

The Penny Record

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Week of Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Gulf Coast levee system meetings set

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Planning and design work is moving along steadily for the Orange County end of the federal Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Project.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers, Orange County and the Orange County Drainage District will host three public outreach meetings in late April to show their work.

The first meeting is set for Saturday, April 23 at the Bridge City Community Center. Additional meetings will be held on Thursday, April 28 at the Orange County Expo Center. Additional meetings will be held on Thursday, and Saturday, April 30 at a location to be decided in the city of Orange.

Times and details will be announced soon.

"During these meetings, the Corps will present a detailed alignment," Don Caro-



Corana

na, general manager for the Drainage District, said of the 27-mile project that will include levees and floodwalls beginning at a location south of the intersection of FM 1335 and Highway 105, then wrap to the southwest around Bridge City, and then along the Sabine River north to Interstate 10.

The levee alignment available on the internet is from 2017 but the Corps of Engineers says it will be updated online soon.

"The alignment is not yet fixed for every area of the project, but probably for 80 percent at least," Carona said. "There will be small tweaks to alignment going forward, but we want to share the details of the project and its benefits to the community and also listen to

GULF COAST LEVEE Page 3A

★ BCCC names Ashton DeRouen 'Student of the Month' ★



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that the March 'Student of the Month' for Bridge City is Ashton DeRouen. Ashton is ranked 19 of 193 with a GPA of 4.55. Pictured from Left to Right: Kaylee DeRouen, Dave Derosier, Ashton DeRouen, Lisa Huckaby, Tim Wooley, Bryan and Jennifer DeRouen. (See Page 5A For More BCCC Awards)

Harvey funds to aid Pinehurst infrastructure

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Tropical Storm Harvey inundated Orange County in August of 2017. In the five years since then the City of Pinehurst has been working to repair the damage from the record flooding and prepare its community for the next possible disaster.

A big step towards recovery from Harvey for Pinehurst was the approval of a \$6.8 million grant from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to repair infrastructure damaged by the flooding from the storm. The mitiga-

tion grant was approved in February 2020.

City Administrator Jerry Hood replaced his brother Robbie as the leader of the Pinehurst city government in 2020 the same year the grant was approved. "This project was submitted to the General Land Office post Hurricane Harvey. Eventually a \$6.8 million dollar grant was approved and there was a lot of administrative actions and things that had to be taken care of like procurement of engineering services, adminis-

PINEHURST Page 3A

DAVE ROGERS
For The Record

Nelson Plaisance trailed the 23-foot eyesore from his yard in the Cove to the Collection Station at the Orange County Landfill Saturday afternoon.

It was time to let 'er go and the Vessel Turn In Program being run by the Texas General Land Office at the FM 1442 location was the perfect opportunity to say goodbye to the boat that wouldn't even run to his mailbox for 15 years or more.

"A friend of mine must have seen it in the paper and I found out from his post on Facebook. I figured it was a good time to get rid of my old boats. Plaisance brought the 35-year-old fiberglass pleasure boat to be junked Saturday. He plans to be back this week with the second junker that he long ago stripped for parts. The VTIP program at the



Doug Falconi, left, from the Texas General Land Office, helps Orange resident Nelson Plaisance process his old boat Saturday during the Vessel Turn In Program at the Orange County Citizen Collection Station on FM 1442. RECORD PHOTO: Dave Rogers

County Landfill, 11475-D FM 1442, will be accepting unwanted water craft (rowboats, wave riders, fishing boats, ski boats, yachts) Thursday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Orange County VTIP ends March 12, but plans are to make it an every-year event.

urday, midway through the third of six days the program is running in Orange.

"I already consider this a success," Cook said. "This projects to over 50 boats. Overall, we've salvaged 1,070 vessels and 90 trailers at 24 events since we started this in 2015."

It's a priority of Cook's Oil Spill Team because oil spills are one result when owners abandon derelict boats in waterways.

The program so far is limited to coastal cities and counties.

"We would like this to be an annual thing," he said, "and we hope that over time, the numbers will go down to a point where we can handle each case individually."

Representatives from the Oil Spill Team will greet those bringing boats and ask for a title. They will then check their records and those maintained by Texas

VESSEL TURN-IN Page 3A

Odom estate sale has roots to the wealthy Lutcher family

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

A warehouse store in Beaumont this week will have an estate sale featuring hundreds of items from an mysterious Orange mansion and roots back to the wealthy Lutcher family.

BAW Estate Sales, 1096 Calder, will be selling items from the Odom estate in Orange. The sale will be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Barbara Wilson owns BAW and said proceeds will go to the charitable Moore-Odom Wildlife Foundation.

The items come from the



R.E. Odom

estate of Rucie Earl (R.E.) Odom, who died February 9, 2020, at the age of 87. He left no descendents and he was the only child of an only child. His grandmother, Fanny Brown Moore, was

the granddaughter of Henry Jacob and Frances Ann Lutcher.

The Orange County history book "Picturing Orange" by Dr. Howard C. Williams said the Lutchers had two daughters, Miriam and Carrie. Miriam married W.H. Stark and the couple had a daughter who died when she was a toddler, and son H.J. Lutcher Stark.

Carrie married Dr. E.W. Brown and they had sons E.W. Brown, Jr., and H.J. Lutcher Brown, along with daughter, Fanny. Fanny married Rucie A. Moore of Orange in 1909 and they had

daughter Brownie Babette, born on August 20, 1911, according to the book.

Baby Babette became the first child to be christened at First Presbyterian Church, built by Mrs. Lutcher, when it opened in January 1912. Fanny died of pneumonia in 1918 during the great influenza outbreak when Babette was still a child.

Babette married Frank William Odom and they had a son, Rucie Earl Odom, born March 17, 1932. They built a mansion off Old Highway 90 in Orange known as Ta-Lo. The estate has a Chinese-style gate, but cannot be seen

from the highway because of a wooded area, leaving it a mystery to those driving past it every day.

Barbara Wilson with the estate sale said the sale could not be held at Ta-Lo because the roadway in and out is only one lane wide and could not handle traffic. She said though the gate to the estate is Chinese, the mansion is not. However, many items in the sale are Oriental.

Wilson has been posting photographs of items for sale on her BAW Estate Sale Facebook page. She also had shown photographs taken from the mansion, which is a

two-story house with Greek-style columns on a front veranda.

Items in the sale include numerous Buddha carvings and statues, Chinese jade carvings, and European porcelains. Vases are in all styles from Art Deco to elaborate Viennese designs. A variety of items in sterling silver are for sale with one of the table flatware sets engraved with the initial "M."

Wilson said the Louis XV furniture popular in the Victorian Age probably came from the Link-Brown man-

ODOMESTATE SALE Page 2A



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SEE OUR AD PAGE 1 SECTION B

Odom estate sale From Page 1

sion. That elaborate mansion was next to the First Presbyterian Church on Green Avenue in Orange. Carrie Lutcher Brown lived in the mansion after her husband died. The grand piano was once in the Link-Brown mansion.

The "Picturing Orange" book said E.R. and Babette Moore, along with Edgar Brown, Jr., and Luther Brown donated the house to the church in 1948. It was used for Sunday School classes and day school until the church had it demolished ten years later.

Newspaper stories from the time of the demolition said some items were taken to the Odom house. And if someone wants to find old newspaper articles on Ta-Lo, they can find copies at the estate sale.

The goods in the estate sale can be as eclectic as an estate sale in any neighborhood. There's a Hamilton Beach bullet-shaped rolling vacuum cleaner from the 1950s, still in the box.

On Saturday, the last day of the sale, items will be half price, except for the silver.

Wilson said she has been unpacking and cleaning the goods since August. "It's been overwhelming," she said.

Still, she plans on another sale from the estate in the future. She said she has not had time to go through the boxes of books left behind and they will be unpacked and sold at another time.

Some cowboy and western items are also among the estate sale items. R.E. Moore's



Frances Ann Lutcher is sitting in the middle. Carrie Lutcher Brown is standing on the left. Fanny Brown Moore is holding baby Babette Moore.

obituary said he was on the McNeese University rodeo team in college and was known for his love of horses. He was a lifetime member of the American Quarter Horse Association and a gold card member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association.

Odom had ranching interests in Texas and Louisiana. In addition, he was a director of several banks, including Bridge City Bank, and he had the Odom Building Company.

The Moore-Odom Wild-

life Foundation website said the non-profit organization works to preserve pristine, or near-pristine areas along coastal areas of Texas and Louisiana. The foundation has the F.R. Preserve in Cameron Parish, Louisiana; the Cresson Wild Turkey Preserve in Cresson, Texas; and the Pannal Lynwood Sanders Mottled Duck Preserve in Orange. The foundation's tax filings from the end of 2020 show assets of nearly \$12.4 million.

Do We Really Care?

CARL PARKER
For The Record

How often do you hear someone say, "Nobody tells me what to do!"? After watching the recent election results, it seems that over 80% of Texans, including those in Orange County, are willing to let someone else tell them what to do.

Most folks, if asked, would claim to be good, loyal Americans as well as good citizens. Unfortunately, their conduct, or lack thereof, at election time belies their claim. How could you be a good citizen if apparently you do not care about selecting those who control many aspects of your everyday lives?

Sometimes, I wonder whether or not so many of my fellow citizens have ever stopped to consider the fact that people we allow to hold public office have so much control. For example, we are told by our officials the speed and how to conduct ourselves on public roadways; told in many instances how much of our daily income we can keep, rather than give it for taxes. In a crisis, tell us we need to evacuate our homes, wear masks or be vaccinated for some pandemic. The selection of our leaders, also, has an effect on our public safety, regulating the size and conduct of police forces as well as caring for our international safety from aggressive nations such as Russia. How can one who makes even the most cursory study of our nation's history not value rights that our forefathers, many of whom fought and died for a right that we now take for granted?

The catch phrase, "Use it or lose it" is usually applied to exercise and body building. It also, however, has ap-



Carl Parker has practiced law in Port Arthur since 1958. He is a 1958 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law. Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and the Senate in 1976.

plication to preservation of having a country with free-

doms such as speech, assembly, bearing arms or worship. It is often said by deep thinkers that America will never succumb to a foreign power but there is a real danger that it could collapse internally if citizens do not care enough to participate in an informed way of self-government.

While too many of us shy away from even discussing politics for fear of offending someone, we should not be so shy the next time a friend or acquaintance complains about politicians or what's happening in Washington, Austin or Orange. Tell them if they don't vote, then they should never complain.

Making an informed choice at the polls is an essential element of good citizenship.

The Record Newspapers of Orange County, Texas

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

News Tips and Photos
886-7183 or 735-5305
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County Record: 320 Henrietta St., Orange, Texas 77630
Penny Record: 333 W. Roundbunch, Bridge City, Texas 77611

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TheRecordLive.com
Round The Clock Hometown News

'Walking His Way' First Baptist-BC walking club

Walking His Way walking club is starting up again beginning Tuesday, March 8 from 8 am to 10 am. The climate is perfect in First Baptist's Family Life Center located at 200 W Roundbunch Rd. in Bridge City.

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Gulf Coast levee From Page 1

their concerns.”

The good news for Orange County: “As of right now, almost all homes are on the protected side,” Carona said.

“The primary goal of this project is to protect Orange County from a storm surge of the magnitude of Hurricane Ike, or even greater. At the same time, we are working very closely with the Corps on the matter of interior drainage to ensure that the levee project will not worsen drainage.

“I believe the project will actually improve drainage in some areas under various conditions,” Carona stated.

Most of the land needed for the \$2.4 billion Orange County end of the \$26 billion coastal protection system is already government land

(state or local) or industrial properties and will limited acquisitions from private landowners.

That proposed track begins north of the Bessie Heights Marsh, runs along the west side of West Roundbunch Road, jogs around the Entergy power station and crosses Texas 87 near the LaQuinta motel.

Then it skirts Bridge City on the south and east sides, winding around south of the chemical plants on DuPont Drive and running along the north and west sides of the Sabine River to downtown Orange.

From there, it goes around Lamar State College-Orange and up between Simmons Drive and the Sabine River.

Corona says the “design” phase of the Orange County project will continue until 2024, when construction is scheduled to begin.

The tentative completion date is 2028, according to a Corps of Engineers presentation on its website at swg.usace.army.mil. (Click on the third tab [S2G] on the right side, then choose the Orange County project.)

“It may take a little longer than that on construction,” Carona warns.

Orange County and the Drainage District has worked closely with the Corps of Engineers on the design if the project, and that cooperation means Orange County will be getting at least two more pump stations – for a total of at least nine – as opposed to the seven called for in a 2017 feasibility study.

“I can’t overstate how much time we’ve put into (studying and designing) interior drainage and the impact of the levee system on interior drainage.

“In some areas, the pump stations will be larger than originally planned and when the gates are closed, we’ll be pumping water from the inside to the outside. No matter how high the water gets on the outside of the system, we’ll continue to be pumping it from the inside.”

This project has been in the study and design phase, essentially, since 2008, when Hurricane Ike decimated Orange County. The Corps of Engineers has also recently issued a feasibility report for a coastal storm protection system in the Galveston, Bolivar, Houston Ship Channel area.

This project was originally nicknamed the “Ike Dike” by Rice University scientists. The project has also been referred to as “The Coastal Spine.”

By whatever name, its main intent is to build giant floodgates to protect Galveston Bay and the Houston Ship Channel areas from catastrophic surge events and to beef up levee systems already in place in Freeport and Port Arthur and build one from scratch for Orange County.

Orange County leaders immediately recognized that like coastal surge, Orange County can suffer historic flooding caused by slow-moving rain storms (Hurricane Harvey, Tropical Storm

Imelda). Because of the fear that a levee system could serve to trap water inside, the county and Drainage District have been significantly involved in the study and design of the levee project.

The Orange County plans posted on the Corps website at the start of March (which will probably be soon updated) show 15.6 miles of new levee 12 to 17.5 feet tall, 10.7 miles of floodwalls 13.5 to 16 feet tall with 56 drainage structures, 32 closure gates across roads and railways and two navigable sector gates, one each in Adams Bayou and Cow Bayou, to reduce surge penetration.

Pinehurst funds From Page 1

trative services, but in 2020 the operational side pretty much began,” Hood reminded.

The \$6.8 million was used in three phases to repair damage caused by the storm. The first phase was pipe bursting and repairs to sewer lines in Pinehurst. Phase 2 was repaving and resurfacing streets that had been flooded during Harvey. The third and final phase is an upgrading of the electrical controls at the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant for the city.

The pipe bursting and sewer repairs included 21,350 feet being replaced by Texas Pride Construction according to Wastewater Supervisor Charles Spain. The repairs included 250 houses. This phase added 23 new manholes and replaced 59 other manholes that effected about 60 percent of the city.

The sewer and pipe bursting phase is nearly complete. The crews are doing their post video surveying of the sewer lines to ensure all the pipes are secure and there are no breaks in the lines.

The GLO project was done in successive phases to allow workers to get areas done while not disrupting other work being completed. Street repairs began in October 2021.

About 80 percent of the roads in the city are now asphalt following the resurfac-

ing done as part of the GLO project. Assistant Public Works Supervisor Greg May said approximately six to eight roads that were not flooded and are still in pretty good shape were not repaved with asphalt.

May informed that the contractors have completed almost all the streets assigned them to resurface except Park Avenue which runs the length of Pinehurst. “They’re sealing it, they’re sealing cracks, making some repairs, and then they’re going to overlay it,” May indicated.

It is hoped that in the next few weeks those final steps to repair Park Avenue will be completed.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant electrical control room had three feet of water in it following the flooding from Harvey.

The electrical panel at the plant was underwater and the blower room also flooded. Spain said with the GLO grant a new pad was constructed raising the level of the facility

All new electrical connections are being run to the more elevated and upgraded plant which hopefully removes any chance of the facility being flooded again. A brand new blower room will be included in the recently constructed building for holding the control panel.

Spain estimated the new

electrical control panel and blower room being installed by Doughtie Construction should be completed in June 2022. Contractors met the first week of March to discuss the design for the blower room. The main part of the Wastewater Treatment Plant will remain where it is and is not being replaced.

The original deadline for completion of the three-phased GLO grant project was to be April 2022. Short-

ages of supplies attributed to the pandemic the last two years has caused Pinehurst to request an extension to that deadline.

Hood reported that he has requested an extension for the completion of the electrical control room phase with the Texas General Land Office.

For more on the Pinehurst project see article on our website: www.TheRecordLive.com

Vessel Turn-In Program From Page 1

Parks & Wildlife Commission to be sure the boat is not stolen.

“If they don’t bring us the title, then they need to tell us the story of the boat, how they got it and where it’s been,” Cook said.

“If they say it’s been on my property for 15 years, we go on Google Earth to check that it was.”

The boats turned in will be checked for fluids remaining in lower units, Cook said, and any gasoline left in the fuel tank will be removed.

The last step is to crush the boats with Landfill equipment and place it in containers that will be trucked to its final destination in Jasper County.

Cook said the cost to remove a vessel from the water can go as high as \$250 per foot, but the cost to crush a boat and take it to a junkyard can be as little as \$12 per foot.

The GLO, in a news release about the program, says the program has led to the disposal of 1,676 gallons of fuel, the removal of 17,372 linear vessel feet and a projected cost savings of \$8.6 million for state and local governments.

Cook pointed out that the Orange County program was set up to operate during normal operating hours for the Citizen Collection station, causing no overtime pay for the county.

Prior to Orange, the program took in boats in Galveston and Corpus Christi. Cor-

pus Christi and Harris County upcoming on the VTIP schedule.

Cook said Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick had expressed interest in hosting a VTIP event after learning about them from Orange County Judge John Gothia.

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Chris Sowell

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Candidate	Percentage
Chris Sowell (R)	60%
Matt Chandler (R)	18%
Robert Lunsford (R)	11%
Shawn Hare (R)	9%
Jude Graffagnino (R)	5%



From The Creaur's Nest

THESE ARE HISTORICAL TIMES-PUTIN'S WAR

The humanitarian crisis in Ukraine worsens by the day. Where will it all end? I recall WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan but this could be different than all the others. One difference for the United States is we won't have boots on the ground. We will have to make sacrifices at home. With the oil embargo on Russia, we will see gas prices rise even higher. That is a small price to pay in comparison to what the people of Ukraine are facing. I believe in our democracy, I believe in our government, but I also believe Ukrainian people are fighting a losing battle and in the end Zelensky will be killed. I pray destiny is on their side and against all odds the people of Ukraine prevail and force Putin and Russia into negotiations, but the proud people of Ukraine will never give up their freedom. They will fight till death. They need the world's support but that is a calculated risk when nuclear powers are involved. By permission from the New York Times we have run excerpts of Maureen Dowd's story which was run Monday. The story was too long to run all of it but I believe in the portion we ran she has captured the historical times we are in.

Zelensky and Trump: Two Performers, One Hero Excerpts from New York Times by Maureen Dowd History is full of strange odysseys and intersections.

It's bizarre that two men who were both front page news in the Friday Times started on similar paths and, with a consequential encounter along the way, ended up so differently. Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelensky both played leaders on TV shows and then became leaders in real life. They both used social media to gain power. And they both had zany acting gigs. But after they ascended to power, the would-be president of "Sharknado 3" and the Ukrainian voice of Paddington Bear took on very different roles. Trump became a blackguard. Zelensky donned a white hat. Trump tried to overturn American democracy. Zelensky tried to save Ukrainian democracy. Trump was always a faux tough guy who bragged about grabbing women and loved all things military except serving in it. Cadet Bone Spurs. Courage was an alien concept to this spoiled brat; he has always been a bully who let other people do the fighting for him. He sicced a mob on the Capitol, while he went back to the comfort of the White House to watch his attempted coup play out on TV and to gloat about the frightened, barricaded lawmakers and his own trapped vice president. Zelensky has stayed rooted in Kyiv to rally the morale of his brutalized country and face down Vladimir Putin and the invading Russian army. He admits he is afraid, but he doesn't show it as danger closes in. Zelensky knows, as Putin's Target No. 1, he could lose his life. The 44-year-old Ukrainian president has become a symbol of bravery. His leadership has been defined by nimble action against overwhelming odds, great one-liners like "I need ammunition, not a ride," and modesty. As he said in his inauguration speech in 2019: "I would very much like for you to not have my portrait in your offices. No portraits! A president is not an icon, nor an idol. A president is not a portrait. Put photographs of your children there, instead. Trump, in a nimbus of selfishness and narcissism, inverted revered American ideals. He soiled the image of his country and reshaped it around his grievances and inadequacies. Zelensky stood up for Ukrainian ideals. He helped imbue his country with a shining, resilient image, reinforced when the world saw remarkable images of battle-ready mothers and grandies making Molotov cocktails. Trump was impeached in 2019 for withholding military aid to Ukraine ("I would like you to do us a favor, though") until Zelensky dug up dirt on Joe Biden, Trump's rival. "It hammers home how despicable an act it was to treat Ukraine as a political plaything," The claim by Trump and his sycophants that his relationship with Putin had kept Russia out of Ukraine is ludicrous. He was Putin's poodle and Putin would have rolled over him; he was bidding his time as Trump weakened NATO. Trump praised Putin for an act of "genius" even as the rest of the world was watching in horror as the mad Russian president prepared to order the bloody march through Ukraine and suffocated the remnants of a free press in Moscow. That was a shameful moment, as was a House committee on Wednesday producing evidence it said showed that Trump had conspired to commit fraud and obstruction by bamboozling Americans about the election and trying to flip the result. There were even some Republicans backing away from the toxic Trump over Ukraine. In a speech to top G.O.P. donors Friday night in New Orleans, Mike Pence included the line, "There is no room in this party for apologists for Putin." By standing up to the Evil Empire, Zelensky could earn comparisons to another performer turned pol, and that should grate on Trump as much as having his vice president turn on him. Ronald Reagan helped lift the Iron Curtain. Zelensky is trying his best to stop it from slamming down again.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 15 years Ago-2007

Ms. Cora won't be running her newspaper route this week. Last Tuesday, she picked up her Penny Record newspapers, bagged and delivered them just like she

had done every Tuesday for over 10-years. Cora was proud of the paper and was conscientious and dedicated to her delivery job. She took special care, even though the paper was free, to get it to our readers promptly and according to their wishes. She had several pet customers. We never received any complaints on Cora's route. Someone else will be throwing the route this Tuesday and those to follow. Cora Lee Hebert, 64, has gone on a long trip to join the Lord. She passed away unexpectedly Friday, March 2, at her residence. We at The Record Newspaper family will miss her. She was a good lady and a good friend. We had known Evelyn Culp, 83, for many years. We were sorry to hear of her death Monday, March 5. To Cheryl, Pat, Randy and Steve and their families, our deepest sympathy on your loss. She and Thomas, her husband of 51-years, are back together again. Well, we did hear from Judge Pat and he's cooking on all burners and looking forward to the St. Joseph's Altar coming up. Clark had his first complete physical since he was a G.I. many years ago. He hated drinking that gallon of Phosphorus Soda as bad as I did. The good thing is he'll live to see many more St. Joseph's Altars. Friends of Raymond Meyers to host a benefit beginning at 10 a.m., March 17, at Groves Knights of Columbus Hall. In 2006, Raymond suffered a massive stroke and brain hemorrhage. Bridge City is on the grow. Two new subdivisions are starting up. Rodney Townsend and Matt Bryant have projects going, Parkside Development has sold all of their remaining lots to one developer and have a deal working on 75 more acres. Tri-Con, parent company of Exxpress Mart has purchased the corner at Hwy. 87 and Hwy. 62 from Paul Cormier and Tim Edgar to build a new convenience store. Homes are going up on most available lots around the city plus, Boren is expanding his subdivision at Harvey and Jones Streets. All of Orange County will be facing a shortage of housing with over 8,000 new construction jobs coming to Jefferson County in the next year. We were sorry to hear about the death of Phyllis Green's mom, Gladys Cuccio, 85. She passed away Feb. 27. She and Anthony had been married 65-years. Condolences also to Dale and Mike Parish and their families on the death of their mother Laverne Parish, 80, who died Feb. 27. Gov. Ann Richards was remembered with admiration last week by the United States Congress. The resolution was co-sponsored by Republican Ralph Hall and Democratic Solomon Ortiz in a tribute where many spoke. Nick Lampson said, "She aimed to create a new Texas and when she broke through the glass ceiling, she reached her hand out to pull women, minorities and the disadvantaged up with her." Ms. Ann's razor sharp wit, bouffant white hairdo and her legacy as a trailblazer for women was recalled by the entire United States House. Congrats to American Real Estate's star performers Lori Jordan, Bette Elliott, Tina Granger, Linda Stout and Amanda Green. These ladies are not only very good at helping folks with their real estate needs, they are also very lovely. Steve Worster is a granddad and the Worster name lives on. Evan Scott Worster was born Feb. 8. A big boy, he weighed in at 9 pounds, 11 ounces. Evan is the new son of Scott and Jacque Worster. I can't help but think about how proud Louise and R.B., Steve's now deceased parents, would have been. According to Coach Neal Morgan, Coach Wade Phillips continues to bring publicity to Orange and that's a good thing. Walter and Wayne are back in the banking business. The group has purchased the County Banks from Carlos and his group. Carlos will continue to run the chain for two more years. Employees are expected to remain the same. Since Wayne Peveto has gone to the barn, our longtime buddy, legal secretary Marilyn Smith has retired. She had been Attorney Peveto's private secretary and confidant. She said for years when Wayne went, she was going too. Wayne is still practicing on a limited schedule. Sons Rex and Eric are doing a good job at the law firm. Wayne Peveto, a former State Representative, teacher and rodeo rider is one of the smartest, down to earth guy this writer has ever known. (Editor's note: Marilyn passed away a few years ago.) Well Anna Nicole has been buried but the parties eyeing that dough are not making nice. Meanwhile, James Brown is still on ice. Ann Coulter, the darling of the conservative right, is moving her Adams apple, doing the job she's paid for, spreading hatred. She and Hannity are the merchants of fear and lies. For years Demos have been urging President Bush to have dialog with our enemies. Bush called them "Axis of Evil" and said, "Bring them on." Now that things are crumbling around him, he's agreed to talks. Bill Clinton is still the Muhammad Ali of politics. He's proved it in Selma Sunday. He is still the champ.

45 Years Ago-1977

A native Orangeite, who supports the merger of schools, Brown Claybar, has become a West Orange-Cove school board candidate. Claybar is a 1968 graduate of Stark High. He has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from SFA University and is a graduate of Commonwealth College of Science in Houston. Claybar and wife, Linda, have a preschool age son and are expecting another child in June. She is a former West Orange teacher. Some of the C.B. handles heard around the county are Black Max, Tall Boy, Lady Quicksilver, Sandblaster, Lazy Boy, Rusty Bottom, Ouita, Lady Wells Fargo, Beebe Gun, Captain Kangaroo, Wild Woman, Lady Informer, Sneaky Snake, Fire Ball, Dinky, Yankee Red Bone, Sure Thing, Stud and Thunderbird. (Editor's note: CB radios were the craze in the mid 1970's. Women were very active in CB-ing, along with men. The Lone Star Club was one of the largest in Orange, and gatherings and dances were common. Every home had at least one CBer.) Stark High Class of 1957 to hold reunion. Some former students are Gerald Thompson, Jack Smith, Patsy Fissette, Ray Trahan and Pat Brandon. Titles of having the "Top Country Western Singles" are held by unlikely country singers. "Say You'll Stay until Tomorrow" by Tom Jones was #1. "Moody Blue/She Thinks I Still Care," by Elvis Presley, #2. "Heart Healer" by Mel, Mel, Mel Tillis #3; "Near You" #4 by George Jones and Tammy Wynette. #5, "Torn Between Two Lovers" by Mary McGregors. (Editor's Note: I don't remember that one.) "Crazy" by Linda Ronstadt #6. "Uncloudy Day" by Willie Nelson #7. "Two Less Lonely People" #8, by Rex Allen Jr. "Desperado" by Johnny Rodriguez #9. (Editor's Note: What became of him since the killing. I liked his music.) "She's Just An Old Love Turned Memory" by Charlie Pride #10. #11 top album is "A Star Is Born Original Soundtrack" by Barbara Streisand and Kris

Kristofferson. Sheila Beeson celebrates her 29th birthday. (Editor's note: Sheila, a newspaper reporter, was editor of the Opportunity Valley News, became a school principal and is now running for the Vidor School Board. She was once married to the late, notorious Harold Beeson. Her last name is now Sarver. Uncle Jim McKay will celebrate his 92 birthday on Thursday, March 10. Amy and Whitney Oubre will celebrate their 49th wedding anniversary. They are the parents of Phyllis Dunn. Don Bray was rescued after two miserable days in the marsh with no food or shelter. He says he will have a lifetime of memories about that fishing trip. (Editor's note: I wonder what became of Don.)

50 Years Ago-1972

The OVN front page features a picture of football great Steve Worster and his 14-year-old brother Gary arm wrestling and an exclusive story inside where Steve covers a variety of things. He speaks of players, coaches and his football days in Canadian football. The interview covers a full page and is a keeper. I can't remember when John and Ruby Pichard didn't live in the Cove but they now live in Wichita, Kansas. Ruby is in the real estate business there. Cathy Gale Sandefer and Mark Hatton will be married come May 12. Helen Denmon is named 'Modern Woman in the World of Today.' She is part owner, vice president and secretary of Keown Supply. A sign on her office wall reads, "Four things a woman should know: How to look like a girl; How to act like a lady; How to think like a man; How to work like a dog." Bob Biffe is new sports writer for the OVN. Former writer, Pete Runnels, is running for Orange County Democratic chairman. Coach Jim Crossland also writes a very interesting sports column. Wayne Peveto, running for state representative, features a picture of his family Sandra, baby Eric, Rex and Wayne in a full page ad run in the Opportunity Valley News. Prices at Beall's: Men's double knit suit, \$64.88; Double knit sports coat, \$44; Men's shirts by Arrow, \$8; Haggard slacks, \$16. The Opportunity Valley News celebrates 1st anniversary March 17, St. Patrick's Day. The paper grew from six pages to 32 in the first year and from nine advertisers to 106. A list of most colorful people of the last 30 years: Judge Sid Caillavet, Jimmy Conn, Neal Miller St., Clay Dunn, Joe Blanda, Claude 'Showboat' Williams, Father Joe, Lannie Claybar and Rev. W.W. Kennedy.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Last Saturday, Hardin-Jefferson Lady Hawks lost its 4A state championship bid to Brownsboro, 50-49. The Lady Hawks took a slim lead into halftime but scored only 20 points during the second half in the championship game played at the Alamo Dome. College scouts were in attendance. Hawks senior guard Ashlon Jackson, who scored 17 points, is headed to Duke. Hawks coach is Mike Fogo, athletic director is Bridge City native and former Bridge City head football coach and A.D. Dwayne 'Beaver' DuBois. He's city councilman Aaron Roccaforte's brother-in-law, married to sister Cristal.

OUT OF THE PAST

On March 6, 1964, Cassius Clay officially changed his name to Muhammad Ali, after winning heavy weight championship from Sonny Liston.

Franklin D. Roosevelt became United States president 89 years ago, March 4, 1933. He served throughout most of his childhood until April 1945. Harry Truman was sworn in April 22, 1945.

Notable birthdays: March 12, Lisa Mienelli, 76; Mitt Romney, 75; James Taylor, 74. Proves old age comes fast. Mitt was only 59 when he ran against Obama.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. March 9: Celebrating today are Kim Forman, Tiffany Kelly, Brittney Zenos, Liz Weaver and Pat Pate. March 10: David May, Robert Harvey, Zara Hollis, Josh Gross, Mary White and Bob Izer all share birthdays with Chuck Norris, who turns 87. March 11: Pat Lund, Cindy Reynolds, A.J. Strahan, Colton "CJ" Dugan celebrate. March 12: Happy Birthday today to Jack Morgan, Bryleigh Moore and Carol Ann Kimbrow. March 13: Celebrating are Amy Peevey, Kyle Dubose, John Collin Kimbrow and Lindsey Bland. (Daylight Savings Time begins today) March 14: A year older today are Jill Peveto, John Brister, Bud Briggs and singer and music producer Quincy Jones, who turns 89. March 15: Dusty Jennings, Julie Myers, Amber Doiron and Ricky Glenn Roberts, Jr. all celebrate birthdays on this day. Happy Birthday to all.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

LuLu Comeaux, da old maid, is da self-appointed monitor of da church's morals and always sticking her nose in utta people's business. Most of da church members didn't approve of LuLu running her head and talking bad about utta people but dey feared her scorn so dey didn't say nuttin bout it. LuLu however, and her bad tongue, made a mistake wen she accused Joe Boudreaux, who had jus joined da church, of being an alcoholic him, after she saw Joe's old pickup truck parked in front of Tee-Boy's Bar and Grill. LuLu said, "Anyone who saw his truck dere for dat long can't mistake wat he was doing." Boudreaux, a man of few words, stared at LuLu for a moment and den jus turn and walked away. He didn't say nuttin, didn't defend or deny, but to himself he say, "Dat old bitty." Later dat evening Joe quitly parked his old pickup in front of LuLu's house, den walked home and left his truck parked dere all night.

C'EST TOUT CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Chris Sowell, on his victory for county commissioner and to Judge Joy Dubose-Simonton on her re-election. Both ran good, positive campaigns. I wasn't surprised by the outcome and had predicted that only 20 percent of eligible voters would vote. Also a big congratulations to LCM football coach Eric Peevey, named the 'Bum Phillips Coach of the Year.' Coach Wade Phillips, like his dad also an Orange native and former NFL coach, presented Peevey the ring adorned with Bum's famous western hat. We wish continued success to Coach Peevey. Thanks for your time. Please read us cover to cover and support the advertisers who bring you this publication free of cost. Take care and God bless.

Deaths & Memorials

Amy Lee Pelaez-Allen, 34, Orange

Amy Lee Pelaez-Allen, 34, of Orange, passed away on February 27, 2022 in Orange.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Monday, March 7, 2022, at St. Henry Catholic Church in Bridge City. Officiating will be Father Ernie Carpio. Burial will follow at St. Mary Cemetery in Orange. Visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with a rosary to begin at 7:00 p.m., Sunday, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.

Born in Beaumont, Texas, on January 14, 1988, she was the daughter of Randy Pelaez and Mary Beth (Verrett) Pelaez. Amy attended and graduated from Bridge City High School, where she played the trombone for the school band. She was a member of their CNA program where she trained for her ultimate career as a nurse. Amy was made to be a nurse, with her heart of gold and ability to make anyone feel at ease, she was a blessing of a nurse to all of her patients. She loved to help out in any way that she could and left an impact on all she met. Her pride and joy was her son, Alex, often enjoying taking him to the beach and going to water parks with him. They had the best time together and she couldn't have been more proud of him. She was a woman of many hobbies but often enjoyed the smaller things in life, like being



Amy Pelaez-Allen

outdoors, crafting anything her creative mind could come up with, deer hunting, but most importantly, spending time with her son. Amy had a special place in her heart for her bird, Casper and loved her best friends, Kris and Katrina whole-heartedly. Her creative mind, kind heart and amazing sense of humor will be missed by all who had the chance to know Amy.

She was preceded in death by her brother, P.J. Pelaez; PawPaw and MeMaw, Paul and Mary Lee Pelaez; PawPaw, Andrew Verrett; and uncles, Andy Verrett, Jr. and Johnny Goins.

She is survived by her loving husband, Randy Allen; beloved son, Alex Allen; parents, Randy and Mary Beth Pelaez of Orange; in-laws, Larry and Lora Allen; grandmother, Margaret Verrett; brother, Joseph Pelaez and wife Kaitlin; nephews, Ashtor Pelaez, Gabe Pelaez and Greyson Allen; brothers-in-law, Casey Allen and Chris Allen and wife Sara; and best friends, Kris Manuel and Katrina Seymore.

Serving as pallbearers will be Seth Waters, B.J. Paine, Brayden Paine, Caleb Waters, Joe Pelaez and Darlene Pelaez. Honorary pallbearers are Thad Dionne, Blaise Breaux and Casey Allen.

Michael Edward Hutson, 59, Orange

Michael Edward Hutson, 59, of Orange, passed away on March 6, 2022, in Deweyville.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 11, 2022, at Calvary Baptist Church at 2402 Western Ave., West Orange, Texas 77630.

Officiating will be Brother David Millner.

Cremation will follow services.

Visitation will be from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, at Calvary Baptist Church in West Orange.

Born in Creole, Louisiana, on May 15, 1962, he was the son of Reverend Billy Edward Hutson and Ruby Alice (Cook) Hutson.

Michael was a member of Calvary Baptist Church and was incredibly proud of his faith and being recently saved and baptized again. He was an incredible father and made sure to provide for his family in so many ways. He was known for his hard work and cunning salesperson abilities. His family often said he



Michael Hutson

could sell a comb to a bald man.

He enjoyed spending time outdoors, fishing, hunting and arrowhead hunting every chance he could. Michael was easy to talk to and because of that, he could make friends with anyone he met. He loved traveling with his family and making memories with them to last a lifetime. Michael left an impact on everyone he met and will be deeply missed by all who had the chance to know and love him.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Monica Hutson; father, Reverend Billy Hutson; and sister-in-law, Sherry Moody.

He is survived by his mother, Ruby Hutson; children, Blake Hutson, Michael Huston, Billy Hutson, Stephanie Hutson Babb and husband John; grandchildren, Athan, Mason, Lily and Isla; siblings, Ronnie Moody, Donald Moody and wife Renee and Paul Hutson and wife Jennifer; along with numerous nieces, nephews and other loving family and friends.

BCCC names Asia Erwin February 'Student of the Month'



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that the February Student of the Month for Bridge City is Asia Erwin. Asia is ranked 3 of 193 with a GPA of 4.76. Pictured from Left to Right: Stephanie Roberts, Lisa Huckaby, Asia Erwin, Brandie Erwin and Tim Wooley.



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced the March Student of the Month for Orange-field is Tyler Shearin. Tyler is ranked 48 of 143 with a GPA of 3.78. Pictured from Left to Right: Rea Wrinkle, Britni Briggs, Lee Shearin, Monica Shearin, Tyler Shearin, Christy Khoury and Shawn McAlpin.



The Bridge City-Orangefield Rotary Club presented Asia Molina as their February Bridge City Student of the Month. Asia has a 4.3 GPA and plans to attend Lamar University. Pictured are Tim Woolley, BCHS Principal, Chloe Tucker, BCHS Counselor, Mike Kelly, Bridge City Superintendent, Asia Molina, Courtni and Alexis Bertrand and Meg Brown, Rotary Club president.

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Orange County Church Directory

Simple Prayer in a Desperate Moment

Jon Bloom
Staff Writer
desiringGod.org

Had you been there that very moment, watching from a distance, you wouldn't have observed anything dramatic. I'm talking about the moment Abraham (still called Abram at the time) stepped out of his tent and gazed into the heavens, looking at the stars.

You may have heard him muttering something or other, perhaps at some point raising his hands or bowing to the ground. These gestures wouldn't have seemed out of character to you because everyone knew Abram was a deeply pious man. And being tired, since it was the middle of the night and all, you probably would have left Abram to whatever he was doing and headed to bed.

You would not have known that this was a defining moment in Abram's life. You certainly wouldn't have guessed this was a defining moment in world history that would impact billions of people. Because it would have seemed so undramatic.

But that's the way moments like these — moments that powerfully direct and shape the arc of history — often appear at first. And in this case, what made the world-changing minutes of stargazing so quietly monumental was that this old man, in the deep recesses of his heart, believed God.

Pushed Nearly Beyond Belief

To understand the profundity of this defining moment, however, we need to see how this old man's belief had been pushed to the very brink.

It all began in Genesis 12, where God delivered to Abram a promise that would have

been incredible on its own, quite apart from the fact that Abram, at age 75, and Sarai, at age 66, as yet had no children:

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Genesis 12:1-3)

So, "by faith Abraham obeyed," packing up his household and setting out, though "not knowing where he was going" (Hebrews 11:8). And when he and his small tribe arrived at Shechem, God spoke to him again and said, "To your offspring I will give this land" (Genesis 12:7).

Time passed. God's blessing rested on Abram and his tribe, which included his nephew Lot's household, and their combined possessions and herds grew larger — so large, in fact, that Abram and Lot had to separate into two tribes. Still, Abram had no offspring — the key to the fulfillment of the Lord's greatest promise to him. Nonetheless, the Lord once again affirmed his promise (Genesis 13:14-16).

More time passed. God continued to prosper whatever Abram did. And once again, the Lord appeared to him and said,

Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great. (Genesis 15:1)

But for Abram, now in his eighties, and Sarai in her seventies, there was still the same glaring problem. Amid all the abundant blessing of prosperity God had showered on him, there was one conspicuous, crucial place of poverty:

Abram still had no offspring.

Desperate Prayer of a Man of Faith

It was at this point that Abram could not contain his anguished perplexity over the ongoing void at the core of God's promises, and it poured out in a desperate prayer:

"O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." (Genesis 15:2-3)

The apostle Paul later wrote, "No unbelief made [Abram] waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised" (Romans 4:20-21). But in this prayer, do we overhear Abram's faith wavering?

No. What we're hearing is not unbelief, but sincere perplexity. And there's a difference. Abram's perplexity is similar to the young virgin Mary's perplexity when Gabriel tells her that she will "conceive in [her] womb and bear a son." She responds, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" (Luke 1:30, 34). It's a reasonable question; virgins don't get pregnant. Abram's question is also reasonable with regard to nature; barren women past childbearing years do not get pregnant.

God was not offended or dishonored by Mary's or Abraham's sincere perplexity, which is why he responds to both with gracious kindness. And God's answers are also reasonable, even if his reasonableness often extends far beyond the limits of human reason ("Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Genesis 18:14).

So, in answer to Abram's sincerely desperate prayer,

God graciously invites him to step outside.

Starry, Starry Night God says to Abram,

"Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." (Genesis 15:5)

Here, suddenly, is a defining moment for Abram. God's answer doesn't include how Abram is going to obtain descendants. All God does is reaffirm, and even expand the scope of, what he has already promised. In other words, "I'm going to give you more offspring than you can count or even imagine. Do you believe me?"

And old Abram, with an old wife and a childless tent, looking up into the night sky so full of stars that in some places they looked like clouds of light, with the word of the Lord ringing in his mind, realizes that whatever God is doing is about something much bigger than he has yet grasped, and so he resolves to trust "that God [is] able to do what he [has] promised" (Romans 4:21).

[Abram] believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. (Genesis 15:6)

No one, not even Abram, could have seen just how history-shaping, how destiny-determining, this moment was, when a man was justified — counted righteous — in the eyes of God simply because he believed God. Because a man believed God's promises over his own perceptions. Because a man trusted God and did not lean on his own understanding (Proverbs 3:5). The world would never be the same after that moment on that starry, starry night.

Joy Beyond Belief

to us, in the deep recesses of our hearts, everything is on the line. And at these moments, everything comes down to a simple but profound, and perhaps anguishing, question: Will I trust God?

What usually isn't apparent to us is how significant the moment is for an untold number of others. For it is often true that in "obtaining [as] the outcome of [our] faith, the salvation of [our] souls" (1 Peter 1:9), what also results in the years and centuries that follow is the salvation of others — so many, perhaps, that they would boggle our minds if we could see them.

When you believe God, he counts it to you as righteousness, as full acceptance from God himself. And when you believe God, it leads to the Isaac-laughter of inexpressible joy as you at last see God do for you what he has promised. And when you believe God, you will share inexpressible joy with a host of others who, because you believed, will be laughing in joy with you.

Jon Bloom (@Bloom_Jon) serves as teacher and co-founder of Desiring God. He is author of three books, Not by Sight, Things Not Seen, and Don't Follow Your Heart. He and his wife have five children and make their home in the Twin Cities.



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CMYK

OC baseball tours tournaments

DAN PERRINE
SPORTS COLUMNIST
FOR THE RECORD

February and early March is the time for high school baseball tournaments. The four local high school baseball teams have been busy the last two weeks playing in various tournaments.

The annual Certa-Bearden West Orange-Stark Classic was held March 3 through March 5 at Ronnie Anderson Park. The West Orange-Stark Mustangs hosted the tournament joined by the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears, the Buna Cougars, the Jasper Bulldogs, and the Beaumont United Timberwolves.

The Mustangs started well in their first game against United scoring two runs in the first inning. Derrick Williams got a leadoff single moved to third on a stolen base and a ground out before scoring on a single by Tyrone Wilson. Two errors allowed Wilson to score giving West Orange-Stark a 2-1 lead after one.

The Timberwolves tied the game in the third, and the Mustangs scored again in the bottom half of the inning to retake the lead. Carlos Calana was hit by a pitch. He scored when William Lee drove a pitch to the fence in left field.

Starting Mustang pitcher Grayson Gregory pitched well before getting into a jam in the fourth inning during which the Timberwolves tied the game. Zach Nation took Gregory's place on the mound and gave much needed relief when he struck out back-to-back United batters with the bases loaded to end the threat.

Unfortunately, the Timberwolves tallied a run in the fifth and three runs in the sixth to win the game 7-3. "We competed in that game. We scored three runs, the most we've scored all year long," Coach Sergio Espinal responded.

The other two games for West Orange-Stark in the tournament were not as close with the Mustangs losing to both Buna and Jasper. Espinal reminded, "Again it's a rebuilding year. We're going to get better. Our pitching is getting better, but we've still got to improve a whole lot."

West Orange-Stark plays four home games at Ronnie Anderson Park from March 10 to Saturday, March 12. The Mustangs have a bye in district on Tuesday, March 15, and start their district games at Little Cypress-Mauriceville on Friday, March 18.

Little Cypress-Mauriceville won two of the three games it played in the Certa-Bearden tournament. The Bears lost 10-6 in their opener to Buna. They also lost the services for about two weeks of second baseman Pierce Brown who fractured his right pinky finger during a head-first slide at second base.

The Bears rallied for four runs in the seventh and actually brought the tying run to the plate before registering their final out. The other highlight was the 13 strikeouts registered by LCM pitchers Marco Bandiero and Brice Frenzel in six innings.

Friday's game was more of a pitchers' duel, and the Bears' Dean Reynolds was superb earning a 4-2 win over Jasper. Reynolds pitched six innings yielding only two runs. "Dean really pitched probably the best that I've ever seen Dean pitch. He competed the whole game, it did not matter what the score was, didn't matter where the guys were, he competed, he fought through it, and he did everything he needed to do," Bears' Coach Hunter Hagler evaluated. Parker Seago got

a save throwing a scoreless seventh inning.

The top of the Bears' batting order accounted for the offense. Leadoff batter Seago was the initial Bear batter in the first, the third, and the fifth innings when Little Cypress-Mauriceville scored in each of those innings. Blaze Compton and Ashton Landry combined with Seago rapped six hits and scored

all four runs for the Bears.

The third game for LCM was the highest scoring game for the Bears in the tournament. The Bears defeated United 15-7 in a shortened four inning game because of time limit restrictions. Gage Griffith pitched three innings of relief to pickup the win in the game.

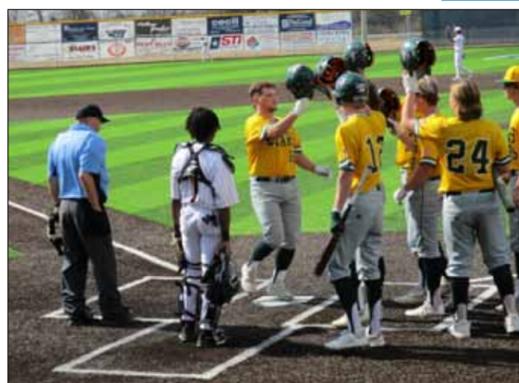
With the score 4-3 in favor of the Bears designated hit-

ter Cameron Bilbo leadoff the bottom of the third and was hit by a pitch. Bilbo scored the first of 11 runs for

RIGHT: Gunner Johnson of LCM tapping helmets with teammates after rounding bases on a home run.

RECORD PHOTO:
Dan Perrine

OC BASEBALL Page 3B



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OC baseball tournament action From Page 1B

LCM in the inning. Gunner Johnson drove in Bilbo with a single and then hit a grand slam later in the same inning.

The win over United made Little Cypress-Mauriceville 6-5 with a tie on the season. Hagler analyzed, "I think that we're constantly improving each day, we're getting better every day, and I think that's what it takes to wind up being a successful team."

The Bears will be playing at Don Gibbens Field this week. They had a non-district game on Tuesday against Hamshire-Fannett. LCM will host the Orange County Classic Tournament on Thursday through Saturday. The Bears will play two games on Thursday, two games on Friday, and a final game on Saturday.

The district season starts Tuesday, March 15, at Lumberton. The Bears play the Mustangs on Friday, March 18, at Don Gibbens Field.

The Orangefield Bobcats competed in the Nacogdoches tournament March 3-5. The Bobcats finished with three wins and a tie over the weekend.

Orangefield picked up a 9-1 win against Mount Pleasant before besting Bullard by a score of 3-2. The Bobcats topped Tatum 9-1 and tied 4-4 with the host-team Nacogdoches. "I thought we played pretty well. I think for sure Nacogdoches was the best team we played and came away with a tie, we had a chance to win it at one point, but those are the kind of games that are going to get us ready for district so that was the big plus there," Coach Tim Erickson of the Bobcats replied.

Pitchers Trent Eaves and Coop Longron picked up wins on the mound for the Bobcats. Brycen Tait was called up from the junior varsity and earned the third win in the tournament for Orangefield. Kolbie Sowell recorded a save against Bullard.

Jason Bodin led the Bobcats offensively going 5 for 7 on the weekend with 4 runs batted in, including a base-clearing triple in the game with Tatum. Kameryn Henderson and Kyle Michael continued their hot streaks racking up 6 hits apiece for the tournament. The catching duo of Macoy Marze and Rusten Traxler were lights out behind the plate allowing zero stolen bases and throwing out two would-be base stealers for the tournament.

Orangefield moved to 8-0 with a tie on the season. Erickson indicated, "I think this week is about taking care of us, just making sure we're doing the basics, playing our best baseball heading into district really is kind of the goal regardless of who we're playing just make sure that we're sharp on everything that we're doing."



Pitchers Trent Eaves and Coop Longron of the Orangefield Bobcats both won games during the recent Nacogdoches tournament. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

The Bobcats hosted Evadale on Tuesday, March 8, and will be competing in the Silsbee Tournament on Thursday through Saturday, March 10-12. Their first district game is at Silsbee on Tuesday, March 15.



John Van Huis
Bridge City Cardinals

The Bridge City Cardinals remain undefeated on the season after winning all four of their games in the Cameron Yoe Tournament. The Cardinals are a perfect 9-0 on the year. "Our record is what it is, we've been in some tight ball games and games where we had lost late last year we're finding a way to scratch and claw to win those games this year early," Bridge City Coach Chad Landry emphasized.

The Cardinals rallied from an early three-run deficit to defeat the Taylor Ducks 4-3 on Thursday, March 3. The next day on Friday, Bridge City blasted two opponents. The Cardinals shutout the Greenwood Rangers 11-0 and clobbered the Columbus Cardinals 13-4 in their other game that day.

Another tight game was played on Saturday as Bridge City escaped with a 4-3 win over the West Trojans. Cardinal closer Landon Reeves who has been outstanding so far on the season earned his second save of the tournament.

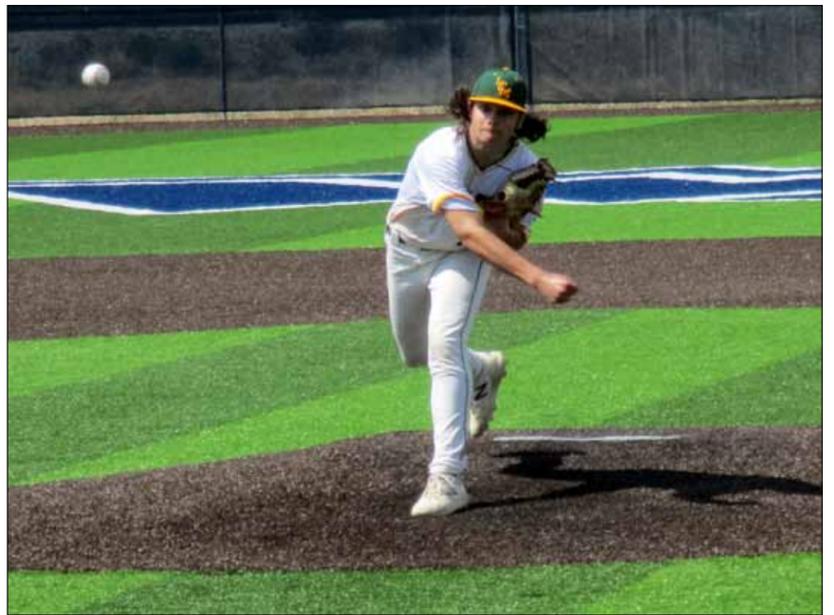
The whole Cardinal lineup is contributing to the run production which has resulted in the undefeated record so far. The two guys at the top of the batting order are

showing why they were put there. John Van Huis and Brice Swanton are getting on base a lot and both run the bases really well causing havoc for opposing defenses to attempt to stop them.

Bridge City played a game on Tuesday against a high ranked school from Louisiana the Sam Houston Broncos. The weekend of March 10-12, the Cardinals will participate in the Jasper Tournament which includes several quality teams with the Jasper Bulldogs, the Hardin-Jefferson Hawks, the China Spring Cougars, and the Longview Lobos.

The Jasper Tournament will be a final tune up before the start of the district schedule. Landry concluded, "It'll be a good test for us, it'll be kind of our last warmup to see if we can trust some guys in certain situations, and we're looking forward to it. Just another week to get better, it's exciting, it's fun coming to the yard every day. I think the good thing about it is that our guys are young and inexperienced enough to where they're still hungry every day at practice which is really good right now."

The first district game for the Bridge City Cardinals will be Tuesday, March 15, at Chuck Young Field in Bridge City against the Vidor Pirates. Game time will be 7:00 PM.



On the hill is Dean Reynolds of LCM hurls a pitch during tournament action this week. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

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Baseball much different when I was a kid

KAZ'S KORNER
Joe Kazmar
For The Record



Joe Kazmar

Ever since I was able to gurgle the word baseball as a toddler, it has been my first love. My father was a very good baseball player in high school, but when he was ready to move up to the next level, the Depression hit and he had to find a job to help out his family. But that didn't stop my father's love for the game. He played baseball on weekends for whoever needed a pitcher, including the Sons of Italy, who merely stuck an "I" at the end of his last name and gave him a uniform.

I got to watch him play when I was very young at the old stadium in Central Park, the same baseball diamond where I played my final game as an amateur a few decades later.

Dad had a catcher's mitt, a glove for me and some nice new baseballs and when he got home from work at Schemectady's General Electric Company at 3:45 p.m.—about the same time I was coming home from the elementary school we called "Stinkin' Lincoln"—and drank his cup of coffee my mother always had ready, he asked me if I wanted to "throw some".

I was out the door with my glove on waiting in the backyard that was converted into a bullpen before he even finished asking that question.

I told my father that I didn't want to be a pitcher because they don't get to play in every game like I wanted to. So, he started hitting hard grounders at me in hopes that the bruises on my shins from bad hops would change my mind.

But it didn't, so he continued working me out as a shortstop, but also had me throw to his catcher's mitt. By the time I was pitching from official Little League distance, he had to find a sponge to put in the mitt.

I made the Little League team as a 10-year-old shortstop and was the All-Star at that position when I was 12.

We had a good team—so good that we won our way to Williamsport, Pa.—and beat a team from Colton, California 7-5 to win the 1954 Little League World Series. I was astounded when the league voted me as the Most Valuable Player for 1954.

When I was a young teenager, a bunch of us would get up early in the morning, have our moms fix a peanut and jelly sandwich, and ride our bikes to a baseball diamond in Central Park, which was the focal point of the city.

We played baseball all morning long, ate lunch and played for another hour or so and wearing our bathing suits under the blue jeans, we swam until it was time to go home for supper.

My Babe Ruth League coach, who was a former teammate of my father's, noticed my strong arm and switched me from shortstop to third base.

I played third base for the three years in that league, Connie Mack League, high school and was fortunate enough to earn a baseball scholarship to McNeese State where I lettered as a third baseman—and also a

pitcher—all four years and was voted the Cowboy's MVP in 1963.

There was no major league draft then, so I signed a contract with the Chicago Cubs and played a couple of years in the minor leagues, until making paychecks for only five months forced me to get a "real job" that paid me for 12 months a year so I could support my young family.

I continued to love the game of baseball and was seen in the Houston Astrodome's press box more times than I want to remember.

Although the Houston Astros were lousy in their early years. I followed the game very meticulously and slowly accepted most of the game's changes—expansions to 30 teams, the addition of the designated hitter in the American League, defensive shifts on the infield and multi-millionaire players holding out for more money from the billionaire owners.

And right now, the owners have locked out the players from their lush stadiums for nearly 100 days, the 2022 season has already been shortened, the players won't settle the terms of the new agreement set by the owners, and the America's game of baseball is losing fans by the millions.

If I could turn back the calendar to when I was a kid watching 16 major league teams competing in two eight-team leagues with shorter seasons and with Babe Ruth the home run

king, I'd do it in a heartbeat!!

KWICKIES...

Congrats to Little Cypress-Mauriceville's first-year head football coach Eric Peevey for winning the prestigious Bum Phillips Coach of the Year Award by guiding his Battlin' Bears to an 11-3 record last fall and making it to the fourth-round of the state playoffs for only the second time in the school's long history.

The Orangefield Bobcats boys golf team has been doing really well against many of the larger area schools so far this season, led the Xander Parks and his brother Lincoln Parks for medalist honors in nearly every tournament. The Bobcats finished second in last week's Larry Paine Invitational tournament at Henry Homberg Golf Course at Tyrrell Park in Beaumont. Xander fired a one-over-par 73 for medalist honors while Lincoln was second with his 77.

In an effort to speed up baseball games which averaged 3 hours, 10 minutes last season, Major League Baseball (owners) have proposed to the player's union a 14-second pitch clock and a 19-second clock with runners on base.

The Green Bay Packers have offered veteran quarterback Aaron Rodgers a long-term, market-altering deal. Rodgers has one year left on his current pact that counts \$46.1 million against the salary cap.

Scottie Scheffler shot an even-par 72 on Sunday's final round in the Arnold Palmer

Invitational for a one-shot victory at Bay Hill in Orlando, FL. It was Scheffler's second PGA Tour victory in the last month. He was a 16-1 shot to win the event.

Defending Class 5A state champion Beaumont United is headed back to the state tournament at San Antonio's Alamodome along with the Silsbee Tigers in Class 4A. The United Timberwolves will meet Dallas Kimball Thursday, the team they defeated in the state finals last year, while Silsbee will take on top-ranked Faith family Friday in the semifinals.

The Seattle Krakens National Hockey League team has the first all-black television broadcast team in NHL history. J.T. Brown and Everett Fitzhugh did the play-by-play simulcast recently at Winnipeg.

JUST BETWEEN US...

Gonzaga, Kansas, Baylor and Arizona appear to be the top seeds in this year's NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament which starts next week. A few teams have already earned a berth in the 68-team tourney like Longwood of the Big South, Loyola Chicago of the Missouri Valley and Murray State which won the Ohio Valley Conference championship. Also in the field is Iowa of the Big Ten, Kentucky of the SEC, Stanford of the PAC-12 and North Carolina State of the Atlantic Coast Conference. The remainder of the conference playoffs will be this week, with the brackets and pairings set for Sunday.



LCM football coach Eric Peevey accepting the Bum Phillips Coach of the Year award. Bum's son Wade Phillips presented the award to Peevey.

LCM Coach Peevey gets Bum Phillips award

Dan Perrine
For The Record

The first year head coach for the Bears was very surprised for being named the recipient of the local coaching award. Peevey said, "It was an unbelievable honor. Like I said when I accepted the award, Coach Phillips was always somebody I was completely enamored with growing up."

Similarities in their background and their coaching styles which gets the best out of their players are apparent between Coach Bum Phillips and himself according to Peevey. "I think it's because we're both Orange, Texas kids, we're both southeast Texas guys. Southeast Texas guys are tough people, but at the same point not only are we tough on the outside were tough on the inside we love hard. We're very emotional people, and I think that really explains my coaching style," Peevey emphasized.

Peevey went 11-3 during the 2021 football season with the Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears, making it to the fourth round of the playoffs for only the second time in the school's history.

Wade Phillips a longtime football coach himself acknowledged Peevey and Little Cypress-Mauriceville had a remarkable season. "This area is special to us," Phillips said. It is an honor to present the award on behalf of my dad and our family. This guy won 10 more games than the previous year. I have never heard of that. I have known some good ones, but I haven't heard of a year like that. It was their first district title since 1997. They had one playoff win since 1997, but had three this year.

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OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

In all honesty this has to be one of my absolute most favorite times of the year, that transition from winter into spring when the weather starts to cooperate and the fishing gets a jump start. March is a true "transition" month as we begin to see some new patterns emerge and become more consistent. As long as we don't get too many of those blustery spring winds the outlook for everything from the gulf to the Sabine river will be on the good side. The folks who have been dying to go down to the jetties and duel with wired up and fired up trout will get their first taste of that program this month as the green water and light winds will make for some outstanding days along the rocks. Farther inland the

folks who prefer to stay in the lake will be in for some sporadic fishing under the gulls for trout and roaming schools of redfish. The shad will also begin to gang up out in the bayous and open lake so keep an eye out for that to happen because the fish won't be far behind that floating buffet.

Still farther inland the folks who like to congregate in the deeper water along the rivers and ICW will also have their own little piece of heaven as long as we don't get too much rain. As long as that deeper water stays salty the fish will be there waiting on a good tide change to chow down on a variety of baits including shad, shrimp

and mullet. Anchoring up on good secondary points and breaks as well as the mouths of the marsh drains will prove very effective for those who enjoy fishing at a little slower and more leisurely pace.

Perhaps one of the greatest joys of fishing is taking the kids along and daylight savings mean you have plenty of time after school to take advantage of the afternoon bite. One of the best methods we have for taking the kids out is live shad under a popping cork, this is just money in the bank. A #3 unweighted popping cork above a 1/2 ounce egg sinker and barrel swivel gets you started. Tie on a 3 foot leader to

the swivel and use a #3 or #4 Kahle hook. Hook the shad or finger mullet through the eye socket and drift behind the boat giving the cork a good pop on a regular frequency. This method has produced countless fish for us during the summer

months and it will be extremely user friendly for the kids. Everybody loves to see the cork under I don't care who you are or what you say, you know you like it.

The longer days and warming temps will go a long way to really cranking up the

fishing and opening up a whole host of different patterns and areas. The days of huddling in one protected spot with every other boat on the lake will soon enough be in the rear view mirror. I for one will be glad to see it happen and I know I'm not alone.



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ESTATE SALE

Estate Sale at 2809 Gandy, Orange (West Orange) this Thur., 3/10, Fri., 3/11 from 8 am to 2 pm and Sat., 3/12 from 8 am to noon. Cash Only. Bedroom, living room and dining room furniture, quilts, yarn, kitchen ware, bells, Avon Bottles, Record Albums, stereo, TV, washer, gas dryer, garage items and tools. Lots of books including: Guns, Civil War, WWII and Las Sabinas publications.

Estate Sale at 4802 Holly Street, Orange this Thurs., 3/10 from 2 pm to 6 pm, Friday, 3/11 from 8 am to 5:30 pm and Saturday, 3/12 from 8 am to 1pm. Tools, furniture, and housewares

PETS

To a good home, fenced yard. Someone who is caring, loving and mostly patient. 2 female dogs that were abandoned, approx. 2 yrs old, 1 brindle and 1 white. Please help them, 409-882-9320 or 409-313-4914.

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NOTICE: Vehicle stored at Gibbons's Towing and Transport Inc. 058449 VSF 16527 Hwy 62 S. Orange, TX 77630 PH (409) 886-0007

Total charges cannot be computed until the vehicle is claimed, storage charges will accrue daily until the vehicle is released. Must demonstrate proof of ownership and pay current charges to claim vehicle!!!
 www.tdlr.texas.gov

Vin#1E145B40480
 15 MTD LAWN MOWER
 OWE# 5651.54
 Vin#NO VIN/NO LP
 06 HONDA
 OWE# 5407.30
 Vin#1G6KE57984U221226
 04 CADILLAC
 OWE# 5538.05

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- Electrical
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **SAMMY M. LINDERMAN**, Deceased, were issued on **February 15, 2022**, in Cause No. **P19323**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **Janis Marie Linderman**.

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:
Janis Marie Linderman
 1950 Galway
 Vidor, TX
 77662

Dated:
February 15, 2022

Janis Marie Linderman
 1950 Galway
 Vidor, TX
 77662

DOMESTIC CITATION BY PUBLICATION/PC - CDVPCWD

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: **Unkown Father, Respondent,**

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgement may be taken against you.

The petition of **KRISANA BROOKE ANTHONY** and **CALVIN CALEB ANTHONY**, Petitioners, was filed in the 260th District Court of Orange County, Texas on the **21st day of January, 2022**, against **Unkown Father**, numbered **220051-D** and entitled **In the Interest of A Child**. The suit requests **Termination and Adoption of Stepchild**.

The date and place of birth of the child/ren who is/are subject of the suit:

Esra Lee Mahoney 01-23-2021 Galveston, Texas

The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child/ren's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas, this March 4, 2022.

VICKIE EDGERLY, District Clerk
 Orange County, Texas
Vickie Edgerly

CROSSWORD											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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71					72			73			

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THE OSCARS

ACROSS

1. "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard _____
6. Marlboro debris
9. "Academy Award ceremony audience sound
13. Botch
14. Sigma _____ fraternity
15. Ten million, in India
16. Embryo sacs
17. Literary "even"
18. Tax evader's fear
19. "Most nominated streamer in this year's Oscars
21. "Most-nominated Black actor in Oscar history
23. Opposite of yang
24. Lard cousin
25. "Milk _____ movie snack
28. Poetic source of Norse mythology
30. 2020 demographic event
35. Arrival times, acronym
37. Baseball points
39. Camelot to King Arthur
40. Actress Campbell
41. "Where Oscar-winner "Slumdog Millionaire" was set
43. Not in favor
44. "What Halle Berry did when she won an Oscar in 2002
46. Jet black
47. Lively
48. Paid killers (2 words)
50. Upon
52. Rally repeater
53. Sweet-talk
55. Not outs
57. "Total Oscar nominations for "The Power of the Dog"
60. "One of this year's Oscar hosts
64. Exotic juice flavor
65. "Jamie Foxx won an Oscar in 2005 for this flick
67. Bizet's "Carmen," e.g.
68. Off kilter
69. "1942's "Holiday _____" Oscar winner

DOWN

1. J. Edgar Hoover's man
2. Ice on a window
3. Antonym of "is"
4. Enlighten
5. Puck stopper
6. Kilimanjaro top, e.g.
7. Pronoun
8. Hinduism follower
9. "Parallel Mothers" nominee Penelope
10. Prospector's mother
11. Seed coat
12. Lassie, e.g.
15. Type of horse gait
20. Lemur from Madagascar
22. European Economic Community
24. Playground attraction
25. "Belfast" nominee, "Shakespeare in Love" winner
26. First cradles
27. Lifeboat support
29. "Denis Villeneuve's sci-fi nominee
31. Type of tide
32. Not so crazy
33. Extremist
34. "King Richard" nominee, once a fresh prince
36. Give an impression
38. Land of Israel
42. Shenanigan
45. Remove claws
49. Presidential election mo.
51. Waiting on the phone (2 words)
54. Eagle's nest
56. Like the Incredibles
57. Backside
58. Boat track
59. Not odd
60. Update, as in a FitBit
61. Formerly Facebook
62. "Julia Robert's 2001 Oscar-winning role
63. Colonel or captain
64. Gangster's gun
66. _____ eater or _____ hill

Sweet Creations, etc.

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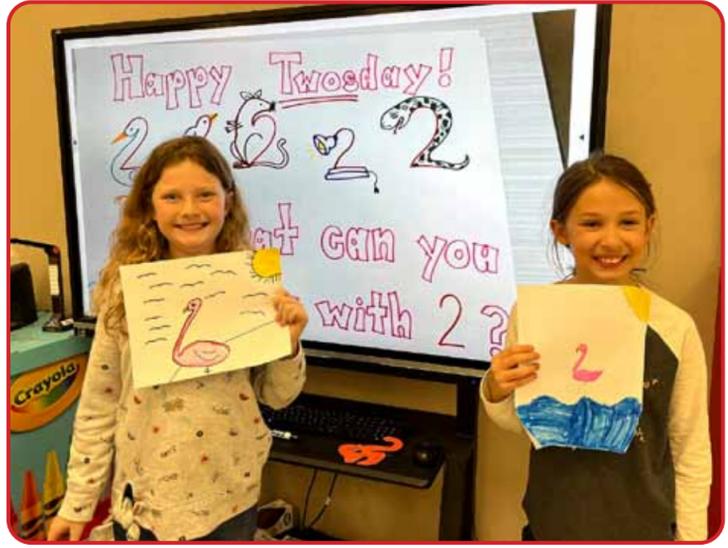
Please call us at
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 or
 409-886-7183

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Bridge City Independent School District

Bridge City Intermediate School

BCI students had 2-much fun in Art Class on 2-22-22



Third Grade did a drawing activity turning the number 2 into animals.



Fourth and Fifth grades did a Jasper Johns inspired printmaking project with the number 2. All students did a special 2/22/22 time capsule activity to be opened on 3/3/33.

Reading Across America Day

To celebrate Reading Across America Day, Bridge City Intermediate celebrated a love for READING with several activities including extra READING time each day of the week! Students were challenged to read a total of 240 minutes throughout the week and three winners won 'Bookworm Bundles' filled with books, bookmarks, and goodies. READers are LEADers!



Be A Part Of All That's Offered!

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