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# County Record

Vol. 61 No. 29

The Community Newspaper of Orange, Texas

Week of Wednesday, December 16, 2020



Joe Biden will become the 46th President of the United States.

## County GOP chair accepts Joe Biden's election win

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's doing it. So is Russian President Vladimir Putin.

And so does the Orange County Republican Party chairman.

David Covey joined McConnell and Putin on Tuesday in recognizing Democratic Sen. Joe Biden as the president-elect, one day after the Electoral College certified Biden's 306-232 win over Donald Trump in November's election.

It was the exact vote count Trump bragged was a landslide when he won office four years ago.

"He is the certified winner now," Covey said of Biden. "It looks like he had the electoral votes."

Tuesday's certification by delegates in all 50 states added up just the way mainstream media outlets had it on Nov. 7, when they called the election for Biden.

"This cycle showed us there are some things we have to work on to make sure we continue to have a fair election system," Covey said.

"But at this point, the results pretty clearly show Biden is elected. Once they [Electoral College] meet, that's pretty much the final call."

Trump's claims of a rigged election and his lawyers' filing of more than 50 lawsuits alleging widespread fraud were roundly rejected, judge after judge ruling they provided no substantial evidence to back up the claims of malfeasance.

"I'm not surprised," Jack Smith, the Orange County Democratic Party chairman, said of Biden's certification by the Electoral College.

According to official counts – and recounts -- Biden won a record 81.3 million votes nationwide and both his and Trump's total of 74.2 million votes, were the highest totals ever cast for a candidate in a Presidential election.

Biden's 4.5% margin of victory, 51.4% to 46.9%, was the second largest vote margin since Bill Clinton's 8.5% win in 1994. Since 1994, only Barack Obama's winning margin (7.3%) from his first election in 2012 was greater than Biden's.

While President Trump has referred to Biden as President-elect in recent Tweets as of midday Tuesday he still maintained the election was stolen from him.

"What I've never seen in my long life is the futile effort to set aside an election that was already won, and fairly won, by such a large margin," Smith said.

"I don't know what his hypnotism is that so many people will ignore such obvious facts and believe this absolute pile of non-truths."

Texans voted for Trump by a 52.0% to 46.5% margin, with the Republican president getting 5.9 million votes.

In Orange County, Trump won 81.2% of the record 36,000 votes as local Republican office holders each won with 100% of the votes cast, having run unopposed.

The county's top elected official, County Judge John BIDEN WINS Page 3A

## Local Covid shots coming soon

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

Vaccinations for COVID-19 should be available to the general public in Orange County by the end of the year, officials say.

That's little more than two weeks away, so the three-staged rollout will have to hurry.

No vaccines had been given out in the county as of Tuesday afternoon, a day after Beaumont and Houston hospitals took delivery of

their first vax kits.

But both County Judge John Gothia or Joel Ardoin, the county's Emergency Management Coordinator, said they were in the dark as to when the vaccine would be available here.

"Hospitals got the first batch and, of course, we don't have any hospitals here," Ardoin said.

"The second round goes to first responders – policemen, firemen, EMTs and school personnel, teachers, etc. The

general population is supposed to start [receiving vaccines] before the end of the year."

Both Gothia and Ardoin said they'd been told that 1.4 million doses of the vaccine will be sent to Texas by the end of the year, and that it was up to the federal government to figure out distribution.

"There's still some tweaking to do," Gothia said. "Hopefully, next week they'll start giving it out here."

They're getting facilities approved, and people to give the shots. They are en route.

"It's supposed to really start ramping up after the first of the year."

Nurses to give the shots and sub-zero refrigerators to store the vaccines are two things in short supply.

"I know there are not enough in public health [departments] to administer the vaccine," Ardoin said. "The

LOCAL COVID Page 3A

## Pinehurst tickets with gift certificates



In keeping with a tradition that started last Christmas at the suggestion of Pinehurst Police Dispatcher Leslie Werner, Pinehurst officers have been out in force this week but not for the usual reason. Although they were stopping motorists for minor traffic infractions, instead of issuing citations, they are issuing gift certificates donated by 11 Pinehurst businesses. Officer Matt McDonald is pictured here giving out gift certificates to a lucky motorist. "This is a great program that has been very well received," stated Pinehurst Police Chief Fred R. Hanauer III. "This year has certainly had its ups and downs and if we can do something for our citizens that make their day a little bit brighter, I am all for it."

The businesses participating in the giveaway are Robert's Meat Market and Steakhouse, Hippie Chix Boutique, Lucy's Café and Bakery, Blossum Med Spa, Mi Casa Mexican Restaurant, Merle Norman, Magic Touch Hair Salon, Chili's Restaurant, Pink Rooster Treasures, Whataburger and Bloombox and More Nurseries and Gardening Store.

## Bridge City band ends big year at state

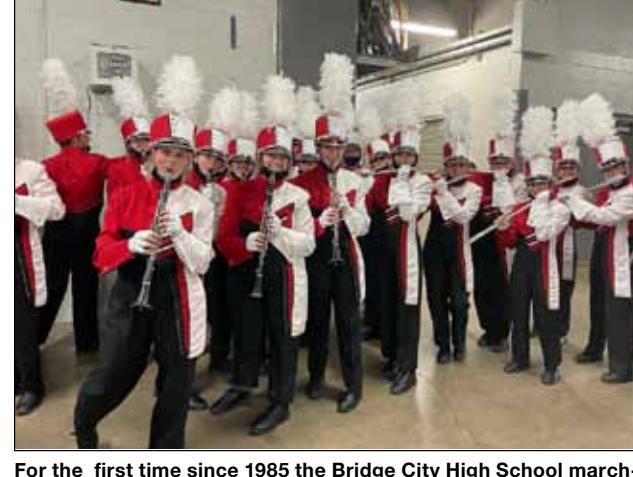
DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

"Over the moon," was the way Bridge City's high school band director described the mood on the bus ride home from San Antonio Tuesday morning.

"It was a great time. A little bit of stress wrapped up with excitement," Tami Goss said after the band finished seventh out of 20 teams at the University Interscholastic League's Class 4A Marching Band State Championships.

The competition was held in the Alamodome in San Antonio.

It was the first time Bridge City had qualified for the state championships since 1985.



For the first time since 1985 the Bridge City High School marching band competed in UIL state championship.

Performers numbered 137 musicians from grades 9 through 12. Their 6-minute performance was titled "Memento."

Goss is in her fifth year as Bridge City's head band director, after six years as an assistant director.

Three assistant band di-

rectors work with her – Will Poppe, Connor Bordelon-Ross and Noelle Maldonado.

Four students lead their classmates as drum majors – Thomas Bunch, Morgan Irvine, Emily Haynes and Bre Landry.

"The four of us [band directors] are fortunate, that we teach on all levels, from sixth grade on up," Goss said. "We get them when they're young and try to hang on to them as long as we can."

Typically, the band's largest class is freshmen. This year's band has 55 freshmen compared to 25 seniors.

Like a football coach, Goss stresses to her students that they compete like they prac-

BCBAND Page 3A



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**TEXAS STATE NEWS**

# Texas school leaders urge state not to cut funding

**ALIYYA SWABY**  
The Texas Tribune

Texas school superintendents and education advocates are asking the state not to cut funding next semester for districts seeing enrollment declines because of COVID-19.

Texas funds schools based on attendance, whether students are learning in classrooms or virtually from home during the pandemic. Because many districts have seen enrollment drop as schools and families grapple with closures and health concerns, state leaders agreed to fund districts for

the first 18 weeks of this academic year based on their projected attendance numbers instead of actual student counts.

But as January approaches, the reprieve is nearing its end, and school administrators say they're about to fall off a funding cliff. Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said at a conference last week that he was still considering what to do next. "At present, we don't have any plans yet to extend it," he said.

More than 20 education organizations sent a letter to Morath and Gov. Greg Abbott Tuesday urging them to extend the reprieve.

extend the reprieve. "School districts across the state have experienced extreme de-

ed," the letter reads. "Budget cuts will be inevitable resulting in the layoff of some

tween September and October. The next data snapshot comes at the end of January, and Morath said he would watch to see whether that trend continues. Texas recently decided to allow school districts to require remote learners posting F's to return in person.

About 40% of the enrollment decline is in pre-K and kindergarten, which are optional for Texas students, Morath said.

As COVID-19 cases surge again and economic instability persists for some Texans, administrators and teachers are still having trouble finding some of their students.

Many are knocking on doors and calling parent cellphones. They worry some of those students will be lost forever. And they worry about their ability to serve the students who have showed up, as they continue to face unforeseen costs during the pandemic.

"Our fear is, at the worst possible time, districts are going to be in a place where they need to lay off staff or make other budget cuts or things of that nature," said Kevin Brown, executive director of the Texas Association of School Administrators.

## Orangefield 6th Graders Work Egyptian Projects



Orangefield Junior High students in Ashlee Broussard's 6th grade social studies class completed a variety of projects to culminate the end of their Egyptian Unit. Student projects incorporated their knowledge of the Egyptian history and culture.

## Hurricane Claims

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## AAUW Orange Book-Ins Membership Information

For information on Book-Ins and membership in AAUW, leave a message for Sarah Boehme at (409) 883-4147.

AAUW stands for the American Association of University Women.

The organization's mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Its vision is equity for all.

Membership in AAUW is open to any graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution.

Others without the above qualifications may enjoy participation through "Friend" memberships.

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Joseph Biden



Donald J. Trump

## Biden wins From Page 1

Gothia, walked a fine line when asked if he recognized Biden as president-elect.

"I don't know what to think about it," he said. "There are things that don't make much sense to me. And I think that's about all I should say about that."

Then he said some more.

"If any of these [voter fraud] things they say, if there's no merit to them, let's move forward. I've got a county to run and that's my main focus," Gothia said.

McConnell, Kentucky's seven-term senator, had been silent on Trump's claims of a rigged election.

"I want to congratulate President-elect Joe Biden," he said in a floor speech Tuesday.

"Many of us had hoped the presidential election would yield a different result. But our system of government has processes to determine who will be sworn in on Jan. 20.

"The Electoral College has spoken."

Putin, a longtime Trump acquaintance whose government was charged by the U.S. Justice Department with meddling in the 2016 election, had not joined the dozens of international leaders who had acknowledged Biden's win in the six weeks since Election Day.

Putin wished Biden every success, a statement from Moscow said Tuesday.

"Russian-American cooperation based on the principles of equality and mutual respect would meet the interests of people in both countries as well as the entire international community," Putin said.

"For my part, I am ready for cooperation and contacts with you."

Heightened security was in place in some states as electors met to cast paper ballots. The results will be sent to Washington and tallied in a Jan. 6 joint session over which Vice President Mike Pence will preside.

Several House Republicans, led by Rep. Mo Brooks (R-Ala.) are planning to challenge the election results on Jan. 6. If a Republican senator joins this long-shot effort, it will force both chambers to take a vote on the election.

McConnell warned Republican senators in a private caucus call Tuesday not to object to the election results because Republicans would need to vote it down and appear President Donald Trump.

After weeks of Republican legal challenges that were easily dismissed by judges, Trump ally Ken Paxton, the Texas Attorney General, tried to persuade the Supreme Court to set aside 62 electoral votes for Biden in four states.

That might have thrown the election's outcome into doubt. But the justices rejected the effort Friday on a 7-2 vote.

## FEMA OKs Laura payments to county

DAVE ROGERS  
For The Record

Nothing makes an Orange County Commissioner's day like a call from a constituent complaining about potholes.

Clark Slacum wants to help — and says he can, thanks to FEMA.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency announced last week that federal assistance will be made available for those affected by Hurricane Laura, which raked this area with winds as high as 100 mph on Aug. 27.

President Trump signed the authorization needed last week so a five-county area including Jefferson, Galveston, Jasper and Newton counties could be reimbursed. He traveled to Orange Aug. 29 to see the damage first-hand.

Orange County could receive nearly \$10 million over the next year or 18 months for storm debris cleanup, County Judge John Gothia says.

That assurance will allow the county enough cash flow to purchase a new \$400,000 BOMAG "recycler" for the Roads and Bridge Department, which Slacum, the County Engineer, heads up.

"It's like a garden tiller," Slacum explained, "but it tills up the road. It pulverizes the existing asphalt and mixes in new material and allows you to pour a new road topping.

"We do have an existing recycler, but it's old, and it breaks down. This new one will be primary, and the old one a backup. But we'll probably run both at the same time, which will be a substantial benefit."

Slacum pitched the new machinery before a budgeting workshop last summer as a three-year lease-to-own purchase, spreading the cost out.

When the budget was approved in September, Gothia explained that several of the most expensive items on the county's wish list would only

be purchased if FEMA agreed to reimburse about \$14 million in expenses due to the storm.

Most of that \$14 million was for debris cleanup. Gothia has said that's about \$12.5 million the county has spent from its reserves. The remainder was mainly for disaster overtime pay already agreed upon by the feds.

Road and Bridge's capital outlay list included a haul truck (\$150,000), a water truck (\$90,000) and two pickup trucks at \$30,000 each.

"When they initially approved the budget back in September, [commissioners] said, 'We're approving it, but you've got to come back in a few months, after we've gotten some money in,'" Slacum said.

"My source for the recycler said they needed 60-90 days to deliver it once we ordered, but frequently it takes longer than their estimate. We want to make sure we have it by March so we can start using

it."

Gothia said he expected the recycler and another one or two large capital items up for approval on next week's Commissioners Court agenda.

"You pay on delivery for big items like that," the judge said. "It'll take some of that stuff six months to be delivered, so we want to go ahead and get it ordered."

The county has gained plenty of experience dealing with FEMA about disasters, though the paperwork and documentation rules regularly change. Gothia thinks they've got a jump, thanks to internal record-keeping.

"We're waiting on a call any day to set up an initial meeting where we can give them a set of invoices. In the past, we've done that and they've given us up-front money pretty quick," Gothia said.

"But you never know for sure."

## BC Band competes in state championship From Page 1

tice.

"Of course, we want them to have a great performance the day of our competitions. We want everything to go right," she said.

"But if we can get them to practice on a high level, then they go into their performance prepared, not doing anything different. They're doing what they've been prepared to do."

Area bands wishing to compete in UIL marching band contests build their performances in practice and test them out at football halftime shows.

Then it's time for the re-

gional meet, with those band earning "first division" honors qualifying for the area meet.

The top four from five area meets advanced to state this year.

"It's hard to know how you stack up until you get to area," Goss said. "We have an area that's really competitive."

"The feeling is that if you get to state, you'll be competitive."

Besides their trip to state, a couple more things about the 2020 season will stick out.

Both are related to the once-in-a-lifetime — one

hopes — COVID-19 pandemic.

"I've been teaching 18 years and I'd say this has been the hardest year, not knowing what kids we'll have from day to day," Goss said.

"We use all the kids we have. I tell them they're all the quarterbacks of this team."

The second change is the result of a schedule tailored to prepare for COVID-19 demands.

The school district began classes earlier than normal in August and made its days slightly longer in case the pandemic forced the com-

plete shutdown of education.

Just in case, it built in optional makeup days after Thanksgiving. Not needing to use them, students finished their fall classes before Thanksgiving.

"They've been out of school for weeks," Goss said, "but they've given up their vacation time to come and practice."

"Normally, our season is over at the end of October or early November. Band members have worked hard since July and this was a great way to wrap up the season."

## Local Covid vaccines From Page 1

state is supposed to be sending some nurses in."

Two county sites have been designated for first respond-

ers to be vaccinated. Security is also a concern.

"That's one of the main things. The locations we

have have to be secure locations. We don't want to get the vaccines stolen."

According to Ardoine, the

vaccine will not be available in large quantities.

"The vaccine doesn't have much of a shelf life," he said.



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## From The Creaux's Nest

### LARGEST HEALTH CARE UNDERTAKING EVER

The United States wasn't the first to release the coronavirus vaccine; eight other countries beat us out, but now the U. S. has taken on the largest distribution of vaccine ever. Pfizer is a German owned company producing the vaccine. The U.S. has recorded more than 16 million cases of COVID-19 with 300,000 deaths and counting. The U.S. leads the world in deaths that have been averaging nearly 3,000 a day. The virus plays no favorites. Charley Pride, one of country music's biggest stars, who sold 70 million albums and was the first Black member of the Country Music Hall of Fame, died Dec. 12, in Dallas, of complications from COVID at age 86. On Nov. 11, he appeared at the Country Awards to present the Legend Award. He had tested negative over a dozen times since then. I never heard a Pride song I didn't like. Unknown to most, Charley was part of the Texas Ranger baseball team ownership for the past 10 years. Charley, from Sledge, MS., was the son of a share-cropper and was raised picking cotton. I spent many days in the cotton fields with colored families just like Charley's and at about the same time. Every time I hear of someone like Charley and the Queen of New Orleans, actor Carol Sutton, 76, who played in many movies and starred on television, who died last Thursday of COVID and the 25,000 Texans and those who died here at home, my mind always turns to the first 15 cases that we were told would miraculously disappear in a few days. I'm sorry but I just can't forgive a national leadership who spoke of a China hoax and brushed off the deadly virus and failed to protect the American people. I will never forgive the failed leadership. There has been more people die than in WWII, 295,000 and more than all the wars combined, including the Civil War and the Galveston 1900 hurricane, which killed 8,000. There is more to the entire story. Americans love comeback stories but look down on those who don't graciously accept their loss and accept the will of the people who have spoken. \*\*\*\*I have to move on now, please come along; I promise it won't do you no harm.

### COVID-19 DEATHS HIT 303,000

I understand uneducated, but for the likes of me, I can't wrap my head around plain, simple folks. In order for the COVID-19 vaccine to be successful, 75% of Americans will have to be vaccinated. The process began Monday with thousands of frontline healthcare workers and nursing home residents receiving the shot. Researchers warn that the hoaxes on social media will feed off the virus and vaccine to undercut trust in the coming wave of immunizations. Already about two in 10 U.S. adults say they are "pretty certain" they won't take the vaccine. A number of them believe its Bill Gates scheme to implant microchips in us. Honestly, I heard from one of my children that a guy I knew said that chip is the reason he won't take the shot. It's probably a liquid chip with plenty of information gathering technology. Don't you just hate simple and it's just beginning.

### CONDOLENCES

We were sorry to learn of the death of Debra Burleigh, age 45, who passed away November, 28. A memorial service will be held for Debra in the springtime. A Bridge City grad, Debby came to work for us at The Record Newspapers in sales while attending Lamar in Beaumont. She was a very friendly person. She never met a stranger and was very kind. I recall she always arrived at work wearing a big smile and optimistic about the day she faced. Affected with Lupus for years, she didn't use it as a crutch, she rose above it. May this good person rest in peace. Please see obituary.

### THE BIG SUPREME COURT CON GAME

Some people say Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, filing the Supreme Court case, was more than Trump's efforts to overturn Joe Biden's victory that was confirmed Monday by the Electoral College board vote. It was about two things, Paxton may be facing the penitentiary in Texas and federal tax problems. He was pandering to Trump for a pardon. The other reason, at least a hearing by the Court, would have helped the "Cash Cow" that gives a lot more milk and gives Trump six out of every 10 buckets. As far as Ted Cruz's part, the offer to present the case was a publicity ploy and it served him well with the Bubba part of Trump's base. Ted has never quit running for president and he's smart enough to know that regardless of what he says, Trump will never run again. He has too many deaths on his watch that he can't ever overcome, it's his legacy. He got the highest percent of favor ever, 47%, and it's downhill from here. The lawsuit was a joke that a lot of congressional idiots and attorney generals signed onto. It's a sure bet it will cost some defeats. Just watch. I don't believe our congressman, Dr. Babin, was one of the 126 idiots.

## TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2010

**Dr. Amber Dunn** said it took her five hours to travel five miles from her Cleveland hospital job to her apartment. Some folks were stranded ten hours, even over night with snow everywhere and sub-zero temperatures. Now, that's bad winter.\*\*\*\*\* Other big sports news: Pitcher Cliff Lee passed up an extra \$50 million from the Rangers and Yankees to sign with the Phillies. He joins pitchers Roy Halladay, Roy Oswalt and Cole Hamels in what could be the major leagues top pitching rotation ever.\*\*\*\* It should surprise no one that State Rep. Allen Ritter, who has always been a Blue Dog Democrat, has joined the Republican Party. The reason he switched is to avoid having a Republican opponent next year.\*\*\*\* Funeral services were held Dec. 10 for Trevin James Rigby, age 21. Our deepest sympathies to his mother Karen, father James and their families. Trevin was the grandson of the late A.J. Juidice. My first thought turned to his grandmother Lois Juidice who felt deep pain for her grandson and the loss her daughter felt. All good people faced with a tragedy.\*\*\*\* Condolences also to Roy and Mitzi Snell and their family on the death of son Cullen Snell, age 20, who passed away Dec. 11.\*\*\*\* Father's sin too much to bare: Bernard Madoff's eldest son, Mark, age 46, hung himself with a black dog leash on the second anniversary of his father's arrest, Dec. 11. Mark had emailed his wife in Florida, who was at Disney with their four-year-old daughter, that someone needed to check on the baby. His father-in-law found him. Mark and his brother Andrew both contended that their dad told them the day before he was arrested about his illegal activities that beat people out of \$60 billion. His dad, in prison for life, was informed of the hanging.\*\*\*\* Cam Newton of Auburn won the Heisman by a large majority. What's amazing is that just the year before, 2009, he won a national junior college championship for Blinn in Brenham, Texas.\*\*\*\* A few special folks we know celebrating birthdays this week. Judge Buddie Hahn was a young lawyer when I met him. I've always had the deepest respect for him. \*\*\* Brown Claybar, the mayor of Orange I've known forever. \*\*\*Annie Hargraves, mainstay at Bridge City Market Basket who was raised in Port Arthur, where her dad was bridge tender for the Port Arthur Pleasure Island Bridge. \*\*\*Joy Young, Inez's little sister, who raised the prettiest girls marks another year.\*\*\*Then there is Donnie Stanton, who carries pictures of Geo. W and Mitch McConnell in his wallet. Happy birthday Donnie.\*\*\*\*Happy 54th wedding anniversary to Betty and Corky Harmon. \*\*\*A big congrats goes out to Larry and Betty Duhon on their 60th anniversary. They are parents of Nancy Hatton and Betty Davis. The girls are married to Mike and Richard.\*\*\*\*The Bobby Cormier and Oil Field Supply annual Christmas dinner was a great party. The "Gold Dust" twins, Ken and Danny, prepared the food at K-Dans and served it at the Orangefield Cormier Museum.\*\*\*\*Matt Bryant's Falcons keep moving on. They beat the Panthers 31-10. Matt kicked a 39-yards field goal and made four extra points.

### 22 Years Ago-1998

**Helen Dorothy Phillips**, age 72, died last week, Dec. 7. She was a nationally known educator with many awards and had been honored by the Texas Legislature. In later years, she was a counselor at Bridge City High School.\*\*\*\* Dr. Joe and Mary Majors will be traveling to Rome to visit their son, Father Beau, a Catholic priest, who is serving Pope John Paul II. Beau was raised in Bridge City. \*\*\*\*A great lady, Angelina Garza, passed away on Dec. 13, at age 77. She and husband Gus moved to Bridge City when it was just a prairie, you could see from one end to Bridge City to the other. For years they were the only Hispanic family in town. (Editor's note: Gus served on the Bridge City school board for over 25 years. Both of them are gone now but they contributed a lot in their lifetime.)\*\*\*\*In most markets gasoline prices at the pump is selling for less than 80 cents per gallon. In a few places, as near as Houston, gasoline at some locations is selling as low as 45 cents per gallon. (Editor's note: It's hard to believe that gasoline was so cheap. When it hit a \$1 a gallon citizens were outraged. The prices went up to \$4 during the Bush Administration.)

### A FEW HAPPENINGS

I finally received my copy of Joe Scarborough's new book, "Saving Freedom, the Cold War, and the Fight for Western Civilization." The book covers my teenage years into adulthood. Scarborough is a New York Times best selling author, a Washington Post columnist, the creator of Morning Joe on MSNBC, hosted by him and his wife Mika Brzezinski. Joe is a former Republican U.S. congressman. He's listed on Times' 100 list of the world's most influential people. I watch Morning Joe daily at 5:00 a.m. I presented a copy of the Truman book to our friend Phillip Welch, who likes reading the history of long ago presidents. It's a great, historical read which covers a period I lived through Civilization at the cross-roads.\*\*\*\*The Mauriceville senior citizens annual supper was held despite the pandemic. It was held remotely according to our friend Nelda Burton, 120 senior citizens were delivered large Christmas type meals, prepared by Kirta Shehand. The seniors also received a gift. The response was fantastic. We also spoke with Nelda while she was at Baptist Hospital with Owen, who was undergoing a heart procedure. Best wishes on that. \*\*\*\*A few folks celebrating birthdays and other events. Dec. 17: It's difficult for my mind to comprehend that this day will mark 54 years since Bridge City Cardinal football team won the state championship in 1966. It's also will be 55 years since losing the championship game, played in Kyle Field, in 1965. Can you believe all those kids are now over 70-years-old. We attended every game and championship games in those two years. It seems like not so long ago when Bridge City shut down. Motto was "Last one in town shut off the lights." Everyone followed Bid Red on Friday night. Hard to believe those beautiful cheerleaders are over 70 and great-grandmothers. Time doesn't stand still.\*\*\*\*Dec. 18: A kid I've known, along with his brother David, since they were pre-schoolers, sons of Margie and Lannie Claybar. The youngest, former mayor of Orange, a good guy, Brown Claybar celebrates a birthday. Best wishes.\*\*\*\*Dec. 20: One of the truly great guys you can always go to the bank on his word and handshake, Kenneth "Kenny" Pigg, celebrates. Happy Birthday old friend.\*\*\*\*Dec. 21: The first day of winter. I'm sure it was a cold day in West Texas when Judge Buddie Hahn was born 73 or so years ago. A lot of water has run under the bridge since Buddie first came to the county and landed in Vidor. My friendship with Buddie over the years is not one you have to say, it's just something

you know. If he's not hearing a few cases, I bet he's bored to death.\*\*\*By the way, Happy 54th Anniversary to Buddie and Carol on Dec. 23. Best wishes for many more healthy, happy years.\*\*\*Dec. 22, would have been Dan and Manon Mohan's 58th wedding anniversary. Funeral services were held for Dan on Monday, Dec. 14. \*\*\*\*My friend of many years, going back to when he and Cornel Thompson were West Orange teenage freshmen. I remember him delivering milk with his dad at 4 a.m. when he was 14. He then became a baseball star with master knowledge of the game. By now I'm sure you have figured out that I'm speaking of Bridge City baseball coach Chad Landry's dad, Clint Landry. Clint unexpectedly came down with COVID, passed out, cut his ear nearly off on the doorknob and ended up with a large bump on his head. His wife found him in his bathroom very, very sick. He said he though he had bought the farm. It was a long haul back but thank God this great guy is over the virus and feeling like himself again.\*\*\*\*Our great friend Pat Pate had a freak accident at her home when she ran a knife through her hand. Pat ended up in a four-day hospital stay. She's home working on trying to get back total hand movement. Accidents happen, usually human error, but shouldn't happen to such a nice lady.

### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Celebrating birthday on the following days. Michelle Gephart, Carol Allen, Elizabeth Uzzle, Beatrice Cortez, Chris Chambliss, Mandy Hoffman, Tracey Lynn Broussard, Christina Carpenter, Marcu McLellan, Mitch Hidalgo, Bill Cardner, Jeremy Granger, Jeffery Huebel, Majed Jaarah, Rick Deutsch.

### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Tee Boy is passing by Comeaux's barn one day when through a gap in da door, he see Comeaux doing a slow and sensual striptease in front of an old green John Deere. Comeaux performs a slow pirouette and gently slides off one strap of his overalls, followed by dey otter strap. He den hunches his shoulders forward in a classic striptease move. He lets his overalls fall down to his hips revealing a torn and frayed plaid shirt. Grabbing boat sides of his shirt, he rips it apart to reveal his stained tee shirt underneath. With a final flourish he tears da tee shirt from his body and hurls his baseball cap onto a pile of hay.

Having seen enough, Tee Boy rushes in and says, "What de heck are you doing Comeaux?"

"Jeez, Tee Boy, you done scared da crap outta me," exclaims Comeaux. Then obviously embarrassed, he says, "Me and de old lady been having some trouble lately in de bedroom and de therapist suggested I do something sexy to a tractor...."

### Political System Proves Magic

I told you a couple of weeks ago about a man who has become a pen pal. A professional political stagiast who helped turn Colorado Blue in 2008. He's an interesting fellow who has a great story going back to when he was 15 and met Jackie Kennedy. He let me in on a system Obama wanted developed that actually scientifically predicted total national presidential turnout and the numbers each candidate received. The people developing this system were not political. The large group was made up of computer wizards, professors, number crunchers, etc. They tried it for the first time in the Trump/Hillary race in 2016. The system came in within only 12 votes of Hillary's nation-wide vote and 151 of Trump's total vote. In the 2020 Trump/Joe Biden race, the system predicted the largest overall vote and record turnout for both candidates. Before the votes were counted I received these system predictions. Biden would receive 79,089,414 popular votes, Trump 74,400,318. Both records, with only a difference of 4,689,096 votes, about what I had predicted, that gave Biden 50.6 percent to Trump's 47.6 percent. The last vote results I have on Biden is 81,009,468, 51.33 percent, Trump was 74,111,419, 46.96 percent. Not as accurate as 2016 vote, however, this year the provisional votes (ballots) may have thrown a monkey wrench in the system. A lot of people requested ballots, didn't get them, lost them, decided they wanted to vote in person, etc. The Obama bunch is on to something, despite Biden being within 2 percent of Trump in Texas and Beto begging Biden to come to Texas and spend money in the state. The system said it would still be a one percent to two percent loss. On the other hand, this data showed a dead heat in Georgia, 1,000 votes either way. Biden chose to go there because he felt they could win the turnout battle with Stacy Abrams' ground game. They had registered 200,000 new voters and knew where to find them. Biden bet on the turnout and flipped the Red state Blue by 12,000 votes. There were a lot of other great decisions made with the help of Obama's system but that's all the space I have. They won every state targeted. P.S. The system covers every aspect, total registration, ages, sex, previous voting, population shift in every precinct in the nation. Mathematic experts feed every bit of info from dozen of computers, marries the millions of findings into one computer that spits out the final totals. This is far different than polls that just contact 800 to 1,000 voters by phone to make predictions. Don't know about you but I find it so interesting and proves how little we, the American people, know about what's going on behind the scenes.

### C'EST TOUT BARR IS GONE—SHOULD BE DISBARRED

Attorney General William Barr, the most corrupt leader and worse A.G. ever, is leaving December 23. He was Donald Trump's henchman. He violated all legal norms, made up his own laws and misused the Justice Department to go after Trump's adversaries and reward his friends. Trump had one more wish, one more chore for Barr that he apparently wanted no part of. He wanted him to go after Hunter Biden, appoint a special prosecutor. Barr knew, because of the Darrow investigation, there is nothing to it. Trump's sole reason to go after president-elect Biden's son is to hurt him. He's just very mean and vindictive. Joe beat him in Payback. That's how Trump with his sickness thinks. I can recall other politicians that would pluck Trump like a chicken and leave him naked. Not Joe. He is not vindictive. Just watch what Trump will do now that he has control of the Justice Department with his puppets. By the way, why is Trump loading down the Pentagon with cronies, Kevin Nunes, Newt, and his caddy. What's he up to? Barr and Trump will both go down as the worse in United States history. \*\*\*\*My time is up, thanks for yours. Stay safe, wear mask and may God Bless.

## Deaths & Memorials

### Debra Nadine Nunley Burleigh, 45

Formerly from Bridge City

On November 28, 2020, Debra (Debsy) Nadine Nunley Burleigh passed away at her home in Ingram. Debra fought a fierce courageous battle with Lupus for many years.



Debra Burleigh

In 2015, Debra returned to Ingram after her father was diagnosed with cancer to be near him.

She enjoyed making jewelry and had a passion for photography. Debra never met a horse or dog she did not love. She never passed up an opportunity to go to the beach and Galveston was a special place to her.

The family will be planning a memorial service for the springtime. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in Debra's memory to the Lupus foundation, St. Jude's, or Wounded Warrior.

Debra leaves behind her mother, Pat Nunley; sisters, Patricia Kovach and Cheryl Boltz; nephew, Lee Risinger; nieces, Jessica Boltz and Caitlan Boltz; aunts/uncles, Carol McCracken (Roy), David Hughes (Jean) and Debbie McCalley (Cliff); and special friend, Blain Goines.

She worked at Wal-Mart while in high school and continued after graduation. She also sold advertising for the Penny Record, a local newspaper. Debra attended Lamar University in Beaumont, where she graduated from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department Academy in 1999. She returned to Lamar in 2010, where she earned an associate degree in applied science, homeland security and crime scene technology. She was member of Phi Theta Kappa. In 2011,

Debra moved to Kerrville, where she worked security at Kerrville State Hospital.

Later, she returned to Beaumont, where she worked for Brookdale Assisted Living.

### George Alexander, 82, of Bridge City Passed away on December 8, 2020, in Beaumont

George Alexander, 82, of Bridge City, passed away on December 8, 2020, in Beaumont.

A graveside service will be held at the Creel Cemetery in Bel, Louisiana. Visitation and graveside service times are pending under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

Born in Leesville, Louisiana, on July 3, 1938, he was the son of Gus T. Alexander and Callie Mae (Young) Alexander.

George "Buddy" Alexander was a faithful member of the Bridge City United Pentecostal Church for 54 years, where he served on the church board, pianist and bus ministry. He worked for Kansas City Southern Railroad for 38 years. Buddy was an avid ham operator and enjoyed sharing his life experiences with his ham operator friends. He loved to travel and enjoyed using his RV to visit his favorite places. He loved to fish and shrimp in his younger years and supplied many friends and family with his catches. Buddy was faithful to his loving wife, Betty, for 63 years and loved his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gus and Callie Mae Alexander; and brother-in-law, Gerald Gilley.

He is survived by his loving wife, Betty Alexander of Bridge City; sister, Shirley Gilley of Bridge City; children, Kevin "Joe" Alexander and wife, Patty Alexander of Bridge City, Sari LaGrone and husband Jim LaGrone of



George Alexander

Yantis, Skipper Alexander and wife, Krystyn Alexander of Katy, Mari Aquillard and husband, David Aquillard of Bridge City and Kathryn "Kathy" Alexander of Bridge City; grandchildren, James LaGrone of Houston, Lauren LaGrone and fiancé Joel

Cotter of Houston, Ashley Robinson and husband Dustin of Bridge City, Chase Alexander and wife Kelsey of Bridge City, Keaton Alexander and Lily Palmer of Katy, Courtney Alexander and James Manners of Cypress, Vienna Mae Alexander of Katy, Kevin Jackson and wife Tanna of Splendora, and Coleman Jackson and wife Kimberly of Little Cypress; great-grandchildren, Carter, Trevor, Morgan, Brodi, Kinley, Kaela, John, Mark, Ethan and Cameron; step-grandchildren, Dustin Hughes, Landon Harris, Roman Prasarn, Alexis Prasarn, Alison Hampton, and Tiffany Goodwin.

Serving as pallbearers will be James LaGrone, Chase Alexander, Kevin Jackson, Coleman Jackson and Keaton Alexander.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Bridge City United Pentecostal Church in Memory of George C. Alexander at P.O. Box 1590, Bridge City, Texas 77611.

### Spindletop Center reopens renovated Hope Center

Spindletop Center announced the reopening of the Hope Center this week. Hope Center was closed due to flood damage during Tropical Storm Imelda. After being closed for over one year, Hope Center is reopening with fresh paint, new flooring and new furniture.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, everyone is facing challenges.

Hope Center is a peer-run facility offering support groups and activities to promote mental health and substance use disorder recovery and wellness. These activities include

arts and crafts, goal setting sessions, lunches and daily group meetings with peer support specialists. The center focuses on health, wellness and recovery. Hope Center accepts applications on an on-going basis throughout the year. Community members interested in joining Hope Center can complete an application in-person at 2725 S. Eighth St. in Beaumont Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Kelly Williams, public relations and marketing administrator, at Kelly.Williams@stctr.org or 409.839.1046.

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### Mauriceville Elementary teacher wins Horace Mann's 2020 "You Are Awesome" Sweepstakes

#### Staff Report For The Record

Candice Shafer, Fine Arts teacher at Mauriceville Elementary received \$486.67 to fully fund her Donors Choose project during Horace Mann's You Are Awesome Sweepstakes. DonorsChoose provides a way for teachers to post classroom project requests, allowing donors to identify and choose projects to support. According to Shafer, "My students and I are excited to receive the generous donation from Horace Mann! Our painting racks will benefit our classroom by organizing paintings and projects as well as keeping them stored safely! Thank you, Horace Mann!" Horace Mann is always looking for more ways to support educators, and here at the Lumberton office we're excited to help the educators of Southeast Texas however we can." – Quinton Mayer, local HM agent. Horace Mann, through the You Are Awesome

Sweepstakes, recently awarded \$10,000 in DonorsChoose funding to educators nationwide. Winners were randomly drawn during the promotion period and will receive full funding for their designated DonorsChoose project, up to a maximum of \$500 per winner. Attached photo from left: LCMCISD Superintendent Stacey Brister, Horace Mann local agent Quentin Mayer, Candice Shafer, Horace Mann consultant Jake Williamson and MVE Principal Carie Broussard.

#### About Horace Mann:

Horace Mann (Horace Mann Educators Corp. (NYSE:HMN)) is the largest financial services company focused on providing America's educators and school employees with insurance and retirement solutions. Founded by Educators for Educators® in 1945, the company is headquartered in Springfield, Illinois. For more information about the company, visit horacemann.com.

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## LCM computer science teacher awarded 2020 UIL Sponsor Excellence Award

Staff Report  
For The Record

Terry Morris, Computer Science teacher with Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School, was notified this week that he was awarded the 2020 University Interscholastic League Sponsor Excellence Award. The recognition comes with a \$1,000.00 check for personal use.

According to Stacey Smith, Student Activities and UIL Coordinator for LCMHS, "Terry Morris is super deserving of this honor. He gives graciously of his time and talents to coach LCM teams to success. He also shares his knowledge base to

help other neighboring schools and others from around the state to build programs in their schools."

Morris coached Number Sense from 2011-2017 and began coaching Computer Science in 2013 through the present. His teams and individual students have amassed an impressive array of championships during his tenure as a UIL coach. These include 10 District Team Championships, six Regional Team Championships, Six State Team Appearances, eight State Individual Medalists and two State Team Championships.

Mr. Morris explained his

mission and some of the reasons for his students' success.

"UIL Academics allows students to find their passion and test their abilities. I introduce UIL materials in my classes every year to allow my students to show their skills and talents."

Superintendent Stacey Brister said, "Terry is an outstanding teacher and UIL sponsor. He gives tremendous amounts of time to his students to help them be successful. His goal is for his students to be the State Champion every year in Computer Science and gives much time and effort to help them reach that goal. Terry is very deserving of this recognition."

## ORANGE COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

### The Greatest Story Ever Told- The Gift of God

PASTOR CHARLES EMPY  
Columnist  
For The Record



Pastor Charles Empey

Luke 2:1-11 "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. 2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone

round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Giving a gift to someone is one of the most personal things you can do toward someone. It is "your" gift. Not anyone else. Yours. At Christmas we strive to get just the right gift for someone. We buy the gift with personal knowledge about that person to one level or another. Often we buy according to one's personal need. Which brings me to our Scripture and

the occasion we are celebrating...

Verse 11 says, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." The angel, most likely Gabriel, was clear to say, "For unto you is born this day..." John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Jesus is offered up to a world of people generation after generation to be received, believed upon for the saving of their souls in reception of His redeeming work on the cross in their behalf. People are called upon to take this Gift of God, Jesus, in a very personal way in light of their very personal need of His saving grace from sin and condemnation. For everyone who is truly saved, that is, born again through repentance and faith in Jesus the gift of God, within that gift comes the gift of eternal life (Rom. 6:23). With the Gift of God, Jesus, also comes a new place to dwell in heaven...a new house (John 14:1-3). Through receiving the

Gift of God, Jesus, you receive the gift of eternal peace, no more sorrow, no more pain, no more death, and the list goes (Rev. 21:4-5).

Now, there is only one condition concerning gifts at Christmas or any other time that makes a gift truly a gift. It is received free of charge, but must be received. John 1:12 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" If you believe that Jesus died and rose again personally for you, it remains that you have to stop and personally receive Him into your heart and life as your personal Savior for sin and hell. "But as many as received him..." it says. It can't be a passing thing anymore than being handed a gift at Christmas among friends, family or work associates can be. It is a personal moment that you have been personally considered, and in this case, personally considered by the Almighty God to give you His Son as the Gift of all gifts, having given Him to you as your sacrifice for sin and hell. He suffered, died

and rose again for a lost humanity, ready now to receive you unto Himself only if you see your need to receive Him as your "personal" Lord and Savior...your "personal" Gift from God to be your forever Savior from sin and hell.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus

Christ and you will be saved." This is not a moment to trifle with. We're talking about your eternal destiny that depends on what you do with the Gift of God, Jesus, His Son today.

*Charles Empey is the Pastor of Cove Baptist Church, Orange, TX.*

### Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

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Morning Prayer: Rite I (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite II (Family Service)

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer: Rite II (Wednesday)

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### Triangle Baptist Church

6446 Garrison at Hwy. 408 Orangefield

"Come Worship With Us" 409-735-2661

Pastor: Bobby Oliver 409-659-5027

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Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.

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### Winfree Baptist Church

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Jon Brinlee, Pastor

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Morning Worship - 10:30 am

Evening Worship - 6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Mid-Week Service - 6:00 pm

Children & Youth Activities - 6:00 pm

### St. Paul United Methodist Church

1155 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409.735.5546

Sunday Morning Traditional Worship: 8:30 a.m.,

Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.

(Nursery provided)

Wednesday SPICE 5:30 p.m. Includes meal, bible studies, children and youth activities. (Nursery provided).

Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

### GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Charles Empey - Interim Pastor

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## Bobcat anglers top field

CAPT. DICKIE COLBURN  
For The Record

If you are headed to the lake this weekend and you are looking for a hot tip, you would be hard pressed to do any better than talking with Tyler Shearin or Kameryn Henderson. The Orangefield duo just blew the rest of the field away in last week's Texas Elite Student Anglers Tournament hosted on Rayburn.

Shearin and Henderson's 18.81 pound bag earned them a \$400 check and their 6.83-pound bass took big bass honors as well. Two of the LCM teams managed top ten finishes as well. The fact that six of the fifteen teams failed to weigh a single bass made their winning total even more impressive!

Over on Toledo Bend, Ryan Postwell celebrated his sixty-third birthday with 10.60-ounce bass caught Monday evening. Postwell caught his first ever double digit bass dragging a brush hog on a Carolina rig in 17-feet of water. "My hands were so cold that I didn't even feel her bite," reported Postwell, "but I warmed up in a hurry when she jumped."

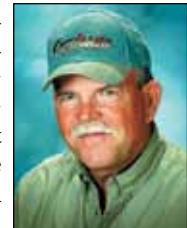
Neither he nor his partner had their cell phone with them, but they still released the big fish right away without a single picture. "My partner, Jason, has caught three double digit fish," added the retired welder, "and I was thinking it may never happen for me. What a birthday present!"

The jigging spoon bite continues to improve, but it is producing far more yellow bass than largemouths right now. Part of the reason is due to location, but it is more a case of folks locating a good school of the smaller bass and looking no further.

Make no mistake about it.....catching a fish every time your spoon reaches the bottom, regardless of size, is addicting. More often than not, that pattern will yield a mixed bag that includes crappie and catfish and it is hard to drive off and leave action like that!

This past week, the better largemouths caught on a spoon were taken jigging outside bends of the creek channels. It is not unusual for the largest tree on the outside bend to hold more than one good bass. At least for right now, the bass were holding about half way back in the coves. This program has worked well for years on Toledo Bend and it will only improve with colder weather.

Darrell Sellers said that he found bass up to four pounds



Dickie Colburn

## Hurts put hurt on New Orleans Saints

KAZ'S KORER  
JOE KAZMAR  
For The Record



Joe Kazmar

A few years ago, I was playing in a bridge tournament and during one of the breaks I got to talking with a gentleman from the Houston area about high school football.

"So, you're from Orange," the man said after reading it on my name tag. "You must be proud of the team from West Orange-Stark that has won all those state championships," he asked already knowing the logical answer.

I told him that I had the opportunity to watch several young men play well enough to go on to the next level and even a couple (Kevin Smith and Earl Thomas) who made a name for themselves in the National Football League.

"I watched my nephew play against a team from Channelview which had a kid playing quarterback who was the son of the head coach and he was phenomenal," he stated. "I believe his name was Hurts—yeah, that's it, Jalen Hurts. I understand there were coaches from LSU, Texas, Texas A&M and Alabama just to name a few who wanted to recruit him."

Hurts signed with Alabama and



Philadelphia Eagles rookie Jalen Hurts,

rode the bench most of his freshman year until he got his chance. And when he did get to start for the Crimson Tide, he was outstanding because if a receiver was covered, he would flash his 4.4 speed and make positive yardage.

His one problem was that he was sporadic with his passing game, but 'Bama continued to win during the regular seasons.

But Hurts was really off during the 2017 national championship game and was replaced by freshman Tua Tagovailoa, who was the top quarterback

recruit in the nation.

This eventually led to Hurts transferring to Oklahoma where he started and was the runner-up for the Heisman Trophy in 2019.

To everyone's surprise, Hurts was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles even though their starting quarterback Carson Wentz just received a four-year contract extension worth more than \$125 million in 2019 after leading the Eagles to the NFL playoffs three straight years.

KAZSKORNER Page 3B

## Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast . . .

State Final High School Playoff Games This Week

★ Area Playoff Games of Interest to Southeast Texas—Carthage (13-0) over Gilmer (14-1), Hallettsville (13-2) over Tuscola Jim Ned (14-1), Franklin (11-2) over Canadian (14-1), Mart (14-0) over Windthorst (14-1), Argyle (14-0) over Lindale (13-2), Shiner (13-0) over

Post (15-0).

Class 6A and Class 5A Bi-district Games---Beaumont West Brook over Pasadena Memorial, Manvel over Port Arthur Memorial, Barbers Hill over Galena Park, Beaumont United over Goose Creek Memorial, Crosby over Willowridge, Nederland over Sterling, Longview over Lufkin.

★ COLLEGE--- Florida Atlantic

over Southern Mississippi and Georgia Tech over Pittsburgh (both Thursday); Arizona State over Arizona, Colorado over Utah, North Texas over UTEP and Marshall over Charlotte (all Friday); Iowa over Wisconsin, Indiana over Purdue, Ohio State over Michigan, Penn State over Michigan State, Maryland

KAZ'S FEARLESS Page 2B

COLBURN Page 2B

GIFTS THAT THRILL

### New Go Karts Just In Time For Christmas



GO KARTS IN TAN & BLACK

SALE  
**\$2280**

Price Plus Tax

Open: Mon.-Fri. 9 am - 5 pm / Sat. 9 am - 3 pm  
[www.hondaoforangetx.com](http://www.hondaoforangetx.com)

**HONDA**  
of ORANGE



2021 CRF125F Big Wheel



MSRP Plus  
Tax Title  
and License

Come See  
**\$3599**

Gifts  
That Thrill



Gift  
Baskets

Includes different items such as, riding goggles, hats, moto socks, riding gloves, collectors' items, and more! Prices Vary.



New Bennche 125cc  
Youth Four Wheelers

- Electric start • Forward and reverse
- Kill switch
- Safety nets and guards on foot pegs

SALE  
**\$1950**

Price Plus Tax

Gifts  
That Thrill

1800 Strickland Drive ★ Orange (409) 886-1995

# Switching gears for successful winter fishing

## OUTDOORS

### CAPT. CHUCK UZZLE For The Record

To the casual observer or holiday traveler the sight of a fishing boat during winter is a cry for help, somebody has lost their mind and needs psychiatric evaluation. The raw elements associated with this time of year are no place to place enjoy a sport meant for warm weather. To the hard core fishermen pulling that boat all the traffic on the roads means less on the bay and that brings a smile to their face no doubt. "These poor @#\$%^\$ have no idea what they are missing" is what the fishermen think and in all reality they are right.

For many years fishermen on the lower coast have known what kind of magic can happen when the mercury dips and the crowds go somewhere else for the winter. This kind of thinking gains more and more popularity on the upper coast every year. It wasn't too terribly long ago when folks on Sabine and Calcasieu never even entertained the thought of winter fishing for anything, much less wading. I can remember several years ago when we first started seeing waders, we thought they were nuts because there was no way any trout could be left in Sabine Lake thanks to the cold and freshwater run off. That notion was quickly put rest as we sat one afternoon with binoculars and watched a line of waders



catch some huge fish while all we could do was shake our heads. At that point you have a decision to make; you either get going with the program or get passed by. Needless to say we unpacked our duck hunting gear and got in the water, things have never been the same since.

"Who had the bright idea to come out here today?" I asked as my partner as I exited the boat and slid into the chilly water. "Whoever it was needs to have their head examined" he replied. A cold couple of hours later it happened, a lone solitary slick popped up and we both stood there dumbfounded. "No way that's what I think it is" I thought as I lobbed a Corky Devil towards the fresh slick. The cast was met with a violent strike that took both of us by surprise, the huge trout came to the surface and suddenly we weren't quite as cold anymore. A quick follow up cast resulted in another hook up, two stud trout on at the same time in the absolute nastiest conditions and not another boat in sight. Both trout pushed 8 pounds and they were not alone, not by a long shot. One small area about the size of your living room seemed to be holding all these giant fish at one time and they were all hungry. The strikes were violent



Winter time fishing can be worth the effort when everything comes together. RECORD PHOTO: Capt. Chuck Uzzle

"no doubter" strikes where you either hooked the fish or had the rod jerked from your hand. These fish were so amped up that we started throwing top water plugs just to see what would happen in the sub 50 degree water; the fish crushed the surface plugs just as hard. The melee continued for nearly an hour and then died as quickly as it started.

We caught some excellent fish that winter day all the way to nearly 10 pounds, a dream trip to say the least.

last Tuesday fishing a jig and craw worm on the outside bends of Clear Creek on the south end of the lake, but didn't really catch them until he switched to the spoon. He said the fish were holding on the 18 to 20 foot banks of much deeper creeks.

The most consistent crap pie bite was much deeper this past week as well. Shinn-

ers and maribou jigs worked much better than plastic in 18 to 22 feet of water. The size was still very good, but numbers were down.

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# Texas unveils largest highway crossing for wildlife in U.S.

**Olivia Rosane**  
Staff Writer For  
EcoWatch

San Antonio--As the coronavirus pandemic has kept many people apart, two sides of a Texas park have finally come together.

The Robert L.B. Tobin Land Bridge, which connects San Antonio's Phil Hardberger Park across a six-lane highway, opened Friday afternoon for people and animals alike. A project ten years in the making, the bridge is now the largest completed wildlife crossing of its kind in the U.S.

"For many years, the Robert L.B. Tobin Land Bridge was only a dream. Thanks to overwhelming community support of the 2017 Bond,



The Robert L.B. Tobin Land Bridge now connects Phil Hardberger Park across a six-lane highway in San Antonio, Texas.

PHOTO: Phil Hardberger Park Conservancy

the generosity of donors from across the city and the hard work and dedication of so many, the vision is now a reality," former San Antonio Mayor Phil Hardberger said in a City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation press release.

Hardberger, who was the leading official behind the idea for the bridge, said that animals would often try to cross the highway.

The problem of animal and vehicle collisions is bigger than one park in Texas.

"Over the most recently

reported 15-year period, wildlife-vehicle collisions have increased by 50 percent, with an estimated one to two million large animals killed by motorists every year," Rob Ament, Western Transportation Institute road ecology program manager, told National Geographic in 2019.

In the U.S., 21 threatened and endangered species face extinction partly because of traffic accidents, among them Florida's Key deer and Alabama's red-bellied turtles.

Wildlife crossings — either above or below roadways — have emerged as an effective solution to this problem ever since France constructed the first one in the 1950s.

"You can get reductions of 85 to 95 percent with crossings and fencing that guide animals under or over highways," Ament told National Geographic.

The San Antonio bridge is

notable for its size and the fact that it accommodates people as well.

"The land bridge is 150 feet wide and approximately the same distance across," a parks department spokesperson told HuffPost. "It's designed at that size to accommodate both people and animals, and we believe it is both the only and the largest built for this dual purpose."

Animals in the 330-acre park who could benefit from the bridge include ringtails, squirrels, coyotes, lizards, raccoons and deer. Construction crews already observed some of them making use of the bridge before its official opening, KSAT reported.

"The Land Bridge connects people with nature in the heart of San Antonio. I look forward to watching the landscape grow and mature with native trees and plants and observing wildlife through viewing blinds de-

## Kaz's Korner

From Page 1B

But Wentz seemed to lose confidence in his ability last season and the boo-birds were out in force wanting to see what the rookie (Hurts) could do with the team. But Head Coach Doug Pederson opted to stick with his starter.

Wentz was even worse this season, being the NFL's 32nd-rated starting quarterback (last) and sports writers in the Philadelphia area were begging for a quarterback change.

But Pederson claimed that if he changed quarterbacks, it would signal to the players that the team has given up on the 2020 season and they still were favored to win the NFC East Division title.

Finally, after much more criticism, Pederson relented and put Hurts in the game to quarterback his team in the third quarter of Week 13's 30-16 loss to Green Bay. The young Texan hooked up with former University of Houston quarterback-turned-receiver Greg Ward for a 32-yard touchdown pass.

And then, last Tuesday, Pederson announced that Hurts would start Sunday's home game against the 10-2 New Orleans Saints to see if he could stop their four-game losing streak. This was the Eagles' 21st quarterback change in the last 25 years.

Again, when Hurts couldn't find and open receiver, he would pull the ball down and run for positive yardage, providing a spark with his legs that Eagles' fans never saw from Wentz.

Hurts led his team to a 24-21 upset over the Saints—the first ever in nine games in the absence of starter Drew Brees in the last two seasons—knocking them out of the No. 1 seed.

He ran for 106 yards, threw for 167 yards and a touchdown, connecting on 17 of 30 passes in his first career NFL start with no interceptions but he did fumble late in the fourth period.

million buyout of his contract.

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is the fastest in NFL history to reach 400 touchdowns. He also has 73 games in which he passed for three or more touchdowns, which is the fourth most ever.

The Chicago Bears selected quarterback Mitchell Trubisky second overall in the 2017 draft, passing up Kansas City's Pat Mahomes (10th overall) and Houston's Deshaun Watson (12th).

JUST BETWEEN US... NCAA President Mark Emmert told the Associated Press last week that he "hopes lessons learned through navigating the pandemic will lead college sports leaders to prioritize opportunities for athletes when it comes time to cut costs." Emmert said the NCAA and its members schools have shown an uncommon ability to be nimble and responsive in addressing issues of eligibility, scheduling, recruiting, transfers and championship events. Ohio State, for example, has made plans to lose more than \$100 million, cutting wages and jobs but not teams. Stanford plans to drop 11 sports programs from one of the largest athletic programs in the country. At lower levels Furman discontinued baseball and Akron got rid of cross-country.

Cleveland plans on dropping their nickname Indians—which they've sported for 106 years—sometimes this week. What a shame.

A couple of weeks ago during Tampa Bay's bye week, quarterback Tom Brady and head coach Bruce Arians planned to play a round of golf. But the NFL stepped in and said they couldn't play together, for whatever reason.

A couple of college head football coaches were relieved of their duties last weekend even before their regular season has ended.

Former Chicago Bears head coach Lovie Smith was given his walking papers by the University of Illinois while

Auburn fired Gus Malzahn after losing to lowly South Carolina Saturday. Malzahn who led the Tigers to the national championship game in his first season, got a \$21.7

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A couple of weeks ago during Tampa Bay's bye week, quarterback Tom Brady and head coach Bruce Arians planned to play a round of golf. But the NFL stepped in and said they couldn't play together, for whatever reason.

A couple of college head football coaches were relieved of their duties last weekend even before their regular season has ended.

Former Chicago Bears head coach Lovie Smith was given his walking papers by the University of Illinois while

Auburn fired Gus Malzahn after losing to lowly South Carolina Saturday. Malzahn who led the Tigers to the national championship game in his first season, got a \$21.7

million buyout of his contract.

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is the fastest in NFL history to reach 400 touchdowns. He also has 73 games in which he passed for three or more touchdowns, which is the fourth most ever.

The Chicago Bears selected quarterback Mitchell Trubisky second overall in the 2017 draft, passing up Kansas City's Pat Mahomes (10th overall) and Houston's Deshaun Watson (12th).

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Cleveland plans on dropping their nickname Indians—which they've

## Port Arthur Industry Group donates \$60,000 for LSCPA scholarships

Gerry Dickert  
For The Record

If you've got the drive, Lamar State College Port Arthur has the money to help you, thanks to a substantial scholarship donation by the Port Arthur Industry Group.

The PAIG recently donated \$60,000 to fund a scholarship that will enable students to earn a commercial driver's license, something that in Southeast Texas almost immediately presents career opportunities.

"Local industry leaders are looking for people with CDL certification. The jobs are there for the taking," Dr. Ben Stafford, Dean of Workforce Training and Continuing Education at LSCPA, said. "There is a shortage in the

workforce for bus drivers and dump truck drivers. The relationship between the PAIG and the college is a perfect partnership. Their donation to our scholarship fund will change so many lives for the better."

The scholarship is designated specifically for Port Arthur residents. CDL classes at Lamar State College Port Arthur take as little as two months to complete, preparing students to test for the commercial driver's license. The College does its own testing, which means the typical wait experienced with Department of Public Safety is eliminated, putting people to work much more quickly. Classes are offered both during the day and in the evening, especially helping those who need to

work while training. Full information about LSCPA CDL classes, including dates of classes and the program application, can be found at [www.lamarpa.edu/cce](http://www.lamarpa.edu/cce).

"The Port Arthur Industry Group and its Community Advisory Group supports educational programs that fit our workforce and job placement initiative in our local area. We have partnered with Lamar State College Port Arthur to aid in enrollment in virtual CDL courses by providing scholarships for Port Arthur residents," said John Spell, Chairman of PAIG and Motiva integration manager. "Our hope is this will create expanded career opportunities for about 20 residents in the near future."



Pictured, back from left, Dr. Ben Stafford, Dean of Workforce Training and Continuing Education for LSCPA; Claire Jackson, Community Affairs Manager for Motiva; Ashley Joseph, Communications Specialist for BASF Total Petrochemicals; and John Lycan, Site Manager for BASF Total Petrochemicals; and front from left, Jerome Delafosse, Director of Human Relations for Valero; and Dr. Betty Reynard, LSCPA President



Little Cypress-Mauriceville High School senior, Karson Friar signed to play softball for East Texas Baptist University.

The Lady Bear's standout left-handed pitcher had a great start to her 2020 season last spring before it was cut short by the Corona Virus Pandemic. Karson and the Lady Bears are looking forward to being able to play the entire season in 2021.

Karson's parents are Matthew and Amanda Friar.

Pictured are: Karson, with parents Matthew and Amanda Friar and LCM Softball Coach Dena Adkins (right)

### Daughters of the American Revolution meetings

The Daughters of the American Revolution William Diamond Chapter of Orange County meets the third Tuesday of the month at St. Paul Methodist Church in Bridge City at 1:00 p.m. Any woman who can establish a direct family line to a patriot in the American Revolution can join.

If you need any questions answered you can call Jackie Hucakbay, Regent @ 409-719-6478 or Registrar, Katy Latiolais @ 409-720-9834. We had members that can

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CMYK

## Uzzle From Page 1

polarized glasses are easy, you can pick from a ton of great manufacturers. My pick on glasses is Smith Optics, they have great lenses and they fit me more comfortably than other brands. This piece of equipment is truly a personal choice, try on as many pairs from quality brands as you can and compare them so you can get the best fit. Get a lens color that will be an all around good choice for your style of fishing, I personally love the amber lens as it works well for both fishing and hunting. Again this is a personal choice and your pick may not be the same as mine, just make sure you are happy and you can't go wrong.

Now the elevated spot to look from is a little more wide open subject. I have seen guys fish or spot fish from the top of their center console to the top of a ladder on the deck, they both get the job done. The only problem with the ladder or the console is they are not comfortable, you need to be an acrobat to hook a fish from there and not take a swim. The traditional casting platform is a much better option for this style of fishing, you can't believe the things you can see once you change the angle you look from. Now most platforms on small skiffs are on the small side, not much room to move around and you need to pay attention to any sudden movements in the boat. I took all these factors into account when I had a casting platform built and decided to make mine a little larger and much more fishermen friendly. Gary Robertson at Espandre Marine Products designed and built the "Cadillac" version for me and all I can say it's awesome. The bigger area gives you room to move, fight fish, and not feel like you are balancing on top of a tin can. My clients have been impressed with the comfort so far and I can't say as I blame them, there is nothing like room to move. The new platform is wide enough that it will accommodate two anglers which makes it perfect to go from my skiff to the deck of my center console bay boat. With a trolling motor extension you can run the trolling motor from the elevated perch and never have to worry about constantly climbing up and down. It really makes fishing much easier and more productive, try it and see.

## Holiday Gifts for Healthy Living

(StatePoint) Personal wellness is top of mind for many people these days, making some of the most thoughtful holiday gifts those that enable friends and families to live healthy, eco-friendly lives.

Let this gift round-up be your guide to 2020's best holiday gifts for healthy living:

### Healthy Indoor Air

Between dust, pet dander, mold and other pollutants, indoor air quality can actually be more contaminated than outside air in some cases. However, you can give the gift of cleaner, healthier air at home with a small air purifier such as the Molekule Air that operates quietly to trap indoor allergens and pollutants. Its carrying handle makes it easy to tote it from room to room, letting it perform its magic throughout the house. Give this gift alone or pair it with an air quality monitor that reports on the levels of the most common indoor air pollutants.

### Clean Water

Unlike other pitchers for the home, the LifeStraw Home Water Filter Pitcher protects against over 30 contaminants, including bacteria, parasites, microplastics, lead, mercury, chemicals, dirt, sand and cloudiness to improve taste and provide healthier, safer water. Its sleek and sustainable design makes this a stylish gift option, whether you select the BPA-free or glass model.

This is also a gift that gives back in more than one way. Not only does it help reduce single-use plastic waste, but also, for every LifeStraw product purchased, a child in need receives access to safe drinking water for an entire year through the brand's Give Back program. To shop and learn more, visit [lifestraw.com](http://lifestraw.com).

### Eco-Friendly Fitness

Encourage healthy movement and sustainability with an eKo Mat from Manuduka. These yoga mats are made from biodegradable natural tree rubber, are manufactured with zero waste and are free of toxic chemicals, dyes and phthalates. The brand also carries blocks, cushions, bolsters, straps and apparel made from sustainable and post-consumer recycled materials -- basically everything your favorite eco-conscious yogi needs to support their practice.

## LEGALS

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PHILLIP E. MOORE aka PHILLIP EDWARD MOORE, Deceased, were issued on SEPTEMBER 29, 2020, in Cause No. P18795, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: GERALD G. WILLIAMS.

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  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX  
77631-0100

Dated the 30th day of December, 2020.

James R. Dunaway  
James R. Dunaway  
Attorney for:  
Gerald G. Williams  
State Bar No.:  
06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
[jrdunaway@sbc-global.net](mailto:jrdunaway@sbc-global.net)

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ORA MAE PEVETO, Deceased, were issued on DECEMBER 8, 2020, in Cause No. P18866, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: JOHN STEPHENS.

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  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX  
77631-0100

Dated the 9th day of December, 2020.

James R. Dunaway  
James R. Dunaway  
Attorney for:  
John Stephens  
State Bar No.:  
06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
[jrdunaway@sbc-global.net](mailto:jrdunaway@sbc-global.net)

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BETH ANN WINDHAM, Deceased, were issued on DECEMBER 8, 2020, in Cause No. P18835, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: JERRY A. WINDHAM.

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  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX  
77631-0100

Dated the 8th day of December, 2020.

James R. Dunaway  
James R. Dunaway  
Attorney for:  
Jerry A. Windham  
State Bar No.:  
06208000  
P.O. Box 100  
Orange, TX 77631-0100  
[jrdunaway@sbc-global.net](mailto:jrdunaway@sbc-global.net)

## Seven tips to safely decorate your home for the holidays

### Candle fires peak in December; nearly one-third of us have left burning candles unattended

#### Staff Report For The Record

ORANGE, TEXAS— Decorating with holiday candles? Consider the flameless kind — as December is the peak month for candle fires.

The risk is so common that nearly one-third of us have left the room or fallen asleep while burning candles, according to a 2020 national American Red Cross survey. If you must use candles, never leave them unattended, keep them away from anything that could burn and place them out of reach from children and pets.

The American Red Cross urges everyone to follow these decorating safety tips to prevent fires and injuries:

1. Check all holiday light cords to make sure they aren't frayed or broken. Don't string too many strands of lights together — no more than three per extension cord. Turn off all holiday lights when going to bed or leaving the house.

2. Ensure outside decorations are for outdoor use and fasten lights securely to your home or trees. If using hooks or nails outside, make sure they are insulated to avoid electrocution or fire hazard.

3. Look for the fire-resistant label when buying an artificial tree. Keep it away from fireplaces, radiators and other sources of heat. Never use electric lights on metallic trees.

4. If getting a live tree, make sure it's fresh and

keep it watered. Bend the needles up and down to make sure no needles fall off.

5. Don't light the fireplace if hanging stockings on the mantel.

6. Check the labels of older decorations. Some older tinsel is lead-based. If using angel hair, wear gloves to avoid irritation. Avoid breathing in artificial snow.

7. Have good, stable placement when using a ladder and wear shoes that allow for good traction.

STAY SAFE FROM HOME FIRES Test your smoke alarms monthly and practice your home fire escape plan until everyone can escape in less than two minutes — the amount of time you may have to get out of a burning home before it's too late.

Visit [redcross.org/fire](http://redcross.org/fire) for more information, including an escape plan to practice with your family. You can also download the free Red Cross Emergency app (search "American Red Cross" in app stores).

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or [cruzrojaamericana.org](http://cruzrojaamericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

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#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CARL DAVID LINGO, Deceased, were issued on DECEMBER 11, 2020, in Cause No. P18875, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: Barbara Ellen Lingo.

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: Stephen C. Howard  
Attorney at Law  
903 W. Green Avenue  
Orange, Texas 77630

DATED the 11th day of December, 2020.

Stephen Howard

Stephen Howard  
Attorney for:  
Barbara Ellen Lingo  
State Bar No.:10079400  
903 W. Green Avenue  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone: (409)883-0202  
Fax: (409)883-0209  
Email: steve@stevehoward.lawyer

#### NOTICE OF NEW RATE REQUEST AND CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT

On December 9, 2020, Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or "the Company") filed an Application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") requesting to amend its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") permitting ETI to deploy natural gas-fired distributed generation and statement of intent for approval of Rate Schedule UODG (Utility-Owned Distributed Generation) and an associated form Customer Agreement. ETI's Application was assigned Docket No. 51575 and is styled *Application of Entergy Texas, Inc. to Amend Its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Deploy Natural Gas-Fired Distributed Generation and Statement of Intent for Rate Schedule UODG*. In this Application, ETI seeks to own and operate up to 75 MW of natural gas-fired distributed generation ("DG") located at the premises of to be determined hosting commercial and industrial customers throughout ETI's service territory. The total estimated annual non-fuel revenue requirement associated with ETI's proposed ownership and operation of 75MW of DG is approximately \$16 million, excluding estimated Schedule UODG revenues that will offset that amount. Rate Schedule UODG is a new voluntary rate schedule that will be charged only to eligible commercial and industrial customers who elect to subscribe for backup electric service supplied by the DG. ETI is requesting that Rate Schedule UODG be effective beginning January 29, 2021.

The proposed fleet of DG will supply a portion of ETI's long-term resource needs, be available to provide capacity and energy benefits to all ETI customers and enhance the resiliency of ETI's electric grid. In addition, during an outage, the DG will be available to supply backup electric service to host customers and allow them to continue to provide vital goods and services to the community while service to the larger area is being restored.

If the PUCT adopts the 45-day intervention deadline proposed in the Application, the deadline to intervene will be January 25, 2020, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the PUCT, at its address provided below, by that date. A prehearing conference is expected to be held in Austin, Texas in the near future. Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings, or obtain further information, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the PUCT's Office of Consumer Protection at 512-936-7120 or 1-888-782-8477. Hearing and speech impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the PUCT at 512-936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) 1-800-735-2988. All communications should refer to Docket No. 51575, and any request to intervene in that proceeding should include an email address and fax number (if available) as contact information. Persons with questions or who want more information about this Application may contact ETI at 350 Pine Street, Beaumont, Texas 77701, or call (409) 981-2602 during normal business hours. A complete copy of the Application is available upon request. A copy of the Application may also be viewed on the Commission's webpage at [www.puc.state.tx.us](http://www.puc.state.tx.us). The Commission maintains an electronic copy of all filings on the "Interchange Filing Search" section of its webpage. The control number for this proceeding is 51575.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

AA meetings are being offered on Tuesday (open) and Thursday (closed) mornings at 9:30 am at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, located at 945 W. Roundbunch Road, Bridge City. Join us for coffee & donuts at the perfect

meeting for imperfect people. For more information, please call, text at 409-221-0704 or email lolabelle102360@gmail.com.

Al-Anon can help if someone close to you has a drinking problem. Al-Anon meets Sundays & Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., North Orange Baptist Church, 4775 N. 16th St. (Rear), Orange, TX 77632. Call Angela at 474-2171 or Jane at 409-670-2887 for more info. Calls are kept Confidential.

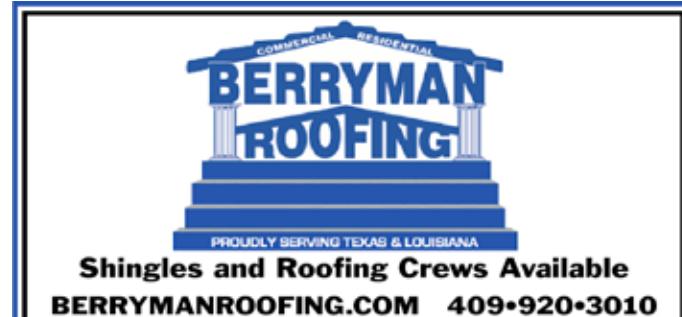
The Dementia Care Givers' Support Group meets at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Canticle Building, 4300 Meeks Drive in Orange on the following days and times: Second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m., and Second Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm.

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