

Northeast





Carrant County - Rrecinct 3 "Working together for a better tomorrow"

Volume 6, Issue 1



Coffee with the Commissioner

Friday, Feb. 8th, 7:30 to 9:00am

Please join me for coffee and donuts!



Northeast Sub-Courthouse 645 Grapevine Hwy., Hurst TX 76054



SAVE THE DATE!

•NE Transportation Summit Feb. 15

•LifeGift Run May 18

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It seems like yesterday when we started this journey as your County Commissioner. It was January 1, 2007 and we're now into our seventh year. This has been the greatest honor I have ever received to be able to serve you as Commissioner.

In Precinct 3, we're all about Transportation. Our 4th Annual Northeast Tarrant Transportation Summit will be held on Friday, February 15th at the Hurst Conference Center. This year's conference will provide our annual update on the two major projects in our area: The DFW Connector and The North Tarrant Express. Both projects have had a major impact on our driving habits the past 3 years, and the completion will provide decades of improved mobility. Our Keynote Speaker, Ross Perot, Jr, will be speaking about the importance of transportation infrastructure as it relates to the success of our business environment. Our first seminar will include a presentation featuring the TEX Rail/Cotton Belt Line, a 62 mile regional rail line connecting Tarrant, Dallas, Collin and Rockwall counties. The second seminar will cover Transit-Oriented and Transit-Ready Development and how it can transform the Marketplace. The third seminar will detail the ABC's of the RTC (Regional Transportation Council): the process of Regional Transportation Planning for the North Central Texas area. Our goal at Precinct 3 is to inform and educate the public about the transportation systems that are available and the options involved when improving mobility. Please refer to Page 3 for information on registration for the Summit or go to:

www.NETransportationSummit.com.

If you have visited our Hurst office in the past 2 months, you have probably noticed the architectural drawings that we have placed on most of the walls to display the new Precinct 3 Sub-Courthouse planned on this site in the near future. (See page 4) We will be vacating this site in the next 30-75 days to make room for the new building. If you've ever voted here, waited to pay your taxes, registered a car, attended a meeting, visited the Constables, County Clerk, Juvenile Services, or the JP Court then you know how crowded the building and the parking area can become. We plan to solve that problem and provide additional services such as a Passport Office, expanded Tax, County Clerk, Constable, JP Court, Credit Union, Community Room, and Commissioners facilities. The JP Court, Constables, and Commissioner will be temporarily moving to the Southlake Town Hall facility. Juvenile Services will relocate to another location. The Tax Office, County Clerk, Credit Union, and some of the Constables will be temporarily located at a leased facility near Harwood and Norwood in the City of Bedford.

Check out the article about our newest elected official in Precinct 3, Constable Darrell Huffman. Constable Huffman has been very involved in our community and is doing a great job.

Coffee with the Commissioner will be this Friday, February 8th at the Hurst Sub-Courthouse. This will be our last Coffee in this building. We will continue to have them at the Southlake Office for the next 18 -20 months. Thanks for being part of our Journey.



Question of the Month

Question: What famous American would you attribute these quotes?

- "America is a land of opportunity and don't ever forget it."
- "I never met a man I didn't like."
- "A man only learns by two things, one is reading, and the other is association with smarter people."
- "A man that don't love a horse, there is something the matter with him."

Answer on page 4



NE Community Leader **Sp⁰ tlight**



Constable Darrell Huffman Tarrant County, Precinct 3

It is an honor and a privilege to serve the people in Precinct Three. I plan to deliver

the quality of service the people of this Precinct have come to expect and deserve.

My wife Mendi and I have been married 16 years. We have two wonderful children, Halli (8yrs) and Wren (3yrs). We live on our family's farm in Grapevine and our children attend GCISD Schools.

My formal education is through Tarrant County College and The University of Texas at Arlington.

Dedicated to serving my community, I am an active Rotarian and member of the Lion's Club. I also support and volunteer for Special Olympics, GRACE and the United Way of Tarrant County.

I am a member of the Tarrant County Law Enforcement Association, and the Justice of the Peace and Constable's Association of Texas. I am also active in my daughter's sports teams and school activities. (Volunteer for Dad's club)

On a more personal note -

What do you do for fun? Spend time with my children outdoors.

<u>Favorite Restaurant?</u> Willow Creek Café in Mason, Texas

Favorite Movie? Shawshank Redemption

Last book read? Killing Lincoln

<u>Favorite vacation spot?</u> Anywhere in the Texas Hill Country

People would be surprised to know...

That's a tough one, this may sound funny, but I hate to be away from my wife and kids even if it's just for one night.

TARRANT COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Tarrant County can boast of having one of the most respected and awarded purchasing departments in the country. For fifteen straight years your Purchasing Department has won the NPI Achievement in Excellence Procurement Award. With over 345 years of combined public buying experience, two former National Procurement Institute presidents, a former Public Purchasing Association of North Central Texas president, and the founding Texas Public Purchasing Association president, Tarrant County's Purchasing Department staff prides itself on providing the very best in service to the elected officials, employees, and citizens of Tarrant County.

The Purchasing Department supports the departments of Tarrant County in many ways. Committed to getting the best products and services at the best price, Purchasing offers help with bid proposal organization and management, specification writing, and finding "green" solutions. The Purchasing Department endeavors to get the most value from county assets by conducting auctions of surplus property and maintaining an inventory of fixed assets. The purchasing staff attends professional meetings and yearly conferences to keep up to date on the latest legislation. To ensure fairness throughout the purchasing process, Tarrant County's Purchasing Department, hosts vendor shows, has developed the Tarrant Vendor Online Registration System (with over 7,000 participating vendors), and maintains a HUB program (Historically Underutilized Business).

The Tarrant County Cooperative Purchasing Program (established in 1996), which allows sharing of contracts between government entities across the state, has grown to over 370 participating organizations. This program has introduced Tarrant County to opportunities for finding materials and services as well as reducing costs by leveraging the coop's buying power. Boasting the third largest collective purchase of police-package vehicles in the nation as well a rebate program with Staples for office supplies are a few examples of the coop's value.

Great things are happening all over Tarrant County and your Purchasing Department wants to help every project reach its maximum benefit for the county's citizens! Stop by or call anytime you need help!





TARRANT COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTEMENT STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- Provide the best service possible to all County departments in a fair and equitable manner
- Ensure an atmosphere of equality to all vendors without regard to undue influence or political pressures
- Protect the interests of the Tarrant County taxpayers in all expenditures

= Purchasing

Tarrant County Purchasing Department 100 E. Weatherford, Suite 303 Fort Worth, Texas 76196 (817) 884-1414

www.tarrantcounty.com/epurchasing

Article courtesy of Jack Beacham



Northeast Tarrant Transportation Summit

Commissioner Gary Fickes, Tarrant County Precinct 3

Friday, February 15, 2013 | 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Hurst Conference Center – 1600 Campus Drive (Hurst, TX)

Seminar #1

TEX Rail/Cotton Belt Rail Line, a 62 mile regional rail line connecting Tarrant, Dallas, Collin and Rockwall

9:00 a.m. Counties. Fort Worth Councilman Jungus Jordan presenting.

Seminar #2

How Transit-Oriented and Transit-Ready Development can transform the Marketplace.

10:00 a.m.

Paris Rutherford (Catalyst Urban Development) presenting.

Seminar #3 11:00 a.m.

The ABCs of the RTC (Regional Transportation Council): the process of regional transportation

Planning for the North Central Texas Area. Michael Morris (NCTCOG) presenting.

Lunch

Brief project updates on the DFW Connector and North Tarrant Express

11:45 a.m. Keynote speaker: Ross Perot, Jr.

Title Sponsors









Media Sponsor

































Bronze Sponsors

Bedford Colleyville Euless Haslet Keller North Richland Hills Southlake Trophy Club Westlake

Please register with one of the following Chambers. (Reservation required: \$25.00 per person)

Collevville (817) 488-7148

Grapevine (817) 481-1522

Northeast Tarrant (817) 281-9376

Fort Worth Hispanic (817) 625-5411

Hurst-Euless-Bedford (817) 283-1521 **Northwest Metroport** (817) 837-1000

FW Metropolitan Black (817) 871-6538 Keller (817) 431-2169

Southlake (817) 481-8200

For sponsorship or additional information, visit our website or call: 817-581-3600

www.NETRANSPORTATIONSUMMIT.com



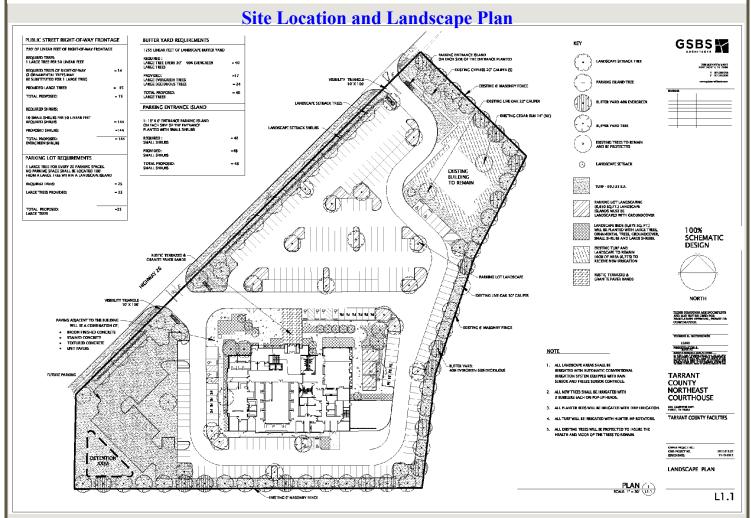
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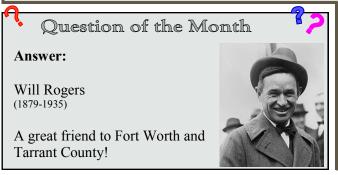
Tarrant County Northeast Sub-Courthouse

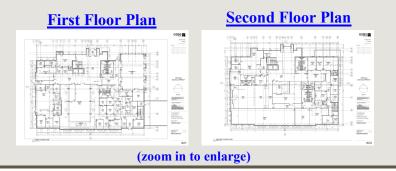


TARRANT COUNTY NORTHEAST COURTHOUSE EXTERIOR









Catholic Charities Fort Worth

For over 100 years, Catholic Charities Fort Worth (CCFW) has worked to create hope in the community to all who need it, regardless of religion, culture, or creed. We have a zealous goal to end poverty in the 28 county diocese we serve and, through over 40 programs, we are able to serve more than 120,000 individuals and families in need annually. This is made possible by the faithful stewardship indicated by over 90 cents of every dollar donated going directly to client services.

To highlight just one of these programs, the Wheels Transportation program is a 35 vehicle fleet to help transport people to vital doctor appointments, jobs, and interviews. To help supplement this effort by taking services directly to clients, at the end of 2012, our new mobile service unit took to the road. While available to all programs, this vehicle has already provided

mobile ESL classes for refugees and will be a curbside care conduit for the unsheltered homeless.



Another exciting initiative is the Bishop Kevin Vann Dental Clinic, which opened in October, has already managed 605 office visits, 308 new patient visits, and performed 1567 procedures. One of the first patients was a woman who was so embarrassed by her teeth that she was scared to go to job interviews or even to smile. These services empower her to smile with pride. Each of these new projects is intended to help take services further and farther to end poverty.



Pictured left to right: Donna Springer, a CCFW Board Director, Most Reverend Bishop Vann, and Heather Reynolds, CCFW President/CEO

We can't do our work without this community as a support system. We invite you to learn more about who we are and get involved with CCFW by attending one of the upcoming CC101 events on April 11th or 25th from 12-1pm. E-mail acowart@ccdofw.org to register.

Learn more about all of our programs, locations, and hours at: www.catholiccharitiesfortworth.org or call us at 817.534.0814.

Article courtesy of Kate Blackburn, M.A.

An Historic Moment in Time Euless Historical Preservation Committee

Hysterical? No Way!

Historical? You bet! The Euless Historical Preservation Committee isn't your typical group of volunteers. This active group is made up of movers and shakers that are dedicated to preserving and promoting awareness of the historical heritage of Euless. This group not only rescued the first brick house in Euless from near demolition, they raised funds to relocate it one block east and thus began the roots of Historic Heritage Park in Euless. The Fuller House was unique because it was Euless' first brick home at a time when most Euless residents lived in wooden farmhouses. This graceful structure was opened to the public in 1998 and provides





a glimpse into how residents lived in the 20s and 30s.

In 2000, the EHPC acquired the Himes Log House, the oldest structure in Euless. Elisha Adam Euless, who gave his name to a grow-

ing local village, most likely lived in this home. The log house was relocated and restored using authentic techniques that would have been used in the 1850s.

The committee decided this wasn't enough and most recently created a stand alone museum to honor the history of Euless. The museum opened in September with priceless artifacts from as far back at the 1880s. In addition to the main hall, the museum features a military room, a 1930s kitchen and a 1940s school room. It even has a replica of a wood porch inside the museum that was hand crafted by members of the committee in their spare time...

The museum is adjacent to Historic Heritage Park, located at 201 Cullum Drive. Members of the Committee are appointed by the Euless City Council and serve as docents at the Museum, the log cabin and



the Fuller house the first Saturday of every month from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. For more information about the Euless Heritage Museum at the Ruth Millican Center or to arrange tours of Heritage Park, please call 817-685-1649.

Article courtesy of Betsy Deck

SOUTHLAKE



Southlake Public Library



Our motto at the Southlake Public Library is "uncommonly friendly service" and we work hard to provide a great customer experience. Our business philosophy is to keep costs low and focus on making sure staff is efficient and productive in order to allow us to increase outputs and yet provide a comfortable and friendly environment.

The Southlake Public Library is on the lower level of the Southlake Town Hall building in the heart of Southlake Town Square. The library is open 10 to 8 Monday - Thursday, 10 to 6 on Friday and Saturday, and is currently not open on Sunday. The website is www.southlakelibrary.com and you can reach us by calling 817-748-8243.

Due to issues related to the limited floor space in the library we focus on new and popular materials, including a great selection of DVD's. The library story times are very popular on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 42,000 attended our youth programming last year. The library's Summer Reading program reached over 80% of our target market of 1st to 5th graders in the Carroll School District.

The library has just recently added e-content for e-readers like the Kindle, Nook, iPad, and Android devices to name a few. This has proven to be a very popular





addition to the library's offerings. We also have magazines that are available for your device – just check out the Southlake Public Library's website

www.southlakelibrary.com for details.

Library staff hears time and time again that the Internet will be the end of libraries, or the explosion of e-reader devices and digital content for them, but in Southlake checkouts of print materials still increase every year, and checkouts have grown from 78,000 in 2003 to close to 400,000 in 2012 – does that sound like a business on its death bed?

Article courtesy of: Kerry McGeath

TreeTops School



Established in 1999, Treetops School is Tarrant County's oldest charter school. The K-12 tuition-free campus is nestled among 20 wooded acres complete with nature trails. While the campus makes it unique, it's the students' personal educational experiences that make it extraordi-

Treetops School's mission is to inspire students to climb to new heights in service, character, and education by creating a positive, safe community. Class sizes are small, with a total campus enrollment of approximately 350 students. These small classes encourage strong student-teacher relationships. Treetops believes that education is a shared responsibility between the students, teachers, and families, and that a positive and supportive environment

is essential for successful learning.

Treetops School is a **Texas Education** Agency "Recognized"

campus and is additionally accredited through SACS CASI (Council on Accreditation and School Improvement). Treetops has a staff dedicated to maintaining high educational standards for all students. Teachers utilize various instructional methods, such as cooperative grouping, small-group instruction, and project-based learning, to meet the needs of its diverse learners. In 2011, Treetops implemented CSCOPE, a customizable curriculum management system aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and designed to prepare students for the rigorous demands of the STAAR assessments.

Treetops School has a strong commitment to community service and has part-





nerships with Mid-Cities Care Corps. Meadows Foundation, Texas's Adopt-a-Highway campaign, Samaritan House of Fort Worth, the Northeast Tarrant Food Bank, and the Fort Worth Main Street Arts Festival.

Seeing is believing! Tours are available Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am -11:00 am, no appointment is necessary. Kindergarten Round-up will be held Saturday, March 23, from 9:00-11:00 am. Open enrollment begins March 18. Enrollment forms can be found at www.treetops.org. Every student deserves the supportive, personal educational experience that Treetops provides.

www.treetops.org

Article courtesy of Melissa Lotspeich



Transportation Northeast Tarrant County

DFW Connector Project

Hotline: 877-411-4212 www.dfwconnector.com



• Crews opened the southbound International Parkway off-ramp to southbound DFW Airport service road. Commuters looking to access the north entrance of DFW Airport will now need to take SH 114 or SH 121 to access the terminals. NorthGate also opened new pavement on Northwest Highway at SH 114 and the eastbound SH 114 frontage road from Southlake Boulevard to SH 26.

• Structures crews finished building the last bridge columns on the project, located on the northbound International Parkway bridge to IH-635, and completed the final cap pour, located on SH 26.

- In early February, we opened the eastbound SH 114 flyover bridge to southbound SH 121! This new flyover bridge is the longest bridge on the DFW Connector at more than 3,700 feet long. The northbound SH 121 flyover bridge to westbound SH 114 will open this spring.
- In the upcoming months, our paving crews will focus on the east and westbound SH 114 main lanes from William D. Tate Avenue to Main Street and the northbound International Parkway off-ramp to IH-635.

(Pictured: NTE opened the new eastbound SH 114 flyover to southbound SH 121 in early February.)





Sign up for e-alerts!

• The transformation of the NTE corridor continues! Major upcoming milestones include the completion and opening of the new Hurstview bridge and the opening of sections of new eastbound frontage roads and main lanes along SH 121/183. In the west segment along IH 820, there are several long-term ramp closures in place; please check our website (under Project Overview/Visuals/Maps) for east and west segment ramp closure maps for the upcoming month so you can

"Know Before You Go!" (Pictured: The new Hurstview bridge.)



TxDot - N Tarrant Office 817-399-4300 www.txdot.gov

Fort Worth 817-392-8485 www.fortworthgov.org/ tpw/info/?id=39130 • Completion is nearing on the \$19 million reconstruction and widening of Golden Triangle Boulevard. Traffic will be shifted to its permanent configuration in February. Daytime lane closures will be necessary to complete the remaining median, sidewalk and landscape items. The Golden Triangle Boulevard project is rebuilding the two-lane road to a four-lane divided roadway with raised, grass medians from I-35W to U.S. 377.



TxDot - N Tarrant Office 817-399-4300 www.txdot.gov

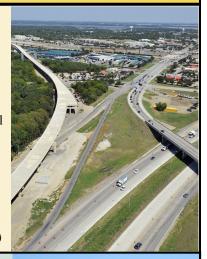
- In Grapevine, traffic is now on the permanent north and southbound lanes. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained in each direction while the medians are completed. Additional upcoming construction items include the installation of decorative concrete medians, planting of trees and shrubs and permanent signal installation. Completion is estimated for summer 2013.
- In Colleyville, the reconstruction of State Highway 26 began in July. The \$11.4 million project from Brumlow Avenue/Pool Road to John McCain Road will widen the road to three lanes in each direction with raised curb medians and left turn bays. As part of this project, the bridge over Big Bear Creek will also be reconstructed. Construction continues on the northbound lanes and includes drainage improvements and the installation of box culverts through spring of 2013. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained during peak driving times. The project is estimated for completion in 2014.



Southlake 817-748-8098 www.cityofsouthlake.com

• The Southlake Public Works' Streets and Drainage division will be extending the southbound right turn lane on Randol Mill Avenue at FM 1709 (Southlake Blvd.) over the next several weeks. Since the opening of Phase 1 of FM 1938, which widened Davis Blvd. through Westlake from SH 114 to the Randol Mill Bend, southbound commuters have been experiencing significant traffic backups near the

intersection at FM 1709. These interim improvements will increase the capacity of traffic flowing through the intersection now and reduce the current congestion in the afternoon peak traffic hours by creating a longer right turn lane storage bay and will allow more vehicles into the intersection making it more efficient. (Pictured: Southbound right turn lane constructed by the city's Street Department at the intersection of FM1709.)













Tarrant County Commissioners Court

Meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. (Unless otherwise stated)
100 E Weatherford, Fort Worth, TX

www.tarrantcounty.com

Tarrant County 2013 Holiday Closings

Presidents' Day - Monday, February 18th Cesar Chavez Day - Monday, March 25th Good Friday - Friday, March 29th

Calendar of Events

Feb 6-7 "Tarrant County Days"	817-338-3301
Feb 9 "Annual Awards Gala"	
Feb 9 "Mardi Gras Casino Night"	
Feb 10 "Tribute to Love"	
Feb 14 "Valentines Day"	
Feb 15 "NE Tarrant Transportation Summit	
Feb 22 "Fruit Of The Vine" www.my	
Feb 22 "HEB Chamber Expo"	
Feb 23 "Dancing for the Stars	
Mar 2 "Denim and Diamonds"	
Mar 2 "An Evening at the Gallery"	
Mar 3 "Wild About Style"	
Mar 11-15 "Spring Break"	*
Mar 23 "Hope Dinner & Auction"	
Mar 31 "Easter"	
Apr 6 "2013 Garden of Roses Fashion Show"	
Apr 7 "GCISD Ed Foundation Dinner & Golf.	
Apr 11 "Great Taste of Grapevine"	<u>www.GrapevineChamber.org</u>
Apr 12 "Lunch with the Girls"	<u>www.c-w-c.org</u>
Apr 12 & 13 "Community Powered Revitaliza	tion (CPR) <u>6stones.org/cpr</u>
Apr 26—28th "Art in the Square"	<u>www.artinthesquare.com</u>
Apr 27 "Tribute to Leadership"wv	ww.birdvilleeducationfoundation.com
Apr 28 "City Slickers"	

Public Health posts events and activities at: (http://health.tarrantcounty.com) and on Facebook (facebook.com/tarrantcountypublichealth).

Check it out and friend them today!

John Peter Smith Hospital Clinics Northeast Tarrant County

Health Clinics

Gertrude Tarpley JPS Health Center 817-514-5036 6601 Watauga Road, Watauga 76148

School-Based Clinics

Birdville	817-547-3046
Grapevine/Colleyville	817-251-5751
Birdville	817-759-2035
HEB	817- 399-3500
Georgia Kidwell - HEB	817-399-3366

3115 W. Pipeline Road #D, Euless, TX 76040

For a complete list of Health Clinics and School–Based Clinics log onto: www.jpshealthnet.org

Northeast Social Service Agencies

- 10-1-10-0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
6 Stones Mission Network	www.6stones.org
Child Abuse Hotline	800-252-5400
Community Enrichment Center	www.thecec.org
GRACE <u>www.</u>	gracegrapevine.org
Community Storehouse. www.commu	nitystorehouse.org
United Way of Tarrant County	2 - 1 - 1



Online access to information on services, health tips, and education materials for all ages... www.TarrantCares.org

LIFEGIFT difference ... save a life!

For organ donation information, please visit:

www.donatelifetexas.org

Pct. 3 ~ Commissioner's Office

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Northeast Sub-Courthouse

645 Grapevine Highway #6 Hurst TX 76054 817-581-3600

Southlake Town Hall

1400 Main St #410 Southlake TX 76092 817-481-8234

NE Tarrant County Contacts

	NE Sub-Courthouse	Southlake Town Hall
Constable Pct. 3	817-581-3610	817-481-8059
County Clerk	817-581-3604	817-481-8179
Passport Office		817-481-8190
Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	817-581-3625	817-481-8132
Juvenile Services	817-581-3645	
Travel - Public Health		817-321-4707
Tax Office	817-581-3636	817-481-8141
1111	0.15 - 1.1 - 1.00	
Maintenance Center	817-514-5000	
Constable Pct. 1	817-884-1385	
Justice of the Peace Pct. 1	817-884-1395	

Public Health Centers

Watauga Public Health Ctr. 6601 Watauga Rd, Watauga, TX 76148 817-702-6600

Tarrant County Website: www.TarrantCounty.com