



City of Benbrook ★ A Texas Star City

# Benbrook News

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*From the Sports Desk with John English*

## WHHS Falls to Dunbar; Lady Cats Victorious Against Eagles

The Western Hills football team came up a bit short last Thursday against Dunbar, and coach Blake Moilan said it was a sloppy game for the Cougars.

“It was a tough loss,” Moilan said. “Dunbar came out and played physical, but the end result was more about what we did than what they did. We had way too many penalties and turnovers to win the game. We have to limit our mistakes and fix some things moving forward.”

Special teams came up big for the Cougars in the game, as Aaron Martin had two kickoff returns for touchdowns (88 yards and 86 yards, and Camden Hawkins had an 82-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

Hawkins and Martin have eight kickoff returns for touch-

downs between them this season.

Western Hills will play Eastern Hills tonight, and Moilan said he expects his team to be in for a challenge.

“It's going to be another tough game,” Moilan said. “We will need to limit mistakes and play better defense. Should be another close game.”

Benbrook was in its bye week this past weekend.

On the court, the Benbrook volleyball team defeated Carter-Riverside by a score of 25-20, 25-12, 25-15 on Friday, and coach Frances Davies she was pleased with overall effort.

“The girls as a whole played really well. This is our first week where we've had the entire “original” lineup healthy and playing, so it was nice to see what all they're capable of when they're in a comfortable lineup with all girls playing they're actual positions.” Davies said she had a couple of strong performances.

“Honestly, all the girls are starting to play at a higher level,” Davies said. “However from Friday I'd say Ravyn Dash is really starting to open up and use all her power. She's averaging around 10 or more kills a match. Abbie Miller is leading my back row with a 2.5 out of 3 pass rating and averaging about 2-3 aces per match.”

Benbrook is undefeated through the first half of district competition, and Davies said she could not be happier.

“I think with us battling injuries and sickness throughout this whole first round, the girls did very well,” Davies said. “They trusted the process/crazy I was throwing at them with lineup & position changes and they just went with it. They made it work. Now that we're all back, I'm expecting them to play a little more cleaner, a little more comfortable and less nervous. I think we'll be seeing a lot more growth throughout this second round.”

Benbrook will play Dunbar tomorrow evening, and Davies said she it not taking anything for (continued on page 3)

*From the City of Benbrook*

## Application Deadline for Various Boards and Commissions Nov. 8

The City of Benbrook is accepting applications from citizens interested in serving on various Boards and Commissions. These Commissions include: Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments/Board of Appeals, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Benbrook Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

Applications and information are available at City Hall, 911 Winscott Road, Benbrook, TX or by download at [www.benbrook-tx.gov](http://www.benbrook-tx.gov) or by email to [jking@benbrook-tx.gov](mailto:jking@benbrook-tx.gov).

Application deadline is Nov. 8.

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From the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

# Fossil Hunting, Archaeological Finds and Paleontological Research at USACE Lakes

Fossil finds, dinosaur tracks and other archeological or paleontological discoveries have been in the news recently with fluctuating lake levels at the 25 multi-function lake projects in Texas operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District. The use of these discoveries, however, is restricted under federal law to protect the natural resources or scientific value of an area.

Title 16 U.S.C. 470 EE Archaeological Resources Protection Act and Title 36 CFR 327.14(a) provides restrictions prohibiting the collection of archaeological or paleontological resources on Corps of Engineers project lands. Title 36 CFR 327.14(a) specifically states that "destruction, injury, defacement, removal, or any alteration of public property including but not limited to, developed facilities, natural formations, mineral deposits, historical and archaeological features, paleontological resources, boundary monumentation or markers and vegetative growth, is prohibited except when in accordance with written permission from the district commander." USACE restricts activities at the lakes that could cause harm or destroy these sensitive resources.

If a person finds an object with potential archaeological, paleontological, or historical value on government-owned property, he or she should make note of its location and inform a park ranger or the lake office. He or she should not collect the item, as

removal of these items is a citable offense under Title 36 Part 327.14(a). Often the true importance of an archaeological or paleontological discovery is its provenance and context, which often progresses scientific understanding more than the item itself. People who have found archaeological, historical, or paleontological resources and reported their finds correctly to the project offices have provided a valuable service to the Corps of Engineers and the greater scientific understanding of the unique and diverse resources protected by the Corps of Engineers.

USACE asks all to help us with protection of our natural resources, recreate responsibly with outdoor and water safety always as a priority.

Please call the lake office or see information on a specific USACE lake at <https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/About/Lakes-and-Recreation-Information/> with any questions.

**4PAWS Pet Adoptions are available at the Benbrook Animal Shelter located at 469 Winscott Rd. Fridays & Saturdays: 10am-2pm Sundays: 11am-3pm**

From the Fort Worth Decorative Painters

## FWDP Monthly Meeting Oct. 17

The Fort Worth Decorative Painters will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center located at 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd in Fort Worth. Sharlene King will instruct a Paintbrush Santa ornament.

For more information contact Suzane at 817-269-2821 or visit the website at [www.fwdecorativepainters.com](http://www.fwdecorativepainters.com).



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# Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

granted.

“Now that the first round is over and everyone has seen each other, I’m expecting the matches to be tighter and closer,” Davies said. “I know (Stephanie) Taylor (Dunbar coach) is probably manipulating the defense to cover all the spots we used in our first meeting and adjusting blocks, so we’re just going to have watch a lot of film and return the favor.”

*From the Benbrook Water Authority*

## BWA Receives Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Award

The Benbrook Water Authority (BWA) recently received a recognition award from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) today for 15 years of continuous participation in the Texas Optimization Program (TOP).

“Our water production team members responsible for operating and maintaining the Benbrook Water Treatment plant are an experienced group of very skilled water professionals that take great pride in the critical role they play in serving the community,” said David Smith, General Manager with BWA.

The TCEQ created the TOP program to recognize the efforts that public water systems make to optimize the performance of their surface water treatment plants. The TCEQ worked with utility stakeholders to develop recognition criteria based on the national optimization goals. Each time that a plant continuously meets the highly stringent recognition criteria for 12 consecutive months, the TCEQ presents the water system with an award. If the plant meets the requirements for another 12 straight months, the plant and the system administrators receive another award.

Mason Miller, Natural Resource Specialist for TCEQ, presented the award at the BWA Board of Directors meeting stating that, “TCEQ recognizes the Benbrook Water Authority Water Treatment Plant’s commitment to the goals of the Texas Optimization Program and its

efforts to improve the quality of the drinking water it provides to its citizens.”

Currently, only 22 of the 320 conventional water treatment plants in Texas participate in the program. Of those 22 plants, only one has been in the program longer than the BWA Water Treatment Plant.

*From the Benbrook Public Library*

## Upcoming Events at Benbrook Public Library

Adults who would like to practice and improve their Spanish are encouraged to attend free beginner/intermediate level, conversation-based classes on Thursday, Oct.13 and Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. Classes are held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

The library holds weekly GED preparation classes every Wednesday at 6 p.m. Anyone 18 years of age or older who is not currently enrolled in school may register. Attend any class to register and begin preparing to take and pass the GED exams.

For questions, contact the library at 817-249-6632.

*From 4PAWS*

## Four Puppies Adopted Out at Benbrook Heritage Fest

4PAWS members and dogs enjoyed the festivities and lovely weather at the Benbrook Heritage Fest on Saturday, Oct. 1.

Pictured (l-r) are: **Renee Franklin** holding **Luna**, **Dave Holmes** and **Marty Kaufhold** holding



**Jerry**. There were four puppies adopted during the event.

As with many shelters, Benbrook is experiencing a large influx of homeless pets, particularly dogs.

*From the City of Benbrook*

## City Council Meeting Tonight

The Benbrook City Council meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (with a pre-meeting work session at 7 p.m.) in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 911 Winscott Road in Benbrook, 76126.

The Oct. 6 agenda is available to view [here](#).



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From AARP

# How to Vote in Texas' 2022 Elections

Texas' Nov. 8 general election includes races for U.S. House, state House and Senate, governor and several other state offices. The state's primary was March 1 and its primary runoffs were May 24.

## Essential information:

- **Mail-in voting:** Mail-in ballots (formerly called absentee ballots) are available only to registered voters who are 65 or older, are sick or have a disability, are incarcerated but otherwise eligible, or will be out of their home county on Election Day and during the early voting period.

- **Early in-person voting:** Early in-person voting is available from Monday, Oct. 24, to Friday, Nov. 4, for the general election.

- **In-person voting on Election Day:** The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 8. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## What's new this year?

A new state law introduced in 2021 has changed voting in Texas, including:

- A ban on drive-through and 24-hour early voting.
- Election officials are no longer allowed to send unsolicited vote-by-mail application forms to voters.
- Mail-in-ballot voters must now provide ID on both the application and the return carrier envelope for their completed ballot.
- Those who assist someone else in filling out a ballot at the polls must sign a form disclosing their relationship to the voter. They also must recite an oath stating that they did not pressure or coerce the voter into choosing them as their assistant.

Also, a **new redistricting plan** has changed the boundaries of some state legislative and U.S. congressional districts and may affect which candidates appear on your ballot. Visit [votetexas.gov](http://votetexas.gov) for more information.

What races are on the ballot and who's running?

- **U.S. House:** all 38 seats; Texas gained two seats in the House, as determined by population growth in the 2020 census
- **State Senate:** all 31 seats
- **State House:** all 150 seats
- **Governor:** incumbent Greg Abbott (R), Beto O'Rourke (D)
- **Lieutenant Governor:** Mike Collier (D), Dan Patrick (R)
- **Attorney General:** Rochelle Mercedes Garza (D), Ken Paxton (R)
- **State courts**

Visit the [secretary of state's website](http://secretaryofstate.texas.gov) for more races and sample ballots.

## How do I register to vote?

- **By mail:** Complete a **voter registration application** online, then print, sign and mail it to the **voter registrar in your county**. If you'd prefer to complete the application by hand, **make an online request** or call your voter registrar to have them mail you a registration form. You can also pick up an application form from your voter registrar's office or from **public libraries, government offices** or high schools and mail it to your voter registrar once complete.

- **In person:** Visit the **voter registrar in your county**.

The voter registration form requires you to provide either your

Texas driver's license number, your state ID number or the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you don't have one of those, you must indicate that on the form.

**The last day to register to be eligible to vote in the general election is Tuesday, Oct. 11.**

Check to see if you're already registered at the state's **Am I Registered? webpage**. Note that you must reregister if you move to a different county. You can update your address online through the secretary of state's **Voter Name and Address Changes portal**.

Once registered, you'll be mailed a voter registration certificate or card with your name, address and the number of the precinct in which you'll vote.

## How can I get a mail-in ballot? Are there important deadlines?

Mail-in ballots (formerly called absentee ballots) are available only to voters who are 65 or older, are sick or have a disability, are incarcerated but otherwise eligible, or will be out of their home county on Election Day and during the early voting period. You can request a mail-in ballot:

- **By mail:** **Download the application** for a ballot online, or contact your **county's early voting clerk** or the **Secretary of State's office** and request that an application be mailed to you. Once complete, mail it to your **county's early voting clerk**.

- **In person:** You can also submit your application in person to your **county's early voting clerk**.

For the general election, applications can be submitted starting Friday, Sept. 9, and must be received (not postmarked) by Friday, Oct. 28, by noon or close of business, whichever is later.

- **By email or fax:** If you think you may miss the deadline to submit your application for a ballot by mail, you can email your application to your **county's early voting clerk** — or fax it, if your county clerk has a fax machine. You must then also mail the original application so that the clerk receives it no later than the fourth business day after it was received via email or fax.

*\*Note that new state law requires you to provide either your Texas driver's license number, Texas personal ID number or election ID certificate number (which is different from your Voter Unique Identifier number) on your mail-in ballot application and the return carrier envelope for your voted ballot. If you have not been issued one of these numbers, you can submit the last four digits of your Social Security number.*

If you require assistance to complete your mail-in ballot request form and/or mail-in ballot, your assistant's name, address and signature must be included on the request form and/or the carrier envelope used to return your ballot to the early voting clerk. Voters may not be assisted by their employer, an agent of their employer, or an officer or agent of their union.

## How do I submit a mail-in ballot? Are there important deadlines?

Texas voters can deliver completed mail-in ballots only by mail or in person to their county's early voting (continued on page 5)

# 2022 Elections (continued from page 4)

clerk; drop boxes are not available. Your completed mail-in ballot must be received by **your county's early voting clerk**:

- By 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8, if the carrier envelope is not postmarked.

- By 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9, if it's postmarked by 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Make sure the identifier you list on your return carrier envelope matches at least one of those on your voter registration record. There were reports of mail-in ballots being rejected during the primaries because voters did not meet this new requirement.

Also note that postage may be required to both apply for a mail-in ballot by mail and to return your mail-in ballot. Texas counties aren't required to prepay postage, but some counties do.

### Can I track my absentee ballot?

You can check the status of your mail-in ballot as well as correct any missing or incorrect information identified by county election officials via the state's official online **Ballot by Mail Tracker**.

### Can I vote in person before Election Day?

Yes, registered voters can vote in the general election at early voting sites in their county from Monday, Oct. 24, to Friday, Nov. 4.

Early voting locations and hours will be posted on the **secretary of state's web portal** two days before early voting begins. Hours for early voting vary from county to county but can happen only between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. Counties with more than 55,000 residents must have polls open for at least 12 hours each weekday during the second week of early voting. Drive-through and 24-hour early voting are no longer permitted.

Note that the recent redistricting in Texas means **your polling location** may have changed. Lawsuits over the new districts are pending, however, they will not be decided before the 2022 general election.

### When is Election Day? When are polls open?

The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 8. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Voting sites will be listed on the **secretary of state's web portal** on Sunday, Nov. 6, two days before Election Day.

All polling places in Texas must be **accessible** for voters. If you

require assistance to cast your ballot you may receive assistance from either a person of your choosing (aside from your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your union) or from two election workers. Those who assist others must sign a form disclosing their relationship to the voter. They also must recite an oath stating they did not pressure or coerce the voter into choosing them as an assistant.

Voters who can't read English may use **interpreters** at the polls. If a voter is physically unable to enter a polling place, **curbside voting** is also available.

### Do I need identification to vote?

Yes. You must present one of the **seven acceptable forms of photo ID**, which include a Texas driver's license, an election identification certificate and a U.S. passport.

If you don't have a photo ID you can fill out a declaration at your polling place, where you must also present **one of the acceptable forms of supporting ID**, such as a certified copy of a domestic birth certificate, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check; or the voter registration certificate from your county voter registrar.

If you have an acceptable photo ID but don't have it at your polling place, you can still vote a provisional ballot. You will have six days — until Monday, Nov. 14 — to present the acceptable ID to your county registrar or to process an **exemption** in order for your vote to count.

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## Admiral James Otto Richardson *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 has been studied at length by military minds and academics for decades. The naval officer in charge of the Pacific Fleet in the months before the attack was a Texas native, Admiral James Otto Richardson. As the United States began preparing for war in 1940, Richardson pointed to weak defenses at Pearl Harbor that he feared would lead to disaster.

Richardson was born in Paris in September 1878. After he graduated from high school, he did not immediately attend college. In 1898, he instead received a congressional appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He excelled in his studies, graduating fifth in his class in 1902.

His first assignment was with the Asiatic Squadron helping with naval support of American attempts to suppress a rebellion in the Philippines. He was transferred to the Atlantic Fleet in 1905. He came to command two small torpedo boats in 1907, the USS Tingay and the USS Stockton. In 1909, he was tapped to enter the Naval Academy's special graduate engineering school, part of the first group of officers selected for this special training and education program. By 1914, he rose to head the Bureau of Steam Engineering, responsible for monitoring the navy's fuel supply.

Richardson had an honorable record and steadily moved up the ranks. He served as executive officer of the battleship USS Nevada during World War I. He then rose to command the USS Asheville, a gunboat, by 1922 when he led the navy's patrols of the South China Sea. Periodically, his service was interrupted by further studies at the naval academy and the Naval War College. He commanded the heavy cruiser USS Augusta from 1931 to 1933. While serving as Budget Officer with the Navy Department, he was promoted to rear admiral in 1934.

As Assistant Chief of Naval Operations in 1937, he was at the forefront to the navy's response to two events that riveted the world's attention. When famed aviator Amelia Earhart disappeared in the Central Pacific, Richardson helped coordinate the navy's search operations. He also helped formulate the information and response to Japan's sinking of an American gunboat, the USS Panay, in China's Yangtze River. Japan's invasion of China and steady expansion in East Asia became a grave concern to the United States.

In January 1940, Richardson was named commander-in-chief of the United States Fleet, one of the senior-most positions in the navy, which also put him in command of the Pacific Fleet. In June 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the Pacific Fleet to move its headquarters to Pearl Harbor. Roosevelt believed that the nation must begin preparing for a possible war. He also believed that while Pearl Harbor was still thousands of miles from the Japanese sphere of influence, the presence of the fleet in the Central Pacific sent a strong message of disapproval to Japan and might dissuade Japan from further incursions in the Far East. In the meantime, the United States continued to negotiate with Japan

for it to cease its military actions, negotiations that continued until December 1941.

Richardson was respected as an expert on Japanese military tactics throughout the military and by civilian politicians. He expressed grave fears over headquartering the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, especially since Japan had a history of engaging in sneak attacks. He looked at the situation from a careful tactical standpoint. Pearl Harbor was a good natural harbor that had been under American control for decades. But Hawaii was more than two thousand miles away from mainland naval bases at San Francisco and San Diego, far from any emergency support, and unprepared for an attack. He brought his pointed criticisms of the situation to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Admiral Harold Stark, the Chief of Naval Operations. Twice he went to Washington to explain his position in person, to no avail.

He pushed for increased air patrols and for bolstering the defenses of the facility. He coordinated with his army counterparts on war game scenarios to practice for a possible invasion, a practice begun by previous Pearl Harbor commanders. He was discouraged when army forces on the island were never able to repel a naval invasion.

Years after World War II, Richardson said that he never believed that a carrier-based attack on the base would happen. He had anticipated a more traditional naval invasion with battleships, destroyers, and landing troops. In 1940, however, the United States still had very few military resources to spare in spite of increasing preparations. In February 1941, Richardson was relieved of command in favor of Adm. Husband E. Kimmel.

Richardson was assigned to the Navy General Board, an advisory body within the Navy Department in Washington. Like the rest of the nation, he was shocked and horrified by the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. He stepped down from the position in October 1942. He spent the remainder of the war working with the Navy Relief Society, a navy charity designed to help sailors and Marines and their families. He also worked as senior member of a special committee to reorganize America's defenses.

After his formal retirement from active duty in 1947, he lived the rest of his life quietly in Washington, DC, occasionally writing on his naval experiences. In 1973, he released his memoirs, "*On the Treadmill to Pearl Harbor*." He died at his home in 1974 at the age of 95.

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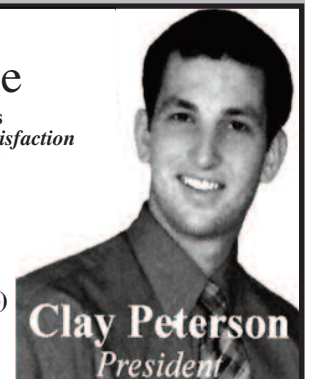
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# BUSINESS DIRECTORY



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## Three Day Weekend Forecast



### Friday, Oct. 7:

**AM** - Mostly sunny; high near 85. Northeast wind 5-10mph, with gusts as high as 20mph.  
**PM** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. Northeast wind 5-10mph.



### Saturday, Oct. 8:

**AM** - Mostly sunny, with a high near 79. East northeast wind around 10mph.  
**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 58. East northeast wind around 5mph.



### Sunday, Oct. 9:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 83.  
**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 62.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)