

# Penny Record

Vol. 65 No. 23

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

Week of Wednesday, October 30, 2024

## Local elections on the ballot Nov. 5

### MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Even though the 2024 presidential race is the center election for interested people around the world, Orange County is having local races on the ballot for Election Day, Tuesday November 5.

The Orangefield school board has a trustee election, plus the Vidor ISD has a \$98.4 million bond issue on the ballots with the money designated for renovations and new buildings. Also, two county emergency services districts will have elections for members to their governing boards of directors.

Early voting in Orange is setting turnout records and will continue through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. As of Tuesday, the county has a total of 23,571 ballots cast with 22,709 in person and 805 mail-in ballots received so far. The county has about 55,000 registered voters.

The total includes six early provisional votes plus 52 limited votes. Those votes are made under state law with people using photo identification but questions about their registration or home location.

The early votes included 1,137 cast on a rare Sunday voting day. Vidor's Raymond Gould Commu-

nity Center has a nine-day total off 7,158 early votes, the Orange Public Library has 6,304, the Orange County Airport has 6,207, and the Mauriceville Community Center has 3,040.

The Orangefield ISD board of trustees has three candidates running at-large for Place III with no incumbent running. The candidates are Richard Lasseigne Jr., Dustin Logan, and Jude Graffagnino. Incumbents Chris Kovatch for Place VI and Brad Frye for Place VII are unopposed.

Orange County Emergency Services District 1 and District 3 voters will choose two directors at-large. The candidates for District 1 are Wyatt Boyett, Ronnie Herrera, and Rose Luca. For District 3, candidates are Scott McDonald, Jeremy Kent Nichols, Cathy Drake, and Jeff Braus.

All open Orange County elected offices have Republican candidates, mostly incumbents, running unopposed.

Ten polling spots across the county will be open Election Day November 5 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Any registered Orange County voter with proper photo identification will be able to vote at any of the polls in the county.

Orange County Commissioners Court and the

OC Election Administration Office worked years with the Texas Secretary of State to get the proper tools and organization to allow countywide voting on Election Day. In the

past, people were required to vote only at the assigned neighborhood box on Election Day.

This year the boxes in Orange will be the West Orange-Cove CISD Ad-

ministration Building, 902 West Park; Orange Public Library, 220 North Fifth Street; St. Francis Catholic Church, 4300 Meeks Drive; LC-M CISD Administration Building

6586 FM 1130; Sabine River Authority headquarters, 12772 North Highway 87, Orange County Drainage Dis-

**Heavy turnout Page 3A**



Little Wright B.'s mother, Zollie Bland Roan, was driving the Ford that was hit by the train. She also died, along with Wright B.'s paternal grandmother. To the left is Winnie Bland, who later married Thomas Toal Sr. She is my grandmother. The one with the spunky smile was a cousin.

## Does a little boy's spirit live on?

### MARGARET TOAL For The Record

I'm a writer of stories with the ones appearing on news sites as true. This one has truth in it, but I cannot verify the main premise. And that's because there's no scientific proof of ghosts.

Does the ghost of a young relative killed at the age of five in a car-train wreck at the Park Avenue crossing in 1918 remain at the house of my great-grandparents in the Old Orange Historic District?

The child was the son of my grandmother's sister, Zollie Bland Roan, and her husband, Wright B. Roan. The only name I heard relatives use for the child Wright B. Roan, Jr., was Little Wright B.

My great-grandparents moved into the house in 1906. By the time I was born, my great-grandfather and my grandfather had died. My great-grandmother and her daughter, my grandmother, lived in the house until I was 15. I spent a lot of time in the house



George W. and Maggie Pevoto Bland posed with four daughters at their home on Tenth Street in the early 1900s.

growing up and spent a lot of nights there. As far back as I can remember, I said there was a ghost.

But were my memories only by an imaginative kid in a big old

house with lots of dark wood? The big Victorian-style furniture, including a dining room buffet with carved lion heads roaring, was a

**Little Boy's Spirit Page 5A**

## LSCO grows enrollment, campus

### STAFF REPORT For The Record

Lamar State College Orange, LSCO, is ready to dedicate its new Academic Building at 2 p.m. November 6. The 55,000 square foot building will be welcome new space as the school continues its yearly growth of students.

The fall enrollment is setting a school record with 3,437 students, a 9 percent increase from enrollment at the same time last year.

Current projections indicate that the total enrollment will surpass

3,600 students by the close of the second 8-week term, a potential 15% overall increase.

The surge in enrollment is attributed to several factors, including the college's dedication to expanding academic opportunities and strengthening community partnerships. Since 2019, LSCO has introduced 17 new programs of study, including electromechanical technology, building construction technology, court reporting, and massage therapy among oth-

**LSCO Grows Page 3A**

## Paranormal activity found in Old OCP Theater

### PENNY LELEUX For The Record

Approximately fifteen years ago, after the Orange Community Players Theater had been renovated after Hurricane Ike and before the organization was permanently forced to leave the building after TS Harvey, a group of paranormal investigators from the Texas Society of Paranormal Investigators (TSPI) did an investigation to collect evidence of reported activity in the building.

The theater had long been reported to frequently have paranormal activity. There were many tales

through the years of noises and voices with no one there.

Brooke Lemley had reported locking up for the night, only to hear voices and thinking they had locked somebody inside. Upon checking, the theater was deserted. One member of the board saw a shadow down the hall in the prop room, only to find no one there.

A few board members had reported seeing the front door open and closed on its own. That was the deciding factor of the board to have the group come in, when Kevin Doss said he had also seen that happen.

The paranormal group arrived after a day at the Texas Ghost Show, a paranormal conference they were hosting in Beaumont.

Cameras were set up in the lobby, one on the counter of the concession stand facing the front door to try to capture if it opened and another next to the ticket booth near the door facing the concession stand and the long hall that led to the restrooms and prop room in the back, because someone had reported seeing a shadow down the hall.

Once the cameras were set, the group moved to the audience area of the

theater and positioned themselves in various locations in the room and started audio recording and asking questions.

A member at the back of the room sitting in front of the tech booth heard male voices that seemed to be coming from the backstage area to the left, near the orchestra pit or behind it.

"Can y'all hear that?" she asked. No one else heard the voices. "They are clearly male, having a conversation." They fact the voices were male was significant, because there were only two males in the group that night and both were visible in the room.

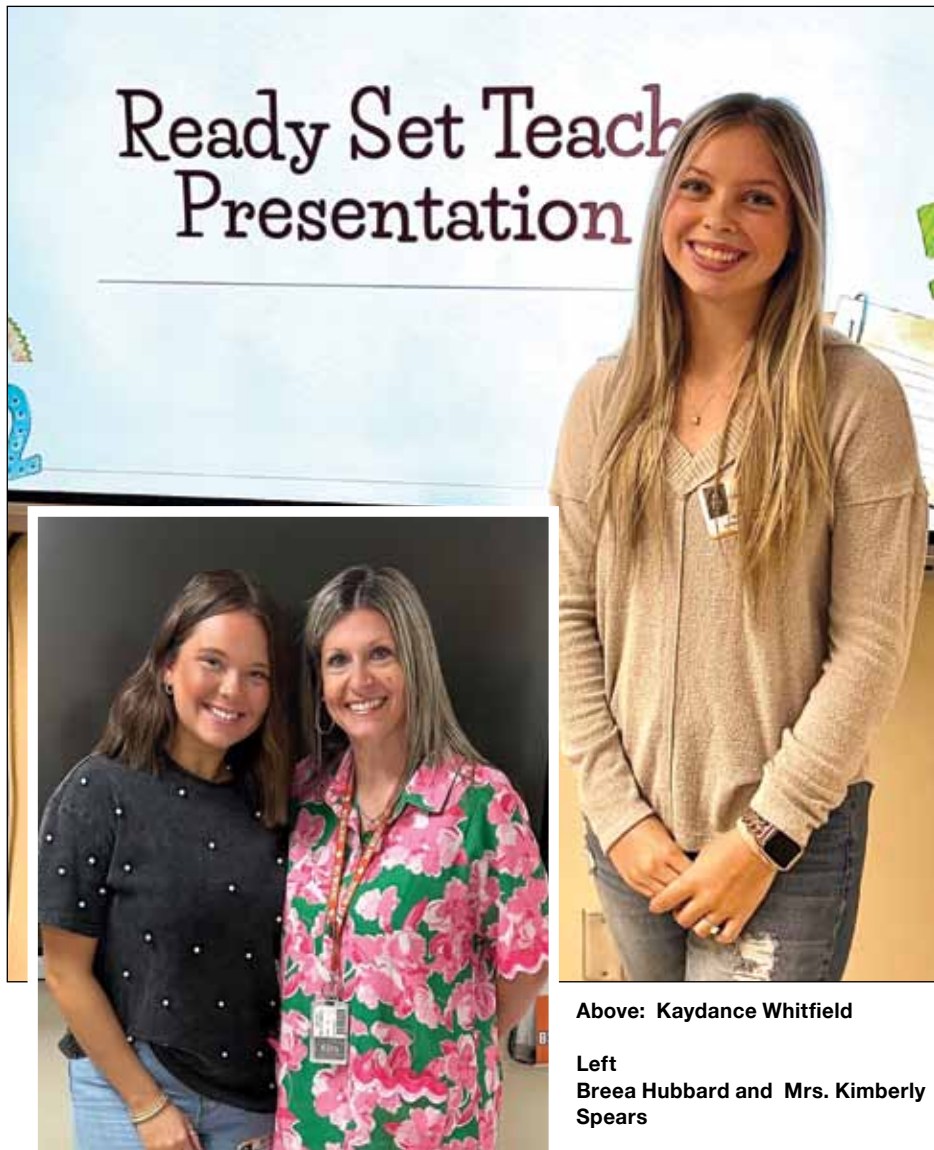
One was stationed near the stage to the right, the opposite side of where the voices were coming from, and the other was stationed at the back of the audience area, near the door to the lobby.

Upon investigation, no one was found in the orchestra area or the prop room. Nothing was found on the audio recorders. Nothing else was experienced that night.

Later, the tedious task of viewing the video footage from the lobby began, and something was found. On the camera that was near the door facing the concession stand captured a mist that moved from the

area of the door crossing to the left of the room. Even more curious, it captured the recording light of the camera facing the door going out before the appearance of the mist. At first the person reviewing the footage just thought that camera ran out of film and quit recording when they saw the light go out, but not long after the mist passed through the room, the recording light on the camera came back on. How does that happen? The light goes out, the mist passes, and the light mysteriously comes back on? Were there spir-

**The Ghosts Page 2A**



Above: Kaydance Whitfield

Left: Breea Hubbard and Mrs. Kimberly Spears

Orangefield High School graduates, Kaydance Whitfield and Breea Hubbard, Class of 2022, spoke to Mrs. Kimberly Spears' Ready, Set, Teach class. They covered the importance of RST, majoring in education in college, preparation for and different types of state exams, student teaching, substitute teacher training, and answered questions. Their visit was beneficial, especially to the seniors.

## The Ghosts of OCP From Page 1

its that cut the camera off to prevent evidence from being collected? If so, why did they not cut the other camera off too? Did they miss it? Did they not see it? Since the other camera was cut off, there was no evidence if the front door opened or not. That could not be determined.

For those that may say the mist was just a car passing in front of the building, that was debunked because there was video of a car passing by and the light of the car created a very defined, squared shape of the window in the door. The light from the car moved across the room in a much slower manor, proving the mist was something else. It might be possible that it could have

been dust blowing across the camera from a gust of wind from the door opening, but if so, who opened the door? Since the other camera cut off, we have no evidence if the door opened or not. But who cut off the camera? There was no one in the room seen cutting it off, but you clearly see the recording light go off, then sixteen minutes later, it came back on. Yes, all of that happened in a span of 16 minutes, but there is an edited version that shows the sequence of events with all the lag time taken out. The edited video can be seen on therecordlive.com.

Is the old OCP Theater haunted? No one can say, but there is video proof of something mysterious going on.

## LSCO grows From Page 1

ers. The college has also broadened its reach by opening satellite locations in Lumberton and Livingston, providing greater access to students across East and Southeast Texas.

A key aspect of LSCO's growth is its commitment to student success, particularly for first-generation students. Currently, 75% of LSCO's student body is composed of first-generation college students, demonstrating the college's critical role in providing life-changing educational opportunities.

LSCO continues to partner with local businesses and organizations to equip students with the skills needed for in-demand careers, cultivating a stronger, more educated workforce in the region.

President Dr. Thomas Johnson expressed his enthusiasm for the college's record-breaking enrollment and the impact it will have on the community. "Seeing more students than ever gaining the critical skills needed to make a better life for themselves and their families is truly exciting," said Johnson. "This growth reflects the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff, and the entire LSCO community to provide the resources and opportunities that help our students thrive. It's about improving lives for generations to come."

Provost and Executive Vice President Dr. Wendy Elmore echoed those sentiments, attributing the success to the efforts of LSCO's faculty and staff. "The dedication of our faculty and staff has been instrumental in helping our students be successful," Elmore said. "As we continue to grow, we remain focused on delivering a high-quality education that prepares students

for the workforce and helps them achieve their goals."

The new Academic Building is a state-of-the-art facility with modern labs and classroom spaces designed to enhance student learning. Later this year, LSCO will also open the new Student Success Center, a historic renovation of the former First Baptist Church of Orange. The center will serve as a one-stop shop for students seeking to enroll and access essential resources.

As LSCO looks ahead, the

college remains committed to expanding educational access and providing the resources necessary for students to succeed. With continued growth, new program offerings, and an emphasis on community partnerships, LSCO is poised to continue building a stronger future for its students and the region.

There's still time to enroll in Fall 2024 courses. For more information about enrollment and programs at LSCO, visit [www.lSCO.edu](http://www.lSCO.edu).



## 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](http://TheRecordLive.Com).

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**Round The Clock Hometown News**

# 2024 Holiday in the Park

• FESTIVAL & CAR SHOW •

## Saturday, Nov. 2

• Live Entertainment Schedule •

SHON BRANHAM - FESTIVAL EMCEE

BUBBA & SHARON MEAUX  
9:00 - 10:00 AM

WOS ELEMENTARY CHOIR  
10:30 AM

GULF COAST PLAYBOYS - CAJUN BAND  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

ANNOUNCE CAR SHOW WINNERS W/PLAQUES  
1:00 PM

ROYBOY COLLINS & THE KILLIN' TIME BAND  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

SHON BRANHAM  
4:00 - 5:00 PM

MUSIC

9 AM TO 5 PM

Merry Christmas!

• Kids Activities & Crafts •

• Unique Vendors •

• Decorations •

• Food •

• Holiday Gifts •

Alford-Seale Plaza @ 2700 Western Ave. in West Orange

# Downtown Orange site for Halloween haunts, treats



## MARGARET TOAL For The Record

Downtown Orange will be alive with spooks, ghouls, and aliens on Halloween as the historic Orange Train Depot has a haunted house and groups will be handing out candy to young costumed trick-or-treaters.

The Orange Train Depot, built in the early 1900s as the station for the Southern Pacific Railroad, was restored ten years ago. For the second year, the Drama Department

at West Orange-Stark High School is decorating the building into a haunted house.

Drama teacher Mason Franco has written a story line of an alien invasion for the spook house. The drama students will be dressed and acting parts for the thrilling tour.

Dates will be Wednesday, October 30, and Thursday, October 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$2. "Survivors" of the walk will be treated to candy and popcorn at the end. The red brick depot is

along the railroad tracks at Green Avenue and 11th Street.

Candy will be widely available on Halloween evening, especially from departments of the city of Orange. Kids are encouraged to dress in costume to go trick-or-treating at the Orange Public Library, the Orange Police Department, and the Orange Central Fire Station.

The Library at 220 North Fifth Street will be giving away candy beginning at 5 p.m. until the candy runs out.

Firefighters at Central Station, 501 North Seventh Street, will have candy for kids from 5 p.m. until it runs out.

The Orange Police Department, 201 North Eighth Street, will have a

drive-through trunk-or-treat from 6 to 8 p.m.

Also in downtown, the historic First United Methodist Church, 502 Fifth Street, will have a trunk-or-treat from decorated cars and trucks in

the church parking lot beginning at 5 p.m. After going through the parking lot, children are invited to go inside the church's Family Life Center for hot dogs, chips, cookies, and drinks.

## Orange County Football



With their work often featured in The Record Newspapers, in print and online, are the best sideline photographers in the county. (Above) Lisa K. Anderson, Kayleigh Ritchey and Darren Hoyland are seen at the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bear versus Bridge City Cardinals on Friday. We appreciate all their hard work for the players, fans and hometown newspaper.

## Heavy turnout in OC From Page 1

trict, 8081 Old Highway 90.

In West Orange, ballot boxes will be at the Dow Business Center, 2601 Irving Street, and West Orange City Hall, 2700 Western Avenue.

Another polling site on Election Day will be the Orange County Expo Center, 11475 FM 1442. The box in Orangefield will be at the Cormier Museum by the schools, 9908 FM 105. Mauriceville's box is at the Mauriceville Commu-

nity Center, 7441 Cohe-

nour Road. Bridge City has boxes at St. Paul Methodist Church, 1155 West Roundbunch Road, and Knights of Columbus Hall, 495 West Roundbunch Road.

The presidential race between Republican former president Donald Trump and Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris is drawing the most attention. Texans also have a U.S. Senate spot

open with incumbent Republican Ted Cruz facing Democrat Colin Allred.

Locally, our incumbent U.S. Representative Republican Randy Weber is facing Democrat Rhonda Hart for Texas District 3.

Orange County's incumbent state representative, Dade Phelan, and state senator, Robert Nichols, are unopposed Republicans on the ballot. All local county offices have Republicans running unopposed.



The long arm of LCM defensive end Trevor Lloyd wraps up Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden. LCM narrowly defeated Bridge City 21-18.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



LCM Bear wide receiver Khayden Reed pulls down a pass to set up a touchdown in the 21-18 victory over Bridge City.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

See Section B For This Week's Football Highlights



Lamar State College  
Orange

**55**  
YEARS  
OF SUCCESS IN  
**55,000**  
SQUARE FEET

**Grand Opening  
Ceremony of LSCO's  
New Academic Building**

**Wednesday | November 6, 2024 | 2:00 pm**  
**305 N 4th Street, Orange, TX 77630**

**Wesley United Methodist Church**  
**PECANS & MORE FESTIVAL**  
**Saturday, Nov., 9th**  
**9 am to 2 pm**  
**401 37th Street, Orange**  
Pecans, Walnuts, Pickles, Taco Soup (frozen to go),  
Casseroles (ready to bake), Links, Boudain & Sweet Shop  
• **Door Prize Drawings** •



## From the Creaux's Nest

ROY AND WILLIE AWAITING LAST CHANCE  
(Will History Be Made In Their Lifetime)

There is a wide musical space between **Beyoncé** and **Willie Nelson**. Both were part of a star powered rally for Vice-President **Kamala Harris** in Houston. **Willie**, who is 91 years old and **Roy Dunn**, 90, said they have waited all these years to witness a female being elected president of the **United States**. They say they both missed their chance when an **October surprise** by the **FBI** head, **James Comey**, ended **Hillary's** chances. She was robbed. **Willie** says women are better than men at managing and organizing. "Women are always cleaning up our messes." Both **Roy** and **Willie** know this is their last chance, waiting four more years would be a stretch. At the rally **Willie**, before launching into "Mamas Don't Let Your Babies be Cowboys," and "On the Road Again," asked, "Are we ready to say 'Madam President?'" The crowd roared with, "We're not going back!" The stadium of 23,000 was full by early evening, with nearly as many thousand waiting outdoors in the 90-degree heat. At one of her best speeches the Vice-President took a swipe at **Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton** criticizing him for trying to ensure access to Medical records of women who leave the state for reproductive care. **Harris** then added, "Donald Trump won't let anyone see his Medical records." **Trump**, who is over-weight, is going to be 79 and would be 80 after his first year in office and would be the oldest person ever elected president. A report when **Trump** had COVID showed he has high cholesterol. Since 2020, **Trump** has really slipped, loses his train of thought and repeats himself. **Trump** says, "Vote for me now and you will never have to vote again." Do you want to take a guess at what that means? Meanwhile, the old guys, **Roy** and **Willie** just have a few days left to see if history will be made.

## TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2014

This coming Saturday **Mayor McDonald** and his gang at West Orange are holding their annual **Holiday in the Park**. It's a great time for family, friends and the citizens to gather for an old time fun day. Plenty of booths and a lot of entertainment for the kiddos and adults alike. It is one of the few festivals of its kind left around the country.\*\*\*\* Good hearted **Donna Scales** built one of her famous Almond Joy birthday cakes for **Judge Claude Wimberley's** 80th birthday. She brought it to the **Wednesday Lunch Bunch** gathering but **Wimberley's** birthday was Thursday so it went home with him where the family celebrated the **Judge's** big day. It's considered an honor to get a special **Donna** cake. \*\*\*\*Pretty **District Judge**, mother of twins, **Courtney Arkeen**, appears on Channel 12 at 5 p.m. every Wednesday with legal advice. I bragged to my out-of- town guest that I knew the **Judge**. She's one of those **Burch** girls from Orangefield.\*\*\*\*Our friend **Joel Steirman**, advised us that there are **Cajun Jews**. In fact, he says that **Kaplan**, Louisiana, just a few miles from **Abbeville**, was named for a Jewish merchant who developed the area. **Joel** says there are several places in South Louisiana named after Jewish people.\*\*\*\*Oct. 29, **Brock LeBlanc**, **Vicki Cormier** and **Emma Scott** share birthdays with actresses **Kate Jackson**, 65.\*\*\***Roy's** baby sister **Jane** died on this day in 1997.\*\*\*\*Our friend **Carlos Vasek**, **Jessia Bradberry** and **Kevin Sorrels** all celebrate on Oct. 30. \*\*\*\*Celebrating on Oct. 31 are **Mark Dunn**, **Don Harmon** and another pumpkin baby, **Mel's** hubby, **Joey Campbell**, along with **Stacy Doiron**, **Taylor Thurman** and **Janel Menard**.\*\*\*\*On Nov. 2, **Mark Dunn's** oldest grandchild, **Nate Melvin**, turns 13. Hard to believe he has a teenage grandchild.\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*I'm dizzy from watching so much TV football plus the **World Series**. Before TV we read about it in the morning paper or listened to baseball on the radio.

## 20 Years Ago-2004

**Bridge City Cardinal** coach **Claude Tarver** says emotionally the big comeback win over **Hamshire-Fannett** was one of his biggest wins in 20 years of coaching. **B.C. kicker A.J. Hecker** started things off for the **Cards** with a 47-yard field goal. Down 7-3 in the third quarter, **Dale Armand** scored a 24-yard touchdown, putting the **Cards** up 9-7. A bobbled snap and a throw landing in the hands of a defender who took it 90 yards for two points, tying the game at 9. **Coach Tarver** said **Clint DeRouen** and **David Blacksher** were brought up from junior varsity, linebacker **Taylor Faulk** had his best game ever. Sophomore **Johnny Dishon** was given the green light in the fourth quarter and despite a twisted ankle, scored all 28 points and averaged 10 yards a carry, finishing with 184 yards rushing. The **Cards** came away with a 37-16 win.\*\*\*\*Kicker **Matt Bryant**, **NFL** place kicker from **Bridge City**, kicked Monday night for the **Dolphins**. He will be with **Miami** one more week. He rents his foot and leg out to any team who needs a kicker for \$25,000 a game. \*\*\*\***Mark's** grandson and **Phyl** and **Roy's** first great-grandchild, son of **Jenna**, "Nate" **Nathaniel Isaac Melvin**, will turn 3 on Nov. 2. (Today **Nate** is 23 and serving in the **U.S.**

**Air Force**.)\*\*\*\*County workers found a big, fat snake in **Judge Janice Menard's** court room. It was found hiding under the air conditioner. They didn't say if it was **Democratic** or **Republican**.\*\*\*\***Cal Broussard** and **Margie Stephens** both bought a new **Cadillac** from **Cecil's** this week. (Editor's note: **Cadillac** and **Lincoln** no longer have dealerships in **Orange**.)

## 45 Years Ago-1979

**Jim Stelly** is coming to the end of his presidency of the **Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce**. **Jim** has had a great year. The new, incoming officers of the chamber are: **Harmon Beauchamp**, president; **Howard Slater**, president-elect; **Betty Morris**, vice-president; **Bob Walker**, vice-president; **Bob Williams**, vice-president. Other directors are **J.D. Stanfield**, **Betty Harmon**, **Jim Moore**, **Earl Wright**, **W.T. Oliver**, **Frank Sabieralski**, **Mavis McClure**, **Bill Fort**, **David Claybar**, **Dan Cockran**, **Martin Thomen**, **Art Carruth**, **Bob Williams**, **Joe Peery**, **Roy Alba**, **Eirita Eikenhorst**, **Sam Doggett** and **Jim Gilliam**. Past president council are; **Major Inman**, **Bill Sichko**, **Jim Graves**, **Ben Briggs** and **Leland Morrow**.\*\*\*\*A trio of **Bridge City** beauties are chosen to be duchess for **Cav-Oil-Cade**. They are **Shelly Pate**, **Liz Godwin** and **Barbara Cullen**.\*\*\*\*Pretty **Becky Hargrave** was 19-years-old a couple of weeks back on Oct. 23.\*\*\*\*Miss **Bridge City**, **Teresa Hearn**, presides over the **Bridge City Day parade**.\*\*\*\***Barbara Bush**, wife of presidential candidate **George Bush**, visit's the **Orange** home of **Frank and Carolyn Riddick**. **Mrs. Bush** said her husband, running against **Ronald Reagan**, wouldn't need on-the-job training. "George has held five top jobs in government, we no longer can afford to train a president on the job," she said.\*\*\*\***Muhammad Ali** and **Kris Kristofferson**, star in a two part show, "Freedom Road."\*\*\*\***Judge Pat and Rosalie Clark** welcomed their third child on Oct. 23, on the wedding anniversary of **Rosalie's** parents **Frank and Sarah Todaro**. **Patrick Allen Clark, Jr.** was born at **St. Mary Hospital** in **Port Arthur**. He weighed in at 9 pounds, 11 ounces. **Little Pat** has two pretty sisters, 7 year old **Beth Ann** and **Mary Ann**, who turns 9 in January.\*\*\*\***Dodie and Chester Jimerson** lost their son **Jessie**, who was accidentally killed while working at **4-J Enterprises**, the family business. **Jessie** was a **Texas A&M** honor graduate.\*\*\*\* **LC-M** junior varsity cheerleaders are **Bridget Gunn**, **Deldra Spell**, **Jeanette Yawn**, **Lucy Parker**, **Becky Thompson** and **Nan Finchman**.\*\*\*\***Tammy Soape**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Willie Joe Soape**, is crowned homecoming queen at **Little Cypress-Mauriceville**.\*\*\*\***Bridge City** lost to **Silsbee** 21-14. Staring for the **Cards** were **Joey Hargrave**, **Lance Lee** and **Bryan Ward**.

## A FEW HAPPENINGS

On Nov. 1, **Music at the McFaddins'** will feature legendary **Swamp Pop** musician **Jivin' Gene Bourgeois** and **Eazy**. **Gates** will open at 6 p.m. on the **McFaddin-Ward House** lawn, 1906 **McFaddin Ave.**, **Beaumont**. The event is admission-free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs, food, and drink.\*\*\*\*I don't get many visitors here at the edge of the forest, no drive through traffic, however, I got a nice visit from **County Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte** and really appreciated that. He had tried to call me and couldn't reach me. He discovered why. I had pressed the wrong button and had the phone off. (Old folks do that.) I get about 20 spam calls a day and wondered why it was so quite.\*\*\*\* On October 30, 1974, **Muhammad Ali** knocked out **George Foreman** in the 8th round of a 15 round fight in **Kinshasa, Zaire**, in the "Rumble-in-the-Jungle" fight to regain the world's heavyweight championship.\*\*\*\* A fall Friday evening at the winery turned out to be a perfect place for an annual fundraiser sponsored by the **Dallas family** to help fight **ALS**, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or **Lou Gerhig's Disease**. **Tony Dallas**, a local insurance agent who was active in civic clubs and youth sports, has the disease. He and his family have held several fundraisers to help find treatments and to assist those who have it. **Tony** was at **Free State Cellars Winery** for the event in his custom wheelchair that raises him up to speak to people face to face. His wife **Nancy** is always with him. Daughter **Leigh Anne Harrell** brought her baby, toddler **Honey**. **Dallas** sons **Jack** and **Chad** were able to attend now that their pro baseball seasons are over. **Gary Bonneaux**, **D.D. Terry**, **Sam Moore**, **Tina** and **Jesse Romero**, **David Evans**, and **Jody Conner** were seen in the crowd.\*\*\*\*The next night, **Heritage House Museum** held its annual fundraising historic ghost walk. **Museum board members** started it and have helped keep it going, particularly drama expert and former board president **Adam Conrad**. **Lori Ardoin** and **Jill Kunst**, wife of the **Orange city manager**, ran the ticket sales while **Alison Clary**, the city's social media director, helped the walking tours line up. Other board members working included **Kimberly Manning**, usually with camera in hand; **Leslie Williams**, **Peggy Wells**, **Edie Burch**, and **Jody Chesson** also stayed busy. **Heather Dyson** worked there all Saturday and then had the energy a couple of days later to catch a jet to **Hawaii**. **Museum Director Charlotte Alford** was overseeing it all. Some 180 drama students from four local high schools participated. **Orange native Curtis Leister** and wife, **Laurie**, came from **Beaumont**. Their daughter **Catherine** now works at the **W.H. Stark House** and was volunteering to help children make crafts.\*\*\*\*Welcome to the world **Crawford Michael Carr**. Parents are **Cody** and **Sydney Carr**, with **Collins Ruth** as his big sister. Grandparents include **Angie** and **Kevin Williams**.\*\*\*\***Brandi Griggs** was tired of local temperatures in the 60s and took off for a quick trip to a warm beach in **Florida**.\*\*\*\***Gina** and **Skipper Yeaman** had a trip to **Austin** to attend a birthday party.\*\*\*\***David DePape**, the man who attacked **Paul Pelosi**, the husband of former **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi** with a hammer in their **California** home, was given a life term without the possibility of parole.

## BREAUX BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

On Oct. 30, our friend, the banker's banker, the old **TCU Horned Frog**, **Carlos Vasek** celebrates another birthday. Best wishes for good health and many more. Celebrating also are **Donna Peterson**, **Breck Whittle**, **Tommie Reddick**, **Jessica Bradberry** and **Laura Moreau**.\*\*\*\*Oct. 31, **Phyl** and **Roy's** oldest, **Mark**

**Dunn**, celebrates number 69. **Mark** started working for the family publication **Opportunity Valley News** when he was 14, went off to college, then attended the **New England School of Photography**. He lays out both publications **The County Record** and **The Penny Record** and is the owner of '87 **Digital Outdoor Advertising**. He has always done professional work. A **Trick-or-Treat** baby he proves sometimes a trick turns out to be a real treat. Sharing this day are **Stacy Doiron**, **Alane Ball**, **Janel Menard** and **Joey Cambell**.\*\*\*\*On Nov. 1 **Kyle Prosperie**, **Lauren Bland**, **Lib Davenport**, **Lorna Wade**, **Maria Carter Nancy Blacksher** and **Ed Miller** celebrate.\*\*\*\*Nov. 2: The **Dunn's** first great-grandchild, **Nate Melvin**, celebrates his 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Also on this day old friend **Quincy Procell** will turn 80. **Amy Skidmore**, **Kimberly Hall**, **Olin Mahfour**, **Laura Clark**, **Julia Latcher**, **Keith McCurry** and **Marge Everitt** have birthdays.\*\*\*\* The **Bearden** twins, **Hutch** and **Hallie**, celebrate their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday Nov. 3. Both are good athletes and are the grandchildren of proud grandpa, longtime attorney **Sharon Bearden**.\*\*\*\*Celebrating also on Nov. 3 is a great gal who just keeps on keeping on, **Denise Stanton**, believe it or not turns 54. We should all have her outlook. Also a year older are **Ruby Hickey**, **Skeet Boehme**, **David Caples**, **Tommy Green**, **Courtney Courville**, **Dale Cariton**, **David Hebert**.\*\*\*\*Nov. 4 **Marilyn Prewitt**, **Pam Guyote**, **Gail Hass**, **Kathy Arceneaux**, **Kim Moore**, **Louise Fuselier** celebrate.\*\*\*\*Nov. 5, finds our longtime friend **CPA John Dubose** celebrating another year along with **Camden Walton**, **Gina Beaulieu**, **Kember Ess** and **Margaret Thibodeaux**.\*\*\*\* And speaking of birthdays, happy, happy, happy to **Pam Stelly**, **Ron Sigler**, **Rebecca Willey**, **Holly Halliburton Callahan**, **Freddie Robinson**, **Captain Dante Salgado of the Salvation Army**, **Marcia Walker**, **Barbara DeBlanc**, **Thelma McClelland**, **Ramona Scott**, **Aaron Norwood**, **Marvin Edwards**, **Jody Chesson**, **Mickey Permenter**, **Melissa Hatton Hines**, and **John Warren**.

## CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

**Clovis** got himself a bartender job at **Tee Boy's Bar and Grill**. A very attractive lady walks up to da bar and sit herself down on da stool. She calls **Clovis** to come over rat now.

"Yes M'am, how can I help you? **Clovis** axe.

"Mais sha, bring you face a little closer," she said.

**Wen Clovis** got real close, da sexy lady gently caress his full beard an she axe **Clovis**, "Are you da manager, you?" while softly stroking his face with bot hands.

"No, not actually," **Clovis** answered.

"Can you get him for me? I need to speak wit him," she says, running bot hands into his hair.

"I'm afraid I can't me," **Clovis** says, breathing heavy.

"Babe, is dere anything I can do me?" **Clovis** axe.

"Yes, dere is, I need you to give him a message," she said, while running her fingers across **Clovis's** lips and slyly popping a couple of her fingers in his mouth allowing **Clovis** to suck on dem gently.

By now **Clovis** is excited him, and he axe, "Wat should I tell him, me?"

While rolling her big eyes she says, "Tell him dere is no toilet paper, hand soap, or paper towels in da ladies rest room."

## HARRIS CALLED TRUMP 'UNSTABLE' AND 'OBSESSED WITH REVENGE'

Vice-President **Kamala Harris** made her final case to voters Tuesday on the **Ellipse**, one last opportunity before **Election Day** to contrast her campaign with that of former **President Donald Trump**, who hosted his infamous "Stop the Steal" rally at the same **White House-adjacent park** on January 6, 2021. The symbolic significance of the **Ellipse** as the site of **Harris's** final appeal to voters marks another effort by the campaign to distinguish her as this year's **pro-democracy candidate**. **Trump** was the last political figure to speak at the park back in January 2021: He urged listeners to "fight" against baseless claims of widespread voter fraud, which he falsely argued led to **President Joe Biden's 2020 election victory**, shortly after, throngs of his supporters broke into the **Capitol** as **Congress** was certifying the results. The speech was not solely focused on **Jan. 6**, but **Harris** reminded voters of that day. The vice president walked the crowd through his "priorities for a second term," saying **Trump** is "unstable," "obsessed with revenge," "consumed with grievance" and "out for unchecked power." He will use four more years in the **White House** to prosecute his "enemies list," pardon **Jan. 6** defendants and use the **military against American citizens** whom he has called the "enemy from within." "Donald Trump has spent a decade trying to keep the American people divided and afraid of each other. That's who he is," "But America, I am here tonight to say: that's not who we are." The vice president then asked Americans for their vote, pledging to serve for all parties and help the country move beyond the "chaos" and "division" of the **Trump** era. "I pledge to seek common ground and common sense solutions to make your lives better. I am not looking to score political points. I am looking to make progress," "I pledge to listen to experts. To those who will be impacted by the decisions I make. And to people who disagree with me. Unlike **Donald Trump**, I don't believe people who disagree with me are the enemy. He wants to put them in jail." "I'll give them a seat at my table. And I pledge to be a **President for all Americans**. To always put country above party and above self."\*\*\*\*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 on our website, **therecordlive.com**. Take care and God bless.



# Little Boy's Spirit From Page 1

bit frightening in the dark. Plus the painting of wolves by Little Wright B.'s mother didn't help the spookiness of the setting.

I'll never forget the time I screamed at a ghost. I was probably about eight years old and playing with toys in the entry way using the glow of the lights from the living room, where my father and grandmother were.

That "ghost" was my great-grandmother. She was in her 80s and had already gone to bed. Apparently, she heard the voices and got up to check. I saw her tiny figure coming down a dark hallway. She was wearing a white nightgown with her long white hair, usually in a tight bun, hanging almost to her knees. Yes, it was scary.

My cousin, Julian Thomas Garrett, remembers living there with his parents for a while when he was young. He would play in the storeroom upstairs. He would turn off the light in the room, only to have it go back on.

All the cousins played in that room. It was full of old trunks with old hats, clothes, books, and toys. Untold treasures of the past. We also all joked about the ghost staying in that room, which usually had the door closed. But sometimes the door was open.

A second set of owners of the house also claimed to see ghosts. They were Marie and Major Inman Jr., who moved there with their daughter, Sally, in 1968 after my great-grandmother died. My grandmother then moved into the smaller house next door that she and my grandfather had built in the 1920s. Major Inman served as mayor of Orange in the 1980s and pushed to build the first riverwalk.

Marie Inman often told of the time a friend of Sal-



**Little Wright B as a toddler. He died at age 5 in a car-train crash in 1918.**

ly's came to visit. Instead of using the back or side door as most people did, the girl went to the front door and rang. They family hollered for her to come inside. But they never saw her.

They learned she had run home because of a young boy in strange clothes. The girl came into the house at the front door and saw the boy walking down the stairs. He came up to her, put his hand on her shoulder, and then walked back upstairs.

Mrs. Inman talked about little things like toys or knickknacks being moved. She also said she could sometimes smell flowers. My great-grandmother in January always had fragrant paperwhite narcissist flowers sitting in a vase next to her chair in the living room. Old photographs of the house show climbing roses and window boxes of flowers. I also remember the smell of the climbing small, pink sweetheart roses in the spring.

My great-grandparents were George and Margaret "Maggie" Pevoto Bland. They were teenagers, he was 19 and she was 18, when they married in 1892. The Orange newspaper at the time reported the young couple were married at Green Avenue Baptist Church and the reception was held at the bride's parents' home. They were J.B.

and Anna McKenzie Pevoto and lived on Green Avenue where First Presbyterian Church was later build. The town's band serenaded the couple.

The newspaper also reported the groom owned a confectionery on Front Street. The day after the wedding, the young couple took little cakes wrapped in pressed linen napkins by the newspaper office as a "thank you" for the write-ups of their wedding.

My great-grandparents Bland had four daughters when they moved into the year-old house on Tenth Street in 1906. A "late" baby, a daughter would be born eleven years later, after their first grandchild, Little Wright B. Roan, was born.

Their first born was Zollie, born in 1894, my grandmother, Winnie, born in 1895, was the second. Then came Madge and Aileen, followed years later by little Valla. Three of the daughters, including Valla, died within two years.

Zollie's death with her four-year-old son, plus her mother-in-law, in the crash was a shock not only to the family, but to the whole town.

The Orange Leader had a front page story with the headline "Three Killed In Sad Accident" concerning the deadly crash.

Zollie was married to

Wright B. Roan Sr., a young automobile mechanic in those early days of cars. Their son was Wright B. Jr., so it was a given that he was called "Little" Wright B.

All the Bland girls were beauties with talents. My great-grandmother taught piano lessons. Her daughters played and were known for their lovely voices. The newspaper reported my great-grandmother would play and with her daughters singing hymns at the Christian Women's Temperance League meetings.

Zollie was also an accomplished painter, mostly in watercolors. My brother has two of her colorful paintings of bird dogs hanging in his home. I have a painting of a bulldog.

Zollie was driving a Ford Model T to show her visiting mother-in-law around town, according to the newspaper story and court

testimony in a lawsuit against the railroad company by Zollie's husband, Wright B. Roan Sr.

Mavis Roan, Zollie's 17-year-old sister in law, was sitting in the front passenger seat. Little Wright B. and his paternal grandmother, Lula Roan. Lula and Little Wright B. were thrown out of the car and apparently hit by the train. The train dragged the car almost two blocks streets down before stopping.

That would have put it almost in my great-grandparents backyard. The child and Lula Roan were killed immediately. Zollie died on a train taking her to a Hous-ton hospital. Though Mavis had critical injuries, she survived.

They were traveling west down Park Avenue. Zollie pointed out to her mother-in-law the new house Dr. J.H. Thomas was building.

She didn't see the train coming from the north. The railroad crossing is raised and witnesses said it appeared the car may have stalled.

Witnesses, including Mrs. J.H. Thomas and Mavis, said they didn't hear train bell or whistle sound. The time was about 5 in the evening of October 5, 1918. The sun would have been going down. Perhaps it blinded Zollie. No one will ever know.

The bodies of the dead, including Little Wright B., were brought to my great-grandparents. It was a house the child would have visited often and played in.

Does he still live there? There's no scientific proof of ghosts. But even people who have lived in the house in more recent years said sometimes people feel a spirit pass them on the stairs.

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NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00am - 7:00pm

WHERE:

- DOW Business Center @ 2601 Irving Street – Orange
- Orange County Expo Center @ 11475 FM 1442 –
- Orange WOC-CISD Admin/Educ. Bldg @ 902 W Park Ave. – Orange
- Mauriceville Community Center @ 7441 Cohenour Road – Mauriceville
- Orange Public Library @ 220 N 5th Street – Orange
- St Paul Methodist Church @ 1155 W Roundbunch Road – Bridge City
- St Francis Catholic Church @ 4300 Meeks Drive – Orange
- Bridge City Knights of Columbus @ 495 W Roundbunch Rd – Bridge City
- LCM-CISD Administration Bldg @ 6586 FM 1130 – Orange
- Orangefield Cormier Museum @ 9908 FM 105 – Orangefield
- Sabine River Authority @ 12777 N Hwy 87 – Orange
- Vidor ISD Administration Bldg @ 1255 N Main Street – Vidor
- Salvation Army @ 1950 Martin Luther King Drive – Orange
- The Oaks Event Center @ 2110 S Main Street – Vidor
- Orange County Airport @ 2640 Hwy 87S – Orange
- Pecan Acres Baptist Church @ 14795 Duncan Woods Lane – Vidor
- Orange County Drainage District @ 8081 Old Hwy 90 – Orange
- Pine Forest Baptist Church @ 4800 N Main Street – Vidor
- West Orange City Hall @ 2700 Western Avenue – Orange
- Raymond Gould Community Center @ 385 Claiborne Street – Vidor

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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **JOHN JULIAN LABORDE**, Deceased, were issued on **OCTOBER 14, 2024**, in Docket No. P20086, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JOHN MICHAEL LABORDE**.

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: Paul M. Fukuda**  
Attorney At Law  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 21st day of October, 2024.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for:  
**John Michael LaBorde**  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone: (409)883-4357  
Email: pfukudalawofice@yahoo.com

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### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

**GARY LYNN PORTER, Deceased**  
Cause No. P20078  
in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in this estate on the 23rd day of October, 2024, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of GARY LYNN PORTER, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court may act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse, 801 W. Division., Orange, Texas 77630.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to this Application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention or response in writing with the County Clerk of Orange County, Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on the 23rd day of October, 2024.

**BRANDY ROBERTSON,**  
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas

By: *Danielle Kendrick*, Deputy  
Danielle Kendrick

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

**CHRISTENE P. ELLIOTT, Deceased**  
Cause No. P20133  
in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in this estate on the 1st day of October, 2024, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of CHRISTENE P. ELLIOTT, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court may act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse, 801 W. Division., Orange, Texas 77630.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to this Application should they desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention or response in writing with the County Clerk of Orange County, Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on the 2nd day of October, 2024.

**BRANDY ROBERTSON,**  
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas

By: *Danielle Kendrick*, Deputy  
Danielle Kendrick

### 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](mailto: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](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](mailto: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](mailto: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 . . .

# Local teams clinch playoff spots



Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bear Braylon Lewis rambles downfield in the grip of a Bridge City Cardinal defender. The Bears prevailed 21-18 over Big Red.  
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden trudges for yardage against the LCM Bear defense.  
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

**TOMMY MANN JR.**  
For The Record

The 2024 high school football season has been a good one for Orange County and, with two weeks remaining, could see several of these teams claims district titles in the process. Bridge City, Little Cypress-Mauriceville, Orangefield and West Orange-Stark have already clinched playoff spots in their respective districts and are now looking to finalize seedings.

**Bears drops Cards from unbeaten ranks**

The Little Cypress-Mauriceville Battlin' Bears claimed a 21-18 win over the Bridge City Cardinals this past Friday night and, in the process, remained in

a first place tie for the district lead while knocking the Cardinals from the ranks of unbeaten teams in the state.

LC-M got on the scoreboard late in the first quarter when Jonah Fuller scored on a 5-yard run to give the Bears a 7-0 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

The Cardinals finally got on the scoreboard just before halftime as Kasen Watts kicked a 27-yard field goal to the Bears lead to 7-3 at the break.

In the second-half, LC-M extended its lead to 14-3 when Dreyden Cook recovered the ball in the end zone, but 90 seconds later Ashton Sumrall scored a 39-yard touchdown run for the Cardinals. Following the two point conversion, Bridge City trailed 14-11.

Bridge City took the lead, 18-14, with 7:49 to play in the game

when quarterback Hutch Bearden connected on a 32-yard pass to Austin Bellanger, but it was the Bears who scored last and won the game when quarterback Braylon Lewis connected on a 11-yard scoring pass to Evan Worster with 3:04 remaining.

The Bears (6-2, 5-0) have another big test this Friday as LC-M travels to Huffman to take on the undefeated Huffman-Hargrave Falcons (8-0, 5-0). It will be a fanstastic matchup of strengths as the Bears defense only allows 13 points per contest in District 10-4A Division 1, while the Falcons offense is averaging a staggering 59 points per game during district play.

Depending on what happens in this game, the Bears could claim the No. 1 see for the district or, with a loss, be forced to

see what happens in the Week 11 game between Huffman-Hargrave and Bridge City.

Bridge City (7-1, 4-1) is back on the road this week to take on the Liberty Panthers (1-4, 1-7).

**Mustangs crush Silsbee for big win**

A battle between district titans turned into a demolition as the West Orange-Stark Mustangs shut out the defending district champion Silsbee Tigers, 35-0, this past Friday night in Silsbee.

The Mustangs jumped on the Tigers quickly and lead 14-0 at the end of the first quarter and 28-0 at halftime before coasting to a 35-0 victory.

WO-S quarterback Marcus Turner Jr. dominated the Tigers as he threw for three touch-

downs on the night, while the Mustangs defense kept the Tigers offense off balance all night.

WO-S (7-1, 3-0) will return to Dan R. Hooks Stadium this Friday to take on the Tarkington Longhorns (1-7, 0-3). The Week 11 game against the Hampshire-Fannett Longhorns looms large as the winner should claim the District 9-4A Division 2 championship.

**Bobcats await first place battle**

The Orangefield Bobcats were on a well-earned and perfectly timed bye week this past Friday as a first-place showdown awaits this week.

The Bobcats (6-2, 4-0) will host East Chambers (6-2, 4-1) in

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**OUTDOORS**

# Duck season is upon us as tactics change

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



**Chuck Uzzle**

"You remember when..." is a question that I am hearing all too often these days, especially when I am talking to water fowlers. Less than a decade ago our area marshes were a haven for all types of migratory birds, world class wing shooting at its best. The skies were filled with ducks and geese and the local hospitality and great Cajun cuisine made this part of the world a magnet for hunters from all around the globe.

Well the food and hospitality are still here but the birds are noticeably absent. The area from east of Galveston bay all the way over towards Lafayette Louisiana is just not what it used to be in terms of duck and goose hunting, and that is a scary thought for many hunters.

In years past it wasn't uncommon to see the big flights of ducks invade our marshes and settle in for awhile, they would stay until the next wave of birds came down and so the cycle continued much to the delight of area hunters. Duck leases in this part of the country commanded high price tags and usually had long waiting lists and that is not the case anymore. More and more local hunters are giving up on a sport they love in favor of other winter pursuits, the decoys are getting dusty while the rifles, rods, and reels are getting a workout.

Now don't get me wrong because there are some hunters who refuse to give up the pursuit of waterfowl and are now becoming true blue road warriors taking off in search of their favorite birds. Many hunters have now decided to take their hunting budget and use it a bit differently by spending money on trips to high profile destinations instead of local leases. Now if you do the math it makes sense in some ways, you can maximize your opportunities by going to where the birds are instead of waiting for them to come to you.

A couple of years ago I guided a gentleman from Georgia who had to be the ultimate road warrior no doubt about it. This hunter took a leave of absence from work and packed his brand new truck full of gear, loaded his dog and left for Canada. Once he reached the far northern end of Canada he began to hunt geese everyday for the next 3 months until he had worked his way all the way down the Central flyway to Texas! This guy was a real hard core hunter in every sense of the word.

It seems more and more often that hunters on our end of the flyway have to make some sort of move to increase their odds at having a successful hunt. The weather is obviously the biggest concern and factor that local water fowl hunters must learn to deal with. The combination of warm or cold winters coupled with sporadic rainfall to our north turns most hunters into part time fortune tellers predicting the future. This year we may actually get a break due to the fact that we finally get a few factors in our favor.

The most important one is the lack of standing water farther up the flyway. Areas like the panhandle and Oklahoma have been dry all year and that spells good things for those of us on the coast. Without any big concentrations of water to hold birds we should see more numbers in our neck of the woods without having to travel nearly as far.

Please don't get the wrong impression we still shoot ducks and geese in this area but it certainly has changed over the past decade or two. The changing face of agriculture and climates has done a number on the once steady migration patterns that were established over time. Hopefully in the future nature will again right itself and bring things back around full circle like it once was. Until then duck and goose hunters will have to either come up with new and innovative ways to get the job done here at home or head out to other parts of the country to enjoy their sport. One thing is for sure and that is as long as there are ducks to be hunted you can bet there will be hunters out there doing everything they can to bag them.

Just a reminder, this is the last full week before Election Day so please don't forget to vote. It's amazing to find so many sportsmen who own a hunting or fishing that don't vote. This final week will be an all out media blitz by the democrats to try and paint former President Trump as the "second coming of Adolf Hitler". Just remember all the things the left has tried to get you to believe about him and all the conjured up tales they continue to spin in an effort to scare voters to their side. Remember all of the steps they took to bend the law, prosecute him, and make attempts to change the constitution in effort to shut him down that have all failed.

When the world witnessed Joe Biden's real state of mind as he imploded on the debate stage the Democrats staged a coup, removed a sitting president from the ballot, and appointed the worst candidate they had in terms of popularity or qualifications as a last ditch effort to fight Donald Trump and they want you to believe that was okay. Think about those things when you cast your ballot and let's all pray our country gets better, sooner rather than later.

# Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

• Bolivar

• **Sabine Lake**

GOOD. 85 degrees. Very good bird action on Sabine Lake. The water level continues to be high after the hurricane, but will start to lower and flush more shrimp out of the marshes. Best catches of Texas keeper trout are coming in 8-9 feet of water midlake under the birds slow roll-

ing ¾ gold spoons off the bottom.

Nice speckled trout catches on the North Levy with a 5 inch plastics with a 1/4 ounce jig head with a glo chartreuse tail. Trout and redfish can be caught near Pleasure Island Point making long drifts in 4-5 feet of water with live bait under a popping cork. Trout and redfish are good

on Sabine Channel shell flats and rock piles with live shrimp under a popping cork. Flounder are in the same areas with 1/4 ounce jig head tipped with shrimp. ICW live shrimp under a popping cork.

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

GOOD. 77 degrees. Water levels normalized with northeast winds. Anglers are still catching plenty of redfish everywhere! There are plenty of big croakers, up to 19 inches, 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 or small males.

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Bridge City Cardinal running back Luke Williams finds running room as the LCM Bear defense closes in.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden rolls out looking for a receiver during game action against the LCM Battlin' Bears.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



LCM's Braylon Lewis breaks through the line for a first down against the Bridge City Cardinals.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

**Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records**

This notification is to inform parents/guardians and former students of Little Cypress-Mauriceville Consolidated Independent School District's (LCMCISD's) intent to destroy the Special Education records of students born in the year of or prior to 1995, who are no longer receiving Special Education services. These records will be destroyed in accordance with state law, unless the parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student notifies the school district otherwise.

Special Education records, which have been collected by LCMCISD related to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of Special Education in the District, must be maintained under state and federal laws for a period of five years after Special Education services have ended for the student. Special Education services end when the student is no longer eligible for services, graduates, completes his or her educational program at age 22, or moves from the district.

After five years, the records are no longer useful to the District, but they may be useful to the parent/guardian or former student in applying for Social Security benefits, rehabilitation services, college entrance, etc.

The parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student may request the records in writing or in person at the following address:  
 LCMCISD Special Education Office 6586 FM 1130 Orange, TX 77632  
 Phone: 409-883-6970 Fax: 409-883-7593

Requests for records must be received prior to November 30, 2024.

TEXT MV TO 80550		CANDIDATE FACT SHEET	
Text Your state postal abbreviation to 80550 (e.g. text WI for Wisconsin, PA for Pennsylvania, etc.)		MILLION VOICES.ORG	
ELECTION DAY: NOV. 5		DONALD J. TRUMP R	KAMALA HARRIS D
<b>INFLATION: CUT REGULATIONS TO BRING DOWN PRICES</b> Cut government regulations & spending to bring down cost of goods for citizens.	AGREE <sup>1</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>2</sup>	
<b>IMMIGRATION: OPEN BORDER POLICIES</b> Fund sanctuary cities, help illegal immigrants avoid deportation, decriminalize illegal border crossings, provide amnesty. Release illegal immigrants into communities.	DISAGREE <sup>3</sup>	*AGREE <sup>4</sup>	
<b>ENERGY INDEPENDENCE</b> Protect domestic drilling, fracking & Keystone Pipeline to bring down prices. Government should buy American & hire American.	AGREE <sup>5</sup>	*DISAGREE <sup>6</sup>	
<b>NONCITIZENS: BENEFITS &amp; RIGHT TO VOTE</b> Citizens should pay for healthcare, education, & housing for illegal immigrants & refugees. Eliminate voter I.D.	DISAGREE <sup>7</sup>	AGREE <sup>8</sup>	
<b>ECONOMY: CUT TAXES</b> Make income tax cuts permanent. Cut taxes on capital gains, corporate income, & estates. Terminate payroll & Social Security taxes. No new taxes on natural gas, carbon, or 401(k)s.	AGREE <sup>9</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>10</sup>	
<b>HEALTHCARE: KEEP PRIVATE INSURANCE</b> Protect private insurance. Citizens should not be required to pay for healthcare for noncitizens.	AGREE <sup>11</sup>	*DISAGREE <sup>12</sup>	
<b>GOVERNMENT CONTROL: VACCINES &amp; ELECTRIC VEHICLES</b> Mandate COVID-19 vaccine. Phase out gas vehicles to force transition to electric within 10 years.	DISAGREE <sup>13</sup>	AGREE <sup>14</sup>	
<b>BABIES BORN ALIVE: REQUIRE MEDICAL CARE</b> Babies born alive after surviving a failed abortion attempt have the right to life-saving medical care.	AGREE <sup>15</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>16</sup>	
<b>TRANSGENDER AGENDA</b> Allow males identifying as females in female sports. Include sexual ideology in grade schools. Citizens should pay for sex changes for prisoners.	DISAGREE <sup>17</sup>	AGREE <sup>18</sup>	
<b>BLACK COMMUNITY: SUPPORT FOR HBC &amp; FIRST STEP ACT</b> Financial support for Historically Black Colleges and First Step Act that disproportionately impacts young black men.	AGREE <sup>19</sup>	AGREE <sup>20</sup>	
<b>LATE-TERM ABORTION &amp; TAXPAYER FUNDED ABORTION</b> Women have a right to abort their babies through the ninth month. Taxpayers fund abortions.	DISAGREE <sup>21</sup>	AGREE <sup>22</sup>	
<b>DEFUND THE POLICE: REMOVE POLICE FROM SCHOOLS</b> Defund police or reimagine policing. "Taking police officers out of schools." Raising money for BLM rioters who burn down police stations and businesses.	DISAGREE <sup>23</sup>	*AGREE <sup>24</sup>	
<b>GUN CONFISCATION</b> Government may take guns from law-abiding citizens via bans or mandatory buybacks.	DISAGREE <sup>25</sup>	AGREE <sup>26</sup>	
<b>REQUIRE CITIZENSHIP &amp; VOTER I.D. TO VOTE</b> Require photo I.D. to vote. Eliminate drop boxes.	AGREE <sup>27</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>28</sup>	
<b>PROTECT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM</b> Catholic & other religious businesses may opt-out of providing services in violation of their faith. Catholic/Christian beliefs do not disqualify judicial nominees.	AGREE <sup>29</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>30</sup>	
<b>RELEASE PRISONERS; ALLOW PRISONERS TO VOTE</b> Release prisoners. Consider allowing prisoners to vote. End cash bail, including, for rioters.	DISAGREE <sup>31</sup>	AGREE <sup>32</sup>	

TEXT MV TO 80550		CANDIDATE FACT SHEET	
Text Your state postal abbreviation to 80550 (e.g. text WI for Wisconsin, PA for Pennsylvania, etc.)		MILLION VOICES.ORG	
ELECTION DAY: NOV. 5		J.D. VANCE R	TIM WALZ D
<b>INFLATION: CUT SPENDING &amp; REGULATIONS TO BRING DOWN PRICES</b> Cut government spending & regulations to bring down cost of goods for citizens.	AGREE <sup>1</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>2</sup>	
<b>IMMIGRATION: SANCTUARY CITIES &amp; MASS AMNESTY</b> Support sanctuary cities. Help illegal immigrants avoid deportation. Provide amnesty.	DISAGREE <sup>3</sup>	*AGREE <sup>4</sup>	
<b>ENERGY: POLICIES ARE DRIVING UP PRICES</b> Rushing the transition from fossil fuels to green energy is raising the cost of energy, making gas, food, goods, & housing unaffordable.	AGREE <sup>5</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>6</sup>	
<b>ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: CITIZENS SHOULD PAY FOR HEALTHCARE &amp; COLLEGE</b> Citizens should pay for healthcare, college & other benefits for illegal immigrants. Allow illegal immigrants to get driver's licenses.	DISAGREE <sup>7</sup>	AGREE <sup>8</sup>	
<b>GOVERNMENT CONTROL: ELECTRIC VEHICLES &amp; COVID VACCINE</b> Support COVID-19 vaccine mandates. Phase out gas cars to force transition to electric.	DISAGREE <sup>9</sup>	AGREE <sup>10</sup>	
<b>BABIES BORN ALIVE: REQUIRE MEDICAL CARE</b> Babies born alive after surviving a failed abortion attempt have the right to life-saving medical care.	AGREE <sup>11</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>12</sup>	
<b>SCHOOLS: ALLOW REMOVAL OF BOOKS BASED ON AGE-APPROPRIATENESS</b> Allow K-12 schools to remove books with explicit sexual content or gender ideology. It is not government's role to teach sexual orthodoxy. Shielding children from such materials is not book banning.	AGREE <sup>13</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>14</sup>	
<b>GENDER IDEOLOGY: SHARED RESTROOM ACCESS</b> Require schools to provide menstrual products in both boys' and girls' restrooms. Allow shared restroom access.	DISAGREE <sup>15</sup>	AGREE <sup>16</sup>	
<b>ABORTION: LATE-TERM ABORTION &amp; TAXPAYER-FUNDING</b> Women have a right to abort their babies through the ninth month. Citizens should pay for abortions of others.	DISAGREE <sup>17</sup>	AGREE <sup>18</sup>	
<b>ELECTIONS: VOTER ID</b> Require voter ID to vote.	AGREE <sup>19</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>20</sup>	
<b>GUN BANS &amp; GUN CONFISCATION</b> Government may ban certain guns. Empower judges to take guns from law-abiding citizens, without proof of criminality, based on a request from certain family members or officials.	DISAGREE <sup>21</sup>	AGREE <sup>22</sup>	
<b>PROTECT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM</b> Allow citizens and private business owners to opt out of activities that would violate their faith or conscience.	AGREE <sup>23</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>24</sup>	
<b>POLICE: INCREASE LAW ENFORCEMENT TO END RIOTS/REDUCE CRIME</b> Increase police presence & allow all policing methods, including all types of traditionally-used restraints, to protect citizens & property from riots and violent criminals.	AGREE <sup>25</sup>	DISAGREE <sup>26</sup>	
<b>GENDER-TRANSITION SANCTUARY FOR CHILDREN</b> Create a legal right for children to obtain sex-change operations & treatments. Government must step in & help children transition if parents object.	DISAGREE <sup>27</sup>	AGREE <sup>28</sup>	

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# Is a pumpkin a fruit or a vegetable?

Sarah Hines  
Texas A&M Agrilife

Inquiring minds might want to know, is the orange orb popular for Halloween and fall decorations a fruit or vegetable? The answer may surprise you. A pumpkin is, in fact, a fruit.

According to expert Joe Masabni, Ph.D., Texas A&M Agri Life Extension Service vegetable specialist in the Texas A&M Department of Horticultural Sciences said scientifically speaking, pumpkins are a fruit because anything that starts from a single flower is classified botanically as a "simple fruit."

Usually, fruits and vegetables have been named according to how they are consumed. How people eat them versus how people see them is often different.

"We see them as to whether we eat them as a dessert, salad or as part of a meal," Masabni said.

Consider a cucumber or tomato. People don't typically eat them as desserts, he said. They eat them in a salad or cooked in a meal, so they are associated with vegetables, even though they are really fruit.

"The pumpkin is a tricky one though," he said, "because some people make soups or stews from pumpkins, which is a meal, while others make pies, which is a dessert. So that can lead to confusion."

Two people smiling for a picture while posing in front of a wall lined with pumpkins.

## What is the difference between a fruit and a vegetable?

The difference between a fruit and a vegetable is established in how they grow.

"All plants start from seedlings," Masabni said. "Let's take the example of lettuce as a vegetable. It makes more and more



Pumpkins are often referred to as a vegetable but are actually a fruit. (PHOTO: Texas A&M AgriLife)

leaves, and then you harvest it and eat those leaves. If you let it go even longer, it will eventually make a flower stalk and make seeds for next year's crop."

A pumpkin starts the same; however, their flowers become the pumpkin we eat.

"A pumpkin starts with a small plant and a few leaves, and as the leaves grow and more branches develop, flowers will start to bloom on the plant," he said.

"Those flowers then need to be pollinated by bees or other pollinators. Once that flower is pollinated, it develops into a fruit that we consume. So ultimately, fruit relies on pollination of the flower to become the thing we eat."

## What other 'vegetables' are actually fruits?

Although we may classify fruits and vegetables based on their sweet and savory

tendencies or where they go in our meals, many types of produce we think of as vegetables are actually fruits,

simply because they come from a flower.

Cucumbers, olives, tomatoes, eggplants, avocados,

corn, zucchini, okra, string beans, peppers and, of course, pumpkins are all technically fruit.



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# Orange County football From Page 1B

what amounts to a battle for the District 10-3A Division 1 title. The Buccaneers are on a bye in Week 11, so the winner will earn the No. 1 seed for the playoffs.

East Chambers, which is playing a nine game schedule this season, defeated Kirbyville, 52-14, this past Friday. The Buccaneers sole district loss was to Ana-

huac, 53-48, in Week 7.

Both teams have clinched playoff berths already and are now playing for the district championship and positioning.



LCM Battlin' Bear ball carrier Jonah Fuller is caught in the grip of a Bridge City Cardinal defensive player during district action on Friday.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



LCM Bear defense zones in on Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden as the Bears take down Big Red 21-18 and improve to a 5-0 district record.

RECORD PHOTO: Kayleigh Ritchey

## Pirates pummel Panthers

Liberty started the scoring early in the first quarter, but it was all Vidor Pirates after that as the Pirates claimed a 55-17 victory on homecoming for the team's second consecutive win.

Vidor lead 20-3 after the first quarter courtesy of a 31-yard touchdown run by Daigan Venable and a 3-yard run by Riley Marlow, plus a pick six interception return by the defense. Marlow added a 2-yard touchdown run in the second to put Vidor ahead 28-3 at

halftime.

In the third quarter, Landon Jones scored on a three-yard run and Venable

scored on a 2-yard run. Liberty added two scores late in the fourth quarter for the final scores.

### Bridge City ISD Earns State's Highest Fiscal Accountability Rating

Bridge City ISD will hold a public hearing at 6:00 pm on November 18th, 2024 at the BCISD Administration Building, 1031 W. Roundbunch Rd.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Bridge City ISD's rating under the state's financial accountability system.

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**Suppressing Voting Rights:** Make it harder for minorities, seniors, and students to vote with extreme voter ID laws.

**Extreme Immigration Crackdown:** Mass deportations and ending birthright citizenship—tearing families apart.

### CONVENIENT VOTING LOCATIONS

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- Orange County Airport 2640 S Hwy 87 - Orange 77630
- Mauriceville Community Center 7441 Cohenour Road - Orange 77632
- Raymond Gould Community Center 385 Claiborne Street - Vidor 77662

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# Lessons in Words and Ways

**SAM CRABTREE  
PASTOR  
DESIRINGGOD.ORG**

Children absorb. They learn their way around the world not only from what others explicitly teach them, but also from the kind of culture or atmosphere in which they live — especially in their home. The old adage “more is caught than taught” applies. By God’s design, children soak up values without even knowing it.

For example, children don’t pick up their mother tongue because someone stands in front of them with a pronunciation flip chart. They pick up their mother tongue simply from hearing it day after day. They breathe it in without conscious awareness. And as with language, so with values. Children are constantly absorbing. Therefore, what happens within the walls of your home will have a disproportionate impact on who they become.

So, how can Christian parents create a Christlike culture in which their children can swim?

love and how you love it, what you hate and how you hate it. Family culture includes the major events in life, and it includes the seemingly little things that go almost unnoticed, like what you mutter at the stoplight.

No family can fake a Christian culture — at least, not for long. If parents aren’t wowed by God’s character, attributes, and wonderful deeds, their indifference won’t kindle awe in the hearts of the children. Indifference is reproducible. If the heavens aren’t declaring God’s glory to me (Psalm 19:1), I’m not likely to help my children see the glory the heavens are declaring to them.

Genuine enthusiasm for God’s glory is not empty hype. Children are wired with keen hypocrisy antennae. Flesh can masquerade as Spirit only for so long before they notice the cosmetics wearing off. So, when it comes to establishing a Christian culture, the first step is to be thoroughly entranced by the superiority of Jesus yourself. Jesus is not a pointer, but the point.

## Detecting Indifference

A family’s culture is not established in five minutes. Family culture is the sum total of the parents’ relationship with God, with each other, with the children, and with the world. No aspect of life is irrelevant to this enterprise, right down to what you say and how you say it, what you do and how you do it, what you

## Awe Begets Awe

Beware of trying to argue anyone — including your children — into seeing the surpassing beauty of Christ. Though arguments may be necessary in establishing a culture, they are not sufficient. You can’t argue a blind man into seeing the multicolored clouds of the sunset. Therefore, allow children to witness your unsolicited and uncon-



trived worship — both in planned moments, like worship services, and in unplanned moments of ordinary life. Give them no doubt that family devotions and church services aren’t the only time you personally ponder the Bible and commune with God.

Has Jesus gripped you? Are you deeply impressed with Jesus? When you read Colossians 1:16–18, does awe arise?

By him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent.

The Christian culture we want to foster is more a

matter of devotion than devotions. There is a great difference between explaining the importance of something and modeling its importance in your own lives.

## Creating a Christlike Culture

I don’t know of anyone who has discovered a fool-proof checklist for producing Christian kids. Checklists don’t change hearts. But transformed hearts can make good use of checklists as a sort of self-diagnostic or reminder. As you seek to foster a Christian culture in your home, the following suggestions can serve like mirrors to help you see how you’re doing. We’ll consider these suggestions in two groupings: ways and words.

### • WAYS

The God of means uses habits consistently practiced in a home to elevate and solidify values and

identity. “Our family functions this way.” Consider the following.

Model what you expect from your children: Christian courtesy, diligence, punctuality, and scores of Christlike character qualities that blossom in parents who are filled with the Holy Spirit. Avoid giving the impression that you never fail, but own your sins and mistakes.

Gently touch. Soft and playful touches can convey affection and acceptance, and if the children stiffen or pull away, that bristling may signal a relational wound that needs healing.

Get organized. Orderliness can serve everyone in the household, whereas a cluttered dwelling and cluttered calendar can beget chaos. Start by organizing your decisions, and then branch out from there. A well-placed shelf, or some coat hooks, or a reminder list on the fridge can help strengthen teamwork in the family.

At the same time, do not fear your child. You are the parent. It can be a fearful experience for a child to discover that his parents have left him in charge of the world. Expect that if you use your God-given parental authority, you will sooner or later offend your children’s grasp at self-rule. Understand the difference between offending them (an inevitable result of godly discipline) and wounding them (an excessive or ill-timed use of discipline). Love God more than your family in order to love your family well.

### • WORDS

What we say is of course

important, and how we say it may be even more important. Tone of voice and facial expression can be life-giving or deadly.

When it comes to speaking around children, then, monitor your tone. Do you sound edgy, cranky, whiny — or cheerful, grateful, honoring? Out of the mouths of babes come things parents shouldn’t have said. Tone is so important to household culture. Don’t reward whining, or you will get lots more of it. Beware of practicing sarcasm, for it can toxify a home and the children within it.

Say thank you a lot; say thank you to them as well as to others and to God. Keep promises and don’t break them — to your children or to your spouse.

Pray. It is an unspeakable service to your children to pray for them and with them. Talk to Jesus about them before you talk to them about Jesus, and do both regularly.

Sing. Singing has a wonderful effect on the tone of a home, not to mention the long-term benefits of memorizing godly lyrics.

You can sing serendipitously, while doing the dishes or driving, and you can gather round and launch together into a song that supports the kind of culture you’re trying to build.

Could we sum it all up — words and ways — in a vision for a Christlike family culture? In all your practices and speech, live so that someday, when your children are asked if they ever knew a true Christian, they would immediately think of you.



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