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# River Oaks News

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*Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt*

## River Oaks 75th Anniversary Festival Draws Crowd

River Oaks has been celebrating their 75th anniversary throughout this year. Special guests, dignitaries and various organizations came out on a beautiful day to support the festival.

A historical collage of photos was on display from River Oaks' inception for patrons to view.

There were bounces houses, arts and crafts stations, music, food, merchant vendors, hot dog eating and pie contest, Castleberry Mariachi and Jazz Band and swing dancing unit and was enjoyed by everyone who attended.



Pictured are: (l-r) River Oaks City Council Place 5 **Brent Forster**, City Manager **Marvin Gregory** and River Oaks City Council Place 1 **Johnny Claridge**.



Pictured are: Lions Club members (l-r) **Lucy Cervantes**, **Judy Scott**, **Linda Woodham**, **Michael Sloane**, **Jim Byron**, **Bea Cano** and **Sarah Kelty**.



The A.V. Cato Elementary after school Cheer group performed for the first time together.



Fifth-graders from A.V. Cato Elementary Choir sang to the audience under the direction of music teacher Marshall Harrell.



**Tracy Gallman** coordinated the event.



Chief **Stewart** participated at the function.



From the Sports Desk with John Loven

## Castleberry High School Mid-Season Sports Report

The Castleberry High School football team had a bye this past week. It came at a good time, just before they begin district competition. It allows an opportunity to get some banged up players back to health.

The team is currently 3-2 and averaging a stellar 41 points per game. Most of these points are the result of an outstanding rushing attack.

Leading that rushing attack has been junior Isaiah Ford (#25). Ford was averaging over 230 yards rushing per game and one of the top rushers in the state before he got hurt. Ford limped off the field during the first half of the CHS Homecoming game against Diamond Hill. At that time, Ford had already rushed for over 100 yards. He did not play the next week (a 47-35 loss at Ferris on Sept. 27).

However, senior Cadyn Perez (#6) filled in for Ford and picked up right where he left off, rushing for 220 yards on 33 carries against Ferris. Shout out to the CHS offensive line, the unsung heroes in the trenches, who help create the holes for these two fantastic running backs. These players include: Edgar Lopez (#50), Josh Starnes (#51), Josh Pascual (#55), Roger Urena (#56), Daniel Hurtado (#58), Christian Segovia (#59), Issac Reyes (#60), Carlos Duran (#70), Israel Loya (#72), Exavier Puga (#73), Victor Trevizo (74), Dominic Ruiz (#75), Saul Becerra (#76), Julian Chavez (#77), and Thomas Woodward (#78).

The team will travel to face perennial powerhouse Kennedale (1-4) on Friday, Oct. 11. After this the Lions will return home to W.O. Barnes Stadium to face Carrollton Ranchview on Oct. 18. Both games are scheduled for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff.

### Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that Barry LaJuan Wheeler, born on September 6, 1962, in Los Angeles, California, has filed a petition with the Santa Monica Courthouse, Los Angeles, California, requesting that his name be changed to Barry LaJuan English, his birth certificate last name "Wheeler" is wrong due to a clerical error. This name change is being sought to ensure consistency in his identity and align all legal records with the name used. A hearing on this matter is scheduled for Nov. 1, 2024 at the Santa Monica Courthouse at 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, California. 90401. Any person who objects to this name change may appear at the hearing to show cause why this petition should not be granted.

The Castleberry girls volleyball team, as has been reported this fall, is far improved over last year. Currently their record is 10-15.

After a pretty good start of the season, going 10-7, they have struggled in district play. In a tough district, they began 0-5. On Friday, Oct. 4 the girls played Bridgeport. This finished the first round of district play and was between two teams in search of their first district victory. Unfortunately, it was Bridgeport who managed to get their first win as they defeated our Lady Lions 3-2.

The Lady Lions will play at Decatur on Oct. 11 and then at home against Decatur. Hopefully, the team will continue to improve as they enter round two of district play.

Over the years the CHS cross country teams have been truly special. This year is no different. Coach Bart Beasley has again fielded very competitive boys and girls teams.

The boys are being led by senior Santiago Buendia and junior Vann Goines. In the last two meets, both Buendia and Goines have both finished in the top ten individual performances in the 5,000 meters. At Granbury on Sept. 27, Goines finished seventh (17:30.40) and Buendia finished 10th (17:43.47). They helped the team finish fourth overall. This past week at

Midlothian, Buendia finished fourth (17:41.36) and Goines came in sixth (17:49.45) while helping the team come in fifth.

The girls have several outstanding runners contributing to the team's results. Leading the way is sophomore Sara Caldera, who finished second (13:17.33) at the CHS meet held at Camp Carter on Sept. 20. A week later, at Granbury, Caldera won gold with a time of 13:18.55 for the 3200-meter course.

Teammate Marcela Esquivel Ramirez, came in 10th (14:47.08) and helped the team finish second. The following week at Midlothian on Oct. 3 the girls won the team championship.

Five girls finished in the top 10 at this meet. Freshman Marcela Esquivel Ramirez was second with a time of 14:49.39. Junior Mariana Rodriguez was fifth with a time of 15:21.57. Sophomore Ariana Ramirez was sixth with a time of 15:30.30. Sophomore Camila Flores was seventh with a time of 15:30.99. Freshman Vivian Celis was eighth with a time of 15:32.27.

The team will compete in the District 7-4A Meet on Oct. 10 in Decatur at Joe Wheeler Park. They will follow that with the Region 1-4A Meet in Lubbock at Mae Simmons Park. Go Lions and Lady Lions!



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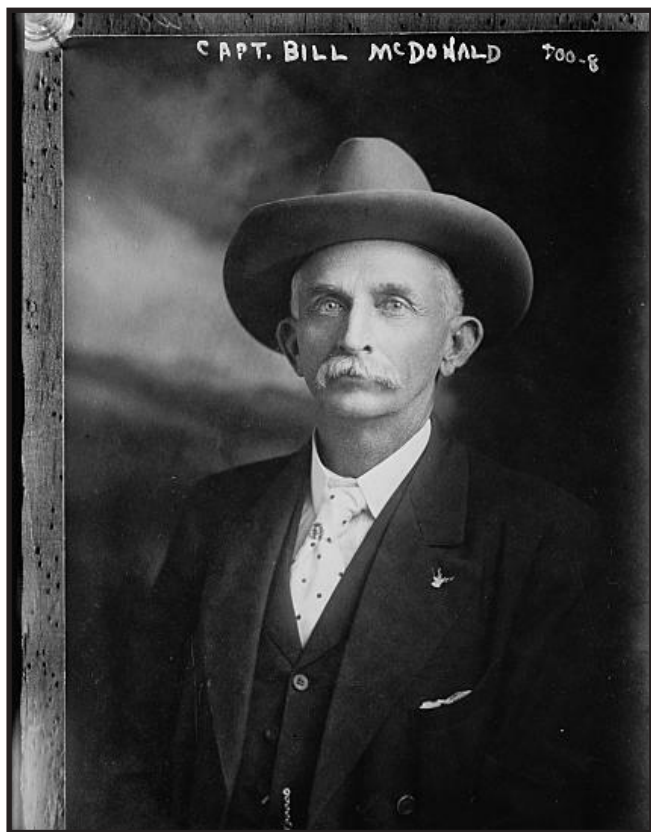


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Texas History Minute, by Dr. Ken Bridges

## Texas Ranger - Captain William Jesse McDonald



The Texas Rangers in its long history in the state has produced legendary figures in its quest to uphold the law and keep Texans safe. Captain William Jesse McDonald was one of many examples. McDonald's life had led him to serve at different times as a school teacher, shopkeeper, rancher, and eventually becoming one of the most respected law men in Texas.

Bill McDonald was born in 1852 in eastern Mississippi. He was still a child when his father, Enoch McDonald, volunteered to fight with the Confederacy during the Civil War. But in 1862, his father was killed in the vicious bloodletting at the Battle of Corinth. After, his widowed mother moved the two of them to Henderson County in East

Texas to be near relatives.

He was stubborn from a young age. At the age of 16 in 1868, he reportedly got into a fight with Union troops and found himself charged with treason. Only the intervention of a prominent local officials resulted in the charges being dropped.

However, he had a keen mind and attended Soule Business College in New Orleans, graduating in 1872. He became a school teacher for a time, teaching penmanship before he turned his eye to business. He operated a couple of stores in East Texas before becoming a deputy sheriff in Wood County. By 1883, he and his wife moved to Wichita Falls to take up ranching.

They moved further west to the Quanah area several years later. Here, Texas, like most other frontier states was beset by bloodshed and lawlessness. Cattle thieves and organized gangs terrorized the few settlers in the area, hiding in the vast stretches of emptiness that covered West Texas and the Indian Territory in those years. He became a deputy sheriff again, and as raids worsened, McDonald as made a special Texas Ranger, attacking marauders far and wide to finally bring order to the area.

As a result, in 1891, he was named captain of the Texas Rangers Frontier Battalion, where he and his fellow Rangers worked to protect citizens from further raids and to act as the police for remote locations that had none.

As a Ranger, he had a reputation as a keen observer and tracker. Long before forensics

became a standard tool of law enforcement, McDonald was using the same principles in solving cases and capturing fugitives, an otherwise nearly impossible task on the seemingly endless stretches of land across the state in the late 1800s.

He found himself

in many shootouts, including one with the sheriff of Childress County in 1893. Though shot on several occasions himself, he reportedly never took another life, but his skill with a gun and reputation preceded him and used it to defuse many difficult situations without a weapon at all. The instances in which McDonald and other Rangers prevented riots from erupting had led to the reputation of "One riot, one Ranger."

In February 1896, McDonald received a telegram while riding the train into Wichita Falls from another Ranger case in El Paso informing him that City National Bank had been robbed. Bandits had seized \$600, killed one man, and wounded another in a blaze of bullets in broad daylight. Within two hours of receiving the message, he had arrived at the train station, and ridden out of the city with a posse of five other Rangers in pursuit of the murderers. They charged through the brush on a blustery winter day and caught them within hours.

He continued to serve as a Ranger until 1907 when he became a revenue agent for the state, ultimately collecting more than one billion dollars in revenue for a state enjoying the beginnings of the oil boom and looking to reap the technological promises of the twentieth century.

In a time period when most men in their fifties would be slowing down, McDonald took on what were perhaps his most important assignments. In 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt picked him to serve as one of his personal bodyguards during his trip through Texas. Seven years later, incoming President Woodrow Wilson also tapped McDonald as his personal bodyguard. In recognition of his work, Wilson named McDonald as United States Marshal for the district of North Texas.


He fell ill suddenly in early 1918 and died of pneumonia at his home in Wichita Falls. McDonald has since been inducted in the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame in Waco in recognition of his colorful life and unwavering dedication as a law man.

**North Fort Worth Historical Society's**  
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In the event of rain, the Saints and Sinners Tour will be on November 2 & 3.





# October is Fire Prevention Month: Important Facts and Tips

National Fire Prevention Month is celebrated every October to raise awareness about the importance of fire safety. The month-long event promotes life-saving practices and home fire safety education. The slogan for 2024 is "Make your smoke alarm work for you."

## Here are some critical tips for installing smoke detectors:

- Install smoke alarms **inside each bedroom**, outside sleeping areas, and on **every level** of the home, including the basement.
- On levels without bedrooms, place alarms in the **living room** or near the **stairway** to the upper level.
- In the basement, install alarms on the ceiling at the bottom of the stairs leading to the next level.
- Mount alarms high on walls or ceilings (remember, smoke rises!). Wall-mounted alarms should be no more than **12 inches** from the ceiling.
- For pitched ceilings, install alarms

within **3 feet of the peak** but not in the apex.

- Avoid installing alarms near windows, doors, or ducts to prevent drafts from interfering with their operation.
- **Never paint** smoke alarms; this can affect their functionality.
- For maximum safety, **interconnect all smoke alarms** so that when one sounds, they all sound. Ensure all alarms are from the **same manufacturer** for compatibility.

Keep the manufacturer's instructions handy for reference.

Did you know that a fire can become life-threatening in just **two minutes**? In **five minutes**, a residence can be completely engulfed in flames.

Here's what you need to know about the speed and danger of fire:

- **Fire is FAST!** A small flame can turn into a major fire in less than 30 seconds. Thick black smoke can fill a house in minutes, and smoldering fires can produce smoke even before flames appear. This is why having photoelectric smoke alarms installed is vital.

• **Fire is HOT!** Temperatures in a fire can soar to 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super-hot air can scorch your lungs and melt clothing to your skin.

• **Fire is DARK!** While fire starts bright, it quickly produces thick black smoke, creating complete darkness that can disorient and confuse you.

• **Fire is DEADLY!** Smoke and toxic gases cause more fatalities than flames. Poisonous gases can make you disoriented and drowsy, leading to asphyxiation, which is the leading cause of fire deaths, exceeding burns by a 3-to-1 ratio.

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## Weekend Forecast



### Friday, Oct. 11:

**AM** - Mostly sunny, with a high near 92. South wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 65. South southeast wind around 5 mph.



### Saturday, Oct. 12:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 95. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**PM** - Clear, with a low around 67. South wind 5 to 10 mph.



### Sunday, Oct. 13:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 95. Southwest wind around 10 mph.  
**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 60.

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