

Celina Area Street Name Selection Process

The City of Celina is moving forward with the re-naming of certain streets in advance of development and extensions of these streets. The street name changes were approved by the City Council on May 12, 2015 (Resolution 1015-19R). These new street names will take effect on January 1, 2016:

Current Name	Future Name	Limits
Settlers Ridge	J Fred Smith Parkway	Entire east/west length
W. Sunset Boulevard	W. Carl Darnall Parkway	FM 428 to Utah
E. Sunset Boulevard	E. Carl Darnall Parkway	Preston Road to city limit
Carter Ranch Road	Punk Carter Parkway	East from Preston Road to edge of Carter Ranch subdivision
CR 83	Owensby Parkway	Preston Road to eastern city limit
CR 88	Choate Parkway	Preston Road to eastern city limit

Family and individual names were suggested by the committee and compiled into a list. Each committee member then ranked each name and the rankings were combined to form a list of most popular names. From this list, the committee chose appropriate locations for the street names based on factors such as the location where the individual or family lived and the place where the individual or family exerted significant influence.

The following is a brief synopsis of the history of each name chosen:

Punk Carter Parkway. Punk Carter is world renown as a professional cutting, roping and barrel horse trainer. He is a lifetime member and served as president of the National Cutting Horse Association and has served on the NCHA Executive Committee numerous years, now serving as a NCHA Director-at-Large. Mr. Carter was influential in developing land in Celina, where he lives with his wife and still raises and trains horses today on his ranch east of Preston Road.

Choate Parkway. John and Margaret Choate were founders of Weston and charter member of the Methodist Church there. One of their sons, Benjamin Franklin Choate, married Cora Smith and together they farmed land in Weston and Celina starting in the 1890s. Their son, Charles Frank Choate, ran the Choate Pharmacy, established in 1922, in Celina for many years. A second son, Stonewall Jackson Choate, married Henrietta Wheat. The Choates have many descendants still living in the north Texas area, especially in Celina, Weston and McKinney.

Carl Darnall Parkway. Mr. Darnall was born in the Cottage Hill Community in the late 1800's. His family was one of the first in that area and held a place of prominence among the settlers of that time. They were preachers and teachers, and at one time operated a college in the community, called Marshall College. Carl became an Army doctor and served his country in both World War I and II. He was the head of Walter Reed Hospital in the nation's capital. During his service he developed the method of using chlorine tablets to purify water for soldiers in the field. A similar method is still in use today in municipal water systems worldwide. Among many memorials to him is the hospital at Ft. Hood, Texas which bears his name.

Owensby Parkway. John C. Owensby married Mary Ruth Stone and moved to an area of Celina known as "Owensby Hill" to farm. One of their seven children, Charlie Owensby, was a land owner and cotton buyer who served in WWI. Another son, Lee, was a farmer and cattle breeder. After serving in WWI, Lee Owensby was a member of the Celina City Council and the Celina School Board. A daughter, Mary Ruth Owensby, attended Denton Normal College and SMU before teaching school and later serving as County Supervisor of Schools. Many of the Owensby children and grandchildren were accomplished in their fields and many of their descendants continue to live in Celina.

J Fred Smith Parkway. Mr. Smith's family moved to Celina soon after the coming of the railroad. His father was instrumental in forming The First State Bank and his family also ran a flour mill in Celina. He is credited with laying out the grid pattern for downtown Celina. It could be said that Mrs. Smith was Celina's first city planner, since he was instrumental in laying out the city square, building the brick buildings surrounding the square and paving the streets. In 1911, he donated lots for a city park and to the Celina Presbyterian Church to build a manse. J. Fred left Celina around 1913, moved to University Park in Dallas, serving as the first mayor of that community. With a partner, he built Snider Plaza, the first shopping center in Dallas.