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# County Record

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Week of Wednesday, January 25, 2023

## Dangerous storm strikes county

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

A tornado went through Orange County and touched down in three areas, with Orangefield having the most damage, Orange County Emergency Management Director Joel Ardoin said Tuesday night. He had reports of two injuries. In one, a woman was taken by ambulance to an area hospital, though he did not know the extent of her injuries. In another incident, an off-duty law officer inside his house was hit in the head by a tree limb coming through the roof. He had to have stitches. The Orangefield school district announced schools will be closed Wednesday as officials assess damage to buildings. Photographs on social media show roof

damage at an athletic training building and damage to fields and fences. As of press time, West Orange Cove and Little Cypress Mauriceville schools are canceled Wednesday due to power outages. Bridge City is monitoring the situation. The Bobcat Trails subdivision near the school was hit with a number of houses having serious damage. In addition, the Regal Point subdivision on FM 1442 outside of Bridge City had houses with heavy damage. Damages were also reported around the area of Highway 62 and Interstate 10. An 18-wheel truck rig overturned by the Pilot truck stop in the storm. Damage was reported at businesses along Highway

Dangerous Page 5A



Bill Mungai (L) and Danny Delatte (R) will offer authentic New York and New Haven style pizza packed in their wood-fired oven that was made in Italy at Hop Avenue Brewing when it opens next month in Bridge City. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

## Something new brewing in BC

PENNY LELEUX  
For The Record

Soon, residents of Bridge City will be able to stop in after work for a glass of fresh brewed beer on the way home. After almost three years of planning, the first craft brewery will be opening its doors in February on Ferry Drive. Hop Avenue Brewing is the brainchild of Donny Delatte who lived in Bridge City for four years and currently lives in Nederland. He partnered with brew master Bill Mungai from Pittsburg, Penn. Mungai currently lives in Shreveport and plans to move as close to Bridge City as he can. Delatte chose Bridge City because it is a residential community. The Ferry Drive location gets lots of

traffic from people leaving work from the plants across the Neches, that live in the northern part of Orange County. Plus, it is less than a block from Texas Avenue, the main thoroughfare in Bridge City. "We're already feeling the outreach from the community," said Delatte. He said Orange County completes the triangle of bringing craft beer to Southeast Texas. They are in their final punch list phase. "There is touch up paint, get the tables set up, finish our bar top, get all our point of sales equipment set up and the draft system," said Delatte. They were scheduled to get their equipment approved the day after this interview and should be brewing by now. They are



Donny Delatte (L) and Bill Mungai (R) are excited to bring craft beer to Bridge City. Hop Avenue Brewing is targeted to open in February at 75 Ferry Drive, Bridge City. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

set up with 30 taps. Two will be reserved for cider, they rest will be filled with their own brews. "This is a young craft beer market. Some of the other breweries here definitely introduce people to

New Brew Page 3A

## BCCC names Cil Dixon 'Citizen of the Year'



Cil Dixon(R) was presented the 2022 Citizen of the Year Award by Scot C. Shaffer(L), immediate past president of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce at their 62nd annual banquet Monday night. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

PENNY LELEUX  
For The Record

The 62nd annual banquet of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce was held Monday night at the Bridge City Community Center. Cil Dixon was named Citizen of the Year for her years as a CASA volunteer advocate and current board member. Her husband, Sherby, and three of her four children, along with other family members were present to witness the hon-

or. "The children that we're serving don't have what we have," said Dixon. "I have a huge family. I have people that love me, support me. My children support me. My husband supports me." She spent 10 years working cases and saw the direct impact being an advocate has on these children's lives and what their needs are. "I'm gonna recruit tonight if you wanna come

BC Chamber Page 2A

## Most Texans support more school funding

STAFF REPORT  
The Texas Tribune

As legislators start a new session with a historic surplus and already pointing to their priorities on public education, a new survey released Tuesday shows Texans support teacher raises, want an increase in public school funding and are split on voucher-like programs. The Charles Butt Foundation surveyed 1,125 Texan adults for its fourth annual Texas Education Poll, which included about 340 public school parents. Most respondents were supportive of public schools and approved of their performance. "Texas parents are satis-

fied with the quality of their school so that is something that gave us a lot of hope," said Audrey Boklage, vice president of learning and impact at the Charles Butt Foundation. Boklage said her team has been handing out the poll's results to lawmakers at the Capitol so they can consider the data as conversations over public education policy begin. With teacher shortages, financial struggles, pandemic-related learning loss and political spats over how race and sex should be taught, schools and the public education system will be among the most prominent topics that lawmakers will discuss this session. Legislation is al-

ready being considered that could possibly change the way the state funds schools, give schools more money per student and expand contentious "school choice" programs that give parents state money to school their children outside of the public education system. In the Butt survey, 89% of respondents supported increasing state funding to boost teacher salaries, which haven't seen an increase since 2019. Some lawmakers and public education advocates believe giving teachers pay raises will help tackle the teacher shortage that the pandemic exacerbated. Lawmakers in both the Tex-

as House and Senate have pitched raises for teachers, including allocating additional funding for a program that gives teachers raises based on their performance. The House's budget proposal also calls for an increase in the amount schools get per student, which has not increased in four years. On Tuesday, state Rep. James Talarico, D-Round Rock, filed House Bill 1548, which would give teachers a \$15,000 pay raise. In the wake of May's school shooting in Uvalde, survey participants said that school safety is a top priority, with 91% of them

School funding Page 5A



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SEE OUR AD PAGE 1 SECTION B

# My 5-Cents By State Sen. Robert Nichols

This week we celebrated the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was a visionary leader and made an invaluable impact on our country.

Here are five things happening around your state:

## 1. Budget filed in both the House and Senate

Now that the members are sworn in and both the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are sworn in, the legislature can begin the work of the people. The first step is the filing of the budget by both the House and the Senate on their respective ideas of what the budget should be. This week, Representative Greg Bonnen and Senator Joan Huffman each filed their versions of the budget in their respective chambers. The senate budget, Senate

Bill 1, includes \$15 billion for additional property tax relief, including \$3 billion to increase the homestead exemption to \$70,000, fully funding public education, \$3 billion in additional funds to invest in the state's mental health resources, \$600 million for school safety initiatives, \$500 million for Gulf Coast Protection District projects, and much more. This document highlights the priorities of the legislature. The process of building the final budget takes weeks of committee hearings and deliberations between the Senate and the House and will likely take most of the session to complete. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the budget for the next biennium!



Sen. Nichols

## 2. Houston Astros honored in Senate

This week, the Senate hosted the Houston Astros to celebrate their World Series championship. Members of the team were honored with a resolution on the Senate floor and they also brought the World Series trophy. The Astros defeated the Philadelphia Phillies in six games to win their second championship. The final game of the series was played at Minute Maid Park in Houston last November. The series was also notable for having the first World Series no-hitter since 1956. A combined effort from four Astros pitchers achieved the feat in Game 4. Congratulations on an amazing season and World Series win!

## 3. TxDOT makes \$250 million available for transportation alternatives

TxDOT announced the agency is making \$250 million available for sidewalks, bike lanes, shared-use paths, and other projects to enhance walking and biking transportation options across the state. The federal funding is aimed at reducing the number of pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities, which have risen in past years. The funding will help communities plan and build walking and biking infrastructure. TxDOT is hosting virtual workshops to help municipalities and organizations as they apply for this funding. To learn more, visit <https://www.txdot.gov/business/grants-and-funding/bicycle-pedestrian-local-federal-funding-programs.html>.

## 4. State parks celebrating 100 years

This year is the Centennial Celebration of Texas State Parks. To commemorate 100 years, every state park will host at least one special event in 2023. In January, many state parks in North Texas and on the coast are hosting fishing events for kids. There is also a photo contest with a new theme for each season of the year. Participants have the chance to win a State Parks Pass, a \$100 H-E-B gift card and more. The Bullock Texas State History Museum is also hosting a new traveling art exhibit that features more than 30 Texas State Parks. Thirty notable Texas artists were commissioned to create works celebrating parks across Texas.

The exhibit runs in Austin from January 7 to April 30 and will then travel to several museums later this year and next year. It will be on display in Tyler in 2024. There is also a commemorative book that highlights the collection and is available online to purchase. For more information on events happening at parks near you, visit [www.TexasStateParks.org/100years](http://www.TexasStateParks.org/100years).

## 5. DETCOG helps challenge federal broadband map

Recently, the Federal Communications Commission released a broadband coverage map that suggests most of Deep East Texas has access to broadband. Members of the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) have encouraged the community to challenge the maps, as they are misleading and do not accurately reflect the reality of broadband access, especially in rural areas. The map was compiled by using data from internet service providers in the area.

The coverage map will help determine how much funding states receive from the federal government for broadband projects. It's important that the maps accurately reflect access in the state. Challenges can be issued based on whether if a provider denies your request for service, has a waiting list longer than 10 days, or requires extra fees for installation.

For more information, to see the map, and to verify and challenge coverage areas, go to <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>.

## HOW OUR LEGISLATURE HAS CHANGED

### Sen. Carl Parker For The Record



Former State Senator Carl Parker

It is hard to believe the changes that have taken place in the Texas Legislature in only 60 years. Some represent substantial improvements in the way it operates but unfortunately some of it is not helpful to transparency and openness in our state government.

Until 1965 there was no office space allowed for members of the House in which they could carry on their representative duties with any degree of privacy. Members were allowed to have a full-time secretary and one half-time secretary during the session and for 30 days thereafter. Legislators were paid \$20.00 per day for their service and were reimbursed only once to go to Austin and back.

In 1965 so-called offices were provided for members of the Legislature by dividing space in the capitol by installing wooden panels that did not reach the floor nor the ceiling. Each space

Carl Parker 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.

was shared by two members of the Legislature and though it offered little privacy, it was far better than having no space at all. Because of lack of space, all work was done at members' desks, such as responding to letters from constituents, preparing amendments to legislation along with having light meals for lunch,

newspaper reading, visiting with out-of-town guests who may have shown up and other such activities. All of which made the floor of the House during the session look like pure bedlam. Shortly thereafter the House passed rules prohibiting all but legislative type office activity at the desks having created what was called the "members lounge" in a large room off to the side of the House chamber.

Fortunately, the Legislature was an open place with no security guards. All four of the main doors were open as well as the Legislature itself being open to guests invited to join them on the floor on the floor by House members and senators. The capitol grounds were open to the public and often used as a shortcut from one part of town to the other. With no traffic control whatsoever.

Today several things have changed. The Department of Public Safety assisted by metal detectors are at all

four entrances to the capitol. Strangely enough one can enter the capitol without a special identification if he/she has a license to carry a gun. It is no longer easy to simply walk in and visit your House member or senator. Generally, in today's world, it requires an appointment ahead of time for separate visits to members of the Legislature. No longer can you drive through the capitol grounds. I found the fact somewhat irritating in that I possess two top secret clearances from the federal government, served in the U.S. Navy and 32 ½ years in the Legislature. All of that means nothing in my effort to drive my car onto the capitol grounds without special permission from the Administration Committee. In the Senate, even the press is no longer allowed to occupy any space on the Senate floor but assigned to a special place in the gallery and perhaps can hear what's going on, or perhaps not.

## BC Chamber banquet From Page 1

talk to me after (the banquet)," she said.

Always humble, Dixon denied being worthy of the honor. "Thank you for this blessing with this award, because I don't deserve it, but thank you," she said.

Terri Gauthier accepted the Business of the Year award as the owner of Total Impressions. As Kirk Ellen, emcee for the night, was reading off a list of Gauthier's accomplishments, she began blushing at her seat.

"I'm color blind," said Ellen. "Even I can see that you're turning red." That evoked a laugh from the audience.

Total Impressions began in 1988 as the first full service salon in Bridge City in a converted house on Texas Avenue with five technicians, three tanning beds and a line of exclusive hair products and a small line of clothing. In 1997 they began constructing Grace Plaza and in 2020 they started the Cryotherapy Wellness Center within Total Impressions.

Gauthier said they have

special pricing for first time treatments for anybody that wants to try the Cryotherapy.

"We can introduce you to the benefits of it. It's really an amazing treatment that's great for your body, for your skin, it's just a really wonderful treatment," she said.

Gauthier said she could not have survived the last 25 years in business without the support of the community. It is now a three-generation business as her daughter Victoria has worked with her and now her granddaughter has started working there.

"I just want to thank the chamber for nominating us this year and I'm very honored and blessed to receive this award," she said.

Candace Mulholland was named Ambassador of the Year. She declined to speak, but was called back up later to present a "thank you" bouquet flowers to chamber director Mandy Lyda who has been on the job a little over a year.

"She has been a blessing. If you have come to the chamber, if you have had to

bring your business information, she is wonderful," said Mulholland about Lyda. "She's on top of everything. She's here to help you and the community spread the word about your business."

Wanda McGraw was installed as the new president of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce. The gavel was passed by immediate past president Scot C. Shaffer.

Other tidbits from the banquet include:

Carissa Slaughter was the opening entertainment during the cocktail social, plus she sang the National Anthem.

Shaffer gave the opening and closing prayers.

Information was also shared on yearly projects including six \$600 scholarships presented to students from Orangefield and Bridge City High Schools last year.

• Related Photo Page 3A

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# New brew coming to BC From Page 1

craft, but it's not a huge thing yet," said Delatte.

"I've also been involved in a homebrew club in the Orange area...since 2006," said Mungai. "That's my connection to this area."

Mungai said he believes the Golden Triangle Home Brew Club has been together since the 90s. That was the closest group located near him when he lived in Lake Charles, years ago.

"We started one (in Lake Charles), but there was already a strong one here with a lot of experienced people that have been brewing for years and years," said Mungai. "That's part of the way I learned the craft, getting together with these old timers and learning what to do and also what not to do to make great beer."

"I've been brewing as a home brewer since about 2006 and professionally since about 2015," said Mungai. "I've trained in Goliad, Texas at a brewery that's no longer open. I stayed down there for a long time, kind of mentoring the brewing industry."

Mungai said the art of brewing works a lot like some of the trades, through a type of apprenticeships.

He has spent time at a number of local breweries learning a specific piece of equipment or collaborating with other brewers.

"There's a million different ways to make beer and get to the final process," said Mungai. "It's really kind of neat to see and learn. Sometimes you'll pick up a trick that's faster, cheaper, better... it's all hands-on knowledge."

"I'm self-taught a lot of time, on the Internet," said Mungai. "I joined the Master Brewers Associa-

tion of America many years ago."

He said there is a ton of resources out there including books and conferences where you can learn about brewing.

"There's a lot of science behind it but then there's also an art to creating recipes," said Mungai.

A major part of that art and science has to do with the water. They tested the Bridge City water and have a commercial filtration system.

"We can mimic different water sources around the world with our setup so, for making a German pilsner we're gonna use German style ingredients," said Delatte. "We're gonna mimic the water that they use to make these beers."

They can strip water down to pure H2O and then add back different minerals like calcium and magnesium that are important to brewing and the flavor process of the final product.

The same goes for barley and hops. They will be importing ingredients from different parts of the world to recreate beers of those regions.

They intend to have a beer for everybody.

"We're obviously gonna have some great hoppy beers and all the different types of IPAs (India Pale Ale)," said Mungai. "A fruited sour will be one of our first beers we're making."

He said they would get into some barrel aging beers and fancier brews that take more time, once they have a suitable lineup to start. The first couple of beers will be ones with a shorter brewing time of a week to 10 days and are good with pizza.

"The other big component here is the high-quality pizzas that we're going to be cranking out," said Delatte. They will have appetizers such as pretzels with beer cheese and cheese sticks and other general bar/pub food, but Delatte said, "Our main dish is gonna be pizzas."

The pair spent a lot of time up north studying New York and New Haven style pizza.

"Our sauce is made in house. We use the best and freshest grated mozzarella."

Delatte said they went to about 20 different pizza places and met with owners and chefs, learning how they made their dough and their sauces.

"There's specific tomato that they use that is not used down here," said Delatte. "It's an Italian tomato and the sauce is made fresh. We'll have to have it shipped in."

"We are the only place in all of Southeast Texas that has an authentic brick oven that was handmade in Italy," said Delatte. The pizza oven is a wood/coal fire oven. "It took almost a year to make and have shipped."

"Another interesting fact, our bar top is an original 302-year-old ash wood tree," said Delatte. It came from Canada originally, with paperwork. Delatte said they will likely post the paperwork somewhere in the bar so people can read about it.

"It's one of the longest bars in Southeast Texas," said Delatte. "it's over 71 foot."

Hop Avenue Brewing will be a family friendly place that happens to make and serve beer. There will be games such as shuffleboard, Golden

Tee and other kid friendly activities.

It will have an outdoor beer garden for live music when the weather is nice and TVs to watch sporting events.

"We want people to come in, not just once a year, once a quarter, we're

hoping they come in once a week or once every other week try the new pizza, try the new beers, have a good time," said Delatte.

They are still hiring staff ages 16 and up. You can apply on their website: [hopavenuebrewing.com](http://hopavenuebrewing.com).

Under the menu, click "join our team."

You will also be able to place orders online once

they are open.

Hop Avenue Brewing is located at 75 Ferry Dr., next door to CVS.

Delatte and Mungai are excited to bring their style of craft brewing to Bridge City.

Mungai said, "The best part of all that hard work and everything is at the end of the day there's beer and pizza."

## Total Impressions named 'Business of the Year'



Scott C. Shaffer presents the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce 'Business of the Year' award to Terri Gauthier of Total Impressions. RECORD PHOTO: Penny LeLeux

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## 20 Years Ago-2003



## From the Creaux's Nest

## LUNCH BUNCH RECONVENES

The **Wednesday Lunch Bunch**, after being exiled by COVID for two years, will again start gathering each **Wednesday noon** at **Robert's Restaurant** starting January 25. Before the pandemic ran the **Bunch** off to the house we had enjoyed 28 years of fellowship. **No dues to pay**, come and go as you wish. Over the years I bonded with some of the finest people I've ever know, many are gone now but many remain from all walks of life and different vocations. **Everyone is welcome** from throughout the county. For the most part, everyone who takes time to break bread together are community minded folks who like to keep up with what is happening and sharing ideas but also to **enjoy each others company** one hour a week. Once you attend, you will look forward to each Wednesday noon and a lot of smiling faces. When the **Bunch** started 30 years ago, it was just **Judge Grover Halliburton, Judge Claude Wimberly, Roy Dunn and Rev. Leo Anderson**, then over the years hundreds have come on board, all great folks. Each week I will try to give you an update as to what went on, who attended. **See you soon. Y'all come.**

## OUR CONDOLENCES

We were indeed sad to learn of the death of **Judy Gail Smith Sneed**, of Bridge City, who died at the young age of 63 on January 15. Funeral service was held Friday, January 20. Our condolences to husband Clyde, children and family and to **Judy's** siblings and her large Smith family. **May she rest in peace.**

## REMEMBERING NANCY

**Nancy McWhorter** passed away on January 2, in Bossier City. She was born in Galveston and lived in Bridge City before she moved away. She was a retired nurse from Texaco. From 1994 to 2016, Nancy, who had a passion for cooking, ran a recipe column in The Record Newspapers. She also wrote cooking articles for other publications. Nancy is survived by several children, including step-children and grandchildren. Her daughter Lori and husband Bryan Rasberry live in Bridge City. Nancy, over the years, was one of our favorite people at The Record and our readers loved her columns.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME  
10 Years Ago-2013

**Barack H. Obama** made history in 2008 by becoming the first **African American** to become **United States President**. On Jan. 21, 2013, on the day that would have been **Martin Luther King's** 84th birthday, **President Obama** was sworn in for a second term. He and **Vice-President Biden's** inauguration drew over a million people. **Obama's** first inauguration four years earlier made **Martin Luther King Jr.'s** dream real. Four years earlier **President Obama** expressed grim resolve to overcome an economic crisis that had driven the U.S. into a deep recession and a military strapped with two wars. **Obama**, after taking the oath of office Monday for his second term, predicted that a resilient nation that has endured a series of crisis will emerge stronger if leaders can work together for progress. For the **57th** time the oath had been administered. **Obama is the 44th president.** The oath was given by **Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts.** **Obama** placed his left hand on two Bibles, **Martin Luther King's** and **President Abraham Lincoln's.** **Vice-President Joe Biden** was sworn in by **Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor**, the first **Hispanic** ever to administer an inaugural oath. **\*\*\*\*In recent years an average of 31,536 people in America** have died annually from gun violence. More in one year than in all wars and it continues to grow. Of that number, **18,783 killed themselves**, 11,583 were murdered, 584 were killed accidentally, 334 were killed by police and 252 died, intent unknown. **Americans**, as polls increasingly suggest, **say they want reasonable, effective new weapons restrictions.** Interest spikes after a terrible incident like the **slaughter of children** and before those against change, the forces of delay and defeat, mobilize and the tears dry. I doubt you can ever **cut down on mass killings** there are just too many guns. However, the biggest misconception is that the government will take your guns. It's even foolish to think so but the merchants of fear will keep pitching it to those weak enough to buy into the scare tactic. (Editor's note: **2023:** To date there has been **35 mass shootings** this year, two in the last few days, **18 killed many wounded** and we are just in the **first month.**) **\*\*\*\* The Lunch Bunch** dined at **Robert's** last Wednesday. **Judge Janice** was able to make it but still wasn't 100 percent. She had been battling pneumonia. **Chief Jerry Wimberly** also was in attendance. He has had one **chemo treatment** and is due another this week. So far, chemo hasn't made him sick; if it does he says he'll be **looking for marijuana.** I'm not sure he was joking. New constable **David Cagle** joined the **Bunch.** **Marlene Merritt** still can't wear a shoe but she has been released to drive.

On Jan. 20, **Matt Bryant's number 99** was retired at **Bridge City High.** **Mark Dunn** writes a good story on **Matt**, his dad and mom and the **Bryant family** and their contribution to **Bridge City.** **\*\*\*\*Former Port Arthur Thomas Jefferson quarterback, Craig Stump**, has been let go as a coach at **Mississippi State** by his former **Aggie coach Jackie Sherrill.** **Stump** is expected to be named head coach at **4-A Lockhart.** **\*\*\*\* All of Bridge City** was pulling for native son **Jason Mathews** and the **Tennessee Titans** to make it to the **Super Bowl** but that didn't happen; **Oakland** won 41-24 to advance. **\*\*\*\*Aimee Fuller** is the new television anchor on **Channel 4**, along with **Albert Zipp.** She replaces **Lisa Pinto** of Orange, daughter of former city manager **Chuck Pinto.** (Editor's note: *What happened to all of those people anyway?*) **\*\*\*\*I** thought it might be interesting to see what was happening in different years in Orange County's past. **In 1958, 65 years ago**, commissioner's court passed a resolution to call the Neches river bridge the "**Port Arthur/Orange Rainbow Bridge.**" **\*\*\*\*Jessie Stephens** bought **Border Motor Company** and named it **Stephens Buick.** **\*\*\*\*The Jack Tar Hotel** held a first anniversary celebration. **\*\*\*\*In 1948, 75 years ago**, **Chester Holts** announced candidacy for sheriff. **\*\*\*\*Last week, Jan. 16, KOGT radio started daily broadcasting.** The first signal went out in the predawn hours with veteran announcer **Sam Leavitt at the mike.** **\*\*\*\*KFDM radio built a \$190,000 tower transmitter** north of Bridge City. **\*\*\*\*In 1923, 100 years ago**, the **Orange Lions Club** held its charter meeting with **25 charter members.**

## 45 Years Ago-1978

**Roger Staubach vs. Graig Morton.** The **Dallas Cowboy** and the **Cinderella Denver Broncos** will meet in **Super Bowl XII.** **\*\*\*\*Orange native R.C. Slocum** accepts the position as linebacker coach at **Ole Miss.** He got frustrated as the end coach for **A&M**, a team that doesn't pass. **\*\*\*\*County Attorney Jim Sharon Bearden**, in order to solve and bring to justice a rash of pending crimes, has hired **Wilson Roberts**, former Bridge City police chief, as an investigator. **Roberts** joins **Linnes Hubbard** and **J.W. "Kid" Henry**, investigators for the district attorney's office. **Bearden** is turning up the heat on criminals.

## A FEW HAPPENINGS

Longtime Assistant District Attorney **Krispen Walker** has announced she will run for **Orange County Attorney/District Attorney** in 2024, which means **John Kimbrough**, her boss, will not be running. **Kimbrough** was elected in 1992 when he beat the incumbent and is now serving his eighth term. He comes close to being the **longest-serving elected official** in county history. If he serves until his current term expires on January 1, 2025, he will have served **32 years.** **State District Judge Bud-die Hahn**, who was first appointed to by **Governor Mark White** to replace **Judge Don Burgess**, who was elected to a state court of appeals. **Hahn was 260th District Judge for 33 1/2 years.** Political season for 2024 is active. **Attorney Rodney Townsend** has announced he's running for judge of the county court-at-law seat that will be vacated when **Troy Johnson** retires. Local lawyers here rarely run against an incumbent for judge or county/district attorney. **\*\*\*\*Lots of red jackets** were out Monday night for the annual **Bridge City Chamber of Commerce banquet.** The **Chamber Ambassadors** wear the jackets, including **Candace Mulhollan**, who was surprised to be named "**ambassador of the year.**" **Kirk Ellender** got some zingers in as he once again emceed the event. He's becoming quite the pro at the job. **County Judge John Gothia**, a Bridge City resident, was working the crowd as only he can do. **Citizen of the Year Cil Dixon** said she was undeserving of the award, but all it takes is a look at her accomplishments to learn why she was honored. All but one of her children were there, except for the expectant mother-to-be. **Judice's on Texas Avenue** catered the even with jambalaya, Cajun pasta, green beans, and salad. It was a festive and fun event at the **Bridge City Community Center.** **\*\*\*\*Former Orange resident Joel Robins** is finishing his extensive research on the history of **Orange High-Stark High football.** He was known as "**Joey**" when he played quarterback for the **Stark Tigers in the 1960s** and has been spending his retirement researching the history through newspaper microfilm and old yearbooks, one dating back to 1917. The first high school football team in Orange was back in 1909. He's found that the only **undefeated team was in 1924.** Of course he's learned about the saga with **Coach Dexter Shelley** and the history of players like **Bohn Hilliard, Taro Kishi, Ox Emerson**, and many, many others. **\*\*\*\* Papal missionary Father Jim Sichko** visited his **Fruit City hometown** in between preaching engagements and had a chance for an early birthday celebration. **He turns 56 on February 2.** Of course his sister, **Thereze** was there along with **Gina and Skipper Yeaman** at the **Seafood Palace in Lake Charles.** **\*\*\*\*Jami and Stephen Lee** recently celebrated a wedding anniversary. They may have moved to **Beaumont**, but **they keep their Orange ties close.** **\*\*\*\* Birthdays** this week had **Don Futch** turning **96** and **Curtis Sonnier** hitting **70.** Others celebrating recently included **Josie Jefferson, Reid Carthers, Maggie Jackson, Cecelia Pillsbury, Myrna Trahan, Rita Monson**, and retired sheriff's deputy **Janois Grizzaffi.** **\*\*\*\*Looking for used air conditioner.** I would like to find a **3 or 4 ton** outdoor air conditioner. If you or someone you know has one that they no longer have use for. Will pay reasonable price. **Please call 409-886-7183 with info.**

## BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks we know celebrating their birthday. **Jan. 25:** Longtime friend, historian **Roy McDaniel**, turns 98, **Taylor Thompson** celebrates his 31<sup>st</sup>. **\*\*\*\*Jan. 26:** A special lady, **Nancy Vincent**, celebrates. I wonder if she is still around. She and the late **Ray Trahan** were great buddies. **\*\*\*\*Jan. 27:** **Leland Clay Gros** turns 14. He's "**GeeGee,**" **Karen Gros'** grandson and **Roy and Phyl's** great-grandson. He is the son of **Garette Clay Gros.** His mom is **Brittney Stilwell.** Happy Birthday **Leland.** **\*\*\*\*Jan. 28:** **Rosalie Clark** celebrates today. A day she shared with her late twin sister **Mary Ann Scofield.** **Pat Jr's** twin boys celebrate also on their grandmother **Rosalie's** birthday. Also

celebrating is a special friend **Mary Stanton.** I never see her but think of her often. Happy Birthday also to **Justin Gearhart, Colin Briggs** and **Bill Dixon**, former coach and now Bridge City Municipal Judge. **\*\*\*\*Jan. 29:** Pretty **Devra Cormier, Bobby's** better half, celebrates today. Celebrating today also is **Wyman Ogdan, Paula Perkins, Tracy Addison** and **Cailyn Eubanks.** **\*\*\*\*Jan. 30:** Happy Birthday to **Brenda Dubose, Jason Myers, Jeanie Kreger, Shirley Jordan** and **Chuck Rowley.** **\*\*\*\*Jan. 31:** **Skipper's** little boy **Scott Free** celebrates today as does **Lily Fields, Marty Delano, Eric Mangham, Ron Mason**, and **Lucas Adams.**

## THIS AND THAT

This week in 1977 the television mini series **Roots**, based on the **Alex Haley** novel, began airing on ABC. Its rating reached an all time high. Can you believe if you are 50 years old or younger you won't remember it. **\*\*\*\*One of history's most important moments occurred Jan. 23, 1932**, 91 years ago, saving our country from the **great depression.** **New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt** announced as a democratic candidate for president of the **United States.** He was elected in 1933. **\*\*\*\*Janis Lyn Joplin** was born on January 19, 1943, **80 years ago**, in Port Arthur. In August 17, 1947, she, her parents and two young siblings made their home at **4330-32<sup>nd</sup> St.** The home is now marked with a historical marker. **\*\*\*\*"Moon and the Stars"** pays tribute to the late, great singer/songwriter **Moon Mullican.** **Johnny Nicholas** will release his new album January 27. **Moon** was born near **Corrigan, Texas** in 1909 and died in **Beaumont** in 1967. **Moon** made his home in **Nederland.** He collaborated with **Hank Williams** on "**Jambalaya.**" **Gordon Baxter** swore **Moon** and **Hank Williams** used the name of his radio show to write that song. When **Gordon** came on the air, he started his program with "**This is Barefoot Bax, welcome to the Jamablaya, Crawfish Pie, File Gumbo show.**" Some believe that **Moon** wrote **Jimmie Davis'** song, "**You Are My Sunshine,**" that many of us grew up singing as our first song. **Moon** was a great song writer and piano player. He wrote western swing, blues, Boggie-Woogie and honky-tonk from 1930 to the 1960's, **Moon** is buried in **Beaumont's Magnolia cemetery** that features an historical marker.

## CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

**Tee-Neg Breaux**, my cousin **Sostan's** boy, ain't so bright him. It runs in da family, being a couple marbles short. Anyhow, **Tee-Neg, him**, and dis gal were locked in a

clinch in de front seat of her car. She wisper in his ear, "**Cher, Tee-Neg**, you wanna go in de back seat?" "**Mais, no,**" **Tee-Neg** reply. A few minutes later she aks him again, "**Tee-Neg**, you wanna get in de back seat now?" "**No,**" he say, "Me, I wanna stay in de front seat wit' you, babe."

Another time **Tee-Neg** was hitch-hiking from **Lafayette** to **Texas** to visit a cousin in **Vidor.** A man in a big **Lincoln**

**Continental** pick him up. **Tee-Neg, him**, he notice a bunch

of golf tees on de front seat. He say, "Hey, Mister, w'at dem t'ings dere for?" De **Texas man**, him, he say, "Well, those hold my balls while I drive." "**Kee-yaw!**" **Tee-Neg** blurted out, "Dem **Lincoln Contininual**, dem, dey have every'ing, hanh?"

C'EST TOUT  
BIDEN GETS HIGH MARKS AFTER  
FIRST TWO YEARS

No president since **Lyndon Johnson** has accomplished so much in his first two years in office. **Biden** did it the hard way. He pushed through key legislation with a small majority in the **House** and a tiny margin in the **Senate.** **Biden's** first big accomplishment was the passage of the **American Rescue** plan which was to protect from the effects of the pandemic and quickly get the economy back to full employment which now stands at its lowest unemployment ever. The **American Rescue** plan succeeded in producing rapid growth. It also put a lot of money in household's bank accounts. It also provided the money for a quick roll-out for **COVID** vaccines. **Biden** then got through a bipartisan infrastructure modernizations bill. A trillion dollars for road and bridges that also included funds to ensure everyone has clean drinking water and access to high speed internet. **Biden** scored another bi-partisan victory when he got congress to pass the **CHIPS Act.** Perhaps his most important legislation victory was the **Inflation Act**, a far reaching bill lowering prescription drug prices. In the case of drugs we are moving away from a world where we give drug companies patent monopolies to charge whatever they want. Most importantly **Biden** has all the big auto manufacturers commit to a roll out of electric vehicles and leading chip manufactures have announced plans to build plants in the **United States.** There will be no turning back. Few presidents, if any, has accomplished more than **President Biden** in such a short time. Why then does the question remain of why people think the economy is doing poorly if all the economic data, jobs, wages, income, looks positive? It's the endless negativity in some media that is likely the largest part of the story. The same media that earlier put our false misinformation about **Biden's** mental health, accusing him of dementia, etc. Many people bought into it. Economists look at what people do, not what they say. We see people buying houses, cars, appliances and other big ticket items like never before. Also they go to restaurants far more than before the pandemic. Regardless of what people tell pollsters, they all tell us with their actions that they feel pretty good about the economy. They are making more and spending more. **Joe Biden** deserves much of the credit. **That we can't deny.** **\*\*\*\*Remember**, you can't buy better local advertising, two papers, **The Penny Record** and **The County Record**, for the price of one. More reach for your buck. **To advertise call 409-886-7183.** **\*\*\*\*Read us cover to cover and please patronize our family of advertisers.** My time is up but I thank you for yours and for making us the best read publications in Orange County. **Take care and God bless.**

## Deaths & Memorials

### Nancy McWhorter, 88

FORMERLY OF BRIDGE CITY

Nancy was born in Galveston, Texas on April 3, 1935 and passed away on January 2, 2023 in Bossier City, LA. She attended Dickinson High School and after graduation, attended the University of Texas Galveston and received her Nursing Degree in 1956.

She retired from Texaco Port Arthur/Port Neches Medical Department after over 26 years. Her passion for cooking led Nancy to begin a recipe column in the Record Newspapers from 1994-2008 & 2009-2016 and the Minden Press Herald from 2009-2016. She also wrote several cooking articles for the Hays Free Press in Hays County Texas.

Nancy was a member of Belle Park Baptist Church in Haughton and a former member of First Baptist Church in Minden.

Nancy is survived by her children, Car-



Nancy McWhorter

ol Farley and husband Herb of Haughton, LA, Lori Rasberry and husband Bryan of Bridge City, TX, and Dwight Stewart and wife Brenda of San Antonio, TX; stepson, Mike McWhorter and wife Trini of Argyle, TX; stepdaughter Patricia Kuehn an husband Bob of Spring, TX; grandchildren, Cassie Rohrer and husband John, Ray Farley, Corey Edgerly and wife Katie, B.J. Rasberry and wife Lareesa, Sheryl Anne Murillo and husband Gaby, Mick Rasberry and wife Laci and Andrzej Stewart; six step grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

Pallbearers included Ray Farley, Gaby Murillo, BJ Rasberry, Mick Rasberry, John Rohrer, and Andrzej Stewart; honorary pallbearers are Chayce Farley, Jordan McWhorter, and Michael Williams.

### Althea Joyce Angelle, 93, Bridge City

Althea Joyce Angelle, 93, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away on January 18, 2023, peacefully at home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 21, 2023, at St. Henry Catholic Church in Bridge City. Officiating will be Father Ernie Carpio. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Orange.

Visitation will be from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Friday, January 20, 2023, with a recitation of the rosary to follow at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City.

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 1, 1929, she was the daughter of Alfred H. Walker and Eugenia Irma (Joseph) Walker. Joyce was a member of St. Henry Catholic Church and loved her church and her church family. She dedicated her life to caring for her family. She was a loving mother and grandmother. Joyce had a creative soul that she applied in many aspects of her life. She will be deeply missed by those who knew her.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Eugenia Walker; and sis-



Althea Joyce Angelle

ter, Ruth Dumas.

She is survived by her loving husband of 73 years, Earl Joseph Angelle; children, Judy Horlander and husband Dennis, Michael Angelle and wife Barbara, Mary Moon and husband Jimmy, Gilbert Angelle and wife Mitzi,

Lee Angelle and wife Connie Landry, Brigid Ferguson and husband Harvey, Thad Angelle and wife Candi,

Mark Angelle and wife Connie Rigby, and Frank Angelle and wife Evelyn; 23 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

Serving as pallbearers will be Michael Angelle, Gilbert Angelle, Lee Angelle, Thad Angelle, Mark Angelle, Frank Angelle, Jimmy Moon, and Harvey Ferguson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to MD Anderson at <https://gifts.mdanderson.org/>; St. Henry Catholic Church at 495 West Round Bunch Road, Bridge City, Texas 77611; and Xaverian Missionaries at

12 Helene Ct, Wayne, New Jersey, 07470.

### Linda Ray Phillips, 76, Orange

Linda Ray Phillips, 76, of Orange, Texas, passed away peacefully on January 22, 2023, at the Mid Jefferson Extended Care in Nederland, Texas.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 28, 2023, at Old First Orange Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Bland Cemetery in Orange.

Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, at Old First Orange Baptist Church.

Born in Orange, Texas, on November 17, 1946, she was the daughter of Marshall Miller and Wanda (Wilkinson) Whitehead. Linda was a lifelong member of the Old First Orange Baptist Church in Orange and a lifelong resident of the



Linda Ray Phillips

McLewie Community. She was also a 30-year member, and past president, of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. After graduating from Orangefield High School, Linda worked in the service department for various car dealerships, as well as a secretary position for the Bland Perpetual Cemetery. She was a wonderful woman whose memory will go on to be cherished by all that knew and loved her.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Frank Collins; and parents, Marshall Miller and Wanda (Wilkinson) Whitehead.

She is survived by her brothers, James Miller and Earl Miller of Porter, Texas; several cousins; and her loving friends.

### Dangerous storm strikes From Page 1

62 including the LaQuinta Inn, Sonic, and McDonald's.

Ardoin said the National Weather Service in Lake Charles had not confirmed the tornado, however tornado warnings were issued throughout Orange County a little after 4 p.m. Tornado warnings come when a funnel cloud has been spotted. Some people posted on social media that they had seen a tornado.

The weather service will send research crews out Wednesday to assess damage and track the path of the tornado.

Even without a tornado, the line of storms caused widespread damage with sustained winds up ranging from 20 to 25 mph and gusts of 30 to 35 mph, according to gauges at the Orange County Airport on Highway 87 South. Some of the straight-line winds in other areas may have been stronger.

Trees and limbs were reported down across the county, particularly in the Little Cypress area and around Allie Payne Road. A social media post showed structural damage at the Fox Run Apartments on Allie Payne Road.

Ardoin said his department will have a drone out Wednesday in the daylight to get

an aerial view of where the damage is and to help determine the path of the tornado.

Entergy reported more than 18,000 Orange County customers were without electricity Tuesday evening. Much of the city of Orange was without power, along with other large areas of the county, including Orangefield. Estimates for restoration of electricity was for six to seven hours after the outages about 4:30 p.m. However, Entergy Texas was working with lost power lines throughout its service area, including an estimated 24,000 total for Orange, Jefferson, and Hardin counties.

Many people were getting notices that electricity may not be restored until late Wednesday night.

The severe storm was forecast and school districts throughout the county had postponed sports events for Tuesday. The districts also had early releases to let students get home before the severe weather hit.

The Orange County Courthouse closed offices at 2 p.m. so employees could get home safely. Commissioners Court, though, had a short meeting before the storm came. County Emergency Management Director Joel Ardoin was monitoring the weather during the meeting.

### More school funding From Page 1

saying they support increased funding for safety programs. More than half of the parents who responded to the survey said they thought their child has at least a moderate chance of experiencing cyberbullying, and 48% said the same about physical bullying or fights. Two-thirds of parents surveyed said there is a moderate risk that their child may experience some form of bullying, sexual harassment or discrimination while at school.

Lawmakers have allotted about \$600 million to improve school safety under both the House and Senate budget proposals.

"School choice" programs like vouchers — state-sponsored scholarships for private schools that have also become a shorthand when talking about measures that would take taxpayer money from public schools — were more divisive among poll respondents. Of all respondents, 54% said they opposed a voucher program in their communities if it would reduce local public schools' funding; par-

ents were evenly split on the same question, with 49% saying they were in favor and 49% saying they were against.

Prominent political figures such as Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and the Texas GOP have listed "school choice" as a legislative priority. Republican lawmakers who support voucher-like programs believe this session may be their best shot to pass something like an education savings account program, which would allow parents to use state funds to pay for their children's private school, online schooling or private tutors.

Boklage said the most important finding from the survey is that a majority of Texans think positively about public schools after almost three years of uncertainty.

"Texans, from this poll, seem pretty plugged in," she said. "They have opinions about their public schools and they are coming from a place of support."

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# Classifieds

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**For Rent** 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath in Bridge City area. \$1200 monthly, \$600 security deposit required. Please call 409-670-6255

**For Rent** 360 Lake Street in Bridge City, 3 bedroom 2 bath mobile home with large add on addition \$750 plus deposit (409)351-5511

### AUTO FOR SALE

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### LEGAL NOTICE

The property commonly known as 315 Mill Street, Vidor, TX 77662 is scheduled to be sold at public foreclosure auction on 02/07/2023 at 01:00 PM or no later than 3 hours thereafter at the back door of the Courthouse in Orange County, Texas, or if the preceding area is no longer the designated area, at the area most recently designated by the Orange County Commissioner's Court. The Substitute Trustee will be Margie Allen, Kyle Barclay, Tommy Jackson, Keata Smith, Stephanie Hernandez, Selim Taherzadeh, or Michael Linke, any to act. The winning bidder buys "as is" and must pay at the auction with certified funds.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION (OTHER) - COPUBWD

#### THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: Unknown Heirs of Wayne Joseph Prosperie, Jr.  
Respondent, NOTICE:

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 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

The petition of Freedom Mortgage Corporation, Petitioner, was filed in the 128th District Court of Orange County, Texas on 7th day of December, 2022, against Unknown Heirs of Wayne Joseph Prosperie, Jr., Respondent, numbered 220484-C. The suit requests:

This proceeding concerns the foreclosure of a lien on the following realty property and improvements commonly known as 2032 Monterrey Drive, Orange, TX 77630, and more particularly described as LOT NO. TWENTY (20), IN BLOCK NO. TWO (2), OF CHARLEMONT PLACE, A SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF ORANGE, ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP THEREOF OF RECORD IN VOLUME 5, PAGE 61, MAP RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS.

The court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment which will be binding on you.

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and seal of said Court at Orange, Texas, this January 9th, 2023.

ANNE REED, District Clerk  
Orange County, Texas  
*Anne Reed*

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- ENGAGEMENTS •
- WEDDINGS •
- ANNIVERSARIES •

Please call us at:  
409-886-7183

Email at: news@therecordlive.com

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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of PAMELA KAY LEDOUX, Deceased, were issued on the JANUARY 17, 2023, in Cause No. P19577, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: JERRY D. LEDOUX.

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:  
JERRY D. LEDOUX  
8905 S. Dana  
Orange, TX 77632

Dated the 18th day of January, 2023.

*Tommy Gunn*  
Tommy Gunn

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of GEORGIE ELIZABETH BOYETT, Deceased, were issued on the JANUARY 17, 2023, in Cause No. P19572, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: BECKY PLATT.

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:  
BECKY PLATT  
1449 Elizabeth Stone  
Bridge City, TX 77611

Dated the 18th day of January, 2023.

*Tommy Gunn*  
Tommy Gunn

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

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of MICHAEL MOSELEY, Deceased, were issued on the JANUARY 17, 2023, in Cause No. P19573, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: TERRY MOSELEY.

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:  
TERRY MOSELEY  
145 Dobbyn  
Bridge City, TX 77611

Dated the 18th day of January, 2023.

*Tommy Gunn*  
Tommy Gunn

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

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### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME:  
SUPER BOWL

- ACROSS
- COVID tester
  - Pep rally syllable
  - To overlay with thin gold coating
  - Sky bear
  - Abundant
  - Worrier's worry?
  - Fishing spot
  - Blackhearted
  - Full of coral
  - \*2023 Super Bowl stadium sponsor
  - Research facil.
  - Egg cell
  - King Charles to Prince Harry
  - Thief's target
  - \*2023 Super Bowl Halftime Show star
  - Mozart's "L... del Cairo"
  - Bob Marley's music
  - Yarn spinner
  - "The Poky Little"

- DOWN
- Paddleboarding acronym
  - Court order
  - Between ports
  - Hungarian composer Bela \_\_\_\_\_
  - \*Either one of the opposing Super Bowl teams
  - FlambÉ
  - Position of leadership
  - \*2023 Super Bowl AZ location
  - Frosts, as a cake
  - Hit the road
  - Like certain humor
  - Disprove
  - Dickens's Heep
  - Each and all
  - One of a set of dice
  - Father, colloquially
  - Round openings
  - Pickled garnish
  - \*Last year's Super Bowl winners
  - Nimbus, pl.
  - Nigerian money
  - Torcher's crime
  29. Elmer's, e.g.
  - Found at the pump
  - \*Team with most Super Bowl appearances
  - Signaling tool at the cash register
  - Greenwich-related acronym
  - Superior ones
  - Itsy-bitsy bits
  - Patterned table linen
  - Lacking clarity
  - Bread spreads
  - Donned
  - As opposed to base in chemistry
  52. Snatchers' quest
  - Cantina pot
  - \*Overwhelming Super Bowl defeat
  - Fear-inspiring
  - 100 lbs.

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# Cardinals win battle with 'Stangs

OCSPORTSBEAT  
DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

The Bridge City Cardinals were looking to secure their position in second place for the first half of district when they played at West Orange Stark on Friday night, January 20. A victory over the winless in district Mustangs would move the Cardinals into a tie for second place with the Lumberton Raiders.

The contest was anything but a walk-over for the Cardinals. The Mustangs led for the most part until late in the third quarter. Bridge City rallied and hung on in the fourth quarter for a dramatic 59-56 triumph.

The Mustangs got the first two baskets of the game from Darren Anderson and Jamikael Davis to take the initial lead, and Davis added a second bucket to put them up 6-3. Lincoln Breaux and Jerris Brown scored for the Cardinals to give Bridge City a brief 7-6 advantage with 2:30 left in the opening quarter.

The defense was tenacious for West Orange Stark limiting the Cardinals to only a single free throw for the remainder of the period. Jamar O'Neal regained the lead for WOS 8-7 when the Mustangs started raining threes with one by Chadrick Lee and two by Geramichah Davis that made the score 17-8 after one period.

The second quarter began with Bridge City scoring the first nine points in about three minutes to



Dan Perrine

grab the lead 19-17 on Walker Britten's two free throws. The Mustangs and the Cardinals exchanged the lead four more times as Andrew Cooper of WOS and Britten alternated baskets.

The Mustangs went ahead on a basket by Anderson with one minute before half time. Cooper made two late free throws to give West Orange Stark a three point advantage 27-24 at the half.

A three point play by Bridge City's Fernando Rodriguez tied the game as the second half started. O'Neal scored for the Mustangs to give them back the lead which was eventually stretched to five points 38-33 on a free throw by Tahj Amerson.

A trio of treys turned the momentum for the visitors. Britten hit the first followed by two from Aiden Gutierrez to put the Cardinals on top 42-38 with less than two minutes left in the third.

Geramichah Davis narrowed the gap for the Mustangs with the last basket of the quarter. Bridge City took a two point lead to the wild final quarter.

Twenty seconds into the fourth Jamikael Davis tied the game for the Mustangs. The Cardinals answered by tallying the next six points to go up 48-42 a lead that held to the final two minutes.

Cooper knotted the



Aiden Gutierrez scored 16 points including two late free throws to secure the win for Bridge City over West Orange Stark.

score at 51-51, and Anderson had the home crowd at West Orange Stark going crazy when he made a short jumper to give the Mustangs a 53-51 lead with just 1:14 left in regulation.

Bridge City's Breaux made two clutch free



Walker Britten was perfect at the free throw line to finish with 20 points for the Cardinals against the Mustangs and hit seven three point baskets to score 27 points in Bridge City's win over Jasper.

throws to tie the game again. Two free throws by Britten returned the Cardinals to the lead 55-53 with 33 seconds remaining.

BRIDGE CITY Page 4B



## Kaz's Fearless Football Forecast

### NFL Championship Games

#### ★ AFC CONFERENCE

• CINCINNATI BENGALS (14-4) over KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (15-3)

2:00 p.m. Sunday at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Mo. (CBS)—The Chiefs had a harder time subduing Jacksonville last weekend after Patrick Mahomes suffered his high ankle sprain in the first half. The Bengals were head and shoulders better than Buffalo in their division championship game Sunday. Last weekend there were two upsets out of the four games played and I believe history will repeat itself again with Cincinnati upsetting the 2 1/2-point favored Kansas City Chiefs. **KAZ'S PROJECTED SCORE**—Cincinnati 27-Kansas City 21.

#### ★ NFC CONFERENCE

• PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (15-3) over SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (15-4)

5:30 P.M. Sunday at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, PA. (Fox)—Although I believed the

SEE KAZ'S FORECAST PAGE 5B

## Bobcats finish first half in second place



Orangefield's Pete Ragusa registered a double-double with 18 points and 10 rebounds in the Bobcats' win over Kountze and led the Bobcats with 24 points in a blowout win with Kirbyville

DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

The first half of games for District 22-3A was completed on Friday, January 20. The Orangefield Bobcats (21-6) won their two games played last week in convincing style to occupy second place in the district one game behind the East Chambers Buccaneers with seven district games remaining.

On Tuesday, January 17, the Bobcats played the Kountze Lions in Orangefield. The Bobcats took the early lead 16-6 after one quarter and coasted to a 70-47 triumph.

Orangefield's Pete Ragusa had an outstanding game registering a double-double for the Bobcats with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Ragusa also had 8 assists just missing the triple-double by two.

It was a night of balanced scoring for Orangefield with three Bobcats finishing in double figures



Kane Smith scored 13 points for Orangefield during the Bobcats win against Kountze.

and eight players getting at least a point in the game. Kane Smith was second in points for the Bobcats with 13, Jaden Scales tossed in 12, and Morgan Sampson contributed 9 to the cause.

Friday night Orangefield traveled to Kirbyville and whipped the Wildcats by over fifty points. The Bobcats outscored the Wildcats 30-8 in the opening period and closed with a 21-3 margin in the fourth quarter resulting in a 75-24 final score.

Ragusa led the Bobcats in scoring with 24 points. Zane Wrinkle made 13 points while leading Orangefield with 7 rebounds. Scales scored in double figures again with 10 points. Brayden Parker tallied 6 points and dished out 7 assists.

The second half of district started Tuesday, January 24, at Buna for the Orangefield Bobcats who are 6-1 in district games. The Bobcat's next game will be Friday at Orangefield against the Hardin Hornets.

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# NFL Is Changing Dramatically

## KAZ'S KORNER Joe Kazmar For The Record

Last weekend there were eight teams competing for the right to continue toward Super Bowl LVII with only four being successful for this week's two conference representatives that will play in the February 14 extravaganza.

If you look at the eight quarterbacks involved in last weekend's game you will notice that they all are fuzzy-faced young men between the age of 21-29.

That's right. The day of the quarterback who remains in the pocket until he either releases the football toward one of his receiving teammates or gets sacked by the opposition is a thing of the past.

When the Dallas Cowboys rolled over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and their fabled quarterback Tom Brady last Monday night and Green Bay and its quirky—but very tal-



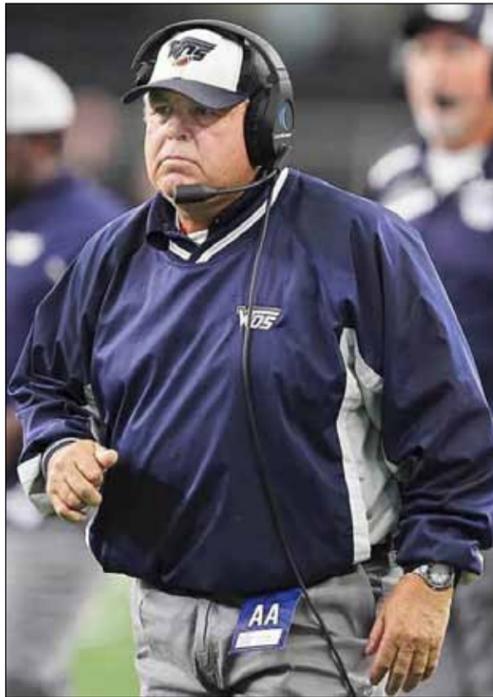
Joe Kazmar

missed the playoffs. Both are mulling retirement. All eight quarterbacks left in the postseason last weekend are in their 20's.

They run. They throw on the run. They routinely make sidarm, off-balance throws that were once coached out of their predecessors.

"The days of the slow-footed pure pocket passer are dying," commented longtime NFL quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick, who is now an analyst for Amazon." On the breadth of dazzling young passers, he added, "I don't recall a time when there's been this many."

These young quarterbacks ultimately have defined this NFL season, Channelview native Jalen Hurts has made the Philadelphia Eagles the No. 1



Former West Orange-Stark head football coach and athletic director Cornel Thompson who will be inducted into the Texas Coaches Hall of Fame at noon Saturday at the MGM Elegante in Beaumont.

Chargers) and Lamar Jackson (Baltimore).

### KWICKIES...

Congrats are in order for former West Orange-Stark head football coach and athletic director Cornel Thompson who will be inducted into the Texas Coaches Hall of Fame at noon Saturday at the MGM Elegante in Beaumont.

The Kansas City Chiefs are 10-1 coming off the Bye Week in the NFL Playoffs. The Chiefs will be playing Sunday at Arrowhead Stadium Sunday against the red-hot Cincinnati Bengals. Head Coach Andy Reid will be gunning for his 21st playoff win which will tie him with New England's Bill Belichick.

The Houston Astros will add infielder Bill Doran and Bill Brown to the team's Hall of Fame on Aug. 12, prior to the game with the LA Angels. Doran, who played with the Astros from 1982-90, is the 21st player inducted to the team's Hall of Fame and was the team's MVP in 1985 and 1987. Brown was the team's play-by-play broadcaster from 1987-2016.

Dak Prescott's 17 interceptions are the most by a Dallas quarterback since Tony Romo's 19 in 2012.

His six multi-interception games is tied with Josh Allen for the most in the NFL. And Dak missed a bunch of games.

### JUST BETWEEN US...

We should know who will be playing in Super Bowl LVII Sunday night after the NFC champion is crowned between the San Francisco 49ers and the Philadelphia Eagles and the earlier AFC championship between Kansas City and the Cincinnati Bengals. My choices are the Eagles vs. Cincinnati. It's hard to imagine that three of last year's four conference finalists are back again this year.

Lady Bobcat Greenlea Oldham scored 8 points in both Orangefield games last week while also pulling down 14 rebounds.



## Orangefield Lady Bobcats split their two games

### DAN PERRINE For The Record

With five games remaining on the district schedule the Orangefield Lady Bobcats need probably at least three wins in the last two weeks to make the postseason. Three of those last five contests will be played away from Orangefield.

The Lady Bobcats split their two games last week. The first place and undefeated Kountze Lady Lions defeated Orangefield 75-31 on Tuesday. Greenlea Oldham led the Lady Bobcats with 8 points and 8 rebounds. She even had two blocked shots. Kaylea Gravett scored 7 points and grabbed 6 rebounds. Orangefield also got scoring contributions from Steelye Franklin with 5

and Kendall Sullivan who had 4 points.

The results were better for Orangefield on Friday at Kirbyville. The Lady Bobcats beat the winless Wildcats 43-22. Gravett played a strong game scoring 11 points, making 3 steals, and pulling down 2 rebounds. Oldham was solid all round with 8 points, 6 rebounds, and 2 steals. Harleigh Rawls matched Oldham with 8 points and Kennedy Thibodeaux tossed in 6 points.

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats played their closest rival for the playoffs the Buna Lady Cougars this week on Tuesday. The Lady Bobcats play again on Friday at home against the Hardin Lady Hornets.

## Quarterbacks accounted for 15.5% of the NFL's rushing yards this season—the most since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970.

ented—quarterback Aaron Rodgers may have spelled an end to the drop-back-into-the-pocket quarterback in the NFL.

Today's young quarterbacks who are being drafted in the first or second rounds aren't afraid to pull the football down and take off running when he can't find an open receiver. But the young signal-caller makes darn sure he either runs out of bounds or slides like a baseball player when the opponents start closing in.

This was pointed out in an on-line article in the Wall Street Journal last weekend which stated, "This shift in the balance represents something far bigger than a figurative torch passing. Tom Brady became the game's greatest ever passer by mastering the textbook mechanics that had been drilled into players for decades. The ones assuming the mantle from him have lit that textbook on fire."

Tom Brady had the worst record of his career in 2022. Aaron Rodgers

seed in the NFC. Patrick Mahomes, who is my MVP pick for the second time in his career, led the Kansas City Chiefs to the top spot in the AFC and at 27, he's the oldest quarterback for a playoff team in his conference.

Quarterbacks accounted for 15.5% of the NFL's rushing yards this season—the most since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970, according to Stats.

The four quarterbacks who still have their eyes set on the Super Bowl include Mahomes (Kansas City), Hurts (Philadelphia), Brock Purdy (San Francisco) and Joe Burrow (Cincinnati).

Those four who must wait at least until next year include Dak Prescott (Dallas), Trevor Lawrence (Jacksonville), Josh Allen (Buffalo) and Daniel Jones (NY Giants). Other young quarterbacks whose teams were eliminated earlier in the playoffs and should continue to leave their marks on the league include Tua Tagovailoa (Miami) Justin Herbert (LA

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# LCM Bears run past rival WOS Mustangs

DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

The Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears won their first district game at home this season over cross-town rival the West Orange Stark Mustangs. The Bears got a big lead early and outpaced the Mustangs 81-51 on Tuesday, January 17.

Coming into the game Little Cypress Mauriceville had lost its two district home games to Bridge City and to Lumberton. The win over West Orange Stark improved the Bears' record to 3-2 in district.

Noah Fuller got the Bears on the board with the first basket, but the Mustangs' Geramicah Davis nailed a three pointer to give West Orange Stark a 3-2 advantage. It would be the Mustangs' only lead of the game.

Little Cypress Mauriceville went on a twelve-point scoring binge after that to go up 14-3 until Davis stopped the Bear

run hitting his second three. Ben Elliott of the Bears scored eleven points in the first quarter to help them lead 22-11 after the first period.

In the second quarter LCM picked up where it left off in the first. The Bears scored fourteen points including five by Jayden Benton during the first five minutes of the period to increase their lead to twenty-five points in the second.

West Orange Stark got some momentum after Lee's basket. Jamar O'Neil made the next bucket and Tahj Amerson scored the last four points before half time to get the Mustangs closer 38-21 when the players went to their lockers.

The third quarter started with Alantheon Winn sinking a three for Little Cypress Mauriceville. Jonah Fuller would later add a three and a field goal for his five points in the game.

As the quarter was ending Elliott inadvertently deflected a rebound of a shot by West Orange Stark's O'Neal into the basket giving the Mustangs two points. Ben more than made up for that tallying six points in the third stretching the score to 60-36 for the Bears.

The situation got no better for the Mustangs in the final quarter. LCM's Elliott poured in seven more points, Da'Marion Morris had four points with an assist, and Ty Blackmon came off the bench to sink two three pointers. The Bears won decisively 81-51.

Elliott led everyone with 28 points in the game. Winn scored 15 points making ten of twelve free throws. Morris was in double figures with 11 points dished out numerous assists during the win.

For the Mustangs Geramicah Davis was their high scorer with 17 points that featured five



Ben Elliott scored 28 points to lead LCM in its big district win over the Mustangs.



Da'Marion Morris scored 11 points while assisting on multiple Bear baskets in their win over the Mustangs.



Geramicah Davis sank five three-point baskets and scored 17 points in the Mustangs game with LCM.

three point baskets. Darren Anderson registered 12 points and had a dunk that greatly excited the West Orange Stark fans.

LCM Coach Brad Jeffcoat appreciated the big win over the rival Mustangs. "Anytime we play West Orange Stark the whole community seems

to turn out.

"We had a pretty good atmosphere in here tonight. We've lost our last two home district games, and we were really frustrated with that. We've pushing our kids hard the last week and a half, and it does feel good to kind of put somebody away and

take care of business at home," Jeffcoat commented.

Next up for the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears are the district leading Silsbee Tigers. The Bears and the Tigers play in Silsbee on Friday, January 20.

## Orangefield boys take on PNG



OJH 7th and 8th grade A-teams traveled to Port Neches for a tournament.

### READER SUBMITTED ARTICLE

The 7th graders played and won three games, keeping their undefeated streak alive last week. First, they took on the CO Wilson Bullpups, defeating them 33-27. Every Bobcat scored in this game, but the leading scorers were John Royer with nine points, while Jaxon Agerton and Kolte Morgan followed with four each.

Next, the 7th grade took on Port Neches and handed them an L, winning 31-23. Royer led the way in scoring again with nine points, followed by Kyran Morrow with six, and Logan Anderson with four. The Bobcats led this one from beginning to end with good defense and unselfish play. Finally, the Cats took on the Raiders from Lumberton in the championship game

and came away with the win, 36-29. Royer led the way yet again with 15, followed by Jaxon Agerton with eight.

Congratulations to these young men on getting first place in the tournament!

The 8th grade group struggled to score in both games and suffered their first losses of the season. First, they took on CO Wilson, losing 22-26. It was back and forth the whole game, but the Cats' shots just would not fall. Offensively, they were led by Rylan Agerton with eight and Carson Gonzales with 10.

Next, the group took on Port Neches and lost 48-29. This game kept the Cats flustered as they tried to stop the point guard from PNG. Offensively, this game was led by Owen Sims who had a double-double with 10 points and 10 boards. Ry-

lan Agerton, Carson Gonzales, and the rest of the squad played smothering defense, but the Cats ran out of gas as the Warriors kept sinking shots.

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# Duck hunters prepare for final weekend

## OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record

For all those hunters who have spent the last couple of months waking early, fighting the weather, and staring at the skies in search of ducks it's almost over.

In what feels like the blink of an eye the duck season that started back in September with early Teal will end on Sunday leaving waterfowlers wishing for more. The light goose conservation season will allow hunters a chance to keep chasing birds but for the majority of duck hunters it will be a long 8 month wait until the next season kicks off. At least according to the latest forecast the final weekend will be cooler for those who head out for one last closing hunt.

So far this season has really been a series of highs



Chuck Uzzle

and lows for most hunters, it was truly feast or famine.

Out of the gate both Louisiana and Texas started off about as hot as you could ever hope for. Huge numbers of teal and gadwall covered up spreads from the saltwater marshes to inland rice fields.

All the rains at the perfect times had many areas lush, green, and full of the best food available. I made several trips to scout some rice fields early in the season and was just absolutely blown away at the amount of ducks that were here early, it was amazing. As it usually happens the shooting during the first week or so was incredible and so was the hunting pressure. It

didn't take long for the ducks to get out of the rice and look for food in other areas like freshwater lakes and brackish marshes.

The next several weeks for both Texas and Louisiana were consistent and solid, the weather and ducks both cooperated as the first half ended leaving hunters anxious to crank the second split up. Then like a bad dream everything slowed down, a season on fire suddenly got as cold as ice. A warming trend farther up the flyway just basically held up any new ducks during the migration which in turn put even more pressure on birds already in the area. It didn't take long for those ducks to get smart or get shot and that was a bad combination any way you look at it.

As the final month of the season got started the weather got colder and

more new birds began to fill the marshes and the hunting drastically improved. Local refuges and public hunting areas seemed to be revived and that was like a shot in the arm to many hunters who had all but written off the season. Another big influx of birds began to arrive locally and the hunting took another step up only to suffer one small set back in the form of heavy rains that flooded just about everything.

The flooded prairies now offered ducks new areas to rest and feed which meant it was much harder to find huntable concentrations of birds because they were spread out seemingly everywhere. A few hunters took advantage of the situation and got some great hunts in flooded oak flats that were full of mallards and wood ducks. Others concentrated on scouting



Final weekend draws near for local duck hunters.

more and locked down a few areas that were overflowing with green winged teal where they had some super hunts. As always the persistent hunters who were willing to go the extra mile continued to have success while others lamented the bad conditions.

This weekend will conclude what has been overall an above average year for many hunters. The early season success had many, including myself, believing that this year may be one for the books but as usual

those hopes were dashed by a multitude of factors lead by weather.

For me personally the year was a success as I had some really good hunts on some new property and there is still some time left to shoot a few geese. The end of the season is always tough because you have to stare at the calendar and start counting the days all over again until September rolls around once more and ushers in the high hopes and expectations that every waterfowler always has.

## Bridge City Cardinals From Page 1B

An opportunity to even the score for West Orange Stark just missed when Jamikael Davis had the second of his two free throws stay out of the hole with 21 seconds on the clock. Five seconds later Rodriguez sank his two free throws and the Cardinals had a three point 57-54 lead with sixteen seconds left.

West Orange Stark appeared to be playing for a last second shot to tie the game when Bridge City's Gutierrez was called for a foul with less than seven and a half seconds to go. Cooper made both free throws to cut the lead back to one point.

In preparing for the inbound pass one of the Mustangs fouled Gutierrez sending him to the line

where he made both shots to up the Cardinal's lead back to three points. The game returned to the same situation as it was at the sixteen second mark just nine fewer seconds for West Orange Stark to execute a long shot to try to tie the game.

The Mustangs inbounded the ball but the clock did not start immediately. The clock was supposedly reset to about seven and a half seconds, and the Mustangs inbounded again. The problem was the clock was reset to seven minutes and twenty-seven seconds. After approximately eight seconds the referees blew their whistles signifying the end of the game as they had manually counted off the remaining seconds as they

transpired.

The leading scorer for Bridge City was Britten who hit all five of his free throw attempts and finished with 20 points. Gutierrez was five of six from the line and had 16 points. Breaux scored 11 points and made three of four free throws for the Cardinals.

Cooper of the Mustangs matched Britten for high point honors with 20. Andrew made 8 of 10 from the free throw line. The Davis brothers both had strong games with Jamikael registering 9 points and Geramich producing 8 points.

Cardinal Coach Randall Robertson was obviously pleased with the win over West Orange Stark. "That was unbelievable how those last few seconds unfolded,

but I couldn't be happier for our guys sticking in there and fighting to the end. Again we found a way to get it done in a hostile environment on the road. They're all big in our district, I'll take it anyway we can get it, it's a big one for us," Robertson concluded.

The Cardinals won another important district game earlier in the week on Tuesday night in the Competition Gym at Bridge City. Bridge City defeated the Jasper Bulldogs 47-39 to improve its record to 3-2 in district.

Walker Britten of the Cardinals had a big first quarter hitting four shots from outside the arc. Bryce Linder added four points to help the Cardinals score seventeen points in the first quarter to take a 17-11 lead.

Lincoln Breaux and Linder each hit a field goal in the second quarter for

three pointers in the game. Britten stayed hot shooting the basketball sinking two more threes and a two point basket to give him twenty points through two quarters. The Cardinals enjoyed a seven-point lead 29-22 at the half.

Fernando Rodriguez got in the scorebook in the third quarter sinking two free throws and nailing a three pointer. It was more of the same for Britten who scored seven points on three baskets. The Cardinal advantage was stretched to thirteen points 43-30 with a quarter to play.

The scoring was kept to a minimum for Bridge City in the final quarter. The Cardinals' only points came on two buckets by Breaux but it was enough to secure the 47-39 victory.

The high scorer for Bridge City with 27 points was Britten who hit seven

Walker also had 3 rebounds, 2 steals, and 2 assists. Breaux finished with 8 points and Linder added 6 points.

The first half of district play concluded on Friday, January 20. Silsbee (6-0) is at the top of the standings. Bridge City (4-2) and Lumberton (4-2) are tied in second place but the Raiders did win the earlier game between the two teams. Little Cypress Mauriceville (3-3) and Jasper (3-3) are tied for the final playoff position currently with the Bears winning their first district game with Jasper.

The Bridge City Cardinals played at Silsbee, and the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears had their second half bye on Tuesday. The big game on Friday will be Bridge City playing at home against LCM in the Competition Gym.

# Fishing Innovator to be Inducted into Texas fishing Hall of Fame



Wally "Mr. Crappie" Marshall of Anna, Texas, will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2023. Marshall revolutionized crappie fishing through innovative products, tournaments and promotion of the sport.

## Staff Report For The Record

ATHENS — The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame committee has announced that Wally "Mr. Crappie" Marshall of Anna, Texas, will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2023. Marshall revolutionized

crappie fishing through innovative products, tournaments and promotion of the sport. Marshall generously gives back to the fish community through his philanthropic work, teaching youth to fish and donating time and products to multiple charitable organizations and events.

"Wally Marshall's outstanding accomplishments as a trailblazer in the sport of crappie fishing are unparalleled," said Dan Kessler, Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame selection committee chairman. "His leadership in bringing forth new ideas and innovative products to crappie fishing

and the fishing community in general are second to none. On their own merits, these accomplishments warranted Wally's consideration for membership in The Hall of Fame. However, it is Wally's commitment to a lifelong passion for edu-

"MR. CRAPPIE" Page 5B

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## HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK ACROSS THE COUNTY



OFHS students in the Patient Care Technician and Pharmacy Technician program took a trip to Baptist Hospital for an experience they will not soon forget. After the comprehensive hospital tour, students were able to shadow pharmacy technicians and nurses for some hands-on learning. The students came back with excitement for what their future careers may hold.



The Bridge City/Orangefield Rotary Club presented a \$2,000.00 check to the Bridge City High School STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Bus. Students and teachers are renovating and equipping a bus with labs for student exploration coordinated by CTE instructor Lindy Welborn. Pictured are: Rotarian Sam Comer, Students - Addison Woolley, Brandon Barbosa, and William Walpole. Second row Rotarians Bob Donaldson, Kirk Roccaforte, Linsey Welborn (CTE coordinator), Amy Townsend, Ronnie Hutchinson, and Karen Collier. Back row - Jerry Jones, Jack Comer, Steve Quibodeaux, Dr. Mike Kelly (BCISD Superintendent) Mark Messer, Mark Bunch, Courtney Arkeen, Tim Woolley (BCHS Principal) and Lucy Fields.



Bridge City Elementary School named its "Cardinals of Character" for Pre-K students through 2nd Grade. Pictured above are the 1st Grade "Cardinals of Character": Jonah Richards, Piper Bodden, Liam Nguyen, Olivia Phillips, Beckett Garner, Carolina Webb, Jareth Wiegand, Shae Gordon, Molly Kelley, Ayden Guest, Karrington Aucoin, Brynlee Burch and Jesse Gonzales.



Community partners from Sabine Federal Credit Union presented a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 to LCM last night, in order to assist the district with expenses that resulted from the vandalism that took place to the athletic complex and facilities last fall. Present to accept the donation was Superintendent Stacey Brister and Athletic Director Eric Peevey, both of whom expressed gratitude for the support and encouragement shown by Sabine FCU and its employees. Pictured Left to Right: Stacey Brister, Derek McWilliams, Kristen Placette and Kristi Charrier.

### "Mr. Crappie" From Page 1B

cating current and future anglers as well as the willingness to give his time and resources back to the fishing community that resulted in unanimous support for his induction to the Hall of Fame."

Marshall grew up in Garland, Texas, for 50 years prior to moving to Anna. Marshall's first career was as a master plumber, but his love and passion are being on the water casting for crappie. Marshall stepped into the crappie fishing spotlight in 1987 when he won the first-ever National Crappie Tournament at Cedar Creek Lake. That tournament victory opened the door for Marshall to promote and teach crappie fishing through seminars at tackle dealers, tackle shows and boat shows, and on radio and television across the state.

Marshall inked his first sponsorship agreement with Joe Hall, owner of Blakemore Lures, maker of the famous "Roadrunner" jig. Marshall launched a crappie fishing guide service in 1989 that operated until 1994 on Lake Fork, Lake Lewisville and Lake Ray Hubbard on weekends and days off. He was the first "crappie only" fishing guide to set up shop on Lake Fork.

Marshall teamed up with Bass Pro Shops to design crappie fishing products in 1997 and trademarked the name "Mr. Crappie" in

1998. Marshall retired as a master plumber in 2002 and pursued his passion of crappie fishing full time, designing "Mr. Crappie" products and promoting the sport of crappie fishing.

Marshall joined forces with Lew's to design "Mr. Crappie" and Wally Marshall Signature Series rods and reels along with a "Mr. Crappie" fishing line in 2010. Marshall partnered with Strike King the following year to design a wide variety of specialized crappie lures under the "Mr. Crappie by Strike King" brand. As a result, "Mr. Crappie" is one of the most recognized and popular brands in the country.

In 2004, Marshall created the "Mr. Crappie Big Crappie Classic Tournament" with adult and youth divisions to encourage families to spend time together on the water. Marshall had a vision to create a show like the Bassmaster Classic for the crappie industry. Four years ago, the vision became a reality with the inception of the "Crappie Expo." It consists of the "Mr. Crappie" \$300,000 Invitational Tournament, the world's largest crappie fry and a three-day consumer show featuring over 100 exhibitors, including lure and tackle companies, boat manufacturers and tackle dealers.

Marshall has garnered numerous honors and awards throughout his ca-

reer:

- First-ever National Crappie Tournament Champion at Cedar Creek Lake in 1987
  - Multiple crappie tournament titles on Texas lakes that include Texoma, Ray Hubbard, Lavon, Ray Roberts, Lewisville, Fork, Livingston and Tawakoni
  - 26-time National Crappie Classic Qualifier
  - 2002 National Crappie Angler of the Year
  - 2003 National Crappie Classic Champion
  - Seven-time National Crappie Classic Runner-Up
  - Inducted into the Legends of the Outdoors Hall of Fame in 2008
  - Name an "American Icon" in the 2018 February-March issue of Field & Stream magazine
  - Numerous articles and TV appearances
- In addition to his professional accomplishments, Marshall is committed to introducing kids to the sport of crappie fishing. He has donated numerous fishing trips to youth organizations over the years and took youth fishing from the Buckner's Children's Home in Dallas.
- Marshall has donated thousands of dollars of "Mr. Crappie" rods, reels and lures to youth organizations, schools, churches and the Boy Scouts. He was involved with the Garland Police Departments' Mad Dog Fishing tournament that raises money for fallen

officers' families. He also donates products and his time to police and fire department functions and fundraisers.

"When I was approached to be nominated, it was a surprise and an honor," said Marshall. "I look at the years gone by and all the things I've been blessed to do in Texas and abroad. I think about all the people I have met who helped me get to where I am at today as the 2023 inductee. You don't really know how many

people you actually touch through your work and I'm grateful that I get to represent Texas in the Hall of Fame. My motto in life and in business is "Whatever It Takes To Get It Done." I wasn't looking for success but I worked hard at it — the reward is having the honor to be included in the Hall of Fame with my peers."

The Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame is housed at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in

Athens. Its mission is to "recognize and honor those who have made a lasting contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas, and to foster a sense of appreciation, awareness and participation in the sport of fishing."

Since 1997, the Hall of Fame has inducted 37 individuals and organizations, including Gary Klein in 2022. Marshall will be inducted as the 38th member during a ceremony at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center on Oct. 6.

### Kaz's Fearless Forecat From Page 1B

Dallas Cowboys defense would confuse young Brock Purdy, it didn't happen. Throw in the fact that Cowboy quarterback Dak Prescott had another subpar

game with two interceptions and you'll realize exactly why the Cowboys will be watching this game on their television. The Eagles' defense should give Purdy

some looks he hasn't seen this season and are a 2 1/2-point favorite. **KAZ'S PROJECTED SCORE**—Philadelphia 27-San Francisco 24-

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# Leave the Throne of Guilt

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

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

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

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

### United Forever with Christ

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

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



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

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

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

### • Fellowship with Your Father

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

Indeed, the gospel frees us from

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

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

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

Jack also made it abundantly

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

### • Behold Jesus's Glory

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

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

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

Adoring Jesus also deepens our

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

### • Listen to the Spirit's Testimony

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

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

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

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