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May 2020

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

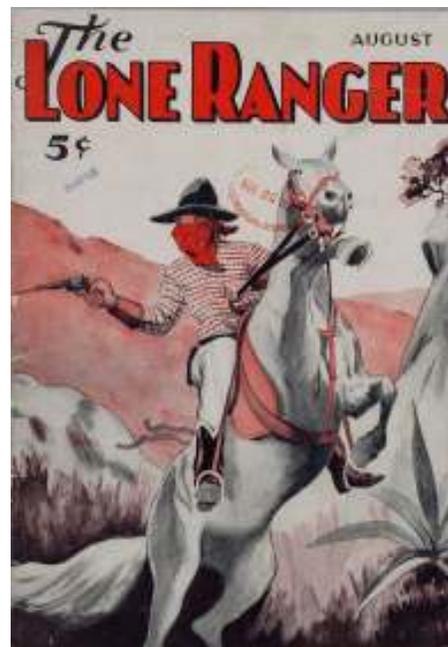
Museum Reopens May 4th

The Museum complex was temporarily closed by the City of Waco on Saturday March 14th to proactively limit the community spread of the COVID-19. Normally open 362 days a year, this is the longest the historical center has been closed to the public since it opened 52 years ago in 1968.

We looked forward to welcoming guests on Monday, May 4th, and our staff has made extensive preparations for the protection of our visitors.

In compliance with State requirements, admissions to the museum will be limited to 75 persons at a time and slowly increase as permitted. Additional changes include but are not limited to:

- Visitors over 2 years old will be encouraged to wear a mask (like *The Lone Ranger*)



- for their protection and that of others. Western-style bandanas are available for purchase at the Admissions desk.
- The staff, who sees 75,000 to 100,000 visitors from all over the world each year, will wear masks in public areas or meetings.
 - Social distancing will be implemented in the Museum and Gift Shop.
 - Due to narrow confines of existing galleries, guided tours will be limited to 10-minute overviews in the Hall of Fame theater between video showings. Tour group size will be limited to 23 persons.
 - All exhibit interactives will be removed and touch screen devices deactivated for the duration of the emergency. Signs will be installed to explain the removal.

Please follow us on [Facebook](#) and [texasranger.org](https://www.texasranger.org) for updates on our reopening. We appreciate your support.

Creativity Thrives During COVID-19 Closure

During the Museum closure, the staff brainstormed on ways to help parents engage, entertain and educate their children while schools were closed. These Facebook posts and lives became such a success, that we have preserved them on our website in the links below and hope they will continue to be a resource for teachers in the coming school year.

These programs include:

- Story Time with Audrey - Audrey Ladd, Education Programs Manager, with her poodle Bolin, reads children's books about Texas and Texas History. [Watch the videos here!](#)
- Activity Sheets - From crossword puzzles and coloring sheets to journaling prompts, these activities are fun for all ages. [Check them out here!](#)
- Guess the Artifact - Zooming in close up on a unique item in the Museum Collections, this game has you guessing what the object is and then reveals more about its history. [Test your skills here!](#)

The popularity of our content sparked the interest of both the Cen-Tex Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and The Art Center of Waco. We partnered with these organizations to present educational Facebook videos that can be viewed on the Museum Facebook page. We will continue to add content to these pages and Facebook throughout our reopening. [Follow us on Facebook today!](#)



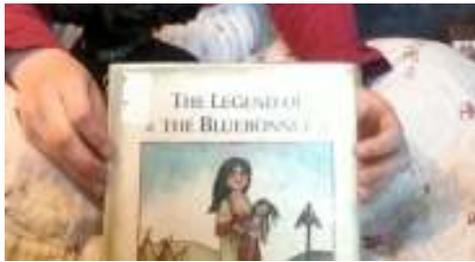
CROSS WORD PUZZLE



DOWN CLUES

- is the largest city in Texas and is the largest city in the United States.
- The state capital of Texas is _____.

ACROSS CLUES



Our Facebook programs were one of many social activities recognized by Brittany Sodic in the *Killeen Daily Herald* article "Virtual Fun Available with Socially Distanced Activities and Events." Please [click here](#) to see the full list.

A Doorway to the Texas Ranger Museum Collections

We are excited to announce the launch of a new internet portal to the historical collections of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum! Visitors worldwide can browse a selection of the 20,000 artifacts, artwork, photographs and documents preserved for future generations in the permanent collections. These resources are made available to the public for education, research purposes, and personal enjoyment. We hope you will explore our collections, and check back often as new material is added!

The project was developed by a team including Rachel Smith, Assistant Collections Manager; Zachary Baker, Baylor student intern; and Shelly Crittendon, Collections Manager. We encourage you to explore the items now on the system with many more to come.

Explore the selection of objects, archives and photographs here:
<https://texasranger.pastperfectonline.com/>



Rachel Smith researching collections for the new database available at <https://texasranger.pastperfectonline.com/>



Machine, Slot

Managed Loan Collection
 Record Type: Object



Revolver

TRHF Museum Collection
 Record Type: Object



"Rangers on Patrol" - Bronze

Art Collection
 Record Type: Object



"Sam Houston" - Painting

Art Collection
 Record Type: Object



"Yes I Know Drew Carter" T-Shirt - Shirt

Texas Ranger Collection
 Record Type: Object

Discovering the Legend - Badges and Authority

Discovering the Legend is a series of short TV programs about Texas Ranger history, artifacts and art, and modern Ranger duties produced in cooperation with the Waco City Cable Television. More than 30 programs are available on our web site featuring Texas Rangers, historians and our staff sharing Texas Ranger history.



Episode #36 features Audrey Ladd, Education Programs Manager. This episode will focus on the history of Texas Ranger badges, from early warrants of authority going all the way up to modern Ranger badges with the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Please [click here](#) to watch the episode.

Lighting Upgraded in Hall of Fame Cases

While we were closed to the public, we were keeping busy behind the scenes! The Collections team has taken this opportunity to inventory our artifacts on display, and make some much needed changes in the galleries. Thanks to our City of Waco Facilities team, the cases in the Hall of Fame are getting all new lighting – this is a project that is much easier to accomplish when the museum is closed! We also began preparing new exhibits to go on display soon in the Hall of Fame and around the museum. We look forward to sharing these exciting changes with you in the coming months. Stay tuned!





I-35 Exit 335B Permanently Closed

The longtime exit for the Museum - Exit 335B University Parks Drive - was removed. From now on, visitors will use:

- Southbound (from Dallas) exit MLK Blvd Exit 335C
- Northbound (from Austin) exit 4th/5th & 8th Streets Exit 334B

Please note, the exit numbers are subject to change, but street assignments will remain.



Texas Hill Country Magazine

On March 26th, author Spring Sault wrote about "Three Legendary Texas Rangers Who Did the State Proud" for *Texas Hill Country Magazine*. The three Rangers that Sault selected are: Captain John "Jack" Coffee Hays, Captain Bill McDonald and Frank Hamer.





Please [click here](#) to read the article.

In Memoriam: James B. Adams

Former Texas Department of Public Safety Director, James B. Adams (December 21, 1926 – April 25, 2020) was 93 years old, a WWII Veteran and former legislator.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Director Steven McCraw today issued the following statement:

“During his seven-year tenure at DPS, Colonel Adams provided outstanding leadership and fully supported the men and women at DPS who risked their lives daily to protect and serve Texas. After more than 30 years, DPS continues to benefit from his legacy, and on behalf of the men and women of DPS, I extend our sincere condolences to his family.”



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:

1. A limited-edition enameled bronze pin featuring the official Texas Ranger Bicentennial™ seal
2. A certificate signed by an active or distinguished retired Texas Ranger
3. 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 [click here](#) 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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[Bicentennial Video](#)

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**ENJOY
\$2.00 OFF**

Expires 7/31/2020

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 www.texasranger.org.

Newsletter Compiled by Christine Rothenbush, Marketing & Development Specialist