



# River Oaks News

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*From Carter BloodCare*

## Blood Drive at Benbrook Library July 15

Area residents are invited to support neighbors in need by donating blood at the Carter BloodCare drive hosted by Friends of the Benbrook Library on Friday, July 15 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Those interested may visit the [sign up link](#) to choose a time slot.

The Benbrook Library is located at 1065 Mercedes St. in Benbrook.

*City of River Oaks 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is now available to read online.*  
[CLICK HERE](#)

*From Grace Baptist Church*

## Grace Baptist Church Back to School Bash Registration Deadline July 16

Students who are eligible for free and/or reduced meals can get free school supplies, hair cuts, food and community and health resources at the Grace Baptist Church Back to School Bash to be held on July 30. Families must [register online](#) by July 16.

For more information, email [info@gbcfortworth.com](mailto:info@gbcfortworth.com) or call 817-246-6646.

Grace Baptist Church is located at 1501 Jim Wright Freeway in Fort Worth.

*From the City of River Oaks*

## City Appoints Police Chief & Deputy Police Chief



With Police Chief Chris Spieldenner's retirement on June 30, the City Manager recently swore in the City's new Police Chief, **Charles Stewart** (left).

**Eric Perkins** (right) was also sworn in as the Deputy Chief of Police.

Chief Stewart has 25 years of police experience with the River Oaks Police Department, while Deputy Chief Eric Perkins has 17 years in the River Oaks Police Department.

Together, they bring a wealth of police experience to our City. Please help us welcome both Chief Stewart and Deputy Chief of Police Eric Perkins as our newest command in the RO Police Department.

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# Tips for Feeding Ducks

Before you head off to your local pond, here are a few things to keep in mind:

**DON'T:** Feed ducks bread or junk food. Foods like bread and crackers have no nutritional value to ducks and can cause malnutrition and painful deformities if consumed too much.

**DO:** Feed ducks cracked corn, oats, birdseed, frozen peas, chopped lettuce, or sliced grapes. These foods are similar to natural foods ducks will forage for on their own.

**DON'T:** Leave uneaten food lying around. Leftover food in the water can rot and cause deadly algae blooms that affect local wildlife.

**DO:** Clean up after yourself. Make sure to dispose of all trash, including plastic wrappers, twist ties, and uneaten food.

**DON'T:** Try to pet wild ducks. They may not appreciate your efforts!

**DO:** Keep a respectful distance and remain nonthreatening, especially to ducklings who may become stressed or injured more easily.

# From the City of River Oaks River Oaks City Council Meetings

The City Council of River Oaks meets on the second and fourth Tuesday night of each month. Agendas for the meetings are available as soon as they are posted on the [City's website](#), 72 hours prior to each meeting. Minutes of each meeting will also be available once they are completed and posted.



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## Legal Notice

The White Settlement Independent School District (WSISD) is accepting Request for Qualification (RFQ) for a Construction Auditor. The RFQ document RFQ 2022-02 can be obtained on the WSISD website, [www.wsisd.com](http://www.wsisd.com) or by going to the homepage and selecting Business Services/Purchasing/Bid Information/Current Offline Bid Opportunities. Please contact Janette Owens at [janowens@wsisd.net](mailto:janowens@wsisd.net) or 817-367-5310 for inquiries. The deadline for inquiries is July 21, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Responses are due by Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.. Responses must be sent to: White Settlement ISD attn: Nancy Rodriguez, 401 S Cherry Lane, White Settlement, Texas 76108. Faxed or emailed responses to the RFQ are not accepted. White Settlement ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

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# From the City of White Settlement Summer Movies at the White Settlement Public Library

Escape the heat with a free family-friendly movie at the Library each Monday at 1 p.m. June 27 through Aug. 1.

The movies will be shown on the large projector screen in the Storytime Room.

The Library is located at 8215 White Settlement Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76108.

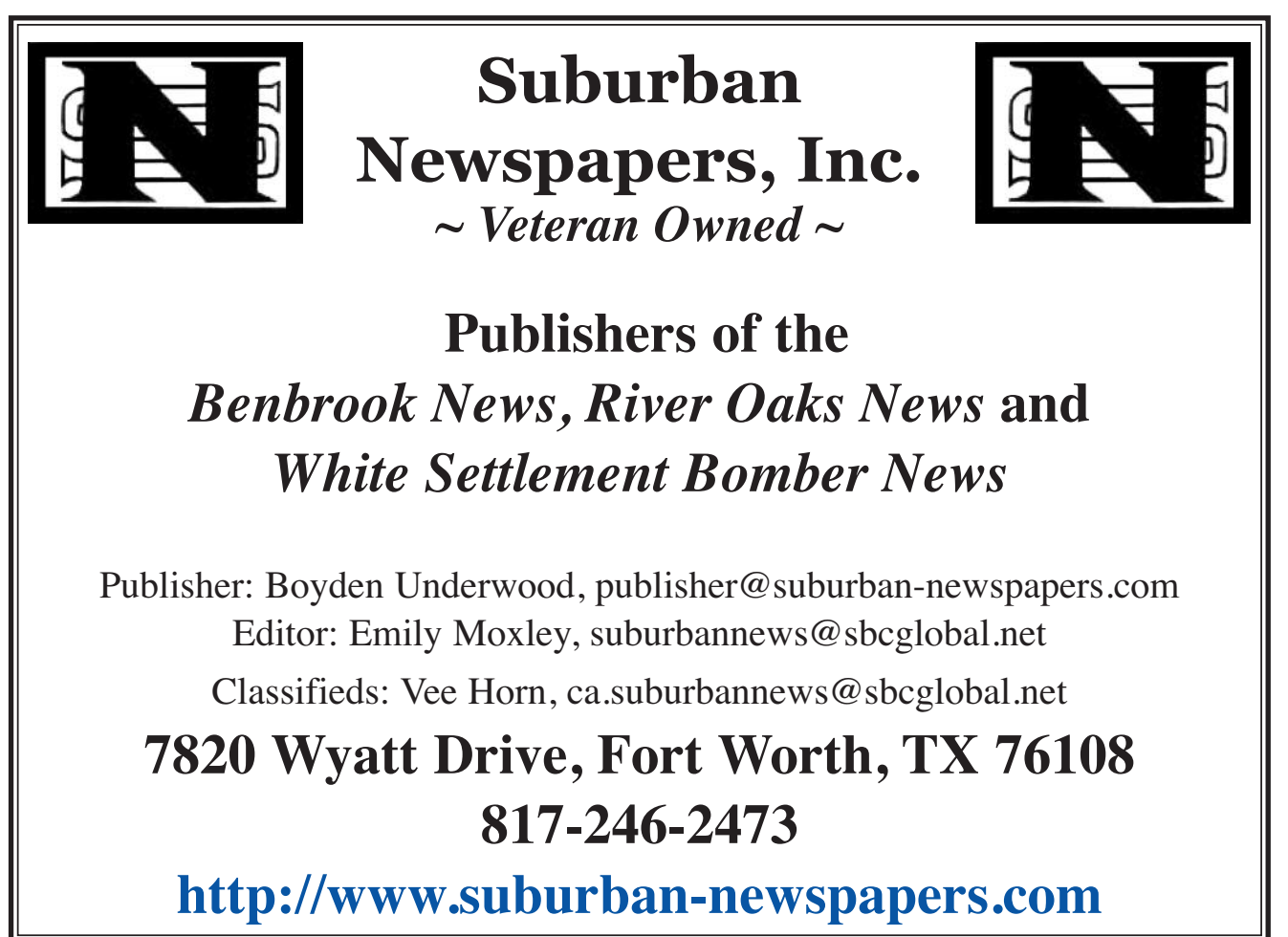
### Showing Schedule

July 11: *Nim's Island*

July 18: *Luca*

July 25: *Muppet Treasure Island*

Aug. 1: *Atlantis: The Lost Empire*



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Publisher: Boyden Underwood, [publisher@suburban-newspapers.com](mailto:publisher@suburban-newspapers.com)  
Editor: Emily Moxley, [suburbannews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suburbannews@sbcglobal.net)  
Classifieds: Vee Horn, [ca.suburbannews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ca.suburbannews@sbcglobal.net)

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From StatePoint

# Affording a Down Payment May Be Easier Than You Think

If you're ready to buy your first home but are short on the down payment, you're not alone. Affording a down payment is the number one barrier to homeownership, and rising housing costs are presenting even bigger hurdles.

The August 2021 Freddie Mac Housing Price Index showed a 19.67% year-over-year increase in home values. At the same time, more than 35% of non-homeowners say they do not have enough money to put toward a down payment, according to NerdWallet. Among millennials, the figures are even more disheartening, with 63% having set aside no money for a down payment.

But there's good news. Down payment assistance programs, an often-overlooked resource, could be the missing piece of the financial puzzle to make your dream of homeownership a reality, and there are more than 2,500 such programs nationwide. According to Freddie Mac, here's how to take advantage of down payment assistance:

- Understand the different types of help. Down payment assistance can take many forms, including grants from federal agencies, employers, community organizations, state and local housing finance agencies, and state and local governments. There are also a number of down payment assistance loans available with attractive terms. For example, deferred payment second loans. These are secondary loans for which payments are not due until you sell, refinance or pay off the first mortgage loan. And for those looking to live in a rural area, USDA rural home loans are a favorable option, because they have no

down payment requirement.

Tax credits are another form of assistance. Certain states and local governments, including housing finance agencies, issue mortgage credit certificates that reduce the amount of federal income tax you pay. This makes more money available up-front for your down payment or closing costs.

- Determine your eligibility. Although eligibility requirements vary depending on the program, most down payment assistance programs have income eligibility requirements based on you as an individual borrower or your household. In addition, you usually must use the funds for your primary residence and be a first-time homebuyer.

- Get started. Identify available programs by checking out trusted resources, including HUD's directory of state programs and Down Payment Resource. Your housing counselor or lender can also help you determine which programs you're eligible for and work with the program's administrator to help you secure financial assistance.

- Get help. The homebuying journey is complex, so don't be afraid to seek expert help. Freddie Mac Borrower Help Centers and HUD-certified housing counselors can help you navigate the homebuying journey, make informed decisions along the way and ensure you're financially prepared for long-term, successful homeownership. In addition to being trained to provide budget and credit advice, housing counselors can also provide guidance on the different types of mortgage assistance programs that may be right for you. To learn more, visit [myhome.freddie.com](http://myhome.freddie.com).

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From Tarrant County

# Registration Deadline July 15 for Tarrant County Back to School Roundup

Pre-registration is going on now through Friday, July 15 for Tarrant County's Back to School Round Up.

Families must pre-register for the event on Friday, Aug. 5. To qualify and register for free school supplies, families must **register online**, show proof they live in Tarrant County and meet the 2022 Federal Poverty Guidelines. Listed below are ways to show proof of qualification.

Families will receive an email confirmation that they will present the day of the event to gain admission into the event.

The person who pre-registers is not required to attend Roundup. In fact, the email confirmation can be sent with any person to pick up the school supplies.

## Here's what you will need to register:

Families must show three documents along with their completed registration form to qualify for school supplies. A picture ID, proof of Tarrant County residency and proof they meet the 2022 Federal Poverty Guidelines.

## Examples of what can be used for Picture ID:

You may use any one of the following:

- Texas state driver's license
- Texas state identification card
- Military identification card
- Foreign consulate-issued identification (i.e. Matricula Consular)
- School, Employer work identification card
- Church ID card

## Examples of what can be used for Proof of Tarrant County Residency

You may use any one of the following:

- May, June, or July 2022 utility bill (electricity, water, phone or gas) showing applicant name and current address.
- Mail sent to applicant showing applicant name and current address, with a postmark from either May, June, July 2022
- Letter from landlord or apartment management company, on company letterhead, indicating proof of residency during May, June, or July 2022

## Examples of what can be used for Proof of Income

Families applying for free school supplies must meet 2022 Federal Income HHS Poverty Guidelines. You may present any of the following:

- Paycheck stubs from May, June, or July 2022
- Letter dated in May, June, or July 2022 on agency or company letterhead from an employer, welfare office, caseworker, or Social Security Administration Office indicating annual income

and signed by an agent of the company or agency. Letter must include contact phone number for verification

- Letter or card showing participation or enrollment in Medicaid, SNAP, unemployment, disability or school free lunch program

From the City of River Oaks

## Burn Ban In Effect For 90 Days

The severe drought conditions facing Tarrant County prompted the Commissioners Court to unanimously approve a burn ban.

The outdoor burning ban comes as Texas continues to experience hot and dry conditions and the county is in severe drought conditions. County Judge Glen Whitley does have the authority to issue a disaster declaration to prohibit the sale or use of fireworks in unincorporated areas. This ban only applies to unincorporated areas of a county, since cities have their own ordinances prohibiting burning.

From Castleberry ISD

## Register for the Upcoming 2022-2023 School Year

Online registration for the 2022-2023 school year at Castleberry ISD is open. To register a current student, log into **Skyward Family Access** and complete the 2022-2023 online registration process.

Be prepared to provide updated proof of residency, such as current water, gas or electric bill, or rental agreement, dated within the last three months, and a driver's license, state ID or consular ID.

- A.V. Cato Elementary - 4501 Barbara Road; 817-252-2400
- Castleberry Elementary - 1100 Roberts Cut Off Road; 817-252-2300
- Joy James Academy of Leadership - 5300 Buchanan Road; 817-252-2500
- Irma Marsh Middle School - 415 Hagg Drive; 817-252-2200
- Castleberry High School - 315 Churchill Road; 817-252-2100
- District Administration - 5228 Ohio Garden Road; 817-252-2000

For additional information regarding enrollment at Castleberry ISD, visit the **district's website** or contact your child's campus.

# Western Swing Bandleader, Bob Wills *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

**Bob Wills** was one of the earliest stars of country music in Texas just as radio became popular. Wills was one of the pioneers of western swing and inspired generations of country music artists.



James Robert Wills was born in the small community of Kosse, about 45 miles southeast of Waco, in 1905.

He was born into a family of cotton farmers and musicians. His father, John Tompkins Wills, was a popular local fiddle player and reportedly won several competitions.

In 1913, the family moved to the small community of Turkey in the panhandle, eventually buying a farm in the area. In spite of the musical education he received playing with his siblings, he grew bored as a teenager and left home at the age of 16, spending several years traveling by freight train. He returned home after a few years, but the music was waiting, and Wills began playing with a renewed energy.

He moved to Fort Worth in 1929 where he began playing music and performing in travelling vaudeville acts. As he traveled, he learned more about other musical styles and steadily incorporated their influences into his music, including influences from Bessie Smith, an early African-American blues legend as well as early country artists Jimmie Davis and Jimmie Rodgers.

Wills formed the Wills Fiddle Band in 1930, which became a hit on radio. With a new sponsorship, it was renamed the Light Crust Doughboys. Wills left the band in 1933 and formed the Texas Playboys the next year. By this time, Wills was among a group developing the “western swing” sound.

In 1940, he released perhaps his most popular song, “New San Antonio Rose.”

He started appearing in western movies, ultimately appearing in twenty altogether, in the 1940s. In 1942, at the age of 37, he enlisted in the army. However, he was quickly discharged. Nevertheless, he wrote and performed several popular patriotic songs to support the troops during World War II.

He developed problems in the 1940s because of his increased drinking, but he continued to tour. In 1968, he was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. His health continued to decline. In 1973, he had just started an album with country artist Merle Haggard when he suffered a massive stroke. Wills never recov-

ered and spent the next two years in a coma before his death on May 13, 1975.

Bob Wills influenced a very diverse group of musicians, including such legendary acts as blues artist Fats Domino, rock stars Jimi Hendrix and The Rolling Stones, and country artists such as Waylon Jennings as well as Haggard.

Wills’s 1936 hit “Right or Wrong” was re-recorded by George Strait in 1984. “Sugar Moon,” a number one single from 1947 was later recorded by Willie Nelson and K. D. Lang in the 1980s. In 1950, Wills released “Faded Love,” a song that he had written with his father and brother. The popular tune was later sung by Conway Twitty, Elvis Presley, and eventually, Willie Nelson. A multitude of artists perform other songs of his still to this day.

After Wills’s death, tributes poured in from around the country. He and the Texas Playboys were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1999 for their contributions to the beginnings of rock and roll. In 2011, the Texas House of Representatives passed a resolution honoring him by declaring western swing to be the official music of Texas.

Waylon Jennings perhaps spoke for millions of Wills’s fans when he sang in his 1975 tribute, “I don’t care who’s in Austin, Bob Wills is still the king.”

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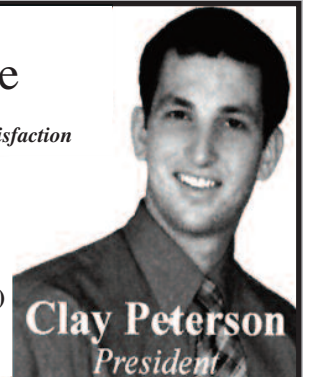
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## Three Day Weekend Forecast



### Friday, July 8:

**AM** - Sunny and hot; high near 105. S/SW wind 5-10mph, with gusts as high as 20mph.  
**PM** - Mostly clear; low around 82. S/SE wind 5-10mph.



### Saturday, July 9:

**AM** - Sunny and hot; high near 106. SW wind 5-10mph.  
**PM** - Mostly clear; low around 82.



### Sunday, July 10:

**AM** - Sunny and hot; high near 106.  
**PM** - Mostly clear; low around 82.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)