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# River Oaks News

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From Castleberry ISD

## Bond Construction: Early Package Update

### Castleberry High School

Following the passage of a \$98M bond in May 2024, construction on additions and renovations to Castleberry High School have begun. The project entails a three-story 108,500 square-foot addition, along with a 47,750 square-foot renovation to the existing Castleberry High School campus.

This facility will accommodate up to 1,200 students and will include 222 ad-

ditional parking spaces with open plaza spaces and amphitheater-style outdoor seating. A new administrative wing, eight new science classrooms, a CTE shop and classrooms, a new storm shelter practice gym, as well as renovations to the band, theater, classroom, and media center spaces. The project will also feature a new connector linking the existing and new buildings together. (continued on page 2)



From the Sports Desk with John Loven

## Castleberry Lions Struggle to Stop Alvarado Indians

The Castleberry High School football team played their last home game of the regular season on Friday, Nov. 1. It was Senior Night, honoring all senior cheerleaders, band members, trainers and football players. The game pitted our Lions (4-4/1-2 in district) against the undefeated Indians from Alvarado (8-0/3-0 in district). Alvarado's offensive statistics through the first eight games was almost of epic proportions, averaging almost 60 points per game. Castleberry's offense, which was averaging a very respectable 35 points per game, paled in comparison. On this night however, it was all Alvarado as they showed why they were ranked as high as third in 4A in the state of Texas.

A contest that began with a very promising drive by the Lions soon turned into a lopsided game. The Indians scored easily each

time they had the ball, and gained yards in chunks. By the end of the night, they only ran 24 offensive plays (continued on page 4)





From the Tarrant County Veterans Council

# Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11

The Tarrant County Veterans Day Parade steps off in just a few days. The Tarrant County Veterans Council (TCVC) is finalizing details with the host City of Fort Worth.

“Saluting Cowtown” is the theme of this year’s celebration to be held on Monday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. This year marks 175 years since the first military post was established in North Central Texas. On Nov. 14, 1849, the U.S. War Dept. officially granted the name “Fort Worth” to the post near the confluence of the Clear and West forks of the Trinity.

Parade participants will form up in the Fort Worth Panther Island Pavilion parking lot. They will march south on Forest Park Blvd. from Percy Street to the end of the center grass median and back.

Parking in the Pavilion parking lot for vehicles not in the parade is extremely limited. Spectators can park off the pavement in Forrest Park, but must get there before 10 a.m. when the street closes.

There’s ample parking in Trinity Park on the Northwest side of the river near the Phyllis Tilley Memorial Bridge (pedestrian bridge). Cross over to Rotary Plaza on North Forest Park Blvd. The Plaza is on Trinity Trail along the river, a great viewing location for the entire parade.

Limited parking is also available on 11th Ave., a block east of the parade route.

The [parade website](#) contains extensive information about the celebration, as well as route maps and events schedule.

# Bond Update (continued from page 1)

Castleberry High School is situated on a 26-acre site. The site presents a substantial grade change of over 22 feet between the new and existing buildings, creating design challenges in connecting the facilities.

The resulting configuration involves a buried storm shelter gymnasium, an elevated science wing, and a skybridge that wraps around the storm shelter. This design allows for consistent circulation between the new and existing gymnasiums while providing a more desirable elevation facing White Settlement Road, and offering views of the Trinity River and downtown Fort Worth.

**Project Scope:** Size - 108,500sqft. Addition and 47,750sqft. Renovation; Budget - \$98,000,000; Completion Date - Fall 2026

Early Package Project Cost Estimate	Early Package Project Paid to Date
\$1,478,359.00	\$692,743.00



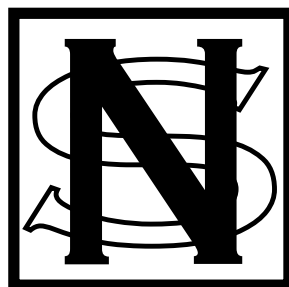
**Elevator Removal and Temporary Lift  
Near Library Stairwell**



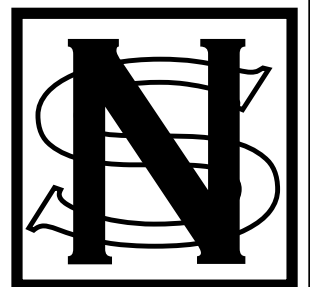
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## **Sports Desk** (continued from page 1)

and nine of those scored touchdowns. The Lions fell 62-7.

The Lions won the opening toss and elected to receive. The Indians kickoff was returned 34 yards by senior Daniel Ortiz to near midfield. Castleberry opened up with a completely new offensive strategy against Alvarado. They used some of their offensive lineman and tight ends to line up in the backfield for additional blocking. This is sometimes commonly used near the goal line when only a yard or two is needed for a score. But this was now their basic formation for the night. They also chose to use as much of the game clock as possible.

On each play, the majority of the offensive did not “break” the huddle until there was only 10 seconds left on the play clock. They then quickly ran up to the line of scrimmage and snapped the ball. The strategy was very effective early in the game. It caught Alvarado by surprise and they could not stop CHS from gaining yards on the ground.

The Lions ran off 14 plays on their opening drive. All the plays were runs by senior Cayden Perez. But on fourth down and two from the Indians 9-yard line, Alvarado stopped him for no gain. The Indians now took over on downs and needed just one play to score. On first down their running back took a handoff running wide right and turned the corner and sprinted 91 yards for a touchdown. The point-after-touchdown was missed, but the Indians led 6-0 in a blink of the eye with 3:46 left in the first quarter.

Alvarado’s ensuing onside kick attempt failed and gave CHS great field position on the Indians 49-yard line. On fourth-and-4 from the 43-yard line, Lions senior quarterback Demetrius Valadez found Ortiz for an 18-yard pass completion for a first down. But the Lions quickly found themselves facing another fourth down, a fourth-and-10 from the Indians 25-yard line. But this time Valadez was sacked. This resulted with the Lions turning the ball over on downs for the second consecutive time.

After 22 offensive plays, which gained 71 yards, the Lions had no points to show for it. Alvarado took over and scored in four plays. The touchdown came on a 17-yard run with 10:09 left in the second quarter. The point-after-touchdown was good and the AHS lead grew to 13-0.

On the Lions third possession, they were not able to move the ball at all and were forced to punt. The punt was returned 40 yards down to the Lions 15-yard line. The Indians needed one play to score and pushed the lead to 20-0 with 7:38 left in the second quarter.

Alvarado appeared to make needed adjustments to the Lions new offensive scheme. For the second consecutive possession, the Lions went three-and-out and were forced to punt again. The Indians took over and scored in two plays. With 4:35 left until half-time they led 27-0.

The Lions did respond to this with an eight-play possession. They converted one fourth down but were forced to punt on their next fourth down. Their punt ended the first half with Alvarado leading 27-0.

The second half was not much better for the Lions. It began with Alvarado scoring in three plays, which made the score 34-0 with 11:15 left in the third quarter. The Lions turned the ball over on downs on their next possession. The Indians scored again with 8:41 left in the third quarter. Four minutes later Alvarado scored once more to push the score to 48-0.

The lone offensive highlight for the Lions came on the next CHS possession. Valadez kept the ball, fooling the Indians, and sprinted for a 75-yard touchdown. Senior kicker Chris Montoya was perfect on the point-after-touchdown and with 4:43 left in the third quarter the score was 48-7. Alvarado scored two more touchdowns to close out the scoring and make the final 62-7.

The Lions, despite the loss are very much still in the playoff hunt. They play their last district game on the road against Life Waxahachie. The Mustangs have not won a single game this year. If the Lions take care of business and win as they should, they most likely will make the playoffs (depending on the outcome and score of the Lake Worth vs. Carrollton Ranchview game). The Lions game is Friday, Nov. 8, kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Make the road trip to support our team and their quest to make the playoffs. Go Lions!

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*From Castleberry ISD*

## **Remember to RSVP for Family Coding Night Nov. 19**

Castleberry ISD’s Family Code Night is set for Tuesday, Nov. 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Castleberry Elementary. This free, family-friendly event welcomes both coding beginners and tech enthusiasts, aiming to spark creativity and ignite curiosity!

Event highlights include:

- Interactive Coding Adventure: Robotics, “Unplugged” coding games, and Creative Coding stations to explore.
- Complimentary Snacks: Hot dogs, nachos, cookies, and lemonade will be available.

### **Scheduled Information Sessions**

- Gifted and Talented Assessment and Identification Process Parent Information Sessions are scheduled for 6:15 and 7 p.m. in the Library.

Tarrant To & Through (T3) will host several 30-minute presentations for parents of middle and high school students, with sessions at 6, 6:30, and 7 p.m. in the Art Room.

### **RSVP Request**

This is one of the few events that requires an RSVP in advance, which helps ensure there are enough resources and food for all attendees. Please submit your RSVP through the [ParentSquare post](#). While the district generally avoids requesting RSVPs to make events accessible, early responses for this event are essential for planning purposes.

From the Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector

## 2024 Property Tax: First Half Payment Due by Dec. 2

The last day to make the first payment on the half payment option on current year property tax accounts is Dec. 2, 2024. Contact us at 817-884-1100 or [taxoffice@tarrantcountytexas.gov](mailto:taxoffice@tarrantcountytexas.gov) if you have questions about the half payment option, or if you do not know how much to pay. The due date is extended because Nov. 30 falls on a Saturday this year.

Most accounts qualify for the half payment option on current year taxes even if the property owner is waiting on an update from Tarrant Appraisal District, such as the value, an exemption, ownership, etc. Call, email, or chat with us if you are not sure or need to know how much to pay.

Payment must be U.S. postmarked by Dec. 2, 2024 or be received and completed by 11:59 p.m. CST on Dec. 2, 2024 if paying online or by phone. Please start the electronic payment process at least one hour before the deadline to prevent late posting.

The due date for the second half, or the remaining balance, is June 30, 2025. No penalty or interest is added if paid by the due date.

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From Suburban Newspapers Staff Writers

## Pony Bead Indian Corn Thanksgiving Craft



Kids and adults of all ages will enjoy making this quick and simple Thanksgiving inspired craft, and all you need are two simple items - pony beads and pipe cleaners!

To begin, place two pipe cleaners in an 'x' formation and twist them around each other at the center. Repeat with two more pipe cleaners.

Thread pony beads in any color and pattern, leaving space at the end to secure.

Bring the ends together, wrap a piece of pipe cleaner around the stem!

Enjoy!

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Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt

## Honeycomb Holiday Market Nov. 16

The Brewer High School Honeycomb Drill Team will host their 10th Annual Holiday Market on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the BHS Cafeteria, located at 1025 W Loop 820 N. Entry is \$5, or five canned food items (to support the school food bank).

From the North Central Texas Council of Governments

## NCTCOG to Host Hybrid Public Meeting Nov. 11

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) will seek input on several important transportation initiatives during a public meeting at noon Monday, Nov. 11. The session will be held at NCTCOG's offices, located at 616 Six Flags Drive in Arlington. Those unable to attend in person can watch the discussion live at [PublicInput.com/nctcogNov24](https://PublicInput.com/nctcogNov24). Participants can also call 855-925-2801 and enter code 7348 to engage in the conversation. Public comments will be accepted until Dec. 10.

The first presentation will focus on the North Central Texas Regional Transit 2.0 initiative. This program explores strategies for collaboration among transit authorities and city leaders, along with potential policy recommendations for meeting future regional needs. NCTCOG staff will also present on the development of Mobility 2050, Dallas-Fort Worth's next long-range transportation plan, which will forecast the transportation needs over the next quarter-century. For information, visit [NCTCOG.org/planinprogress](https://NCTCOG.org/planinprogress).

An introduction to the 511DFW Travel Information System will be provided during the public meeting. This system is designed to provide real-time information about roadway conditions, transit options and roadside assistance in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. In addition, there will be an opportunity for online review and comment on proposed modifications to the Transportation Improvement Program. This is a multi-year plan that tracks regional transportation projects funded by federal, state and local sources.

Information on Map Your Experience, air quality programs and funding opportunities, Try Parking It, and business engagement will also be available online for review and comment.

Residents planning to use transit to attend the meeting can take advantage of \$6 round-trip rides from the CentrePort/DFW Airport Station to NCTCOG via the Arlington Transportation app. To download the app, visit [ArlingtonTX.gov/ondemand](https://ArlingtonTX.gov/ondemand). For special accommodation related to disabilities or language interpretation, contact 817-695-9255 or email [jcastillo@nctcog.org](mailto:jcastillo@nctcog.org).

### 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. For more information on the Transportation Department, visit [www.nctcog.org/trans](https://www.nctcog.org/trans).



Texas History Minute, by Dr. Ken Bridges

# American Old West Outlaw - Johnny Ringo



Johnny Ringo led a life filled with violence. Though he was famous for his last months in Arizona, fate also brought him to Texas for a time. What turned him to a life of crime remains uncertain; but in his short, blood-soaked life, he left a deep impact on the history of the West.

John Peters Ringo was born into a farming family in Grand Forks, Indiana, in 1850. Moving great distances was common in those days, and the family packed up and moved to Missouri in 1858. His father, however, contracted tuberculosis. During the Civil War, the family moved further west in hopes of recovering his health. They crossed the Great Plains in 1864 as part of a wagon train. As they entered Wyoming, his father apparently fell off a wagon, and the shotgun in his hands went off in his face, killing him instantly. The devastated family continued on to California, staying with Ringo's uncle near San Jose for the next few years.

In 1869, the 19-year-old Ringo left California and made his way to Texas. But bloodshed was not far behind. Not long after his arrival, he was arrested and fined \$75 for firing a gun across the town square in Burnet. He soon became involved in the notorious Mason County War of 1875-77. The Central Texas county was in chaos with different factions accusing each other

of cattle rustling. After one accused thief was killed along with the sheriff bringing him to jail, a series of gunfights and assassinations erupted and tore the county apart.

Johnny Ringo soon was in the middle of the terror. In 1875, he and another man were arrested for the murder of Jim Cheyney, whom Ringo had accused of murdering a friend. Over the next several months, he remained in jail while Texas newspapers ran stories calling Ringo the head of one of the factions. A mob of his supporters broke him out of jail at one point, but he was soon recaptured.

The Mason County Courthouse burned to the ground in January 1877, effectively marking the end of the fighting. More than a dozen people were dead. Most of the accused were released as the evidence had all been lost in the fire. Ringo was acquitted in 1878. His popularity still ran high, and he was elected constable for his Mason County precinct that year. Law enforcement did not sit well with him, and for unknown reasons, he soon left for the Arizona Territory. Within weeks of his arrival, he got into a gunfight in a local saloon, seriously injuring a man. Ringo, however, was not tried over the incident.

By 1881, he found himself in the mining boomtown of Tombstone. Tombstone itself was already in the midst of increasing violence over cattle rustling and competing mine claims, and Ringo, already with a bloody reputation, fell in with the Cochise County Cowboys, a gang of thieves and murderers. He soon encountered Doc Holliday, the Georgia dentist turned gambler and gunfighter. The two clashed repeatedly, often challenging each other to gunfights as their friends tried to restrain them.

He took no part in the 1881 gunfight at the OK Corral, but he swore revenge against the four men who had won the fight against the

Cowboys: Holliday and Wyatt, Morgan, and Virgil Earp.

Wyatt Earp suspected Ringo of being involved with the crippling of his brother Virgil later in December 1881 and the revenge murder of his other brother Morgan in March 1882.

In January 1882, Ringo challenged Holliday to a fight; and the two were briefly arrested on weapons charges as the two prepared to draw their guns on each other. A month later, Ringo was arrested again on an outstanding charge of robbery but soon released. By the spring, Ringo led a posse against Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday as they sought revenge against the Cowboy faction. Earp killed Curly Brocius, one of Ringo's associates. Within weeks, Earp and Holliday had left Arizona, but deaths connected with the Cowboys continued for some time.

By summer 1882, Ringo sank into a drinking binge. He was last seen on a ranch not far from Tombstone in July. Ringo died under mysterious circumstances, a final victim of the violent life he had created for himself.

How he died is still a matter of speculation. The official coroner's report released that summer said the death was a suicide by gunshot, but the report also noted a knife cut at the base of his scalp. Wyatt Earp denied involvement with Ringo's death to authorities, but he allegedly told different stories to acquaintances over the years. Doc Holliday, who was wanted for murder in the Arizona Territory, was reportedly in either Colorado answering a new string of charges against him or in California, but his location could not be pinpointed.

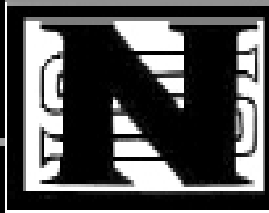
It was a life soaked in blood, and few mourned his passing. As so many details of his life remained unanswered, more of his life began to be the subject of tall tales that grew into legend.

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## Weekend Forecast



### Friday, Nov. 8:

**AM** - Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Cloudy, with a high near 69. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

**PM** - Chance of showers and thunderstorms after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 70%.



### Saturday, Nov. 9:

**AM** - A 30 percent chance of showers before noon. Sunny, with a high near 69. West northwest wind around 5 mph.

**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 51. Calm wind.



### Sunday, Nov. 10:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 74. Calm wind becoming west around 5 mph.

**PM** - Clear, with a low around 53. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

**[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)**