and thousands of pumpkins. The festival showcases all that nature has to offer. Scarecrow Festival culminates with a day of family fun at Autumn Fair on October 26. Admission to the Scarecrow Festival is free of charge.

This season will feature more than 60 unique scarecrow exhibits that represent local businesses, schools, churches and other community organizations. In keeping with Shangri La's mission that encourages others to "Be Kind to Your World,"

scarecrow exhibits are always innovative, inspiring and environmentally friendly. Scarecrow Festival is open to visitors Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the last entrance at 4:30 p.m. Other fall festivities occurring throughout Scarecrow Festival include Autumn Fair on Saturday, October 28, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and lasting throughout the day. Admission to Sip and Stroll and Autumn Fair is also free of charge.

"The changing season also brings about new offerings at this year's Scarecrow Festival. We are excited to unveil a new garden pathway, in addition to bringing the fall spirit to plantings at the new Petrified Forest," said Angie Mason, executive director of Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center.

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BRIDGE CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Bridge City Intermediate School News



BCI's 2024-25 Student Council representatives were chosen for the school year. Officers are President - Marlee Badgett, Vice President - Eli Bell, and Secretary - Ella Mire.



BCI Book Club recently read the survival story, *Wild River* by Rodman Philbrick. The story follows a group of students that overcome their differences and learn to work together as a team to survive. Students brainstormed items they would use in a survival situation and created a "survival kit" to use in an emergency situation.



BCI Honor Choir members have been attending early morning practices to prepare for their annual Veterans Day Concert scheduled for November 8.



BCI Art Club has been busy getting their "Andy Warhol" scarecrow ready for the Scarecrow contest at Shangri La.

Orange County Football: Highlights & Standings . . .

Playoffs in view for OC teams



Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden is greeted by Head Coach Josh Smalley after a spectacular touchdown run in their 32-20 homecoming victory over Livingston. RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

Bridge City Cardinal defensive end Koby Dean gets a grip on a Livingston ball carrier as the Big Red defense closes in for the stop. RECORD PHOTO: Lisa K Anders

TOMMY MANN JR.
For The Record

Only three weeks remain in the regular season and all of our local high school football teams are positioning themselves for the post-season, which begins in mid-November. Here is how things went this past weekend for our local teams.

Cardinals outlast Lions, remain perfect

The Bridge City Cardinals took care of business this past Friday with a 32-20 victory over the Livingston Lions at Larry Ward Stadium in Bridge City to remain undefeated for the season.

After a scoreless first quarter, where Livingston seemed to

have the ball nearly the whole time, the Lions struck first and jumped out to a 6-0 lead in the second quarter. The Cards responded

Following a punt deep into Cardinals territory, Livingston recovered a Bridge City fumble in the end zone for a touchdown to cut the Cardinals lead to 20-12 just before halftime.

Bridge City added another touchdown early in the third quarter to extend the lead to 26-12, but misfortune struck again as the Cardinals fumbled once more, after another deep Livingston punt, which the Lions immediately converted into a touchdown midway through the third quarter to cut the lead 26-20.

The Cardinals defense took advantage of a fumble recovery and returned it for a touchdown with 8:04 remaining in the game

to seal the win.

Quarterback Hutch Bearden three for two touchdown passes on the night, while running back Ashton Sumrall added one on the ground.

Bridge City (7-0, 4-0) will make the short trip north of Interstate 10 this Friday to take on Orange County rival, the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears (5-2, 4-0), in a pivotal District 10-4A Division 1 matchup. Both teams still have to play undefeated Huffman-Hargrave (7-0, 4-0) in Week 10 and Week 11, so the district championship is still a long way from being decided.

WO-S crushes Shepherd

The Mustangs scored early and scored often to start the game, and then put the Pirates

away in the second-half, 62-16.

Mustangs running back Jammarr O'Neal scored a 34-yard touchdown on the second play of the game for a quick 7-0 lead. Khelvy Jefferson scored a 59-yard rushing touchdown on the first play of the next drive and Alexander Thomas added a 2-yard run to put WO-S ahead 21-8 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter, the Pirates chewed up the clock with their Slot-T offense, but the Mustangs continued to score quickly. This time it was another one-play score as quarterback Marcus Turner Jr. connected with Ja'mikael Davis for a 57-yard catch and run for a 28-16 advantage at halftime.

The Mustangs, winners of five consecutive games, added three rushing touchdowns in the third quarter. Thomas scored on a

1-yard run, Jefferson scored on 6-yard run and Turner added 22-yard run. Two more scores the fourth quarter sealed the Mustangs 62-16 victory.

The No. 10 state-ranked WO-S Mustangs (6-1, 2-0), which guaranteed themselves a winning record for the first time since the 2021 football season with the victory over Shepherd hit the road this week to take the Silsbee Tigers (5-2, 1-1) to Friday night. A win will clinch playoff spot for the Mustangs.

Bobcats clinch playoff spot

The Orangefield Bobcats became the first team in Orange County to clinch a playoff spot this season as the Bobcats do

ORANGE COUNTY Page

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OUTDOORS

Quail Surveys Indicate Promising Prospects for Oct. 26 Opener

OUTDOORS
Capt. Chuck Uzzle
For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

AUSTIN – Quail hunting season in Texas kicks off Oct. 26, and the annual Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) roadside survey indicates an upward trend in population numbers. Improved habitat and scattered but timely rainfall provided a boost for bobwhite and scaled quail.

"This is good news for quail and for many across rural Texas," said John McLaughlin, TPWD upland game bird program leader. "While habitat is the main driver of long-term population trends, annual weather patterns (i.e., rainfall, temperature) dictate yearly fluctuations; unsurprisingly the two are interconnected. As the state has eased out of drought conditions, the habitat has followed, and quail have clearly been amongst the beneficiaries."

Bobwhite quail benefited from early-season rainfall last year, which set the stage for the grass and "weed" growth that is so critical to good production. These factors led to population increases in 2023 in almost every ecoregion of the state. The mild winter that followed improved carryover and kickstarted breeding activity, which, along with cooler temperatures this spring, bolstered 2024 population numbers.

"Interrupted by summer heatwaves the rebuild has been slow, but bobwhite populations appear to be climbing fast out of the hole they've been mired in since 2020," said McLaughlin. "As we enter the fall it's clear that there has been a significant increase in bird numbers across Texas, with bobwhites observed on greater than 50 percent of all survey routes this August. We expect ample opportunity for hunters in comparison to previous years and believe, with caveats and exceptions, there's reason to be excited come Oct. 26."

The survey results showed an unexpectedly large bump of bobwhites in the Rolling Plains, with 16.50 birds seen per route compared to 3.43 last year. This count was above the 15-year mean of 11.75 and a significant increase from 2023. In South Texas, although populations held steady according to the survey, on-the-ground reports were more encouraging and paint a brighter picture. With good carryover in both regions from last year, good hunting opportunities should be available as the season kicks off.

The 2024 scaled quail population survey was again strong this year, but most increases were observed outside the Trans-Pecos, the region that holds the most scaled quail in Texas. Both the High Plains and Edwards Plateau showed promise, with numbers increasing in both regions for the second straight year. Even the Rolling Plains, known more for bobwhites, observed a small bump in scaled quail this August.

The Trans-Pecos region held steady at 20.12 birds seen per route, above the 15-year mean of 17.49, but habitat conditions were not favorable to begin the year due to persistently dry conditions. This slowed nesting-season activity and limited production. However, on the positive side, TPWD biologists reported good carryover across the region and in wildlife management areas.

"This means that while we likely didn't build off back-to-back strong years, we also didn't lose significant ground [out west]," said McLaughlin. "Habitat conditions will be the barometer by which we measure future production in these areas, but birds are holding tight for now. We expect good opportunities this season, diminishing in quality as we push into late winter."

TPWD provides a full regional breakdown of this year's TPWD quail index survey for northern bobwhite and scaled quail, including highlights and prospects. For county specific outlooks, contact a local TPWD wildlife biologist.

Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

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

• **Sabine Lake**

GOOD. 85 degrees. Redfish and flounder continue to be good on the ICW rock piles and shell pads with live shrimp under a popping cork. Flounder catches have improved. Sabine Lake North and South Revetment wall is producing speckled trout with live shrimp under a popping cork.

Lots of undersized trout and redfish can be caught under the birds midlake with long drifts in 8-12 foot mussel flats dragging ¼ ounce glo chart for lots of undersized trout and redfish. The next front should bring more shrimp out of the marshes. The water is still high after the hurricane.

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

• **Bolivar**

GOOD. 77 degrees. Water levels will be dramatic with changing tides and high wind this week. The water clarity might go away but we are supposed to have west winds and cloudy days. People are still catching plenty of redfish everywhere! There are plenty of big croakers showing up along with sand trout, black drum, speckled trout, and crabs caught along the jetty with a few stingrays and sharks.

Flounder have been sporadic still until we get cooler weather. The surf is producing redfish and black drum, less gafftop, lots of small stingrays, and bigger sharks along the whole peninsula with high activity towards Gilchrist or High Island mainly. People are using all kinds of different things for bait this past week with awesome results.

Report by Captain

Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp

• **Trinity Bay**

SLOW. 81 degrees. Birds working over schools of trout in the open bay from the HL & P spillway to the mouth of the Trinity River. East shoreline good for redfish, flounder, and speckled trout. Spoil Island along the channel is good for a few speckled trout, and decent numbers of redfish, sheepshead, and black drum. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

With recent wind shifts, pay attention to the wind pushing bait around for long periods of time. Redfish are tight to the shoreline feeding heavily on shrimp in the crevices of rocks in shallow water being caught in crank baits and artificial shrimp rigged weedless and schooling about mid tide on the shallow rock shorelines. Trout are schooling up and on shell flats being caught on WAC assassins from wacattacklures.com in the Texas roach color rigged with a ½ ounce jig head. Drum are just about anywhere being caught on live or dead shrimp. Flounder are being caught a little close to the ship channels. Report by Captain

Zackary Scott, Zack Attack Fishing.

• **East Galveston Bay**

GOOD. 83 degrees. Plenty of various sized speckled trout, black drum, and redfish caught on live shrimp, croakers, and top water lures. We caught some big whiting by the old broken bridge and around Fort Travis this past week with a handful of small stingrays. Report by Captain Shane Rilat, North Jetty Bait Camp.

Surface water temperature 76 degrees, water clarity varies depending upon where you are on the bay, with East of Triple Cut being a little more stained for the most part. Fishing continues to improve in East Galveston Bay, with cooler evening air and dropping water temperatures, and good tide movement over the past week. Redfish can be caught off the shore reefs, grass shorelines, and in the back marsh. Trout and redfish can be caught on flats around pinch points with current and nervous bait with great success. Imitation shrimp lures under popping corks with 12-18 inch leaders have still been producing continuous bites for anglers. Re-

port by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Service, LLC.

• **Galveston Bay**

SLOW. 83 degrees. West shoreline producing fair numbers of speckled trout, with scattered birds working near the Kemah channel. Those throwing live shrimp catching mixed boxes of trout, redfish, and black drum. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• **West Galveston Bay**

GOOD. 83 degrees. Speckled trout catches are steady. Bull redfish are running in San Luis Pass. Birds working over scattered schools of speckled trout. 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, sheepshead and mangrove snapper. The river been good for trout, redfish, drum, sand trout and big croaker.

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Bridge City's Asher Richardson(55) and Ethan Hernandez (21) flattens a Livingston Lion ball carrier as Big Red rolled to a 32-20 victory for homecoming.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden scampers across the goal line for a touchdown.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Bridge City wide receiver Abraham Mungui comes down with the ball for a Cardinal touchdown against Livingston.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Hutch Bearden leaves Livingston Lion defenders in his wake as he rambles downfield for yardage in the 32-20 homecoming victory Friday night.
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

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ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY NOV 5TH

EARLY VOTING DATES MON, OCT 21ST - FRI, NOV 1ST



WO-S running back Khelvy Jefferson (4) heads for a first down after catching the ball early in the game against Shepherd. RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.



WO-S defender William Pitre (8) puts the pressure on Shepherd quarterback Landen Dellinger (6) during the third quarter of Friday's game against the Pirates. RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.

Orange County football From Page 1B

inated the Kirbyville Wildcats, 49-14, this past Friday in Kirbyville.

The Bobcats offense jumped on the Wildcats quickly and put the game away by halftime.

Orangefield led 14-0 at the end of the first quarter and were up 35-0 at the half on its way to a 49-14 district win over Kirbyville, while gaining nearly 500 yards of total offense on the night.

Running back Mason Manning continues to be a force on the football field as he added three more rushing touchdowns to his total against the Wildcats.

Orangefield (6-2, 4-0) is on a bye this coming Friday but will host East Chambers (5-2, 3-1) on Friday, Nov. 1, which will most likely decide the District 10-3A Division 1 title. The Bobcats close the season out on Thursday, Nov. 7 at Buna.

Bears stomp Liberty for big win

The Little Cypress-Mauriceville Battlin' Bears secured a fifth consecutive victory this past Friday night with a 38-7 win over the Liberty Panthers in Liberty.

LC-M found the scoreboard first, courtesy of a 1-yard touchdown run by Jonah Fuller late in the first quarter to put the Bears ahead, 7-0. The Bears extended their lead to 14-0 at halftime when quarterback Braylen Lewis scored on a 13-yard run.

The Bears were in a slugfest most of the game and only managed a 25-yard field goal by kicker Isaiah Watzlavik in the third quarter, but LC-M blew it open in the fourth quarter.

Fuller added a 6-yard touchdown run to start the fourth quarter to make it 24-0. Liberty answered on a 68-yard touchdown pass to narrow the score, 24-7. Midway through the quarter Evan Worster connected on a 81-yard scoring pass to receiver Khayden Reed and Fuller added a 52-yard interception return with only 54 seconds left in the game for the 38-7 win.

The Panthers actually outgained LCM in total offense, 301 to 259, but Liberty had three turnovers and 132 penalty yards, which proved to be too much to overcome.

LC-M (5-2, 4-0) will host the Bridge City Cardinals (7-0, 4-0) this Friday night in a matchup which will help shape the district seedings for the first round of the Class 4A Division 1 playoffs in mid-November.

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Yard Sale on October 25 & 26 from 9am - 4pm at 1260 Ina Lane in Bridge City. Fill a Bag for \$5 - bags provided. Some items priced. Anything and everything: household items, knick knacks, decorations, tools and much more.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of **JANIE DIANE STEWART**, Deceased, were issued on **October 15, 2024**, in Cause No. **P20053**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **KENNETH WAYNE STEWART**.

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

c/o:
James R. Dunaway
Attorney at Law
108 7th Street
Orange, TX
77630

Dated the 16th day of **October, 2024**.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway
Attorney for:
Administrator of the Estate of Janie Dianne Stewart

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 **ROBERT ED ROTHROCK**, Deceased, were issued on **October 15, 2024**, in Cause No. **P20089**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **DEBRA LYNN MATHIS STAGNER**.

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

c/o:
James R. Dunaway
Attorney at Law
108 7th Street
Orange, TX
77630

Dated the 16th day of **October, 2024**.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway

Attorney for:
Co-Executors of the Estate of Robert Ed Rothrock, Sheila Renee Vincent Davis and Debra Lynn Mathis Stagner

State Bar No.: 06208000
P.O. Box 100
Orange, TX 77631-0100
jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

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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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **FLORENCE ELLEN ASHMORE**, Deceased, were issued on **October 14th, 2024**, in Cause No. **P20116**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **ELLA MAE BLAND**.

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:
Robert Nim Ashmore, Jr.
5735 Dixie Drive
Vidor, Texas 77662

Dated the 15th day of **October, 2024**.

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for:
Robert Nim Ashmore, Jr.
State Bar No.: 08623700
202 S. Border Street
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)882-9990
Fax: (409)882-0613
Email: tommy@gunnlaw.org

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Calloused knees. Prayer closet. Answered prayers. Prayer warrior.

These four phrases don't exactly trigger me with spiritual PTSD, but they do represent markers in my journey of moving from prayer-guilt into the grace of praying. For many years, I felt more like a D-student in the school of prayer than a beloved son in the presence of God. I was afraid to not pray, but I had very little delight in actually praying.

As a young believer in the late sixties, the joy of my new life in Christ was palpable and plenteous. But pretty soon, I started to feel the pressure of a new burden to "get it right." I had consistent quiet times, underlined verses in my Bible (in three different colors), and engaged in Scripture memory. I fellowshiped, witnessed, and prayed. Unfortunately, these crucial spiritual disciplines functioned more as a means of guilt (or pride) than as a means of grace.

A part of the problem — no, the biggest issue — was that I began the Christian life with a limited understanding of what happened when God gave me faith to trust Jesus and hid my life in his Son.

United Forever with Christ

In Christ, all riches were already deposited into my account, but I was clueless about them. I knew Jesus died for my sins and that I was fully forgiven. But only years later did I come to understand my union with Christ, the imputation of his righteousness, and my adoption into God's family — to name a few of the glorious benefits of our life in Christ.

I don't blame anyone for not teaching me about union with Christ. I'm just eternally grateful I finally learned about it, came to



rest in it, and now live out of its glorious implications. It wasn't a game changer, but an everything changer — not a new day, but a new forever.

Our union with Christ is the foundation and fountain for knowing God, and the spiritual disciplines — including prayer (when shaped and fueled by the gospel) — are the means by which we deepen our knowledge of God and learn to "glorify and enjoy him forever." Though the gospel has freed us from all earning, it certainly doesn't free us from all effort.

Moving on from guilt and fear, I now focus on three callings that have radically transformed how I engage in prayer.

• Fellowship with Your Father

"Fellowship with your Father" is exactly how my spiritual father, Jack Miller, reframed prayer for me, keying off of Jesus's glorious invitation to say, "Our Father in heaven" (Matthew 6:9). How many times did I hear (and need to hear) Jack say, "Scotty, our Father wants to spend time with you more than you are even confident and comfortable in his presence. He loves you. You'll never shock him, and he'll never shame you. He knows your need is greater than you realize, and his provision for you in Jesus is exponentially more than you have yet grasped."

Indeed, the gospel frees us from

thinking of prayer as a way to get God's attention — an effort to convince him of something we need or something we want him to do. Prayer is God's nonstop welcome to us — a grace-subpoena into his presence (Hebrews 4:16).

Our Father is always initiating and resourcing our communion with himself. As we spend both quality and quantity time with him, all the incomplete and wrong notions we've had about him get exposed and expelled. He also re-parents us through unrushed time in his presence. Abba is the Father we always wanted, and he alone can be to us what no human father could ever be.

The better we know God as our Father, the more we begin to embrace how big and good his prayer-answer vocabulary actually is. Answered prayer is no longer equated with a yes to our petitions. We begin to rest in our Father's multiple wise answers, like no, not yet, and yes, but not exactly as you are asking. The burden is off our shoulders. We can ask with abandon and trust with even greater abandon. Our Father is always doing all things well, even when he doesn't do all things easy. Our Father's no is sweeter than any yes we can imagine — or demand. We start giving more yeses to him rather than "needing" yeses from him.

Jack also made it abundantly

clear to me, "The more you fellowship with your Father, the more you will rejoice in his plan for the nations and live as his partner in world evangelism."

• Behold Jesus's Glory

The apostle Paul's words are as riveting as they are compelling: "We all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18). Many centuries earlier, King David expressed a similar heart orientation and single passion — even making it his number-one prayer request: "One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord" (Psalm 27:4).

Prayer as contemplation of Jesus's glory reorients us away from prayer as consternation about getting results. Adoration of Jesus must not be relegated to the first letter of ACTS: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. Adoration is the meaning and essence of each and every other aspect of life. Indeed, fixing our gaze on Jesus isn't a warm-up exercise to prayer; it is prayer.

As we marinate in the truth, goodness, and beauty of Jesus, we are changed — we become more like Jesus, which is the goal of our salvation (Romans 8:28–30; 1 John 3:1–3). Our hope is fueled, because we discover more fully what the Scriptures mean when they declare Jesus to be the emphatic Yes! to every promise God has made (2 Corinthians 1:20). Our praying becomes less about claiming God's promises and more about seeing how God's promises claim us — and all of history. We think less about becoming prayer warriors, and we rest in Jesus as the prayer-warrior extraordinaire — ever living to make intercession for us and in us by the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:26). Adoring Jesus also deepens our

intimacy with him and intensifies our longing to be with him in eternity — the better-by-far-ness Paul writes about in Philippians 1:23. It also fuels our courage to go with Jesus into a life of missional living and loving.

• Listen to the Spirit's Testimony

Lastly, thinking of prayer as listening to the Holy Spirit's testimony helps us include in our prayer times not only talking but hearing. In Romans 8, Paul highlights just how vital this aspect of our fellowship with God actually is: "The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs" (Romans 8:16–17). The Spirit is always preaching the gospel to us — nonstop, 24/7. As we linger over God's word, do we take time to listen?

In fact, it is by the Spirit's voice we most clearly hear God singing over us with great rejoicing (Zephaniah 3:17). How is this so? Because the Spirit is always making much of Jesus and is constantly applying his finished work to our hearts. As we experience the wonder of God's great delight in us, we move more fully into the true blessedness of the convicting voice of the Spirit, the voice that is now and forever void of any condemnation (Romans 8:1). Confession and repentance become a way of life and a liberating joy.

Unfortunately, too much of the time we allow other noises and voices to drown out the Spirit's voice. We tune the frequency of our hearts to our fears, disappointments, and anger. We indulge the whispers, shouts, and lies of the devil. We let the siren songs of our world and our lusts mute the peace-giving, joy-fueling, hope-enlarging testimony of the Spirit. Let's get still and know that our God is God (Psalm 46:10). He does all that he pleases, all the time and everywhere (Psalm 115:3). Hallelujah, it has pleased him to make us his beloved daughters and sons through the work of Jesus.

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