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March 2021

### **Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Newsletter**

Sponsored by the City of Waco Official State Historical Center of the Texas Rangers Home of Texas Ranger Bicentennial 1823-2023

### We Survived the Storm: 205 Hours Below Freezing in Central Texas!



Ice forms on a tree in Waco on Tuesday.

An arctic blast rolled into Texas on Thursday, Feb. 11th - the worst in 10 years. It lingered for days causing massive, statewide failures in electrical generation. Over four million Texans were without power and many without water.

The historical complex closed to the public from Feb. 13th through the 20th to keep staff and visitors safe and to conserve limited supplies of power and water. Our staff security officers and off-duty McLennan County Sheriff's Deputies kept watch for 24 hours on the lookout for

City of Waco employees worked heroically around the clock to repair burst water mains around town and provide assistance and shelters. We reopened on the 21st without serious damage. Many other Texans were not so fortunate.

### **New Acquisitions Exhibit**

Every year donations and loans of irreplaceable artifacts of Texas Ranger history are presented to the Museum on behalf of the people of Texas. The New Acquisition case in our front lobby is one place they are displayed. From historic documents and photographs to field gear and personal items there is always something new at the Texas Ranger Museum.



This time you'll find an 1852 photograph of Texas Ranger Shapley Ross, a blue and white china plate from the 1936 Texas Centennial, a custom-made Texas Ranger badge from the 1930s, and more!

### **Welcome Boulder**

We have had a temporary entrance sign directing people to the lobby of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. This year we commissioned Boulder Designs of Waco to make a stone sign more in keeping with our architecture and stonework. We love it!



Before After

### **Freeway Construction is Halfway There!**

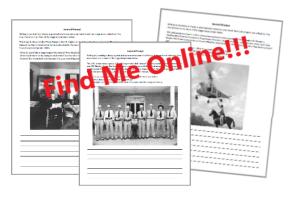


Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has announced some upcoming construction activities that mark the halfway point for the My35 Waco Construction project!

By early March, crews plan to shift mainlane traffic from 12th Street to BUS 77 onto the newly reconstructed lanes on the west side of I-35. That means a smoother ride for drivers!

The new permanent southbound exits for MLK Boulevard (Exit 335C) and for University Parks Drive – 4th/5th Streets – Downtown (Exit 335B) will open once traffic is shifted.

### **Classroom Resource: Journal Prompts**



Writing or journaling is always a great activity to exercise your mind! Journal-writing prompts encourage reflection of one's likes/dislikes and memories, promote habits for daily journaling, inspire creativity with storytelling, and develop problemsolving skills in looking for answers to mysteries.

Our journal prompts use images in our collection, and now have their own webpage! You can download the FREE worksheets and print them, or just look at them virtually.

Please click here to access the prompts.



## Bring a Texas Ranger virtually into the classroom!

Our FREE resources:
10-Minute Lesson Plans
Story Time with Audrey videos
Discovering the Legend TV series
Texas Ranger History Timeline
Oral Histories
Biographies
Guess the Artifact
Activity Sheets
Journal Prompts
...and so much more!

www.texasranger.org

### **Junior Texas Ranger Devarjay Daniel**

Devarjay Daniel is a 9-year-old bravely battling a serious illness. Recently the Beverly Woods Fishing and Hunting with Kids Foundation took him hunting on a ranch in Duval County. His dream is to be a police officer, and Texas Ranger Edward Groves stationed in Kingsville arranged to appoint Devarjay a Junior Texas Ranger. His name is now on the permanent roll of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. He also received honorary appointments from the Pearland Police Department and the Texas DPS Highway Patrol. We honor these agencies for making the wishes of a courageous young man come true.



Left is Ranger Edward Groves. Right is Ranger Robert Montalvo.

### In Memoriam: Sergeant Jim H. Gant



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of retired Texas Ranger Sergeant Jim H. Gant. He served in the Texas Rangers from 1974 to 1987. He passed away on February 12th in Georgetown.

Sergeant Gant was a Marine Corps Veteran and served in the Texas Department of Public Safety for 23 years. He graduated from the DPS Academy in 1964 and was assigned to Highway Patrol in Marshall. He was later promoted to Texas Ranger and was stationed in Sherman. In 1982, he promoted to Texas Ranger Sergeant and was assigned to Company "A" in Houston.

Please **click here** to read his full obituary.

### We're on Instagram!



The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame social media team decided to launch 2021 with the creation of a Museum Instagram account!

### The Texas Ranger Museum (@txrangermuseum)

We encourage you to follow us on Instagram and Facebook. There will be some different content on both platforms.

### **TSLAC Custom Videoconferencing Backgrounds**



Looking for a historic background to enhance your next Zoom meeting? Thanks to Texas State Library and Archives Commission for creating these fun alternative backgrounds for webinars and videoconferencing. There are a few Texas Ranger backgrounds in the mix! The graphics are free to download and may be used by the public.

Please **click here** to download the images.

### **Urban Edge Texas Ranger Bag**

Features genuine leather details, an adjustable and removable shoulder strap, metal hardware, and reinforced lining on inside. Body is approximately 15" wide by 13" tall. \$45 + Tax



To shop more items available for purchase, please visit our <u>Gift Shop online</u> or in person 9am to 4:30pm daily. You never have to pay admission to shop. Sales from the Gift Shop benefit the preservation and education activities of the Museum. Please call (877) 750-8631 or email <a href="mailto:thestore@texasranger.org">thestore@texasranger.org</a> to order. We ship worldwide. Thank you!

### **Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ Partners Program**

Be part of the Texas Ranger Bicentennial! The Texas Rangers will commemorate their landmark 200th anniversary in 2023. With a \$100 contribution, you will receive:

- A limited-edition enameled bronze pin featuring the official Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ seal
- A certificate signed by an active or distinguished retired Texas Ranger
- Your name or family name on the online roster of Bicentennial Partners™
- 4. A one-time-use family admission ticket (admits 4) to the Museum.

\$90 of the contribution qualifies as a charitable contribution. The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame is a 170(c) government-owned nonprofit.

Please <u>click here</u> to learn more about the program.



Official Texas Rangers Bicentennial Pin

Trademarked by the Texas Dept. of Public Safety Designed by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum



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# **ENJOY \$2.00 OFF**

Expires 4/30/2021

Save \$1.00 off regular adult admission for up to two adults. Coupon not valid on discounted senior or military admission. No cash value.

The museum is open 9am to 5pm with the last guest admitted at 4:30pm. The museum is located off I-35 and University Parks Drive in Waco, Texas. For more information, call (254) 750-8631 or visit <a href="https://www.texasranger.org">www.texasranger.org</a>.

Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist