

83rd Year No. 49 • 7820 Wyatt Drive, White Settlement, Texas 76108 • www.suburban-newspapers.com • December 7, 2023

### From the City of River Oaks **Mobile App and Municipal Online Payments**

The processing fees for the mobile app and the. municipal online **Months** payments website have been removed.

Residents are invited to create an account to pay your water utility bill. Registrants will need an account number (include the dashes).

Should you notice any issues, please contact the water department at 817-626-5421 so that the City may pass the information to Tyler Technologies to get any problems fixed.

Access the River Oaks Online Payments website to get started. Look up the mobile app under MYCIVIC UTILITIES.



## From the City River Oaks Recalculating Sewer Charges During Lower Water Demand Months

Each year the City of River Oaks averages the water consumption of the December, January, and February billing periods to recalculate sewer charges.

These months are used because typically residents do not have a high outdoor water demand and are considered to be the lowest overall water use.



From the City River Oaks

# **River Oaks Food Bank Tips**

The River Oaks Food Bank donation days are held on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the River Oaks Event Center, located at 5300 Blackstone Drive in River Oaks.

Attendees are encouraged to begin lining up by 9 a.m. to get a place in line.

The supply truck often arrives early, meaning the food is given to line members earlier than the posted time.

Attendees are requested to stay in their vehicle, as the food bank is drive through.

For more information, call 817-732-5885.

# **SUBSCRIBE!**

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# From the White Settlement Public Library From the White Settlement Public Library **Teen Game Night: Christmas Movie** Trivia Dec. 11

Join us for Teen Game Night on Monday, Dec. 11 at 4:30 p.m. at the White Settlement Public Library, located at 8215 White Settlement Rd. in White Settlement.

This month we'll be playing Christmas Movie Trivia and yes, there will be prizes for the winners as well as yummy Christmas treats for all!

This is a free event for teens in the seventh through 12th grades. No registration is required.

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# TinkerLab at the Library Dec. 14

At TinkerLab, kids of all ages will enjoy a variety of STEAM-based activities individually or in small groups (STEAM = Science | Technology | Engineering | Arts | Math).

Currently, TinkerLab is held on the second Thursday of each month from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The next event will be held on Thursday, Dec. 14 at the White Settlement line at https://wsisdebid.ionwave.net/Login.aspx. Public Library, located at 8215 White Settlement Rd. in White Settlement. This is a come-and-go event, you will not miss out if you need to arrive late!

Children under 11 must be accompanied by an adult.



Legal Notice Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt

Beverage Retailer's On-Premise Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate by Louisiana Seafood and Fish Mkt, LLC dba Louisiana Seafood and Fish Mkt, to be located at 1505 E Berry St, Fort Worth, Tarrant County, TX 76119. Officer of said LLC is Keith Armand - Manager

### Legal Notice

The White Settlement Independent School District (WSISD) is accepting proposals for a Refrigerated Box Truck. The Request for Proposal -RFP #2324-07 can be accessed and submitted on-A paper copy of the bid can be obtained on the WSISD website, www.wsisd.com, by visiting the Purchasing link found on the Business Services Department page. If assistance is needed, please contact Nancy Escobar at nancy.escobar@wsisd.net. The deadline for questions is Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 2:00 pm and proposals are due by Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 2:00 pm. It is preferred that proposals be submitted online at https://wsisdebid.ionwave.net/Login.aspx. If preferred, hard copy proposals should be sent to White Settlement ISD, Attn: Nancy Escobar, 8224 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, TX 76108. Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

White Settlement ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.





## **Publishers of the** Benbrook News, River Oaks News and White Settlement Bomber News

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http://www.suburban-newspapers.com

### Suburban Newspapers, Inc. From Suburban Newspapers Staff Writers Winter Safety Tips for Pets

Exposure to winter weather can be dangerous to all pets. Winter walks can become life threatening if chemicals from ice-melting agents are licked off bare paws.

All pet owners should monitor weather forecasts and keep their ban, and Dawn dish soap. pets inside a warm, dry, safe place when the temperature gets below 40 degrees. Longer-haired and thick-coated dog breeds are more located at 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, TX, 76114. tolerant of cold weather, but no pet should be left outside for long periods in temperatures that get close to freezing.

Follow these safety tips to prevent cold weather dangers from affecting your pet's health:

• Provide your pet with shelter from the wind and precipitation. The floor of the shelter should be off the ground to minimize heat loss. Do not use blankets or towels for bedding; they can get wet easily and attract insects. Straw or hay make good insulators.

• Make sure pets have unlimited access to fresh, non- frozen water.

thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle.

• Make sure to have enough food, water, and any prescription traffic closure between North and South Holiday Parks. medicine on hand for at least five days.

From the Benbrook Public Library Yoga at the Library Dec. 11

Yoga classes at the Benbrook Public Library located at 1065 Mercedes St. in Benbrook, are taught by a professional and are for yogis of all skill levels. The 45-minute classes are free and are a great way to improve oneself both physically and mentally.

Those who have their own yoga mats are encouraged to bring munity groups. them, but the library does have some mats available for those who may need them.

Yoga classes are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. There are occasional exceptions, and they will be noted on the library calendar.



## From the Friends of the River Oaks Animal Shelter **River Oaks Animal Shelter in Need of Supplies**

The animal shelter is in need of blankets, sheets, bleach, Odo-

Donations can be dropped off at the River Oaks Police Dispatch

## From U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S.A.C.E. Fort Worth District to Host Conference at **Benbrook** Lake

The United States Army Corps of Engineers' Fort Worth District • Coolant and antifreeze are lethal poisons for pets. Be sure to will host a press conference at Benbrook Lake, on Saturday, Dec. 9, to release details of the planned suspension of planned through

> The press conference will begin at 10 a.m., at North Holiday Park, 400 Lakeview Dr, Benbrook, TX 76126.

> The Fort Worth District Operations and Lake staff will also be on hand to discuss the status of the long-term project to widen the road through the parks with protected lanes for cyclists and pedestrians.

> Among the Corps' partners participating in the press conference include former Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, representatives from Streams and Valleys, and leadership from local bike and com-

> Visit the Worth District Web Fort site at. www.swf.usace.army.mil and SWF Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/usacefortworth/

### From the Benbrook Public Library Holly Jolly Holiday Dec. 9

The Benbrook Public Library will host its 9th Annual Holly Jolly Holiday celebration Saturday, Dec. 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This holiday celebration is free for the entire family. It features a harpist, a reindeer photo opportunity, the Uptown Carolers performing holiday songs, balloon making, a special appearance by Mrs. Claus, and a holiday elf show.

Arts and crafts, laser engraved ornaments, hot chocolate, and other refreshments will be available throughout the day.

All ages are invited to attend and celebrate the holiday season.

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### Suburban Newspapers, Inc. Texas History Minute by Dr. Ken Bridges **American Radiochemist, James Andrew Harris**



drives great minds to answer the great ques- tween types of radiation from the decay of beyond laboratory experiments. tions about the world. The competitive at- particles and whose work is considered by mosphere demands that scientists look at scientists to be the beginning of nuclear co-discovery and toured the country giving problems from multiple viewpoints and de- physics. vise increasingly creative ways of uncoverand experimentation has created the scien- or zirconium. The element was difficult to element.

in 1932. His parents divorced when he was tirely. Other known isotopes of Rutherscientist alone. They eventually moved to than a second to 15 minutes. These short Oakland, California, where he attended high half-lives make it very difficult to study. school in the late 1940s.

and graduated with a bachelors degree in to just eight protons for oxygen or two proafter graduation. Harris served for two and the atoms decayed quickly into other his honorable discharge in 1955.

the army in spite of his credentials. Even- time. tually, he landed a job at Tracerlab, a Cali-

In 1960, he accepted a position as a nuclear discovery of nuclear fission. chemist at the Lawrence Radiation Labo-Berkeley.

Lawrence Radiation Lab that included noted wever, other scientists pointed out that the scientist Dr. Albert Ghiorso, when they dis- Russian team had admitted altering their covered an entirely new element, one never data. Years of debates followed the competfound in nature. This element, Element 104, ing claims. The American team was ultiwas eventually named Rutherfordium in mately able to name Rutherfordium while 1997, after New Zealand native and physi- Russian scientists were allowed to give the cist Ernest Rutherford. Rutherford won the name Dubnium to Element 105, after Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908 for his Dubna, the city that housed the research lab. work in discovering the radioactive half-In science, the passion for discovery lives of elements and differentiating be- no practical use for them has been devised

ing knowledge. This process of research with chemical properties similar to titanium doctorate for his work in 1973. tific and technological marvels of the mod- isolate. The atom itself is large and un- ments are known to exist, either in nature or ern world. Though Texas has been home to stable. Its most stable form is Ruther- in the lab. Along with Dr. Gregory Chopin, many great minds, one stands out in the field fordium-267, consisting of 104 protons and co-discoverer of the radioactive element of chemistry, James Harris (left). Harris 163 neutrons. Because it is so unstable, it is Mendelevium, Harris is one of only two was a key member of a research team that radioactive and has a radioactive half-life of Texans be credited with co-discovery of an discovered two new elements, making him around 10 minutes. That is, in 1.3 hours, element. And he is to this day the only Afone of only two Texans to help discover an half of the atoms in a sample will spray off rican-American to be responsible for the disso many subatomic particles that it will covery of any new element due to his work James Andrew Harris was born in Waco transform itself into a different element en- with the Berkeley research team. young, leaving his mother to raise the future fordium have half-lives ranging from less 2000 at the age of 68.

In 1970, Harris, Ghiorso, and their team After graduation in 1949, Harris returned made another breakthrough with the producto Texas. He enrolled at Huston-Tillotson tion of yet another new element. Element College in Austin. He excelled at his studies 105, consisting of 105 protons (as opposed chemistry in 1953. He enlisted in the army tons for helium) was itself very unstable, years, rising to the rank of sergeant before elements. Little is known about its nature except that it is a metal. The two elements Harris found it difficult to find work after were the largest atoms discovered up to that

The American researchers initially

fornia company that specialized in making wanted to list Element 105 as Hahnium after radiation-detecting equipment. Along the German scientist Otto Hahn, who won the way, Harris married and raised five children. Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1944 for his

A team of Russian scientists at the Joint ratory at the University of California at Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna, Russia, claimed that they had discovered In 1969, Harris was part of a team at the both of the elements first in the 1960s. Ho-

At this point, the elements are so rare that

Harris was praised by colleagues for his periodic lectures on his work. Huston-Til-Rutherfordium is an extremely rare metal lotson College awarded Harris an honorary

Harris retired in 1988. Today, 118 ele-

Harris died at his home in California in



### Suburban Newspapers, Inc. From StatePoint Tips to Lower Your Energy Costs This Winter



The U.S. Department of Energy reports that low-income households face an energy burden – the portion of income spent on home energy costs – three times higher than other households, leading to tough budgeting decisions for many Americans.

Energy efficiency is an important way to tackle home energy costs and can also support sustainability. Knowing that these issues are important to their customers and communities, Wells Fargo contributed more than \$19 million last year to nonprofits that aim to advance sustainability, including a \$500,000 grant to the Beneficial Electrification League.

Whether your motivations are economic, sustainability-related or both, Keith Dennis, president of the Beneficial Electrification League, offers these smart tips to help you curb your energy consumption this winter:

**1. Give energy-efficient holiday gifts**. Leverage holiday spending on items that can help you save down the line by giving energy-efficient gifts to members of your household this holiday season. Look for gas alternative products like electric lawn tools, bikes and scooters, smart devices and appliances.

Energy-efficient electric products offer good results, are often more cost efficient and support sustainability. Certain retrofits, up-

dates and upgrades may even qualify your household for additional savings via a rebate, thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

**2. Request an energy audit of your home**. With a home energy audit, you can obtain your Energy Star rating, important information regarding your energy usage, and identify sources of energy loss, which you can then take actions to correct. Resources for obtaining a professional energy audit or conducting one yourself can be found at energy.gov.

**3. Beat the peak.** Ask your utility provider about discounted rates. Some offer cheaper rates during parts of the day when general usage is down — think early in the day or late at night. Strategically tackle your energy bills by doing laundry and other energy-intensive chores at off-peak times.

4. Take advantage of tax credits. Making energy improvements to your home? The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 expanded the tax credit amounts and types of qualifying expenses available. Look for tax credits on items like new energy-efficient exterior doors, windows, central air conditioners, water heaters, furnaces, boilers and heat pumps.

**5.** Utilize electric technology. Consider installing a smart thermostat, smart switches, or smart home devices for energy-intensive household items like, lights and heating systems. Smart technology is designed to automatically adjust to your needs, helping you save energy and money.

During a long cold winter, energy-efficient technologies and updates can help you weather the season, for a cozier home and a lower-carbon future.





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# **Three Day Weekend Forecast**





<u>AM</u> - Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Breezy, with a south wind 20 to 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**<u>PM</u>** - Mostly clear, with a low around 53. Breezy, with a south wind 20 to 25 mph becoming west southwest after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.



### Saturday, Dec. 9:

<u>AM</u> - A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 61. West wind around 20 mph becoming north northwest in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.
<u>PM</u> - Mostly clear, with a low around 37. Northwest wind 15-20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.



### Sunday, Dec. 10:

<u>AM</u> - Sunny, with a high near 56. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south southwest in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. <u>PM</u> - Clear, with a low around 36.

# **Extended Forecast Click Here**