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The Community News for Orange, Texas

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County Record

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Week of Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Army Engineers will take virtual questions on levee system Thursday

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

People with questions about the levee-floodwall project across Orange County will be able to submit them by email and then listen for the answers on a virtual, online conference about the \$2.4 billion project.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District is holding the virtual meeting on Thursday, November 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Questions should be submitted before the meeting to SG2OrangeCounty@usace.army.mil. Access to the online meeting will begin at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday.

The virtual conference may be accessed through the homepage of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston website.

The corps of engineers is now giving a timeline of completing the design in 2024 and having construc-

tion completed in 2028.

Orange will be the first county to get a major flood protection system along the Texas Gulf Coast. Congress approved the initial money allocation in 2018. Port Arthur is going first among the three funded programs. The Port Arthur project is to raise the existing levees and do other improvements. Freeport has also been allocated money for a seawall-levee system.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is overseeing all the projects. The corps of engineers has had contractors working in Orange County looking at land and surveying the area. The corps has already completed the environmental and historic surveys.

The corps held three public meetings in Orange County in the spring this year. At that time, engineers said the design map is being adjusted to sugges-

Levee System Page 6A

Law enforcement investigating two deaths plus shooting injury

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The Orange County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death of a man on a working tugboat on the Neches River side of the county. Captain Joey Jacobs described the death as "unusual," though he was not releasing details on Tuesday.

He said deputies were called about 5 p.m. Monday to the 19000 block of Mansfield Ferry Road outside of Vidor. The road goes to the Neches River. Crew members had found a member of the crew dead.

Jacobs said the man is middle-aged and the identity is not being released until the next of kin have been notified.

Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Chad Jenkins ordered an autopsy. Jacobs said the results of the autopsy should be finished this week and will determine the cause of death, which will help detectives in the investigation.

The tugboat death on Monday comes after two

separate shootings in Orange on Friday, with one being fatal.

The first victim in Orange was reported about 1 a.m. Friday. Officers with the Orange Police Department found a wounded young man who had been shot several times. He was found in a yard area of the 300 block of Burton Avenue near Second Street.

The man was taken to an area hospital in serious condition. Detectives have been unavailable to give more information on his condition or his name.

Then about 10:30 Friday night, a fatal shooting was reported at the Cove Terrace Apartments, which are operated by the Orange Housing Authority in the Cove area of the city.

A man was shot and then pronounced dead at the scene by Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Joy Duhose-Simonton. Again, Orange detectives have been in the field investigating and unavailable for comment on the victim or circumstances of the shooting death.



Orangefield students in the Community Service class were tasked with developing and implementing community and service-learning activities. They identified service projects that would be beneficial, integrated their interests, abilities, and skills and decided to volunteer at the Humane Society of Southeast Texas. Students were able to tour the new facilities, get educated on the services the shelter provides, learn about career opportunities, and play with the animals. They demonstrated safety practices and appropriate grooming, appearance, and etiquette. Students are pictured below with Mary Furb, Humane Society Representative, Mrs. Spears and Mr. Tremont, CTE Director.

Mid-term draws 46% of county voters

Margaret Toal
For The Record

The final results of the November 8 general election shows that nearly 46 percent of registered voters in Orange County cast a ballot. The county in the last census had a population of 84,800. The county elections administration office reports 55,026 people are registered to vote. In this election 25,240 people voted.

The Little Cypress-Mauriceville CISD had a Voter Approved Tax Election to have citizens vote on a 12-cent tax increase for the maintenance and operations category. School officials

said the total tax bill would go down, even if the M&O tax increase was approved, because the district had paid off some of its bond loans and the indebtedness tax rate is going down.

However, taxpayers did not go for paying more. A total of 6,234 people voted in the LC-M tax proposal election with a resounding 3,674 people against the increase, and 2,560 for paying more. The district said the increase would raise about \$1 million more in local tax money, plus the state would pay another \$1 million more, giving a total increase of \$2 million in local spending.

The Orange County Tax Assessor-Collector's office will now be mailing out tax bills to the people living in the LC-M CISD. Other tax bills in the county were mailed in October, but the office had to wait for the election to see what the tax rate for the school district would be. Taxes are due by January 31.

This was the first year that board members of the Emergency Services Districts were elected. Previously, the boards were appointed by Orange County Commissioners Court. Only voters within each district were allowed to cast ballots. Each ESD board will have five mem-

bers and voters in each district were allowed to vote for up to five candidates.

In Emergency Services District 1, which is for the city of Vidor and its surrounding areas, seven people ran for the five positions. A total of 11,938 people voted in the election. Those elected and their votes are John H. Houseman with 2,838, Jerry Aldridge with 2,211, Gene Domec with 1,855, Wyatt Boyett with 1,424, and Nelda Nash with 1,331. The other two candidates were Larry C. Williams III with 1,318, and Kenneth Luce with 961.

Mid-term draws Page 3A

Home Free group to appear at Lutcher Theater

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

The Lutcher Theater on Tuesday announced the a capella singing group Home Free, which includes a Nederland native, will present a concert on Sunday, February 19, at 7 p.m. Tickets will go on sale Monday, November 21, at 8:30 a.m.

Home Free won the fourth season of NBC's The Sing-Off. The top prize was \$100,000 plus a Sony recording contract. Since then, the group has released albums and performed with stars like Kenny VIP lam

Home Free has five singers, a lead tenor, high tenor, baritone, bass, and a beat boxer, who provides voice percussion. Faust, a graduate of Nederland High School, sings bass. He is also a songwriter.



Home Free, which includes a Nederland native, will present a concert on Sunday, February 19, at Lutcher Theater. Home Free won the fourth season of NBC's The Sing-Off. The top prize was \$100,000 plus a Sony recording contract.

The group competed as a country group, but also sings a variety of pop songs, often with a Nashville sound.

The theater will have 14 VIP tickets for an "ultimate experience" with the group for \$249.50. The package includes a VIP laminated

show pass with lanyard, a commemorative poster, an exclusive swag item, indi-

Home Free Page 6A



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DAR Members visit Temple to the Brave

Members of the William Diamond Chapter, NSDAR and their guests visited the Temple to the Brave in Beaumont on Veteran's Day, November 11. The temple was built by the Colonel George Moffett Chapter in 1932 as a project dedicated to Texas veterans of all wars. It is only open on patriotic holidays and worth the visit. Pictured: Regent, Elberta Herman, Sylvia Bland, Thelma Sterling, Ann Rothering, Gayle Ramirez, Katy Latiolais and Shirley Lynd. Photograph by Brenda Herman.

Orange gets new public works director

Margaret Toal
For The Record



The city of Orange on Tuesday announced that Adam Jack has been appointed to become the new public works director. He replaces Jim Wolf, who retired earlier this year after more than 25 years in the position.

Jack is a licensed professional engineer (PE) and has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology. He has more than 35 years experience as an engineer, including the the past nine years with the Texas Department of Transportation. Before that, he was the city of Beaumont as director of transportation and

Adam Jack has been appointed to become the new Orange public works director. He replaces Jim Wolf.

development. The city's public works director oversees street construction and maintenance, drainage, the water and sewer departments, plus parks and recreation, as some of the main duties.

CRIME

Sen. Carl Parker
For The Record



Former State Senator
Carl Parker

Crime is always high on the list of concerns of voting citizens. A long list of promises made by would-be officeholders almost always contains at least one promise concerning reducing the rate of crime in whatever area that person is seeking office.

The most usual method offered by those seeking election would be the promise to increase penalties for the commission of crimes. A good example is our current lieutenant governor whose solution to mass shootings is simply to raise the penalty for a crime involving the use of a gun. He rarely men-

means of crime or active social programs aimed at preventing crime before its committed.

Study after study has shown the best deterrent to crime is fear that one would be caught committing one. Frankly, a large measure of the increasing crime rate lies with us, the citizens. If we choose to avoid jury service, for example. We throw a monkey wrench in the whole system of crime and punishment. Too many other citizens are too reluctant to get involved by choosing not to report criminal conduct they witness.

While being grateful for living in a democratic society we can only hope that our fellow citizens would take more care and

time to make the whole system work; like serving on juries, voting is not only a privilege but a duty of a truly patriotic American citizen.

Just being a "good guy," minding your own business is not enough for us to help with the ever-rising crime rate in America. It is necessary we not only involve ourselves, but encourage others to do the same. Of course, it is always good if we as parents and citizens encourage respect for one another, for teachers and law enforcement in America. These simple things would go a long way when we complain about the rising rate of crime.

tions any legislation to prevent access to the

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THE HUNT FOR THE BEST IS OVER

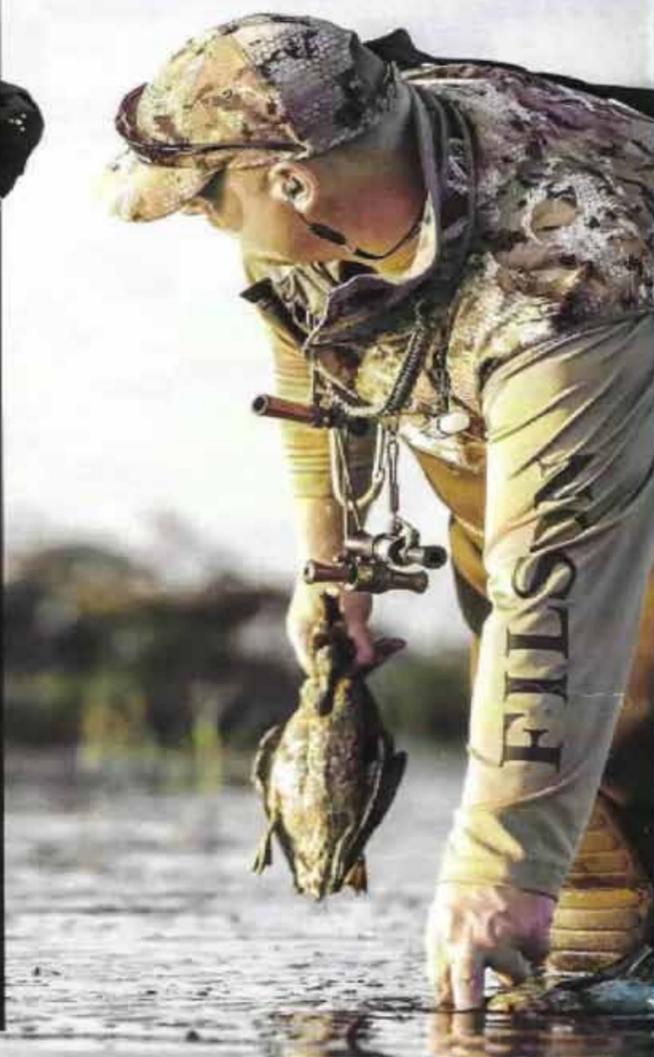


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BCISD

BRIDGE CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Bridge City Intermediate School



BCI Art Club visits the Stark Museum of Art and Shangri La Gardens **STUDENTS' "ARTIST ROMERO BRITTO" WINS FIRST PLACE**

Fall Semester Art Club visited the Stark Museum of Art and did a special two hour lesson: **SGRAFFITTO ART!**
Students received a piece of fire ceramics, glazed the tile, and created a scratch art tile that will be fired in the kiln. Afterwards, they

had a picnic lunch at Lion's Den Park. Then, they strolled the Shangri La Gardens to see all the creative scarecrows including their very own scarecrow "Artist Romero Britto" which won First Place in the school category.



Art students had an incREDible day

Our art enthusiasts had an incREDible day on their field trip. BCI students welcomed guest speaker, Mr. Ryan Johansson, parent of one of the art club members. Mr. Jo-

hansson shared his beautiful art-works from being an art student at BCHS and spoke about the wonderful opportunities the BCISD Art Department has to offer.





From the Creaux's Nest DEMOCRACY WINS OVER VOTERS

Last week, in predicting the outcome of the national elections, I came as close as anyone in making the right call. After months of the **Republican party** saying there was going to be a big **"Red Wave"** and a **"Blood Bath,"** I predicted otherwise. I feared the only loss might be in **Congress** by a few votes. All the polls and pundits predicted a **Republican "Title Wave."** Here's what they missed. They polled many subjects; inflation, gas prices, abortion, etc. What they didn't poll was **January 6** and would the insurrection affect the way they voted. Our **democracy** was on the ballot and that feeling ran deeper with the **American people** than any one figured. When **Nancy's husband Paul**, was beaten with a hammer just before the election that was the icing on the cake. **Americans** learn at a young age the importance of **democracy** and like religion learned at a young age, they never stray too far from it. **January 6**, was the height of abuse on our **democracy** in the nation's history. The president of the **United States** attempted to overthrow his own government by going against the will of the people. When **President Joe Biden** told the **American people**, "Make no mistake, our democracy is on the ballot. We must defend it." The voters, including young, independents, women and majority voted **Democratic**. The **American people** got it. That my friend was the real poll. It wasn't **Republicans** or **Democrats**, it was the country's future at stake. Like I said in my prediction last week, the question was where do we go from here as a nation. The real issue was between violence and non-violence, between democracy and dictatorship. Not inflation or abortion but the future of this great country. **The voters got it. The polls missed it.** A big win for **America**, a great win for **President Joe Biden and his administration**, a record win during a mid-term election.

SWAGGER Super Bowls, Brass Balls, and Footballs

Jimmy Johnson, Port Arthur T.J. High School graduate, Pro Football Hall of Fame head coach, released his new book **"Swagger: Super Bowls, Brass Balls, and Footballs A Memoir"** on Nov. 15. **Johnson** covers a multitude of topics, including his time as **Cowboys head coach** and **working with Dan Marino** in the final years of his career with the **Miami Dolphins**. **Johnson's** relationship with **Jones** remains a hot topic of conversation. It's been over one year since **Jones, sitting next to Johnson**, said on national television that he would be in the **Ring of Honor**. **Johnson** jokingly responded, **"While I'm alive?"** **Jones** now appears to be waffling on when – or even to – make **Johnson the 23rd member of the Cowboys' Ring of Honor**. **"It's BS** for anybody to be making anything of that, there's a lot more than **Jimmy** to think about here," **Jones** told **NBC Dallas/Fort Worth** in August. "I've got a lot of other lives out here that have laid a lot on the line on the field that need to be in that **Ring of Honor** as well. There are still many students in the **Mid-County and Bridge City** area who attended **Thomas Jefferson** with **Jimmy** and **Janis Joplin**. **Jimmy** is popular here and will sell many books in our area and millions around the nation. **Coach Jimmy Johnson** has always made **Southeast Texas** proud.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2012

We were saddened to learn of the death of our friend **Charlotte Hamilton**, 64, who passed away Nov. 13. Her death came after having had surgery. For the past dozen years **Charlotte** had been the music director and organ player at **Calvary Christian Center**. **Pastor Danny Brack**, who conducted her service, said it was one of the hardest funerals he had ever done because **Charlotte** was such a wonderful person and so full of life. ****Condolences also to the family of **Geraldene Bates**, 74, who passed away Saturday, Nov. 18. ****Last Thursday, the folks at **St. Mary's Catholic Church** put on their big gumbo dinner. The brew was **Larry David's** award winning gumbo. **Dr. Rod Fissette** was one of **Larry's** helpers. ****Our buddy and former **Record employee**, **Chris Farkas**, traveling from Jacksonville to Austin, stopped by. He took in some **Catholic gumbo**, which he said he misses, he also admitted he misses all Cajun cooking. He's been in Florida 12 years. He planned his vacation so he could attend the **Formula One U.S. Grand Prix** being held in Austin on a new \$400 million track. Austin was hosting the first **U.S. Grand Prix** since 2007. ****Saturday **Earl Thomas**, of the **Seattle Seahawks**, held a winter coat give away. The food, music and 300 coats given to youths in need were made possible by the **Earl Thomas Faith Family and Friends Foundation**. **Earl** is a great, compassionate, young man who believes in giving back to

the community that raised him. Last year, **Earl** gave away turkeys to everyone in need of one. **Earl** graduated from **West Orange-Stark** in 2007, went to the **University of Texas** and was the number one draft pick by Seattle. **** A few folks we know celebrating their special day. On **Nov. 21, Joel Steirman turns 69**. This year his wife, **Kathleen**, who usually gives him party, bought him a vacation trip to Belize. **On **Nov. 22, the day JFK was killed in Dallas**, finds several folks marking birthdays. Our longtime friend attorney **H.D. Pate** and **Lamar's Butch Campbell**. A few years separate them. Also celebrating that day is **Penny's son Jason Leleux** and her baby sister **Mary Tate**. ** Other **Nov. 22** babies are our friend, legal secretary **Jackie Roberts**, who for years made **Grover Halliburton** look good and also **Cecil Broom**, **Bobby Tarter** and **Buford Rector**. ****It will be a nice thanksgiving at the **Dunn house**. **Amber** is home for a few days from Cleveland, Ohio. Home cooking and **Gulf Coast seafood** is always a treat when she gets back to Texas. ******Debora Harmon** drove down from Colorado to spend the **Thanksgiving holidays** with mom and dad, **Betty and Corky**, and the family. When in town, **Debora** always makes it a point to visit friends. She keeps up with our little part of the country on line at **TheRecordLive.com**. ****Also in town to attend the big **Bendy reunion** held Saturday was **Bobby Hoosier**, a 1976 BC grad, who has made his home in California these past years. He was accompanied by his wife and two children. **Bobby** is the son of **Frances** and **"Tonker" Hoosier**. **** We ran into **Steve Worster**, a great guy, who has a lot of pride in his community. **Steve** is so down to earth that it's hard to believe he was an **All American** high school player, who gave **Bridge City** two trips to the state championships. **Steve** also was an **All American** at the **University of Texas**, winning a national championship. **Steve** reflecting on **Coach Darrel Royal's** death said he was just a down to earth country boy from Oklahoma. He said, **"I was just an 18 year old away from home** for the first time in Austin, a big change for a small time boy. **Coach Royal** was like a father to us in every way. He really cared." **Steve** said they were student players, different from today. ******Matt Bryant's Atlanta Falcons** beat the **Arizona Cardinals** 23-19. **Bridge City's Bryant** kicked three field goals for the win. **A 51 yarder, a 28 yarder and a 48 yarder**. **Matt** made 11 points in the win. **** The **Orangefield school board** is making a fresh start. Sitting in those hot seats now are **Jesse Fremont, Dr. Ron Risinger, Bo Henley** and **Brad Frye**. After some ups and downs and controversy in the recent past, the citizens of the school district hope they have drawn four aces. It looks to me there might be a **Jack-of-Diamonds** in that bunch.

A LITTLE ABOUT THE NATIVES

When I feel a little down all I have to do is get on the phone with **Dr. Tom Johnson**, Lamar president. That guy gets so excited about all the good developments happening at **Lamar Orange**. His enthusiasm is contagious. He and County Judge **John Gothia** love their jobs. **Tom** is an ex-policeman who just ended up in his dream job, plus they love living in **Bridge City**. **John**, the Marlboro Man, jumped into politics after serving as commissioner. He then made a successful leap to the judgeship. He'll be there as long as he wants unless maybe everything is just right for him to run for congress. ****Speaking of doctors, former commissioner **Owen Burton** says he's plum tired of going to them. If fact, he has started canceling some appointments. He said the last time he went he was put in a little room waiting for a test report. After an hour and a half he finally found someone who told him, "Oh, your report is good." He says they could have told him that on the phone. ****I spoke with **Judge Chad Jenkins** who had been having health problems in June but is thankfully back to being "healthy as a hog." ****Congrats to **Orangefield's Coach Josh Smalley** and his **Bobcats**. They will be playing **Cameron Yoe, 8-3**, at Iowa Colony Freedom field. The **Bobcats** are the only team we still have in the playoffs. ****Speaking of football, I hear former **WO-S Mustang** coach **Cornell Thompson** is writing a book. From his childhood through the years with **Dan Ray Hooks**, his years as head coach and an overview of **"The Art of Being a Successful Defensive Coach."** I can imagine the last paragraph on coaching. I look for him to be back in coaching next year somewhere.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Jo Harris did it again with another successful **Special Angels Rodeo** this past Saturday. Of course she had a lot of help from family, friends, and volunteers. **Jo** began the rodeo to honor her mother, **Lue Harris**, who dreamed of letting adults and children with special handicap needs experience the fun and thrills of a rodeo. The event had to skip a couple of years because of the **Covid pandemic**, but came back this year. The rodeo is held at the covered **T-2 arena** in the **Little Cypress** area and special needs people come from across **Southeast Texas** to join in the fun. One of the big volunteers is **Katie Durio** from **Stable Spirits**, a horse therapy non-profit group in **Vidor**. The festivities ended in an impromptu dance party with participants and volunteers. ****A number of **Orange County residents** traveled to Beaumont Saturday night for the annual charity **Cattle Baron's Ball**. This year's caterer for the big event was **LBS Barbecue from Bridge City**. Newlyweds **Brody** and **Leigh Anne Harrell** were there along with **Stephanie Roberts** and **Trudy Grinnell**. **Leigh Anne** even had a custom painted western hat for the occasion. ******Brandy** and **Roderick Robertson** went fishing with **Robert** and **Carol Sims** and caught a couple of big ones. **Brandy** got the speckled trout while **Roderick** got the big red. ******Lori Ardoin, Dyan Morris**, and **Lucy Terry** were among the people going to Houston to stroll, and stroll, and stroll,

through the big annual **Nutcracker Market**. Haven't heard if anyone needed to rent a U-Haul to help bring home their purchases. They could end up like **Raul** and **Paul Burch**, who have to move furnishings out of their house to make room for **Christmas** decorations. **Phyllis and Clint Fregia** celebrated their **30th wedding anniversary** this past week. Birthday celebrations included **Jackson Pachar**, who turned 17, and **First Lady of Orange, Trisha Spears**. Some of the other birthdays were former **Pinehurst Police Chief Fred Hanauer**, who is now a state investigator; **Monica McCoy**; **Brandy Bonnin**; **Judy Tuter**; **Patricia Kemp**; **Larry Webb**, and **Marilyn Prewitt**.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

A few folks we know who will be celebrating their special day in the next few days. **Nov. 16:** Happy Birthday to **Dr. Servet Satir**. Also celebrating are **Thad Angelle, Rebecca Collins, RaeAnna Todora, Dwayne Duncan, Chris Byers** and **Dyanna Sandlin**. ******Nov. 17:** Celebrating today is a special lady **Reba Eddins**. Someone pick up the phone and give her a Happy Birthday call. Also celebrating are **Lexy Brock, Brett Kahla, Laurie Kosh, Barbara Briggs, Patsy Brister** and **Chuck Kirby**. ******Nov. 18:** Happy Birthday to **Aimee Huckabay, Theresa Evans, Melanie Claybar, Jonathan Vogt, Stephannie Williams** and **Tim Bayliss**. ******Nov. 19:** A pretty lady, college professor, a Yankee from Maine, **Michelle Judice**, celebrates today. She's **Big AL's** long-time bride. Also celebrating is **Helen Stankus, Kade Parkhurst, Linda Klein, Meagan McGill, Liz Harris, Charles Cagle, Kristina Denman** and **John Moore**. ******Nov. 20:** One of the great guys who you can depend on to always watch your back celebrates today. Happy Birthday to **Allen Dunn**, hope you have a good one. Other folks celebrating on this day are **Edgar Eschbach, Jim Pruter, Lon Hubbard, Jan Briggs** and **Sunni Moseley**. ******Nov. 21:** Happy Birthday to our Jewish friend **Joel Steirman**, who turns 79 today. Also **Brandon Burns, Bart Williams, Adam Schisler, John Roy Fredrick** passed away on this day in 2019. I can't believe it's been three years. ******Nov. 22:** Today marks the day **JFK** was killed in Dallas. Special folks celebrating birthdays today are **Butch Campbell, Jason Leleux, Heather Fergeson, Pam Chapman, Cecil Broom, Misty Moody, Larry Bridges, Belinda Thibodeaux, Carolyn Hagen** and two great friends **Jackie Roberts** and **Judge Rodney Price**. (Call 409-886-7183 or email news@therecordlive.com to have birthday and anniversary dates announced.)

AROUND THE NATION

Jeff Bezos, founder of **Amazon**, said he would give away most of his money to charity, making him the latest billionaire to pledge to donate his vast fortune during his lifetime. **Bezos** stepped down as **Amazon CEO** last year to devote more time to philanthropy and other projects. Recently the billionaire and **Lauren Sanchez** announced they will give a **\$100 million grant** to singer **Dolly Parton**. He is worth **\$124 billion**, the world's fourth richest person. ******Cruz** faults **Republican** hierarchy, demands party 'fire' **McConnell** as leader. **Ted Cruz** tore into **Republican leadership** for blowing what he called a **"generational opportunity"** to win control of **Congress** in midterms, calling for fellow **Republicans** to "fire" **Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell**. Just like with a football coach, where you would fire a coach if the team loses when they should've won, we should've won," **Cruz** said. The comments came as a growing number of **Senate Republicans** have called for the **GOP** to delay leadership elections set for this week after **Democrats** won control of the **Senate** over the weekend. ******Election denier loses race for governor**. **Democrat Katie Hobbs** was elected governor Monday, defeating an ally of **Donald Trump** who falsely claimed the **2020 election** was rigged and refused to say she would accept the results of her race this year.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Toby Babineaux, him, came running into **Tee-Boy's Bar and Grill** and he say to his buddy, **Joe Comeaux**, "Joe, Joe, somebody don jus stole you pickup truck from da parking lot." "Da hell you say, Joe replied. "Toby did you see who did it you?" Toby, he scratch his head and say, "Joe, I jus couldn't tell for sure, but I got da license number me."

C'EST TOUT

ROBERTS YOUR LOCAL FORD DEALER

If you're considering buying a new car or truck right now is the time to visit **Roberts Ford in Orange**. You won't find better deals on any of their **new Ford vehicles**—specializing in the famed **Ford F-150** and all of **Ford's Super Duty trucks**. **Will Palasota** is the general manager and his sales crew, directed by **Billy Hilton**, along with **Ivy Blanda, CJ Wagner** and **Gavin Callarman** are all local folks that will work with you for the best prices available. It is **year-end closeout time for 2022 Ford vehicles**, or you can also custom order dealer-direct **2023 Ford models** now. **Roberts Ford** also has a great selection of certified pre-owned vehicles available. Before you buy your next car or truck talk to the good folks at **Roberts Ford—Orange County's Ford Dealer**—and when you buy in **Orange County your tax dollars stay in Orange County**. Tell 'um we sent you. ****Till we meet again happy trails to you. Take care and God bless.

Bridge City Chamber of Commerce names 'Business of the Month' and 'Employee of the Month'

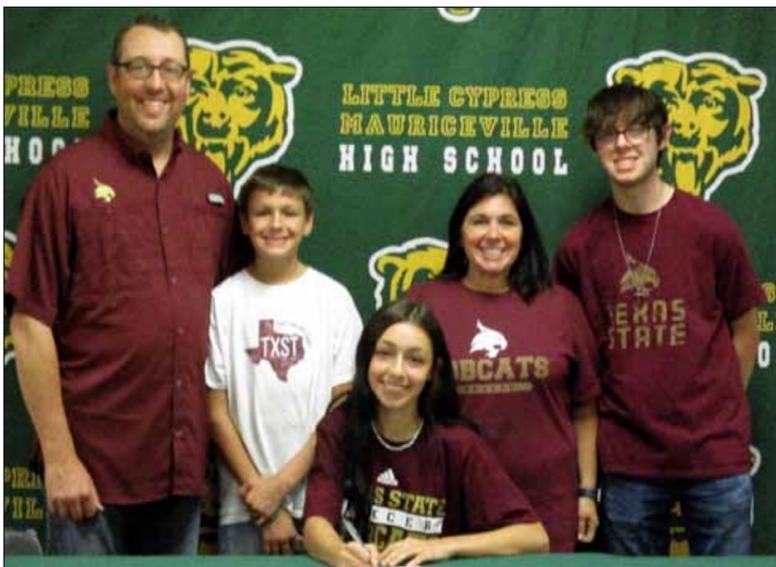


The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that ANE Insurance has been named Business of the Month for November 2022. Ellen Nickum was presented the award, sponsored by Energy Country Ford, by Ambassador DeeDee Viator at the November Networking Coffee hosted by Bridge City Bank. Pictured are: Bill Nickum, Ellen Nickum, DeeDee Viator, Carolyn Boswell, Julie Ledeaux, Becky Barker and members of the Nickum Family.



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced Kyle Manuel with Bridge City Radiator the November Employee of the Month. Pictured are: Trista Leonard, Kyle Manuel and Aaron Roccaforte.

Three sign college scholarships



Annabelle Fisher from Little Cypress Mauriceville signed her scholarship to play soccer at Texas State University.

Staff Report For The Record

Three local high school athletes signed scholarships on Wednesday, November 9, to play their sports in college. Little Cypress-Mauriceville, Orangefield, and Bridge City High Schools held special signing ceremonies.

Annabelle Fisher of Little Cypress-Mauriceville signed to play soccer at Texas State University. Fisher was the 2022 All-District Co-MVP, 2022 TASCO 2nd Team All-Region, 2022 Team

MVP, and 2021 All-District Offensive Player of the Year. In addition to soccer Annabelle has been a member of the Lady Bears basketball team and an outstanding runner in track including cross-country. She is a member of the National Honor Society.

Orangefield's Jason Bodin signed to play baseball with Texas A&M University upon his graduation. Bodin was a leader for the Bobcats baseball team the last two seasons and should be a top player in the spring.

Jason has been good with the bat and a key pitcher for the Bobcats. He is expected to be the number one starter for Orangefield this his senior year.

At Bridge City Braylen Collins signed to play baseball at the University of Houston after he graduates. Collins has been a starter on the Bridge City Cardinals baseball team the last two years and should be a leader again this coming season in the spring. Braylen is a pitcher and plays first base.



BCCHS students help lead Texas Student Councils

Grant Hale, left, president of the Bridge City High School student body, along with Aidan McAllister, student council public relations officer, were invited to help lead the Texas Association of Student Councils meeting in San Marcos last week. The two presented special break-out sessions and also performed with their swing dance group.

Holiday pecans and walnuts fundraiser

Wesley United Methodist Church will be selling this years crop of Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts for their Annual Fund Raiser with delivery early November. Pecan halves or pieces \$11.00 per pound, walnuts \$8.50 per pound. Call Jan 409/734-8036 or the church 409/886-7276 to place an order or for additional information.

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Sales taxes mixed in cities, strong in county

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Sales taxes were mixed across the county in September as cities were having a difficult time keeping up with the inflation rate. However, Orange County's sales taxes continue to stay above the inflation rate, which was 8.2 percent for the month of September.

The Texas State Comptroller's Office recently sent the payments to entities with sales taxes.

Orange County has a 0.5 percent sales tax and received \$641,893 for the month, an increase of 10.66 percent from the \$580,038 for September 2021. The county is now at \$6.69 million for the year to date, up 11.61 percent from the \$5.99 million for the year to date last year.

Bridge City, with a 1.5

percent sales tax, was down slightly in September this year compared to last year, but remains up for the year to date. The recent payment was \$222,450, down 2.94 percent from the \$229,215 in September last year. The city is at \$2.06 million for the year to date, up 6.22 percent from \$1.94 million for the year to date in 2021.

Orange has a 1.5 percent sales tax and was up in both categories. The city received \$828,125 for September, an increase of 15.84 percent from the same month last year. The city now has \$6.77 million for the year to date, compared to \$6.35 million for the same period last year, an increase of 6.61 percent.

Pinehurst, with a 1.5 percent sales tax, was down in both categories.

The city collected \$56,451 for September, down from \$62,945 in September last year, a decrease of 10.3 percent. The city now has \$619,555 for the year to date, a decrease of 5.32 percent from the \$654,385 collected for the year to date in 2021.

Vidor is also down, though slightly, in both categories. The city has a 1.5 percent tax rate and received \$345,526 for September, down 0.8 percent from \$348,641 last year. The city now has \$3.28 million for the year to date compared to \$3.29 million for the same period in 2021, a decrease of 0.41 percent.

West Orange has a 1.25 percent sales tax, the lowest of the cities in the county. The city received \$114,970 for September, down 5 percent from the \$121,085 collected for

September last year. The city is up 1.13 percent for the year to date with \$1.252 million compared to \$1.238 million for the year to date in 2021.

County Emergency Services District 3 for the Little Cypress Fire and Rescue Department is the only special district in the county with a sales tax. The district has a tax rate of 1.5 percent and collected \$26,137 for September, compared to \$23,323 last year. The district is up 11 percent for the year to date with \$270,855 compared to \$243,796 last year.

Blue Santa collecting new toy donations on Saturday

Staff Report

The Orange County Sheriff's Office is currently collecting toys and cash donations for the annual Blue Santa project to provide children in families with needs gifts for Christmas.

On Saturday, the sheriff's office is working with Finishing Touches Auto Detailing in Vidor, for a toy and donation drive. Deputies will ac-

cept donations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the business, 2605 North Main Street in Vidor.

Only new toys in their original packaging will be accepted. Check donations should be made out to the Orange County Blue Santa Project.

People wanting to donate to the annual event may also drop off toys or donations to the sheriff's office headquarters in Orange.

Mid-terms draw 46% here

From Page 1

Emergency Services District 2 covers the city of Bridge City and the Orangefield area. A total of 10,526 voted in the election. Six candidates ran for the five positions. The board members are Glen Childers Jr. with 2,163, Scott Barnes with 2,027, Chris Landry with 1,994, Carroll LeBlanc with 1,739, and Wes Arnold with 1,417. Aaron McNeil received 1,186 votes.

Emergency Services District 3 covers the unincorporated Little Cypress area. Five candidates were on the ballot and won election with a total of

3,487 people voting. Cammie Manshack Vincent led with 775 votes, Wayne LaCombe had 754, Cathy Drake had 466, Wesley Journey had 446, and Corina Alonso had 335. The district had 55 write-in votes with Chris Jagneaux receiving 32 of the write-in votes.

Emergency Services District 4 is for the Mauriceville-McLewis areas and a total of 6,538 people voted in the election. Five candidates were on the ballot with all being elected. David Jones had the most with 1,578, followed by Dan Brack with 1,454,

Anthony Shue with 1,316, David Covey with 1,147, and Robert H. Hymes with 1,043.

In the race for governor, incumbent Republican Greg Abbott had 21,138 Orange County votes with Beto O'Rourke getting 3,715. Abbott won statewide.

For the U.S. Representative race, incumbent Republican Randy Weber had 21,115 votes, with Democratic challenger Mikal Williams getting 3,747 in Orange County. Weber was reelected in the district.

Levee system public forum

From Page 1

tions from the public and local officials. For instance, the seawall on the eastern side of the county will run along Simmons Drive in places instead of along the Sabine River. This will allow the city of Orange's Boat Ramp, park, and Riverside Pavilion to stay in place. Gates will be designed for the roadway into the park to be closed off, if needed, for a flood event.

The flood protection system is being designed to help the county deal with the continuing rise of the Gulf of Mexico onto land, along with a surge of the Gulf during a hurricane, and for a rain flood event.

The plans calls for 26.3 miles of protection along the marshes of the Neches River, along Sabine Lake, and along the Sabine River. Most of the land is along public right-of-way or along the petrochemical plants, which support the system, along the Sabine River.

The most recent plans have 20 miles of earthen levees plus more than three miles of concrete floodwalls. Some of the floodwall designs along the Sabine River in Orange have not been determined.

The system will also have 150 to 200 gravity drainage structures to send water inside the county into the rivers, which drain into Sabine Lake. There will also be 14 to 16 pumping stations to help send water out into bayous, rivers, and Sabine Lake.

Lift gates will be installed at Cow Bayou and Adams Bayou. The gates will leave the bayous open for navigation except for the times they need to be closed. The project includes restoring some marshes and wetlands in the county, mainly in the Bridge City area.

Orange County has become a member of the Gulf Coast Protection District, a governmental

group established to be the non-federal part of the protection system, which is planned to go from Orange County to Galveston, and on to Freeport. Precinct 3 Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte is the county's representative on the district's governing board.

The Orange County partners on the system are the corps of engineers, the Gulf Coast Protection District, Orange County, and the Orange County Drainage District.

Home Free

From Page 1

vidual photo ops with all five members, an autograph session, a group question and answer session, a private performance of one song, plus crowd-free merchandise shopping.

Also, a limited 80 special tickets for \$59 will be available. Those tickets will include a commemorative laminated show pass and lanyard, a show poster, a group question and answer session, one

private song performance by the group, and crowd-free merchandise shopping. More information on the special packages can be found by calling the Lutch Theater box office at 409-886-5535.

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“WE BELIEVE!”

Bobcats confront Cameron Yoe in Area Round of state football championships

DAN PERRINE
For The Record



Orangefield's Coach Josh Smalley has his Bobcats believing they can win their first ever Area championship in football on Friday.



Orangefield got touchdowns from Case Singleton, Brayden Parker, Gavin Perry-Koci, and Cameron Dischler in the Bobcat's 55-12 win over Shepherd.

RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

This football season began with optimism at Orangefield after the University Interscholastic League reclassified the Bobcats from 4A down to 3A where they could compete with other schools comparable to their number of students. In preparation for an Area Round playoff game this week the optimism has transformed to genuine belief the Bobcats are a really good football team this year.

Last week Orangefield won a playoff game for the first time since 2015. The Bobcats smashed the Shepherd Pirates 55-12 to capture the Bi-District championship. Orangefield also defeated Shepherd in a Week 3 non-district game, but the playoff win was more decisive and significant being the first one in seven seasons for the Bobcats.

Coach Josh Smalley is proud of the win by Orangefield earning the Bi-District championship.

“We held Shepherd to 12 points that's pretty good in the bi-district round then offensively I thought we kind of controlled the game with our running attack,” Smalley recapped.

The Bobcats rushed for over 450 yards in the game. Cameron Dischler and Gavin Perry-Koci both totaled about 200 yards apiece. The two also combined for six touchdowns. Case Singleton and Brayden Parker added touchdowns to help Orangefield achieve the victory.

A lot of the credit for the big win goes to the Bobcat offensive line. Smalley praised, “The offensively line blocked really well. Our two tight ends Koen Maddox and Morgan Sampson really stood out as far as blocking up front.”

Despite the impressive win by the Bobcats there are still areas that need improvement. “We turned the ball over which is never good in the playoffs, and then we had a couple penalties, but nothing big there. I'm very proud of our coaching staff and the game plan they put together and very proud of the kids for going out and executing it. We get to play one more week at least,” Smalley reminded.

This week is the Area Round of the state football playoffs. Orangefield plays the Cameron Yoemen on Friday. Cameron Yoe finished as the second seed in District 11-3A, Division I behind Franklin which is ranked number one for Class 3A in the state.

The Yoemen use a high octane passing attack on offense. The Spread is the

formation and it is a true Spread with usually four receivers split to either side of the line scrimmage. Cameron Yoe throws the ball about 80 percent of the time and averages scoring over 42 points a game.

Quarterback Braylan Drake is a junior. Drake has passed for 2,179 yards and 27 touchdowns. He has completed 65 percent of his 245 passes and only thrown five interceptions. Seven different Yoemen receivers have caught one or more touchdown passes and each of them has at least eleven receptions in their eleven games played so far.

Drake's favorite receiver is Trayjen Wilcox who has 52 receptions for 680 yards with 6 touchdowns. Lining up as a slot receiver

BOBCATS Page 3B



Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast

★ ORANGEFIELD BOBCATS (9-2) OVER CAMERON YOE (8-3)

—7 p.m. Friday at Freedom Field in Alvin—This looks like a pretty-even match-up. I don't know much about the Yoemen except that several area teams have faced them in the state playoffs over the years with mixed results. The Bobcats are fresh off a lopsided 55-12 bi-district win over Shepherd while the Yoemen took a 39-28 victory over Yoakum last week. It won't be easy but I believe the Bobcats will continue to be the only Orange County team still in the state playoffs when this game concludes Friday night.

★ DEWEYVILLE (8-3) OVER SIMMS BOWIE (9-2)

—7 p.m. Friday at Roughrider Stadium in Center—The Pirates got the best of a real good football program, beating Tenaha 28-14 last week while Bowie downed Hico 34-22. Deweyville will have to continue to play solid football to advance to the next round and I believe the Pirates will comply.

★ MCNEESE STATE OVER LAMAR UNIVERSITY

—The Cowboys are hoping to finish the season with their third win in a row in this grudge match against the Cardinals Saturday night in Lake Charles after whipping Houston Christian 21-10 Saturday. The Cards weren't as fortunate against the New Mexico State Aggies, losing 51-14 and also would like to finish the regular season on a winning note. I just don't think that will happen.

★ OTHER PLAYOFF GAMES OF INTEREST

Port Arthur Memorial (10-1) over Frisco Wakeland (7-4), Lumberton (10-1) over Stafford (7-4), Silsbee (11-0) over Smithville (5-6), Waco Connally (9-2) over Hamshire-Fannett (8-3), Franklin (11-0) over Anahuac (9-2), Woodville (9-2) over Hitchcock (10-1), Newton (10-1) over New Boston (6-5), Tyler Chapel Hill (9-2) over Bay City (8-3), Kilgore (8-3) over El Campo (9-2), Bellville (11-0) over Madisonville (7-4), Columbus (10-1) over Diboll (8-3).

SEE COLLEGE AND PRO PICKS PAGE 6B

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NFL already in second half with several surprises

KAZ'S KORNER
Joe Kazmar
For The Record

A few of the play-off-bound teams hit a mental stumbling block in last weekend's games while others are showing signs of dramatic improvement during the first half of the 2022 National Football League schedule.

The two Texas franchises appear to be headed in opposite directions as predicted by the Preseason Prognosticators, although the Dallas Cowboys have won only two of their last four games.

The Houston Texans, on the other hand, would have loved to win two of their last four games. The have managed to post only one victory in their past five contests, beating their usual victim—the Jacksonville Jaguars 12-6—and holding them defensively to only two field goals.

But that was five weeks ago as they have dropped four-straight with only one opponent—the once defeated Philadelphia Eagles—winning by double digits. Both the Texans and the Cowboys seem to have plenty of difficulty stopping the run and they've both paid the price with losses that could have been reversed with some rushing defense.

They both had a chance to win Sunday if they could've stopped the run. Houston lost to the New York Giants 24-16 while the Cowboys gave one away at Green Bay to the Packers 31-28 in overtime.

It was a homecoming of sorts for Cowboys head coach Mike McCarthy who had been let go by the Packers after coaching in Lambeau Stadium for more than a decade. He guided them to their last Super Bowl title after the 2010 season and posted a 125-77-2 record before getting fired in 2018.

Green Bay was trying to end a horrible five-game losing streak and McCarthy must have felt sorry for the Packers, because some of his decisions in the second half Sunday were really sorry and helped Green Bay's cause.

Of course, the Packers'



Joe Kazmar

fans that overflowed Lambeau believed they were seeing the same thing they have watched for nearly two decades—quarterback Aaron Rodgers leading his team to another late come-from-behind victory—which he did with much assistance from bad decisions from McCarthy and Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott.

Dallas had a very comfortable 28-14 lead in the fourth quarter but Prescott threw one of his two interceptions that led to a Green Bay touchdown and then tried to run when he should have passed and overthrew several of his targets in the waning minutes of regulation and again in the overtime period.

After the Cowboys failed to get a first down and punted the football away, the aging Rodgers wasted little time finding open receivers and hit wideout Christian Watson for the rookie's third touchdown catch of the game to tie the score at 28-28 with 2 ½ minutes left in regulation.

It was the first time in franchise history that the Dallas Cowboys blew a 14-point lead heading into the fourth period, according to the Associated Press, which added they entered Sunday with a 195-0 record in such games, including playoffs.

In overtime, the Cowboys drove into Packer territory and on a fourth-and-four McCarthy decided to not try a 50-yard field goal but instead went for the first down. Dak didn't take long to try and run for the first down, but was caught from behind before he could even get started.

Rodgers worked his usual brilliance in these situations, completed a couple of passes and turned it over to veteran kicker Mason Crosby who calmly split the uprights for a field goal from 28 yards out to snap the Packers lengthy losing streak and start one for the Cowboys.

Houston didn't do any better in New Jersey as the Texans kicked short field

goals twice when trailing the Giants by 11 points and then were unsuccessful on both on-side kicking attempts. The eight-point differential (24-16) made the final score look closer than the game really was.

A Houston Chronicle football writer who predicted the Texans would lose by a touchdown summed up his reasoning: "The Giants are nowhere near as good as their record (7-2) and the Texans are just about as bad as their record (1-7-1) says they are."

KWICKIES...

I really don't believe Idiot Owner Jerry Jones is getting a fair return for his investment in quarterback Dak Prescott and his fat multi-year contract. It's a shame when the backup posts better numbers than the starter. Since signing his hefty contract, I don't believe Prescott is anywhere near as effective than when he was scrambling for his rookie contract money.

When No. 17 Tulane lost to No. 22 Central Florida 38-31 Saturday, it marked the first time that Tulane was ranked and played another ranked team since its 1949 game against LSU.

And speaking of LSU, in their narrow 13-10 victory over Arkansas Saturday, we got to see their freshman sensation Harold Perkins, Jr. dominate the game. The young linebacker had four sacks—which ties an LSU single-game record-- and two forced fumbles while being fast enough to be all over the field. We'll see him playing on Sunday in the not-too-distant future.

The Miami Marlins made history last weekend by announcing it had hired Caroline O'Connor as team president after naming her as the team's general manager in 2020/ The Marlins became the first U.S. major sports franchise to have a woman general manager and then later president.

The Associated Press Top 25 College Football Poll looks the same in the

first five places-- 1. Georgia 2. Ohio State 3. Michigan 4. TCU 5. Tennessee—while No. 6 LSU and No. 7 Southern Cal each moved up one spot, 8. Alabama and 9. Clemson each jumped up two notches and No. 10 Utah each came up three places.

It looks like the Texas Aggies will be spending the Christmas holidays at home watching all the bowl games they weren't eligible for with their 3-7 (1-5 SEC) record. Texas A&M suffered its sixth straight defeat Saturday 13-10 at the hands of Auburn. I wonder if the same rich alums who voted to oust their winningest head football coach R.C. Slocum are still around!!! Maybe a win Saturday over lowly UMass will save his job.

JUST BETWEEN US...

It looks to me like Houston Astros owner Jim Crane is going to make sure his world championship team has only one way to go this coming season and that is down. He fired his general manager and assistant GM Friday after not extending James Click's contract after it expired at the end of the 2022 season six days after winning the World Series. Saturday's Houston Chronicle in a Page One article stated, "In a three-year tenure marred by tumult he did not create and carried by a core of players he inherited from predecessors, Click sustained the Astros' golden era but could not coexist with an owner who demanded more. Click oversaw three American League Championship Series appearances, two American League pennants and, this year, the Astros' second World Series title in franchise history." And now with some 180 free agents all wanting to play on a team capable of winning the World Series, the Astros have nobody who can sign or even evaluate these free agents. I think Jim Crane ought to sell the Astros to someone who cares about more than just the almighty bottom line.



Orangefield's Cameron Dischler carries the ball for the Orangefield Bobcats during the regular season. RECORD FILE PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

Bobcats plunder Pirates again to move to Area Round

Dan Perrine
For The Record

For the second time this season the Orangefield Bobcats played the Shepherd Pirates on Thursday, November 10. The Bobcats have won both games and Thursday's was a Bi-District victory 55-12 at Panther Stadium in the Sheldon Independent School District.

The triumph was the seventh straight for Orangefield (9-2, 6-0) and the Bobcats first playoff win since 2015. Shepherd (5-6, 3-3) has its season

come to an end with the loss.

The Bobcats established their dominance early scoring on their initial five possessions of the first half. Two fumble recoveries helped Orangefield take an insurmountable 35-6 lead by halftime.

Taking the opening kickoff the Bobcats needed just four plays to open the scoring. Gavin Perry-Koci ran 23 yards on the first play from scrimmage, Case Singleton scored three plays later on

BOBCATS Page 6B

66th Toy Coffee Dec. 1 at Brown Estate in Orange

The 66th Annual Toy Coffee will be held on Friday, December 1st from 10 am to 2 pm at the Brown Estate in Orange. The Service League hosts this event each year and this year's theme is a Grinchmas Celebration. Please bring a new unwrapped toy or cash to The Brown Center located at 4205 W. Park Avenue where you can then enjoy a tour and a sweet treat from the Service League of Orange.

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LCM Bears conclude season with loss to Kilgore in bi-district

**Dan Perrine
For The Record**

For two quarters the bi-district playoff game between the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears and the Kilgore Bulldogs on Friday night was a toss-up with only one point separating the two teams. The second half was dominated by the Bulldogs, and they won 28-6 over the Bears at Abe Martin Stadium in Lufkin.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville took the opening kickoff and mounted a good sustained drive that took over six and a half minutes off the clock. The Bears opened with an end around using Elijah Allison to pickup 8 yards on their first play.

Then it became the Da'Marion Morris show as he handled the ball on five of the next six plays either running or receiving a pass totaling 28 yards. A personal foul penalty on

Kilgore for roughing Bear quarterback Dean Reynolds after a pass gave LCM a first down at the Bulldogs' 29 yard line.

The Bears' second procedure penalty of the drive cost them dearly. Runs by Morris and Allison gained six yards back before Reynolds completed a pass to Jacob Pollock for five yards setting up a fourth-and-four. Reynolds' next pass fell incomplete ending the march.

It was time for the Bulldogs to flash their phenomenal running back Isaiah Ross. Five carries by Ross gained 73 yards which included a 31-yard run followed by a 19-yard dash for a touchdown. Leo Yzaguirre added the point after to give Kilgore a 7-0 lead with 2:41 left in the first quarter.

Both teams punted on their next possessions, and Little Cypress-Mauriceville took the ball after the Kilgore punt at its own

19. Morris earned a first down with a 16-yard run, and Reynolds connected with Pollock for 15 yards to move the ball to the fifty.

LCM tried a little trickery with a fake reverse on which flanker Kyler Garlaska took the ball and then threw a pass which was incomplete. Reynolds and Pollock teamed up again for an 11-yard completion to the Kilgore 38.

The Bears went back to the very play that was an incompletion two plays earlier, and Garlaska found Morris with his pass for a 35-yard gain to the three. Morris carried twice finding the end zone from the two for the score. The point-after was blocked by the Bulldogs keeping them in the lead 7-6 with 2:57 remaining before halftime.

The defense rose up for LCM on the next Kilgore possession as first Jarvis Riley blocked a screen



Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bear Head Coach Eric Peevey is seen during a practice session. Peevey finished his second season at LCM with a 6-5 record. **RECORD FILE PHOTO**

pass and then Amier Washington sacked Bulldog quarterback Da'Marion Van Zandt forcing a punting situation. The snap from the Kilgore center appeared to hit one of the blockers in front of punter Yzaguirre causing the ball to deflect to one side. Yzaguirre recovered the ball but was tackled at the ten giving the Bears a first-and-goal at that point

from Reynolds to stymie Little Cypress-Mauriceville's great opportunity to take the lead.

The second half saw the Bulldogs take control of the game. They actually scored on the second play of the third quarter on a 59-yard run by Ross but a holding penalty wiped out the play and Kilgore punted.

After the Bears punted the ball back the Bulldogs danced some more with the guy that had put them on the board earlier. Ross ran the ball six times and caught a pass from Van Zandt to help move Kilgore from its 25 to the Bears' 38. Ross broke loose from there for the touchdown with 5:04 left in the third quarter.

Next Kilgore possession was more of the same as Ross did share some carries with Roosevelt Rollins. Ross scored his third

LCM BEARS Page 4B

Bobcats advance in playoffs

From Page 1B

Wilcox is small in stature but is fast and hard to put a finger on when he catches the ball in space according to Coach Smalley. Charlie Mayer is the second leading receiver with 26 catches and is the leader with 10 for scores.

Although running the ball is secondary to passing it for Cameron Yoe, the Yoemen do have some quality backs. The leading ground gainer is Kardarius Bradley with 831 yards and 12 rushing touchdowns. Armando Reyes has run the ball for over 300 yards with 9 touchdowns. On short yardage the Yoemen will use their big back Tavares Crittendon to pound the ball.

The offensive line is large for Cameron Yoe. Left tackle Colby Wilson is big physically at 6-6 about 300 pounds and is the leader in the offensive front line for the Yoemen.

Slowing the Cameron Yoe offense will be a big challenge for the Bobcats' defense. Smalley compared the Yoeman's Spread offense to the one the West Orange-Stark Mustangs employed when they were in the same district as Orangefield and to the Bridge City Cardinals when he coached there under Cris Stump. The Yoemen use a lot of five-yard bubble routes, some deep post patterns, and long out and up plays.

Smalley elaborated on the Cameron Yoe offense. "They're well coached offensively. It will be something we haven't really had an opportunity to face this year in our eleven games of just a true Spread that spreads you out to read

your coverage have combination routes that our secondary has not had to adjust to since Woodville and Bridge City which were a long time ago early in the season. It's going to be a challenge for our defensive coaches to come up with a good plan and a challenge for our kids to be able to stop a very potent Yoemen offense," Smalley analyzed.

Rick Rhoades is the head coach at Cameron Yoe. Rhoades coached the Yoemen a decade ago when they won three straight state championships. Smalley commented, "He's a seasoned head coach. He knows what he's doing, and you're not going to trick him. It means us coming up with a good game plan and getting it executed on Friday."

The offense is the main reason Cameron Yoe has made it to the second round of the post season. The Yoemen do play hard on defense but they have surrendered 361 points in eleven games.

Cameron Yoe uses a 3-4 alignment similar to the defense used by Orangefield. Previously the Yoemen did shift into more of a 6-2 defense with eight defenders in the box against state ranked Slot-T running teams Bellville and Franklin so they may do the same against the Bobcats. The Yoemen lost both of those games giving up 49 points to Bellville and 63 to Franklin.

In the middle of the 3-4 is noseguard Samari Ware who is a good player. Keshon Johnson may be the Yoemen's best defensive lineman.

Inside linebackers Tyrone Miller and Tavares Crittendon support Ware in the middle very well. Outside linebacker Armando Reyes is a strong tackler.

The best player on the Cameron Yoe defense may be Ja'Quorius Hardman at safety. Hardman appears to be all over the field defending against passes and coming downhill to make tackles on ball carriers. Kason Goolsby leads the team with 3 interceptions one more than Hardman and Trayjen Wilcox their best receiver who also plays defense.

Smalley is not taking anything for granted against the defense of Cameron Yoe. "They're a reading type defense. The Yoemen don't do a whole lot of blitzing, but will with a linebacker inside at times. They like to read and then react by running to the football. They are really good at doing that. We see a lot of this type front, so it will be a challenge to our offensive coaching staff to come up with a good plan to put our best players against who we feel like may be their weaker players if they have any at all. Sec-

ond round of the playoffs you don't find a whole lot of weak players. We'll try to take advantage of some things that we think will go our way," Smalley stated.

The keys for an Orangefield victory will be a little different this week especially on defense. Last week the emphasis was stopping the run game of Shepherd. The main focus for the Bobcats on this Friday will be controlling the Cameron Yoe passing offense. Smalley admitted, "Our secondary will be a lot more involved this week than they have been the last couple weeks. We've got to put pressure

on Drake we can't let him escape the pocket and run because when he gets out and breaks containment that's bad news for us. We've got to cover well and be physical in the secondary."

Smalley is hopeful the Bobcats' offense could be their best defense by keeping the Yoemen's offense on the sideline. "We've got to keep moving forward. We might not break off 40, 50, or 60 yard long touchdown runs, it may be three, four, or five yards at a time and just milking the clock in a slow painful death for them. The game's going to be different, it's going to be cold.

Our mental toughness is going to come into play. How mentally tough are we to not only try to overcome a good opponent but also the elements that we're playing in. Mental toughness is something we can try to hang our hat on around here. We've got a little saying, we say TPO, that means Tough People Only, and those are the kind of kids we want in our program," Smalley concluded.

The Area Round playoff game between the Orangefield Bobcats and the Cameron Yoemen will be Friday. The kickoff is scheduled for 7:00 PM in Alvin at Freedom Field.

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Taryn Doiron
Setter of the Year**



**Bridge City Lady Cardinal
Savannah DeLuna
Coach of the Year**

Duck hunters' solid weekend

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

A steady stream of boats, hunters, and dogs crowded the local launches Saturday morning as the Louisiana duck season officially opened.

Texas hunters continued their hot start from the previous weekend by taking advantage of the big north winds that greeted hunters at shooting light. The high winds made for some fantastic decoying action in marshes all along the southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana marshes.

Heavy straps of gadwall, teal, wigeon and shovelers were the norm in many places as most hunters enjoyed some of the best early season hunting in recent memory.

Now if you are fortunate enough to have access to available food sources like rice you can bet you will be sitting pretty throughout the first split. The reports from the Louisiana opener where hunters concentrated on flooded rice were outstanding.

Hunters that were much deeper in the marsh and affected less by the salt-water and freshwater ratios had great numbers of birds and solid hunts as well. The hunters closer to the rivers and bayous struggled somewhat but did manage to take a few birds.

Teal and Gadwall made up the majority of the ducks taken for most hunters while a few were fortunate enough to take pintail, widgeon, and even a few mallards. The big surge of hunting pressure certainly changed the way the birds worked but it didn't seem to matter as most all the reports were better than expected.

Perhaps the hunters most affected by

the opening day pressure were the goose hunters who set up on fields with good populations of speckle bellied geese. Almost every hunter I spoke with who was chasing geese said the birds were really spooky and hard to decoy. Most of the hunters who shot any numbers of birds keyed in on small groups of birds rather than big bunches in order to get them into shooting range.

Look for these birds to also calm down as the hunting pressure evens out. The amount of geese coming into the area on a daily basis certainly gives local hunters something to look forward to. In the weeks ahead a few things are going to become more important as the weather and conditions get progressively colder and more difficult.

For now the long range forecast looks very good for local waterfowl hunters as cooler temps are on the horizon and that's always a welcome change. The strong north winds associated with each front will move a few birds out of the areas but look for those numbers to build back up soon.

New birds just now entering our area plus those returning once the big north winds die down and slowly swing south and east will bolster the population. Water levels in the tidal marshes will be a concern for a few days as the tides are extremely low right now courtesy of the north winds associated with this each passing front.

Many areas that are prime habitat become expansive mud flats at this time of the year and are only accessible with a surface drive motor or long tail. When the water levels return the ducks won't be far behind.

If the first few days are any indication of how the season is going to turn out then it may be time to stock up on shells because this has all the potential to be one to remember.

Orange County volleyball standouts make All-District teams

Dan Perrine For The Record

The All-District picks for District 19-4A volleyball have been chosen by the coaches in the district. The first place Bridge City Lady Cardinals and the second place Little Cypress Mauriceville Lady Bears were both well represented.

Demi Carter of the Lady Cardinals was selected the Most Valuable Player. Carter's teammates Lexi Nugier was chosen the Defensive MVP, Taryn Doiron was picked as the Setter of the Year, and Anna Kelly was the Newcomer of the Year.

The Lady Bears' Chrissy Joseph was honored as the Offensive MVP. Lindi Perry also of LCM took the Middle Blocker recognition for the district.

Making the 1st Team All-District selections were Makenna Knight and Cam-

bre LaComb from Bridge City as well as Hallie Maddox and Mariah Ammons with Little Cypress Mauriceville. 2nd Team selections were Savannah Crabtree and Ava White of Little Cypress Mauriceville. T'era Garrett with West Orange Stark also made the 2nd Team.

Honorable Mention went to Nicole Sasser of Bridge City, Kenna Peveto and Aylssa Brown with LCM, Kierra Robinson and Bryanah Burnette from West Orange Stark. Savannah DeLuna of the undefeated district champion Bridge City Lady Cardinals was named Coach of the Year.

Six Lady Bobcats make All District in Volleyball

The selections for the All-District volleyball team in District 22-3A have been announced. The Orange-Stark field Lady Bobcats had six members honored by being chosen by the district coaches.



**Orangefield
Lady Bobcat
Harleigh Rawls
Defensive MVP**

Senior Harleigh Rawls was named the Defensive MVP. Making the 1st Team All-District were Mackenzie Haley and Brianna Moore.

On the 2nd Team were Kylie Mouton and Libby Thurman. Greenlea Oldham received Honorable Mention recognition for the Lady Bobcats.

LCM Bears From Page 1B

touchdown of the game from 21 yards a little over two minutes into the fourth quarter.

An interception by Bulldog lineman Peyton Christian set up the last Kilgore score. Rollins got the touchdown on an 11-yard run to bring the final score to 28-6.

Morris of the Bears had an outstanding game in the losing effort. He gained 130

yards on 23 carries and added 40 yards with two pass receptions.

Pollock caught 4 passes for 38 yards, and Garlaska snared 2 aerials for 39 yards while completing one of his two passes for 35 yards. Reynolds was 8 of 24 passing for 80 yards with 3 interceptions.

The Bulldogs' Ross picked up 207 yards on the ground and caught 3 passes

for another 16 yards on the night. Van Zandt completed 11 of 18 passes for 75 yards and no interceptions.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville (6-5, 3-2) sees its season come to an end earlier than last year when the Bears made it to the regional finals. Kilgore (8-3, 5-1) will play El Campo in the Area Round of the UIL state football playoffs.



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Bobcats plunder Pirates From Page 2B

a 26-yard burst with not even 90 seconds gone in the game.

Shepherd lining up in the shotgun had a poor snap get past quarterback HD Green on the Pirates' second play. The Bobcats' Koen Maddox recovered at the Shepherd 18 yard line.

Three runs setup a first-and-goal at the one where Bobcat quarterback Brayden Parker ran it in for a touchdown. Orangefield missed the first extra point but Parker converted the two-pointer with a run to give the Bobcats a 14 point lead with 7:52 remaining in the opening quarter.

The Pirates generated some offense on their next drive moving into Bobcat territory on an 18-yard scamper by Green. Shepherd went for it on fourth-and-one but Green was tackled for a yard loss turning the ball over on

downs to Orangefield.

The next play Perry-Koci broke loose off of left tackle and sprinted down the side line for a 58-yard touchdown. Ty Butler added the extra point to make it 21-0 at the 3:54 mark of the first quarter.

It was the Pirates turn to show some offense with Green completing his first two passes of the night to Luke Moore and Preston Stephens both resulting in first downs.

Stephens carried the ball three straight times after his reception totaling 26 yards getting the touchdown on a 2-yard trap off left guard. Green tried to run for the conversion but was stopped by the Bobcats keeping the score 21-6 just 34 seconds into the second period.

Orangefield responded with an eight play drive. Cameron Dischler caught a lateral pass that he carried for 9 yards and sand-

wiched another 9-yard gain around a first down carry by Singleton. Perry-Koci gained 13 yards moving the ball to the Shepherd 33.

Two straight run plays resulted in losses for Orangefield before Dischler picked up 13 yards to set-up a fourth-and-one at the 24. Dischler found an opening off of right tackle and sprinted to the end zone getting the first down with his first of four touchdowns on the night.

The ensuing kickoff was fumbled by the Pirates, and Mason Manning of the Bobcats recovered the ball near the sideline before it could roll out of bounds at the Shepherd 27.

Parker quarterback sneaked for a first on fourth-and-one to the Pirates' 16. Dischler got the ball 8 yard closer before Perry-Koci scored his second touchdown of the

game from the 8 to make the score 35-6 with five minutes left in the second quarter. Orangefield got the ball one more time before the end of the half but punted for the only time in the game.

The second half started like Shepherd was going to make some progress to make the score closer. The Pirates got two first downs and moved from their 42 to the Bobcat 16.

From the 11 Shepherd had a fourth-and-5 for an important first down to keep the drive alive. The Pirates tried some trickery with a reverse to wide out Hayden Pawlowski. The Bobcats were ready and stopped Pawlowski for a yard loss spoiling the scoring opportunity for the Pirates.

Runs by Singleton and Dischler earned a first down to the 33 before Perry-Koci sliced through

again for a 51-yard gain to the Shepherd 16. Two plays later Dischler swept to the right for 15 yards and the touchdown to increase the Orangefield lead to 41-6 just over six minutes into the third quarter.

A fumbled handoff by the Bobcats was recovered by the Pirates' Luke Moore at the Orangefield

41. Moore and Green hooked up on a 17-yard pass. Stephens ran 13 yards for another first down before Green scored on a 16-yard dash for Shepherd. The pass attempt for two points was stopped short of the goal line leaving the score 41-12 in favor of the Bobcats late in the third period.

Dischler scored two more times in the fourth quarter for Orangefield. The first was a spectacular 24-yard run where he

dodged multiple Pirate tacklers. The second play Dischler ran to his right before making a sharp cutback to his left to go 30 yards for the touchdown.

On the night Dischler totaled right at 200 yards on 20 carries with his four touchdowns. Perry-Koci ran the ball 11 times good for 198 yards and two touchdowns. Singleton gained 51 yards on his 6 runs.

The Bobcats as a team picked up 452 yards on the ground.

Shepherd was led by Green who had 120 yards on the ground and passed for 85 yards completing 5 of his 12 passes. Stephens had 86 yards rushing on his 16 carries.

This week the Orangefield Bobcats will try to do something they have never done before by winning a second round playoff game.

The Bobcats will play Cameron Yoe on Friday in Alvin. The kickoff will be 7:00 PM at Freedom Field.



Gavin Perry-Koci

Kaz's Fearless Forecast From Page 1B

★ COLLEGE PICKS

Kent State over Boston College, Northern Illinois over Miami, O. and Central Michigan over Northern Michigan (all Today); Tulane over SMU (Thursday); Tulsa over South Florida and San Diego State over New Mexico (both Friday); Georgia over Kentucky, Ohio State over Maryland, Michigan over Illinois, TCU over Baylor, Tennessee over South Carolina,

Oregon over Utah, LSU over UAB, UCLA over USC (Upset Special), Alabama over Austin Peay, Clemson over Miami, Ole Miss over Arkansas, Penn State over Rutgers, North Carolina over Georgia Tech, North Carolina State over Louisville, Texas over Kansas, Kansas State over West Virginia, Notre Dame over Boston College, Central Florida over Navy, Florida State over Louisiana-Lafayette, Washington over Col-

orado, Abilene Christian over Stephen F. Austin, Alabama A&M over Texas Southern, Jackson State over Alcorn State. Grambling State over Southern, Tarleton State over Houston Christian, Incarnate Word over Northwestern State, Prairie View A&M over Mississippi Valley State, Southeastern Louisiana over Nicholls State, Sam Houston State over Southern Utah, Purdue over Northwestern, Army over UConn, Wisconsin over Nebraska, Pittsburgh over Duke, Liberty over Virginia Tech, Florida over

Vanderbilt, Michigan State over Indiana, Texas A&M over UMass, UTSA over Rice, Washington State over Arizona, Houston over East Carolina, James Madison over Georgia State, Oregon State over Arizona State, Appalachian State over Old Dominion, Troy over Louisiana-Monroe, Louisiana Tech over Charlotte, Florida Atlantic over Middle Tennessee State, Buffalo over Akron, South Alabama over Southern Mississippi, Coastal Carolina over Virginia, UTEP over Florida International, Minnesota over Iowa, Cin-

cinnati over Temple, Auburn over Western Kentucky, Texas State over Arkansas State, Stanford over California, Marshall over Georgia Southern, Iowa State over Texas Tech, Boise State over Wyoming, Missouri over New Mexico State, Oklahoma over Oklahoma State, Wake Forest over Syracuse, Air Force over Colorado State, Utah State over San Jose State, Fresno State over Nevada, UNLV over Hawaii (all Saturday).

★ PRO PICKS

Tennessee over Green Bay (Thursday Night); Baltimore over Carolina, Washington over Houston, Chicago over Atlanta, Buffalo over Cleveland, NY Giants over Detroit, LA Rams over New Orleans, New England over NY Jets, Philadelphia over Indianapolis, Denver over Las Vegas, Cincinnati over Pittsburgh, Dallas over Minnesota, Kansas City over LA Chargers (all Sunday); San Francisco over Arizona (Monday Night). Bye week for Jacksonville, Miami, Seattle and Tampa Bay.

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Jeremiah 29:11

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