

Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt

Memorial Day Ceremony at Benbrook Cemetery

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States to honor and mourn the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. From 1868-1970, this day was observed on May 30. Today it is recognized on the last Monday of May.

Individuals visit cemeteries and memorials on Memorial Day and place American flags on graves of military personnel. Memorial Day is also considered the unofficial beginning of summer in the U.S.

The first national observance occurred on May 30, 1868, then known as Decoration Day, and was proclaimed by Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic to honor Union soldiers who died in the Civil War. This observance was preceded by several local ones between the end of the Civil War and Logan's declaration.

The National Cemetery Administration, a division of Veterans Affairs, acknowledges Mary Ann Williams with originating the idea of adorning the graves of Civil War

soldiers, Union and Confederate, with flowers. In 1971, Congress regulated the holiday, Memorial Day, which we recognize today.

The American Legion Post 297 and VFW Post 10429 from Benbrook hosted the event jointly. Neighbors, friends, family, Veterans, motorcycle riders and community dignitaries participated at the annual function. Following the ceremony, American

Legion Post 297 prepared an amazing breakfast. (photos continued on page 4)



Tristan Anderson was the Bugler who performed TAPS.



Color Guard members are: (l-r) **Kelian Rogstad, Bill Kuehner, John Rogstad and Alexander Rogstad.**



Chaplains **Peter Kau**, American Legion Post 297; **Ken Wallace**, VFW Post 10429; **Ron Hand**, American Legion Post 297 and **Robert Johnson**, VFW Post 10429 (pictured l-r) attended the event.



Scout Troop 519 (l-r) **Kevin Case, Bart Shafer, Tommy Denton, Mack Shafer, Bobby Pierce, Cash Tiwater, Micah Warfel, Aiden Case and David Tiwater** participated in the event.

From the Sports Desk with John English

Student Athlete Spotlight: Cougar K'Heaven Johnson

As the Western Hills football team clinched another playoff berth this past season, K'Heaven Johnson held things down on the line, both lines.

The junior defensive end and offensive tackle played Ironman for the Cougars last season and coach Blake Moilan said he performed admirably.

"K'heaven had a great junior season," Moilan said. "He was asked to play both sides of the ball and multiple positions."

Moilan said that Johnson accepted his role willingly and did a lot to help Western Hills win ball games.

"K'Heaven is a leader," Moilan said. "He is vocal and leads by example. He brings versatility in that he can play multiple positions for us."

Johnson, 16, said 2023 was a good season overall, but added there is room for improvement next year.

"I was happy with the way it unfolded, but there's a few things to work on," Johnson said. "My goals coming into this past season were to play my role for my team and help win games. And the way I accomplished these goals was by making big plays in big games when needed."

An all-district selection in 2022, Johnson is also into gaming, collecting sneakers and fashion, and said the things he enjoys most about football have to do with building camaraderie.

"The fondest moments this season were dancing and singing with my teammates before and after practice and before the games," Johnson said. "And the reason I say this is because they were bonding moments, which brought me and my teammates closer together."

Moilan said his expectations for 2023 are for Johnson to continue to improve.

"We want K'Heaven to take the next step in development," Moilan said. "He needs to learn how good he is and how good he can be. We are excited to see him progress."

The Western Hills coach said Johnson has made the most of his off-season.

"Our goals for the off-season were toughness, speed, and hip flexibility. K'heaven had a



great off-season. He accomplished all three of our goals and will go into the summer ready to have a great senior season," Moilan said.

Johnson's Favorites

Favorite athlete: TJ Watt

Favorite sports team: Pittsburgh Steelers

Favorite food: Steak

Favorite movie: "Karate Kid"

Favorite tv show: All American

Last book I read was:

"How to Become a Millionaire"

by Paul Allyn

Favorite musical performer: Lil Baby

In other news, the Lady Cougar Flag Football Team came from behind after being down 7-0 at halftime to beat the Paschal Panthers and secure a second place finish in this year's FWISD flag football league. "On the first play of the second half, Anjell Smith took one to the house on a 65-yard run," Moilan said. "Smith also caught the extra point to tie us up 7-7."

Smith had two big interceptions on the night, then caught a 15-yard touchdown pass to give the Cougars the lead.

"The girls played a great defensive game by not allowing Paschal to advance the ball the majority of the game," Moilan said.



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Around the Town (continued from page 1)



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Molly Brennan sets a flag on a veterans tombstone along with Brenda Maynard, Bill Johnson and Avery Gray.

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From the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Emphasizes Water Safety this Summer



Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool. Statistics show that 90 percent of those who drown at United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) lakes and rivers may have survived if they had worn a life jacket. Although boating incidents have been the leading cause of fatalities at Corps lakes in the past, in recent years Fort Worth District has seen more swimming and wading accidents. These incidents are often due to sudden drop-off and swimmers misjudging the water while swimming and boating.

If you see someone in trouble in the water, remember, “Reach or throw, don’t go.” Reach for the person with a pole, a long stick, a boat paddle, even a towel, to reduce the chance the panicked victim will drag you under.

If you can’t find something to reach someone in trouble, or if the person is too far to reach, throw something that floats, like a life jacket, life board or lifebuoy. Even a small, closed water cooler can assist in keeping someone afloat long enough to get more help for a rescue.

“Obviously no one plans to drown when they head out for a fun day at the lake, so it’s important to expect the unexpected,” said Col. Jonathan Stover, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District. “An essential item of your packing list should include a life jacket for anyone who will be in or near the water. And an essential action is to ensure that you and your loved ones wear life jackets properly by fastening the straps and zippers.”

While having a blast this holiday and summer, here are some water safety tips to help ensure you return home safely to those you love.

1. Wear a life jacket.

- Statistics show that 90 percent of those who drown at USACE lakes and rivers may have survived if they had worn a life jacket.
- Drowning is the nation’s second leading cause of accidental death.

- Accidents happen, even to responsible boaters. A life jacket can provide time for rescue.

2. Know your swimming ability.

- Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool because a swimmer can tire more quickly and get into trouble.

- Conditions can change quickly in open water.

- Swim in designated areas and wear a life jacket. A life jacket will help conserve energy and provide flotation.

3. Be a “Water Watcher.”

- When on or near the water watch your children.

- A child can drown in 20 seconds

- Drowning happens quickly and quietly. A drowning victim’s head will be back, they will be gasping for air, they will not be yelling, and their arms will be slapping the water as though trying to climb out of the water.

4. Avoid exhaust fumes around boats.

- Carbon monoxide, an invisible killer, can accumulate anywhere in or around boats regardless of what type of boat. Install and maintain carbon monoxide detectors on and inside your boat. Maintain a fresh circulation of air through and around your boat at all times.

- Early symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include eye irritation, headache, nausea, weakness and dizziness. Know the signs and stay alive.

- Avoid areas around boats where exhaust fumes may be present. Do not let friends swim under or around the boarding platform where fumes can accumulate.

Questions regarding Fort Worth District’s ongoing Water Safety awareness campaign can be directed to USACE Public Affairs Specialist Bobby Petty at 817-886-1314 or Bobby.N.Petty@usace.army.mil.

From the City of Benbrook

Summer Reading at Benbrook Public Library

Registration for the Benbrook Public Library’s 2023 Summer Reading Club will begin Saturday, June 3.

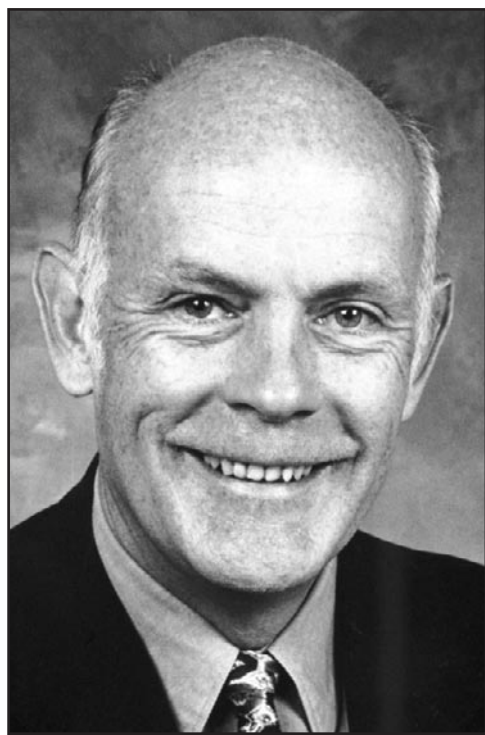
The library offers reading programs for all ages, and there are multiple options for the whole family to participate in the Summer Reading Club. Participants may play online or in person at the Library for a chance to win prizes. Players will also have opportunities to win gift cards from local businesses and library services as they play.

The Benbrook Public Library offers a multitude of summer programs that are sure to encourage family fun activities to keep you occupied through the heat of summer.

Visit benbrooklibrary.org for more information.

Texas Chemist and Nobel Prize Winner - Dr. Richard Smalley

by Dr. Ken Bridges



Sometimes it is the smallest thing that makes the biggest difference. And in science, the discovery of a whole new type of molecule may make the difference for the future of medicine and engineering. All this thanks to **Dr. Richard Smalley**, Texas chemist and Nobel Prize winner.

Richard Errett Smalley was born in June 1943 in Akron, Ohio. He was the youngest of four, and when he was still very young, the family moved to Kansas City, Missouri. Smalley later described it as a happy childhood with a stable and loving family.

His father worked in the newspaper industry and eventually became the editor of a farming magazine.

Both his parents had a powerful impact on him. When he was a teenager, his mother went back to school and earned a bachelors degree. Smalley was fascinated by all the tales of great scientific figures his mother was excited to tell him. He credited his father with his drive and ambition and also his early interest in woodwork. As a youngster, he and his father built and designed various gadgets. In high school, Smalley took four years of drafting classes where he learned about the importance of design and structure. By the time he was 17, Smalley became so fascinated by different aspects of science that he built a small library in the family's attic where he read science books for hours on end.

His aunt, Dr. Sara Jane Rhoads, a respected chemist herself, encouraged him to study chemistry and gave him his first scientific job after high school – working in her organic chemistry lab at the University of Wyoming in 1961. Smalley then attended Hope College in Michigan for two years before transferring to the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor to complete his bachelors degree.

After his graduation, he went to work for Shell Chemical Co. in the quality control lab. He enrolled in the doctoral program at Princeton University in 1969, graduating in 1973. After he earned his doctorate, he began working with a team of scientists on the use of lasers for spectroscopy, understanding what light patterns certain substances emitted and absorbed in order to learn more about their properties. In 1976, he became a professor of chemistry at Rice University, making his move to Texas.

By the late 1970s, Smalley and a team of researchers at Rice began using these techniques to study carbon in new ways. Many scientists theorized that new configurations of carbon-containing molecules could pave the way to new energy sources or a variety of synthetic materials with all sorts of possible uses. Smalley's work helped show that carbon atoms could organize in ways never before

seen. By 1985, Smalley, along with Robert Curl, James Heath, Harold Kroto, and James O'Brien discovered that carbon atoms could arrange themselves into a ball made of carbon. These 60-atom carbon molecules resembled soccer balls and were eventually dubbed "Buckminsterfullerenes," after architect Buckminster Fuller and his famous geodesic domes.

The discovery of fullerenes was followed by the discovery of carbon nanotubes, molecule-size tubes with walls made entirely of a thin layer of carbon atoms. The scientific world was excited about the possibilities. One of the most intriguing possible uses was identified in medicine. Their structure would help aid imaging processes in MRI scans and X-rays. Additionally, portions of medicines and even genes could be "stored" inside them, making it easier to transport medicines or genes for gene therapy and research much easier and much more efficient.

Several researchers have theorized that one day nanotechnology could even be used to treat diseases such as cancer. With the ability to work on the molecular level, repairing damaged genes as seen with cancer and other maladies could become much easier in these instances.

Engineers also realized that the discovery of fullerenes and nanotubes had created a whole new field – nanotechnology. By being able to repair cells and genes on the molecular level, Smalley and his team had created molecule-sized machines with endless possibilities. What once had been mere science fiction had become an exciting new reality.

Smalley was widely honored in the scientific community, and he pushed for funding for continued research and development of nanotechnology. In 1990, he co-founded the Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology at Rice, which was later renamed for him. In 1996, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry, the highest honor in science, along with Curl and Kroto for their work discovering fullerenes.

In 1999, Smalley received the devastating news that he had cancer. He fought the disease for years with the best doctors available, but the cancer gradually overtook his body. In the meantime, he fought for continued development of nanotechnology and encouraging your students to pursue careers in science and engineering. He once told a crowd, "Be a scientist and save the world."

As part of this effort, he spoke out for the National Nanotechnology Initiative in 2003 and to expand nanotechnology research. He died at the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston in October 2005 at the age of 62.

It was a life cut short, but it was one that had left an incredible impact. Congress honored him after his passing by naming him the Father of Nanotechnology.

Already, his discoveries are having an immense impact in research. And the foundation he laid with his work could one day herald a revolution in science and medicine scarcely imaginable today.

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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, June 2:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny; high near 89.
S/SE wind 5-10mph.
PM - A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy; low around 68.
E/SE wind around 10mph.



Saturday, June 3:

AM - A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny; high near 86. E/SE wind 5-10mph.
PM - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy; low around 67.
NE wind 5-10mph.



Sunday, June 4:

AM - A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny; high near 85. NE wind 5-10mph.
PM - A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy; low around 67.
Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)