

# Penny Record

Vol. 64 No. 19

Distributed **FREE** To The Citizens of Bridge City and Orangefield

Week of Wednesday, October 4, 2023

## Adams Bayou bridges to be removed

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

The Texas Department of Transportation is closing some lanes of the Interstate 10 access road, a move that will make people living north of the interstate in the eastern part of the county happy.

TxDOT is tearing down the low bridges across Adams Bayou on the east and west access roads. Property owners and local government officials have wanted the bridges down because they interfere with the flow of rain water southward to the Sabine River. Adams Bayou drains areas as far north as Mauriceville.

"It's been a long time coming. We've been through four area (TxDOT) engineers on this issue," said Orange County Precinct 1 Commissioner Johnny Trahan.

He predicts it will take the highway department a week to tear down and remove one of the two bridges, and then another week for the same for the other

bridge.

"I'm thinking it's going to go pretty quickly," he said.

TxDOT began preparing for the lane closures on Tuesday. Traffic on the access roads eastbound and westbound will be diverted to the main Interstate 10 bridge, which is much higher than the access road bridges.

Travelers should get accustomed to the detours. Trahan said they will become permanent as TxDOT added a lane on each direction of the main bridge to accommodate the traffic that will need to enter at one side of the bayou and exit immediately after crossing.

The special lanes are needed because traffic on the access roads would not be able to cross the bayou. As part of the bridge removal project, TxDOT is rebuilding the turn around roads at each direction of the bayou.

Trahan said the short entrances and exits at the

ADAMS BAYOU Page 3A



Orangefield head football coach Josh Smalley holds the plaque he was given after his 68th win with the Bobcats making him the winningest football coach in the history of Orangefield High School. Smalley thanked all his coaches and the players during his 11-year tenure at Orangefield for their outstanding efforts and work. The coach also thanked his wife Kim for all the support she has given him through the years. (FOR MORE SEE PAGE 6B) RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

## BBB pays tribute to 'Lady Plumber' Donna Peterson

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

Donna Peterson, an 88-year-old trailblazing businesswoman from Orange, was one of two women honored last week by the Better Business Bureau Education Foundation's first Distinguished Women of Southeast Texas award.

She was presented the award during an expo and conference at Ford Park arena in Beaumont, with speakers including Jefferson County Sheriff Zena Stephens and Elyse Thibodeaux of Bridge City's Tiger Rock Martial Arts, who presented a demonstration on self-defense.

Peterson has owned and operated A-1 Peterson Plumbing for 55 years and became one of the first women in Texas to earn the Master Plumber designation.

She and her late husband, Richard (Dick) Peterson, a U.S. Navy veteran, began the company 55 years ago with one Roto-Rooter machine they carried in the trunk of their car to jobs



Donna Peterson, an 88-year-old trailblazing businesswoman from Orange, was one of two women honored last week by the Better Business Bureau Education Foundation's first Distinguished Women of Southeast Texas award.

She moved things around to make a small pantry in their kitchen into a home office space. She became known around town as the "Lady

Plumber" after a local newspaper ran a photograph of her speaking on Career Day to her daughter's school class. She had worn her plumbing uniform and brought a drain-cleaning machine to the school for the demonstration.

Through the years, the business continued to grow and expand to offer all kinds of plumbing and septic job services. The company for many years has owned a landmark building and space on Border Street in Orange.

After Orange County took a big hit from Hurricane Rita in 2005, the Peterson building was damaged, but she opened up to cook and do laundry for people. Her family, also involved in the business, worked to clear roads of fallen trees and debris so emergency workers could get through.

Peterson herself became a first responder. She helped save the life of a neighbor by giving CPR in

DONNA Page 3A

## Orange is for pumpkins this weekend

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

It's going to be a gorgeous weekend at the Orange Riverfront Pavilion with days of activities, music, and food during the Third Annual Orangetober Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

And in preparation for the festival, Dow Chemical and the Orange County United Way are hosting another Together Thursday on October 5. The free outdoor concert will feature the group Straight Tequila Night playing 1990s country music.

The concert will start at 6:30 p.m. at the covered Riverfront Pavilion at the Orange Boat Ramp off Simmons Drive. People should bring lawn chairs to sit. Food trucks will be selling items and there will be outdoor games. Coolers will be allowed, but no pets.

Orangetober is sponsored by the City of Orange Convention and Visitors Bureau, which brings in thousands of pumpkins and gourds of all shapes and sizes. City employees and volunteers, including a group from Orangefield High, spend hours unload-

ing the pumpkins and turning them into designs of fall colors. Several sites are set up to offer the perfect photo background for family snapshots.

The pavilion grounds will be open from 4 to 9 p.m. with food trucks, games, and activities. No coolers or pets will be allowed. At 7:30 p.m., a free showing of the family movie "Halloweentown" will begin. Attendees should bring lawn chairs.

The Big Pumpkin Run sponsored by 3 Bros Running Company will start early Saturday morning with runners and walkers starting at the pavilion and going through the old downtown and historic district, then circling back.

Gates at the Orangetober Festival will open at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Besides the elaborate pumpkin and gourd displays, there will be vendors with a variety of items, arts and crafts for children, fun games and a competitive competition of corn-hole.

The Orange Lions Club is sponsoring a gumbo cookoff with competitors selling bowls after the judg-

ORANGETOBER Page 3A

## Scarecrow Festival begins Oct. 10

STAFF REPORT  
For The Record

This fall, celebrate the changing season at the 13th Annual Scarecrow Festival at Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center. Take a stroll through the autumnal gardens to see more than 80 unique scarecrows made of repurposed and recycled materials, fall flowering displays

and thousands of pumpkins placed throughout the gardens. Scarecrow Festival begins October 10 and ends with the always popular Autumn Fair on October 28. Admission to the Scarecrow Festival is free of charge!

"We invite the community to come out and not only celebrate the fall season, but see the many creative displays of scarecrows by

businesses, schools, churches and other organizations within the area," said Marlene Cox, guest services coordinator at Shangri La. "This is a fantastic opportunity to have some free family fun, enjoy the changing weather and delight in all that our community and nature have to offer."

The Scarecrow Festival is open to guests Tuesday

through Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., with the last entrance at 4:30 p.m. Other events occurring during Scarecrow Festival include Sip and Stroll on Thursday, October 26, from 5-8 p.m., as well as Autumn Fair on Saturday, October 28, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and lasting throughout the day.

"This year we are excited

SCARECROW Page 3A

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## Kids play firefighter at OFD open house

Staff Report  
For The Record

Kids and families can learn how the real-life heroes work and live when the Orange Fire Department and the National Fire Protection Association will host the annual Fire Prevention Month open house on Monday evening with free activities, games, and food for families.

The open house will be at Central Station from 5 to 7 p.m. on Monday, October 9. The station is at 501 North Seventh Street of Green Avenue in the Old Orange Historic District.

A bounce house will be set up for play and kids can demonstrate their artistic abilities with crafts. One of the popular activities is the kids agility course where they can go through firefighter maneuvers, including

learning to hit a target with water from a hose.

The family-friendly event is open to the public of all ages includes tours of the two-story fire station. Firefighters stay at the station for 24-hour shifts with special living quarters and private bunks.

At the station's entrance is a display of a restored 1920 LaFrance fire engine that was purchased new by the Orange Volunteer Fire Department more than 100 years ago. Hot dogs, popcorn, and drinks will be served and door prizes awarded.

This year's National Fire Prevention slogan is "Cooking safely starts with you. Pay attention to fire prevention."

More information about the open house and the Orange Fire Department are available through the department's business number at 409-883-1050.

## • First Saturday Give-Aways this Saturday

First Baptist Church is having another give-away. Diapers and wipes will be dispensed Saturday, Oct. 7th from 10 o'clock to noon. Cars are to line up at the carport beside the church sanctuary in the parking lot. Along with diapers and wipes, prayer will be offered for those who request it and free Bibles.

Another exciting event at the same time and place will be the Pumpkin Patch where all sizes and colors of pumpkins can be bought. Children can play and have their pictures taken and enjoy the day.

## • Friends of the Orange Public Library to meet

Friends of the Orange Public Library will be holding a meeting of general membership and visitors on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. in the Ira Williamson meeting room of Orange Public Library at 220 5th St. The morning agenda will include a short business meeting of reports from FOPL and the Library staff including activities, recent and upcoming. A recognition by the American Association of University Women of the year's Library Family of the Year will be made. Refreshments will be available following the meeting. Visitors welcome.

## Education and Democracy Endangered

Sen. Carl Parker  
For The Record



Former State Senator  
Carl Parker

Because of my activities concerning public education, I was invited and attended a two-week seminar at Oxford University in England. Most of the participants were educators from countries just emerging from Soviet domination. In every case these officials described how the Russian Commu-

nist controls worked.

One of the first things the Communists did was to make the education system a tool to support this form of government. Basic learning took second place. I fear now the governors in Texas and Florida are trying to do the same. The first step has already been taken via the book banning pushed in both states. Legislation has passed to prohibit using books in schools which

discuss guns, slavery, sexual choice and encourages preference of religion. All those dominated countries felt it necessary to rewrite most of their school curriculum because what they ended up with was so political.

The process of education involves learning to think! Closing the window on things you choose to disagree with is harmful to education but democratic government as well.

## Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts on sale at Wesley United

Wesley United Methodist Church will be selling this year's crop of Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts for their Annual Fund Raiser with delivery early November. Pecan halves or pieces \$13.00 per pound, walnuts \$8.50 per pound. Call Jan 409-734-8036 to place an order or for additional information.

## Good Shepherd offering YMCA after school care

The YMCA After School Program is being held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 945 W Roundbunch in Bridge City. Elementary and Middle school hours are after school

until 6 pm. The Y's after school child care program provides peace of mind knowing your child is cared for in a safe, nurturing and structured environment. Financial aid is available. To register or for more information, visit the Y's website at ymcasetx.org/childcare or call at 409-962-6644.

## Holiday in the Park reservations

The City of Orange is proud to host this year's 22nd annual event on Saturday, November 4, 2023, providing a venue for vendors of all types. There is no charge to enter a vehicle in the car show. Vendor booth spaces are available for the day for \$40, or if you will need electricity, for \$65.

Registration forms and additional information can be found on the city's website: [www.cityofwestorange.com](http://www.cityofwestorange.com). You may also call West Orange City Hall at (409)883-3468

## The Record Newspapers of Orange County, Texas

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

### News Tips and Photos

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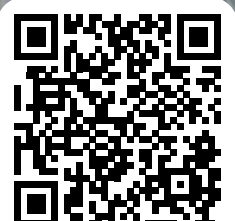
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Round The Clock Hometown News

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## Orangetober Fest

From Page 1

ing, which will begin at noon. Food trucks will include one from the Little Cypress Lions, Ice Cream Shack, Bobz Smokehouse, Chuck Wagon, Funnel'd, Cajunxion, Miss B's Takeout, Miss B's Sno-Cones, Rudy's Ka-Bobs, Carter's Country Cookin', Home Plate, Mice Ice, Wing Junkiez, Big Daddy's, and Bobby's Smokehouse.

Craft beer will be on sale and Free State Winery of Orange will sell its local products.

Orange County AgriLife Extension is sponsoring the pumpkin pie eating contest. Youth ages 8-12 will compete at 11 a.m. The teen competition for ages 13-17, will begin at 11:30 a.m., and the adult category for ages 18 and older will be at noon. Registration is online at the OC AgriLife website, or by calling the office at 409-882-7010.

Live bands will play in the afternoon through into the night. The schedule is Jody Bartula and the Barflies at 3 p.m., J.T. Reserve at 5 p.m., Big Jordan Band at 7 p.m., and Cody Canady and the Departed at 9 p.m.

No pumpkins or gourds will be allowed to be taken off the grounds until Sunday. Beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday, people will be able to enter the gates and take free pumpkins. No vehicles will be allowed on the grounds, but people may bring wagons to haul the gourds.

## Adams Bayou bridge removals

From Page 1

main bridge will allow traffic to get to businesses easily. For instance, westbound interstate traffic will have an exit lane after crossing the bridge to allow them to get to Tejas Drive. State MHMR offices are on the street, along with Free State Winery. Orange Motorsports is also by the exit.

Trahan said locals began lobbying TxDOT officials after Hurricane Harvey in August 2017. The record amount of rainfall flooded most of Orange County with feet of water. People living north of the interstate complained that their flooding was affected by the low access road bridges blocking the drainage.

"On a good day, the bayou is 12 to 14 inches below the bridges," Trahan said.

When it rains, the bridges often flood, causing TxDOT to put up traffic bar-

riers to get people to stop. A few years ago, a school bus with young students flooded out on one of the low bridges and rescue crews had to get the students out to high ground.

The interstate was built in the late 1950s and opened about 1960 through Orange County. The access roads did not originally have the low bridges. Eastbound travelers on the access road had to either get onto the main interstate or use a turnaround under the main bridge and then travel eastbound. That system will soon be reinstated.

Local officials in the 1960s wanted the access roads to go across Adams Bayou, and the low bridges, which are much cheaper and easier to build than elevated bridges, were added in the mid-1970s. It wasn't long, though, before some land developers

acreeage north of the bridges, was one of the citizens leading the movement to remove the bridges.

Commissioner Trahan said when they first made the request to remove the bridges, TxDOT rejected the idea. Locals continued their efforts and became successful. However, some people didn't like the delays.

But their day has come.

## Donna Peterson

From Page 1

her driveway as they waited for first responders.

Not long after the hurricane, Richard Peterson passed away. Donna Peterson dealt with the family loss and continued working in the business and serving the public.

She was selected by the Houston Astros as a "home-town hero" and was featured to throw the first pitch at Minute Maid Park game.

In 2020, the BBB of Southeast Texas gave her the Torch Award for a tradition of ethics in business. A-1 Plumbing that year was certified as a Woman Owned Business.

The company is now run by sons Bill and Richard II, along with daughter, Donna, a retired Army major and one of the first women to graduate from the West Point Military Academy.

## Scarecrow Festival

From Page 1



This fall, celebrate the changing season at the 13th Annual Scarecrow Festival at Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center.

to invite the community to a Sip and Stroll event during the Scarecrow Festival. We have partnered with Free State Cellars to have spirits and food available for purchase, as well as music to enjoy while taking in all there is to offer at Shangri La," said Cox.

The Scarecrow Festival will culminate with Autumn Fair. This day of family fun includes multiple opportunities for hands-on activities including a scavenger hunt, a Shangri La obstacle course, pumpkin decorating, hayrides, a pontoon boat ride on Adam's Bayou, investigating some of the critters that call Shangri La home and much more. Admission to Autumn Fair is also free of charge.

"Autumn Fair is always a fan favorite and enjoyed by all ages," said Cox. "It's a fun day filled with activities the whole family can enjoy and a great way to wrap up the Scarecrow Festival!"

Shangri La Gardens and Nature Center is located at 2111 West Park Avenue in Orange, Texas. For more information about Scarecrow Festival, please visit shangrilagardens.org.

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## 'The Record' Newspapers In-Print and Online

### Bridge City ISD Earns State's Highest Fiscal Accountability Rating

Bridge City Independent School District officials announced that the district received a rating of "A" for "Superior" under Texas' School FIRST financial accountability rating system. The "Superior" rating is the state's highest, demonstrating the quality of Bridge City ISD's financial management and reporting system. A public meeting will be held at the BCISD Administration Building, 1031 W. Roundbunch Rd. on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 6 p.m. to present the School FIRST rating.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL RATING

Little Cypress - Mauriceville C.I.S.D. will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 9, 2023 at the LCM Administration Building, 6586 FM 1130, Orange, Texas to discuss the district's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS DISTRICT EFFICIENCY AUDIT

Little Cypress-Mauriceville C.I.S.D. will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 9, 2023 at the LCM Administration Building, 6586 FM 1130, Orange, Texas to discuss the district's efficiency audit.

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## From the Creaux's Nest

### CIVIL WAR IN GOP- SPEAKER McCARTHY OUSTED

**Republican Kevin McCarthy's** deal with hard-line **House conservatives** that handed him the speaker's gavel in January unraveled on Tuesday as those same right-wing rebels, shoved him out of the seat. **McCarthy's** 269-day reign as speaker was ended by a 216-210 vote, a move that has no marker in modern history and paralyzes **Congress** for the time being. The rebellion, led by conservative hard-liner **Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla.**, has roiled the **House** in chaos. The move to oust McCarthy, known as a motion to vacate, had the support of a handful of **Trump** hard-right lawmakers who have expressed anger at **McCarthy** for working with **Democrats** to avert a government shutdown. **Republican Rep. Patrick McHenry** of North Carolina is temporarily leading the **House** after **McCarthy** was ousted.

### REMEMBERING LETTIE BLANDA

I was sorry to learn of the death of **Lettie Jean Blanda**, age 89, on **September 27**. A **Mass of Christian Burial** was held **Monday, October 2**, at **St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange**. **Lettie** was well known and loved by everyone who knew her. Her late husband **Bernard**, **Lettie** and I were all about the same age. Her father-in-law **Joe Blanda** was one of my best friends and we spent a lot of enjoyable events together. Later in life I got to meet and become friends with another **Joe Blanda**. **Coach Blanda** is **Joe** the barber's grandson and son of **Lettie** and **Bernard**. I also got to know one of their lovely daughters, **Debbie Gregg**, teacher and great artist. Her husband **Keith** also had a very interesting and talented father. **The Blanda's of Orange, Texas** is a book full of interesting history since arriving from **New Orleans** and **Lettie**, the **Berwick** girl from **Ged, Louisiana**, added charm to that great Italian clan. **Lettie**, one great lady, will be missed but we all know where she sits today. May she rest in peace. Please see obituary.

### TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 years Ago-2013

Monday Judge **Carl Thibodeaux** made the hardest decision he's ever had to make. Calling it quits as County Judge. He wanted to serve another term, badly but those aware of his past health problems knew there might come the time when he would have to choose between his health and the stress. Over the years, **Thibodeaux** has had heart problems resulting in several stints. Going through the annual budget process always took its toll. No county judge in the past 60 years that I'm aware of has been more dedicated, always on the job with his door wide open. No county judge prior to **Thibodeaux** ever voted on every issue. It's not necessary except in case of a tie. Judge **Thibodeaux** never shies away from any issue. He takes any heat that comes his way and lives with the decisions he makes. The longest serving county judge in **Orange County** history serves us well. "The Judge" has 15 more months and one more budget to go through.\*\*\*\* On **Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013**, the **Affordable Care Act** began, signing up citizens. The federal government's health care website **healthcare.gov** opened for business. Visitors will be able to navigate ways to shop for and buy health insurance that is now the law of the land.\*\*\*\* Two beloved Popes will be declared saints in April. Pope **Francis** said Monday that Pope **John Paul II** and Pope **John XXII** will be declared saints April 27. It will be the first time two former popes will be canonized the same day. Catholics are thrilled by the news. The timing of the ceremony, a week after Easter, will make April exciting and very busy on the Catholic calendar.\*\*\*\*All House Speaker **John Boehner** had to do was call for an up and down vote on the senate bill. Let the hair go with the hide. It would have been an easy out for everyone, especially for the Speaker. He was threatened by Tea Party members, led by **Eric Cantor** and **Paul Ryan**, who are joined at the hip with **Ted Cruz**, a new Texas senator who arrived in Washington just nine months ago. Canadian born Cuban, **Cruz**, unheard of a year ago, has stepped on anyone in the way to raise his national visibility. **Cruz**, in mounting his fight against the **Affordable Care Act**, turned his political career with a one act play.

### 2001-22 Years Ago

Baseball sweethearts vie for **Orangefield** homecoming queen. True beauties are **Britanie Harrington**, **Emily Mills**, **Stacy Feverjean**, **Kayla Worthy**, **Jennifer Powell**, **Chelsea Udkie**, **Melissa Reed**, **Tammy Chatlosh**, and **Robin Braxton**.\*\*\*\*The new "Miss **Bridge City**" is lovely **Britney Elizondo**.\*\*\*\***Tom** and **Jane Perry** were in

**New Zealand** when they got the news that the **U.S.** had been attacked by terrorists on **9-11**.\*\*\*\***Longtime Orange First Baptist pastor Rev. Cooper Walters**, 96, died Saturday, **Sept. 28** in **San Angelo**.\*\*\*\***Marvin Simar**, 70, died Sunday, **Sept. 29**. Survivors include wife **Jean**, sons **Paul** and **James**, daughter **Gina** and mother **Odetta**.\*\*\*\*Other deaths: **Myrtle Duhon Benoit**, 75; **Elton Myers**, 75; **Ethel Prejean**, 79; **Juanita Ayer Ducote**, 77; **Nell Burke**, 63; **Loretta Wilson Seibert**, 69; **Renaé Wallés**, 92 and **Robert Stone**, 79.\*\*\*\***Ducks Unlimited** names banker **Billy Burrow** "Sportsman of the Year."\*\*\*\*The **Orange Leader** host open house for **Opportunity Valley News** and **Roy Dunn**, longtime newspaper publisher. The front page of **The Leader** featured a 20 year old picture of **Roy** and **Bob Hope**. (Editor's note: Did I dream that or did it really happen? Yes, it did and it was a great party hosted by **Leader** publisher **Craig Stark**. **Robert Hankins** was acting editor. A new editor was coming.\*\*\*\***Airman Michael Chapman**, **USAF** of **Orangefield** graduates from basic training at **Lackland**.\*\*\*\***Bruce Aven**, of **Orange**, hit's a homerun for the **Dodgers** Sunday.

### 47 Years Ago-1976

After trailing 14-zip at half time, the **BC Cardinals** came back to win 23-20 against **South Park** with just 28 seconds left in the game. The TD was debated. One official called it a TD and the other said **Toney Mulholland** had fumbled the ball just before the goal line. In the end, the TD was good. The team was led by QB **Steve Bratton** and fullback **Kim Bryant**, who kicked a field goal to put **BC** ahead 16-14.\*\*\*\*The **West Orange Chiefs** ambushed the **Cleveland Indians** 29-6. **WO** was led by **Tony January**, **Randy Martell** and **Harland Robertson**. The **Chiefs** defense was led by **Doyle Hinds** and company.\*\*\*\* **Jack McClland** accepts federal job. The **D.A.** investigator will be replaced by **Linus Hubbard**.\*\*\*\***Elizabeth Smith Black** will be 96 on **Oct. 12**. She is a resident at **Polly's Rest Home**. She is the oldest living member of the **United Daughters of the Confederacy**. Her father was a veteran of the **War Between the States**.\*\*\*\* The law office of **Wingate, Carlton** and **Gunn** held an open house.\*\*\*\***Willie Nelson**, **Waylon Jennings**, **Dolly Parton** and **Mel Tillis** are big winners during **Monday night country music awards**. The **MC's** for the show were **Johnny Cash** and **Roy Clark**.\*\*\*\***Mrs. R.L. Kibbe** passed away last week. She was the daughter of early settler **John Bland**.\*\*\*\*The **A.J. Lapeyrolerie's**, eight children plus grandchildren attended a family reunion in **Gabriel, La.**

### A FEW HAPPENINGS

Last week we received a message from former **Bridge City** teacher, **Jeanne Woods Kern**, who now lives in **Nebraska**. **Jeanne** commented on **Roy's Down Life's Hwy** column on **Orange** and past history. She said, "The **Jack Tar Hotel** was still in operation when she lived in the area and what a special place it was. The names in the story were pure nostalgia. Thanks for the romp down **Memory Lane**." Thank you **Jeanne** for the lovely words.\*\*\*\*The **Harris** family, led by **Jo Jo Harris**, held another successful fundraiser for their popular project, **Special Angels Rodeo**. This year, the dinner was held at the **VFW** on **North 16th Street** with the **Orange County Cookers** providing the food. Lots of **Orange County** businesses and individuals donated some amazing silent auction items. For you newcomers to **Orange County**, we welcome you and want to inform you about our beloved **Harris family**. The family has owned and operated **Farmers Mercantile** in downtown **Orange** for nearly 100 years. The store is a landmark and totally operating country store, step back-to-the-past experience. And for you industrial workers, the late **Mr. Gus Sr.**, the second generation, was a **Texas A&M** graduate who designed the main canal system back in the **Great Depression**. There's some history. **Jo Jo** is the fourth generation running the store. A decade ago, **Jo Jo's** mother, **Lue**, got her birthday wish of her life. She had always wanted the special children and adults to get a rodeo experience. So her family organized the **Special Angels Rodeo**, which has become an annual event. Special needs children and adults from all over the area come to the **T-2 arena** and get a fun experience riding horses, learning to rope, and do other rodeo games. They get fed and entertained. This year's event will be **Saturday November 11** and volunteers are always needed. It's one of those community events where everyone leaves tired and happy. This past week's fundraiser had lots of volunteers, including a three generations of the **Harris family** (a new one is coming), plus people like **Irma Alaniz**, and former **Sheriff Mike White** with wife **Cheryl**. **Katie Durio**, who runs the non-profit **Stable Spirit horse therapy**, is always helping others. **Angela Abshire** arranged for youth from **First United Methodist Church** to come assist. People in the crowd included **Rodney** and **Dr. Amy Townsend**, **Brad** and **Terri Childs**, **Mindy** and **Robert Currie**, and **Jana Bruce**.\*\*\*\***Halloween** season is here, which means **Christmas** can't be far behind. (Never forget **Thanksgiving** in between). The **Orange Kiwanis Club** has set the theme of the **74th annual Christmas parade** through downtown as "**The Toys that Made Us**." The parade will be at 6 p.m. on **Saturday, December 6**. Registration online is through the **Orange Kiwanis** website. Should we take bets on how many **Barbie** and **Kens** will be seen?\*\*\*\*Over in **Bridge City**, the city and **Chamber of Commerce** have set the **Third Annual Christmas in the Park** for **December 1** from 5 to 9 p.m. The community fun gathering will include vendors and the traditional lighting of the city **Christmas tree**.\*\*\*\*The **Bridge City High Strutters** are having a holiday fundraiser with **Deck the Hallways at Bridge City Intermediate** on **November 11**. The hours will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and it's promising to be a fun family affair with local vendors, entertainment, plus pictures with **Santa**. Admission will be \$5.\*\*\*\***Lorcal**s are traveling around with **Becky** and **Ron McAnelley** going all the way to **Paris**. And that's not **Texas**, either. Fall in **Paris** is supposed to be

magical.\*\*\*\***Payton Robertson** was back relaxing at home in **Orange** after a busy season in minor league baseball with the **Colorado Owlz**. He set all kinds of records for the team, with fans coming up with the tribute of 'Pay Day' for a big play. He went out with mom, **Orange County Clerk Brandy Robertson**, and brother **Nicholas Provost** and even did karaoke. **Payton's** dad, **Roderick Robertson**, is on the **WO-C** school board and played minor league baseball, while **Payton's Uncle Andre** played for the **New York Yankees**.\*\*\*\*Former **Orangefield** track star **Dr. Wayne Guidry** was on the **University of Texas** track team and he's hoping to get one of his children to be a **Longhorn**. **Dr. Guidry**, who is now an assistant superintendent for the **Longview ISD**, went with his wife, **Julie**, and daughter **Sydney** to a **Longhorn** football game. **Dr. Guidry** was on the **Orange City Council** before moving for his education career.\*\*\*\***Charlotte Chiasson** went with **Susan Moen** and **Juanita Blanton** to **Crystal Beach** and then to **Galveston** to see the sights.\*\*\*\***Larry and Renee Fisher** were on the road again with a stop in **Orange Beach, Alabama**.\*\*\*\***Ishmael Jack** went to **Houston** to see the **Texans**. Ask him about the **Trill** burger he ate. Everyone in the country is talking about those burgers created by rap legend **Bun B** of **Port Arthur**.\*\*\*\* **Gary** and **Allisha Bonneau** were spotted at **Free State Winery**. Wait. That's in **Orange**. Yes, the retirees stayed at home for a change.\*\*\*\***Collins Brittain** went to see her first theater movie with **Paw Patrol**.\*\*\*\*Congratulations to **Chris Kovatch** of the **Orangefield** school board for being selected to participate in a year-long leadership program sponsored by the **Texas Association of School Boards**.\*\*\*\***Della Gallien** is going to celebrate her 84th birthday this week with something that will make her cheer. The avid **Astro** fan is going to see her favorite team in the playoffs at **Minute Maid Park**.\*\*\*\***Jenna Ingram** turned 19. Her parents, **Amy** and **David**, in their last year of having a teenager. She's the youngest of six.\*\*\*\*Lots of people celebrated birthdays this past week including the unofficial mayor of the Cove, **Jarvis Buckley**.\*\*\*\*Others included **Annette Bonnin**, **Kathy Gunn**, **Darren Copeland**, **Rex Gibson**, **Don Rollins**, **Robert Travis**, **John Christian**, **Mary Couvillion**, **Jo Fite**, **Dale Parish**, **Mike Shearer**, **Byron Buchanan**, **Andre Robertson**, **Rex Gibson**, **Fran Strong**, **Yank Pevetor**, and **Sandy McCormick**.\*\*\*\***Frederick** and **Beverly Robinson** celebrated a wedding anniversary.\*\*\*\*It's nice to feel the summer heat cooling down now that autumn has arrived. However, if you ever have air conditioning or heating problems your best bet is to call **FahrenTech**. Air Conditioning and Heating. They are available 24-7, day or night, are reasonable and do good work. Give them a call at 409-886-4247.\*\*\*\* Nearly seven years ago **Mark Cuban** made the prediction that the **Trump** organization would be bankrupt or in receivership in seven years. Come February, seven years will be up. **Forbes** also reported that **Trump** had grossly inflated his net worth. We reported the above in this column at that time.

### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Folks celebrating birthdays in the next few days. **Oct. 4**: **Jason Menard**, **Ruth Scales**, **Carol Kennedy**, **Beverly Gill**, **Ryan Dubose**, **Kyle Ezell**, **Lori Ess**, **Tricia Prosperie**, **Dakota Rowley**, **Jami Anderson**, **John Cardner** and **Bobbie Burgess**.\*\*\*\***Oct. 5**: **Kevin Studenmier**, **Tyler Miller**, **Brad Lanthier**, **Elicia Dillon**, **Glenn Heil** and **Jared Dillon**.\*\*\*\***Oct. 6**: **Troy Woodall** celebrates today along with **Jimmy Smith**, **Kay Bilbo**, **Jerald Ziller**, **Lori Harmon**, **Barbara Angelle** and **Cathye Liepy**.\*\*\*\***Oct. 8**: **Darrin Baudion**, **Elizabeth VanMetre**, **Ronnie Halliburton**, **Sandy Frye**, **Shelly Rose**, **Blaine Huff**, **Connie Bland**, **Darrell Fisher**, **Larry Welch** and **Lisa Havens**.\*\*\*\***Oct. 9**: Today is **Columbus Day**, a U.S. holiday commemorating the landing of **Christopher Columbus** in the Americas in 1492. Celebrating birthdays are **Betty Stimac**, **Kirsten Perricone**, **Logan Conner**, **Mark Prevost**, **Megan Benoit**, and **Imogene Bailey**.\*\*\*\***Oct. 10**: **Taylor Jagoe**, **Barbara Fournier**, **Bob Bullard**, and **Janell Matthews**. Former football star **Brett Farve** turns 54 and county singer **Tanya Tucker** will be 64.

### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

**Joe Boudeaux** was telling me about his family and how dysfunctional some of them are. He says his brudder, **Otis**, had been on a three day drunk and was staggering home from da liquor store wit a pint of whiskey in his back pocket dat he had bought wit his last penny. Stepping up on da curb **Otis** slipped and fell hard him on his backside. Struggling to his feet he felt something wet running down his leg him. He was overheard saying, "Please God, let it be blood."

**Joe** tole me his wife's brudder **TeeRay** is sorry him. I axe, "Wat you mean hanh?"

Well, **TeeRay** him went to see **Dr. Gaspard** and tole him he wasn't able to do all da tings around da house he used to do.

After da exam he said to da doctor, "Tell me in plain English wats wrong wit me. I can take it me."

**Doc Gaspard** answer, "In plain English, you jus lazy you."

"Okay," said **TeeRay**, "Now **Doc**, give it to me in da medical term so I can tell my wife."

### C'EST TOUT LSCO KEEPS MOVING FORWARD

I'm always amazed at what **Dr. Tom Johnson** is up to. **The Lamar Orange** president just recently announced the college expansion at the **Procell** building and the new electromechanical class. In a few days he will announce another expansion bringing education to student's neighborhoods. **LSCO**, on the banks of the **Sabine**, where the sun rises on **Texas** and higher education begins is constantly on the grow.\*\*\*\*My time is up. Please shop our family of advertisers. Check us out at **therecordlive.com**. daily. Take care and God bless.



# My 5-Cents

A monthly column from Sen. Robert Nichols

by Sen. Robert Nichols  
Senate District 3

It's officially fall! September 22 marked the official start of autumn. Hopefully that means some cooler weather.

Here are five things happening around your state:

**1. Port Arthur LNG obtains approval to expand gas plant project**

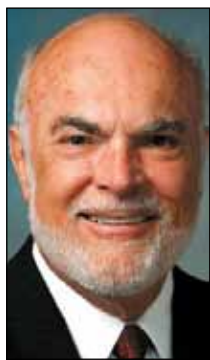
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved the permit that authorizes the Port Arthur Liquid Natural Gas plant project to expand into Phase 2, including the addition of two liquefaction trains capable of producing up to 13 million tons per annum (Mtpa) of liquefied natural gas. That would increase the total capacity of the facility from 13 Mtpa currently to 26 Mtpa. Semptra, the company that owns the plant, expects the expansion will help meet the future domestic demand for liquid natural gas supplies and international demand. The second phase of this project will continue to create new, high-paying jobs in the region and benefit the local economy. Texas is a leader in energy production and I applaud Semptra's decision to expand their footprint in Southeast Texas.

**2. Comptroller predicts increase in revenue estimate**

At an interview during Texas Tribune's annual conference, TribFest, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hager predicted that the state will have more money available to spend than previously thought. During the 88th Regular Session, legislators passed a balanced budget that totaled \$321.3 billion. Lawmakers also made use of an over \$30 billion surplus from the previous fiscal year. Now the state's accountant says there will be additional revenue, driven mainly by an increase in insurance premiums. Hager did not say exactly how much extra funding will be available, but that number should be released in his October update. How and if the additional money is spent could come up during a potential special session that Governor Abbott has said will begin next month.

**3. General Land Office approves \$68M in mitigation projects in East Texas**

Earlier this month, the General Land Office (GLO) announced the approval of over \$68 million for six mitigation projects in Deep East Texas, with \$42 million for broadband and interoperable radio communications infrastructure through the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG). Other projects are in the cities of Hemphill, Ivanhoe, and Woodville and Sabine County for street improvements and Jasper County for community resource centers, reconstruction of roadways, and



installing elevated water tanks. The DETCOG project will increase connectivity in the region, which is especially essential during a disaster. Businesses, local governments, emergency responders, and other organizations cannot effectively respond to a disaster without broadband access. These projects are critical to Deep East Texas and I'm appreciative of all the work DETCOG and the GLO have done to ensure this funding was made available.

**4. Stephen F. Austin State University celebrates 100 year anniversary**

This month SFA celebrated its centennial with four days worth of events and parties. The occasion brought thousands of students, alumni, staff, and community members to the campus to commemorate 100 years of SFA. The university opened its doors for the first time on September 19, 1923. It was initially part of the Texas State University System, before becoming an independent university on 1969. This year, the university voted to join the University of Texas System. When SFA opened, there were only 270 students enrolled and classes were held in borrowed buildings in downtown Nacogdoches. Today, SFA has around 11,000 students on a sprawling campus.

**5. Broadband infrastructure funding update**

In the past several years I have focused on broadband access for rural Texas, and Texas will soon see an influx of new funding toward bridging the digital divide. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced this summer that Texas will receive roughly \$3.3 billion in federal funding for broadband deployment. These dollars represent Texas' allocation of the \$42.5 billion in funding from the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program (BEAD) funded through the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. The Texas Broadband Development Office has submitted a plan to the NTIA for the use of these federal dollars and will by the end of the year submit additional required planning documents to the NTIA. The bulk of the \$3.3 billion could then be made available as early as the end of next year or the beginning of 2025. Meanwhile, Texas Voters will have the chance in November to vote on Proposition 8, which creates a new Broadband Infrastructure Fund to expand high-speed broadband access. If approved by the voters, Proposition 8 will provide an additional \$1.5 billion of funding allocated by the Texas Legislature to increase broadband access and closing the digital divide.

**• Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts at WUMC**

Wesley United Methodist Church will be selling this years crop of Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts for their Annual Fund Raiser with delivery early November. Pecan halves or pieces \$13.00 per pound, walnuts \$8.50 per pound. Call Jan 409-734-8036 to place an order or for additional information.

**• Good Shepherd offering YMCA after school care**

Attention All Cardinals! The YMCA After School Program is being held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 945 W Roundbunch in Bridge City. Elementary and Middle school hours are after school until 6 pm. The Y's after school child care program provides peace of mind knowing your child is cared for in a safe, nurturing and structured environment. Financial aid is available. To register or for more information, visit the Y's website at ymcasetx.org/childcare or call at 409-962-6644.

# Deaths & Memorials

## Lettie Jean Blanda, 89

Lettie Jean Blanda, 89, of Orange, Texas, passed away on September 27, surrounded by loving family at home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, October 2, 2023, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange. Officiating will be Father Antony Paulose, and eulogy delivered by Deacon Clint Elkins. Burial will follow at St. Mary Cemetery in Orange.

Visitation will begin prior at 9:00 a.m., Monday, October 2, 2023, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Orange, with a rosary starting at 10:15 a.m. and will be directed by Deacon Melvin Payne.

Born in Ged, Louisiana, on August 27, 1934, she was the daughter of William (Bud) Rhybon Berwick and Priscilla (Higginbotham) Berwick. Lettie was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She worked as a Data Processor for USS Steel, Livingston Ship Building, and Owens Illinois. Lettie was a longtime member of St. Mary Catholic Church and a member of the altars society. She was an enthusiastic cross stitcher and painted with thread for at least 40 years. She loved to share her passion of cross stitching and painted threads with everyone. Lettie loved her family and made sure they knew she did by always



Lettie Blanda

saying "I love you more". As many would say, Lettie was a light at the end of a dark tunnel. She could make you laugh and smile with just her presence. Lettie was very well known all over and was a solid foundation for many. All who knew her, adored her and she will be deeply missed.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Bernard Ross Blanda; siblings, Nora Trotti, Tommy Berwick, Paul Berwick, and James Berwick; mother and father-in-law, Joe and Lily Blanda. She is survived by her sons, Joe Blanda and wife Terri, Ken Blanda and wife Shawnda; daughters, Debbie Gregg and husband Keith, Carol Post and husband David; grandchildren, Allison Gregg and partner Kyle Fontenot, Ashley Jarrett and husband Daniel, Elyse Jones and husband Charlie, Bekah Kelley and husband Clint, Jessica Broussard and husband Jerron, Jenna Evans and husband Quinton, and Vincent Isaac Post; great-grandchildren, Carter Coleman, Emery Jarrett, Lennon Jones, Ben Broussard, Camden Broussard, Bear Jones, Harper Evans, and Milo Kelley; sister Josie Sumrall; as well as other loving family and friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Charlie Jones, Daniel Jarrett, Kyle Fontenot, Jerron Broussard, Quinton Evans, Clint Kelley, Vincent Post, and Carter Coleman.

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# Orangefield Bobcats rally past Panthers

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

Orangefield rallied from thirteen points down to win a key football game against the team picked to win the district. The Bobcats beat the Anahuac Panthers 32-20 at F. L. McClain Stadium on Friday night.

The win keeps the Bobcats (3-3, 2-0) undefeated and in first place in District 10-3A Division I. The win was the sixty-eighth for Head Coach Josh Smalley in his more than a decade with Orangefield making him the winningest coach in the school's history passing Ed Peveto. Anahuac (4-1, 1-1) suffered its first loss of the season.

Orangefield won the coin toss prior to the game and deferred to the second half. The Panthers got the

opening kickoff and drove 69 yards in 13 plays to take the initial lead of the game.

Anahuac used a fast pace attack not really waiting very long between snaps. The Panthers also were balanced with seven passes and six run plays during their scoring drive.

Orangefield was flagged for a major penalty when the Anahuac quarterback was tackled out of bounds. The call was a tough one in that it looked like the Panther and the Bobcat just fell together as they crossed the sideline.

Quarterback Logan Trotter completed five of his first seven passes for 38 yards. Thomas Delao carried the ball four times for 16 yards the last five yards earned him and the Panthers a touchdown. The successful point after gave Anahuac a 7-0 lead just 3:33 into the game.

The Bobcats had a quick three and out punting the ball back to the Panthers at midfield. As it did on its first possession Anahuac scored again to go up by two scores.

The ten-play drive included seven rushing plays with Delao and Trotter both picking up first downs on the ground. The biggest play was the touchdown on a 23-yard pass from Trotter to the Panthers stellar receiver Quandre Coates who made a sensational catch despite being well covered. Anahuac went for



Mason Manning of Orangefield sweeps around the right side for part of his 130 yards rushing against Anahuac.  
RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

BOBCATS Page 2B



Bears Khayden Reed and Carson McIlwain celebrate after McIlwain's touchdown reception.  
RECORD PHOTO: Kayleigh Ritchey / KR Photography

# Battlin' Bears start district against Vidor

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

The bye week for Little Cypress Mauriceville came at a good time two weeks ago as the Bears played a very competitive game afterwards. This week the Bears start district action and must be functioning on all levels effectively.

Little Cypress Mauriceville played the Legacy Titans out of Spring and lost 34-33 failing to convert a two-point conversion attempt that would have earned the victory for the Bears. LCM is 2-3 on the season with the beginning of district on Friday.

Coach Eric Peevey is very proud of his Bears. "Anytime you get a loss it hurts, and this one hurt badly because I felt like our kids played to their full potential for the first time this year. We still had some mistakes, but I tell them I don't care if they make a mistake if they are playing at full speed and playing with the heart, and that's what they did they played absolutely hard from the first snap of the football game to the last snap. We had a chance to win it, we didn't pull it out, but I definitely

feel like we had more kids starting to learn how to play the game of football. They're finally starting to figure it out, and when you have a younger team and see these kids are growing up right in front of you it's very important," Peevey expressed.

The entire offensive line for Little Cypress Mauriceville played its best game all year. Those Bears are Jovany Molina at left guard, Nathan Childress was moved to center which allowed Carson Phelps to switch to right guard. The Bear tackles Jaylon Broussard and Clayton Farwell have been the strength of the offensive line. LCM is kind of getting everybody together at the right time.

Tight end Carson McIlwain played his best game blocking and receiving against Legacy. Quarterback Dylan Payne ran for over two hundred yards.

Coach Peevey responded, "I felt like we didn't just run the ball, we ran the ball very physically. Jonah Fuller and Dylan Payne, they had a great game."

The first game of district for Little Cypress Mauriceville is against a familiar foe in the Vidor

LCM BEARS Page 4B

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# Bobcats rally win

two but Delao was stopped on the run attempt to keep the score 13-0 with 2:14 left in the first quarter.

A nice kick return by Mason Manning for over 30 yards gave the Bobcats the ball at their 47. The ground game began to click for Orangefield this drive as Kane Smith gained a first down with a 13-yard run and Manning got a second first down on a three-yard pickup on fourth-and-three to the Anahuac 30.

Bobcat quarterback Carson Gonzales completed a pass to Manning for 18 yards taking the ball to the Panthers' nine. Smith gained three yards before Manning got the touchdown with a 6-yard scamper. The point after had plenty of distance but was wide right so Orangefield trailed 13-6 with 9:03 left in the half.

After an exchange of

two punts by the Panthers and one by the Bobcats, Orangefield took possession of the ball with just over four minutes left in the half. The first play from scrimmage Manning broke loose for a first down run to the Anahuac 48.

The officials called penalties on three straight plays including a pass interference on the Panthers for a Bobcat first down moving the ball to the 34. The next two penalties, one on Orangefield and one on Anahuac, kept the ball on the 34 of Anahuac.

Gonzales then hooked up again with Manning out of the backfield this time for an apparent touchdown except the officials ruled he stepped out of bounds at the three. Kyle Michael gobbled up the last three yards for a touchdown but the kick was again wide right to keep the Bobcats trailing

From Page 1B

by one point 13-12 with 1:19 to play in the second quarter.

Delao made his longest run of the night for the Panthers on the first play 25 yards after the kickoff. A hook and lateral worked for eight yards, and Delao gained another first down for Anahuac to the Orangefield 31.

Bobcat Logan Trahan broke up a pass near the

end zone, and Lane Gipson stopped Delao for a loss forcing the Panthers to try a 38-yard field goal which was woefully short as the half expired with Anahuac leading by a single point.

Orangefield got the second half kickoff but after a lone first down the Bobcats punted. The Panthers took their first possession in the third quarter 68 yards for a touchdown. Again it was Coates who caught a pass in the flat,

broke about three tackles, and carried a couple Bobcats with him into the end zone for a 30-yard touchdown. Anahuac led 20-12 with 6:54 left in the third period.

The Bobcats wasted no time answering the challenge. A holding penalty cost Orangefield a big gain, but the Panthers made a more serious blunder when they had a targeting hit called on them and the player then mouthed off to the offi-

cials resulting in two major penalties being called. The result was a first down for the Bobcats at the Anahuac 36

Another holding penalty did not stymie Orangefield as Manning ran for 17 yards to the 31. Manning then made a beautiful cutback on a run up the middle to find nothing but green between him and the goal line for a 31-

ORANGEFIELD Page 6B

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Kane Smith of the Bobcats slices through a hole for good yardage against Anahuac. RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



LCM Bear quarterback Dylan Payne rushes for some of his 200 yards he gained against Legacy last week. RECORD PHOTO: Kayleigh Ritchey / KR Photography

# BC Cardinals face state-ranked Jasper

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

The Bridge City Cardinals got a breather from their difficult football schedule last week. This Friday night it is back to work for the Cardinals against another district opponent who is state ranked.

To this point in the season Bridge City has already surpassed its win total from last year. The Cardinals should be optimistic of more wins for them over the last five weeks of the season.

Coach Chad Landry is very pleased with the progress shown by the Cardinals. "We've got a gauntlet of a schedule, and it's been tough sledding the last couple games, but overall I have been extremely impressed not just on Friday nights, it's in the weight room, it's what we're doing during the athletic period, their focus during film has just been great. I can't say enough about how well our players have bought in and it's been fun to watch. We know we've still got a tough sled in front of us, we know what's ahead, but realistically we're just taking it day by day, and the guys are doing a great job of just working their tails off," Landry evaluated.

Each Friday night it seems to Coach Landry a different Cardinal steps up. The result is Bridge City is not relying on just one or two guys. Health is a big deal at this point of the season with several Cardinals banged up. The bye for Bridge City came at a good time to get some



Gavin Bodin of the Cardinals sat out the last game with concussion protocol but has been cleared to play Friday night in Jasper. THE RECORD PHOTO

Cardinals healthy and give them some rest. This included wide receiver and punter Gavin Bodin who was in concussion protocol the week before the bye but is cleared to play this week at Jasper.

Landry said, "Overall, I've been very impressed with Hutch Bearden as our signal caller he's done a good job. Gavin Bodin, Jerris Brown, and Abraham Mungia offensively are special players for us, and their leadership on that side of the ball has taken off and it's not easy and they have fully invested, and it's been fun to see those guys kind of take charge."

Bridge City goes north to play Jasper this week. The Bulldogs had been ranked in the top ten teams in Class 4A Division II before their loss last week to also state ranked Hamshire-Fannett.

The Bulldogs will operate out of the Spread on offense. Athletic suitably describes Jasper as a team and especially so on offense.

Maybe the most impressive of the numerous athletes on the Bulldogs is tight end Kiotti Armstrong. He can catch the football and knows what to do with it when he has got it.

Throwing the ball to Armstrong is quarterback Isaiah Coleman a junior. The Bulldogs use running backs Zykeelon Hadnot and Payton Brooks who are both averaging five and a half yards per carry with six touchdowns between them.

"The Bulldogs have got size, speed, and talent everywhere on offense. We know it's a tough test coming this Friday. The bye week helped and our guys are hungry, they're ready to play again, we're excited for the opportunity to play a strong team like Jasper," Landry replied.

A key for the Cardinal

defense against Jasper's offense is holding up and playing for the full 48 minutes. Landry emphasized, "Where we've got to do a better job is holding up in the second half. That's the plan for this week."

Defensively Bridge City needs to cause more turnovers and get the ball back. Coach Landry is making that a key for the Cardinal defense this week.

The athletes are also found on the Jasper defense. Maybe the most recruited Bulldog is inside linebacker Ty Anthony Smith who made 118 tackles last season with six of those for losses.

Tylon Garrett in the defensive line is a young man who will cause trouble for opposing offenses. Garrett had 15 tackles for losses with 10 sacks and was an all-district selection.

Kiotti Armstrong will

also line up on defense at linebacker. He had four sacks and 12 tackles behind the line of scrimmage in only his second year of playing football.

In the Jasper secondary is Andre'Von Thomas who made 5 interceptions last year. Thomas also made 64 tackles.

Landry analyzed, "The Bulldogs are going to man you up. They're going to send pressure. They're extremely physical and large. Physically, Jasper is the largest and fastest team that we have faced so far. We know the challenge we face Friday night especially having to travel to Jasper."

The odds makers probably would not give Bridge City much of a chance against Jasper, but the Cardinals will play the game with a lot of heart and determination ac-

ording to their coach. "The players are here to work. They're here to get after it. They enjoy being around each other. The fieldhouse has been great. Normally by this point of the year we'd be getting some guys taking the practices not as serious, but practices have been great. I'm excited. I know our coaching staff is going to give our players full energy every day. The players are going to give us every thing they have. As far as the game goes if we can avoid the big swing in momentum like a costly penalty or a turnover we have a chance. I firmly believe we really do have a chance and our players believe that," Landry concluded.

The Bridge City Cardinals will play the Jasper Bulldogs on Friday. The game kicks off at 7:30 PM in Jasper.

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# WOS Mustangs take-on hard-to-beat Longhorns

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

Three weeks of frustration were released last week for West Orange-Stark. This week the Mustangs hope to follow up their first win in a month with another victory against a state ranked opponent.

West Orange-Stark snapped a three game losing streak against ranked teams with a lopsided 62-0 blowout at Liberty. The Mustangs play their next game at home against the state ranked Hamshire-Fannett Longhorns.

Mustang Coach Hiawatha Hickman said the goal last Friday was to get that winning feeling back.



Jalen Gilmore of the Mustangs was a standout on both offense and defense during West Orange-Starks' 62-0 win over Liberty.

RECORD PHOTO

"Our kids have been working hard in those three games we lost in a row we were in all of them. It was good to go over there and get a win," Hickman stated.

Mustang quarterback Marcus Turner led the offense and scored two touchdowns. Hickman indicated, "The Mustangs that stood out were our running backs Khelvy Jefferson the freshman who never disappoints, he's going to be a great football player around here. Tahj Amerson scored twice, and Jalen Gilmore our other running back played well. Offensively, we executed how we wanted to and tried to be balanced throwing it and running it and we were able to work on a lot of things in that game on Friday night."

"I think my offensive line is starting to get where they need to be. Those guys have six games under their belts now and the young ones

that were in there including Denim Orebo is starting to come into his own. He played really well," Hickman responded.

Getting a shutout was a big boost for the West Orange-Stark defense. Jalen Gilmore was also a standout on defense. Freshman Ja'Cuincy Walker was moved up to the Mustang varsity to play free safety and had two interceptions.

Anterion Fontenot is a third freshman who made his presence felt at linebacker. Seniors Joshua Miller played another strong game for WOS as did Joshua Sterling in the defensive line. Christopher Jones played well at cornerback.

Hickman summarized, "We played good as a team which what we wanted to do. We talked about that all week, executing, and going over to Liberty doing what we're supposed to do to get ourselves ready for another district game this week against a tough opponent."

The Hamshire-Fannett Longhorns were state ranked prior to last week and they proved that ranking to be a good one. The Longhorns kicked a late field goal to edge the high touted Jasper Bulldogs 31-28 and remain undefeated on the season and improved to 2-0 in district.

The Spread offense employed by the Longhorns

has some dangerous weapons spread out all over the field.

Hamshire-Fannett lines up like the old Mustangs on defense in the 50 with three downed linemen, two linebackers, with two other defenders who walk in. The Longhorns have moved several of their talented athletes to play defense. This has greatly improved them on defense where before the Longhorns just tried to out-score opponents now their.

The West Orange-Stark Mustangs battle the Hamshire-Fannett Longhorns on Friday night. The game will kick off at 7:30 at Dan R. Hooks Stadium.

## LCM Bears host Vidor From Page 1B

Pirates. After losing their first two games the Pirates now have a three game winning streak heading into the district.

Coach Dwayne DuBois has returned to Vidor where he was an assistant for several years under Jeff Mathews before taking head coaching jobs at Hardin-Jefferson and at Bridge City. DuBois replaced Mathews who retired at the end of last season, but there probably will not be many changes especially on offense.

DuBois installed the Slot-T Offense in both Hardin-Jefferson and Bridge City which he also ran when he was an assistant at Vidor. The Pirates will be running their familiar Slot-T on Friday night against Little Cypress Mauriceville.

Quarterbacking the Pirates for the last three games is Daigan Venable who is the leading returning ground gainer for Vidor. Venable played running back last year but since taking over at quarterback the Pirates have won all three games.

Since the change at quar-

terback Venable is running the ball more than the previous Pirate quarterback did, and the positive results are evident by three wins without a loss.

Venable has made the Pirates more explosive in their running game. They also have an explosive tailback Isaac Fontnow. The Vidor offense revolves around the fullback Riley Marlow who is a very physical runner, he runs hard, and everything kind of focuses around him in the middle of it.

"The Pirates try to get the fullback going early, and off of that they have all their fakes, quarterback keeps, and everything else they do. They're the type of team that will celebrate a three-yard run. They are looking to keep long sustaining drives and run out the entire quarter, score, then kickoff, and try to make your offense go three and out and then do the same exact thing. We've got to bow our necks and get physical this week," Peevey emphasized.

The Vidor defense bases out of a 3-4 but will usually have a fourth defender

move into the box. The Pirates will often move an outside linebacker up to fill the front line.

Outside linebacker Braden Root has played on the varsity for Vidor since he was a freshman. Root can stop the run and does a great job against the pass as well as evident by his 74 tackles and 5 sacks last season.

On the inside is middle linebacker Tate Ardis who is big and physical for the Pirates. Ardis made 85 tackles in his previous year.

In the secondary Bryce Dubose is a leader. Dubose has a pick six to his credit this year with the Pirates who lead the district in team interceptions.

The opening game of district is always important so it is vital to begin with a win. In Peevey's three years as the head coach at Little Cypress Mauriceville the Bears have started district with Vidor each season.

Cross-county rivals the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears and the Vidor Pirates play on Friday night. The kickoff will be at 7:30 in Battlin' Bear Stadium.

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Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **GLENDIA R. BELCHER**, Deceased, were issued on **JULY 31, 2023**, in Cause No. **P19740**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **WILLIAM CRAIG BELCHER**.

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 **29th** day of **September, 2023**.

*George B. Barron*  
George B. Barron  
Attorney for Administrator  
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 **SILAS A. MCLELLAN**, Deceased, were issued on **SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**, in Docket No. **P19750**, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **MARCUS S. MCLELLAN**.

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: **Paul M. Fukuda Attorney At Law 312 Border Street Orange, TX 77630**

DATED the **29th** day of **September, 2023**.

*Paul M. Fukuda*  
Paul M. Fukuda

Attorney for: **Marcus S. McLellan**  
State Bar No.: 00789915  
312 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone: (409) 883-4357  
Email: plukudalawoffice@yahoo.com

**First Saturday of First Baptist Church** is having another give-away. Diapers and wipes will be dispensed Saturday, Oct. 7th from 10 o'clock to noon. Cars are to line up at the carport beside the church sanctuary in the parking lot. Along with diapers and wipes, prayer will be offered for those who request it and free Bibles. Another exciting event at the same time and place will be the Pumpkin Patch where all sizes and colors of pumpkins can be bought. Children can play and have their pictures taken and enjoy the day.

**Friends of the Orange Public Library** will be holding a meeting of general membership and visitors on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. in the Ira Williamson meeting room of Orange Public Library at 220 5th St. The morning agenda will include a short business meeting of reports from FOPL and the Library staff including activities, recent and

upcoming. A recognition by the American Association of University Women of the year's Library Family of the Year will be made. Refreshments will be available following the meeting.

**Wesley United Methodist Church** will be selling this year's crop of Durham/

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### PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the Constitutional Amendment Election held on November 7, 2023 will be tested on October 9, 2023 at 9:00 am at 206 Border Street, Orange, TX 77630 to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Signature of Officer \_\_\_\_\_

**AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE**

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección las enmiendas a la constitución propuestas que se llevará a cabo el 7 de noviembre de 2023 se probará el 9 de octubre 2023 a las 9:00 am en 206 Border Street, Orange, TX 77630 para determinar si el equipo contará con exactitud los votos para todos los puestos oficiales y sobre todos los proyectos de ley.

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The State of Texas  
To any and all Unknown Heirs and all Persons Interested in the Estate of

**STEVEN MARK MEADOWS, Deceased**  
Cause No. P19825  
in County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate filed AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP in this estate on the 82th day of September, 2023, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of, **STEVEN MARK MEADOWS, Deceased**, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court may act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse, 801 W. Division., Orange, Texas 77630.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court **by filing a written contest or answer** to this Application should they desire to do so. **To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention or response in writing** with the County Clerk of Orange County, Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the County Court at Law, Orange County, Texas at the office of the Orange County Clerk in Orange, Texas on the 28th day of September, 2023.

**BRANDY ROBERTSON,**  
County Clerk, Orange County, Texas

By: *Danielle Barrow*, Deputy  
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# Historic victory for Smalley, Orangefield Bobcats

DAN PERRINE  
For The Record

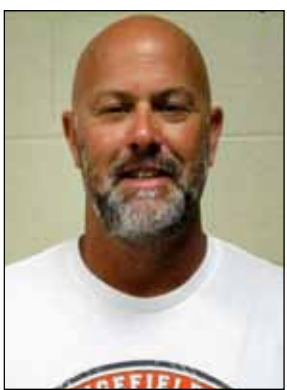
Last week was an exciting and historic win at Orangefield. This Friday night the Bobcats take their undefeated district record on the road against another team without a loss in district.

Orangefield played Anahuac which was the preseason favorite to win the district, and the Panthers were 4-0 on their season and 1-0 in district before the two teams met last week. The Panthers jumped out to a 13-0 lead, but the Bobcats came back and won by two scores 32-20 to go 2-0 in district action.

Coach Josh Smalley was honored after the game with a plaque signifying his sixty-eighth career victory making him the winningest football coach in the history of Orangefield High School. "While I am proud and honored to have reached this milestone, this is not about me but a team. Success cannot happen without the support of those around you. This is truly a 'team' accomplishment. Milestones are not reached without the support of the school administration,

school board, staff, and the community," Smalley replied.

Smalley thanked all his coaches and the players during his 11-year tenure at Orangefield for their outstanding efforts and work. The coach also thanked his wife Kim for all the support she has given him through the years.



Orangefield Bobcat Head Coach Josh Smalley.

Smalley acknowledged any success that he has achieved is a direct result of the Good Lord above and His Son, Jesus Christ. Smalley added, "I thank Him daily for letting me do what I love for a living. I am nothing without Him and give Him all the honor and glory."

The first two district games have been victories for Orangefield but were not achieved the same way. "We started so fast against Buna two weeks ago, but it kind of went the opposite way as the Panthers punched us in the mouth the whole first quarter. We got behind 13-0, and I credit our kids and coaches we didn't quit or throw in the towel and kind of found a way to work

our way back into the game a little bit. We got down again in the third quarter and then found a way to work our way back. It shows a little bit about the character and the integrity plus the work ethic of our kids that even when things aren't going real great they're still not going to give up or quit. They're still going to fight, scratch, and claw to find our way back into a game," Smalley emphasized.

The Bobcats' motto for this season is 'Keep Swinging the Axe' and that was evident in the game against Anahuac. Smalley explained, "It's like cutting down a tree. That tree may not fall on your first swing, or your second swing, or your third swing. It may take a thousand swings to get that tree to fall. We told the players at halftime that it wasn't the first quarter or the second quarter, it may take four quarters for that tree to fall. If you look back at the game it was three and a half quarters the tree started to sway and fall down."

Bobcats that were helping make that tree eventually come tumbling down are in the offensive line. The Orangefield O-line is composed of center Brayden McGee, strong guard Kim Tsan, strong tackle Ethan Brown, Blake McRight at quick guard, Ethan Blackburn at quick

tackle, plus tight ends Calvin Calhoun, Akilles Garcia, and Jacob Worthy.

"The offensive line all the way through tackle to tackle plus two tight ends has done a really good job of not getting their heads done or getting discouraged with some early struggles. Now hopefully it has paid off and will continue to pay off," Smalley analyzed.

In recent years the football program at Tarkington has not had the best of records. That has changed this season as the Longhorns are 4-1 on the season and scored a dramatic touchdown on the final play of the game to win at Hardin Tarkington's first district game.

The Longhorns operate an old school offense the Flex Bone out of the Pistol formation. The quarterback is in the shotgun and the fullback is behind him with two slot backs and two wide receivers. Tarkington will run the ball about 85 to 90 percent of the plays on offense.

On defense the Longhorns do not give up a whole lot of yards. In the games played Tarkington has averaged giving up about 205 yards to opponents and is very good at stopping the run.

Orangefield and Tarkington play Friday. The game will kick off at 7:30 PM in Tarkington.

## Orangefield From Page 2B

yard touchdown. The try for two failed keeping the Bobcats behind by two points 20-18 with 4:36 to play in the third quarter.

Helping to keep the deficit to only two points was the Bobcat defense. The next two Anahuac possessions the Panthers had fourth and ones in Orangefield territory and both times Michael with help from other Bobcats stopped the Panther runner for no gain turning the ball over on downs both times.

An exchange of punts followed the second great defensive stop by Orangefield with the Bobcats taking the ball at the Anahuac 49 with six and half minutes left in the fourth quarter. Manning moved the ball to the 30 with a 19-yard carry.

Holding was called on the Bobcats' next run moving the ball back to the 31. From there Manning scored his third touchdown of the game. The Bobcats finally converted a point after with

Smith running the ball in for two points to make the score 26-20 in favor of Orangefield for the first time all night.

The pressure was now on Anahuac to answer but two runs only netted two yards and an incompleting setup fourth-and-8. Trotter tried to throw to Coates for the first down yardage but Smith of the Bobcats had the coverage and made a super dive to keep the ball out of the hands of the Panther receiver to turn the ball back

over to Orangefield on downs.

Smith starts on offense, defense, and special teams. After his great play on defense Kane cut loose for a 30-yard run to the two. Fernando Sandoval-Rodriguez scored two plays later for an insurance Bobcat touchdown.

The clinching play came from the Orangefield defense as Kaleb Menard intercepted a pass from Trotter. After one more Bobcat first down Gonzales took a couple of knees and the victory belonged to Orangefield.

For the second straight

game the Bobcats won the turnover battle with Menard's interception the only take away in the game. Freshman Bobcat quarterback Carson Gonzales did not have a rushing carry in the game. Carson did complete two passes for 49 yards with no turnovers in guiding the Orangefield offense which has scored 81 points in the two district games with Gonzales directing it.

Mason Manning ran the ball 15 times, gained 134 yards, caught the two passes from Gonzales for 49 yards, and scored three

touchdowns. Kane Smith was second in rushing for the Bobcats with 69 yards on 15 carries.

The Panthers were led offensively by Logan Trotter who passed for 190 yards and ran for 17 yards. Thomas Delao had 66 yards on the ground and two receptions for 11 yards. Quandre Coates was Anahuac's leading receiver with 8 catches for 116 yards.

Orangefield will travel next week to play the Tarkington Longhorns. Anahuac returns home to face the Kirbyville Wildcats next Friday night.

## Church Directory

**Wesley United Methodist Church**  
401 N. 37th St., Orange (409) 886-7276  
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.  
Pastor Benny Smith and wife Iberia  
Join Us For Sunday Service at 11 AM  
Also Streamed Live On Facebook

**COWBOY CHURCH OF ORANGE COUNTY**  
TWO SUNDAY SERVICES:  
9:00 A.M. AND 10:30 A.M.  
Come be blessed by PASTOR HARLAND'S ANOINTED MINISTRY & rockin' country Gospel with the COWBOY CROSS BAND  
New Ministry & Music Videos weekly on YouTube  
673 FM 1078 • Orange  
(409) 920-2271  
6:30 p.m. Wednesdays: Wednesday-n-the Word Adult Bible Study with Pastor Harland, Youth Supper & Bible Study (grades 6-12), child care (infants-5th grade)  
\*\*\*NEW OUTDOOR FAMILY MINISTRIES\*\*\*

**First United Methodist Church Orange**  
502 Sixth Street 886-7466  
10:00 A.M. - BLENDED SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY  
All of our services are also available premiered on:  
Facebook at 9:00 a.m. (https://www.facebook.com/FUMCOrangeTX)  
or online on our Vimeo Page and YouTube.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES 9:00 A.M.  
www.fumcorange.org  
Pastor: Rev. Lani Rousseau  
Director of Music and Fine Arts: Caroline Dennis

**The Record Church Page Listings**  
Just \$10.00 Per Week

**St. Paul Methodist Church**  
1155 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409.735.5546  
Sunday Morning Traditional Worship: 8:30 a.m.,  
Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.  
(Nursery provided)  
Wednesday SPICE 5:30 p.m. Includes meal, bible studies, children and youth activities. (Nursery provided).  
Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

**Bethel Baptist Church**  
2906 Western Ave. • Orange  
Pastor Dr. Hershell Garner  
(409 782 5352)  
Opportunities for Worship and Fellowship  
Sunday School...9:30am Worship 10:30 am

**Starlight Church of God in Christ**  
2800 Bob Hall Road • Orange • 886-4366  
Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. VIM Youth 6 p.m.  
Intercessory Prayer Daily 9:00 a.m.  
www.slccgicorange.org

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
945 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409-735-4573  
Worship Services: Tradition 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m., Contemporary Service 11 a.m., Tuesday Bible Study 10 a.m., Wednesday 'Compassionate Friends' 10 a.m., Thursday Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  
Pastor Paul Zoch 409-988-3003 - golutheran.org  
Our church family invites you to join us.  
We are a friendly, caring church of the future.

**Triangle Baptist Church**  
6446 Garrison at Hwy. 408 Orangefield  
"Come Worship With Us"  
409-920-3891  
Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.  
We are a KJV independent Baptist Church

**Living Word Church FULL GOSPEL**  
7403 FM 1006 (Corner of 87 & FM1006)  
409-735-6659  
COME WORSHIP WITH US  
Sunday 10 A.M. & Thursday 6 P.M.  
Dr. Rev. Samuel Karunanithi - Pastor  
Rev. Ron Richardson, Co-Pastor

**Orange First Church of the Nazarene**  
3810 MLK Drive, Orange  
Lead Pastor Shane Weaver  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m.  
www.ofcn.church

**First Baptist Church**  
200 W. Roundbunch 735-3581  
www.fbcbc.org  
Sunday schedule: Bible study 9:15 a.m.,  
Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m.,  
Adult, Youth, Children  
Discipleship Classes, Sun. 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting  
Youth & Children's Activities  
Pastor: Keith Royal

**Winfree Baptist Church**  
19525 Hwy 62 S • 409-735-7181  
office@winfreebaptist.org  
Dr. Larry Haynes, Interim Pastor  
Sunday: Sunday School - 9:15 am  
Morning Worship - 10:30 am  
Wednesday: Mid-Week Service - 6:00 pm  
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study  
Committed...To Christ, To His Word, To His Church, To His Commission

**Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)**  
Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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**Jeremiah 29:11-13**  
"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare[a] and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

**LIKE NEW AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION SPECIALIST**

**Cove Baptist Church**  
1005 Dupont St. • Orange  
DARRYL SMITH, PASTOR  
Sunday Service: 10:30 am and 6pm  
Wednesday Service: 6 pm  
We Love You And God Loves You.