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River Oaks News

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From North Central Texas Council of Governments

NCTCOG to Host Hybrid Public Meeting March 10

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is seeking public input on transportation initiatives during a hybrid public meeting at noon on Monday, March 10. The meeting will take place in the Transportation Council Room at the NCTCOG offices, located at 616 Six Flags Drive in Arlington. Those unable to attend in person can view the meeting online at Publicinput.com/nctcog-Mar25. Residents can also participate by calling 855-925-2801 and entering code 11112. Comments will be accepted until April 8.

The meeting will feature a presentation on Mobility 2050, the region's upcoming long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This plan is being developed to guide transportation investments and address regional needs through 2050. Staff will discuss the current progress and the next steps in its development. More details are available at NCTCOG.org/PlanInProgress.

Another presentation will cover the start of the 2025 ozone season. March 1 marked the beginning of the season for North Central Texas nonattainment area, which remains in nonattainment for both the 2008 and 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone.

Staff will provide an overview of regional air quality and the measures in place to reduce emissions. Staff will also present the Title VI Program update for 2025. As a recipient of federal funding, NCTCOG is required to maintain a Title VI Program to ensure non-discrimination based on race, color and national origin. Staff will highlight NCTCOG's 2025 Title VI Program and any updates to the program.

The meeting will also feature a discussion on funding recommendations to upgrade existing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. NCTCOG was awarded \$3.6 million in federal funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator program in January 2024. These funds will be used to repair, replace or upgrade existing non-operational publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure.

Additionally, the meeting will include an online review and comment opportunity, featuring updates on Transit 2.0: Planning for Year 2050 Study. This study aims to foster partnerships and collaboration among North Texas (continued on page 7)

From Texas Parks and Wildlife

Tips for Spring Break Adventures at Texas State Parks



Spring Breakers who waited until the last minute to plan an outdoor adventure, don't fret; Texas State Parks still have day-use and overnight availability for anyone still looking for an outdoor adventure.

"Spring is a special time to get outside, with warmer temperatures and blooming wildflowers, parks are perfect places to experience both," said Tara Humphreys, director of interpretation for Texas State Parks. "We are excited to welcome visitors and showcase our parks and encourage every Texan to 'take a walk on the wild side' and visit a Texas State Park."

Here are some tips from TPWD staff to make your Spring Break visit to a Texas State Park one for the books

• **Reserve passes online:** Day passes and overnight camping reservations can be booked in advance for any Texas State Park through the TPWD website. (continued on page 7)

SPRING → FORWARD

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead by one hour!



Sunday, March 9!

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From Castleberry ISD

Sophomores and Juniors to Take PSAT/SAT Monday

Castleberry High School sophomores will take the PSAT and juniors will take the SAT on Monday, March 10.

For more information about testing visit CollegeBoard.org. These tests can determine college readiness and are used for college acceptance and scholarships. Students can use their school computers to take practice tests on Bluebook to prepare.

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From StatePoint

How to Prep the Night Before the SAT or ACT Exam

Taking the SAT or ACT exam is the culmination of months of test-specific preparation, and in truth, years of schooling. While knowing that can feel like a lot of pressure, there are steps you can take the night before the exam to calm your nerves and enter the testing site with confidence:

1. Pack your essentials: Going to bed knowing you've packed everything you need to succeed during the test will help you sleep soundly and make the morning less frenzied. Your packing list should include an official, currently valid photo identification, your admission ticket to the test, No. 2 pencils (be sure they have erasers), a snack and water bottle, a sweater (testing sites are often chilly and being uncomfortable can throw you off your game), and a calculator.

2. Eat right: Proper nutrition and cognition go hand-in-hand. The night before your exam, fuel yourself with brain foods containing a mix of antioxidants, protein and Omega-3s. Fresh fruits and vegetables, fish, nuts, beans, whole grains, tofu and lean meats are all great choices. Try to avoid food unfamiliar to you, as you don't know how it will settle and it could cause a stomachache. You should also forgo overly sugary or processed treats, which can lead to an energy crash. Being thirsty during your test is not only distracting, dehydration can actually impair cognition and brain health. Be sure to drink plenty of water the night before your test to keep the mental juices flowing.

3. Sleep tight: It can be difficult to settle in for a night of sound sleep before an important event. Reduce the chances of tossing and turning by putting down your devices at least an hour before bed, as blue light can suppress melatonin secretion and impact sleep. Instead, read, journal or do another quiet, enjoyable activity. On that note, avoid a last-minute study session or practice exam. The night before the test is not the time to cram. It's a time to relax so your mind is fresh when it counts. If you do have trouble falling asleep, don't panic. Resting quietly with your eyes closed can be beneficial too, and may help you doze off.

By checking a few pre-test tasks off your to-do list the night before, you can be fueled, rested and geared up for your college entrance exams.

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Daughters of the American Colonists

Honorable Philip Livingston Chapter Members Attend State Assembly



Pictured above: The new State Board members at the Assembly.



Pictured are: (back row, l-r) Lorie Williams, Lorie Duhon, Lisa Kight-Alcala, Laurie Behn, Dawn Needles; (front row) Sharon Allen, Linda Hines and Colleen Petosa.

Nine members of the Honorable Philip Livingston Chapter, Daughters of the American Colonists attended the 94th Texas State Assembly on Feb. 13 and 14 in Temple, Texas. Both days were filled with business sessions, presentation of awards, and a memorial service for those members who had passed in 2024.

Chapter members Colleen Petosa and Lorie Williams were installed to the new State Board.

The object of the society is to research and preserve the history and deeds of American colonists and commemorate deeds of colonial interest.

The chapter's goals are the same and to provide an annual scholarship, contribute to veteran services, and to provide JROTC and ROTC medals to outstanding students at TCU and the Fort Worth ISD.

The National Society Daughters of the American Colonists is a non-profit, non-political service organization and lineage society.

For information on how to find your ancestors or about its programs, please email gboyd7@yahoo.com.

Prospective members are always welcome.

From the City of River Oaks

River Oaks Residents Can Take Advantage of Discarded Tire Pick Up Event

Discarded tires laying around in the yard are a source of mosquito breeding. The City of River Oaks has initiated an event to collect old, discarded tires out at the street curb.

On the Wednesday Bulk Collection Day for residents, the city will pick them up and get rid of them at no charge. This offer is good through April 30, 2025.

Residents are requested to limit the number of tires to be discarded at any one time to no more than four used, discarded tires. Where there are more than four tires, please contact the Public Works Department to schedule a special pickup at 817-626-5421, extension 332. Otherwise, residents can call for pickup, or else public works will pick up tires when placed on curb.

This free service is for residential customers only. The City will not collect tires disposed of from businesses since commercial collection is under contract with a commercial waste hauler.

For more information about unwanted mosquitoes and how to protect yourself please contact the Emergency Management Coordinator, James Myrick at 817-476-0362.

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CASTLEBERRY ISD

2025-2026 DISTRICT CALENDAR

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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31	1	2	3	4	5	6
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OCTOBER

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DECEMBER

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IMPORTANT DATES

June 30 - July 4	District Holiday [Independence Day]
July 28 - 29	New Teacher Professional Learning
July 30 - Aug. 5	Teacher Professional Learning and Work Day
Aug. 6	First Day of School
Sept. 1	District Holiday [Labor Day]
Oct. 13	Student Holiday [Teacher Professional Learning Day]
Nov. 24 - 28	District Holiday [Thanksgiving Break]
Dec. 22 - Jan. 2	District Holiday [Winter Break]
Jan. 5	Student Holiday [Teacher Professional Learning Day]
Jan. 6	Student Holiday [Teacher Work Day]
Jan. 19	District Holiday [Martin Luther King Jr. Day]
Feb. 16	District Holiday [Presidents' Day]/Bad Weather Make-Up Day
March 16 - 20	District Holiday [Spring Break]
April 3	District Holiday [Good Friday]
May 21	Last Day of School
May 22	Teacher Work Day/Bad Weather Make-Up Day CHS and REACH HS Graduation
May 25	District Holiday [Memorial Day]
May 26	Summer Program Teacher Work Day

CALENDAR LEGEND

[Grey]	Student Holiday New Teacher Professional Learning	[]	Start of Quarter
[Dark Blue]	Student Holiday Teacher Professional Learning (PL)]]	End of Quarter
[Yellow]	First/Last Day of School	E	Early Dismissal
[Red]	District Holiday	W	Bad Weather Make Up Day
[Light Blue]	Student Holiday Teacher Work Day (WD)		Saturday/Summer Learning Program
[Dark Blue]	Student Holiday Half WD/Half PL		Summer Program Teacher Work Day

GRADING PERIODS

TERM	DATES	3 WKS PROGRESS REPORTS <i>Available Online</i>	6 WKS PROGRESS REPORTS <i>Available Online</i>	REPORT CARDS <i>Available Online</i>
1	Aug. 6 - Oct. 10	Aug. 26	Sept. 16	Oct. 16
2	Oct. 14 - Dec. 19	Nov. 4	Dec. 2	Jan. 8
3	Jan. 7 - March 13	Feb. 3	Feb. 24	March 26
4	March 23 - May 21	April 14	May 5	May 28

JANUARY

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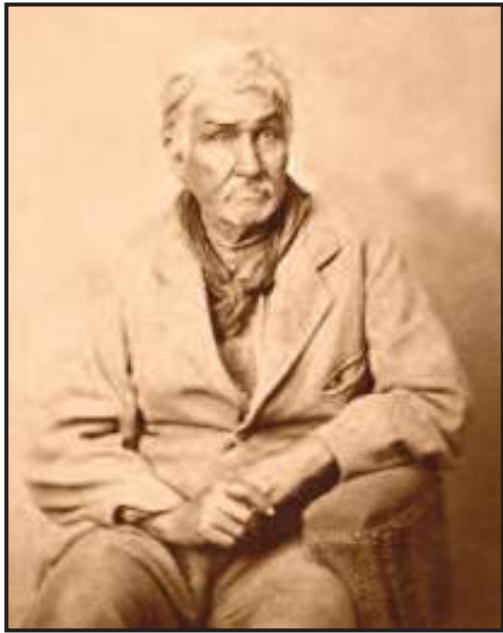
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JUNE

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American West Merchant, Jesse Chisholm *by Dr. Ken Bridges*



The Old West became notorious for the violence that befell communities and individuals. Some individuals, however, acted as peacemakers. Jesse Chisholm, a merchant who developed a network of trading posts from Texas up to Kansas, became known for his mediation efforts and his efforts to expand commerce in the area. He was never wealthy, but his reputation as a guide, translator, diplomat, trader, and explorer gave him an important role in shaping the West. His most lasting legacy was creating the legendary Chisholm Trail, which became a vital pipeline for the famous cattle drives of the late nineteenth century.

Jesse Chisholm was born in the Great Hiwassee area in the mountains of southeastern Tennessee around 1805, inside what had been Cherokee territory. His exact date of birth is uncertain. He was the oldest of six children born to Ignatius Chisholm, a Scottish immigrant and trader, and Martha Rogers, a Cherokee. His father was involved in sales of all sorts, respectable and otherwise, including trading slaves in the Knoxville area.

Chisholm's lifetime would be marked by the dramatic collapse of tribal control of their territories. Even as a child, he was already living with its effects. By this time, relations between the Cherokees and the settlers were breaking down. Many settlers were encroaching on Cherokee lands, seizing it for themselves in violation of treaty while the federal government did little to stop it. By

the early 1810s, many Cherokees were starting to see the writing on the wall and started moving west. The Chisholms left with this first wave westward, settling in what is now western Arkansas for a time.

In the 1820s the family moved further west near Fort Gibson, in what was soon to become the Indian Territory, or modern-day Oklahoma. His father brought him into the merchant business, and he made a respectable living as a guide and a trader. Chisholm steadily built and maintained a series of trading posts throughout the area.

Though he spent most of his adult life as a merchant, Chisholm's most sought-after product was peace. Respected among both white politicians and Native American tribes, he was routinely sought out to mediate disputes between the tribes and the settlers. Chisholm reportedly spoke a dozen languages, mostly the languages of the different tribes of the Great Plains. As a trader, such skills of language and diplomacy were vital to his business success.

Sam Houston, while serving as President of the Republic of Texas, sought out Chisholm often to negotiate between Texas and the tribes. Houston himself had lived among the Cherokees for a time and believed that peace was possible between the settlers and the tribes. Chisholm managed to convince several tribes in the North Texas area to meet with Houston and Texas officials in a series of meetings called the Tehuacana Creek Councils in 1843 and 1844 near Waco. Through these efforts, several treaties of peace and trade were established between Texas and the different tribes. The success of these meetings helped expand his reputation as a translator and a mediator.

In the 1850s, Chisholm provided similar services helping to mediate between officials in Kansas and tribal representatives there. Throughout his efforts, Chisholm repeatedly tried to relay the good will and peaceful intentions of the tribes to leaders in Texas and Kansas.

During the Civil War, tribes in the Indian Territory were deeply divided and often sided with the Confederacy. Chisholm tried

to stay out of the conflict, often trading with both the Union and Confederate sides. By 1864, he was operating out of Wichita, Kan., and serving as an interpreter for the Union Army.

In 1865, Chisholm hoped to resume his trade business and expand his range of customers. He loaded a team of wagons with goods and left Fort Leavenworth, Kan., south to his trading post near modern Oklahoma City. He extended the trail south to the Red River in order to give ranchers access to his trading posts along the way. Word of this safe and well-marked trail spread. As Texas ranchers saw the potential profit in driving cattle to Kansas for sale and shipment to eastern markets, Chisholm's trail became the obvious route to use as the cattle drives began by 1867.

After the end of the Civil War, it became increasingly obvious that the federal government intended to clamp down control over the tribes and force them onto reservations in spite of existing treaties. Chisholm attempted to bring tribal leaders together with federal officials in the Indian Territory to discuss the issues at hand. Tribal leaders were reluctant to meet, realizing that any treaty at that point probably meant a surrender. Within two years, leaders slowly gathered to talk with federal representatives. The result was the Medicine Lodge Treaty, a series of three treaties signed between the tribes and the federal government starting in October 1867. The treaty stipulated that the tribes would be assigned reservation territories within the Indian Territory, effectively putting an end to their way of life.

In April 1868, Chisholm died suddenly, apparently of food poisoning, while in the Indian Territory. He was respected for his efforts to broker peace on the plains. His efforts at expanding trade, however, would become his most famous legacy.

As he died, the great age of the cattle drives was just beginning. As more ranchers began shipping their cattle to Kansas from the late 1860s through the 1880s, his trail became a popular route and soon became known as the Chisholm Trail.

NCTCOG Meeting (continued from page 1)

transit authorities and city leaders. Draft reports for Task 3 (Develop Strategies to Increase Transit Authority Membership) and Task 4 (Initiate Collaboration Between Existing Transit Authorities) will be available for review and comment.

An update on the regional transit partnerships and federal discretionary grant funding will also be available for online review and comment, including funding requests for Fiscal Year 2020 BUILD grant projects such as the Victory Station pedestrian crossing, TRE signal improvements and Silver Line Construction.

The Interactive Public Input: Map Your Experience tool, air quality funding opportunities, information on the Try Parking It program and the Access North Texas plan will also be posted online for review.

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.

For special accommodation related to disabilities or language interpretation, please contact 817-573-1719 or email hwitcher@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.

The Council'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.

Texas Parks (continued from page 1)

Through the online portal, you can narrow your search by city, activity and even by site. If you want to bike, hike or fish, look for parks with day passes available (up to 30 days in advance). For overnight camping, search the "Camping This Weekend" tab to see which parks have sites open for the upcoming Friday and Saturday.

- **Check the weather:** Texas is notorious for wacky weather, so be sure to check the forecast before hitting the road. Spring storms can sweep in unexpectedly. We recommend having a backup plan in case Mother Nature throws a wrench into your outdoor plans.

- **Wear proper clothing:** Flip-flops may be comfortable, but they aren't the best option for long walks on the trail. Rangers recommend wearing sneakers or boots for hikes. Don't forget the sunscreen, insect repellent and plenty of water. It's important to drink at least 16 ounces of water every hour to prevent dehydration. Bring enough for your four-legged family members, too!

- **Participate in a park program or activity:** Park staff will be hosting many guided activities during spring break, including bird walks, kayaking tours, archery 101 classes, arts and crafts, yoga in the park and cooking demos, just to name a few. A complete list of activities can be found on the TPWD calendar page. Looking for a specific activity? Check the "Activities" page for recommendations.

Visitors will also have many other activities to choose from outside of the scheduled programs, including geocaching, the Junior Ranger Program and strolls on the trails. Whether you're a seasoned angler or want to try fishing for the first time, we encourage you to take advantage of the free fishing at state parks (no license required). And what better time to do that than during spring break when the white-bass run is going strong?

- **Visit somewhere new:** With 88 Texas State Parks located throughout Texas, there are plenty of things to see and do. Take a chance and explore a new park or a part of the state that you have yet to experience. Still looking for overnight reservations? Many unique state parks such as Big Bend Ranch, Davis Mountains, Goose Island, Martin Dies, Jr., Monahans Sandhills, Possum Kingdom and South Llano River have campsites available for the next two weeks.

- **Download the app:** Did you know there is an app to help you enjoy all our state parks have to offer? Download the official Texas State Parks Guide app on the Apple App Store or from Google Play to access park maps, stay up to date on events, read park announcements and more.

For more information, visit the Texas State Parks website.



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AMERICAN LEGION Post 297
 817-249-2791
alpost297@sbcglobal.net

CHRIST THE KING ANGLICAN CHURCH
 3290 Lackland Rd.
 Fort Worth, Tx 76116
Every Sunday worship at 9:30am

TREE SERVICE

CHAD GREEN Tree Service
 817-246-5943 or 817-800-6059 (cell)

PLUMBING

LONNIE BRAVO Plumbing
 817-715-6747
lonniebravo@sbcglobal.net
www.lonniebravoplumbingllc.com

Bill Blankenship Contracting
 Residential/Commercial • M8479
contractingblankenship@outlook.com
 817-831-4000

ROOFING

ECE ROOFING LLC
 817-831-2600

INSURANCE

PETER POLINSKY Insurance
 817-560-9400

peter@polinsky-insurance.com

HEALTH INSURANCE
 (all year/ages) Medicare & Obamacare 817-874-7569 Marilyn-Kaye.com - Online Quotes

Weekend Forecast



Friday, March 7:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 81. W wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
PM - A chance of showers and thunderstorms after 3am. Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. W/SW wind 5 to 15 mph becoming E/NE in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 40%.



Saturday, March 8:

AM - A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cloudy, with a high near 52. N/NE wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.
PM - A 30% chance of showers before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39. N/NW wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.



Sunday, March 9:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 62. N/NW wind 5 to 10 mph.
PM - Clear, with a low around 41. N/NW wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)