Serving the Cities of River Oaks and Westworth Village

River Oaks News

Established 1939 • A Publication of Suburban Newspapers, Inc.

86th Year, No. 15 • 7820 Wyatt Drive, White Settlement, Texas 76108 • suburban-newspapers.com • April 9, 2026

From the Texas Department of Transportation

Residents Requested to Take TxDOT Survey to Help Shape the Future of I-35

From road trip kolaches to international trade, I-35 is a vital transportation artery for the state of Texas, and drivers now have a chance to shape its future.

To meet the transportation needs of Texas' growing population and robust economy over the next 25 years, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) invites the public to share their feedback on the future of I-35 through a survey April 6 through May 6. Public feedback will help guide proposed improvements in TxDOT's I-35 Texas Corridor Study: A Path to 2050 from Laredo to the Texas and Oklahoma state line.

Why 35?

Known as the "Main Street of Texas", the I-35 corridor is home to around half of Texas' total population and connects travelers with tourism destinations, military bases and numerous state parks.

The study aims to address current and future mobility challenges, incorporate improvement opportunities for all users and transportation modes, and benefit urban, rural and border areas while advancing economic development and regional growth.

"I-35 is one of the most important interstates for the state of Texas and our nation, supporting Texas' economy and quality of life," said TxDOT Transportation Planning and Programs Director Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez Jr. said. "This statewide survey is a great opportunity for the public to join TxDOT in helping shape its future, continuing to successfully deliver and provide for Texans."

Study Goals

The border-to-border corridor study will identify existing gaps and evolving multimodal transportation needs and opportunities for the next 25 years.

Through data-informed analysis and collaborative stakeholder engagement, the study will develop prioritized solutions. These include multimodal improvements, policies, programs, or regional planning studies across urban, rural and border areas. It is expected to be completed by early 2027.

How to Take the Survey

Public comments and feedback are important in identifying current and future needs. Visit the I-35 Texas Corridor Study on txdot.gov https://www.txdot.gov/projects/projects-studies/statewide/i35-texas-corridor-study.html to learn more about the study and to access the survey.

Citywide Yard Sale Extended to April 10-12!

details on page 3

From North Central Texas Council of Governments

NAS JRB Fort Worth Regional Coordination Committee Meeting Rescheduled & Relocated

The NAS JRB Fort Worth Regional Coordination Committee meeting originally set for Monday, April 20, has been rescheduled to Monday, April 27.

The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will now be held at the River Oaks Community Center, 5300 Blackstone Drive.

An agenda and official meeting notice will be released closer to the meeting date, officials said. Information regarding a separate groundbreaking ceremony will be announced once details are finalized.

From the City of River Oaks

Castleberry Cut Off Reconstruction to begin April 16

Tarrant County will begin reconstruction of Castleberry Cut Off from Yale Street to Roberts Cut Off on Thursday, April 16.

Crews will move equipment into the area April 15, when barricades and detour routes will also be set up. Construction is scheduled to take place from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily until the project is complete.

Residents will continue to have access to their driveways, and emergency services will be able to access Castleberry Cut Off throughout construction. *See graphic on page 5.*

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 817-626-5421, ext. 332.

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Publishers of the *Benbrook News*, *River Oaks News* and *White Settlement Bomber News*

Boyden Underwood, Publisher: publisher@suburban-newspapers.com
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7820 Wyatt Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76108

suburban-newspapers.com

These newspapers are published and delivered digitally every Thursday.

Deadlines are Friday at 4 p.m., prior to the following Thursday's edition.

The publisher/editor reserves the right to reject or edit all copy submitted for publication. Advertising and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions, editorial policies or beliefs of the Publisher, Managing Editor or staff of Suburban Newspapers, Inc.

• ***All Letters to the Editor*** must not be over 250 words, and include the author's name, address and phone number. *Only the name will be included.*

• ***Engagement Announcements*** must be published four weeks prior to the wedding. ***Wedding Announcements*** have a 350 word limit. ***Anniversaries*** are limited to 150 words. • ***Obituaries*** are limited to 250 words and cost $100.

Mistakes in stories or ads must be reported by Friday at 4 p.m. following Thursday's edition for corrections. Advertising payments are due by 10 a.m. Monday.

Obituary

Stuart Sibley

Stuart Sibley left behind this small blue sphere we call Earth and transitioned to his heavenly home on April 4, 2026, following a brief illness.

Funeral services will be conducted by Cook-Gerngross-Green-Patterson Funeral Home in Rosebud, Texas. Visitation will be from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Monday, April 13 at the funeral home, followed by a graveside service at 3 p.m. at Powers Chapel Cemetery. Rev. Don Fulton will officiate.

Stuart was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on November 14, 1977. He was the first child of Deborah Susan (Tutcher) Sibley and Stephen Earl Sibley. Stuart was a blond-haired, brown-eyed bundle of energy as a toddler. He was always up for a new adventure. Stuart attended grade school at All Saints Episcopal School in Fort Worth and later graduated from high school at Western Hills. After high school, he worked for a time as an interior finisher and painter. He then decided to move to Nacogdoches, TX, where he lived with his grandparents and attended Stephen F. Austin State University for two years.

Stuart then moved to Brownwood, TX, and worked for 3M as a maker for a number of years until a workplace injury forced him to end his employment there. He then moved back to Benbrook to live with his parents.

Stuart liked anything with wheels: skateboards, electric cars, bikes, motorcycles, and his blue convertible Mustang. He enjoyed going hunting with his and his dad's friends and fishing from his granddad's pier on Lake Arrowhead. Stuart enjoyed helping his dad at the family farm, doing all kinds of work necessary to maintain the farm.

Stuart was baptized and became a member of the Ridglea United Methodist Church in 1992. Stuart loved well and was well loved by all of his friends and family.

Stuart was predeceased by his mother, Debbie Sibley. He is survived by his dad, Stephen Sibley; one brother, Scott Andrew Sibley; aunts, Sylvia Sibley Middlebrook and Janice Stokes; and uncle, Thomas Tutcher Jr.; cousins, Holli Smith, Dr. Emily Middlebrook Robinson, Jennifer Mohon, and Jon-David Alexander.

The family suggests memorials to the Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County or the Presbyterian Night Shelter of Tarrant County.

From the City of River Oaks

Citywide Yard Sale Extended Due to Weather

The City of River Oaks has extended its Citywide Yard Sale Weekend to Friday, April 10 through Sunday, 12 after inclement weather impacted last weekend's event.

The extension applies to residents who had previously registered to participate, giving them an additional opportunity to host sales. Click here to view the list of registered addresses.

From the River Oaks Event Center

April Food Bank Days

The City of River Oaks hosts Food Bank distribution days on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the River Oaks Event Center, located at 5300 Blackstone Drive.

The Food Bank distribution dates for the month of April are Friday, April 10 and Friday, April 24.

Participants are asked not to line up before 8:30 a.m. and to follow the designated traffic route. Drivers should remain in their vehicles throughout the process and avoid blocking residential driveways or cross streets to ensure access for police and emergency services.

For additional information, residents may call 817-732-5885.

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From Dawn Needles, General Edward H. Tarrant Chapter, U.S.D. 1812

Lineage Societies Meet for Scholarship Awards Luncheon

Four local lineage societies recognized area students during a joint annual scholarship luncheon in March.

Participating organizations included the Honorable Philip Livingston Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Colonists, the General Edward H. Tarrant Chapter of the United States Daughters of 1812, the Governor Thomas Hinckley Chapter of the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century and the Texas Society Daughters of Colonial Wars. Lori Duhon, president of the Tarrant Chapter of the U.S. Daughters of 1812, presided over the event.

Each organization supports youth education and annually honors selected recipients.

Yazmin Chavez of Amon Carter Riverside High School received the Mildred Nimmo Lucas Scholarship. Presented by scholarship chair Dr. Jean deSchweinitz, Chavez has a 4.26 GPA, ranks eighth in her class and plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to study finance. She was accompanied by counselor Christine Gonzalez.

The Daughters of the American Colonists Scholarship was awarded to Aiyana Flores-Colon by scholarship chair LaWayne Hauser. Flores-Colon is completing the Tarrant County College Physical Therapist Assistant Program and plans to pursue work in an inpatient neurological setting. She was joined by program director Stacie Anderson and intake coordinator Holly Dickson.

Regent Dr. Linda Hines, Holly Dickson, Aiyana Flores-Colon, Stacie Anderson, Scholarship Chair LaWayne Hauser.

Ainsleigh Craig, a senior at Burleson Collegiate High School, received the Colonial Dames XVII Century Scholarship. Scholarship chair Cecelia Van Donselaar presented the award. Craig plans to attend the University of North Texas and major in history or biology with the goal of continuing her education.

Myles E. Amason received the Grace C. Massengill Scholarship, presented by Dr. Kathryn Beck, state president of the Texas Society Daughters of Colonial Wars. A student at Hardin-Simmons University, Amason is majoring in fitness, recreation and sports management with minors in nutrition and history. He hopes to coach at the collegiate or professional level and eventually become an athletic director. His mother and grandmother accepted the award on his behalf.

Regent Diana Lussier, Douglas Craig, Ainsleigh Craig, Lisa Craig, Scholarship Chair Cecelia Van Donselaar.

Christine Gonzalez, M. Ed., Yazmin Chavez, Scholarship Chair Dr. Jean deSchweinitz, President Lori Duhon of the General Edward H. Tarrant Chapter, U.S.D. 1812

Sharon Allen, Courtney Amason, State President of Texas Society Daughters of Colonial Wars, Dr. Kathryn Beck.

From the City of River Oaks

CRUD Mobile to Collect Household Chemicals April 18

Residents can safely dispose of household chemical waste when the City of Fort Worth's CRUD Mobile visits City Hall later this month. The mobile collection unit will be available from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 18, in the City Hall parking lot. The service is free for residents of Fort Worth and participating cities.

The CRUD Mobile, an extension of Fort Worth's Environmental Collection Center, accepts a variety of items, including paint and stains, motor oil, antifreeze, batteries, fertilizers, pesticides, pool chemicals, solvents, fluorescent bulbs and pharmaceuticals.

Items not accepted include ammunition, asbestos, building materials, electronics, explosives, medical waste, propane or butane cylinders, tires, televisions, smoke detectors and radioactive materials.

Residents should bring a recent water bill as proof of residency and keep materials in their original containers when possible. Liquid paint should be sorted by type before arrival, and all chemicals should be transported in the trunk of a vehicle.

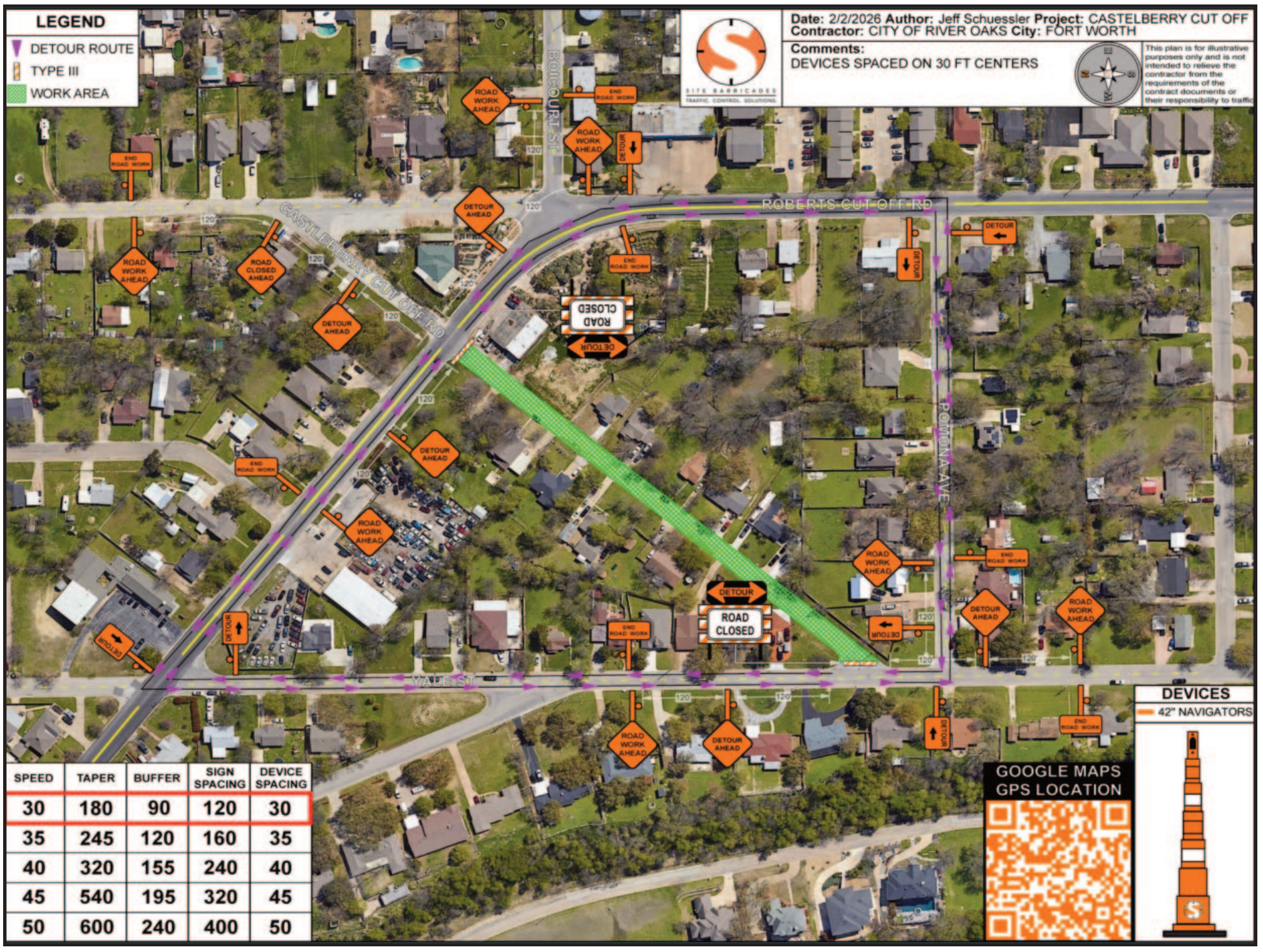
For questions about specific items, call 817-392-EASY.

From the Benbrook Public Library

April 12 is Sensory-Friendly Sunday!

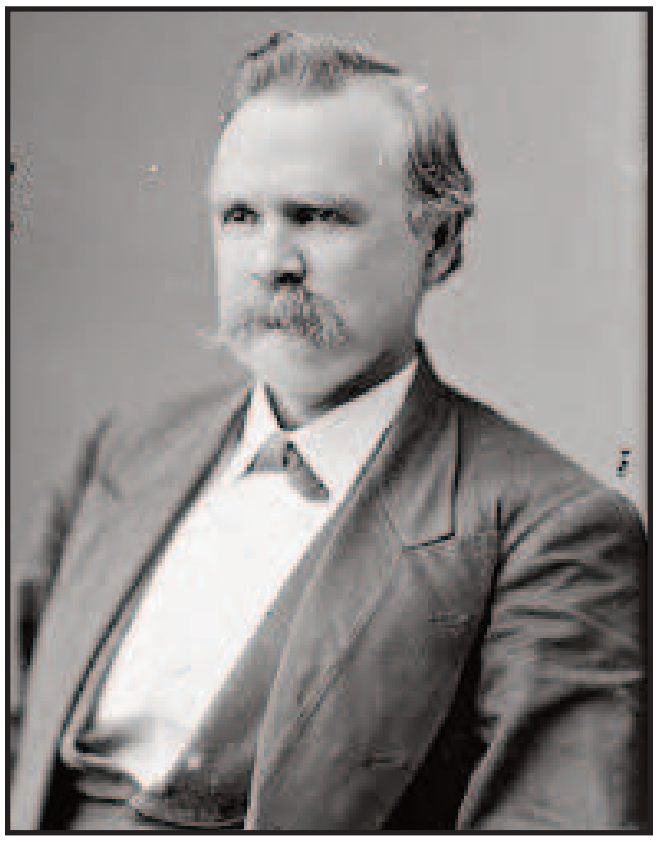
The Benbrook Public Library will host a Sensory-Friendly Sunday event April 12 from noon to 2 p.m., offering a welcoming and calming environment for individuals and families with sensory needs. The event is designed to provide a safe space for participants to explore the library at their own pace. Activities will include spring-themed crafts and interactive stations throughout the facility. A special storytime is scheduled for 1 p.m.

For more information, call 817-249-6632.



Texas History Minute by Dr. Ken Bridges

Roger Mills: Texas Statesman's Long Career Marked by Service, Stubborn Politics



Roger Mills was an early Texas lawyer and legislator. He fought in the Civil War and served for nearly three decades in Congress and the U. S. Senate from the 1870s through the 1890s. Though respected for his dedication and work ethic, his political stands damaged his political career.

Roger Quarles Mills was born in Todd County, Kentucky, just on the Tennessee state line, in 1832. Not long after statehood and the end of the Mexican War, the family moved to Texas in 1849. Mills was interested in law, but as there were no law schools in Texas at the time, he apprenticed himself to an attorney and studied it himself. In 1852, barely 20 years old, he was admitted to the bar, becoming the youngest attorney in the state at the time.

Mills settled in Corsicana, built a respected practice, and got involved in local politics. In 1859, he was elected to the state legislature. Texas seceded from the Union in February 1861 as his term ended. He quickly enlisted in the Confederate Army, serving as a private. He soon saw action at the Battle of Wilson's Creek in August 1861 in Missouri as Confederate forces tried unsuccessfully to pull that state out of the Union. In October, the 10th Texas Infantry Regiment was organized, and Mills was promoted to colonel as he helped organize the new regiment, also called "Wilson's Guards."

The first major action that the 10th Texas saw was at the Battle of Arkansas Post on the Mississippi River in January 1863. Confederate forces were overwhelmed, and most of the 10th Texas was captured and held prisoner until an exchange a few months later. The 10th was combined with the 6th Texas Infantry and the 15th Texas Cavalry, with Gen. James Deshler in command. At the battle of Chickamauga in October, Deshler was killed, and Mills assumed command.

For the rest of the war, Mills led the 10th Texas as Confederate defenses in eastern Tennessee and northern Georgia faltered. By 1865, Mills led his troops into North Carolina with what remained of the Confederate Army. His forces surrendered near Durham, North Carolina, in late April, more than two weeks after Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

After the war, he returned to Corsicana. In 1872, he was elected as a Democrat to Congress. In Congress, he became known for his work ethic. He rose to become chairman of the influential Ways and Means Committee, which crafted the federal budget, and later the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. As the economy depended on exports of cattle, cotton, and grains, foreign trade was especially important; but there were still many defenders of high protectionist tariffs. Mills attempted to push through a bill that reduced the overseas tariff but instead only got a watered-down tariff reduction bill, the Mills Bill of 1888, which passed the Democratic House of Representatives easily but was shot down by the Republican Senate.

One of his most notable political battles came in 1891 after the Democrats reclaimed the U. S. House of Representatives in the mid-term elections. Mills ran for Speaker of the House. He quickly gathered commitments from 120 fellow Democrats. However, backroom deals peeled away several supporters; and the election went on ballot after ballot. As with his stubborn nature he had shown through much of his career, he refused to back down and make compromises. On the thirtieth ballot, he lost to Rep. Charles Crisp of Georgia by a margin of 119 to 105.

In spite of the loss, in 1891, the Oklahoma Territory named the new Roger Mills County, which borders the Texas Panhandle, after him. In March 1892, the state legislature elected Mills to the U. S. Senate, succeeding Sen. Horace Chilton. Increasingly, silver coinage was a popular issue among farmers across the South and Midwest as farmers were desperate to reverse the tide of collapsing crop prices. They saw monetary inflation as the solution to ending their debt problems. However, eastern bankers opposed silver coinage as it cut into their profits from loans, and eastern factory workers opposed it as it ate into their wages. Loyal to President Grover Cleveland, Mills backed a partial repeal of the 1890 Sherman Silver Purchase Act which sought to add more inflationary silver into the nation's money supply.

Upset at the action, the Texas legislature declined to re-elect him in 1898. When his term ended in March 1899, Mills returned to Texas and resumed his law practice. He died in Corsicana in September 1911 at age 79.

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Weekend Forecast

Friday, April 10:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. South wind 5 to 10 mph.
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. S/SE wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday, April 11:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 79. S/SE wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
PM - A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. S/SE wind around 15 mph, gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday, April 12:

AM - A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 79. South wind around 15 mph, gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.
PM - A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. South wind around 15 mph, gusts as high as 25 mph.

Extended Forecast Click Here