



Serving the Cities of River Oaks and Westworth Village

River Oaks News

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Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt

Teacher's Day Recognized in River Oaks



Pictured at the City of River Oaks Oct. 5 City Council meeting are: (l-r) Castleberry ISD Superintendent Renee Smith-Faulkner, A.V. Cato Elementary's Dr. Jana Underwood, Councilman Steve Holland; A.V. Cato Elementary's Cecelia Sanders, Joy James Academy's Megan Munoz, Joy James Academy's Cameron Spivey, Castleberry High School's Rachel Aguillon, Mayor Darren Houk; Irma Marsh Middle School's Nicholas Janke, Councilwoman Yollie Rodriguez; Castleberry Elementary's Cynthia Crews, Councilman Johnny Claridge and Councilwoman Leigh Ann Turner.

Teachers from the Castleberry School District were recently recognized at a City Council meeting in River Oaks. A Proclamation stated that the City of River Oaks future strength depends on providing a high-quality education to all students and, teacher quality matters more to student achievement than any other school-related factor and, teachers spend countless hours preparing lesson plans and supporting students and, River Oaks teachers have demonstrated great resilience, adaptability and creativity during the COVID-19 crisis and, the community recognize and support its

teachers in educating the children of this community and, #TeachersCan is a state-wide movement supported by more than 150 partnering businesses and organizations committed to elevating the teaching profession and honoring the critical role teachers play in the success of Texas.

Mayor Darren Houk presented a plaque honoring the educators that were present at the event and requested the community to express appreciation by displaying a light blue ribbon outside of homes and businesses the week of Oct. 5, which is Teacher's Day.

From the Sports Desk with John Loven

CHS Lions Fall to WHHS Cougars on Homecoming

The Castleberry Lions 2023 Homecoming football game was played on Friday, Oct. 13 at W.O. Barnes stadium. The Lions were coming off their first district win last week against Diamond-Hill (52-19). The Lions' opponents, the Western Hills Cougars, were also coming off a district victory last week (18-16 over Eastern Hills).

The game began like it was going to be a high-scoring shootout as both teams scored touchdowns on their first two possessions to start the game. But the offenses slowed down after the first quarter.

The Lions, who were down at halftime, took the lead back to start the fourth quarter. But a critical Western Hills first down conversion on a fourth-and-28 led to a touchdown late in the last quarter. The play stunned the crowd and the score gave the Cougars a 27-23 win.

The Lions took the opening kickoff and marched 83 yards in 13 plays for a touchdown. Key play in the drive was a fake punt on fourth-and-9 from the CHS 47-yard line. The ball was snapped to the upback, junior Cayden Perez (#6), who ran around the right side for 21 yards and a first down. Perez (#6) scored later on a 3-yard run. Junior Chris Montoya (#23) point-after-touchdown was good (continued on page 2)

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Obituary



Michael Joe Williams

Mike went to be with the Lord on Sept. 16.

A memorial service will be held at Broadway Baptist Church on Oct. 21 at 11 a.m., followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Memorials may be given to Broadway's Sack Lunch Ministry, Broadway's Chapel Choir, or the Pythian Home in Weatherford.

Michael Joe Williams was born Oct. 15, 1945, in Eastland, Texas. At age 4 he was sent to the Pythian Home in Weatherford with his five siblings, where he lived until age 20. Mike graduated from Weatherford High School, attended Weatherford College, and graduated from the University of North Texas with degrees in Physical Education and Industrial Arts, and later an M.Ed. of Industrial Arts.

He married Julia (Judy) Lumpkin in 1970 and began his 35-year teaching career at Castleberry High School.

Known at CHS as *Coach Big'un*, Mike coached football and golf for eight years and sponsored the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for over 20 years. He also drove a regular bus route, the cheerleaders, band and others for over 40 years. He taught Drafting, Architecture, Wood Shop, and other Industrial Arts classes. He was named the Texas State Industrial Arts Teacher of the Year in 1999.

Mike and Judy were members of Broadway Baptist Church, where he was recently named Deacon Emeritas. They were active supporters of Broadway's Baptist Center, organizing the assembly of thousands of sack lunches for Fort Worth's homeless. They also worked and traveled with Broadway's Chapel Choir for many years, and Mike served as the construction foreman on the choir's mission trips.

He was preceded in death by "Mom and Pop" Horstmann (Pythian Home superintendents), brothers Charles, Dickie, and Roger and sister Juanita Clary.

Mike is survived by: his wife, Julia (Judy) Williams; sister, Alyce Korn; son, Daryn Williams and wife, Tiff; son, Ryan Williams and husband, Julien Martineau; and grandchildren, Belle and Davis Williams (who Mike adored).

Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

and CHS took a 7-0 lead (5:39/first quarter).

The Cougars struck back in just three plays. They scored on a 44-yard touchdown run. The point-after-touchdown tied the score 7-7 with 4:40 left in the first quarter. The Lions followed with another long drive. This one covered 64 yards in eight plays. Key play was a pass from junior quarterback Demetrius Valadez (#7) to freshman receiver Brian Cenicerros (#16). Cenicerros made a great catch for a 30-yard gain. Perez (#6) got his second touchdown of the night on a 2-yard run. Cenicerros (#16) got the 2-point conversion to put CHS back on top 15-7 (2:25/first quarter).

The Cougars again responded with a three-play drive. On third-and-5 the Cougar quarterback fumbled the shotgun snap, but managed to pick it up and then run 65 yards for a touchdown. The point-after-touchdown was good but still left CHS in the lead 15-14 (58.4/first quarter).

Castleberry, on the following possession, turned the ball over on downs. Western Hills took over on the Lions 40-yard line. But the Lion defense came up with a goal

line stand. On fourth-and-goal from the 2-yard line, the Lions stuffed the Cougars short of the goal line to get the ball back for the offense. After gaining a couple of first downs, CHS was then forced to punt. The Cougars took over near midfield. CHS then recovered a fumble by a Western Hills receiver. But after much discussion by the officials the fumble was overturned and ruled an incomplete pass! Three plays later the Cougars scored a touchdown. The 2-point conversion failed but Western Hills now led 20-15 with 1:54 left until halftime.

Western Hills took the second half opening kickoff and drove 32 yards. But on fourth-and-1 from the Lions 38-yard line, the CHS defense held and forced the Cougars to turn the ball over on downs. The Lions then went on a very impressive drive. They marched 62 yards in 14 plays. The final play came on a 2-yard touchdown run by sophomore Isaiah Ford (#25). Senior Carlos Salazar (#8) got the 2-point conversion. With 11:55 left in the fourth quarter the Lions took the lead 23-20.

The Cougars (continued on page 3)



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Sports Desk (continued from page 2)

drove the ball 44 yards on the following possession, down to the CHS 17-yard line. But the Lions ended the drive with back-to-back QB sacks by senior Riley Bentley (#11). CHS took over but failed to move the ball at all and was forced to punt. The 30-yard punt left the Cougars starting their next drive from their own 42-yard line.

A 43-yard run got the ball down to the Lions 19-yard line. Consecutive losses of a combined nine yards was then followed by a 9-yard sack of the Cougar quarterback by Ismael Cecenas (#45). This left Western Hills facing a fourth-and-28 with less than 3 minutes left in the game, trailing 23-20. But then came the play of the game, which crushed the Lions and their fans. The Cougar quarterback took the snap and threw a backward pass (lateral) wide right to one of his receivers. That receiver then stepped back and threw a forward pass downfield to another receiver who had gotten behind the Lion secondary. The result was a 34-yard gain and a first down on the Lions 3-yard line. They scored on the next play. The point-after-touchdown was good and with just 2:13 left to play the Cougars regained the lead 27-23. The Lions could not convert a fourth-and-8 from their own 41-yard line on their last possession. The Cougars ran out the clock to end the game.

Castleberry (2-5/1-3) will try to rebound next week from this tough loss. They will play the Dunbar Wildcats (5-2/4-0) at Clark Stadium on Friday, Oct. 20. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Go Lions!

From StatePoint

What to Do if Your Mortgage Application is Denied

If you dream of homeownership, having your mortgage application denied can be devastating. If this does happen to you, it's important to remember that you're not alone. Thirteen percent of all purchase mortgage applications -- a total of nearly 650,000 -- were denied in 2020, according to federal government data.

Before quickly reapplying for a loan, it's important to first understand the reasons your loan was denied. The lender is required to disclose that information to you within 30 days of its decision. You can also call your lender for further explanation. Having this knowledge will help you work toward building your eligibility for a mortgage.

In some instances, the situation involves a quick fix, such as providing missing or incomplete documentation. However, if the reasons cited for your application denial involve down payment cost, a low credit score, an adverse credit history or a high debt-to-income ratio, here are six steps you can take toward recovery:

1. Consult a Housing Counselor. Consider speaking to a community-based credit counselor or a HUD-certified housing counselor. They can help you create a plan to increase your savings, decrease your debt, improve your credit, access down payment assistance or take advantage of first-time homebuyer programs.

2. Improve Your Credit. In a recent Freddie Mac survey of consumers denied a mortgage application in the past four years, three in five cited debt or credit issues as reasons given for their initial denial. If this describes you, take time to improve your credit profile before applying for another loan. Good credit demonstrates responsible money management and gives you more purchasing power, opening doors to better loan terms and products.

3. Pay Down Debt. In the application process, lenders will look at your recurring monthly debts, such as car payments, student loans and credit card loans. By lowering or paying down monthly debts, you can build a positive credit history and lower your debt-to-income ratio. Not sure where to start? Tackle your debt with the highest interest rate first.

4. Obtain Gift Funds. If you're short on money for your down payment, you may be able to use gift funds from a family member to decrease the amount you need to borrow.

5. Find a Co-Signer. A co-signer applies for the loan with you, agreeing to take responsibility for the loan should you default. The co-signer's credit, income and debts will be evaluated to make sure they can assume payments if necessary. In addition to ensuring your co-signer has good credit, you should make sure they are aware of this responsibility and have sufficient income to cover the payment.

6. Look for a Lower-Cost Home. Remember, you should only borrow an amount you feel comfortable repaying. You may need to look for a lower-cost home than you're financially prepared to purchase and maintain.

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Thousands Of Additional Donations Needed To Replenish Red Cross Blood Supply

Since announcing a national blood and platelet shortage a month ago, thousands of donors across the country have rolled up a sleeve to help rebuild the American Red Cross blood and platelet supply.

As that generosity continues, the Red Cross is working around-the-clock to ensure patients have access to lifesaving transfusions and must collect 10,000 additional blood and platelet donations – over and above expectations – each week over the next month to sufficiently meet hospital needs.

Donors of all blood types are urged to book a time to give now, especially those with type O blood or those giving platelets.

Don't wait – patients are counting on critical care.

To make an appointment, use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

To encourage more blood and platelet donations, the Red Cross is offering new incentives to donors over the next month. All who come to give Oct. 21 through Nov. 9 will receive a \$10 gift card by email to a restaurant merchant of their choice to enjoy lunch on the Red Cross.

They'll also be automatically entered to win a \$5,000 gift card. There will be three lucky winners – one chosen at random each week. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Lunch.

As cold and flu season quickly approaches, the Red Cross is reminding donors that they can still give blood or platelets after receiving a flu vaccine, so long as they are feeling healthy and well on the day of their donation.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Oct. 21 through Nov. 9:

Arlington

- Saturday, Oct. 21: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1500 California Ln.

- Wednesday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Central YMCA, 2200 S. Davis Dr.

Bedford

- Friday, Nov. 10: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., Bedford Center YMCA, 2801 Forest Ridge Dr.

Burleson

- Monday, Oct. 23: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Burleson Chapel, 390 John Jones Dr.

Dallas

- Monday, Oct. 23: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., White Rock Family YMCA, 7112 Gaston Ave.

- Wednesday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Plaza of the Americas, 600 North Pearl, 12th Floor

- Friday, Oct. 27: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Moorland Family YMCA at Oak Cliff-Multipurpose Room, 6701 S Hampton Rd.

- Monday, Oct. 30: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Red Cross Dallas Chapter, 2055 Kendall Dr.

- Monday, Nov. 6: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., American Red Cross Dallas Chapter, 2055 Kendall Dr.

Denton

- Friday, Oct. 27: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Medical City Denton-Professional Building, 3537 South Interstate 35 E

Fort Worth

- Saturday, Oct. 21: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Fort Worth, 500 W. Bonds Ranch Road

- Wednesday, Oct. 25: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Hulen Mall, 4800 South Hulen Street

- Friday, Oct. 27: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., American Red Cross FTW Office, 6000 Western Pl. #6000, Ste. 100

- Friday, Nov. 10: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., American Red Cross FTW Office, 6000 Western Pl. #6000, Ste. 100
- 11/10/2023: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Texas Christian University, 2901 Stadium Drive

Plano

- Saturday, Oct. 21: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Haggard Plano Library, 2501 Coit Rd.

- Monday, Oct. 23: 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Whiskey Cake Kitchen & Bar, 3601 Dallas Parkway

- Monday, Nov. 6: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Chase Oaks Church: Legacy Campus, 201 Legacy Dr.

The Colony

- Monday, Oct. 30: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Nebraska Furniture Mart, 5600 Nebraska Furniture Mart Dr.

Waxahachie

- Thursday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Baylor Medical Center of Waxahachie, 2400 N. I-35 E

Weatherford

- Monday, Oct. 30: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Weatherford College Texas Hall, 225 College Park Dr.

- Thursday, Nov. 9: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 2251 Bethel Rd.

How to donate blood:

A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

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The Brothers Lubbock - Politicians and Civil War Figures

by Dr. Ken Bridges



Francis Lubbock



Thomas Lubbock

Two orphaned brothers headed west in search of adventure and a new life. The story is common in the annals of the frontier. In the case of brothers Francis and Thomas Lubbock of South Carolina, their story would play an important role in Texas history.

Francis Richard Lubbock was born in Beaufort, South Carolina, in 1815 to Dr. Henry and Ann Lubbock. While still an infant, the family moved to Charleston, where younger brother Thomas was born in 1817. Tragedy struck the family in 1829 when their father died. With the family struggling, the 14-year-old Francis quit school to work as a clerk.

In 1835, after the death of their mother, the two brothers moved to New Orleans, where the elder Lubbock worked with a variety of businesses and the 17-year-old Thomas worked as a cotton agent. The revolution erupting in Texas captivated their attention.

Thomas Lubbock and a group of other New Orleans residents organized a unit, the New Orleans Grays, and marched into Texas to support independence. He participated in the Siege of Bexar in late 1835, temporarily wresting San Antonio from Mexican control. After the Texas Revolution, he worked as a businessman and a Texas Ranger.

In 1836, Francis Lubbock followed his brother to Texas and settled in what became Houston and set up a store. He became heavily involved in politics and was appointed as comptroller by Texas President Sam Houston in 1837.

In 1857, he was elected lieutenant governor of the state but lost re-election in 1859 to Ed Clark, a Unionist. Nevertheless, Lubbock was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1860. He and other southern delegates clashed with northern delegates over the conciliatory platform they pushed to preserve the Union. The Democratic Party fractured, and a convention of southern Democrats, chaired by Lubbock, pushed their own candidate, Vice-President John Breckinridge over the national Democratic candidate,

Stephen A. Douglas.

In the meantime, Thomas Lubbock was an ardent secessionist and campaigned for years for secession. Once Texas seceded in 1861, he went to Virginia to enlist in the Confederate Army, fighting in the Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War. He saw many battles and died at a Kentucky hospital in 1862 as a colonel at age 44.

Ed Clark became governor in 1861 after then-Gov. Sam Houston was forced from office. That fall, Lubbock challenged his old foe Clark in the gubernatorial election. Lubbock won by a scant 124-vote margin.

As governor, the Civil War was the focus of Francis Lubbock's administration. He was an outspoken defender of the Confederacy and the draft. He even pushed for drafting non-citizens into the army as well. He attempted to increase trade with Mexico, even offering to trade United States bonds held by Texas and cotton for weapons. Lubbock attempted to spur defense manufacturing in Texas, to little effect. The chaotic whirlwind of Civil War politics consumed his administration, and he declined to run for re-election in 1863.

Lubbock enlisted in the Confederate Army at the age of 46 and was made a lieutenant colonel. He helped organize supplies and troops for the defense of Louisiana during the 1864 Red River campaign and served on the staff of several generals. In August 1864, Lubbock was appointed as a military aide to Confederate President Jefferson Davis. He went to Virginia to update Davis on activities west of the Mississippi River. This voyage was made even more difficult with the Union naval blockade of the South and that Union forces now controlled the Mississippi River, cutting the Confederacy in half. Lubbock spent the next several months in Richmond, watching the Confederacy disintegrate as Union forces encircled the city and laid siege to it.

The Union Army broke through Confederate lines in April 1865, and the Confederate government fled, Lubbock included. Davis, Lubbock, and a number of others headed south in a mad flight to avoid capture and to try to keep their government alive. Several days later, Lubbock was captured in Georgia. He was held at an army prison in Delaware where he awaited his fate. After eight months, he was released as part of an amnesty program and returned to Texas.

In 1876, the Texas legislature organized Lubbock County in West Texas in honor of Thomas Lubbock. Its namesake city was organized a few years later and a century later would grow to a city of more than a quarter of a million residents.

The surviving Lubbock brother, Francis, continued to piece his life back together after the Civil War and Reconstruction and eventually re-entered politics. He served as state treasurer from 1878 to 1891.

Francis died quietly at his home in Austin in 1905 at age 89.

TDLR Seeks Volunteers to Serve on 17 Advisory Boards and Committees

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation seeks volunteers to serve on 17 advisory boards and committees to provide technical knowledge and industry expertise to the agency, which regulates 38 occupations in Texas. The agency also seeks public members who have no attachment to the industry being regulated

“TDLR needs Texans who care about their communities to participate on our advisory boards and committees,” said TDLR Executive Director Mike Arismendez Jr. “Thanks to a change in state law, we’re able to hold most of our advisory board meetings online, so members no longer have to travel to Austin to meet. We hope that more people will want to get involved.”

Many of the vacancies that TDLR seeks to fill are for public members who will represent Texas consumers and do not have a connection to the industry of their appointed board. . Most terms on the boards and committees last for six years, although some terms may be shorter because a seat has been vacated by a member who was unable to complete their term.

Advisory board members are appointed by the chairman of the Texas Commission on Licensing and Regulation. There is no financial compensation for membership.

The following boards and councils currently have vacancies:

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors Advisory Board, 6-year terms

- Official of Municipality with Population Not more than 250,000
- Official of Municipality with Population Greater than 250,000

Architectural Barriers Advisory Committee, 3-year term

- Consumer with Disabilities
- Behavior Analyst Advisory Board, 6-year term

- Licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst
- Board of Boiler Rules, 6-year term
- Public Member

Code Enforcement Officers Advisory Committee, 6-year term

- Structural Engineer/Architect
- Combative Sports Advisory Board, 6-year term

- Physician

Electrical Safety and Licensing Advisory Board, 6-year term

- Master Electrician with a statewide association

Elevator Advisory Board, 3-year term

- Public Member/Disabled

Hearing Instrument Fitters and Dispensers Advisory Board, 6-year term:

- Doctor of Otolaryngology
- Midwives Advisory Board, 6-year term
- Midwife

Orthotists and Prosthetists Advisory Board, 6-Year term:

- Public Member who uses Orthosis
- Registered Sanitarian Advisory Committee, 6-year term

- Consumer/Public Member
- Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Advisory Board, 6-Year terms:

- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Audiologist

Texas Water Well Drillers Advisory Council, 6-year term:

- Public Member
- Towing and Storage Advisory Board, 6-year term:

- Peace Officer/Population More Than One Million Residents
- Used Automotive Parts Recycling Advisory Board, 6-Year terms:

- Domestic Auto Parts Business
- Foreign Auto Parts Business

[See this page](#) for details on specific membership requirements and how to apply.

About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public. Currently, the agency regulates 38 business and occupational licensing programs with almost 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

Visit TDLR’s website for more information and resources. You can search the TDLR licensee database, and also find past violations in which a final order was issued against companies or individuals. TDLR’s Customer Serv-

ice line is available anytime between 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

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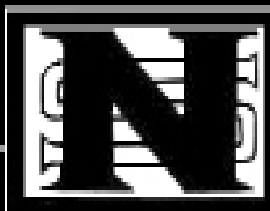
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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, Oct. 20:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 90. W/NW wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north in the afternoon.
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 60. NE wind around 5 mph becoming south after midnight.



Saturday, Oct. 21:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 90. S/SW wind 5 to 10 mph.
PM - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. SE wind around 10 mph.



Sunday, Oct. 22:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 91. S/SE wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
PM - NightPartly cloudy, with a low around 66.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)