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Community News for Orange, Texas

TheRecordLive.com

County Record

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BC Council searches for city manager

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Rutledge

It's deja vu all over again for the Bridge City City Council. Once again, the council is looking for a new city manager.

Mayor David Rutledge said Brent Walker resigned from the job after serving only "a year and six days."

"He went to a smaller town for bigger money," Rutledge said. "He came in and we provided a good stepping stone."

Bridge City was Walker's first city manager job. Previously, he had worked as the assistant city manager and finance director for Dalhart in the Texas Panhandle by the Oklahoma border. Mayor Rutledge said Walker is going to a city in the Houston metropolitan area.

Bridge City is also looking for a new finance director. Karen Morgan retired from the job in 2022 after 26 years with the city. Mayor Rutledge said Shelly Fields was hired in the position, but she resigned after Walker resigned.

The council appointed Public Works Director Mike Lund as interim city manager. Rutledge said public works is a major part of the city government and he is familiar with it. The mayor said Lund is learning about the finances and administrative duties needed for the position.

The city is advertising for the vacancies through the Texas Municipal League and online job search sites. One posting said the city manager job will pay $110,000 to $113,000 a year.

The city had gone a while without needing a search for city manager. Jerry Jones, a longtime city public works director, was hired to the position in 2008 and served until he retired last year.

LCM's Morris and Wright sign football scholarships

LCM Head Football Coach Eric Peevey is flanked by Da'Marion Morris and Brady Wright who both signed scholarships to play college football next season. The players were honored during a ceremony last Wednesday on the LCM High School campus. Morris signed to play at Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton, Texas. Wright will be at McNeese State in Lake Charles during the fall football season.

Bead season arrives this week with Orange Mardi Gras

The King and Queen of the 19th Annual Mardi Gras in downtown Orange this year are Orange County Precinct 1 Commissioner Johnny Trahan and his wife, Becky. They will be featured in the Saturday evening parade that caps off three days of activities. The parade route this year varies from recent years.

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The streets of downtown Orange will be crowded on Saturday, February 11, as kids and adults watch colorful lighted floats and catch shiny beads during the annual Mardi Gras parade.

The parade is the end of a variety of festivities that kick off on Thursday evening with a free Together Thursday concert sponsored by Dow and the United Way of Orange County.

The performance at the City of Orange Riverside Pavilion off Simmons Drive will feature the Spazmatics, an cover band of the '80s music people grew up to hearing. The concert will begin a 6:30 p.m., but families are invited to come early and bring chairs. Food

Orange Mardi Page 3A

County's first elected Black official made Texas history

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

As 1965 civil rights protests led to the "Bloody Sunday" beatings in Alabama, Orange citizens elected their first Black public official.

Elzie Odom was elected to become a trustee in the old Orange Independent School District. He did not serve long because a job promotion took him across the country. He never lost his interest in public service and later became the first Black mayor of Arlington, Texas, where a recreation center is now named in his honor.

He wrote a memoir in 2012 called "Counting My Blessings" and drew a crowd in Orange when he held a book signing. The

Elzie Odom Page 3A

Elzie Odom, Orange County's first elected Black public official, returned to Orange in 2012 to sign a copy of his memoir. Pictured with him at the signing was retired school teacher Betty Curtis and the late Franklin Gans. Odom grew up in the Shankleville town in Newton County. After leaving Orange for his career in the U.S. Postal Service, he later became the first Black mayor of Arlington, Texas.. RECORD PHOTO: Margaret Toal

J.B. Arrington grabs county's attention

MARGARET TOAL
The Texas Tribune

Gothia

J.B. Arrington turned a routine meeting of Orange County Commissioners Court into a memorable event as the 98-year-old local legend sought support for preserving breast milk.

Arrington, who is a World War II veteran, recently closed his J.B.'s Barbecue restaurant after 50 years in business. Before that, he was the longtime agriculture teacher at the old Stark High.

Arrington spoke during the citizens comments part at the beginning of the meeting. He began by thanking commissioners for "giving me this 20 minutes to speak." County Judge John Gothia replied that he had only three minutes.

But who can stop J.B.? Gothia let the storyteller talk for 12 minutes. J.B. told how he was born in a "cotton shack" in rural Orange County. However, his mother was short of milk and another woman with a baby helped supplement his feeding with her breast milk.

He credited the antibodies and colostrum in that breast milk to his longevity. And maybe he's onto something. Even medical doctors call the colostrum, the milk produced in the immediate days after childbirth, as "liquid gold," according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's WIC program.

Arrington asked Commissioners Court to support research into the preservation of breast milk and

County Page 5A

My 5-Cents By State Sen. Robert Nichols

It was Groundhog Day! Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow last week, indicating six more weeks of winter; unwelcome news after ice storms covered much of the state this week. The iconic groundhog made his 137th appearance and records of his predictions go back to 1887.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. Abbott names new border czar

This week Governor Abbott named long-time Border Patrol agent Mike Banks to be the new Texas Border Czar. He will report directly to the governor and ensure border security strategies are fully executed in Texas. He will work collaboratively with the Texas Military Department, the Department of Public Safety, and other relevant agencies to continue Operation Lone Star. Mike Banks was the Border Patrol Weslaco Station Patrol Agent in Charge. He has over 30 years of federal law enforcement experience. He's worked in multiple stations stretching the length of the US-Mexico border. Before joining the Border Patrol, he was a member of the US Navy Military Police. The unprecedented crisis at our southern border demands action and Governor Abbott has stepped up to the plate to address it. I appreciate his continued leadership on this issue.

Sen. Nichols

2. SFA Board of Regents approves change to salaries

At a recent meeting, the SFA Board of Regents approved mid-year salary increases for university employees, an increase in non-resident fees, and an increase to university meal plans and housing. Employees will receive a six percent increase to their base salary after the board approved the $3.5 million expenditure. Interim President Dr. Steve Westbrook said the board requested this increase from the University of Texas System after they decided to affiliate. The SFA board voted last year to affiliate with the University of Texas System rather than remaining independent. The transition requires legislation, which I am excited to carry with Rep. Travis Clardy this session. The legislation will ensure that the university retains the name Stephen F. Austin– a measure of great importance to the university, the community, and to me.

3. Comptroller receives $363 million in grants for broadband

Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced this week that the agency will receive $363 million in federal grants to increase access to affordable, reliable broadband to more than 150,000 homes and businesses in Texas. The US Treasury's award will go to the Bring Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) program. The BOOT program is a competitive grant program administered through the Texas Broadband Development Office. The program is designed to fund broadband infrastructure projects that cover the last few miles to your home or business. Qualified projects will be located in a designated areas, invest in capital assets, and address critical needs in the community it serves. The office will begin accepting applications for the funds later this spring.

4. Caleb's Law filed in Senate

Senate Bill 129, also known as Caleb's Law, was filed by Senator Drew Springer recently. The bill would strengthen penalties for offenders who possess child pornography. Child pornography laws have not been updated since 1989 and the current laws are ill-equipped to handle changes in modern technology. The changes will work to keep kids safe and strengthen punishments for those convicted. The bill includes degrees of punishment based on the amount of materials possessed. It also has enhancements for materials depicting children under the age of 10 and for those taking care of children and receiving money from the state. The law's name comes from Caleb Diehl, a high school senior who went missing in March 2015.

5. Winter weather resources, TDEM resources

Winter Storm Mara swept through much of Central and Northeast Texas, causing dangerous driving conditions and power outages across the state. Ice accumulated on roadways, tree branches, and power lines, which caused some outages and many fallen branches. Many state agencies monitored the ongoing weather situation and worked to keep Texans safe, including the Public Utility Commission, Texas Division of Emergency Management, and ERCOT. It is important to note that any power outages experienced during this storm were not a result of lack of capacity on the grid. Those were due to power lines being down due to the storm. We appreciate the hard work of all our first responders and everyone who worked around the clock to keep Texans safe and warm. For more information from TDEM about resources available to you, visit https://tdem.texas.gov/disasters/january-2023-winter-storm.

Heritage House seeking volunteers

Margaret Toal
For The Record

Heritage House Museum, which was closed for more than five years for hurricane repairs, is now open again for tours, and the non-profit group that runs the museum needs volunteers.

Director Charlotte Alford said volunteers are needed to serve as docents, or tour guides, for the historic turn-of-the-20th Century house, which includes collections from the county's past.

The museum's new tour hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Appointments can be made ahead of time for tours on Mondays and Fridays. Groups may call in advance to schedule a possible weekend tour, if needed.

The museum's board of directors, led by President Adam Conrad, has set a new price for the house tours. Adults are $5 each, while senior citizens ages 65 or older, along with students, children, and veterans will pay $3 each. Fees are used to help with the daily operations of the museum, which are also supported by the Orange County Commissioners Court and the Orange Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Docents will be trained on giving tours through the J.O. Sims house, a two-story woodframe house that was built in 1902. The house is furnished as if a family still lived there with donations from county citizens in the past. A few of items in the collection were owned by the Sims family.

The house helps tell the history of Orange and give a look at how an upper-middle-class family lived during the early 20th Century and late 19th Century.

In addition to docents, volunteers are also needed to help organize the museum's collection and files after the hurricane damage. They can also participate in annual museum events like the Historic Ghost Walk in downtown, the traditional visit from Santa Claus, the Evergreen Cemetery Walk, plus museum participation in community events like Art in the Park and Orangetober Fest.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help in the museum's goal to preserve and teach Orange County history should contact Alford at the museum during weekday working hours. The museum is at 905 W. Division Avenue, a block west of the Orange County Courthouse.

The museum complex includes a separate administration building and the Williams Building, which houses the collection of the late historian Dr. Howard Williams and his wife, Elizabeth. The Williams building, which has a large outside deck, is also available for rent as a community meeting room or for special events. It has a kitchen and is handicapped accessible including a bathroom.

The telephone number to request a tour or volunteer at the museum is 409-886-5385. Leave a message if no one answers.

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of Orange County, Texas

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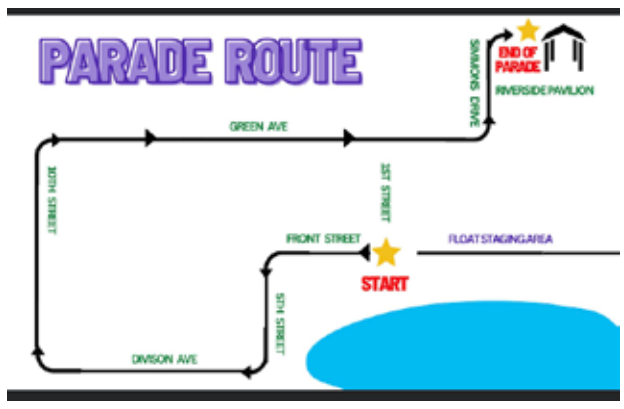
Orange Mardi Gras From Page 1

trucks will be set up selling a variety of dishes and yard games will be available for friendly competition.

People should bring lawn chairs and coolers will be allowed.

Weekend activities from the City of Orange Convention and Visitors Bureau begin Friday night at the Boat Ramp's Riverside Pavilion with a free concert by Keith Frank and the Soileau Zydeco Band at 7 p.m.

Mayor Larry Spears Jr. will start the program at 6:45 p.m. with a special communitywide presentation of the Key to the City to Gary Stelly, the longtime owner of KOGT radio, which closed at the end of 2021. Stelly is being honored for his years of



service to the community.

The free Mardi Gras on the Sabine Festival will begin on Saturday at the Boat Ramp and Riverside Pavilion. Gates will open at 10 a.m. A DJ will provide music and there will be children's activities. The Munchkin Parade with kids decorating wagons, bikes, scooters and other kid-size transportation will begin a 1 p.m. The kids and their "floats" will circle around a crowd and with the kids tossing beads and trinkets.

The 19th Annual Krewe of Krewes Parade with the more elaborate floats will begin at 6:30 p.m. The parade is sponsored by the Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce along with the city.

This year's King and Queen are Precinct 1 County Commissioner Johnny Trahan and his wife, Becky. Other parade royalty this year are Adam Conrad and Jody Chesson from Krewe du Bayou, Allan and Tricia Villery from Krewe de Onyx, Mayor Larry Spears and wife, Trish, from Krewe Meilleurs Amis, and Skipper and Gina Yeaman from Krewe C'est Bon.

All the royalty will show off their customed-designed costumes that debuted two weeks earlier at the annual krewes ball.

This year's route will be different from the past few years. The floats will stage at the LSCO area off Front Street and First Street. The parade will start on Front and travel west to Fifth Street. The parade will then go a block south on Fifth before turning west on Division Avenue by the Riverwalk and Riverfront Pavilion. It will continue west on Division past the Orange County Courthouse and Heritage House Museum to Tenth Street. At Tenth, it will turn north to Green Avenue.

Once on Green, the parade will travel east past the Chamber office, First Presbyterian Church, the Stark Foundation buildings, and LSCO buildings to Simmons Drive. At Simmons, the parade will turn and go to the Boat Ramp area.

Link sale aids deputies

The Orange County Sheriff's Alumni is holding a link and drink benefit Friday to help a deputy whose house was destroyed in the recent tornado that crossed the county.

The sale will run from 11 to 1 p.m. Friday, February 10, on the parking lot off 123 Sixth Street between the courthouse and the sheriff's office.

A lunch of a link in a bun or wrapped in a tortilla, along with chips and a drink will be $8. Each additional link will be $3 each. Advance orders may be made through alumni president, Denise Colley, at 409-748-6647.

Elzie Odom Texas history From Page 1

Orange Public Library has a copy of his book. He is still living in Arlington and will turn 94 in May.

Odom's life touches on many aspects of Black history in the United States. He grew up in Shankleville in Newton County. The community in the East Texas woods was established as a refuge for freed slaves. It was founded by his great-great grandparents, James and Winnie Shankle.

He grew up in a community where his mother and father had important roles and he went to segregated schools. His memoir includes a story of encountering the mean disrespect of racism as a boy when he went into Newton, the county seat, with his father.

His biography said he met Ruby Truvillion when he was in high school at the Burkeville Colored High School. They married in 1947.

Odom attended one year at Prairie View College and then returned to Shankleville where he got married. The wedded couple moved to Orange in 1949 when he got a job with the United States Postal Service. He became a mail carrier and his route took him into the white neighborhoods in town during the time when legal segregation and Jim Crow laws ruled.

Mrs. Odom began working for a black dentist in Orange and she later became a Registered Radiologist Technologist.

The two joined the Orange NAACP and he recalled the group having to meet in secret locations during the mid-1950s as the state persecuted the group.

One of the goals of the group was the integration of Orange schools. At the time, the Orange ISD had a "colored" high school and two "colored" elementary schools. The U.S. Supreme Court had made a landmark decision in the May 1954 Brown vs The Board of Education ruling that segregated schools were unconstitutional and did not provide equal education and rights.

Odom's memoir includes how the Black community worked together to elect a representative to the school board.

During that time, states could charge a poll tax. Texas had a poll tax of $1.50, which is about $14.50 in 2023 money, according to the U.S. inflation calculator. The country had no equal pay laws. Nearly all employers paid Black and women less than they paid white men for the same job. Paying $29 for a husband and wife to vote might mean leaving their children without food.

The Associated Press in May 1965 wrote about President Lyndon B. Johnson's Voting Rights Act passing in the U.S. Senate: "The bill is aimed primarily at Southern States, where literacy and similar voting qualification tests would be suspended and federal examiners could be appointed to register voters.

However, Odom managed to be elected even before the Voting Rights Act. He lost during his first try in 1964 and then went on to win in May 1965. His election was two months after a young future congressman, John Lewis, along with dozens of others, were beaten by state police in Alabama as they marched for voting rights.

As a trustee on the Orange school board, Odom helped with the first year of partial integration here as the school district embarked on a goal to integrate all grades and schools.

It was also a time when the Orange ISD was having financial problems because the West Orange school district had the petrochemical plants paying taxes, while a majority of the employees in the plants had students in the Orange district.

Odom was on the Orange school board when the county school board dissolved the district and attached it to the West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District. Full integration and full consolidation came in 1967.

That was the year Odom left Orange. The postal service promoted him to postal inspector. His biography said he was the first Black postal inspector in Texas and only the fifth Black postal inspector in the country.

He was transferred to Los Angeles by the postal service. He and his family came back to Texas after a transfer to San Antonio and then to the Dallas area in 1979. He retired from the postal service in 1987.

Odom ran for the Arlington City Council in 1990 and won. He held the position for seven years before winning his election as mayor of the city in May 1997. He served as mayor six years.

During his time on the council, he helped keep the General Motors plant in Arlington and the Texas Rangers baseball team. He was the council liaison with the Rangers for building The Ballpark in Arlington, which opened in 1994. The city paid tribute to him by naming a 60,000 square-foot recreation center in his honor.

From the Creaux's Nest

SUPER BOWL LVII
TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL QB'S ON BIG STAGE

The two youngest quarterbacks ever will face off in next Sunday's **SuperBowl. Jalen Hurts,** 24, of **Philadelphia** and **Patrick Mahomes,** 27, of **Kansas City.** Both are native **Texans** and were high school quarterbacks. For the first time the **Super Bowl** will feature two Black quarterbacks and also two sibling brothers will play against each in a **Super Bowl. Texas** high schools developed the wide open passing game. **Ronnie Thompson,** a high school coach at **Thomas Jefferson, in Port Arthur,** had his quarterback throw passes before it was cool in the **Lone Star State. Thompson's** quarterback was a youngster named **Todd Dodge.** Passing made him a high profile recruit for the **Texas Longhorns. Dodge,** all these years later, recently retired from coaching. He won seven state championships, five at **Southlake Carroll,** where his son **Riley** is now head coach. **Todd's** other three championships were at **Austin West Lake** and produced the first two **Super Bowl** winning quarterbacks from **Texas, Drew Brees** and **Nick Foles.** The most recent **Super Bowl** winning Q.B. from **Texas** is **Mathew Stafford,** from **Highland Park** high school. In one five year stretch at **South Carroll,** the boy from **Port Arthur, Todd Dodge,** had a 79-1 record in the state's largest classification. **Dodge** considers **Thompson**, his high school coach, the father of the passing game in **Texas. Dodge** played a large part in the transformation of high school football around 1980. **Mahomes** and **Dodge** both say the expansion of off season 7 on 7 football is a significant part of the development of **Texas quarterbacks,** along with dozens of tournaments around the state and the championship at **Texas A&M. Mohomes** has a point, he says, "**Texas** after Sunday will be the home to four of the past six Super Bowl winning quarterbacks." Who will be the fourth, **Mahomes or Hurts.**

CONDOLENCES

I was saddened to learn that **Lee Samuel "Sonny" Mills** had passed away on January 20, a month shy of his 95th birthday. He was a 1946 Stark high grad. After graduation he served three years in the United States Army then attended SMU. For the next 40 years he worked for Gulf States, both Orange and Beaumont plants. Several years ago his wife of 68 years, Arlene, who was Burnell Luther's daughter and Jack Luther's niece, came to work for us just to have something to do. She ran a delivery route and just loved it and we loved her. It was a sad time when age caught up to her and she had to give t up. She is one of the nicest people I've ever known. She's 85-years-old now and I'm sure it is a big blow to lose her lifetime partner. Our condolences to Arlene and her large family. Please see obituary.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME
10 Years Ago-2013

Even though neither of their favorite teams, the **Saints or Texans,** were in the **Super Bowl, Roy's** two grandsons, **Sean** and **Collin Gros,** couldn't have picked a better **Super Bowl** to attend. It had all the elements of a great game then some. A record setting 108 yard kick off return, great goal line stands and a close game that the **Baltimore Ravens** eventually won 34 to 31 over the **San Francisco 49ers**. The lights in the **Super Dome in New Orleans** went out causing a 33 minute, 55 second game delay. A record setting 164 million viewers watched and waited for the lights to come back on. The brothers, who were seated behind the Raven bench, had a good view of the players interacting during the intermission. Of course watching **17-year veteran Ray Lewis**, who won his second **Super Bowl ring**, was a trip in itself for the boys. The entire game pageantry was festive, like only **New Orleans** can put on, with several tons of confetti covering the **Dome** from all directions at games end. The two brothers were pulling for different teams but there were also two more important brothers on opposite sides of the field. **Coach John Harbaugh** and his 15 month older brother **Jim. John** and his **Ravens** won, **Jim** had a chance to win after climbing from a 21-6 deficit at halftime and then the lights went out and **the 49ers surged** to within three points. **Collin** and **Jim**, the youngest brothers both won. What would **Jim** tell his older brother at midfield after he beat him. **Vegas** was betting the meeting would last eight seconds plus, but it took less than five seconds. **John told Jim, "I love you." Jim** responded saying, **"Congratulations."** That was it. Later **John said Jim** is the best coach in the **NFL,** "Just look what he's accomplished with the **49ers** over the last two years." **John** said facing **Jim** after the game was the hardest part. As for **Sean** and **Collin**, it was a once in a lifetime experience that will stick with them throughout the ages. **Jan. 16, 1972** their grandfather attended **Super Bowl VI, Dallas beat Miami 24-3 at Tulane Stadium** and he still talks about it.*****Cecil Paul Bryant** would have been 92 years of age on Feb. 13, 2013. A native of Hicks, Louisiana and a graduate of **Slagle High School, Lamar College** and the **University of Houston**, where he earned a BS and a masters degree. He spent his life in education as did **Ann,** his wife of 64 years. **Cecil** is credited with naming the **Bridge City mascot, "Cardinal"** after the **Lamar Cardinals,** where he attended college. He and brother **Casey** were the first coaches at **Bridge City** after it became a high school. Over the years, the **Bryant brothers** contributed a lot to the advancement of the **Bridge City community**. ***** **Bert "Birdman" Hjerpe**, age 80, will be laid to rest at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 7. Services will be held at **Memorial Funeral Home** in Vidor. Every youngster raised in Bridge City over the past 50 years knew of the **"Birdman." Bert,** who was an **Army veteran,** served during the **Korean War.** He always carried seeds to feed the birds. I sat on a bench with him at **Market Basket** and found out he was just as knowledgeable as his high school classmate and friend **Fred Gregory** had told me he was. **Bert** did a lot of things out of the ordinary but what always amazed me the most was that he would walk from **Bridge City to downtown Port Arthur,** turn around and walk back the same day and would never accept a ride. For years, he walked the streets of **Bridge City** always helping the **elderly and needy** until a hurricane destroyed the apartment he live in and he was forced to move to **Vidor** where he died. He will long be remembered as the man who would **stop and point at the sky**. Now he's gone to that place.*****Feb. 8, is a very special day for the **Dunn family. Delilah Ballou, Mark's granddaughter,** turns 5-years-old. **Nate**, now 10, is **Delilah's** big brother. **Jenna, dad Robby and the family** all live in Massachusetts. *****Johnny Dishon** who was **drafted by Milwaukee** in 2010 leaves for spring training in **Arizona** March 3. He's not sure where he will be playing next season but he says, **"Just as long as I'm playing."** He was a three sports star at B.C. He was **All District in track. Johnny** says he credits former **Bridge City star athlete Jamey Knight** as having the greatest influence upon his athletic career. ***** Our friend **Phillip Welch** is the new interim athletic director at **Hardin-Jefferson School District. Phillip** wears several hats, he's also a part-time P.R. man for **Granger Chevrolet**

20 Years Ago-2003

Between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, the **Columbia space shuttle** literally disintegrated in the skies over **East Texas.** The **seven astronauts** were found on the ground with the majority of the space craft landing between **San Augustine** and **Jasper**. **Orange County** rallied to help **Fire departments** from **Mauriceville, McLewis, Orange, Little Cypress, Pinehurst, Bridge City and West Orange** sent volunteers and also many citizens volunteered.*****Frances Harris**, who fled to **Honduras** with her granddaughter pled guilty Monday, Feb. 3, to federal charges for international parental kidnapping. **Harris** fled to **Honduras** with her **3-year-old granddaughter, Nocona Lynn Smith,** eight years ago. Authorities arrested her Sept. 24, 2002, at her home on the **Honduras island of Roatan** and brought her and **Nocona,** 11, back to **Southeast Texas. Harris** has contended that she fled with the child because she believed that she was being abused. **Harris** said she fled after she had exhausted all legal avenues to help protect her granddaughter. (Editor's note: **Frances served her prison time.** She has since written a book **"Seashell Prisoners"** telling her story. The book is available at amazon.com)*****Willie Ray Smith** award finalist **Matt Peebles, of Bridge City**, signs to play football for the **New Mexico Lobos. Peebles** ranks as the number two **Cardinal** on the **All-Time rushing list.*****West Orange quarterback Joey Byerly** has committed to the **Eagles of North Texas**.*** **"The Mean Green" Vontearr Edwards, a Willie Ray defensive finalist,** has made a commitment to play at **McNeese**.***Little Cypress-Mauriceville** had one signee, **lineman Justin Trahan**, who signed with **Harding University in Arkansas**.*****Texas Tech** has announced that **Laura Bergman, of Bridge City**, made the **President's List with a 4.0 grade point**. *****Dolores Copeland,** 69, of Orange, died Wednesday, Jan. 29.*****J.D. Dubose,** 88, of Orange, died Jan. 28.*****Orangefield High sophomore Angela Ledford,** 16, competes in **Miss Texas Teen U.S. A.**. She represents **Orange County** and is featured in **Texas Monthly magazine.***** On Feb. 5th, **Sue "MeMaw" Gunn, turned 90**.

45 Years Ago-1974

The county races are all set. **Let the race begin**. Incumbent **County Judge Grover Halliburton** is challenged by **James D. Stringer** and **James A Broussard. Dr. John Greco** is the only **Republican**.*****County Court-at-Law Judge, **David Dunn**; District Clerk, **Edna Enmon**; County Clerk **Sallie Frazier**; County Treasurer **Earline Hilliard;** County Commissioners, Pct. 1, **S.P. "Pete" Dickey**, **Claude J. Broussard, Glenn Seale, George W. Stevens, Morris Collier** and **Glen Peveto;** Pct. 4, **Raymond Gould**; incumbent **C.O. "Goober" Williamson**, **L.B. "Timer" Williamson, Ray Willie, R.H. Harold Carter** and **Sam Humberson;** Democratic Chairman, **J.L. "Pete" Runnels,** incumbent, and **Louis Dugas, Jr.;** Constable Pct. 2, **S.D. "Bill" Dickerson, J.R. "James" Aaron, Leon Frederick, H.D. Tucker, Jr., R.J. "Ronnie" Burns, Robert E. Smith, Donald A. Gunn,** JP Pct. 1, **Joe D. Shibley, Claude Wimberly, S.E. Bellfield, C. Arnold Buxton** and **Allen D. Cary, Sr.;** JP Pct. 2, **Larry Gunter, Charlene Trahan** and incumbent **Marlin Shelton;** JP Pct. 3, **Martin Ardoin;** JP Pct. 4, **V.L. "Coon" Constance** and incumbent **Joe Bunn**; State Rep. **Wayne Peveto, incumbent** and **Thomas W. Porter.** *****The **LCM Bearettes** are zone basketball champs. They are **Tanya Strickland, DeDe Crawford, Linda Bean, Becky Dunn, Karen Kachtik, Angela Kaney, Theresa Duncan, Debbie McClelland, Debbie Martinez, Molly Malone, Doris Flanagan, Sheryl Miller, Julia Knight, Dawana Wiggins, Donna Peveto** and **Brenda Burch**. Coaches are **Paul Baker** and **Linda Warner.**

A FEW HAPPENINGS

The Wednesday Lunch Bunch held its first gathering last week at **Robert's.** I didn't get to make it but heard there were about 18 in attendance. Not bad for the first one, plus, it was cold, windy and rainy. The group will grow. It takes time for folks to get back in the habit. **Keith Wallace's wife Shelly,** who attended for the first time, was impressed with a gathering that wasn't consumed with politics, just good fellowship. Every Wednesday, 12 noon, at **Robert's. Yawl come!** On February 15, the **Lunch Bunch** will celebrate **Keith Wallace's** birthday whish is on Feb. 16.*****Karen and Jack McKinney** will be celebrating their **62nd wedding anniversary** on Saturday. She's a retired social work and leads the board for the local **Salvation Army. Jack's** a retired DuPont chemical engineer and **Vietnam Navy veteran** who has also taught industrial classes at **LSCO**. The couple moved to the **Little Cypress area** more than 40 years ago with a **DuPont transfer** more than 40 years ago and have made it their home ever since. It would be difficult to count all the years of public service the two have donated to the **Orange County community** through the decades. If you see them, be sure to give them a big greeting.*****The **Mardi Gras Krewes in Orange County** have been busy decorating their floats and making their costumes for the **19th Annual Mardi Gras** in downtown Orange on Saturday. This year, there will be free concerts at the **Riverside Pavilion** off **Simmons Drive** on Thursday and Friday nights, a festival on Saturday, plus the big parade on Saturday evening. This year's **King** and **Queen** are **Johnny** and **Becky Trahan. Johnny** is Orange County **Precinct 1 Commissioner** and County **Judge John Gothia** says **Trahan** has already made him bow before him.***** **Jason Montagne**, owner of **Bullfish restaurant** on FM 1442 in **Orangefield,** hosted local entrants **Chris Kovatch** and **Amy Johnson Peevey** in the **Dancing with the Stars** competition set for Beaumont. **Kovatch** said the **Junior League**, which has members who live in **Orange,** gives grants to groups from **Jefferson, Orange,** and **Hardin counties.** The annual event features area celebrities and leaders in a dance contest as a fundraiser for the **Beaumont Junior League. Bullfish** let the couple show off their talents and raise money-votes. Each dollar donated gets the couple one vote. The event ended up a fun time for families.***** **Aimee Scales** had a big early birthday getaway this past week with lots of her girlfriends that included **Hillary Gravett,** who is now the City of Orange **assistant economic development director,** along with **Rebekah Ragsdale, Abbi Gollihan, Allie LeBouef, Ashlee Peevy, Kylie Bradley, Wendy Gillet, Emily Scales,** and **Leslie Menard.*****Jim** and **Dodie LaBove** haven't reached the **McKinneys** in years married, but they did reach **anniversary 41** this past week. Congratulations to the couple.***** Birthdays this past week included **Elvis Rushing**, the tech guru at **WO-C** school district, who **turned the double-nickel 55,** as did former **KOGT DJ Marty Monogue.** Retired **LC-M teacher Sue Rathbone** had another orbit around the sun, along with **Bridge City Councilor Aaron Roccaforte**, local writer **Elizabeth Ludwig, Tommy Clary, Father Jim Sichko**, lawyer and rock-and-roll expert **Jim Dunaway**, retired teacher **Mel Moreau,** and **Jennifer Restauri Dickinson** over at the **Stark Museum of Art.***** The **United States** added a whopping **517,000 jobs** in January, the **Labor Department** said Friday, far exceeding expectations and pushing the unemployment rate from a tenth of a point to **3.4 percent,** the lowest level since the tail end of **Lyndon B. Johnson's** presidency and the beginning of **Richard Nixon's** five decades ago.*****Former **Bridge City** high school baseball coach **Sam Moore** will bring his **Sulphur, LA.** team to play a scrimmage against the **Bridge City Cardinals** Friday, 4 p.m. The **Cardinals** are coached by **Moore's** cousin **Coach Chad Landry**.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Folks we know celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **Feb. 8:** Happy Birthdays to **Delilah Ballou, Kathy Dupree, Todd Landry, Barbara Fox** and **Kaitlyn Ezell.*****Feb. 9: Alex Hurst, Brittany Hickman, Lisa Woods, Karen Fusiler, Sandy Sanford** and our friend **Jivin' Gene,** who just keeps moving on.*****Feb. 10: Peggy Albair, Nancy Cain, Ryan Mouser** and **Trevor** and **Tyler Gunn,** who turn 28 today.*****Feb. 11:** Happy Birthday to **Gayla Melanin, Jody Connor-Moore, Brittany Carpenter,** and twins **Deric** and **Eric Provost.*****Feb. 12:** The **16th President of the United States Abraham Lincoln** celebrated his birthday on this day. Celebrating are **Karlee Parkhurst, Christy Reves, Marjorie Gandy** and **Sara Childs.*****Feb. 13: Sarah Villasana, Amy Wedekind, Heather Sztaba,** and **Jeremy Delano. Sharon** and **Liz Bearden** celebrate their **21st wedding anniversary** on this day.*****Feb. 14: Valentine's Day.** Happy Birthday to former mayor of Pinehurst **T.W. Permenter** also **Fred Kennedy** and **Judy Harrison.**

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Joe Guilbeaux tole his friend Eugene Badeaux dat he was having trouble selling his truck him, because it's got over 200,000 miles on it. He was jus axeing $1,500 for it. Guilbeaux advised him to set the odometer back to 50,000 miles to make it easier to sell. A few weeks later da two mens ran into each other again. Guilbeaux axe Badeaux, "Have you sold you truck yet?" Badeaux replied, "Mais no, I don't want to sell my truck, it don't got but 50,000 miles on it.

CES'T TOUT

The **United States** military on Saturday shot down a suspected **Chinese** spy balloon off the **Carolina coast** on orders from **President Joe Biden** after it traversed sensitive military sites across **North America,** becoming the latest flashpoint in tensions between **Washington** and **Beijing. Biden** said he wanted the balloon downed Wednesday but was advised that the best time for the operation would be when the balloon was over water. About 1:40 p.m. **CST,** an **F-22 fighter jet** fired a missile at the balloon, puncturing it while it was about 6 nautical miles off the coast near **Myrtle Beach, S.C. "**The debris landed in 47 feet of water. They successfully took it down, and I want to compliment our aviators who did it," **Biden** said. The balloon was spotted on Thursday over **Montana,** which is home to one of **America's** three nuclear missile silo fields at **Malmstrom Air Force Base.** *****Read us cover to cover, check us on the web, **therecordlive. com** and please shop our family of advertisers. **Take care and God bless.**

Deaths & Memorials

Lee Samuel "Sonny" Mills, 94

Lee Mills

Lee Samuel "Sonny" Mills passed away on the 20th day of January, 2023 at the age of 94 years and 11 months. Sonny was born in Center, Texas on February 20, 1928.

His family moved to Orange in 1940 where he graduated from Stark High School in 1946. He joined the U.S. Army and served from May 1946 to 1949. Sonny attended Southern Methodist University prior to beginning his employment with Gulf States Utilities, now known as Entergy. He worked 40 years at the Orange and Beaumont locations before retiring. He enjoyed many hobbies including woodworking, fishing, hunting and being with his family.

Sonny is preceded in death by his parents William Joseph and Bonnie Mills, his sisters; Marie VanMeter, Betty Jo Woolard, Roxy Cobb and Martha Langworthy.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Arlene Luther Mills, two sons; Jerry Lee Mills (Donna) and Sammy B. Mills (Anissa), grandchildren; Stacey Burris (Randy Gant), Shelby Ford (Bubba), Samantha Bioseh (Collins), Cassandra Dever and Kyle Mills (Rosemary). Nieces; Cheryl Jacobs, Chloe Petry and Gina Knighton, Nephews; Keary Cobb, Kevin Hickman and Dr. Walter Hickman. Great Grandchildren; Jacob and Jessee Burris, Cameron, Colby and Callie Wedgeworth, Ethan and Eli Bioseh and Scarlet Mills.

Special thanks to the staff of Casita De Manuel, Private Care Home in Kirbyville for their loving care and prayer given to Sonny and his family.

A celebration of Life is planned for a later date.

Harold Rudolph Williams, Jr., 81

Harold Williams

Harold Rudolph Williams, Jr., 81, of Orange, Texas, passed away on January 13, 2023, at his home.

Funeral services will be held at 3:00 p.m., Saturday, January 21, at McDonald Memorial Baptist Church in Orange. Officiating will be Reverend Tommy Anthony of McDonald Memorial Baptist Church. Cremation will follow under the direction of Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

Visitation will take place prior to the service at 2:00 p.m. at McDonald Memorial Baptist Church.

Born in Beaumont, Texas, on January 9, 1942, he was the son of Harold R. Williams, Sr. and Anna M. (Neel) Williams. Harold dedicated his life to God and was a longtime member of McDonald Memorial Baptist Church. He was skilled electrician and worked for IBEW Local 479.

Harold was a man of many skills, including vegetable gardening, mechanics, fishing, hunting, carpentry, problem solving, and he was a 32nd Degree Master Mason. He could look at just about anything and figure out how to fix it. Harold enjoyed old music, classic rock n' roll, western movies, and NASCAR. He had a great sense of humor and always made sure to get the last word in. Harold was loved by many, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him.

He is preceded in death by his first wife, Mattie Williams; parents, Harold R. Williams, Sr. and Anna M. (Neel) Williams; his brothers, Raleigh Williams and Jerry Williams; and his beloved furbaby, Rusty.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Virginia Williams; sons, Randy Williams and wife, Ellen of Vidor, Texas and Brian Williams and wife, Angela of Vidor; daughter, Gina McCoy and husband, Jay of Plano, Texas; grandchildren, Alecia Daniels and husband, Phillip, J.C. McCoy and wife, Jessica, Kaitlyn Tinney and husband, Zac, Mirandy Williams, Mattie Williams, and Randy Cordell Williams; great-grandchildren, Kinze, Rebecca, Shauna, Alice, Liam, Eli, Margot, Evie, Charlie, Rose, and Kane; brothers, Steven Williams and wife, Barbara and John David Williams and wife, Connie; his best friend, Walter Welch, and numerous other loving friends and family.

Serving as pallbearers will be J.C. McCoy, Zac Tinney, Jeffery Williams, Phillip Daniels, Shawn Williams, and Randy Cordell Williams. Honorary pallbearer will be Justin Johnson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to McDonald Memorial Baptist Church in Orange or to the American Cancer Society.

County business From Page 1

colostrum.

Judge Gothia thanked Arrington and invited him to his office to talk at any time. Arrington replied that he had voted for Gothia and for Precinct 2 Commissioner Chris Sowell.

"If I was a politician, I'd say I voted for all 10 of you," he said to the five members of Commissioners Court. Even though Arrington might not admit to being a politician, he served a number of years as an elected official for the Orange County Drainage District.

The court then moved on to its routine business, but no one forgot Arrington's presentation. Later in the meeting, Precinct 3 Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte asked a representative from the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commissioner "What did you drink when you were a baby?"

The quip drew laughter and a comment from Precinct 4 Commissioner Robert Viator that, for the record, he did not ask that question.

During the regular business, County Emergency Management Director Joel Ardoin said the two-year contracts the county has for disaster debris removal and for monitoring the debris removal will be expiring. He said the county has joined with all the incorporated areas, Orange, Bridge City, West Orange, Pinehurst, Vidor, Rose City, and Pine Forest, to get the same contractors.

The court also appointed a selection committee to review the debris bid proposals. Ardoin will be on the committee, along with Payton Smith, Michael Stelly, Rodney Johnson, Tod McDowell, Chris Humble, Michelle Josey, and Mayor Bonnie Stephenson, or her appointee. Ardoin said all the cities will have a representative.

The court also approved a 20-year lease with the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commissioner for the county transportation department, which provides mini-bus rides around the county for senior citizens and the handicapped. Assistant County Attorney Denise Gremillion said the contract is for 10 years with a 10-year extension if both parties agree.

Bob Dickinson with the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission said the county's transportation program is underwritten by the Texas Department of Transportation. He is trying to get TxDOT grants for the site on FM 1442, but the state agency wants the planning commission to have a lease.

Dickinson said he wants a grant to build a two-bay maintenance garage so the mini-buses can get routine service. The addition, if the grants are approved, will be within the current site property.

County Tax Assessor-Collector Karen Fisher reported her office took in $48.8 million in property taxes in January, with $12.07 million collected for Orange County. Property taxes were due by the end of January and the month is the largest collection month of the year.

County Judge John Gothia quipped that he wished the county could collect that much every month.

The court also approved a request from the Orange County Fireman's Association to use the county seal on patches for uniforms. Gremillion said the group is non-profit and includes firefighters from the county's four emergency services districts with volunteer fire departments.

Commissioner Roccaforte asked if the seal could be attached to cars or trucks. Gremillion said the action allows use of the seal only on patches, not vehicles.

The court also approved spending $2,331 more on hotel rooms in Austin later this month so the court members and county staff can attend the Golden Triangle Days in Austin, February 27 and 28. The special days allow leaders from the region to lobby at the Texas Legislature for measures beneficial to the area.

Judge Gothia said the county has a daily limit on hotel expenses for out-of-town travel, but the allowance is much less than hotel rooms in Austin cost.

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Lexus 2011 LS 460 for sale, loaded, silver, one owner. 111,000 miles. Asking $18,000. Please call 337-302-8897

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BURIAL PLOT

Burial plot for sale at Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery in Orange. Single plot in the Garden of the Good Shepherd, Lot 15, Block C. Please call 409-988-0684.

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GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale on Friday, Feb. 10 from 8 am to 2 pm and Sat., Feb. 11 from 8 am to 12 noon at 19329 Highway 62 S., Orange, 77630. Lots of good stuff.

NOTICE: Vehicle stored at Gilbeaux's Towing and Transport Inc. 058449 VSF
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00 INTERNATIONAL
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77 JOHN DEERE
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14 HYUNDAI TRL
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testmentary for the Estate of **KEITH DWAYNE WELCH**, Deceased, were issued on the **JANUARY 30, 2023, in Cause No. P19519**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **SANDRA WELCH.**

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:
SANDRA WELCH
157 Lake Mist Drive
Bastrop, TX 78602

Dated the **6th day of February, 2023.**

Tommy Gunn
Tommy Gunn

Attorney for:
SANDRA WELCH
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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THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: Unkown 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 judgement 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 realy 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 SUBIDIVISION 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

LEGAL NOTICE

The property commonly known as 3396 Martha Dr., Orange, TX 77632 is scheduled to be sold at public foreclosure auction on 03/07/2023 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.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **DENNY CARL SMITH,** Deceased, were issued on **JANUARY 31, 2023, in Cause No. P19566,** pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **SUSAN JACKSON NEWMAN.**

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:
Barron Law Office
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX
77631-0279

Dated the **1st day of February, 2023.**

George B. Barron
George B. Barron
Attorney for Executrix
State Bar No.:
01817500
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX
77631-0279
Email:
george@barronlawoffice.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **MURIEL ADELE JULIAN,** Deceased, were issued on **JANUARY 31, 2023, in Cause No. P19583,** pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JOE'L YVETTE JULIAN.**

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:
Barron Law Office
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX
77631-0279

Dated the **1st day of February, 2023.**

George B. Barron
George B. Barron
Attorney for Executrix
State Bar No.:
01817500
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX
77631-0279
Email:
george@barronlawoffice.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **BETTY S. TROTTER,** Deceased, were issued on **JANUARY 24, 2023, in Cause No. P19585,** pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **LAURIE TROTTER COOK.**

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:
Elizabeth Mathews
120 Bayview Ct.
Brookeland, TX
75931

Dated the **24th day of January, 2023.**

Elizabeth Mathews
Elizabeth Mathews
Attorney for Laurie Trotter Cook
State Bar No.:
20566450
120 Bayview Ct.
Brookeland, TX
75931
Phone: 409-988-8530

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **FRANK DAVID CLAYBAR,** Deceased, were issued on **JANUARY 24, 2023, in Cause No. P19591,** pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **PEGGY S. CLAYBAR.**

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:
Elizabeth Mathews
120 Bayview Ct.
Brookeland, TX
75931

Dated the **24th day of January, 2023.**

Elizabeth Mathews
Elizabeth Mathews
Attorney for Peggy S. Claybar
State Bar No.:
20566450
120 Bayview Ct.
Brookeland, TX
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LCM moves into second, BC wins thrill over Vidor

OC SPORTS BEAT
DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Dan Perrine

The LCM Bears built a comfortable twenty-three point lead in the fourth quarter of their game with the Vidor Pirates. The Bears survived a barrage of late three pointers by the Pirates to win 61-52 on Tuesday, January 31, at the Dr. Pauline Colburn Hargrove Gymnasium.

The Bears scored the first three baskets one by Ben Elliott and two by Jayden Benton to take an early 6-0 lead. Vidor's Bryce Loftin hit his first of four threes to cut the LCM lead in half.

Benton scored his third bucket of the opening minutes followed by field goals from Alantheon Winn and Elliott to increase the Bear advantage to 12-3. Zander Lindsey and Loftin both made three pointers before Loftin sank a regular field goal to pull the Pirates within a point with seventy-five seconds remaining in the first quarter.

Noah Fuller had assisted on the basket by Winn and got a bucket of his own in the final minutes of the period. Elliott made his third field goal in the quarter to give Little Cypress Mauriceville a 16-11 lead after one.

Ben Elliott was again the leader for the Bears with 22 points and 10 rebounds.

After the Pirates and Bears exchanged baskets to start the second quarter Vidor sandwiched two threes around a field goal by Winn to make the score 20-19 in favor of LCM. Elliott scored only to see Lindsey follow up with another three to tie the game 22-22 at the 3:05 mark of the second.

The Pirates would only get a lone free throw from Loftin in the final three minutes of the half. The Bears got four points from Elliott, one field goal from Fuller, and Ty Blackmon nailed two three pointers late to open up a 34-23 advantage at the half.

The third quarter started with the momentum still rolling with Elliott and the Bears. Ben hit three baskets including one from beyond the arch to increase the LCM lead to eighteen points.

Lincoln Breaux of Bridge City scored 13 points and had 8 rebounds to help the Cardinals edge the Vidor Pirates.

Da'Marion Morris made his first points of the game

LCM, BRIDGE Page 5B

ORANGEFIELD BOBCATS WINS GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Orangefield varsity boys golf team battle the nasty weather last week in the Vidor Invitational at the Country Club of Texas in Beaumont. The Bobcat golfers finished in the top spot with a team total of 330 for the five member team.

Orangefield's Lincoln Parks finished as the first place medalist with his score of 77. The second place medalist was Alex Montz of Orangefield with an 81, and Xander Parks finished as the third place medalist with a score of 82 for the Bobcats. Other team members were Ethan Gunter and Reese Johnson.

Pictured are: Coach Todd Trawhon is shown with the Orangefield varsity golf team which won the Vidor Invitational on January 31.

Bobcats lose at home to East Chambers

Pete Ragusa was the leader for Orangefield with 23 points, and his 6 rebounds.

Kane Smith followed a score by East Chambers with a ten footer in the lane to put Orangefield ahead again by five points

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Sole possession of first place in District 22-3A was on the line Friday night in Orangefield. The East Chambers Buccaneers held off the Bobcats to capture an important 47-38 victory.

The Buccaneers came into Friday's game following a loss to the Kountze Lions on Tuesday, January 31, that dropped them into a tie with Orangefield for first place with one loss apiece in the district. Three district games remained for the Bobcats going into this week which are at Anahuac on Tuesday, at Kountze on Friday, and at home against Kirbyville next Tuesday.

Orangefield jumped out to a 7-0 lead against East Chambers. Morgan Sampson scored the first basket of the game, Pete Ragusa added two free throws, and Jaden Scales dropped in a three pointer that had the Bobcats purring with some confidence.

Ragusa stopped a short run by the Buccaneers with a steal that resulted in two points to give the Bobcats a 9-4 lead. Kane Smith followed a score by East Chambers with a ten footer in the lane to put Orangefield ahead again by five points, but Dylan Winzer of the Bucs canned the last basket of the quarter to make the score 11-8 after one.

Winzer followed up a field goal by Ragusa with two of his own, the second a three pointer, to tie the contest 13-13 at the 5:39 mark of the second quarter. Ragusa put Orangefield back on top, but a three pointer by East Chambers' Payton Anderson gave the Buccaneers their first lead of the game 17-15 with four minutes to play in the second quarter.

Another bucket by Winzer extended the Bucs' advantage to four points. Brayden Parker made two free throws for the Bobcats with 25 seconds left to narrow the deficit to 19-17 at the half.

The Buccaneers came out in the second half gunning as Bryan Bordeaux hit a three and Anderson made two field goals to put East Chambers on top 26-18. Parker converted a miraculous underhanded layup as he was being

ORANGEFIELD Page 5B

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NFL business continues amid Super Bowl hype

KAZ'S KORNER
Joe Kazmar
For The Record

Joe Kazmar

The 14-day dead time between finding out who is playing in the Super Bowl and the game itself is usually filled with all kinds of stories ranging from what cologne some players use to the color of their wife's or girl friends' hair.

But that two-week dry spell that concludes in a few days really has had some interesting news about what else is happening in the NFL including coaches filling some of the vacancies that existed after the regular season—or is some cases the playoffs—to guessing what the two grey-bearded quarterbacks have in mind for the 2023 NFL season.

One of the articles of much interest to the NFL fans in Southeast Texas was the Houston Texans hiring DeMeco Ryans as their new head coach last week after the football writers in that area speculated about who the new coach should be.

Once again, the Texans hierarchy opted to select a "head coaching virgin", that is a person who has NEVER been a head coach either in the NFL or even high school or college.

But DeMeco Ryans is different because he was drafted by the Texans and was a stalwart at his linebacker position for several years before becoming a very successful defensive coordinator for the San Francisco 49ers, who coincidentally were ranked as having the best defense in the NFL last season.

When the news came out last week, the Houston Chronicle had a sports editorial stating that the hiring of Ryans will be one of the best moves the Texans' organization has ever made.

"It ranks right up there with the time Charley Casserly drafted Ryans with the first pick of the second round of the 2006 draft. Cal McNair and Nick Caserio will look like geniuses in a few years," the article boldly stated.

New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton would have been another coach who would have gotten similar accolades if he had been their choice., but the Texans would have to "buy" Payton out of his affiliation with the Saints in the form of a couple of high draft picks or several million dollars or both.

They got Ryans and still have plenty of space under the salary cap with which to operate in this year's draft and free agent marketplace.

"Ryans distinguished himself from day one—the first day on campus at Alabama and his first day with the Texans. He carries himself in a manner that commands respect. Outstanding student, player, citizen," the article explained.

Ryans was a three-time academic All-SEC honoree and was on the dean's list every year besides leading the Crimson Tide in tackles three times. In his first year with the Texans, he led the NFL in tackles and was named defensive Rookie of the Year. He was an All-Pro selection his second season.

Two years into the 2011 season, Coach Wade Phillips said Ryans knew the Texans defense better than he did and Phillips—the Orange native—is the one who invented it, the article pointed out.

And speaking of Payton, the Denver Broncos agreed to a deal with the Saints that made him their head coach also last week. He already had a couple of the ingredients that helps make a coach an instant success—a championship-winning quarterback in Russell Wilson and a good defensive team.

The other topic always prevalent just before the Super Bowl is what will greybeard quarterbacks Tom Brady and Aaron Rodgers do for the 2023 season?

Brady answered that question last week when he announced that he was retiring—"for good this time"—while Rodgers did like he does every year by keeping them guessing.

I got to see the movie he produced --80 For Brady" --the true story about four women between ages 75-81who loved to watch him play quarterback. The four women were portrayed by Sally Fields, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno and Lillie Tomlin. It's a great movie to watch this week to get you in the mood for Sunday's Super Bowl.

It was announced last May that whenever Brady's playing days are officially over, he would join Fox Sports as the network's lead NFL analyst in a 10-year, $375 million contract. I wouldn't be a bit surprised if we are enlightened by a cameo appearance by Brady in Sunday's Super Bowl, which will be televised by Fox.

As for Rodgers, ESPN's "First Take" Monday morning had a theory that made sense to me. Host Stephen A. Smith opined that Rodgers and his favorite green Bay target Davonte Adams had made long-range plans before the 2022 NFL season to rejoin each other in 2023 with the Las Vegas Raiders.

Adams, who was traded by the Packers to the Raiders in March, played the entire 2022 season under the guise of rejoining his college quarterback teammate Derek Carr. However, Carr was benched before the end of the regular season which cleared the path for Rodgers to move in. But keep in mind this is only a far-fetched theory, but it really makes sense to me.

KWICKIES...

Kansas City quarterback Patrick Mahomes is the seventh quarterback to lead the NFL in passing during the regular season and then make the Super Bowl. However, the others are 0-6 in the big game. The last quarterback to lead the league in passing and play in the Super Bowl that year was Tom Brady in 2017 season, but the New England Patriots lost Super Bowl LII to these same Philadelphia Eagles 41-33.

The four football writers for the Houston Chronicle made their picks for Super Bowl LVII in the Sept. 11, 2022 issue and three chose the Buffalo Bills while only one had the Chiefs. One writer picked the Eagles to win the NFC but lose to the Bills in the Big Game.

Despite the third round of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am being suspended by winds high enough to move the golf ball on the green, the PGA Tour event winner Justin Rose wasn't determined until Monday afternoon when Sunday's final round was completed. Sunday's final round was played without the amateur golfers, but the amateur winner was none other than Green Bay Packers' quarterback Aaron Rodgers, a 10-handicapper who had not played golf since training camp back in July.

Ejiro Evero, who turned the Denver Broncos defense around, was named last weekend as the new defensive coordinator for the Carolina Panthers. The 42-year-old Evero was one of nine candidates to interview for the Panthers head coaching position that was finally decided when owner David Tepper hired veteran head coach Frank Reich.

And a huge trade before tomorrow's NBA deadline finds controversial All-Star Kyrie Irving being traded to the Dallas Mavericks by the Brooklyn Nets. Irving is shooting 48.6 per cent from the floor, 37.6 from three-point range and 88.3 per cent from the free-throw line.

JUST BETWEEN US...

Sunday's Super Bowl LVII is between a team I like and one I've never

KAZ'S KORNER Page 5B

Bridge City's Hudson Campbell scored on a penalty kick for the Cardinals' only goal in a 4-1 loss to Lumberton.

BC suffers first district loss in soccer

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Two teams undefeated in district soccer action played Monday, February 6, at Larry Ward Stadium in Bridge City. The Cardinals suffered their first loss in district 4-1 to the Lumberton Raiders. Bridge City is 10-2 on the season, 3-1 in district action, and trail first place Lumberton by one game in the standings.

The first half was scoreless but there were some good opportunities for both teams. Three minutes into the game the Raiders actual had a two

BC SOCCER Page 5B

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Tommy Gunn graduated West Orange High School as Valedictorian. After graduating top of his class at Baylor Law School, Orange native Tommy Gunn begin practicing law in Orange County in 1976. As an attorney he has devoted his life to providing legal assistance to Orange County residents and businesses in virtually every aspect of general law.

Advocating for the good of the Orange County community, Tommy is a former President of the Bridge City Independent School District school board and a past President of the Bridge City-Orangefield Rotary Club. He is also a former Director of the Orange Chamber of Commerce and serves as City Attorney for the City of Pinehurst since 1988. At present, Tommy is a former director and Chairman of the Board of Orange Savings Bank and First Financial Bank.

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Lady Bobcats stay alive with E. Chambers win

Harleigh Rawls of the Orangefield Lady Bobcats was honored on Senior Night last Friday.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Alexus Maddox of the Lady Bobcats was recognized on Senior Night at the Orangefield Gymnasium.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

The Orangefield girls basketball team avenged an earlier district loss with a gritty win on Friday, February 3, against East Chambers. The Lady Bobcats beat the Lady Bucs 47-36 at the Orangefield Gymnasium.

In the previous game at Winnie the Lady Bobcats could manage only 16 points. Orangefield bettered that on Friday with 18 in the first quarter. Brianna Moore got the ball rolling in the right direction for the Lady Bobcats hitting a three pointer to start the scoring.

Brooklyn Wagoner kept the momentum rolling for the Orangefield scoring seven points in the first quarter. The Lady Bobcats led by eight points after eight minutes of play.

East Chambers did not roll over and tied the game 22-22 with fifty seconds before halftime. Orangefield's Kaylea Gravett showed her speed on a fast break scoring just before the buzzer to give the Lady Bobcats the lead again 24-22 as the teams went to their locker rooms at the half.

The Lady Bobcats opened the second half with a basket by Greenlea Oldham. After the Lady Bucs scored three points Oldham scored again to put Orangefield up by three.

Then the Lady Bucs gained the momentum scoring five straight points to take their first lead of the game 30-28 with 1:43 left in the third. Moore tied the game for Orangefield but a free throw with four seconds left gave East Chambers a one point lead going to the final quarter.

Senior Harleigh Rawls was the dominate force in the fourth. Rawls sank a bucket forty seconds into the quarter to regain the lead for Orangefield. Harleigh actually outscored the Lady Bucs single handedly 9-5 in the last eight minutes. Steelye Franklin scored all four of her points for the Lady Bobcats in the final quarter to help secure the eleven point triumph.

Rawls was the high scorer for Orangefield with 12 points and had 7 rebounds. Oldham registered a double-double with 10 points to go with her 13 rebounds. Wagoner concluded her night with 9 points.

Friday was Senior Night at Orangefield. Two Lady Bobcats were honored prior to the game Harleigh Rawls and Alexus Maddox.

The final game of the regular season for Orangefield was Tuesday at Anahuac. With a Lady Bobcat win on Tuesday and a Warren loss to Hardin, Orangefield (6-7) would get the fourth seed in District 22-3A and make the playoffs.

LCM Bears beat Vidor, 61-52

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

The Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears built a comfortable twenty-three point lead in the fourth quarter of their game with the Vidor Pirates. The Bears survived a barrage of late three pointers by the Pirates to win 61-52 on Tuesday, January 31, at the Dr. Pauline Colburn Hargrove Gymnasium.

The Bears scored the first three baskets one by Ben Elliott and two by Jayden Benton to take an early 6-0 lead. Vidor's Bryce Loftin hit his first of four threes to cut the LCM lead in half.

Benton scored his third bucket of the opening minutes followed by field goals from Alantheon Winn and Elliott to increase the Bear advantage to 12-3. Zander Lindsey and Loftin both made three pointers before Loftin sank a regular field goal to pull the Pirates within a point with seventy-five seconds remaining in the first quarter.

Noah Fuller had assisted on the basket by Winn and got a bucket of his own in the final minutes of the period. Elliott made his third field goal in the quarter to give Little Cypress Mauriceville a 16-11 lead after one.

Ben Elliott scored 23 points in LCM's win over Vidor to give him 2,001 points for his high school career making Ben the school's all time leading scorer.

After the Pirates and Bears exchanged baskets to start the second quarter Vidor sandwiched two threes around a field goal by Winn to make the score 20-19 in favor of LCM. Elliott scored only to see Lindsey follow up with another three to tie the game 22-22 at the 3:05 mark of the second.

The Pirates would only get a lone free throw from Loftin in the final three minutes of the half. The Bears got four points from Elliott, one field goal from Fuller, and Ty Blackmon nailed two three pointers late to open up a 34-23 advantage at the half.

The third quarter started with the momentum still rolling with Elliott and the Bears. Ben hit three baskets including one from beyond the arch to increase the LCM lead to eighteen points.

LCM BEARS Page 5B

'Spring' Into Action: Prune Roses for Optimal Growth

JOHN GREEN
ORANGE COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS

Hey gardeners! Valentine's day is close at hand… and so is spring! The weather has moderated a bit and become a little more spring-like and who knows, maybe our final round of cold weather has passed. I wouldn't bet my plants on it just yet, but most of you (like me) can hardly wait for spring to arrive, we are simply ready! We have about a month to go before our last anticipated frost date which falls somewhere between the end of February to mid-March. Gardeners now is a great time to focus on pruning roses, which provides for optimal growth while maximizing blooms.

Pruning

Many gardeners fear pruning roses, believing incorrect pruning will damage or kill the plant! I'm here to let you know it is almost impossible to kill a rose with excessive pruning (though I've managed to kill a few through numerous other means--multiple stories for another day) unless it's cut off level with the ground! Pruning roses really isn't as complicated as it seems, though it's important to prune at the right time for the rose type. Following one simple rule of pruning, most anyone can achieve professional results and grow healthy plants. Rose canes must be cut at a 45-degree angle, at least ¼ to ½-inch above an outward-facing bud. That's it! Remember: this is the "Golden rule" for pruning roses and following this rule encourages the rose to grow outward, improving air circulation and sunlight exposure while minimizing damage from crossed canes.

There are numerous rose cultivars which require little if any pruning. For those that do, it is essential to use the correct tools, with safety in mind due the much-dreaded thorns. Using the wrong tools, tools incorrectly or improperly cleaned (tool hygiene) can damage the rose and create other plant health issues.

Equipment

- A long-sleeved shirt or two are must-haves for protection against thorns.
- Safety glasses or goggles are imperative for eye protection (canes don't always go where intended).
- Clean & sharp by-pass pruners (not anvil style-which crush rather than cut rose canes).
- Lopping shears to remove canes larger than ½" diameter or a cleaned & disinfected pruning saw.
- Isopropyl alcohol (70% assay or greater) to disinfect pruners and loppers.
- Rose pruning gloves or heavy-duty leather gloves.
- Container large enough to hold pruned rose canes (wheelbarrow works best).

* Note: pruning tools must be clean and sharp. Sterilize with alcohol between cuts and plants.

Maintain personal safety by using adequate safety equipment and the right tools for trimming roses makes quick work of the pruning process (courtesy aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu).

Late winter is the best time for major pruning of most rose types, meaning now is the time to don warm clothing, gather necessary pruning equipment and start pruning roses! A specific pruning date is not necessary (to make it easy to remember, I choose Valentine's Day-February 14th) as a great time to prune roses. For all roses, begin pruning by removing dead, diseased and damaged canes (they appear brown). Roses which haven't been pruned before or not in many years will require extreme and severe pruning. Cut back the previous year's growth by ¼ to ½ or more, until a healthy, white cane center is revealed on each cane.

Lightly pruning roses during the growing season keeps them well-groomed. A few reblooming varieties require "deadheading", removing spent flowers to encourage more blooms throughout the growing season. Spent blooms need to be pruned back to the first five-leaflet stem to promote more growth.

Not all rose cultivars develop rose hips once the flowers fade, meaning deadheading is not necessary as the rose will continue blooming without assistance. Blooms simply fall off and the plants will continue blooming.

Pruning by Type

Hybrid and Floribunda

These rose types need to be cleared of diseased and dead canes before they begin to "green up" and begin branching. Late winter or early spring is the time to remove crossed canes, weak and spindly growth. Consider the rose cultivar and its normal growth habit when pruning, cut back old canes by making a 45-degree angled cut to a bud pointing away from the roses center which encourages outward growth.

These are the hardiest roses-often surviving for decades. They initially bloom on the previous years' canes in the middle of summer. If the rose variety is a reblooming rose, then blooms repeat throughout the growing season. Remove diseased, broken, and dead canes in early spring, prune lightly after flowering to manage growth, form, and shape the rose.

Climbing Roses

Climbing roses are hardy while most tend to bloom on previous years canes. Do not prune climbing roses until after peak flush of blooms is complete, removing diseased or damaged canes as necessary but yearly pruning should wait until blooming subsides. Undesirable, spindly, and crossed canes need to be pruned to maintain good air circulation and maximize sunlight penetration throughout its habit. Train new growth to a strong support structure, securing to an arbor, fence, or trellis. Remember, side branches flower more heavily than central cane leaders.

So long for now fellow gardeners, let's go out and grow ourselves a greener, more sustainable world, one plant at a time!

To have all your gardening questions answered or for more detailed information: email me: jongreene57@gmail.com or contact the Orange County Master Gardeners Helpline: (409) 882-7010 or visit our website.

Deep water is the key to February success

OUTDOORS
Capt. Chuck Uzzle
For The Record

Chuck Uzzle

Show me an angler who shuns deep water and I'll show you a fisherman who's missing plenty of fish. With so much attention being paid to shallow water angling these days it's no wonder your local fishing hole is growing more crowded by the day, everybody wants to be in the "skinny water" because that's where the glamour happens. Well if you have fallen victim to that line of thinking don't despair because you are not alone, it's an epidemic in the angling world that has one simple cure and that's deep water.

Defining deep water is up to each individual, to some folks deep is 3 feet and to others it's 30 feet. For all intents and purposes let's define deep as anything greater than 10 feet, this is where most folks get uncomfortable fishing because it takes a different set of skills than that of the guy in ankle deep water. Probing deep water takes time, good electronics, an understanding of bottom structure and patience.

Here on Sabine Lake we are both blessed and cursed with plenty of deep water all around us, namely the Sabine and Neches rivers. For all the misery they deal out with run off from up north they more than make up for it by providing miles of under utilized, productive, and protected water.

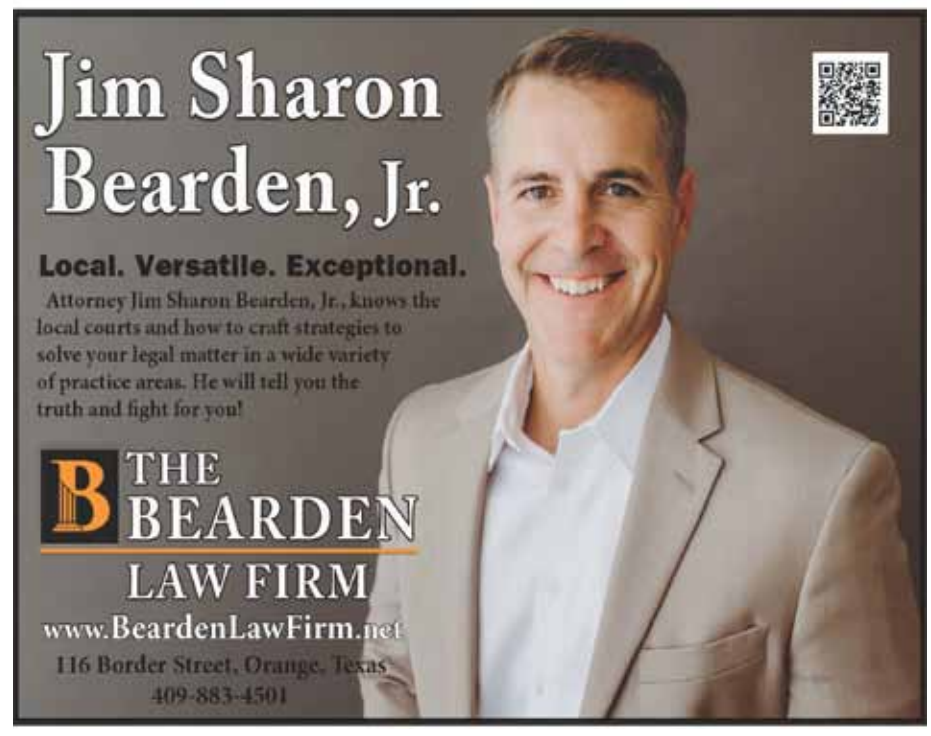
On Sabine lake we routinely take advantage of the shelter provided by the Sabine river to catch a huge variety of both fresh and saltwater fish including speckled trout, redfish, flounder, largemouth bass and so on. The secret to truly taking advantage of the opportunity is understanding how to fish the deep water.

In the Sabine River you have several different forms of structure to fish with most popular being drop off's and points. The drop off areas are key spots to find hungry fish ambushing their next meal. Along the banks of the river you have defined shelves that drop off from 4 to 8 feet of water and then into the 12 to 20 foot depths and beyond. Baitfish will routinely travel parallel to the bank in these shelves or troughs during tide movements and the predator fish will not be far behind. One simple way to locate a shelf or drop off is to look for the lines of crab trap buoys; they are normally right on the drop off and make locating a productive area mighty simple. Once you locate a stretch of bank where you intend the fish the drop off look for a secondary piece of structure like a point or flat along the bank.

Now that we have located our area to fish we need to decide what type of bait we will use, live or artificial. For many Sabine anglers there are a couple of proven choices both live and artificial.

Now if live bait is not your game then you will need to look into some crank baits or tube jigs. The most popular crank bait is the Hoginar, a small blade style bait with a lead belly. The Hoginar is super simple to use because you can work it in a variety of ways and still catch fish. The standard "chunk and wind" method does well due to the huge amount ofvibration given off as the bait runs through the water. The vertical "yo-yo" approach for suspended fish is also a big time producer. Other crank baits like Rat-l-traps or the Manns Minus series crank baits will hold their own as well under these circumstances.

Digging into deep water fishing can be an intimidating task for the beginner but certainly is well worth the effort. The next time you cruise down your favorite shallow shoreline and see the crowds lined up you will be glad to know there is some uninhabited water out there with your name on it. Break out the depth finder, have an open mind, and unlock the secrets to some great fishing down in the deep.



LCM Bears From Page 1B

Da'Marion Morris made his first points of the game and it was 43-23 before Lindsey canned a three for Vidor with less than a hundred seconds remaining in the period. Little Cypress Mauriceville led 46-28 with eight minutes to play.

A later three-point play by Morris gave LCM its largest lead 54-31 about three minutes into the final quarter. The Pirate bombers found the range and sank four threes and three two-point field goals to close the margin to nine points at the end.

Elliott finished as the high scorer in the game with 23 points for the Bears. LCM Coach Brad Jeffcoat pointed out, "Tonight Ben Elliott scored his two thousand and first point as a Bear which is a school record. He's the leading scorer in the school's history passing Jason Throup from the late nineties. That's pretty exciting. I wanted to recognize Ben for that, I'm really proud of him, he's been good player for us.

BC soccer From Page 1B

on one break that led to a shot on goal which Cardinal goalkeeper Sebastian Sandino made a fine save. Sandino later saved a shot from a free kick that was well struck by the Raider player.

Bridge City's Jagger Carlin received a pass in the penalty box which he headed that the Lumberton keeper had to grab about 12 minutes into the first half. It was the Cardinals' best chance to score in the first forty minutes.

Sandino was stellar in the latter portion of the first half making at least three quality saves including a diving stop on a Raider shot in the last minute to keep the score tied at zero.

Early in the second half the Cardinals applied pressure and forced a foul by Lumberton in the penalty box. Hudson Campbell drilled the penalty kick into the lower right hand corner of the net, and Bridge City took a 1-0 lead with two minutes played in the half.

Lumberton had three solid kicks from somewhat long range that Sandino made good saves. Carlin had another good chance when he took a shot from about thirty yards out which the Raider goalkeeper made his best save of the night.

The momentum turned for Lumberton about 14 minutes into the second half. A couple of good passes resulted in a Raider getting an open shot that he got past Sandino for a goal. The Raiders then got a breakaway which they converted into a second goal to take the lead 2-1 at the 25 minute mark.

Two late goals were scored by Lumberton. The second on a penalty kick with less than a minute to play to make the final score 4-1 in favor of the Raiders. The next game for the Cardinals is Friday at Little Cypress Mauriceville.

The Bridge City Cardinals extended their previous winning streak to nine games with two wins last week. Monday night, January 30, the Cardinals defeated Bob Hope 2-0 in Bridge City. In the first half Nate Stafford scored the first goal of the game assisted by Evan Jackson.

A beautiful assist from Abraham Munguia set up the second Bridge City. Hudson Campbell took Munguia's pass and put the ball in the back of the net.

Defensive standouts for the Cardinals were Jagger Carlin, Valentin Chavez, and the entire back line for Bridge City. Goalkeeper Sebastian Sandino preserved the shutout with a solid performance.

Moving to Friday the Cardinals traveled to Vidor. Bridge City won again 4-2 over the Pirates.

The Cardinals were sparked by an early goal from Nate Stafford. Abraham Munguia scored to give Bridge City a 2-1 lead at the half.

Hudson Campbell of the Cardinals scored two second half goals. The first goal by Campbell was on a penalty kick. The entire Bridge City defense gave a great effort to secure the victory.

Kaz's Korner From Page 1B

cared for. I agree with the Las Vegas Boys that the Philadelphia Eagles are the better team, but with wife Susan being from Missouri and the fact that I've won a little change betting on the Kansas City Chiefs, I can't turn down points on a team that has been to the Conference Championship Game five years in a row. A few of the Eagles fans who were on the ball were able to get a couple of points early last Monday, but by the time the sun set, Philadelphia was favored by 2 ½ points. That number dropped to 2 and by last weekend, it sunk to 1 ½ points. The over-and-under was 50 ½ and that could be a problem getting it right. Both teams have high-octane offenses and should surpass the over, but they have bone-crushing defenses which could result in a low-scoring, ball-control offense and go under. My Projected Score—Kansas City 31, Philadelphia 28 with a field goal winning the game.

LCM, Bridge City basketball From Page 1B

and it was 43-23 before Lindsey canned a three for Vidor with less than a hundred seconds remaining in the period. Little Cypress Mauriceville led 46-28 with eight minutes to play.

A later three-point play by Morris gave LCM its largest lead 54-31 about three minutes into the final quarter. The Pirate bombers found the range and sank four threes and three two-point field goals to close the margin to nine points at the end.

Elliott finished as the high scorer in the game with 23 points for the Bears. LCM Coach Brad Jeffcoat pointed out, "Tonight Ben Elliott scored his two thousand and first point as a Bear which is a school record. He's the leading scorer in the school's history passing Jason Throup from the late nineties. That's pretty exciting. I wanted to recognize Ben for that, I'm really proud of him, he's been good player for us.

Noah Fuller scored 9 points and Benton added 8 for LCM. The Pirates got 21 points from Loftin and 18 from Lindsey.

The win moved Little Cypress Mauriceville to 5-3 in district. "Once again there are lessons to learn from the win, we've got to improve on some things. At the end of day that's a win we needed to get and we are moving on to Lumberton," Jeffcoat analyzed.

Little Cypress Mauriceville went to Lumberton on Friday and won another big game. The Bears moved into sole possession of second place with the 42-32 victory over the Raiders.

Ben Elliott was again the leader for the Bears with 22 points and 10 rebounds. Da'Marion Morris contributed 8 points, 7 rebounds, and 6 assists for LCM.

With three games left in district Little Cypress Mauriceville was in second place with a 6-3 record trailing only the undefeated Silsbee Tigers. Bridge City and Jasper were both 5-4 with Lumberton at 5-5 a further half game back of the Bears.

This week Little Cypress Mauriceville played at home against the Jasper Bulldogs on Tuesday. On Friday the Bears play at West Orange Stark before finishing the regular season next Tuesday at Silsbee.

The Bridge City Cardinals played just one game last week on Friday and it was a thriller. The Cardinals clipped the Pirates 59-57 at Vidor with a strong fourth quarter to take the lead.

Trailing by four points entering the final period Bridge City staged a marvelous comeback. The Cardinals outscored the Pirates 20-14 In the final eight minutes of the game.

Walker Britten was the leading scorer for the Cardinals with 16 points while also dishing out 3 assists. Lincoln Breaux scored 13 points, grabbed 8 rebounds, and assisted on 3 other Bridge City baskets.

Bryce Linder made significant contributions with his 11 points and 6 rebounds. Defensive stars the Cardinals were Rayburn Hebert and Aiden Gutierrez with 3 steals apiece adding 9 and 6 points respectfully.

Bridge City played at home against the Lumberton Raiders on Tuesday. The Cardinals' next game is Friday at Jasper before closing the regular season in Bridge City against the West Orange Stark Mustangs on Tuesday, February 14.

Orangefield basketball From Page 1B

fouled and tacked on a free throw to complete the three point play with 48 seconds remaining in the third to get Orangefield to within seven points 30-23. A free throw by Ragusa made the score 30-24 after three quarters.

To the Buccaneers' credit they would not allow Orangefield to really threaten their lead in the fourth quarter. The Bobcats got a steal for a layup by Parker to scratch within five points with just over two minutes left but that is as close as they could get to a comeback as East Chambers extended its advantage to win by nine points.

The balanced scoring which is a hallmark for Orangefield was missing against the Buccaneers. Ragusa was the only Bobcat in double figures with 17 followed by Parker with 7 points. Four Bobcats had three points.

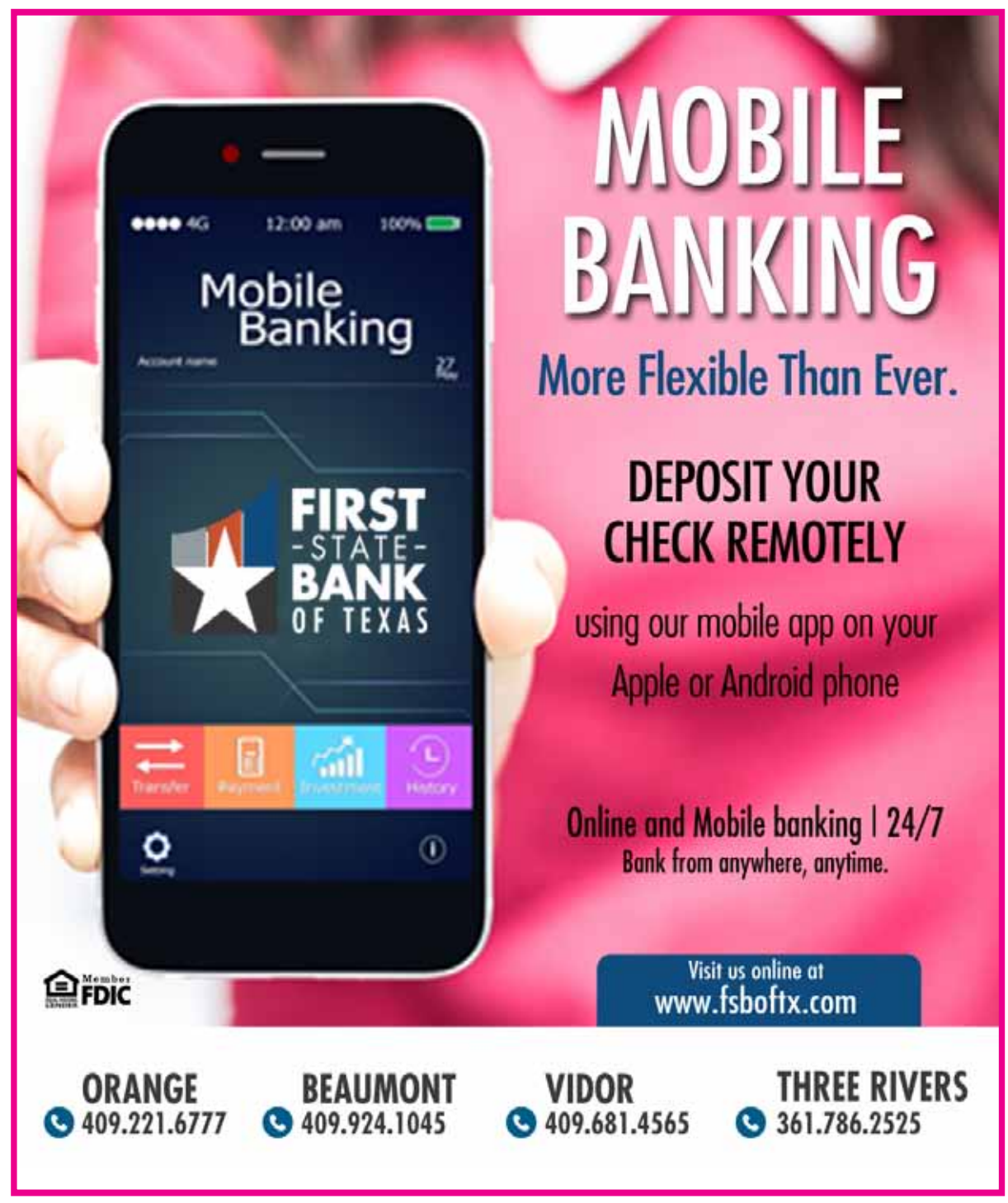
Winzer of East Chambers matched Ragusa for high scoring honors with 17 points. Jacoby Perrault scored 12 points for the Bucs making six of twelve from the free throw line.

The Orangefield Bobcats moved to 9-1 in district with their win on the last day of January. The Bobcats beat the Warriors 66-45 at Warren.

The first quarter saw Orangefield jump to a nine-point lead 15-6, but Warren responded with a good second period to trim the Bobcat lead to nine points 30-23 at the half.

The Bobcats' defense limited the Warriors to eleven points in each quarter of the second half. Orangefield pulled away to win by 19 points.

Pete Ragusa was the leader for Orangefield with 23 points, and his 6 rebounds tied him for second in that category with Koen Maddox both one behind Camerson Dischler's 7 boards. Jaden Scales was the other Bobcat in double figures



The Beauty of Silver Hair

Why Churches Need Older Women

Dave Furman
Guest Contributor
desiringGod.org

Sometime in late 2009, on a chilly winter morning in Dubai (still 90 degrees!), Mack and his wife, Leeann, came up to me in the back of our church's worship center. They communicated their intention to join our church-planting team working to establish a new church on the north side of town. They were the first to do so.

As the months unfolded, Mack, as a founding elder, certainly played a huge role in the new plant. His evangelistic zeal and joyful leadership proved contagious. However, Leeann was the unsung hero.

Over the years, through Leeann's leadership and discipleship, a number of women matured and began to lead Bible studies with other women throughout the church. One of these leaders is named Happy (whose personality matches her name brilliantly). Happy has since returned to her home in South Africa and has continued her ministry there, but during the first decade of our church plant, Leeann led our women's ministry and then handed the baton of leadership over to Happy. The spiritual fruit was tangible and beautiful.

I would never call either of these women "old," but they are certainly older than me and older than most in our congregation. In an environment where virtually all expatriates leave our city to retire in their home country, older members are a special blessing to our demographically young congregation. Yet no matter the predominant generational demographic of a church, older women are always a blessing.

Older Women Teach Younger Women

Leeann, Happy, and many other women have modeled what the apostle Paul wrote to Pastor Titus:

> Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. (Titus 2:3–5)

Neither male elders, male preachers, nor the word of God itself negate the need for older women to teach younger women in the church. Every church needs older women who will model godliness and teach younger women to follow their example.

MODELING GODLINESS

First, faithful older women model godliness and Christlike humility. They are reverent in behavior. They walk with God, and out of their relationship with God they model Christ to the other women in the church. Along with these positive descriptions, Paul gives two examples of irreverent behavior they are to avoid. Both areas indicate a lack of self-control.

Older women are not to be slanderers. Older women model what it means to guard their mouths by not gossiping and harming the church. Our words carry great power, and a wise older woman reminds younger women of the truth of Proverbs 12:18: "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." An older woman glorifies her Savior and gives grace to those who hear her when she does not let any unwholesome words come out of her mouth, but only what builds up, as fits the occasion (Ephesians 4:29).

Older women are not to be slaves to much wine. In other words, older women are self-controlled. Alcohol does not enslave them, nor do the typical preoccupations of this world. They live moderate, commendable lives that other women in the church can emulate.

TEACHING GODLINESS

Second, older women are to teach younger women "what is good" (Titus 2:3). Instead of speaking slanderous words, they train younger women to care well for their family and home. Older women have a plethora of wisdom to share with younger women about singleness, marriage, parenting, and other aspects of life. Regardless of one's situation, older women have likely walked the same paths younger women are now walking. This teaching includes a study of how to love their husbands and children and what true biblical submission looks like. Such topics cannot be relegated to a classroom; they involve life-on-life discipleship.

This teaching Paul has in mind also includes areas like self-control and living pure lives in kindness. And older women teach all of this "that the word of God may not be reviled" (Titus 2:5) — that the godliness of a church's women will display the goodness of God.

Older women are needed to serve all over the local church. They are needed to meet with other women in their homes for Bible studies. They are needed to teach other women in public and private. They are needed to meet one on one (or in small groups) in intentional discipleship relationships. It's one of my greatest joys of pastoring to hear when people in the church meet with one another simply to open the word and study together.

Older Women Bless the Whole Church

While God calls men to lead and preach in local churches, godly older women tutor the whole church through their faithful ministry, their commendable example, and their Scripture-shaped words. As all watch their godly example of teaching and training younger generations, the result is infectious. Others in the church see their ministry and are challenged to follow in their path as they follow Christ.

By their example, older women instruct the whole church. I still remember learning from Leeann and Happy about godly speech. They were always slow to speak, but at the same time, they were quick to compliment and encourage. Their example still challenges me to build up my fellow church members with God's word. Alongside those two, I can't count how many conversations or testimonies I've heard from older women in our church that have encouraged me personally as a pastor and as a Christian.

I'm so thankful for Leeann and Happy and the long legacy of sages with silver hair who have blessed our church. I am thankful for their ministry to the younger women, but I am especially thankful for the impact they've had on the entire church. They have taught me about living a godly life and equipping the next generation.

Pastors, church leaders, and church members, we would all do well to learn from the older women in our congregations. They have much to teach us about life, ministry, and godliness.

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