

# Penny Record

Vol. 64 No. 25

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

Week of Wednesday, November 15, 2023

## BC close to getting new city manager

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

Bridge City Mayor David Rutledge has a holiday wish. He wants the city to have a new city manager on the job by the beginning of the new year.

He said the city council is negotiating a contract with a candidate after personal interviews and visits with three finalists for the position.

"I'd sure like to get the person in place to start the new year," the mayor said.

He did not reveal the candidate's name, but according to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the council must make the final vote on the new manager hire during a public meeting. Bridge City has been without a city manager since February, when Brent Walker resigned for a job in a bigger city. He had been the Bridge City city manager for what Mayor Rutledge described as "one year and six days."

The previous city manager before Walker, Jerry Jones, had held the position



Bridge City Mayor David Rutledge

14 years before retiring in 2022.

After Walker's resignation, city Public Works Director Mike Lund has been serving as the interim city manager.

The city council advertised the job with the Texas Municipal League and other professional search methods. Mayor Rutledge said they received 23 or 24 applicants. The council went through the applications to select the ones meeting the criteria they were seeking in a city manager.

BRIDGE CITY Page 2A

## Boxing champ helping with Thanksgiving

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

A couple of weeks ago, O'Shaquie Foster was handing a knock-out to Rocky Hernandez to retain his World Boxing Council title. On Saturday, Orange's boxing hero will be handing out turkeys to families who need help with cooking a Thanksgiving feast.

The Orange native has twice won the WBC super-featherweight title against different opponents this year. He has been donating his time to recognize his hometown at different events.

Saturday, November 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., he will be helping the non-profit group Just A-Lil Help. The group will be giving away food to help make a family-size Thanksgiving dinner, and the food will include a turkey.

Just A-Lil Help president, Terrie Salter, who is also on



Orange County's boxing hero, O'Shaquie Foster will be handing out turkeys to families who need help with cooking a Thanksgiving feast.

the Orange City Council, said Foster will be personally handing out the turkeys. He will pose for photographs and give autographs.

The give-away will be at the St. James Missionary Baptist Church, 505 15th Street, the site of the former

BOXING HERO Page 3A



## BCCC awards Madison Meyer OHS 'Student of the Month'

The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that the November Student of the Month for Orangefield is Madison Meyer. Kaitlyn is ranked 5 of 116 with GPA: 4.71. Pictured are: Craig Meyer, Lori Meyer, Madison Meyer and family, Rea Wrinkle, Britni Briggs, Shaun McAlpin and Chelsea Skinner.

## Dr. Pierce made house calls

MARGARET TOAL  
For The Record

Orange County has a history record that remains unknown, but people who grew up here in the 20th Century will never doubt the record-holder's name. Dr. Wynne Pearce delivered more babies than anyone else.

When he was asked in 1966 about how many babies he had delivered, he replied "thousands." He was 70 years old at the time and had decided to stop the obstetrics part of his family practice, according to the Las Sabinas Historical Journal of the Orange County Historical Society.

Hundreds of those babies, mostly boys, but some girls, had either the first or middle name of Wynne in honor of the doctor who delivered them.

Dr. Pearce, when announced he would no longer deliver babies, was also



Orange County has a history record that remains unknown. Dr. Wynne Pearce delivered more babies than anyone else.

asked if he was retiring. He emphasized he was not, and he never did. Dr. Pearce kept going even after having hip surgeries in 1971 and 1972 that left him unable to get around. Instead

of retiring, he got an electric wheelchair and continued to see patients at his office. Everyone at the old Orange Memorial Hospital called him "Ironsides," after a popular TV detective

who used an electric wheelchair.

He is still a legend in Orange, even after his death 44 years ago. He had died in

DR. WAYNE Page 3A

## Salvation Army bringing Red Kettles

STAFF REPORT  
For The Record

The Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle Campaign is back in Orange, ushering in the festive spirit of Christmas. The Red Kettle Campaign is The Salvation Army's primary fundraising initiative, providing life-changing programs and services throughout the year, including food assistance programs, shelter for people experiencing homelessness, emergency financial assistance, youth programs, and disaster response.

"From its humble origins in 1891 when a Salvation Army Captain used a crab pot to collect funds in San Francisco, the Red Kettle Campaign has grown to become one of the most recognized charitable initiatives worldwide," said Captain Dante Salgado of The Salvation Army in Orange. "The funds raised in the Red Kettle will serve as a lifeline in our community, offering essential assistance, including nourishment, shelter, and vital social services to people during their greatest need."

Red Kettles will be stationed outside area stores and local businesses, Monday-Saturday, from the beginning of November to Christmas Eve. Last year, The Salvation Army raised \$58,231.33 and is hoping to raise \$70,000 this season to support our community.

"We are grateful for the spirit of giving in our community and for the unwavering support we receive from our generous donors and corporate partners," added Captain Salgado. "Together, we can ignite hope and support people in

our community who are in the most need."

The Salvation Army is also looking for volunteers to ring the bells at the Red Kettle. Sign up by visiting RegisterToRing.com and following the prompts or calling 409-291-8400.

Visit <https://southernusa.salvationarmy.org/orange/> or call 409-291-8400 to donate or learn more about how you can support The Salvation Army this Christmas.

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# Texas Republicans divided on bill to prevent shutdown

**MATTHEW CHOI**  
The Texas Tribune

WASHINGTON — Thirteen Texas Republicans voted against their party's bill Tuesday to keep the government funded through the year, though the bill was able to garner support from Democrats and pass in the U.S. House.

The measure, known as a continuing resolution, would keep the government funded at current spending levels until early next year as Congress works on appropriations legislation to finance the government for the whole fiscal year. House Speaker Mike Johnson presented the legislation over the weekend.

U.S. Reps. John Carter, Michael Cloud, Pat Fallon, Tony Gonzales, Lance Gooden, Wesley Hunt, Morgan Luttrell, Nathaniel Moran, Chip Roy, Keith Self, Beth Van Duyne, Randy Weber and Roger Williams voted against the bill — just over half the state's GOP delegation.

The bill passed 336-95, with 93 Republicans and two Democrats voting against it. All Texas Democrats supported the bill.

Several deeply conservative members felt Republican leadership did not use the shutdown deadline to eke out stronger policy priorities.

"The continuing resolution put forth in the House today did not contain any border security measures, amongst other concerns. For that reason, I could not support it," Luttrell said in a statement. "It's time to stop

kicking the can down the road — we need to address Washington's spending problem, lower the national debt, and prioritize border security funding now."

The bill must now pass the Senate. Federal funding is set to expire Friday. Failure to fund the government by then will lead to a government shutdown.

The 32-page continuing resolution is a temporary band-aid that doesn't change how government programs are funded. It would maintain current spending criteria for most programs until the beginning of 2024. Federal programs would be divided into two groups, one whose funding expires on Jan. 19 and another that expires Feb. 2.

The move to divide the continuing resolution into two deadlines is highly unusual. Normally, continuing resolutions extend all appropriations for a few weeks or months together to buy Congress enough time to pass year-long appropriations packages.

Johnson pitched staggering funding for different priorities to avoid having everything shutdown at once if appropriations legislation doesn't get passed in time. Rep. Andy Harris, a Maryland Republican who is both in the House Freedom Caucus and Appropriations Committee, propped the idea.

It was initially a polarizing proposal. Many Republicans and Democrats thought the idea would simply lead to a series of showdowns over govern-

ment funding each time a deadline approached.

"By adopting the Freedom Caucus's extreme 'laddered CR' approach, Speaker Johnson is setting up a system that will double the number of shutdown show-downs." House Appropriations ranking member Rosa DeLauro, D-Connecticut, said in a statement.

But Democrats eventually came around to Johnson's proposal. Democratic leadership said in a statement Tuesday they would support "any continuing resolution" so long as it "be set at the fiscal year 2023 spending level, be devoid of harmful cuts and free of extreme right-wing policy riders."

The Freedom Caucus, meanwhile, soured on the plan after it became clear it would be presented without a host of right wing priorities. The far-right group demanded the bill be tied to measures reducing future federal spending and major changes to border policy under a House bill heavily influenced by Texas Republicans.

Roy, R-Austin, told reporters Monday that the continuing resolution would be hard to defend to constituents concerned about the high levels of government spending.

"It continues to perpetuate the very system my constituents sent me here to oppose. They don't want me to continue spending money we don't have," Roy said.

The continuing resolution also extends the last farm bill until the end of the fiscal year in Septem-



**.S. Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, speaks to reporters as he arrives for a House Republican caucus meeting in the U.S. Capitol on Oct. 12 in Washington, D.C.**

Photo Credit: Julia Nihkinson for The Texas Tribune

ber. The farm bill covers a host of rural, nutrition and agricultural priorities including crop insurance and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The farm bill usually gets renewed every five years, and Texas agriculture interests were eager to see reforms to help farmers weather recent difficult yields and shore up nutrition assistance programs.

Roy lamented that with an extension to the farm bill until just before an election, there's little chance of substantive changes getting passed any time soon.

Keeping funding at current appropriations is not a permanent solution, and members across the board agree that standard, year-long government appropriations legislation must pass as priorities evolve. Federal agencies often complain that they can't plan their

programming for future initiatives until funding is secured.

At "a time when our country is facing so many urgent crises around the world, we can't keep the Department of Defense and the Department of State in a CR until February of next

year," U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, said in a statement. Cuellar is a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

A continuing resolution also skips over community project funding, commonly known as earmarks. Texas members of both parties are requesting some of the biggest amounts for their districts to shore up border security, national trade and energy infrastructure.

Tuesday's continuing resolution did not include supplemental funding for Ukrainian and Israeli defense or the border requested by the White House. Many Republicans in the House and Senate had hoped to attach stronger border policies as a condition to funding legislation, which would be a hard sell for Democrats. Meanwhile, Democrats and pro-defense Republicans demanded funding for U.S. allies, though the far-right wanted to wane support for Ukraine.

## BC close to choosing city manager From Page 1

Mayor Rutledge said the council worked down to five finalists, and then invited three to meet with them. The meetings were held in closed-door sessions as the open meetings law allows individual personnel to be discussed in private. He said one candidate

stood out. "It was a unanimous choice to enter into a contract" with the candidate, he said.

The mayor and council can call a special meeting to approved the new manager with 72 hours notice before the open meeting.

Bridge City is seeing a

number of changes as construction has geared up for the new \$8.5 billion ChevronPhillips chemical plant, Golden Triangle Polymers. Mayor Rutledge said the city is getting inquiries about new businesses looking to locate in the area. But the main thing Bridge

City residents are facing is "fighting traffic," he said. He said the Texas Department of Transportation has been working with city officials to soothe the problems.


## 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).


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## Dr. Wayne Pierce delivered From Page 1

his sleep at his house at 812 Pine Avenue at the age of 82.

Dr. Pearce grew up in Orange and traveled the world during World War I and then on a traveling ship-hospital taking care of poor people. But he came back to Orange to practice medicine.

He was born November 16, 1896, in Bunkie, Louisiana. His full name was Henry Wynne, with the Wynne in honor of his mother's family. His father was a physician and moved the family to Orange in 1900. Their two-story home at the northwest corner of Pine Avenue and Tenth Street stood until the early 1980s.

Dr. Pearce went to public schools in Orange and was an athlete at Orange High, where he graduated in 1914. After graduation, he went to study pre-med at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee.

The United States entered World War I when he was a junior in college, so he enlisted in the army. He served in France for 18 months as a commissioned lieutenant with the 38th Field Artillery.

After the war, he came back to the states and finished his bachelor's degree before entering Tulane to study medicine. He did his internship at the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company Hospital in Fairfield, Ala-



When Dr. Pearce was asked in 1966 about how many babies he had delivered, he replied "thousands."

bama.

When he completed his medical degree, he worked on a hospital ship based out of Boston.

He came back to Orange in 1926 and set up an office. He was a member of the staff at Frances Ann Lutcher Hospital between Second and Third streets in Orange. The hospital opened in 1921.

The Las Sabinas story said babies in the 1920s were delivered at homes. A pregnant woman went to the hospital only if she or the baby had medical complications. During his first years in practice, Dr. Pearce made house calls to deliver babies and for oth-

er medical services.

He traveled the roads, many of them unpaved, in a Ford Model-T, always carrying his black leather medical bag. People all over Orange County called for Dr. Pearce and his territories went across into Louisiana to the Vinton area.

Dr. Pearce was delivering babies during the huge shipbuilding boom of World War II, when the population went up from 7,500 to an estimated 60,000. Women were having so many babies at the time that even with two hospitals, a home clinic was opened on Green Avenue for deliveries.

By that time, nearly all women were going to hospitals to give birth and few physicians made house calls. Still, Dr. Pearce made some medical house calls for people who he knew needed such a special service.

After the war, Dr. Pearce had his office in an old, one-story, wood-frame house with a porch. The house was on Main behind what is now Stark Park. His office was where the drive up to the Lutcher Theater is today.

His personal office inside had a large wood desk that he sat behind in a swivel chair. On the wall behind him was a bank of wall telephones. Each phone had a direct line to a privately-owned local pharmacy. He would ask a patient what pharmacy they used. Then the doctor gave a call to the pharmacist there and gave the prescription. The pharmacy would later deliver the prescription to the patient's residence.

In the mid-1950s, Dr. Pearce added a color photograph of the actor Andy Griffith with his son, Wynne Pearce Jr. The doctor's son was an actor and was Griffith's understudy in the Broadway play "No Time for Sargents." The actor dropped the 'e' from the end of his name and became Wynn Pearce. He appeared in numerous television shows and later

became a respected drama teacher in California.

Dr. Pearce in Orange continued his family medical practice and became co-owner of the Frances Ann Lutcher Hospital before it closed in 1966.

Dr. Pearce was recognized as a local hero in his older years and the Orange City Council in 1973 declared a special "Dr. Wynne Pearce Day."

He died on August 12,

1979. Las Sabinas reported the pallbearers were Traylor Sells Sr., Major Inman Jr., Graham Bruce, Homer Stark, Albert Adams, Edgar Brown III, Wynne Arrington, James Neff, and Tom Rogers. Members of the Orange County Medical Society were named honorary pallbearers.

The doctor is buried next to his wife, Edith, in Orange's Evergreen Cemetery.

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## Gumdrop Shop to greet Holiday Season

The Orange Convention and Visitors Bureau is thrilled to bring back the Gumdrop Shop to downtown Orange. The Gumdrop Shop will be held at Stark Park on Saturday, December 2, from 9AM to 3PM.

Spend the day strolling throughout Stark Park and find unique items provided by a multitude of artists and crafters from southeast Texas, southwest Louisiana, and surrounding areas. Food and drink vendors will be available on site.

Registration for the Gumdrop Shop will be first come, first serve by turning in an application and registration fee to the Convention & Visitors Bureau office. Applications may be found online at [www.orangetexas.gov](http://www.orangetexas.gov).

## Boxing hero returns

From Page 1

WO-C CISD administration building. Salter said people getting food will park at the building and go inside for their food.

Local businesses and groups, including the new Golden Triangle Polymers, have donated 3,900 non-perishable foods. Volunteers will assist families to get the canned and dried foods in an assembly line-style method.

After picking up food, people will then go back outside to their cars and drive away, leaving room for others.

"This event is not just about turkeys, it is about bringing families and friends together for a day of fun and gratitude. It is about spreading holiday cheer and make sure before you depart that you view the sponsor banner to see all the wonderful companies who made the event possible," Salter said in a press release.

Please note, dogs and coolers will not be allowed at the Gumdrop Shop.

December 2nd not only includes the Gumdrop Shop, but an entire day of "Downtown Christmas" fun! The Explore Orange team is working in conjunction with the Stark Foundation, Kiwanis, Heritage House, and Lamar State College Orange to bring the holiday spirit to our community. The halls

will be decked, and the streets will be lit!

**Schedule of Events**  
**7:30AM-10:00AM**  
**Breakfast with Santa at Spanky's Bar & Grill**  
**9:00AM-3:00PM**  
**Gumdrop Shop at Stark Park**  
**9:00AM-5:00PM**  
**Stark Museum of Art Open**  
**3:00PM-5:00PM**  
**Stark Museum Childrens Holiday Craft Handout**  
**12:00PM-5:00PM**  
**Stark Family Christmas Tours**  
**1:00PM-3:00PM**

**Buddy the Elf presented by Heritage House Museum**  
**6:00PM**

**4th Annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade**  
**FOLLOWING THE PARADE "Mickey's Christmas Carol" Movie, Lighting of the Tree, and Pictures with Santa in Stark Park.**

Additional information may be obtained from the Convention & Visitors Bureau office at 409.883.1011.

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## From the Creaux's Nest

### JIMBO FISHER-GONE FROM AGGIELAND

*Texas A&M to spend more than \$75 million to fire football coach Jimbo Fisher.*

Texas A&M University fired head football coach **Jimbo Fisher** on Sunday, committing itself to spend more than **\$75 million** to buy out his contract and announcing a national search for his replacement. Although the decision was announced on Sunday, one day after the **Aggies trounced Mississippi State**, 51-10. On the same day, **Athletic Director Bjork** delivered the news to **Fisher** in what he described as a "quick and cordial" exchange. The players also learned the news in a meeting Sunday morning. The **\$75 million** the university will owe **Fisher** to buy out his contract is the most money ever owed to a football coach. **Bjork** said details of the contract buyout were being worked out but that what is owed to **Fisher** would be paid with donor dollars from the school's **12th Man Foundation** and athletic department funds. University administrators stunned the college football world when they announced the **10-year, \$75M contract in 2017** that lured **Fisher** away from **Florida State University**. The deal was staggering for both its duration and its guaranteed annual pay. In 2021, the board extended the contract by four years after reports that **Fisher** might leave **A&M for Louisiana State University**. Under that extension, **Fisher** made **\$9 million annually**. **A&M Assistant Coach Elijah Robinson** has been named the team's interim head coach for the final two games of the season: **Abilene Christian University** on Nov. 18 and **Louisiana State University** on Nov. 25.

### A NOTE FROM BEVERLY PARKER

**Beverly** says **Sen. Carl Parker** is in **St. E's** suffering from a blood infection and is scheduled to continue with IV antibiotics for at least 2 or 3 more weeks. She says he's a pretty good patient as long as the food is ok and he can watch football and if **UT** wins. He has lots of things he has thought of to write about, from hospital experiences to political statements. **Att. Sharon Bearden** wants **Carl** to know he is his favorite column writer. **Carl** was always very popular in Orange County and the county benefits greatly today because of his accomplishments in the **Texas Senate**. One great example is **Lamar Orange**. We look forward to his recovery and his column returning soon.

### CONDOLENCES

**Larry 'Wayne' Choate**, 86, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 6, 2023, at The Harbor Hospice Home in Beaumont, Texas. Larry was born on December 25<sup>th</sup>, 1936, in New Iberia, Louisiana, to Alphonse Harry Choate and Hilda Mae Meaux-Choate. Larry then later moved to Prairie View, now Bridge City, Texas. He was a graduate of Stark High class of 1955. Larry was a retired Air Force Military Police and is a standing member of the Iron Workers Local 125-135. Larry is survived by his son **Narry Wayne Choate**, of wife **Novella Fontenot-Choate**, grandson **Colby Narry Wayne Choate**, granddaughter **Landry Renee Choate** and great granddaughter **Raegan Lynn Choate**, brother **Robert 'Al' Choate**, stepchildren from **Novella Fontenot-Choate**, **Neville Thomas**, **Neal Hargrave**, **Nardis Bodenheimer**, **Nicole 'Nikki' Glass**, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. **Wayne** was a good guy and will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

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

Three Orange County teams are headed to the playoffs. The **L.C.-M Bears** are headed to 4A playoffs. Good luck to Coach **Randy Crouch** and his gang of Bears. \*\*\*\*The **W.O.-S Mustangs** of Coach **Cornell Thompson** will face **Huffman-Hargrave** at **Barbers Hill** on Thursday, 7 p.m. \*\*\*\*Coach **Josh Smalley** and his **Orangefield Bobcats** will battle **Coldspring** Friday at **Huffman**, 7:30 p.m. \*\*\*\*From Dist. 21-3A, taking on 22-3A **Liberty**, is Coach **Dwayne "Beaver" DuBois** and his **Hardin Jefferson Hawks** Thursday, 7 p.m. at the **Thomas Center** in **Beaumont**. Note of interest **Smalley** and **Dubois** are both graduates and former **Bridge City** players. \*\*\*\*Congrats to **Tommy Gunn** for receiving the 2013 "Pro-bono, Out of County" award from the **Jefferson County Bar Association**. **Gunn** is in the program which provides free legal service to indigent people. We've been publishing **Tommy's** accomplishments since he was a law student at **Baylor Marilou**. always kept us informed about her boy. **Tommy's** done well and we're proud of him.

### 22 Years Ago-2001

Only one Orange County football team, the **Bridge City Cardinals**, made the playoffs. They will meet **Liberty** Friday at **Lamar Stadium** in **Beaumont**. A pep rally will be held Thursday, 6 p.m., at **Wal-Mart** on **B.C. Dayle-Gunn** will present the **Buzzie**

**Gunn Trophy** to the **Cards** for defeating the **Orangefield Bobcats** 24-0. The playoff bound **Cardinals** were held to a scoreless first half. **Aaron Williams** and the **Bobcats** held a powerful **B.C. team** to a total of 57 yards in the first half. **Williams**, a junior set a new school record with 121 tackles in just seven games. During the 2001 season, in the second half, **Bridge City** came alive as running back **Matt Peebles** and **Dwayne Breaux** blew past the **Bobcat** defenders. Junior quarterback **Jamey Knight**, who even kicked a field goal, fed the ball to **Peebles**, **Breaux**, **Lance Fitts** and **Luther Sanders** and a sensational sophomore speedster **Michael Gauthier**. (Editor's note: **Gauthier** went on to become a state championship sprinter. The **Cards** were loaded with talent while the **Bobcats** were rebuilding.) \*\*\*\*Someone stole **Charlie Wickersham's Rolls Royce**, a 1987 black Corniche II. Less than 50 are in the entire country. **Charlie** is offering a \$5,000 reward for the return of his \$150,000 Rolls. It was uninsured. Word has it that **C. Delle Bates** ran out and got his **Porsche** insured. \*\*\*\*If you sometimes think you got a raw deal think about **U.T. Longhorn** quarterback **Major Applewhite**, owner of 40 Longhorn records, who was politicked right out of his starting Q.B. job. He has been replaced by **Simms**. \*\*\*\***Cal Broussard** has moved into this **Cow Bayou** home that he has totally remodeled. He bought the home from **Mr. and Mrs. Cleon Hogan**. (Editor's note: **Cal** loved the place but didn't get to enjoy it very long before he was called home.) \*\*\*\*Condolences to the family of those who left us. **Curtis Neal Hudson**, 76, of **McLewis**, died Nov. 18. \*\*\***Bobby "Seabob" Manning**, 81, passed away Nov. 18. He was a **W.W.II** and **Korean Army** vet. He received four bronze stars and the **Purple Heart**.

### 47 Years Ago-1976

The Greater Orange Area Chamber installation banquet has been stepped up from January to December. **Bill Siskor** will replace **Jim Graves** as president. **R.J. Conway** and **Louise Mayberry** will become vice-presidents. **Dr. W.C. Mayberry**, professor at **STU** at **San Marcus** will be the featured speaker. \*\*\*\*Former **Bridge City** and **Lamar** football player **Langston Fall** will take a bride on Nov. 26. \*\*\*\*Having birthdays are **Allen Dunn**, **Carey Green**, **Mildred Alborn** and **Bo Bounds**. \*\*\*\***Aaron Segura**, a young son of **Tommy** and **Becky**, has been visiting grandparents **Ann** and **Jimmy Segura** for the past three weeks. \*\*\*\***Leor Welch**, of 406 12th St., in **Orange**, was the winner of a car given away in a drawing at **Hughes Market Basket** in **Bridge City**. **Denise Lormand**, **Miss Bridge City**, drew the winning ticket. \*\*\*\*Congrats to **Chuck Majors** who was selected in the blue Key National Men's Honor Fraternity. The **Lamar** student is the son of **Dr. Joe and Mary Majors**. \*\*\*\***Mark Dunn** is the latest to join the fad of restoring old houses. He purchased a house on **Cherry St.** built in the late 1800's. It's one of four houses, built on the **Sabine River**, which withstood the big storm of early 1900's. It was moved to 1106 **Cherry**. \*\*\*\***New Bridge City** Rotary members are **Chapman Bell**, **Bobby Cormier**, **Jim Moss**, **Bill Nacol** and **C.H. Guidry**. \*\*\*\***Bubba Hubbard** recently was a guest at the **London England Rotary Club**. \*\*\*\*The **B.C. Fire Department** elects new officers; **Richard Solomon**, re-elected fire chief; **David Riley**, assistant chief; **John Echols**, **Leroy Breaux** and **Larry Callahan**, truck captains; **Donald Landry**, secretary, **Steve Higgs**, treasurer. \*\*\*\***B.C. Cardinals** Singers are: **J.D. Nezat**, **Kirk Ellender**, **Chris Lee**, **Melissa Clark**, **Jane Nezat**, **Jill Baker**, **Beth Burleson**, **Ross Talmadge**, **Suzanne Garrison**, **Cindy Adams**, **Linda Minner**, **Gerry Gore**, **Mitch Dionne** and **Renita Wallace**.

### A FEW HAPPENINGS

Last week we heard from **Pat Pate**, who is now living in **Tyler**. She moved there to be near her sister who then married and moved away. **Pat** says she is doing fine and enjoying new friends. She is riding motorcycles, learning to shoot a gun and has a new conservative friend. That's a change after living with a **Yellow Dog Democrat** all those years. **H.D.** has been gone six years. That's hard to believe. **Pat** asked about **Judge Pat** and **Rosalie Clark**. She keeps up with our area through our website. \*\*\*\*Nobody's gonna rain on **Miz Lu's rodeo**. Even with cold, drizzly rain, everybody had another great time at the annual **Special Angels Rodeo** with adaptive sports and activities for children, youth and adults to have a real rodeo experience. The **Harris family of Farmers Mercantile** organized the event in honor of mother **Lu Harris**, who had dreamed of such an event. It's been held since its beginning at the T-2 covered arena, so the rain didn't affect activities. **Jo Harris** organized the first rodeo and now has a team of volunteers and sponsors helping with the event. **Janois Grizzaffi** was one of those volunteers and was helping kids with unique ride. A bucking ride had been made with a life-size alligator figure. Of course there were bucking "bulls," too. And a bucking barrel from which riders tried to lasso a model of bull horns. **Dayle-Gunn Weatherford** had her **Orange Blossoms dance group** there performing line dances. Volunteers and guests soon were line dancing, too. **Judge Chad Jenkins** was manning a grill. He's one of the best cooks around. **Constable Matt Ortego** was seen with **Constable Lannie Claybar**. **Sheriff Jimmy Lane Mooney** made the rodeo and a campaign meet-and-greet held up the road in **Mauriceville** that same day. **Rodney** and **Dr. Amy Townsend** were lending a hand to the activities. \*\*\*\*I spoke with **Danny Brack** who told me he and **Sherry** are doing ok. **Sherry** is now cancer free. I was surprised to learn he still goes to the **Western Ave.** store daily. They took my wheels away months ago and I'm stranded. \*\*\*\***Bridge City Chamber Director Mandy Lyda** held another successful **Designer Purse Bingo fundraiser**. The one last week had a theme of **'Roaring Twenties'** and a number of the women attending came in flapper outfits. \*\*\*\***Michelle Tubbleville** and her crew are ready for this Thursday's **Taste of the Holidays** at the **Expò Center** from 5 to 7 p.m. **Michelle** is the head of **Orange County's Disaster Rebuild** program to help people without insurance and money fix their residences that were damaged

by a hurricane, tornado, flood, or even wildfire. The annual event features local restaurants and caterers showing off their holiday cooking skills with samples. Only a limited number of tickets are being sold. Call 409-745-9719 during business hours to check if tickets are available. \*\*\*\***Michael** and **Angelique Catt** took off for a vacay in **Las Vegas**. Don't know what they did. What happens in **Vegas**, stays in **Vegas**. \*\*\*\***Randy** and **Paula Ragsdale** hopped another cruise out of **Galveston**. \*\*\*\***Girlfriends Kathy Gunn**, **Patti Cloeren**, **Martha Oliver**, and **Becky Hunter** had a girls trip to the **Woodlands**. Heard there may have been a margarita or two consumed. \*\*\*\*The fundraising **Southeast Texas Cattle Barons Ball** in **Beaumont** drew several from **Orange County** including **Dyan Morris**, **Lori** and **Joel Ardoin**, **Matt** and **Brittany Chandler**, **Heather Costello**, **Jimmy** and **Aracely Plascencia**. \*\*\*\***Steve** and **Gail Maddox** are still touring Europe, but they have been proud of their son, **Robb Maddox**, who has been promoted to chief in the **U.S. Coast Guard**. \*\*\*\*We were horrified to read the story about **Orange's Earl Thomas III** having his identification stolen by the companion of his ex-wife in **New Orleans**. According to **NOLA.com**, **Thomas** had some \$1.9 million, or more taken from bank accounts and **NFL** checks, plus titles of luxury cars changed to the name of the other man. **Police** said 38-year-old **Kevin J. Thompson** has been arrested. At his arrest, he had been driving a **Rolls Royce** that belonged to **Earl**. We know **Earl** has some good wheels, though. Our friends at **Roberts Ford** here in **Orange** sold him a **2019 Ford F-150** the day after the story broke.

### BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Folks we know celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the coming week. Nov. 15: **Judie Wilson**, **Julian Ocegüera**, **Cynthia Graham**, **Julie Smith**, **Stuart Bertles**, **Kelli Peery**, **Lindsey Franklin**, **Nikki Courtney**, **Shane Preston**, **Travis Shepard**, **Wade Barron**, **Wally Sieck**, **Chris Ford**, **Cora Betzen**, **Elton Myers**, **Madison Miller**. \*\*\*\*Nov. 16: **Dr. Servet Satir**, **Thad Angelle**, **Clarissa Cortez**, **Amaris Brown**, **Allene Manuel**, **Mary Loyd**, **Pete Gresham**, **Rebecca Collins**, **Bryson McFarland**, **Chris Byers**, **RaeAnna Todora**, **Dyan-na Sandlin**. \*\*\*\*Nov. 17: **Reba Eddins**, **Martha Foley**, **Laurie Kosh**, **Nancy Aycok**, **Barbara Musser**, **Chuck Kirby**, **Katy Taylor**. \*\*\*\*Nov. 18: **Theresa Evans**, **Lyndsie Neie**, **Melanie Claybar**, **Bryan Garrett**, **Leroy Gomez**, **Mickey Smith**, **Sam Thomas**, **Tim Bayliss**, **Aimee Huckabay**, **James Cornell**, **Kevin LeCoutere**, **Jonathan Vogt**, **Justin McCullough**, **Stephanie Williams**. \*\*\*\*Nov. 19: **Kristina Denman**, **Meagan McGill**, **Linda Klein**, **Liz Harris**, **Patty Burke**, **Shelly Ford**, **Trina Stringer**, **Veronica Smith**, **Ann Miller**, **Ben Carpenter**, **Cecil Allen**, **Brandon Swarzes**, **Joe Permar**, **Murray Moreland**. \*\*\*\*Nov. 20: **Allen Dunn**, **Carey Green**, **Edgar Eschbach**, **Sunni Ocegüera**, **Lon Hubbard**, **Jan Briggs**, **Hayden Clark**, **Kevin Phillips**, **Whitney Mott**, **Jim Pruter**. \*\*\*\*Nov. 21: **Butch Campbell**, **Jason LeLeux**, **Tabatha Force**, **Adam Schisler**, **David Heyduck**, **Bart Williams**. \*\*\*\*Birthdays this past week included longtime Republican **Patricia Kemp**, who turned 75. 'First Lady' of **Orange** **Trisha James Spears** also had a birthday. Others celebrating included former **Pinehurst** police chief **Fred Hanauer**, **Brian Wickham**, **Judy Tuter**, **Cathy Splawn**, **Ethan Smith**, **Lauren Purgahn**, **Kristlynn Jack**, **Rachel Belcher**, **Eric Rushing**, and **Brittany Williams**. Happy Birthday to all. \*\*\*\*Anniversaries celebrated: **Carly** and **J.T. Thibodeaux** celebrated their 20th anniversary with a trip to **Broken Bow, Oklahoma**. \*\*\*\***Josh** and **Sally Peveto** returned from a trip to **Colorado** for their 20th anniversary of the first day. **Sally** came home to face more cancer treatments. \*\*\*\***Ross** and **Eva Smith** had their 40th anniversary and **Ross** sent her a bouquet of 40 roses of different colors. \*\*\*\***Clint** and **Phyllis Fregia** had No. 31 anniversary, and also celebrating an anniversary were **Clint** and **Brandi Beard**, along with **David** and **Amy Worsham**.

### CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

**Joe Primeaux** and **Curtis Comeaux** were having a barbecue sandwich and a couple of beers at **Tee-Boy's Bar & Grill** when **Primeaux** said, "Curtis, yesterday was my eighty-two birthday."

"Da hell you say," **Comeaux** answer. Den he axe, "Wat did **Clotele** give you for you birthday hanh?"

"Well, my little women gave me an SUV her," say **Primeaux**.

**Comeaux** say, "Keyaw!" "Mais, dats amazing! Imagine dat, an SUV, wat a great gift dat is!"

**Primeaux** say, "Yup, she gave me socks, underwear and **Viagra**."

### C'EST TOUT

Four score and seven years ago, November 19, 1863, President **Abraham Lincoln** gave his **Gettysburg** address, using "four score and seven years ago" as the reference to when our nation was born in 1776. It's been 160 years since that historical address. Two years later the **Civil War** between the states ended and **Lincoln** was assassinated by **John Wilkes Booth**. It's always been surprising to me how popular **Lincoln** is in the South since he was the one that freed the slaves and ended slavery in the United States. On the other hand, **LBJ** doesn't enjoy the same popularity for signing the **Civil Rights Act**. **Johnson** however is credited with changing the voting pattern in the South. Before the **Civil Rights Act**, the **South** and **Texas** were solidly Democratic states. Abe changed the country, **Lyndon** changed the South. \*\*\*\*Last week, for the first time in several years, we ran a full 24-hour late putting out **The Penny Record** and **The County Record**. A total major press breakdown prevented us from publishing Wednesday. We were on the streets early Thursday and apologize for any inconvenience. \*\*\*\*My time is up for now. Check us on line at **therecordlive.com**. Take care and God bless.

## Community Happenings ...



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that the November Student of the Month for Bridge City is Victor Hernandez. Victor is ranked 7 of 199 with a GPA of 4.7. Pictured are: Linda Frioux, Lisha Hernandez, Patrick Brekel, Victor Hernandez, Dr. Mike Kelly, Alisa Huckaby and Dr. Amanda James.



Cooper Dorman, Colton Myers, Major Copeland, Calvin Kelly, and Sidney Holderman.

### • Orangefield HS congressional debaters score

The Orangefield High School congressional debaters did well at the UIL Region Meet recently. Sidney Holderman-2nd place; Calvin Kelly-3rd place; Major Copeland-4th place; Colton Myers-5th place; and Cooper Dorman-8th place. The contestants debated various student-created pieces of legislation for 6 hours.

Alternates were Kimber Carpenter, Adam Myers, Aiden Taylor, and Emmanuel Zepeda. Holderman and Kelly will advance to the UIL State 3A Congressional Debate Contest at UT-Austin held in January 2024 and Copeland and Colton Myers will attend as alternates. The legislation authored by Copeland will be debated at the state meet: "A bill to cease funding Ukraine to focus on issues at home." The OHS Debate Sponsor is Bridget Luna Trahan.

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Members of the OHS Speech/Debate team competed in the Pine Tree High School Walk the Plank UIL Invitational Meet in Longview on Saturday. The students enjoyed lunch in Lufkin, dinner in Longview, and a spectacular display of Christmas lights at Carmela's Magical Santaland. Pictured are: Gracie Bickham, Kimber Carpenter, Sidney Holderman, Lela Francis, Major Copeland, Aiden Taylor, Emmanuel Zepeda, Adam Myers, Austin Rickenbrode, Colton Myers, Jett Stephenson and Cooper Dorman.

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# BCISD

## BRIDGE CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Bridge City Elementary School

**Red Ribbon Week** had so many fun activities and dress up days to remind students to say "No to drugs and bullying."



**Bridge City Elementary Pumpkin Winners**  
Bridge City Elementary School Library's Annual 2nd Grade Storybook Pumpkin winners (above).



# Orangefield ousted from playoffs

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

The football season for Orangefield came to an end on Thursday, November 9, at Lumberton. The Bobcats were crushed by the Woodville Eagles 51-7 in the first round of the state playoffs.

Orangefield (5-6) finished the season losing its last three games. With the victory Woodville (8-3) advanced to the area round of the post season.

A steady drizzle fell throughout most of the game. The wet conditions did not seem to bother the Eagles very much who lost the ball the only time they fumbled. Orangefield in contrast fumbled seven times losing four of them to the Eagles and two other times the Bobcats lost yardage because of the bobbles on fourth down attempts to get first downs.

Woodville opened the scoring on its initial drive going 59 yards in nine plays. Zayon Williams gained 16 yards on the Panthers first play from scrimmage. Ralon Williams threw 25 yards to Ty'Marion Walker to the Bobcats' 16 yard line.

After a penalty on the Eagles, Ralon and Walker connected again for 15 yards setting up a first and goal at the six. Three plays later Ralon Williams scored on a quarterback keeper to give Woodville a 7-0 lead just over four minutes into the game.



Junior Fernando Sandoval-Rodriguez rushed for 95 yards in Orangefield's season ending loss to Woodville.

RECORD PHOTO

Orangefield on its second possession got a pair of first downs on runs by Mason Manning and Kane Smith. The Bobcats had a second and one at the Woodville 20 before they committed a procedure penalty costing them five yards. The Eagle defense then had back to back tackles behind the line of scrimmage to take over the ball on downs at their 32.

The Eagles punted for the only time in the game on their next possession. Unfortunately, Orangefield fumbled deep in its own territory giving Woodville the ball at the eight.

A penalty pushed the Eagles back to the 13. Three runs by Zayon Williams the last from four yards out got Woodville its second touchdown of the game. Gage Tolar made the score 14-0 with his second successful kick 36 seconds into the second quarter.

That lead lasted only 43 seconds as the Bobcats fumbled on their second play after the kickoff. Tayvion Hunter scooped up the loose ball and returned it for a touchdown at 10:41 of the second period to put the Eagles up by 21 points.

The Bobcats got a nice run from Lane Gipson for a first down to their 42, but a major penalty pushed them back to the 27. Orangefield then punted the ball back to Woodville.

ORANGEFIELD Page 3B



## Bridge City Lady Cardinals sign scholarships

Demi Carter and her coach Savannah DeLuna pose with the Lady Cardinal volleyball team during the scholarship signing ceremony at Bridge City High School.

SEE ARTICLE PAGE 3B

# BC Lady Cards conclude great volleyball season

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

The volleyball season came to an end for Bridge City on Tuesday, November 7, after reaching the regional quarterfinal of the state playoffs. The Lady Cardinals lost in four sets to the Huffman Lady Falcons at Lee College in Baytown.

The two teams finished in first place in their respective districts. Bridge City won two matches with Lumberton and Vidor to determine the champion of District 19-4A. Huffman went undefeated in its district.

The Lady Cardinals advanced to the third round of the state playoffs defeating Hardin-Jefferson and Henderson both in four set matches. Huffman reached the regional quarterfinal by sweeping Little Cypress Mauriceville in bi-district and Carthage in the area round.

Bridge City overcame an early three point deficit 10-7 in the first set. The Lady Cardinals scored four straight points including an ace from Kaylee Britten to take the lead 11-10.

A kill by Demi Carter started a three point run for the Lady Cardinals that made the score 15-12. Lexi Nugier served an ace as Bridge City went up 20-14 in the set.

Huffman closed to within three points before



Coach Savannah DeLuna led her Lady Cardinals volleyball team to a 30-8 record as they reached the regional quarterfinals of the state playoffs.

RECORD PHOTO

a bad serve by the Lady Falcons gave Bridge City an important point at 22-18. The set closed with Carter making three more kills as the Lady Cardinals won 25-20 in the first set.

Huffman gained the edge in the match winning the second and third sets. The second set was tied at 17 when the Lady Falcons scored the next six points which led to the 25-19 win in that set. Huffman broke an 11-11 tie grabbing five straight points and then five of six points to take a commanding 23-15 advantage. They took the third set 25-17 to go up 2-1 in the match.

The fourth set featured significant swings in momentum. The Lady Cardinals enjoyed a seven point lead 15-8 after Makenna Knight made her second kill in three points.

LADY Page 3B

Roberts

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| <p><b>2023 FORD BRONCO Sport Outer Banks</b><br/>Area 51 Exterior, Ebony/Roast Interior, 4WD, Auto., Stock No. 8803<br/>MSRP: \$41,205<br/><b>\$38,627</b><br/>ROBERTS SAVINGS <b>-\$2,578</b></p> | <p><b>2023 FORD Explorer XLT</b><br/>Carbonized Gray Metallic, Ebony Interior, RWD, Auto., Stock No. 8813<br/>MSRP: \$40,045<br/><b>\$39,625</b><br/>ROBERTS SAVINGS <b>-\$420</b></p> | <p><b>2024'S ON THE LOT! 2024 FORD EDGE SEL</b><br/>Star White Metallic Tri-Coat, Dune Interior, AWD, Auto., Stock No. 8831<br/>MSRP: \$43,570<br/><b>\$40,467</b><br/>TOTAL DISCOUNTS <b>-\$3,103</b></p> |

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**HUNTING SEASON**

# Louisiana duck season opens, Texas doing well

**OUTDOORS**  
**Capt. Chuck Uzzle**  
**For The Record**



**Chuck Uzzle**

A steady stream of boats, hunters, and dogs crowded the local launches Saturday morning as the Louisiana duck season officially opened just one week after Texas got started. Adams bayou, the Vinton Drain ditch, CowBayou, and Hiway 82 towards Holly Beach looked like a parade route as local hunters descended on the marshes in anticipation of legal shooting light and the first flight of ducks. As expected it was a very hit and miss proposition to say the least. The current state of the marsh is very different than in normal years due to the increased levels of saltwater that have been a mainstay for most of the year. Drought conditions have kept freshwater dependent vegetation from growing and that has definitely altered the plans of many hunters. Ponds and flats that have historically been magnets for ducks have seen very few birds come into the area and stay.

Now if you are fortunate enough to have available food sources like some local hunters then it's just a matter of time before you have birds. The reports from the Louisiana opener proved that theory out in a big way. Hunters that were much deeper in the marsh and affected less by the saltwater had great numbers of birds and outstanding hunts. The hunters closer to the rivers and bayous struggled somewhat but did manage to take a few birds. Teal and Gadwall made up the majority of the ducks taken for most hunters while a few were fortunate enough to take pintail, widgeon, and even a few mallards. The big surge of hunting pressure certainly changed the way the birds worked but look for that to settle down as the season continues and the number of hunters gets back to a normal level.

Perhaps the hunters most affected by the opening day pressure were the goose hunters who set up on fields with good populations of speckle belled geese. Almost every hunter I spoke with who was chasing geese said the birds were really spooky and hard to decoy. Most of the hunters who shot any numbers of birds keyed in on small groups of birds rather than big bunches in order to get them into shooting range. Look for these birds to also calm down as the hunting pressure evens out. The amount of geese coming into the area on a daily basis certainly gives local hunters something to look forward to. In the weeks ahead a few things are going to become more important as the weather and conditions get progressively colder and more difficult.

For now the forecast looks good for local waterfowl hunters as cooler temps appear to be here for a while and that's always a welcome change. The strong north winds have pushed a few birds out of the areas but look for those numbers to build back up soon with new birds just now entering our area plus many will return once the big north winds die down and slowly swing south and east. Water levels in the tidal marshes will be a concern as usual during this time of year when the fronts dump all the water and leave nothing behind. Many areas that are prime habitat become expansive mud flats at this time of the year and are only accessible with a surface drive motor or long tail. When the water levels return the ducks won't be far behind. If the first few days are any indication of how the season is going to turn out then it may be a bumpy ride for a bit until both better numbers of birds and more conducive weather show up and stay for a while.

## Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

This week's Texas Gulf Coast Fishing Reports was compiled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

• **Sabine Lake**

GOOD. 73 degrees. Speckled trout are coming out of the marshes with the shrimp. Nice catches of trout at the mouths of the bayous and points drifting out during outgoing tides with glo chartreuse plastics with quarter ounce jig head.

North Levee wall is great for trout early in the morning on live shrimp under a popping cork, or ¼- ¾ ounce jigs. Pleasure Island North wall is great for trout and redfish off points in 2-6 feet of water drifting glo chartreuse plastics. ICW holding beautiful redfish on the rock piles, points and cuts on live under a popping shrimp. Bessie Heights Marsh nice speckled trout under the birds with artificial baits, these are smaller sized but good numbers. Redfish can be caught on the rock piles, points and turnaround and shell banks with live shrimp under a popping cork.

Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.

• **Bolivar**

GOOD. 65 degrees. As cold fronts roll through the bite will slow before holding steady. The surf is holding numbers of black drum, shark, and some big redfish on cut bait or live bait on the bottom. The gulf side of the North Jetty is holding limits of trout, redfish, sheepshead with an occasional bull redfish against the rocks with live shrimp with popping cork. The cuts leading in the bay from ICW holding redfish against shorelines by the rocks. Lots of black drum around Goat Island. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• **Trinity Bay**

GOOD. 69 degrees. Northern end of Trinity Bay continues to be good for speckled trout. You will have to cull through

some small fish, but still some decent pockets of keeper sized specs. Shoreline wader catching better sized trout. Burnett, Scott, and Tabbs Bay are good for speckled trout and redfish. Best bite on live shrimp, but soft plastics are working. Scattered birds working in the bays. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• **East Galveston Bay**

FAIR. 68 degrees. Waders are finding fair numbers of speckled trout and redfish along the shorelines, especially near bayou drains. Birds are working in the open bay. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter. We were able to fish near and off the shore reefs this week for very good catches of trout, redfish, and a few black drum on our artificial lure trips in 5-6 feet. Once we find the active fish, they are normally only on a small section of the reef. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Services, LLC.

• **Galveston Bay**

FAIR. 68 degrees. Rock groins producing scattered catches of black drum, redfish, and speckled trout. Schools of bull redfish are roaming open

water, look for diving birds. Kemah/Seabrook shoreline fair for speckled trout and slot redfish. Plenty of bull redfish showing just off the shorelines in deeper water. Best baits soft plastic and live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The surf is red hot on fire from East Beach all the way to Surfside for speckled trout, redfish and an occasional shark on live bait. Sheepshead on popping cork with live shrimp, or on the bottom with live shrimp at the wells.

• **West Galveston Bay**

GOOD. 68 degrees. Redfish action has been good in the back lakes. Speckled trout being caught under diving birds in open bay. Chocolate Bayou producing fair numbers of trout and redfish. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

West Bay's South Shore holding a lot of speckled trout and redfish for wade angler and those drift fishing around the coves and grass lines from Waterman's to Bay Harbor using a chatterweight 12 inch fluorocarbon leader 3/0 k hook. Both sides of Bird Island holding fish Bird Island flats still holding good numbers of speckled

trout, and good numbers of redfish for wade anglers. North shorelines between Carancahua Reef and Confederate Reef holding good trout and redfish with an occasional flounder drifting. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• **Texas City**

FAIR. 70 degrees. Those fishing from the dike are finding better numbers of bull redfish and large black drum with crabs and mullet being the bait of choice. Galveston jetties producing good numbers of bull redfish. Those throwing live shrimp tight to the rocks are finding fair numbers of sheepshead, black drum, and slot redfish. Speckled trout catches are scattered. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

The rock shoals in front of Swan Lake producing some speckled trout under popping cork with shrimp. Trout in the guts between the shoals. The shoreline across from the right side of the dike behind the barges holding nice trout and flounder with artificial or live bait. Mosquito Island holding trout with an occasional redfish on artificial bone color working the best. Moses Lake is holding some redfish near the gun range, and rocks in front of the deep hole passed the three islands. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide.

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# BC's Fall and Carter sign college scholarships

**DAN PERRINE**  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

Two outstanding student athletes at Bridge City signed their letters of intent on Wednesday, November 8, to play their sports at the collegiate level. Carson Fall signed to play softball at the University of Kentucky, and Demi Carter signed to play volleyball at Angelo State University.

The signing ceremonies took place in the competition gym at Bridge City High School. Jamie DeShazo the Girls Coordinator for athletics at Bridge City led the event.

DeShazo introduced Carter and Fall praising

them for the example they have set. "This moment is a testament of your dedication, hard work, and exceptional talents at volleyball and softball. Both of you have been a joy to watch, and you have set the correct standard for our underclassmen to aim to achieve. Your commitment toward your academic excellence has been inspiring. I have no doubt you will continue to excel in each chapter of your lives," DeShazo expressed.

Bridge City Softball Coach Kylie Bradley recalled the many achievements Carson had achieved going into her fourth year on the varsity. Fall's accolades include

first team All-District pitcher, first team All-American, All State as pitcher in 2021, District MVP, Bridge City Softball MVP, Academic All-District, SETCA MVP, first team All East Texas pitcher in 2022, and first team All-District in 2023.

Savannah DeLuna the coach of the Lady Cardinals volleyball team listed the incredible statistics Demi had accumulated in her four years playing for her. These included 1,405 kills, 227 aces, 267 blocks, and 543 digs. Carter is ranked third in her graduating class academically and was named MVP on the District 19-4A All-District Volleyball Team.



Carson Fall the outstanding softball pitcher for Bridge City is joined by her family as she signed a scholarship to play softball at the University of Kentucky upon her graduation next year.

## Orangefield From Page 1B

Seldom used Eagle running back Dustin Barlow found a hole and blew through it going 57 yards before being tackled from behind at the Orangefield 8. Zayon Williams scored on the next play to give Woodville a 28-0 lead with 7:07 to play in the first half.

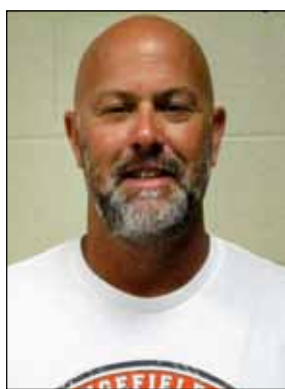
Bobcat quarterback Carson Gonzales completed a pass to Smith for 12 yards and a first down at the Bobcat 42. Smith was tackled after he went out of bounds adding 15 yards to the play moving the ball to the Woodville 43.

Orangefield was facing a fourth down needing between two to three yards to keep the drive alive. The snap was fumbled and Gonzales lost eight yards which foiled the play.

With about three minutes before halftime the Eagles got a first down run from Hayden Hunter and a 21-yard pass completion from Williams to Christian Bean to take the ball to the Bobcat 14. A holding penalty on an apparent touchdown run by Zayon Williams forced Woodville to settle for a 29-yard field goal from Tolar that made the score 31-0 just six seconds before the end of the first half.

The second half started like the Eagles were going to add to their lead, but Ralon Williams fumbled at the Orangefield 11. The Bobcats' Riley Hooks recovered the ball at the 10 yard line.

The Bobcats put together a ten play drive getting three first downs in the



Orangefield Bobcat Head Coach Josh Smalley.

process moving to their 45 before a penalty pushed them back five yards. Manning got those five yards back, but on third down another fumble gave the ball back to Woodville.

The Eagles needed one play to score from the Orangefield 43 as Zayon Williams swept left end and tight roped down the sidelines for the touchdown. Tolar's kick put Woodville ahead 38-0 with three minutes left in the third quarter.

A fumble on a fourth down attempt turned the ball over on downs for the Bobcats on their next possession. Ralon Williams aired out his long passing game throwing a perfect 46 yard bomb that dropped into Walker's hands as he stepped into the end zone for the touchdown twenty seconds into the fourth quarter.

Responding to that score Orangefield got a 42-yard run from Fernando Sandoval-Rodriguez to the Eagles' 26. Smith gained seven yards and Sandoval-Rodriguez had another 11-yard run before Smith scored the

touchdown from the eight. Ty Butler kicked the point after to make the score 45-7 with 9:10 left in the game.

The excitement for the Orangefield fans lasted about half a minute as Walker ran back the ensuing kickoff 79 yards for the final touchdown of the game. The try for two points was fumbled keeping the score 51-7 which is how the game ended.

The Bobcats totaled 213 yards of offense with 187 rushing and 28 passing. Fernando Sandoval-Rodriguez was the leading ball carrier for Orangefield with 95 yards on 12 carries. Kane Smith ran for 40 yards with the only Bobcat touchdown, Mason Manning rushed for 37 yards, and Lane Gipson gained 30 yards.

Woodville's Zayon Williams finished the night with right at 100 yards on 13 carries and three touchdowns. Ralon Williams completed 8 of his 11 passes for 181 yards and a touchdown. TyMarion Walker was the Eagles' primary receiver with 4 catches for 92 yards and a touchdown.

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## Lady Cards From Page 1B

The Lady Falcons rallied after that. Huffman scored seventeen of the final twenty-four points to win the set 25-22 and take the match 3-1 in order to advance to the regional round of the playoffs.

Coach Savannah DeLuna produced another outstanding volleyball team at Bridge City. The Lady Cardinals finished with a record of 30-8 on their season.

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### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AT-RISK WEST ORANGE-COVE CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ORANGE, TEXAS

#### Proposal Information

Sealed proposals will be received by:  
**Will Clayton, Claycomb Associates Architects,**  
14950 Heathrow Forest Parkway, Suite 195, Houston, TX 77032  
and shall be received until **2:00 p.m. (CST), November 16**, at the above address, to provide Construction Management at-Risk services for the **WEST ORANGE-COVE CISD District-wide projects**. A total of **five (5) bound copies and one (1) electronic copy** of all submitted material are requested. The proposals will be opened at that time - **5:00 p.m. (CST), November 16**, at **Claycomb Associates Office**.

The successful firm will be required to enter into an Owner/Construction Manager Agreement, AIA Document A121 (draft attached to the RFQ), as modified by **West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District** and to furnish Performance and Payment Bonds through an approved bonding company duly authorized to do business in the State of Texas and currently listed in the Department of Treasury Federal Register in an amount of not less than 100% of the contract price, conditioned upon the performance of the contract.

Attention is called to the fact that the Construction Manager must comply with all Federal, State and local labor laws, including Chapter 2258, Texas Government Code, Title 10, and the prevailing minimum wage rates as set by the **West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees**.

All parties acknowledge the right of the Owner to reject any or all of the Proposals and to waive any informality or irregularity in any Proposal received. By submitting a Proposal, each Bidder agrees to waive any claim it has or may have against the Owner, the Architect/Engineer and their respective employees arising out of or in connection with the administration, evaluation or recommendation of any Proposal.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Education Code Section 44.031, it is the intent of the **West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District** to select a **Construction Manager-at-Risk** via a **ONE STEP PROCESS**. The Owner shall use the following criteria for selection of a Construction Manager: reputation of vendor, past relationship with the District, experience with similar projects, price to District for services, safety record (including number of citations by OSHA, lawsuits due to safety violations), references from past jobs, change orders, history of past jobs, timely completion of past jobs, proposed personnel and financial stability as indicated in the RFP.

Applicants may obtain an information packet with general details concerning the proposed project from:

**Will Clayton**  
Claycomb Associates Architects  
14950 Heathrow Forest Parkway, Suite 195, Houston, TX 77032  
Telephone: (832) 672-400  
rcrump@claycomb.net



The Orangefield Junior Varsity girls basketball team took first place in the Gold Bracket at the Bridge City Classic basketball tournament going undefeated in four games.

## Orangefield has good weekend in girls basketball

DAN PERRINE  
Orange County Sports  
For The Record

The football season came to end for Orangefield the second weekend of November, but Bobcat fans can begin to root for their boys and girls basketball teams. Orangefield had a great weekend for the girls varsity and junior varsity basketball teams.

The varsity Lady Bobcats won 57-20 over Newton at the Orangefield Gymnasium on Saturday, November 11. The win moved Orangefield to 2-0 on the young season.

The Junior Varsity played in the Bridge City Classic over the weekend. In the tournament the Orange-

field JV advanced to the championship game in the Gold Bracket with wins over East Chambers, Little Cypress Mauriceville and Port Arthur Memorial. The Lady Bobcat JV defeated the Port Neches-Groves Junior Varsity 34-27 to take first place in their bracket.

Madison McCormack was the leading scorer for the Lady Bobcats with 11 points. Kendall Sullivan scored 10 points and was all over the court for the Orangefield JV with 11 steals and 4 rebounds. Olivia Smith contributed 6 points and was strong on the boards grabbing 7 rebounds. Eliese Gravett also scored 6 points and made 2 assists in the win.



The District 5 Tiger Rock Martial Arts competition was held in Bridge City last weekend. Over 250 participants came from throughout the Golden triangle to compete for medals and a spot at the national competition in the summer of 2024. Participants ranged from three years old to 70 years old.

Pictured are: Senior Master Elyse Thibodeaux, owner of Tiger-Rock Bridge City, Victor Peterson, Donna Peterson, and William Myers, second-degree black belt and instructor from Bridge City.

## Durham/Ellis pecans and walnuts

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.

## Stark Family Christmas during free holiday house tours

The W.H. Stark House, a treasured historic landmark in Orange, Texas, is delighted to announce its holiday house tours, A Stark Family Christmas, which will take place on select dates throughout the month of December. The free holiday house tours provide a rare glimpse into the beautifully decorated home that once belonged to this prominent family.

"Explore the rich history of the Stark family and their lavishly decorated home, while learning about the family's traditions and the significance of the holiday season to them," said Rayanna Hoeft, director of The W.H. Stark House. "This is a great opportunity to create cherished memories with family and friends during a magical tour that combines history, tradition and the joy of the season!"

To help The W.H. Stark House spread joy and goodwill to the community, they invite guests to bring canned food donations to support the Salvation Army of Orange.

The holiday house tours will take place on December 1, 8, 9, 15 and 16 during select time slots between 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Advance reservations are required, as tours often fill up quickly. To make reservations, please visit the website at [whstarkhouse.org](http://whstarkhouse.org).

The W.H. Stark House is located at 610 Main Avenue in Orange, TX.

# Texas Naturalist program turns 25

AUSTIN— Over the last 25 years, more than 15,300 Texas Master Naturalist volunteers have made their mark by dedicating their time to helping protect and conserve the state's natural resources.

Their impact spans across more than 256,000 acres of Texas' landscapes from the lush tidal marshes of the Gulf Coast to the arid vistas of the Trans Pecos.

Established in 1998 as a partnership between the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), the Texas Master Naturalist program is the first naturalist program of its kind in the nation to be implemented on a statewide scale. It has

served as the model for other states seeking to harness the power of volunteers for the benefit of their wild things and wild places.

"We really pulled together the strengths of both agencies to create this program," said Michelle Haggerty, TPWD's Texas Master Naturalist state coordinator.

The program has developed a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of Texas' natural resources and natural areas within their local communities. The program comprises 49 chapters serving 213 counties across the state.

"On average, we have

6,000 active Master Naturalists contributing volunteer hours each year," said Mary Pearl Meuth, Texas Master Naturalist assistant state coordinator with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. "Our volunteers help state agencies accomplish goals on a large scale."

In 2022, Texas Master Naturalists logged more than 515,000 volunteer hours, completing projects such as collecting research data, tagging monarch butterflies, leading guided hikes, developing educational curriculums, providing small-acreage land management consultations and more.

To obtain the skills and knowledge needed to tackle these diverse projects, Mas-

ter Naturalist trainees must successfully complete an approved training program through a Texas Master Naturalist chapter using the state-approved curriculum. This includes at least 40 hours of combined field and classroom instruction.

Chapters hold training sessions during the spring or fall of each year, and no existing ecological knowledge or outdoor experience is required to get involved.

"You don't need existing natural resource knowledge to become a Master Naturalist," Haggerty said. "All you need is the interest to get started."

For more information about the program, go to TPWD's or AgriLife's Master Naturalist website.

## Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



### NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR SMALL MUNICIPAL SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) RENEWAL

General Permit Authorization No. TXR040029

**APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.** Orange County Drainage District, 8081 Old Highway 90, Orange, Texas 77630, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) under Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Small MS4 General Permit No. TXR040000 for a renewal of authorization number TXR040029 to discharge stormwater to surface water in the state from the Orange County Drainage District MS4. The notice of intent (NOI) and stormwater management program (SWMP) were received by the TCEQ on June 25, 2019.

The MS4 is located within the Orange County Drainage District limits that is located within the Beaumont and Port Arthur Urbanized Areas in Orange County, Texas. The discharge from the MS4 will eventually reach Sabine River Tidal, Adams Bayou Tidal, Cow Bayou Tidal, and Neches River Tidal in Segment No. 0501, 0508, 0511 and 0601 of the Sabine River Basin and the Neches River Basin, respectively. The MS4 is part of a coalition which includes the following MS4s: Orange County, TXR040030; Orange County Drainage District, TXR040029; City of Vidor, TXR040028; City of Orange, TXR040430; City of West Orange, TXR040431; City of Bridge City, TXR040429; and City of Pinehurst, TXR040428.

A copy of the NOI, SWMP, general permit, and general permit fact sheet are available for viewing and copying at Orange County Drainage District, 8081 Old Highway 90, Orange, Texas 77630. The SWMP can also be viewed online at the coalition's website <https://www.txms4.com/orange/>. Substantial changes to the MS4's SWMP during the permit term will be posted on the same website.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and SWMP. The SWMP, if approved, would establish additional terms and conditions, not included in the general permit, under which the MS4 must operate. The Executive Director has made the preliminary decision that the SWMP meets all statutory and regulatory requirements and made a preliminary decision to approve the small MS4's authorization under the TPDES Small (Phase II) MS4 General Permit No. TXR040000.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comments or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. If significant interest exists, the Executive Director will direct the applicant to publish a notice of the public meeting and hold the public meeting. The applicant must publish notice of a public meeting at least 30 days prior to the meeting in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the MS4 is located. If the MS4 is located in more than one county, the applicant must publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county containing the largest residential population.

**All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or electronically at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment> within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice.**

After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant material, or significant public comments. The response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application.

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above.

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid>. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** Any personal contact information you provide to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's records; this includes your name, phone number, email address, and physical address. For more information about this application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, toll free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep>. Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from the Orange County Drainage District at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Neal Ford at 409-745-3225.

Issuance Date: November 1, 2023

# THE RECORD

# Community Classifieds

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Your ads published in both newspapers, the County Record & the Penny Record, plus on our web site @ TheRecordLive.com

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### BURIAL PLOT

**For Sale at Claybar** Cemetery, 2 plots, Lot No 153, Block Bm Unit No. 3-4, Section No. 1 in Garden of Christus. \$4500.00 Please call Paula at 409-735-3812

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### GARAGE SALE

**Garage Sale** was Rescheduled due to rain from Sat., Nov. 11 to Sat., Nov 18 from 7:30 am till 1:00 pm at 2309 Bear Trails (off 1130 - LCM area). Multi family- furniture, lamps, home deco, kitchen items, linens, nice adult clothes, winter coats, Good stuff at great prices.

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION

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

**RAYFORD EARL QUAVE, Deceased**  
Cause No. P19851  
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 3rd day of November, 2023, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of RAYFORD EARL QUAVE, 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 3rd day of November, 2023.

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

By: *Samantha McInnis*, Deputy

Samantha McInnis

**FOR SALE**  
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### LEGAL NOTICE

The property commonly known as 14110 I-10 A, Orange, TX 77632 is scheduled to be sold at public foreclosure auction on 12/05/2023 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, Angie Brooks, 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 **HENRI JEAN CAMPBELL SMITH,** Deceased, were issued on the 14th day of **NOVEMBER, 2023,** in Cause No. **P19843,** pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas. Probate Division to: **MARLENE CAMPBELL and LESLIE KAREN RUFF.**

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.

**Marlene Campbell and Leslie Karen Ruff**  
1666 FM 1078  
Orange, TX 77632

**DATED** the 14th day of November, 2023.

### Eric Peveto

**Eric Peveto**  
The Peveto Law Firm  
State Bar No.: 24004859  
118 Border Street  
Orange, TX 77630  
Phone: (409)883-0220  
Email: emily@pevetolaw-firm.com

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*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*  
*Christmas Bazaar*

**Bake Sale**  
**Durham Ellis Nut Products**  
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**Saturday, November 18th**  
**9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**VENDORS:**

- ATS Redneck Windchimes
- Mawme's Sew Shop
- TC Crafts
- Rustic & Lace
- Sow Sweet Farm
- Shirley's Stitches
- Scentsy
- Arlon Davis
- Tab Typewriter Key Jewelry
- Zam's Hodgepodge
- Band Saw Boxes & more

**Christmas Items & Much More**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**945 W. Roundbunch Rd.**  
**Bridge City**

- Proceeds go to our church Music Program •

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# Wise Women Build Homes

**Scott Hubbard**  
Editor  
desiringGod.org

“Do you ever remember your mom helping you put your clothes on?”

The question came from my wife, a mother of two young boys who have not yet mastered the art of getting dressed. I thumbed through the files of those early years and came up blank, the thousands of pant-pull-ups and shirt-put-ons lost to conscious memory. My wife came up blank too.

It was a humbling moment, as we imagined our boys, thirty years from now, remembering almost nothing of these everyday routines. It was also a moment — and they seem to come often these days — that put motherhood in a new and hallowed light.

“The wisest of women builds her house,” Solomon tells us (Proverbs 14:1) — and house-building, I am learning, is both beautiful and forgettable. Essential and often unnoticed. One of the world’s most important tasks, and one of the most easily overlooked. Clothing children, feeding children, teaching children, disciplining children — this is brickwork: painful and painstaking, slow going and mundane.

But if you follow godly men and women back to their beginnings, you will often find a mother pulling a foot through a pant leg, reciting a psalm from a smudged index card, and through ten thousand other small moments, building a



house whose walls gleam with godly wisdom and whose floors rest on the fear of the Lord.

## Two Women, Two Homes

The book of Proverbs, like much wisdom literature, describes two ways to live. And at the heart of these two ways are two women and two homes: Lady Wisdom and “her house” (Proverbs 9:1), Woman Folly and “her house” (Proverbs 9:13–14). Both women call out to the simple (Proverbs 9:3, 15); both invite the young and immature to “turn in here” (Proverbs 9:4, 16). But while those in Wisdom’s home find life (Proverbs 9:6, 11), Folly’s door leads to death (Proverbs 9:18).

We might assume these women are no more than creative literary devices, personifications of two life paths. But Proverbs invites us to see more. In this book addressed mainly to sons, one of the greatest recurring dangers appears in the figure of the “forbidden woman,” a real-life temptress who seduces simple men (Proverbs 7:5, 21).

Proverbs portrays her as Folly incarnate (Proverbs 7:11; 9:13), the ruin of many sons (Proverbs 7:26).

Meanwhile, however, Lady Wisdom also appears in bodily form, ultimately in the figure of the godly wife. Just as wisdom crowns a man (Proverbs 4:9), so too does an excellent wife (Proverbs 12:4). Just as “whoever finds [wisdom] finds life and obtains favor from the Lord” (Proverbs 8:35), so “he who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord” (Proverbs 18:22). Proverbs ends with a poem portraying such a woman, who not only “opens her mouth with wisdom” (Proverbs 31:26) but is Lady Wisdom in wifely form (Proverbs 8:11; 31:10).

Yet before a man meets Lady Wisdom as wife, he is meant to meet her as mother.

## Mother Wisdom

The book of Proverbs culminates with a mother’s teaching to her son (Proverbs 31:1). Long before Proverbs 31, however, the book teaches us to see a

godly mother as Lady Wisdom’s first embodiment. Note the similarity between Proverbs 9:1 (about Lady Wisdom) and Proverbs 14:1 (about wise mothers):

• *Wisdom has built her house. (Proverbs 9:1)*

• *The wisest of women builds her house. (Proverbs 14:1)*

More is happening in the small moments of motherhood than meets the eye. As an imperfect but God-fearing woman builds her house, she becomes for her children Wisdom’s first face, first voice, first touch. Through her daily presence, children learn what Wisdom looks like and feels like; through her daily words, children hear Wisdom’s plea: “O sons, listen to me. . . . Leave your simple ways, and live” (Proverbs 8:32; 9:6).

At the crossroads between life and death, then, Proverbs would have us picture a woman, a mother, teaching and calling and living such that her children choose the fear of the Lord, choose wisdom, choose life. Her voice may not sound as loud as Woman Folly’s (Proverbs 9:13);

she may often be hidden from public view; her work may sometimes seem as forgettable as fastening a Velcro strap on a toddler’s shoe. But over time, her home becomes the very womb of Wisdom, forming children who scorn the house of Folly.

## Heart of the Family

Of course, a father stands at the crossroads between life and death as well. Much of the direct teaching in Proverbs, in fact, comes from a father to his sons. Like Lady Wisdom, he too instructs and warns and pleads with his children to choose life (Proverbs 3:13–18), and he appears throughout chapters 1–9 as the family’s primary teacher and exhorter (Proverbs 1:8; 3:12; 4:1; 6:20). Even still, Proverbs personifies wisdom as a woman and then embodies her in the real-life figures of wife and mother. Why?

Surely in part because a father’s influence in the home, though deep and foundational, is also limited by the typical calling God places upon him. In Proverbs 31, the husband and father is standing “in the gates” (Proverbs 31:23), away from home, while the wife and mother “looks well to the ways of her household” (Proverbs 31:27).

This father, no doubt, spends much time at home — and this mother, we know, is not afraid to venture into the marketplace (Proverbs 31:18, 24). But in the complementary union of husband and wife, his daytime calling leans more toward society, while hers leans more toward family. And therefore, as

home-builder, home-maker, home-keeper, she is wisdom’s steady presence through so many hours when her husband cannot be.

Even in families where a mother sometimes works outside the home, Herman Bavinck’s observation still often holds true: A mother’s profound influence on her children, then, comes not in spite of her seemingly small work in small places, but precisely because of it.

When Her Children Rise My young sons do not yet grasp the gift God has given them in this mother “who fears the Lord” (Proverbs 31:30). In all likelihood, they will not remember how she lifted them onto the potty or gently sang God’s praises this morning. But day by day, they are feeling the touch and hearing the voice of Lady Wisdom. And when, God willing, they learn to embrace her for themselves (and the Christ she represents), they will no doubt add their voices to the children of the wise:

The praiseworthy hero, as often happens in God’s kingdom, is not the one our society would expect: not the big, but the small; not the well-known, but the obscure; not the woman wrestling men in the movies, but the woman wrestling a T-shirt over a toddler’s head. When we rise up and call her blessed, we anticipate the day when everything hidden will be revealed and the forgotten labors of every wise mother will be proclaimed from the housetops.

“The wisest of women builds her house,” Solomon tells us. And our wisdom is to rejoice in such a woman.

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