



Serving the Cities of River Oaks and Westworth Village

# River Oaks News

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From the Sports Desk with John Loven

## Castleberry High School Girls Cross Country Team Takes First Place

Castleberry High School has long been a powerhouse in cross country. CHS hosted their own cross country meet for the second year in a row at Camp Carter on Friday, Sept. 8.

Last year the meet drew about 10 schools. Word spread about what a great course it was and how well the meet was run, and the result was this year the meet drew about 40 schools! This resulted in just under 700 high school runners participating in multiple divisions. With the additional coaches, trainers and spectators in attendance the total number of people present probably pushed 1000!

The Castleberry girls appear to have another outstanding team this year. They won the girls 4A division had two of the top four finishers – and both are freshmen! They were Sara Caldera (second place) and Abigail Buendia (fourth place), out of 85 runners and 11 teams.

The CHS boys team finished seventh out of 15 teams. Their top two finishers were junior Santiago Buendia (ninth place) and sophomore Vann Goines (11th place) out of 125 runners.

### Individual CHS Girls Results (3200 meters)

- 2. Sara Caldera (freshman) - 13:22.45
- 4. Abigail Buendia (freshman) - 13:52.79
- 12. Samantha Gonzales (freshman) - 15:01.42
- 16. Aastha Lad (senior) - 15:18.88
- 18. Camila Flores (freshman) - 15:28.11
- 19. Mariana Rodriguez (sophomore) - 15:29.71
- 24. Avril Flores (sophomore) - 15:48.65

### Individual CHS Boys Results (5000 meters)

- 9. Santiago Buendia (junior) - 18:24.69
- 11. Vann Goines (sophomore) - 18:38.87
- 36. Jorge Escalera (junior) - 20:15.94
- 53. Emanuel Astorga (freshman) - 20:54.13
- 58. Uriel Pereyra (sophomore) - 21:08.22
- 82. Julio Rojas (sophomore) - 22:26.23

From the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

## Owe Delinquent Taxes? Apply Now or Reapply for Homeowner's Assistance Fund

In March of 2021 the U.S. Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act. Congress designated funds to be allocated to homeowners impacted by the pandemic to help them stay in their homes and avoid foreclosure.

The program developed by Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) extends to homeowners who have delinquent taxes that could subject them to foreclosure.

The TDHCA stated that the program is nearing its end and could close by the end of September 2023. Once it is closed, no new applications will be accepted.

Eligible homeowners can apply to TDHCA and if they qualify, receive a grant (not a loan) whereby TDHCA will send a check directly to the local tax office to pay delinquent taxes on their homestead. Additional qualifications will apply.

Note that the program has increased the maximum amount they will disperse to \$65,000 per qualified homeowner.

Additionally, recent changes made by TDHCA allow for homeowners who have previously applied and received funds or who applied and were denied, to reapply. Homeowners are now able to reapply for assistance through the program if they have previously been denied or request additional assistance if they previously received funds.

It is free to apply and delinquent tax property relief may be available to you and could help you avoid foreclosure. To discuss this program or to obtain application or reapplication guidelines please use the website or toll-free number listed below.

Visit [www.TexasHomeownerAssistance.com](http://www.TexasHomeownerAssistance.com) or call 1-833-651-3874, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Help is available in multiple languages.

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**Legal Notice**

The White Settlement Independent School District (WSISD) is accepting proposals for Re-keying Districtwide Doors. The Request for Proposal document RFP #2324-03 can be obtained on the WSISD website, [www.wsisd.com](http://www.wsisd.com) and go to: Business Services/Purchasing/Bid Information/Current Offline Bid Opportunities. Please contact Nancy Escobar at [nancy.escobar@wsisd.net](mailto:nancy.escobar@wsisd.net) for inquiries. The deadline for inquiries and questions is Thursday, October 5, 2023 by 2:00 pm. Proposals are due by Thursday, October 12, 2023 by 2:00 pm. Proposals must be sent to: White Settlement ISD, Attn: Nancy Escobar, 8224 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, TX 76108. Faxed or e-mailed proposals are not accepted. White Settlement ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

**Legal Notice**

The White Settlement Independent School District (WSISD) is accepting proposals for Districtwide Exterior Doors. The Request for Proposal document RFP #2324-02 can be obtained on the WSISD website, [www.wsisd.com](http://www.wsisd.com) and go to: Business Services/Purchasing/Bid Information/Current Offline Bid Opportunities. Please contact Nancy Escobar at [nancy.escobar@wsisd.net](mailto:nancy.escobar@wsisd.net) for inquiries. The deadline for inquiries and questions is Thursday, October 5, 2023 by 2:00 pm. Proposals are due by Thursday, October 12, 2023 by 2:00 pm. Proposals must be sent to: White Settlement ISD, Attn: Nancy Escobar, 8224 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, TX 76108. Faxed or e-mailed proposals are not accepted. White Settlement ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

*From Protecting  
Animals of  
White Settlement*  
**Low Cost  
Vaccination  
Clinic  
Saturday**

The Protecting Animals of White Settlement (PAWS) team will host Texas Coalition for Animal Protection (TCAP) at the White Settlement Recreation Center for a low cost vaccination clinic on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call 817-246-1043.

North Fort Worth Historical Society's  
17th Annual  
*Saints and Sinners Tour*


**Oakwood Cemetery**  
701 Grand Ave., Fort Worth, Tx  
76164

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**Walking Tours**  
Saturday and Sunday at 1pm and 3:30pm  
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For information call 817-625-5082




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**NOTICE**

**Virtual Public Meeting with In-Person Option  
FM 1187**

**From Bella Flora Drive (at the  
Parker County Line) to  
Chisholm Trail Parkway  
CSJs: 1330-01-069, 2291-02-009  
Tarrant County, Texas**

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing to reconstruct and widen FM 1187 from Bella Flora Drive (at the Parker County Line) to Chisholm Trail Parkway in Tarrant County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public meeting on the proposed project with an in-person option. The virtual meeting will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. The presentation will be posted online by Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023, at 8 a.m. To access the virtual public meeting, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above: [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) keyword search "FM 1187 West Tarrant." Project maps and materials will also be available online. Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the time and date listed above. Following the virtual public meeting, the presentation will remain available for viewing at the web address indicated above until Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. If you do not have internet access, you may call Ram Dhakal, P.E., at (817) 370-3519 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process. Formal comments may be provided by mail or email as explained below.

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an in-person option for individuals who would like to participate in person instead of online. In-person attendees will be able to view the same presentation delivered in the online public meeting which will be playing on a screen, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions of TxDOT staff and/or consultants, and leave written comments. The in-person option will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Benbrook High School, 201 Overcrest Dr., Benbrook, Texas 76126.

The proposed project would reconstruct and widen FM 1187 from an existing two-lane roadway to a four-lane roadway with a curbed, grassy center median. The disjointed intersection at FM 1187 and US 377 will be reconstructed to an overpass with continuous alignment. The project also proposes to construct off roadway shared-use paths (12-foot sidewalks) in each direction for bicycle and pedestrian accommodation, construct an overpass at the Fort Worth and Western Railroad crossing, and conversion of roadside ditches to underground storm sewers.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right of way and potentially displace two residences and five non-residential structures. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT district office by calling (817) 370-6950.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands. The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

Any environmental documentation or studies, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection by appointment Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at TxDOT Fort Worth District Office, 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, Texas 76133. Project materials are also available online at the address listed above. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

The public meeting will be conducted in English and some materials will also be provided in Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the public meeting, please contact Ram Dhakal, P.E. at (817) 370-3519 no later than 4 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2023. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodation may require time for the Texas Department of Transportation to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Fort Worth District Office, 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, Texas 76133. Written comments may also be submitted by email to [Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov](mailto:Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov). Additionally, members of the public may call (817) 382-7523 and provide verbal testimony from 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023 until 11:59 pm on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023. All comments must be received on or before Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023. Responses to comments received will be available online at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov), keyword search "FM 1187 West Tarrant", once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the meeting, please contact Ram Dhakal, P.E., TxDOT Project Manager, at (817) 370-3519 or [Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov](mailto:Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.



**AVISO**

**Reunión Pública Virtual con Opción Presencial  
FM 1187**

**Desde Bella Flora Drive (en la línea  
del condado Parker)  
hasta Chisholm Trail Parkway  
CSJs: 1330-01-069, 2291-02-009  
Condado de Tarrant, Texas**

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas está proponiendo reconstruir y ampliar la FM 1187 desde Bella Flora Drive (en la línea del condado de Parker) hasta Chisholm Trail Parkway en el condado de Tarrant, Texas. Este aviso informa al público que TxDOT llevará a cabo una reunión pública virtual en línea sobre el proyecto propuesto. La reunión virtual consistirá en una presentación de video pregrabada e incluirá componentes de audio y visuales. La presentación se publicará en línea antes del martes 3 de octubre del 2023, a las 8 a.m. Para acceder a la reunión pública virtual, vaya a la siguiente dirección de internet en la fecha y hora indicadas anteriormente: [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) utilizando en la búsqueda de palabras clave "FM 1187 West Tarrant." Los mapas y materiales del proyecto también estarán disponibles en línea. Tenga en cuenta que la presentación no estará disponible en el sitio de internet hasta la hora y fecha indicadas anteriormente. Después de la reunión pública virtual, la presentación permanecerá disponible para su visualización en la dirección de internet indicada anteriormente hasta el miércoles 18 de octubre del 2023, a las 11:59 p.m. Si no tiene acceso a internet, puede llamar a Ram Dhakal, P.E., at (817) 370-3519 entre las horas de 8 a.m. y 5 p.m., de lunes a viernes, para hacer preguntas y acceder a los materiales del proyecto durante el desarrollo del proyecto. Los comentarios formales se podrán proporcionar por correo postal o correo electrónico como se explica a continuación.

Además, TxDOT está proporcionando una opción presencial para las personas que deseen participar en persona en lugar de en línea. Los asistentes en persona podrán ver la misma presentación presentada en la reunión pública en línea que se reproducirá en una pantalla, revisar copias impresas de los materiales del proyecto, hacer preguntas al personal y/o consultores de TxDOT y dejar comentarios por escrito. La opción presencial se llevará a cabo el martes 3 de octubre de 2023 de 6 p.m. a 8 p.m. en Benbrook High School, 201 Overcrest Dr., Benbrook, Texas 76126.

El proyecto propuesto reconstruiría y ampliaría la FM 1187 de una carretera existente de dos carriles a una carretera de cuatro carriles con una mediana central cubierta. La intersección inconexa en la FM 1187 y la US 377 se reconstruirá a un paso elevado con alineación continua. El proyecto también propone construir caminos de uso compartido fuera de la carretera (aceras de 12 pies) en cada dirección para el alojamiento de bicicletas y peatones, construir un paso elevado en el cruce de Fort Worth y Western Railroad, y convertir las zanjas al borde de la carretera en alcantarillas pluviales subterráneas.

El proyecto propuesto, está sujeto a consideraciones finales de diseño, requerirá un derecho de paso adicional y podría desplazar dos residencias y cinco estructuras no residenciales. La asistencia para la reubicación está disponible para las personas y empresas desplazadas. La información sobre el Programa de Asistencia de Reubicación de TxDOT y los servicios y beneficios para los desplazados y otros propietarios afectados, así como información sobre el calendario tentativo para la adquisición y construcción del derecho de paso, se puede obtener en la oficina del distrito de TxDOT llamando al (817) 370-6950.

El proyecto propuesto podría implicar la construcción en humedales. El proyecto propuesto implicaría una acción en una llanura de inundación.

Cualquier documentación o estudio ambiental, cualquier mapa o dibujo que muestre la ubicación y el diseño del proyecto, los calendarios tentativos de construcción y otra información sobre el proyecto propuesto están archivados y disponibles para inspección de lunes a viernes entre las 8 a.m. y las 5 p.m. en la Oficina del Distrito de TxDOT Fort Worth, 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, TX 76133. Los materiales del proyecto también están disponibles en línea en la dirección indicada anteriormente. Estos materiales también estarán disponibles en forma impresa para su revisión en la opción presencial.

La reunión pública virtual se llevará a cabo en inglés y algunos materiales también se proporcionarán en español. Si necesita un intérprete o traductor de documentos porque el inglés no es su idioma principal o tiene dificultades para comunicarse de manera efectiva en inglés, se le proporcionará uno. Si tiene una discapacidad y necesita asistencia, se pueden hacer arreglos especiales para satisfacer la mayoría de las necesidades. Si necesita servicios de interpretación o traducción o si es una persona con una discapacidad que requiere una adaptación para asistir y participar en la reunión pública virtual, comuníquese con Ram Dhakal, P.E. at (817) 370-3519 a más tardar a las 4 p.m., del miércoles 27 de septiembre del 2023. Tenga en cuenta que se requiere un aviso previo ya que algunos servicios y adaptaciones pueden requerir tiempo para que el Departamento de Transporte de Texas lo organice.

Se solicitan comentarios por escrito del público con respecto al proyecto propuesto y estos podrán ser enviados por correo postal a la TxDOT Fort Worth District Office, 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, TX 76133. Los comentarios por escrito también podrán ser enviados por correo electrónico a [Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov](mailto:Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov). Además, los miembros del público pueden llamar al (817) 382-7523 y proporcionar testimonio verbal desde las 8 a.m. del martes 3 de octubre de 2023 hasta las 11:59 pm del miércoles 18 de octubre de 2023. Todos los comentarios deberán ser recibidos el miércoles 18 de octubre del 2023 o antes. Las respuestas a los comentarios recibidos estarán disponibles en línea en [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov), utilizando la búsqueda de palabras clave "FM 1187 West Tarrant", una vez que se hayan preparado.

Si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud general con respecto al proyecto propuesto o la reunión, comuníquese con Ram Dhakal, P.E., Gerente de Proyecto de TxDOT, al (817) 370-3519 o [Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov](mailto:Ram.Dhakal@txdot.gov).

La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo, o han sido realizadas por TxDOT de conformidad con la reglamentación 23 U.S.C. 327 y un Memorando de Entendimiento con fecha de 9 de diciembre del 2019, y ejecutado por FHWA y TxDOT.

# Public Speaking Classes at American Legion Post 297

Does your tummy tie up in knots when you think about speaking in front of a group of people about something important? Perhaps you have to give a speech, and you know what you want to say, but the words just never seem to come out just right? Well, help is here!

Join our Public Speaking class to learn how to organize, write, and refine both formal and informal speeches. The instructor will teach you how to lessen your anxiety, relax in the moment, and connect with a crowd. Learn how to comfortably speak in front of others and get your point across without hesitation!

This is a 12-hour class - done in six lessons over the course of four weeks. Get together with friends, make new acquaintances, and learn a valuable skill that you'll continue to use in your life and career.

Here are the details:

- Classes are sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 297 in Benbrook, TX and open to the public.

- The cost is \$30 per person to cover instructor fees and classroom costs - payable by cash, card, or check on the first night of class.

- We have openings for up to 25 spaces, please register in advance by calling the instructor, Rachel Rogstad at 682-667-7235.

- Classes will be Oct. 2 through Oct. 23, on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (*No class will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 18.*)

If the maximum capacity for the class is reached, your name will be put on a waitlist and if there is enough interest, we may run the class again.


*paid advertisement*

**PUBLIC SPEAKING COURSE**  
*Does your tummy tie up in knots when you think about speaking in front of a group of people about something important?*

**Learn how to:**


- Organize, write, and refine both formal and informal speeches
- Lessen anxiety and relax in the moment
- Connect with a crowd

**Pre-register by October 1st by calling the instructor, Rachel Rogstad, at 682-667-7235**  
**There are only 25 seats available, so call soon!**

 **PAUL MANSIR AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 297 - BENBROOK, TX**

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 **White Settlement Historical Museum**

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817-246-9719**

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Closed: Sunday & Monday**

**<http://www.wsmuseum.com>**

**FREE ADMISSION - GROUPS WELCOME!**



# Castleberry ISD's Annual Homecoming Traditions

Castleberry ISD will host the annual homecoming festivities the week of Oct. 9.

The district encourages current students, families, alumni, and community to participate in this year's *Superheroes Leading the Way* themed event.

For the latest news and information regarding homecoming, visit the [district's website](#).

## Participate in the Parade

Community members are encouraged to join the Castleberry tradition and participate in the homecoming parade on Thursday, Oct. 12.

Community floats including local Police and Firefighters, area business owners, church organizations, student clubs/athletes, marching band, homecoming court, and much more are all encouraged to participate in this long standing Castleberry tradition.

In order to participate, submit the [online registration form](#) by Wednesday, Oct. 4.

## Alumni Needed for Friday Pep Rally

The high school will host an alumni pep rally and all students and community members are invited to attend on Friday, Oct. 13, at 3 p.m.

Organizers of the event are looking for former CHS cheerleaders, athletes, band members, teachers, and other alumni to participate in a possible routine.

Submit your interest in participating in the event by Friday, Sept. 29.

All alumni who [submit this form](#) will be contacted by a member of the homecoming committee on Monday, Oct. 2 with additional information about the pep rally.

### Homecoming Week Timeline

Thursday, Oct. 12

IMMS Community Block Party at 5 p.m.

Homecoming Parade at 6 p.m.

Community Pep Rally and  
Burning of the Letters at 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 13

Alumni Pep Rally at 3 p.m.

Varsity Football Game

at W.O. Barnes Stadium at 7:30 p.m.

Castleberry High School vs.

Western Hills High School

*Homecoming Royalty and King and Queen  
will be announced at halftime*

All homecoming information will be updated regularly on the [district's website](#) and social media pages.

## PETER POLINSKY INSURANCE AGENCY

(817) 560-9400  
[peter@polinsky-insurance.com](mailto:peter@polinsky-insurance.com)

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*Customer Satisfaction is Our Goal!*



From StatePoint

# Five Tips to Make Saving Money a Habit



It's no secret that saving money is hard. Millions of Americans are living paycheck to paycheck and four out of 10 have less than \$400 in savings.

Similar to healthy eating, exercising or getting enough sleep, saving money works best when you make it a habit.

Here's how to prioritize saving money so that it becomes second nature:

1. Set a specific, realistic goal. Get very clear on what's most important to you, whether that's a rainy day fund to cover unexpected expenses, a family vacation, a house or retirement. Having a target amount for your savings and seeing your progress can keep you motivated.

2. Start small. Think of one or two actions you can take today to help you reach your goal. For example, cut back on expenses like eating out and put that money toward a weekly or monthly savings target. Accomplishing bite-sized goals can result in major progress over time.

3. Make it automatic. The more a habit is automatic, the more likely you'll be to stick with it. Set up your direct deposit to put a portion of every paycheck into your savings account — before you have the chance to spend it. There are many online banking and digital tools that make it simple to set up automatic transfers to make consistent deposits. There are also mobile apps that will round up your purchases to the nearest dollar and deliver the change into a savings fund.

4. Reward yourself. While building a healthy habit is its own reward, it doesn't hurt to thank yourself for being consistent. With support from the Wells Fargo Foundation, the nonprofit SaverLife launched a free mobile app that can help you build a habit of savings through fun, daily challenges, cash rewards and tips from fi-

nancial coaches. The prize offerings change regularly, which can help you stay motivated and on track to hit your money goals. In the first six months of joining SaverLife, members typically more than double their savings rates and 58 percent deposit at least \$500 into their savings accounts. To get started, download the free SaverLife app from the iOS or Android app store.

5. Get empowered. Knowledge is power, and fortunately, free online resources abound that can give you the financial literacy you need to meet your savings goals and gain insights into your money decisions. For example, *Our Money Matters* is a free financial wellness hub also supported by the Wells Fargo Foundation that offers personalized financial wellness tools and educational content to help you with things like budgeting, ways to pay for college, building good credit and savings for goals. To sign up for free, visit [our-money-matters.org](http://our-money-matters.org).

"The key is to get started and build on each small success," says Bonnie Wallace, head of Financial Health Philanthropy at Wells Fargo. "We're committed to supporting programs that connect people with resources that can help them boost their savings and build greater financial security over time."

## Holiday Countdown

40  
DAYS

Halloween

63  
DAYS

Thanksgiving

95  
DAYS

Christmas

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email: [suburbannews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suburbannews@sbcglobal.net)

# Interim President of the Republic of Texas, David Burnet

by *Dr. Ken Bridges*

David G. Burnet became the President of the Republic of Texas on March 17, 1836, days after the new nation's birth. His position was only an interim position, but the 47-year-old New Jersey native was overwhelmed with reports of military defeats and retreats. The newborn republic may not have survived.

Burnet had not been elected as a delegate to the independence convention at Washington-on-the-Brazos, but instead was supposedly on his way to assist William B. Travis and his defense of the Alamo when he stopped in an effort to recruit the delegates to fight. The decision to stop in Washington saved his life as all the defenders at the Alamo were killed on March 6 and news reached the convention a few days later.

Delegates considered Sam Houston as the interim president of the independent Texas, but he was away commanding the army. Stephen F. Austin was in Washington, DC, lobbying for support from the United States.

The convention instead settled on Burnet as interim president by a narrow vote on March 17, with Lorenzo de Zavala as interim vice-president. Presidential runner-up Samuel P. Carson was named secretary of state and immediately left for the United States to seek recognition of Texas independence and possible annexation.

Texas settlers were now fighting for their lives as the Mexican Army seemed unstoppable. Fearing the new government would be captured, Burnet chose to flee to a safer location. He ordered the government to move to Harrisburg (later renamed Houston). The retreat touched off a wave of panic and led to the decisive battle at San Jacinto. As the overwhelmed Texas army retreated to the east, a long column of refugees accompanied them, desperate to seek safety, even as far as the United States.

Burnet attempted to enlist the support of the United States but was unsuccessful. He wrote an executive order declaring martial law and ordering all able-bodied men to enlist, but it was Gen. Sam Houston, the overall commander of Texas forces, who had the at-

tention of Texans. Houston criticized Burnet's decision to leave Washington as untimely and cowardly, making the bad situation steadily worse. After reaching Harrisburg, Burnet moved the government again to Galveston and was prepared to leave Texas altogether. Burnet, in turn, criticized Houston for failing to fight the army of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. Houston, aware of his limited resources and manpower, was waiting for the right moment to strike.

Houston and his forces won the day at San Jacinto on April 21, scattering Mexican forces and capturing a fleeing Santa Anna several days later. Burnet, so far removed from Houston, had lost contact with the army for several days and did not learn of the victory until well after it had occurred. As Texas troops nursed their wounds and basked in their victory, Burnet arrived on the scene, only to criticize Houston's actions.

By Oct. 22, Burnet's term as interim president ended. Seven months had allowed Texas to stabilize, but his efforts to raise funds for Texas only had limited success. Sam Houston followed as the first elected president of Texas.

In 1838, Burnet returned to politics as vice-president, elected on a separate ticket from the new president, Mirabeau B. Lamar.

Burnet and Houston continued to clash with each other repeatedly through the years. By any measure, Houston had been far more successful politically and far more popular, but this never stopped the two from their many squabbles. Their arguments, along with Houston's rivalry with Lamar, became staple features of Texas politics during those years. In spite of these rivalries, Houston towered over both men. Several times, an incensed Burnet challenged Houston to a duel over his insults. Houston always laughed off or ignored Burnet's challenges.

Burnet supported Lamar's antagonistic approach to Mexico, hoping to redirect the valuable trade of Mexico's northern provinces to Texas in the process. The result was one military disaster after another that left

Mexico threatening another invasion of Texas and an empty treasury. In 1840, while Lamar was forced to receive medical treatments in New Orleans, Burnet served as acting president. He tried to convince the Texas Congress to launch a raid into Mexico, fearing Texas was about to be attacked. Houston and his allies blocked the reckless move.

In 1841, Burnet ran for president against Houston. He and his allies launched a series of bitter attacks on Houston as an alcoholic. Houston appealed to practical interests, such as stabilizing the finances of Texas through less military spending, easing tensions with Mexico, and encouraging more trade with foreign nations instead of more fighting. He told his supporters, "Our motto ought to be fewer officers and more corn-fields." In spite of the spirited support that Burnet received, he and his supporters could not put a dent in Houston's popularity or reputation. Burnet was soundly defeated in the election, receiving a scant 26 percent of the vote.

After 1841, Burnet never ran for election again. However, he did not stay out of public service. After statehood was achieved in 1845, the state's first governor, James Pinckney Henderson, appointed Burnet in May 1846 as the state's secretary of state. He would serve ably until January 1848.

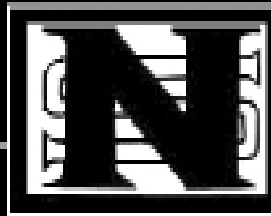
In 1866, Burnet was appointed by the state legislature to serve in the U. S. Senate, but the Senate refused to seat him because of his support of the Confederacy during the Civil War. Burnet's health continued to decline. His increasingly erratic behavior has led some historians to suggest that he may have been suffering dementia.

Burnet died at his home in Galveston in 1870 at the age of 82. In 1852, the state named Burnet County in his honor. A statue to Burnet was erected in the Northeast Texas community of Clarksville in 1936 as part of the state's centennial celebrations.

Regardless of how his performance may be judged, Burnet was an important figure in a defining era for Texas.



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## Three Day Weekend Forecast



### Friday, Sept. 22:

**AM** - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.  
 South wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**PM** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 76. South southeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.



### Saturday, Sept. 23:

**AM** - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 97. South wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**PM** - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75.  
 South wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.



### Sunday, Sept. 24:

**AM** - A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95.  
 South southwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**PM** - A 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68.

**Extended Forecast Click Here**