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# River Oaks News

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*From Castleberry ISD*

## ***Castleberry ISD Student Art on Display During TASA/TASB State Convention***

Castleberry High School art students, Victoria D., Celeste R., and Gabriela S., were recently selected to have their artwork displayed at the annual Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) and Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Convention Art Exhibit.



Artwork, "Moon Man" by: Castleberry senior Celeste R.

The TASA/TASB Art Exhibit was held in the exhibit hall of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio during the September conference. These talented students' artwork will proudly represent Castleberry ISD and will be among several award-winning pieces of art throughout the state.

Castleberry ISD is very proud of these



Artwork, "Helpless" by: Castleberry senior Gabriela S.

students and their dedicated art educators who have worked so diligently to help mold and shape their talents.



Artwork, "Recharged Tedward" by: Castleberry senior Victoria D.

*From the City of River Oaks*

## **River Oaks City Council Meetings**

The City Council of River Oaks meets on the second and fourth Tuesday night of each month.

Agendas for the meetings are available as soon as they are posted on the [City's website](#), 72 hours prior to each meeting. Minutes of each meeting will also be available once they are completed and posted.

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Hello Fellow District 99 Residents,

My name is Mimi Coffey and I am running to be your State Representative. I have spent most of my entire life in District 99. I have raised my 4 children here. As a defense attorney of 27 years, I am used to fighting uphill battles and negotiating. I will fight hard for the needs of our northwest Tarrant County residents.

Our property taxes are too high. Women's reproductive rights have been taken away. Our public schools are in a crisis with a shortage of teachers. It is getting harder for the majority of northwest Texans to make ends meet with rising costs. As a small business owner of 22 years, I know what it takes to run a successful business and take care of your people. The pandemic has taught us that to survive we must embrace change. I am ready to serve both Democrats and Republicans alike. District 99 is military and defense industry heavy. I understand and respect this as my father served in the Army and retired from Lockheed-Martin (General Dynamics). I have the utmost respect for our incumbent representative and if elected, plan to continue his tradition of excellent service to the community.

I invite you to visit my website, [mimicoffeyfordistrict99.com](http://mimicoffeyfordistrict99.com) for more information. I'm asking for your vote so that we can put PEOPLE OVER POLITICS. Feel free to text or call me direct at 817-205-4861.

MIMI COFFEY

Political ad paid for by the  
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From the Project Linus Blanketeers

## First Monday Quilt Club - Project Linus Volunteers Needed

The First Monday Quilt Club will meet at Bethany Christian Church located at 1500 Meadow Park Drive in White Settlement from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 5. Ladies may bring snack foods to share with others if desired.

Project Linus is a non-profit service organization. The members of this group are Tarrant County Chapter Project Linus volunteers who create handmade quilts and blankets that provide love, warmth, and comfort for local children who have suffered trauma, tragedy, or illness.

Volunteers also make coverlets for veterans, nursing home residents, and the homeless. Unfortunately, the need for these blankets increases each month. They desperately need volunteers with portable sewing machines to help assemble the quilts.

No experience is needed - there is a place for you. Anyone can help if you can follow instructions, sew, tie a knot, crochet a blanket, or tell a good joke. Volunteers

have lots of fun and develop fantastic friendships.

High school students can receive community service credits for participating. Materials (fabric, batting, thread, and yarn) are provided.

Donations of fabric, yarn, thread, sewing machines, sergers, or money to purchase materials are greatly appreciated.

Come join the fun and enjoy fellowship with the Quilt Club volunteers while you make a difference in our community by being a blessing to others.

For more information about the mission of Project Linus, visit [www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org).

For more information on this group and meetings, call Virginia Biela at 817-244-1263.

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Publisher: Boyden Underwood, [publisher@suburban-newspapers.com](mailto:publisher@suburban-newspapers.com)

Editor: Emily Moxley, [suburbannews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suburbannews@sbcglobal.net)

Classifieds: Vee Horn, [ca.suburbannews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ca.suburbannews@sbcglobal.net)

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From the Sports Desk with John Loven

# Castleberry Overpowered by Lake Worth

Most fans of teams involved in rivalry games will often say “You can throw the records out the door when these two teams meet.” Lion fans had hoped this would be true when CHS faced off against their cross-town rivals from Lake Worth. The Lions entered the game looking forward to their first victory, having suffered three lopsided losses (53-13, 44-0, 62-28). While the Bullfrogs had begun their season with quite a bit more success. They supported a nice 2-1 record, with their only loss being by one point (17-16) to an undefeated Granbury squad (4-0). The Lions hoped the home crowd at W.O. Barnes Stadium might tip the scales in their favor. But unfortunately for CHS, this game played out exactly as it projected it might be looking at the records of each team entering the contest. The Bullfrogs completely dominated the Lions and cruised to an easy 50-0 victory on Friday, Sept. 23.

Lake Worth received the opening kickoff and drove 75 yards in five plays. The big play in the drive was a 53-yard run by their senior back Damion Moore, who had a huge night rushing. He accounted for 64 yards of the drive and included a 1-yard touchdown run that put the Bullfrogs up 7-0 with 10:32 left in the first quarter. The Lions responded with a three-and-out on their first possession. A 58-yard punt by senior Diego Torres (#8) helped push the Bullfrogs back to their 37-yard line. Lake Worth then drove 63 yards in 13 plays to go up 14-0 with 1:59 still left in the first quarter. The Lions went three-and-out again following this score.

Lake Worth started with great field position this time, and began on their own 45-yard line. It took just three plays for the Bullfrogs to score their third touchdown of the night as the game just entered the second quarter (11:45). In a game that was obviously going to be lopsided the next two plays by Lake Worth were somewhat questionable, sportsmanship wise anyway. Already up 20-0 in barely over one quarter the Bullfrogs chose to run a fake point-after-touchdown and scored a 2-point conversion to up 22-0. Then they decided to on-side kick after that, which they recovered to give them the ball back again. Seven plays later they found the endzone for their fourth touchdown of the first half and a 29-0 lead (9:03/2nd).

The Lions simply had no success in moving the ball against the much faster and athletic Bullfrog defense. Their third possession resulted in another three-and-out. Lake Worth took over after

the CHS punt and drove 66 yards in 12 plays for touchdown number five of the first half. With 3:19 left till half the Bullfrogs led 36-0.

Sophomore Daniel Ortiz (#2) had a nice 47-yard kickoff return after this touchdown. This resulted with the Lions getting their best field position of the night at the Bullfrog 38-yard line. The Lions finally were able to move the ball a little on this drive. They drove down to the Bullfrogs 9-yard line before eventually getting pushed back and faced a fourth-and-goal from the 19-yard line. Their fourth down pass fell incomplete as the first half ended with Lake Worth taking a 36-0 lead into the locker room.

The Lions received the second half kickoff. They squeezed out one first down before being forced to punt. Lake Worth took one play to score when the Bullfrog running back took off on a 58-yard touchdown run. The lead grew to 43-0 (8:37/3rd). CHS followed with another three-and-out and Lake Worth followed that with another one play drive for a touchdown. This time the same running back ripped off an impressive 89-yard touchdown run. This was the final score of the night as the score ballooned to 50-0 with 6:48 left in the third quarter. It was also the last carry of the night for the outstanding Lake Worth running back who had a career night and finished with 13 rushes for 266 yards. Lake Worth did play back ups for the most part in the final quarter.

The Lions had a chance to avoid the shut out when they lined up for a 43-yard field goal attempt. However, as luck would have it, the snap was bobbled by the holder and he was forced to run with the ball instead but was tackled as time expired in the game. About the only highlight on the night for the Lions was Diego Torres (#8) who averaged an outstanding 42.1 yards/punt on eight punts.

Now the Lions (0-4) travel to Kennedale to face the Wildcats (2-2) on Friday, Sept. 30. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. Go Lions!

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## Tarrant County Veterans Day Parade Friday, Nov. 11

Only a couple months are left to sign up for the annual Tarrant County Veterans Day parade, organizers have announced.

“Saluting Buffalo Soldiers” is the theme of this year’s celebration set to step off on Friday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m.

Participants will form up in the Fort Worth Panther Island Pavilion parking lot, march down North Forest Park Blvd. along the Clear Fork of the Trinity River and return.

The Tarrant County Veterans Council is busy finalizing plans for this special event. The [parade website](#) has much more information.

The parade planning committee is soliciting support from individuals and organizations across North Texas for this year’s festivities.

“Everyone can join in our salute to Buffalo Soldiers and all military veterans who have, are and will continue to make great contributions,” notes Parade Chairman Ken Cox. “Simply visit our website where you can learn how to support, volunteer, and take part.”

“Will you consider joining this year’s celebration?” Cox asks. “If you’re not available, please help us spread the word. Hope y’all can join our Cowtown salute on Veterans Day.”



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From the River Oaks Police Department

## Weekly Crime Report

**Monday, Sept. 19 –**

Officers removed an abandoned vehicle from the 5700 block of River Oaks Blvd. due to safety issues and drug paraphernalia in plain view.

Officers were dispatched to a business in the 5400 block of River Oaks Blvd about a male that had just stolen an item. The male fled the scene prior to arrival. A picture of the suspect was obtained and detectives will be working to identify him.

Officers were investigating a theft at the Quik Trip located at 2601 Jacksboro Hwy and detained a male. The male gave a false name and was found to have a probation violation warrant. The male was arrested for fail to ID as a fugitive of justice.

**Tuesday, Sept. 20**

Officers were dispatched to the Quik Trip located at 2601 Jacksboro Hwy in reference to a male on the property that had a previous criminal trespass warning. The male was located and arrested for criminal trespass.

**Thursday, Sept. 22**

A male reported that he was assaulted by his child’s mother during a custody exchange. A report was completed for Class C assault and the incident will be investigated.

**Friday, Sept. 23**

Officers were dispatched to Taco Bell located at 5304 River Oaks Blvd in reference to a customer in the drive thru that was refusing to leave and making assault threats. The customer left prior to police arrival. The customer is being investigated for terroristic threats.

Officers served a warrant in the 5000 block of Hartford for a male wanted for possession of fentanyl pills. The male was located and arrested. During the arrest the male was found to be in possession of additional fentanyl pills.

**Sunday, Sept. 25**

Officers were dispatched to the Quik Trip located at 2601 Jacksboro Hwy in reference to a male on the property that had a previous criminal trespass warning. The male was located and arrested for criminal trespass.

Calls for Service – 274

Traffic Stops – 129

Arrests - 9

From the River Oaks Police Department

## National Night Out Tuesday, Oct. 4

We are very pleased to announce the return of National Night Out this year. Please join us on Tuesday, Oct. 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. at 5200 Ohio Garden Road in River Oaks.

Come out to meet your officers and neighbors, and enjoy hamburgers and hot-dogs prepared by our staff!

Public parking will be along Ohio Garden Road. Hope to see you there!



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# Expert Tips to Organize Your Home for Fall



From the walk-in closet to the kitchen pantry, catch-all spots make all the difference in daily routines -- but only if they're kept neat and tidy.

Family organizing expert Jessica Litman is on a mission to help families declutter and stay organized. She's sharing her pro tips for getting your home in shape for this busy time of year.

**Clear Away Cabinet Clutter.** 'Tis the season for autumn chili, stew and other comfort foods. That means it's also time to put your essential slow cookers and pans where you can reach them, so food prep will be hassle-free.

"When the weather starts to cool, I swap out summer cookware for winter bakeware," says Litman. "I put the grilling items in the back of the cabinet and pull the turkey roaster and baking dishes to the front."

For added storage, Litman recommends using a shelf rack or vertical organizer to keep cutting boards and pie pans neatly upright and easily accessible.

**Prep the Pantry.** Create a system that gives grab-and-go snacks and cooking necessities a home. This will help keep the kitchen tidy in the midst of busy work and school schedules.

"Do a pantry cleanout," Litman says. "Remove everything from the area and wipe down the shelves. Take the canned goods you didn't eat and donate them to a local food bank."

Use a combination of shelf liners and new containers to restore order to the space. Measure the shelves, cut the liner to length and then lay it flat. The shelf liner is durable, waterproof and designed to keep surfaces dry while making them easy to wipe clean. Use the measurements to get an idea of what size bins will best fit the area. Store crackers, cereal, oats and pasta in clear containers with labels, and put spices and seasonings in a slim organizer.

"Set up items similarly to grocery store shelves by placing like items together," Litman suggests. "When you do this, it's like you are shopping in your pantry instead of hunting for things.

**Out with the Old.** Before pulling out your fall wardrobe,

declutter the piles of "stuff" from the closet. This will make your space seem bigger and more organized.

"Remove clothes from this past season," Litman recommends. "Look through each garment. If you didn't wear it, donate, toss or sell it."

Now that there is more room, hang an over-the-door shoe rack for rain boots and work shoes and use a closet organizer to store accessories, such as belts, purses and scarves. Litman also recommends dry cleaning winter jackets now so they're ready to wear when cold weather comes.

**Find Balance in the Bathroom.** Whether it's the primary bath or the kids' washroom, make the most of your space by organizing everything into different categories, like towels and haircare. Once everything is grouped, you can decide what will be kept where based on the available areas. Use a tray on the counter and bins in pullout drawers.

Litman says to wipe and line surfaces, especially under the sink before putting essentials away. She also recommends waiting until after the organizing process to buy bins and caddies, so you know exactly what you need.

Once these organizing projects are complete, your home will be ready for all the fun fall festivities and family gatherings.

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# American Politician - John H. Reagan *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

John Henninger Reagan was a controversial figure in Texas History. He had a long record, serving as a judge, U. S. Senator, Confederate cabinet member, and chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission. While he was an outspoken defender of slavery and secession early in his career, he was later a defender of the interests of farmers against large railroad interests.

He was born in 1818 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, nestled in the Appalachian Mountains. His parents were fairly prosperous and sent him to private schools for his education, and he even attended a seminary in Tennessee for a time. As a young man, reports emerging from Texas about its fight with Mexico and push for independence fired his imagination. In 1838, still just 19, he left Tennessee to head for Texas on his own.

He worked for funds along the way, briefly managing a plantation in Mississippi. Not long after his arrival in Texas by 1839, Reagan became embroiled in battles between the Cherokees in East Texas and settlers in the area. Reagan soon began working as a deputy surveyor in what is now Kaufman County, just east of present-day Dallas. He also made extra money working as a private tutor. He made enough money to buy his own farm in Kaufman County and began apprenticing himself to a nearby attorney to study the law. In 1846, he was admitted to the bar. He settled in nearby Buffalo, at that time a thriving community and the county seat of Henderson County. Widely respected in the area and now a newly-practicing attorney, he was elected district judge in April 1846, the first for the area with Texas as a new state.

In 1847, he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives. He was defeated for re-election in 1849. But his fortunes bounced back, and he was elected district judge in 1852. In 1857, he was elected to Congress as sectional tensions began to boil over. He was a rabid defender of slavery, even warning of racial violence if the slaves were ever freed. After the 1860 election, he joined Texas secessionists in trying to pull Texas out of the Union, sharply opposing Gov. Sam Houston, an outspoken Unionist. Reagan joined the secessionist convention, which ousted Houston and declared Texas a part of the Confederacy by early 1861. Reagan resigned from Congress and was then sent by the convention to be a part of the provisional Confederate Congress then meeting in Alabama.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis named Reagan postmaster general of the Confederacy. Reagan quickly went to work, keeping most of the post office system across the South intact and even convincing a number of postal officials in Washington, DC, to join the Confederate post office. Within a few weeks, the post office was fully functional again and was one of the few Confederate institutions to function successfully during the Civil War. But the Confederacy faced increasing defeats on the battlefield and economic pressures led to massive shortages and even bread riots. The Confederate post office had to close and consolidate many routes to stay functional. By early April 1865, Union forces had broken through Confederate defenses at their capital in Richmond, the Confederate government, along with Reagan, were forced to leave on the few available trains still going southward. While they were initially planning to reassemble a new government in North Carolina, the reality was that they were running for their lives.

What lay next was still uncertain in a very chaotic time.

## *Part II*

John H. Reagan had risen through the ranks of Texas frontier politics, serving as a local judge and legislator and ultimately a member of

Congress. He had fought for Texas secession and later became a member of the Confederate cabinet. But with the end of the Civil War at hand, everything he had worked for was now at stake.

By late April 1865, with the Confederacy disintegrating, Jefferson Davis named Reagan, already postmaster general of the Confederacy, as acting secretary of the treasury. By this point, the Confederate government was on the run and most Confederate military units had surrendered. He would be in charge of a treasury of now-worthless Confederate money. Within weeks, Reagan and Davis were both captured by Union troops in Georgia, along with former Texas Gov. Francis R. Lubbock, now a military aide to Davis, and sent to Fort Warren in Boston. There Reagan was kept in solitary confinement for five months, uncertain of his fate.

While imprisoned, he read many northern newspapers and their blistering attacks on the South in the wake of the Civil War. Reagan wrote an open letter to the people of Texas urging cooperation with Reconstruction, warning that the enraged North would tolerate no resistance and would inflict even harsher penalties on the South if challenged. His letter provoked anger in a Texas humiliated by defeat. But the violence of Reconstruction, the military response, and martial law across the state later proved he was right. Reagan was later granted amnesty and returned to Texas in disgrace.

In 1874, after the chaos of Reconstruction had ended, he was elected to his old seat in Congress. While serving in Congress, Reagan also served as a delegate for the new state constitutional convention. This convention produced the Texas Constitution of 1876, which is still used by the state today. Whatever actions he had committed for the Confederacy were quickly forgiven by his colleagues once he returned to Congress. He was quickly named chairman of the new post office committee and then became chair of the influential House Committee on Commerce after his 1876 re-election.

While in Congress, Reagan turned his interests to the railroad industry. Increasingly, farmers across the nation were upset with railroad monopolies and unfair hauling rates. He began pushing for legislation to regulate railroads but received strong pushback from the industry. In 1887, the state legislature elected him to the U.S. Senate, and Reagan was able to push through the Interstate Commerce Act. This legislation regulated railroad prices and practices and created the first federal regulatory body in the nation's history.

Gov. Jim Hogg successfully pushed through a similar law in Texas in 1891, the Texas Railroad Commission. Hogg invited Reagan to serve as the first chair of the commission. Now 73, Reagan stepped down from the Senate to return to Texas to serve in this position. Reagan would continue to serve as chairman for the next 12 years.

He maintained an active interest in history and the story of his own role in the climactic events of the mid-nineteenth century. In 1897, he co-founded the Texas State Historical Association. In 1903, he published his memoirs. The state legislature also honored him by naming Reagan County after him in West Texas, near San Angelo. Later that same year, now aged 84, he retired from the railroad commission.

In March 1905, he contracted pneumonia and died at his home in Palestine at age 86. Several schools were named after him in the years after his death and a statue was erected to him at the University of Texas. The state even named an office building on the Capitol grounds after him.



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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, Sept. 30:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 84. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.  
PM - Clear; low around 56. E/SE wind 5mph.



Saturday, Oct. 1:

AM - Sunny; high near 84. S/SE wind 5 to 10 mph, becoming east northeast in the afternoon.  
PM - Clear, with a low around 57.



Sunday, Oct. 2:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 86.  
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Extended Forecast Click Here