Serving the Cities of River Oaks and Westworth Village

River Oaks News

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From Castleberry ISD

Castleberry ISD: Back to School Bash and Meet the Teacher

Castleberry ISD families are invited to this year's Back-to-School Bash on Thursday, July 25 at Castleberry Elementary, located at 1100 Roberts Cut Off Road, Fort Worth, TX 76114!

This annual event is a collaborative effort between local community organizations and the district, aimed at offering giveaways, services, and resources to support Castleberry ISD families in preparing for the upcoming school year.

Families are requested to park in the front parking lot of Castleberry Elementary. Parking is not permitted in the drop off lane. Additional overflow parking is available on Tulane Avenue or in the One Faith Church parking lot across the street at 1200 Roberts Cut Off Road.

Meet the Teacher Aug. 3

Parents and are students are invited to attend Meet the Teacher hosted by each campus the Saturday, Aug. 3.

This event provides parents and students an opportunity to tour their campus, meet their teachers and administrators, and much more.

Castleberry High School and REACH • 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Irma Marsh Middle School • 9:30 to 11 a.m.

A.V. Cato Elementary, Castleberry Elementary, and Joy James Academy of Leadership • 10 to 11:30 a.m.

From the City of River Oaks

75 Years of History

River Oaks was incorporated as a village on Oct. 30, 1941.

Since the area incorporated was not located entirely in "the Castleberry area" the village was named for the river and oak trees and became River Oaks Village.

The Board of Aldermen changed the name to the City of River Oaks on May 7, 1946. The City Charter was officially enacted on Jan. 11, 1949.

In 1942, the Army Air Force constructed and operated Tarrant Field Air Dome adjacent to the newly built Consolidated Aircraft Corporation's B-24 "Liberator" Bomber manufacturing facility, known today as Lockheed Martin Tactical Aircraft Systems.

Early in the 1950's, the field became a part of the Strategic Air Command and was renamed Carswell Air Force Base, which remained in operation for over 40 years. In 1994 Carswell was designated as a Joint Reserve Base to be shared by the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Texas National Guard.

Over the years River Oaks has been a prime location for base personnel to locate.

The first year that River Oaks appeared in the US Census was 1950, with a population of 7,097. The current population according to the 2020 census is 7,370.

The City of River Oaks will host a 75th Anniversary Festival on Oct. 5, 2024, and a 75th Anniversary Gala on Nov. 2, 2024, both taking place at the River Oaks Event Center.

These events will help us commemorate our city's rich history and aim to shape its' future for the next 25 years and beyond.

From the City of River Oaks

Are Short-Term Rentals Regulated in River Oaks?

The City of River Oaks adopted Article 4.10 in 2023 regulating that all short term rentals (AirBNB) must first be registered, inspected and permitted with the City in order to be in compliance.

If you currently have or are thinking about setting up a short term rental at your property, contact the City to begin the registration process to avoid any penalties or citations.

All forms for the registration process are available at River Oaks City Hall, located at 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, TX 76114.

For questions or more information, contact the City of River Oaks at 817-626-5421, ext. 338.

Legal Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a TABC license: Package Store Permit P by NMS Investments, Inc. dba Hotshot Liquor to be located at 5412 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth Texas 76112.
Manager of business: Shamim M Naem

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FREE ADMISSION - GROUPS WELCOME!

From the Texas Coalition for Animal Protection

Free Feline Fix Day July 31

The Texas Coalition for Animal Protection is a recognized nonprofit, 501c3 organization that provides solutions to pet overpopulation and community animal welfare. TCAP accomplishes this goal by making affordable, high quality preventative services available to Texas pet owners.

Texas Coalition for Animal Protection (TCAP) will offer free sterilizations and rabies vaccines for feral/community cats on Wednesday, July 31. They will take cats at TCAP Garland, Allen, Arlington, Burleson, Denton and Fort Worth. They will accept the first 75 cats presented at each location. Cats must be presented in a live trap or pet carrier. All cats will receive an ear tip.

Additional fees (such as in-heat, crypt, or pregnancy) will be covered by TCAP. Caretakers will be responsible for additional services they elect at the time of service: additional vaccinations, pain medications, viral testing, etc.

From Castleberry ISD

Backpack Requirements for CISD

All students in grades pre-K through 12 must use a clear backpack. The district no longer allows mesh backpacks. This revision to the backpack guidelines further enhances the safety and security of all students and staff while at school.

In addition, rolling backpacks are not permitted on Castleberry ISD campuses.

Questions concerning the use of backpacks can be directed to the Director of Student Support Services at 817-252-2000.

Backpack Guidelines

Student backpacks must meet the following criteria:

- Backpacks must be made of clear/transparent material.
- All contents must be visible from all angles when a student is wearing the backpack.
- Backpacks with a padded back are not permitted.
- Backpacks may have a small logo, but it must not obstruct the view of contents.
- Large logos, monograms, and/or other visual design obstructions, including patterns, are not permitted.

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Little Projects.
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Use Native Plants to Save Water

Looking for a weekend project? Try replacing some traditional landscaping plants with Texas native plants. They're beautiful, use less water and thrive in our weather. Your local nursery can help find the perfect plants for you. Have a water-saving weekend! Visit us online to find more water-saving projects.

TEXAS YARD MAKEOVER WEEKEND EDITION

New Episodes at Water is Awesome.com

From Texas Workforce Commission

Texans Now Able to Verify Identity In-Person for Unemployment Benefit Claims at USPS Locations

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and the United States Postal Service (USPS) to offer statewide in-person identity (ID) verification for unemployment benefit claims.

Unemployment claimants who were notified by TWC to verify their ID after July 1, 2024, now have the option to go to a participating USPS location to complete the ID verification.

As part of TWC's fraud prevention initiative, individuals who apply for unemployment benefits may be required to verify their ID. In cases of suspected identity fraud, this process helps TWC ensure imposters are not able to receive another person's unemployment benefits.

"TWC is here to support Texans by making the ID verification process more accessible," said TWC Executive Director Ed Serna. "This initiative highlights how TWC is taking aggressive steps to prevent these critical resources from being taken advantage of by fraudsters."

Individuals can verify their identity at participating USPS locations using a state driver license, state ID card, U.S. Armed Forces or uniformed service ID card, or a U.S. Passport. Individuals will need to visit the Unemployment Benefits Identity Verification web page and follow all instructions to indicate they will be verifying in person at a USPS location. Upon registering to use the USPS option and receiving an Enrollment Code, users are given a list of participating USPS office locations near them. Claimants must report to the participating USPS location within seven days of registering and show their documents to USPS staff, who will verify their identity. The USPS will automatically notify TWC after the ID verification is complete.

Texans may still verify their identity online through ID.me. Claimants who do not have access to a computer or smart phone may also use computer stations at one of the more than 170 local Workforce Solution offices around Texas or other community resources.

Texas Workforce Commission

Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers, and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and its services in coordination with its local workforce development boards network, call 800-628-5115 or visit https://twc.texas.gov/.

Subscribe to email updates to receive notifications about TWC programs and services.

From StatePoint

Tips to Make Your Back-to-School Shopping Game Plan

Staying on top of consumer trends can make for a better shopper experience this back-to-school season, helping you land the best deals on the right products at the right time.

The results of a new survey from Sensormatic Solutions show that despite new shopping options popularized during the pandemic, such as buy-online-pick-up-in-stores (BOPIS), 79 percent of respondents plan to conduct their back-to-school shopping in stores this year, a slight increase from 2023. The most important factors when shopping in-store include price (91 percent), product availability (75 percent) and a safe and comfortable store environment (44 percent).

"Consumers are still viewing in-store shopping, particularly in the back-to-school season, as an experience to be enjoyed rather than an errand," says Kim Melvin, global leader of marketing and communications at Sensormatic Solutions. "Retailers are accommodating and encouraging this point of view, and it's creating a better, more responsible, and more agile industry for customers and retailers alike."

Consumers are also less worried about how the current U.S. economy will impact their back-to-school shopping budget than they were last year. Despite talk of a recession, 51 percent say their budget will not be impacted or that they even plan to spend more this year, a notable increase as compared to 43 percent in 2022. Consumers plan to spend the most on clothing and apparel (70 percent), shoes (58 percent) and school supplies (53 percent).

No matter how much you've budgeted for back-to-school shopping or what items you plan to spend the most on, you can use these top strategies from Sensormatic Solutions to make your back-to-school shopping experience successful and stress-free:

• 80 percent of respondents plan to begin their back-to-school shopping in July or August – an increase over last year – so don't wait. If you're like many shoppers, and price and product availability are heavily factored into your shopping habits, you may want to jump on the trend of shopping earlier in the season to ensure you'll find the supplies you need at the best prices.

• Don't worry about what days you plan to head to the store. In-store traffic is likely to be steady throughout the week, with 35 percent of consumers saying they're more likely to shop on weekdays, 32 percent saying weekends and 33 percent saying they have no preference.

• With 75 percent of respondents saying product availability is an important factor when shopping in-store, consider planning out your shopping list to ensure retailers have your items in-stock before you arrive. Thankfully, technologies like inventory intelligence are making brick-and-mortar shopping more reliable and convenient.

"Gearing up for a new school year is always exciting for both parents and kids. And with a bit of knowledge of how your fellow consumers plan to get their seasonal shopping done, you can develop smart shopping strategies," says Melvin.

From Suburban Newspapers Staff Writers

Tired of Telemarketers? Get the Calls to Stop

The easiest way to cut down on unwanted calls is to put yourself on the Do Not Call registry. To register by phone, call 1-888-382-1222 (voice) or 1-866-290-4236 (TTY). U can report unwanted sales calls to the Federal Trade Commission at www.donotcall.gov.

Anyone can report robocalls, calls that use a recorded message instead of a live person, whether or not your number is on the Registry. Tell the FTC what the call was about (debt reduction, home security, vacations, etc.) Note that even if your number is registered, some organizations may still call you, such as charities, political organizations and telephone surveyors.

From CrisisTextLine.org

Connect with a Volunteer Crisis Counselor

Need to vent? Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a volunteer Crisis Counselor.

How it Works

When an individual texts HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the United States – 24/7, free, confidential - a live, trained volunteer Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from a secure online platform. The volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool calm. The first two responses are automated. They tell you that you're being connected with a Crisis Counselor and invite you to share a bit more.

The Crisis Counselor is a trained volunteer, not a professional. They can provide support, but not medical advice.

Texas History Minute

Pioneer for the Preservation of the Alamo, Clara Driscoll

by Dr. Ken Bridges

It was a run-down series of old buildings in the bustling downtown of a growing city. Its use had long been forgotten by many residents and once-storied importance largely discounted by an impatient populace racing to build a modern city. By the early 1900s, the Alamo was about to fall once again, this time to the ravages of neglect and the drive for urban development. One determined Texan, Clara Driscoll, led a group of women to preserve the Alamo site for all time.

Clara Driscoll was born at Copano Bay in Refugio County in 1881. Her grandfather, an Irish immigrant, had come to Texas and fought at the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836. He later served as a county judge for Refugio County. Her father had built a successful ranch in nearby Nueces County and had expanded into real estate and banking. She attended boarding schools in New York and France and ultimately learned to speak four languages. She settled in San Antonio in 1898 and spoke out against how badly the Alamo had fallen into disrepair.

Once on the outskirts of San Antonio in the quiet countryside, steady growth and expansion of the city soon saw the old mission surrounded by a growing metropolis. At the time of the Texas Revolution, San Antonio was only a small community of perhaps a couple thousand people. By 1910, the population had surged past 96,600 residents, nearly doubling since 1900. The Roman Catholic Church sold the Alamo chapel site to the state in 1883, but other portions remained in private hands. The 50th anniversary commemoration of the battle in 1886, however, was almost ignored by residents. As a result, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, an organization made up of descendants of veterans of the Texas Revolution, was founded in 1892 with the aim of preserving the Alamo.

By 1903, Adina de Zavala, a writer and granddaughter of Lorenzo de Zavala, the first vice-president of the Republic of Texas, convinced Driscoll to aid in the cause. The owners of the long barracks, once a convent, hoped to sell the site to developers and allowed the crumbling structure to be overrun with billboards. The DRT attempted to purchase the building, but the asking price was $75,000 (more than $2 million in 2018 dollars). Determined not to let the Alamo fall to developers, Driscoll put up most of the asking price herself in January 1905. The state legislature, impressed with their efforts, compensated the DRT and enacted legislation to put the site into their care.

However, an argument erupted between Zavala and Driscoll over the fate of the Long Barracks. Driscoll offered to tear down the dilapidated building as part of the DRT's reconstruction efforts, but Zavala argued that it was an original part of the building and a vital part of Alamo history. Gov. Oscar B. Colquitt sided with Zavala and asked it be restored. The case went to court, with the judge stating the DRT had ownership.

Instead of being completely demolished, the second floor was removed instead and rebuilt the walls of the first floor between 1913 and 1916. By 1921, the DRT added a concrete roof to the chapel to replace the old, wooden roof and installed electrical lighting. In 1931, Driscoll put up another $70,000 of her own money (more than $1.1 million in 2018 dollars) to help the state legislature buy more of the land surrounding the Alamo site.

In the meantime, Driscoll also embarked on a modest writing career, penning the novels "*The Girl of La Gloria"* in 1905 and "*In the Shadow of the Alamo"* in 1906. She married Hal Sevier in 1906, who founded what became the Austin American-Statesman and later became the U. S. Ambassador to Chile.

In 1936, Driscoll was named vice-chair of the Texas Centennial Exposition executive board, overseeing the commemorations of the 100th anniversary of Texas independence.

As president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, she made sure the Alamo received special attention for its role in the events of 1836. In the years following, the Alamo story continued to spread, and the site became the most popular tourist spot in San Antonio. It became a National Historic Landmark in 1960.

After her divorce in 1937, she spent most of her last years in Corpus Christi, managing her family's real estate and ranching interests. She had the Hotel Robert Driscoll built in 1942, named after her late brother. She continued to give generously to causes across the state. Driscoll lived in a suite in the hotel until her death in 1945 at age 64. Upon her death, she was given the rare honor of having her body lie in state at the Alamo chapel, the shrine she worked so tirelessly to preserve.

Even in death, she was able to open another chapter in Texas History. Driscoll left the bulk of her family's fortune to help the children of others. She directed funds from her estate to establish a children's hospital in Corpus Christi. Driscoll Children's Hospital opened in Corpus Christi in 1953. To date, it is the only children's hospital in South Texas and has since expanded to include clinics across the Rio Grande Valley.

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Weekend Forecast

30%

Friday, July 26:

AM - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 88. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 72. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

20%

Saturday, July 27:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 92. South wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 73. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

20%

Sunday, July 28:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly sunny, with a high near 93. South wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 75.

Extended Forecast Click Here