Serving the Cities of River Oaks and Westworth Village

River Oaks News

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From Suburban Newspapers, Inc. Staff Writers

From Decoration Day to Memorial Day: The History Behind America's Day of Remembrance

Pictured above: The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington County, Virginia, is the burial site of a World War I soldier whose remains were unidentifiable. After a design competition was held in 1928, the project was completed in 1932.

As Americans prepare to observe Memorial Day on May 25, communities across the country will gather for ceremonies, parades and moments of reflection honoring the men and women who died while serving in the United States military.

For many, the holiday also signals the unofficial start of summer, marked by backyard cookouts, family trips and long weekends. But historians say Memorial Day's roots are grounded in grief, remembrance and national healing following the Civil War.

Originally known as "Decoration Day," the observance began in the years after the Civil War, which claimed more American lives than any other conflict in U.S. history. As communities mourned fallen soldiers, people began decorating graves with flowers, wreaths and flags in tribute to the dead.

Historians note there is no single agreed-upon birthplace of Memorial Day. Several towns and cities across the nation claim to have held early commemorations. In 1966, however, the federal government officially recognized Waterloo as the holiday's birthplace because of *(continued on page 4)*

From the City of River Oaks

River Oaks City Hall to Close for Memorial Day Holiday

River Oaks officials announced that City Hall and the Event Center will be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.

Despite the holiday closure, regular trash collection routes will continue as scheduled on Monday, May 25. City offices are will resume normal operating hours following the holiday.

From the River Oaks Event Center

Food Bank Day May 22

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

From the City of River Oaks

How to Report After-Hours Utility Emergencies

Residents needing to report after-hours utility emergencies in River Oaks are encouraged to contact the Police Department dispatch line for assistance.

Town officials said all utility emergencies occurring outside normal business hours should be reported by calling dispatch at 817-626-1991. The dispatch center can relay emergency *(continued on page 4)*

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Suburban Newspapers, Inc.

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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.

CONGRATULATIONS

CASTLEBERRY HIGH SCHOOL

&

REACH HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATES!

from the River Oaks News

INSPIRE · EMPOWER · INNOVATE
CASTLEBERRY LIONS

Graduation Ceremony

Thursday, May 21
7:30 - 9 PM

Fort Worth Convention Center
1201 Houston Street,
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Class of 2026

Memorial Day (continued from page 1)

its community-wide observance held May 5, 1866.

The first official national observance took place May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery. The event was organized by the Grand Army of the Republic, a Union veterans organization led by Gen. John A. Logan. More than 5,000 people reportedly attended the ceremony, where flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers buried at Arlington. Future President James A. Garfield delivered a speech during the event.

The observance was initially intended to honor soldiers who died during the Civil War. Following World War I, the meaning expanded to recognize Americans who died in all military conflicts. Over time, "Memorial Day" gradually became the more commonly used name.

Congress officially established Memorial Day as a federal holiday in 1971 under the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which moved the observance to the last Monday in May to create a three-day weekend for federal employees.

Today, Memorial Day remains one of the nation's most solemn observances. At Arlington National Cemetery, the president traditionally lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, while members of the military place American flags at thousands of gravesites ahead of the holiday weekend.

Across the country, volunteers and veterans organizations continue the tradition of decorating graves and holding remembrance ceremonies. A National Moment of Remembrance, established by Congress in 2000, encourages Americans to pause at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of reflection.

Memorial Day is often confused with Veterans Day, but the two holidays serve different purposes. Veterans Day honors all who have served in the armed forces, while Memorial Day specifically recognizes those who died during military service.

More than 150 years after its origins, Memorial Day continues to serve as a reminder of the sacrifices made by generations of American service members. While traditions have evolved over time, historians say the holiday's central purpose remains unchanged: honoring those who gave their lives in service to the nation.

After-Hour Utility Emergencies

(continued from page 1)

utility concerns to the appropriate on-call personnel.

Examples of utility emergencies may include water leaks, sewer backups or other urgent utility-related issues requiring immediate attention after hours. Residents are encouraged to keep the dispatch number readily available in case of emergency.

From River Oaks News Staff Writers

Curb Appeal Competition Returns for River Oaks Homeowners

Residents in the City of River Oaks are once again being encouraged to showcase their curb appeal as the city's annual Yard of the Month program gets underway for 2026.

Managed by the city's Parks Board, the program recognizes homeowners who demonstrate exceptional care and creativity in maintaining their yards, helping enhance the overall appearance of the community.

Each month from April through September, one property is selected for the honor based on its visual attractiveness, originality and overall maintenance.

Judges also consider landscaping that incorporates a variety of native plant species, highlighting both beauty and sustainability.

All residential properties within River Oaks are automatically eligible, and nominations can be submitted by residents for their own yard or a neighbor's.

Submissions must include the property address, names of both the nominee and nominator, and a photo of the yard.

The Parks Board reviews nominations and selects winners during its monthly meetings.

Award recipients receive a Yard of the Month sign to display and are later recognized at a City Council meeting alongside other seasonal winners.

Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis, with entries due by the end of each month to be considered for the following month's award.

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From Castleberry ISD

Summer Food Service Program

Castleberry ISD is one of the nonprofit organizations partnering with TDA to serve free breakfast and lunch meals to all children 18 and under and enrolled students with disabilities up to 21 years old.

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition program administered in the Lone Star State by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

For the children who rely on school meals during the academic year, these meals offer a source of good nutrition when school is out for the long summer vacation.

Students do not have to be enrolled in the district to receive the free meals. Meals will be served Monday through Friday, May 27 through June 30.

Meals must be eaten on campus and the cafeteria will be open; curbside and takeout services are not available.

No form of ID or registration is required.

Meal Service Locations

Meals will be served at:

• Castleberry Elementary School, located at 1100 Roberts Cut-Off Road. Breakfast will be served from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. and lunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

• A.V. Cato Elementary School, located at 4501 Barbara Road. Breakfast will be served from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. and lunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

• Joy James Academy of Leadership, located at 5300 Buchanan Street. Breakfast will be served from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. and lunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

• Irma Marsh Middle School located at 415 Hagg Drive. Breakfast will be served from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. and lunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Food Assistance

Families in need may be able to receive aid through the Tarrant Area Food Bank. If you or your loved ones are in need food, use the Find Food locator on the Tarrant Area Food Bank's website.

More about TDA

Families are encouraged to use these three tools to find a meal site anywhere in the state:

• Call 2-1-1 to speak to a live operator.

• Visit www.SummerFood.org for an interactive locator map.

• Text FOOD or COMIDA to 304-304.

Organizations partner with TDA to serve meals in areas where more than 50 percent of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program. Eligible sponsoring organizations include schools, nonprofit summer camps, government agencies and other tax-exempt organizations.

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Legal Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Finding of No Significant Impact & No Practicable Alternative

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 11988, the United States Air Force has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment and No Practicable Alternative to work within the floodplain for Storm Drain System Improvements at Air Force Plant 4, operated by Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company, located in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, TX. The project will upgrade storm drain systems to reduce flood risk.

The Environmental Assessment and FONSI/FONPA are available for public review and comment during a 30-day period ending on May 31, 2026. These documents may be reviewed at White Settlement Public Library, 8215 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, TX 76108; and at Fort Worth Public Library Clifford Crossing, 9336 Clifford Street Suite 120, Fort Worth, TX 76108.

Written comments must be received by May 31, 2026, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company Facilities Engineering, Attn: Angela K. Pereira, PE, PO Box 748 MZ 6445, Fort Worth, TX 76101, or via email to angela.k.pereira@lmco.com.

Legal Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Off-premise Permit (BQ) by Star Food Mart Camp Bowie, LLC dba Star Food Mart, to be located at 7320 Camp Bowie W Blvd., Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. Officer of said corporation is Akber Kurji, business Owner and Manager.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SERVICE OR PROCESS BY PUBLICTION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, COUNTY MECKLENBURG
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT
DIVISION FILE NO:
26CV0113828-590

Jimmie Wesley VS Luewinda Wesley who resides in Tarrant County

TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action.

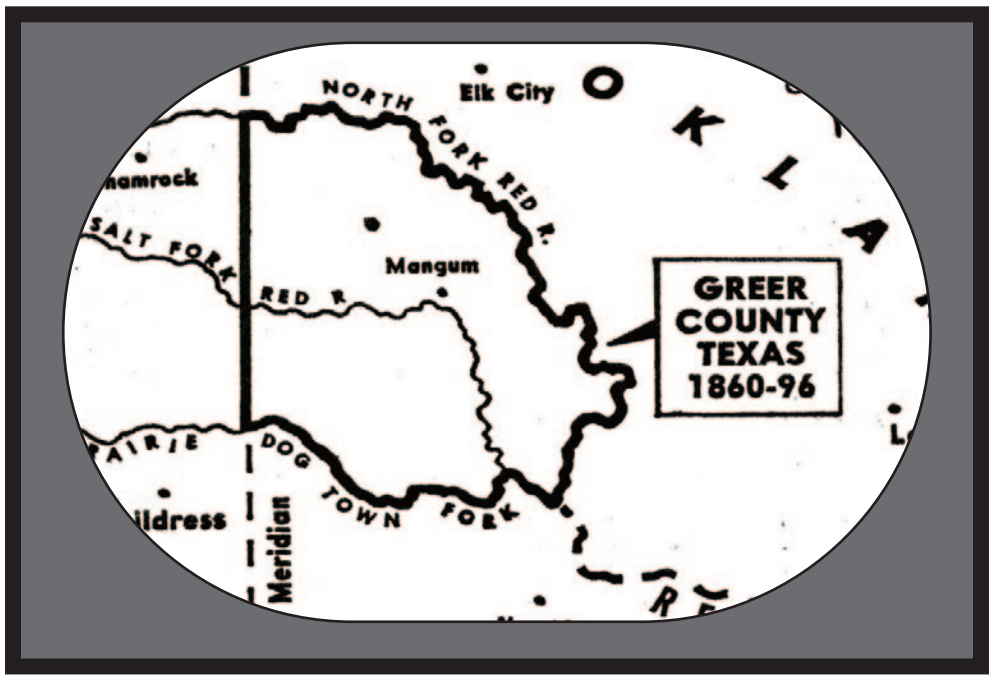
The nature of relief being sought is as follows: Absolute Divorce.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than 40 days after May 14, 2026, and upon your failure to do so, the party service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

Jimmie Wesley, 704-493-3443

Texas History Minute by Dr. Ken Bridges

When Rivers Drew the Line: The Greer County Border Dispute



Above: Historic maps of Greer County show the disputed territory claimed by Texas between the North Fork and South Fork of the Red River before the U.S. Supreme Court awarded the land to Oklahoma in 1896.

Texas is an immense landscape, and the land seems to stretch on forever. The question of the Texas border has resulted in many disputes. One infamous land dispute in the late 1800s resulted in a piece of Texas called Greer County becoming a part of Oklahoma.

The dispute arose over a portion of a fork in the Red River. On the border of what is now Wilbarger County, the Red River forks into two distinct rivers. One fork, called at one time the South Fork and now often referred to as the Prairie Dog Town Fork, continues westerly into the Panhandle. Another fork, called the North Fork, goes straight northward from the main branch of the Red River before curving back westward and into the Panhandle along what is now Interstate 40.

In 1819, the United States signed the Adams-Onis Treaty with Spain, which set portions of the Texas border at the Red River. Years after Texas gained its independence from Mexico and then joined the Union, it claimed the North Fork of the Red River as part of its boundary with the 100th Meridian marking the eastern edge of the Panhandle. The areas to the north of the Red River were set aside as the Indian Territory, lands reserved for Native American tribes.

A series of surveys were completed by the federal government in the 1850s to further define the border. As the surveys were completed, Texas officials moved to secure their claim by organizing the entire region between the North Fork of the Red River and the 100th Meridian as Greer County.

The county was named for veteran Texas politician John Alexander Greer. Greer had a respected career that included serving as the last Secretary of the Treasury of the Republic of Texas under President Anson Jones in 1845 and later served as the second lieutenant governor of Texas from 1847 to 1851. He died in 1855. The Texas Legislature named the county in his honor in February 1860.

After the interruptions of the Civil War and Reconstruction that disrupted development, settlement in the area picked up steadily in the 1880s. In 1879, when Congress created a new federal judicial district for North Texas, Greer County was included rather than being pushed into the Indian Territory. By 1886, the town of Mangum was established as the county seat, with schools and ranches being established across the area.

After the Indian Territory was opened to settlement and Native American claims stripped away, the federal government took interest in Greer County. Where Texas had claimed the North Fork as the border, the federal government claimed the South Fork as the border, putting Greer County in the newly rechristened Oklahoma Territory. A protracted legal fight erupted. In 1895, the Supreme Court heard testimony from both sides but ruled that the southern fork was the real boundary, ruling in United States v. Texas in 1896. Congress formalized the ruling later that year, giving Oklahoma full rights to Greer County.

Since Oklahoma was admitted as a state in 1907, Greer County was subdivided into four counties: Greer, Beckham, Jackson, and Harmon. The area today is thinly populated, and the area economy is mostly devoted to ranching.

Border disputes between Texas and Oklahoma continued for more than a century. By 2000, Texas and Oklahoma agreed to a formal river boundary at the vegetation line on the south bank of the Red River and Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River. The fight over Greer County proved to be just one of many confrontations in the long rivalry between Texas and Oklahoma.

From 4PAWS/Benbrook Animal Shelter

Brownie is Still Waits for a Home

Brownie is a handsome, 2−year−old Shepherd mix with a strong, loyal personality and leash manners. He has been waiting more than 45 days for a forever home and would make a steady, devoted companion.

Adoptions are available at the Benbrook Shelter, located at 469 Winscott Rd., on Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Visit www.4pawsinc.org or call 4 PAWS volunteers, Ursula at 817-262-3086 or Lynda at 682-279-0760 to set up a meet-and-greet.

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Weekend Forecast

Friday, May 22:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, high near 84. South wind around 5 mph.

PM - A 50 % chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, low around 67. S/SE wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday, May 23:

AM - A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, high near 82. S/SE wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%

PM - Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy, low around 65. S/SE wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Sunday, May 24:

AM - A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, high near 80. Calm wind becoming N/NE around 5 mph.

PM - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, low around 65.

Extended Forecast Click Here