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Benbrook News

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From the Sports Desk with John English

Benbrook Bobcats Open Season on the Road with Sanger Indians

With football season just about to get underway, the Benbrook Bobcats are looking to rebound from what proved to be a challenging 2022 season.

Benbrook finished 1-9 last season with a very young squad, and coach Cody Slater said he thinks there were some good take aways from 2022.

“Last season was quite the experience, as we had a youthful team with 16 sophomores making their mark,” Slater said. “Despite the learning curve, we saw impressive growth and potential within the squad. Our dedication during the offseason has been truly remarkable, setting the stage for what we believe will be a great upcoming season.”

Slater said there will be a few big changes from last year's team.

“This year, our team has undergone a significant transformation compared to last season,” Slater said. “One notable difference is our increased maturity and experience, with 33 players returning from last year's roster. A key change we've implemented is on the defensive side of the game. During the offseason, we made the strategic decision to fully embrace the split defense, which we believe will enhance our overall performance.”

With it being an unseasonably warm summer, Slater said he and the coaching staff have implemented a few policies to keep players safe.

“We're prioritizing the safety of our players with a well-thought-out approach,” Slater said. “Our practice schedule has been adjusted to evening sessions from 7:00pm to 10:45pm. To mitigate the effects of the heat, we're conducting the first hour indoors, focusing on weight room workouts, film review, and team meetings. This allows us to maximize our productivity while minimizing the risk of heat-related concerns. Our

(continued on page 3)

Benbrook Council Action by John English

Aug. 17 Meeting Review

The Benbrook city council meeting held on Aug. 17 was conducted as scheduled. Mayor Jason Ward called the meeting to order.

An invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Time was then allowed for citizen comments on any agenda item, but there were one.

Minutes from the previous meeting held on Aug. 3 were then approved unanimously.

The first item of the evening was to consider approving the finance report for the period ending on July 31. The General Fund revenues for the month of July were \$760,954 and year-to-date revenues were \$23,365,362, while expenditures for the month of July were \$927,269 and year-to-date expenditures were \$17,253,642.

For the Economic Development Corporation, revenues for the month of July were \$228,991 while year-to-date revenues were \$2,003,730. Expenditures for the month of July were \$33,083, while year-to-date expenditures were \$755,119.

Investments for the City of Benbrook totaled \$49,018,935 and investments for the EDC totaled \$7,326,312. The finance report was approved unanimously.

Next up was a motion to accept the 2023 Certified Appraisal Roll, set the Anticipated Collection Rate, appoint an officer to calculate the No-New Revenue Tax Rate, Voter-Approved Tax Rate, and enter the tax rate in www.tarranttaxinfo.com portal, which required a roll call vote.

Staff recommended that the city council Accept the 2023 Certified Appraisal Roll as presented, Set 100.00 percent as the anticipated property tax collection rate for FY 2023-24, appoint the Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector to calculate the No-New Revenue Tax Rate and the Voter-Approval Tax Rate, appoint the Finance Director to publish and enter the tax data in the www.tarranttaxinfo.com portal, to set the maximum property tax rate for FY 2023-24 at the Voter-Approval Rate of \$0.572652, which may be lowered when the final budget

(continued on page 3)

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Benbrook Council Action (continued from page 1)

is adopted, and take a roll call vote to increase property tax revenue. The recommendation was accepted unanimously.

The next agenda item was a proposal to adopt a resolution approving the negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee and Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division regarding the 2023 Rate Review Mechanism filing. The impact of the settlement on average residential rates is an increase of \$6.47 on a monthly basis, or 7.31%. The increase for average commercial usage will be \$24.72 or 5.19%. Staff recommended that the city council adopt the resolution approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee (of which Benbrook is a member) and Atmos Energy Corp. Mid-Texas Division regarding the company's 2023 rate review mechanism filings. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Next was a motion to authorize an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the Benbrook Water Authority (BWA) for Residential Refuse and Storm Water Utility Fee Billing and Payment Collection. The proposed ILA establishes a reimbursement to the BWA of

49.58 cents per bill. This amount is identical to last year. In addition, the City is assessed its proportionate share of the credit card processing fee for residents paying with credit cards. The motion carried unanimously.

Next was an item to authorize an Interlocal Agreement with the Benbrook Water Authority for Street Repair Services. Staff recommended that City Council authorize the Interlocal Agreement with the Benbrook Water Authority for street cut repair services on asphalt streets. The motion carried unanimously.

Next up was a motion to authorize an Interlocal Agreement with the Fort Worth Transportation Authority to provide transportation for residents age 65 or older and residents with disabilities. Staff recommended that the City Council approve participation in the Tarrant County Transportation Services Program for residents age 65 or older and residents with disabilities, at a cost of \$7,529. The motion carried unanimously.

Next was a motion to authorize an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fort Worth for Household Hazardous Waste. Staff rec-

ommended that the City Council authorize the amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fort Worth to continue participating in the Household Hazardous Waste Program. The motion carried unanimously.

Time was then allowed for informal citizen comments, but there were none.

Time was then allowed for council member and staff comments, and council member Keith Tiner wished the students of Benbrook a good school year.

The meeting was then adjourned

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS CASTLEBERRY ISD'S State Financial Accountability Rating

Castleberry ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00, September 11, 2023 in the Board Room, Gary S. Jones Administration Building 5228 Ohio Garden Road, River Oaks, Texas 76114.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Castleberry ISD's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

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From the American Red Cross

Emergency App Offers Advice for a Variety of Situations

The American Red Cross Emergency App gives users instant access to safety and preparedness resources and alerts for 14 different types of emergencies in a free, easy to use mobile app.

The Red Cross app provides comprehensive information on what to do in case of hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, residential and forest fires among other emergencies. With the key word 'American Red Cross', users can download the emergency application for free at [RedCross.org/Apps](https://www.redcross.org/Apps) or in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

“This app gives families tips for being safe and connected in an emergency,” said Keith Rhodes, CEO, American Red Cross North Texas Region. “Because the app covers a variety of situations, the user will know what to do in the event of an emergency or disaster, regardless of where they are or type of emergency.”

The “We're Safe” or “Family Safe” feature allows the user to connect with their loved ones and instantly see if they're okay – even if that family member hasn't downloaded the emergency app on their device. If the family member or friend does not have the Red Cross emergency app, they will receive a text message asking if they are safe or not. The app also has a "I'm sure" button which allows the user to send a message to report that they are out of danger.

Here are some of the many features the app includes:

1. According to the user's preferences, the application offers more than 35 alerts based on geographic location (GPS) and pre-programmed locations – usually where family and friends live.

2. The user can activate or deactivate alerts according to their needs.

3. By means of a map, in the application, the user can locate Red Cross shelters and obtain weather reports specific to their area.

4. Users can easily change the preferences of the application and receive information in English or Spanish.

5. The Red Cross emergency app is also a source of information for incidents affecting large areas, such as landslides or snowstorms.

6. Its content puts the Red Cross expert guidance in your hands, anytime, anywhere – even without mobile connectivity.

7. The “Residential Fires” section offers tips on fire prevention, how to help protect yourself and your family in the event of an accident as such, the most common disaster risk in the United States.

8. With the touch of a button the user has access to the “make a plan” function, which allows him to elaborate, share and practice his disaster plan.

In addition to mobile phones and tablets, the “We're Safe” feature is also available on the Apple Watch.

Apps can help you prepare for disasters, it's important to remember that downloading our apps is not a substitute for training. For information on how to register and take a First Aid, CPR and AED class, visit [RedCross.org](https://www.redcross.org) and click “Take a Class”.

Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

players' well-being remains our top priority as we gear up for the season ahead.”

To make the playoffs this season, Slater said it will take a couple of things.

“Achieving a successful post-season and a strong playoff run in 2023 hinges on a few key factors,” Slater said. “Firstly, maintaining our players' health is paramount. We've learned from last years' experience, where we unfortunately lost four starters to season-ending injuries. Keeping our team in good physical condition and implementing injury prevention measures will be vital.

“Additionally, dominating in all three phases of the game is crucial. Our offense, defense, and special teams need to perform at their peak levels consistently. By excelling in every aspect, we can gain a competitive edge and secure the wins necessary for a successful playoff journey.”

Strong returners for the Bobcats this season include quarterback Collin Thompson - (1,828 yards, 16 touchdowns passing; 795 yards, 10 touchdowns rushing), as well as running back Brady Gordon, receivers Kade Cross, and Lucas Jackson, and offensive linemen Adrian Cardinas, Matthew Ary, Jeremiah Brookins, Caden Hall, and Shaw Stutzman.

Running Backs Chris Harris and Bryan Muzquiz are also returning from injuries.

Defensively, safety Jake Lindsey (72 tackles, 1 INT), along with safeties Eli Guzman and Santiago Merino, defensive linemen Roman Rabago and Christian Gleason, linebackers Jayce Donart and Kade Cross and cornerback Christian Dwight should lead the way.

Also coming back off a season-ending injury is defensive back Sawyer Clemons.

Slater said he anticipates Glen Rose and Godley to be the Bobcats toughest opponents this season.

Benbrook will open the regular season at 7 p.m. tomorrow night at Sanger.

From Benbrook Public Library

Library to Closed Through Sept. 4 for Renovations

The library will be closed through Monday, Sept. 4 to renovate the existing space.

We are working on a feasibility study for the new building that is projected to be about five to six years away, and with that longer time frame than expected, we need to change some areas so that it better reflects our patron usage and helps support our staff.

The main areas we are renovating are the MakerSpace, staff areas, and the teen room.

Even though we are closing for two weeks, we expect this renovation to take place over the entire month of September - so please be patient with us!

Dispelling Common Misconceptions About Hospice Care



Hospice is intended to provide comfort and support to patients at the end of their life so that they can experience their remaining time in the best ways possible. Experts say that unfortunately, misconceptions about hospice often lead people to make uninformed decisions at a critical, complex juncture in their lives.

“There is often an idea that hospice equates to giving up. But hospice is actually about taking control,” says Paul Mastrapa, president and chief executive officer of Interim HealthCare Inc. “It’s the job of the hospice team to understand what a patient’s goals for end-of-life care are, and help them live that last trajectory of their life the way they want to.”

To help patients, their caregivers and family members, and those in the healthcare industry better understand the services and benefits hospice provides, Interim HealthCare is dispelling some of the most common misconceptions:

Myth: Hospice means giving up.

Fact: The primary goal of hospice is delivering comfort, support and specialized medical care to those ready to forgo curative treatment. Research has shown that a person who spends time on hospice has a greater quality of life at the end of their life. And while the goal is not to prolong life, there are statistics that show that hospice gives patients more time compared to patients who had the same disease trajectory and didn’t receive hospice.

Myth: Hospice is only appropriate for the last few days of life.

Fact: Hospice can actually last for months, and entering hospice sooner rather than later translates to fewer hospitalizations, better symptom relief and greater comfort.

Myth: You must give up all your medications.

Fact: While the hospice care team will make recommendations about which medications are still beneficial to a patient at their stage of illness, patients and families get the final say.

Myth: Hospice is a place.

Fact: Hospice can entail in-patient care, but more typically, services are delivered wherever a patient calls home. The nurse, social worker, spiritual care provider, aide and other members of

the hospice care team meet the patient where they are, be that in a residential home, an assisted living community or in another institutional setting.

Myth: Hospice is only for patients with specific diseases.

Fact: Anyone with a life-limiting chronic disease, from congestive heart failure to pulmonary disease to Alzheimer’s, can choose hospice.

Myth: Hospice ends when the patient dies.

Fact: Hospice providers often offer support to those who have lost a loved one. In the case of Interim HealthCare, bereavement services are offered for 13 months.

Myth: Hospice work is draining.

Fact: When done right, hospice work can be extremely rewarding. Hospice care workers help patients and families find peace of mind, and reach a place of acceptance during a complicated and emotional time in their lives. Hospice workers believe in the mission of providing compassionate, patient-centric medical care and support to those at the end of their life, and they’re given a voice in the individualized care they provide.

The hospice market is the second-fastest growing healthcare segment nationwide, according to Bank of America research, which translates to a growing number of job opportunities. Hospice providers are currently recruiting candidates just starting out in their career and those looking to make a change. To learn more, visit [careers.interimhealthcare.com](https://www.interimhealthcare.com/careers).

For more information about hospice care services for yourself or a family member, visit <https://www.interimhealthcare.com/services/hospice/>.

“Although people don’t always feel comfortable talking about end-of-life care, having these conversations can ensure one’s final days are peaceful and fulfilling,” says Mastrapa.

From the Fort Worth Decorative Painters

FWDP Monthly Meeting to be held Sept. 17

The Fort Worth Decorative Painters will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, Sept. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center located at 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd in Fort Worth.

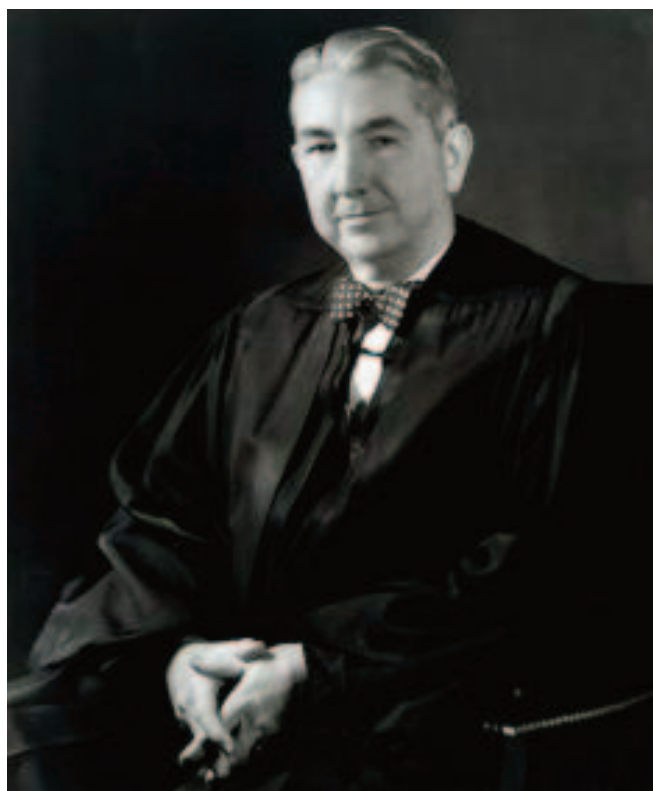
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59th United States Attorney General - Thomas Campbell Clark

by Dr. Ken Bridges



Thomas Campbell Clark played an important role in shaping many of the civil liberties Americans enjoy today during his career. As part of a long and distinguished legal career, Clark became the first – and to date, only – Texan to serve on the United States Supreme Court.

Clark was born in Dallas in 1899. As a young man, he received a degree from the University of Texas in 1921 and completed law school the next year. He quickly returned to Dallas, eager to begin his law career.

He worked for the next few years in private practice in Dallas. In 1924, he married Mary Ramsey, the daughter of a former state supreme court justice, and eventually had three children with her. With a growing family to support, Clark joined the district attorney's office in 1927. He left after a few years to return to private practice, but in 1937, he received a great opportunity when he became a special assistant to U. S. Attorney General Homer S. Cummings.

At the attorney general's office, his career advanced quickly. In 1938, he was assigned to the antitrust division, combating monopolies. After World War II began, Clark investigated cases of espionage and subversion against the United States. By 1943, he was serving as assistant attorney

general in the War Fraud division. Through this work, he several defense contractors indicted who sold shoddy equipment to the military or outright stole money from the government during the war.

Shortly after Harry S. Truman became president upon the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945, he appointed Clark as the new attorney general, having been impressed by Clark's work against contractor fraud.

When Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy died in 1949, President Truman appointed Clark to fill the position. As a member of the Supreme Court, Clark helped usher in drastic changes in civil rights laws across the nation. In 1950, in *Sweatt v. Painter*, he ruled with the court's majority that the University of Texas must admit African-American applicants. With *Terry v. Adams* in 1953, he helped strike down the "white primary," which allowed state political parties to exclude minorities from their primary elections. In 1954, he was part of the High Court's unanimous ruling in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case that ruled racial segregation in all schools to be unconstitutional.

Clark was also part of the majority decision in *Gideon v. Wainwright* in 1963, which declared that states had to provide attorneys for anyone accused of a crime. This decision led to hundreds of wrongfully convicted inmates being freed. He was also part of the unanimous *New York Times v. Sullivan* decision in 1964 to protect newspapers and free speech by redefining libel as a statement that is both knowingly false and meant to defame another person's reputation.

Tom Clark retired from the Supreme Court in 1967 and was replaced by Thurgood Marshall. Shortly after his retirement, his son, Ramsey Clark, was appointed attorney general by President Lyndon Johnson.

He remained very active in his retirement. He became director of the Federal Judicial Center, a program designed to help courts with research and training for judges,

shortly after its founding. He stepped down from the center in 1970 and continued to serve as a visiting judge for the US Court of Appeals, acting as a temporary judge for special cases. He died quietly in New York City in 1977. Years later, Clark High School in San Antonio, was named for him as well as the Tom C. Clark State Office Building in Austin.



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NCTCOG Hosting Four High-Speed Transportation Open House Opportunities Beginning Aug. 29

Plans to link Fort Worth, Arlington and Dallas with high-speed rail are moving ahead, and the North Central Texas Council of Governments wants to hear what potential users of the system think. The formal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process of the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study will kick off in September, and NCTCOG is hosting four open house events to allow the public a chance to learn more about the project.

The first open house is scheduled for 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29 at NCTCOG’s Arlington offices. Subsequent open houses will be hosted at 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 31 at the Fort Worth Central Station Community Room; 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6 at the Tony Shotwell Life Center in Grand Prairie; and 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7 at the West Dallas Multipurpose Center.

The open houses will encourage an open dialogue, similar to meetings held during the first phase of the study in 2021. A short video will discuss the project and presentation boards throughout each venue will explain different high-speed technologies and illustrate the recommended route.

During Phase 1 of the project, planners evaluated high-speed transportation alternatives, including alignments and various high-speed technologies, that could enhance travel between Dallas, Arlington and Fort Worth. Now, the proposed high-speed transportation project between Dallas and Fort Worth is in Phase 2, focusing on a single corridor and identified station locations, with the goal of evaluating potential social and environmental impacts along the corridor.

Planners and engineers have identified the preferred route to be generally located along Interstate Highway 30 between downtown Dallas and downtown Fort Worth, with a stop in the Arlington Entertainment District. Currently, they are advancing preliminary engineering design of this alignment to support the social and environmental analysis of high-speed rail.

The high-speed rail line being studied in North Texas would provide connections with local transportation systems and link directly to future high-speed services such as the planned Dallas-to-Houston high-speed rail line.

The 12-county metropolitan area currently has a population of 8 million and is expected to add an additional 3 million-plus people by 2045. The projected 2045 population of over 11 million would be approximately 50% larger than in 2018. Implementation of high-speed rail technology will help alleviate the increase in highway congestion that is expected to occur because of the population growth.

High-Speed Transportation Open Houses

Date/ Time	Location
Aug. 29, 5-7:30 p.m.	North Central Texas Council of Governments 616 Six Flags Drive Arlington, TX 76011
Aug. 31, 4-7 p.m.	Fort Worth Central Station Community Room 1001 Jones St. Fort Worth, TX 76102
Sept. 6, 5-7:30 p.m.	Tony Shotwell Life Center 2750 Graham St. Grand Prairie, TX 75050
Sept. 7, 4-7 p.m.	West Dallas Multipurpose Center 2828 Fish Trap Road Dallas, TX 75212

About the North Central Texas Council of Governments:

NCTCOG is a voluntary association of local governments established in 1966 to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for sound regional development. NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication and make joint decisions.

NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered in the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. Currently, NCTCOG has 238 member governments including 16 counties, 169 cities, 19 school districts and 27 special districts. For more information on the NCTCOG Transportation Department, visit www.nctcog.org/trans.

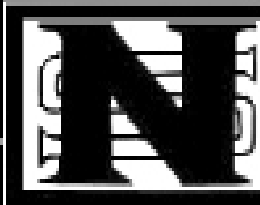
About the Regional Transportation Council:

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) of the North Central Texas Council of Governments has served as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for regional transportation planning in the Dallas-Fort Worth area since 1974. The MPO works in cooperation with the region’s transportation providers to address the complex transportation needs of the rapidly growing metropolitan area. The Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant and Wise counties. The RTC’s 44 members include local elected or appointed officials from the metropolitan area and representatives from each of the area’s transportation providers. More information can be found at www.nctcog.org.

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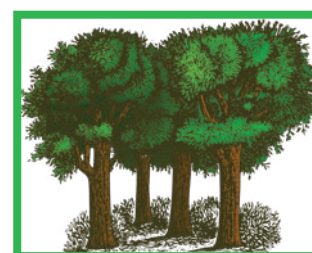
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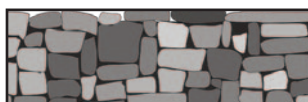
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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, Aug. 25:

AM - Sunny and hot, with a high near 107. W/SW wind 5-10mph becoming E/NE in the afternoon.
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 83. East wind 5-15mph becoming S/SW after midnight.
Winds could gust as high as 20mph.



Saturday, Aug. 26:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Sunny and hot, with a high near 107.
S/SW wind 5-10mph becoming E/SE in the afternoon.
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 81. S/SE wind around 10mph.



Sunday, Aug. 27:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Sunny and hot, with a high near 105.
W/SW wind 5-10mph becoming east in the afternoon.
PM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 79.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)