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TARRANT COUNTY
NEWS & INFORMATION

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County Clerk's Preservation and Restoration Program

Using technology, as well as state-of-the-art processes, the Tarrant County Clerk's Office has spent the last 15 years preserving and/or restoring more than 1.5 million records.

Taking advantage of a fund established by the Texas Legislature in 1991, the County Clerk's Office embarked on a series of projects dedicated to preserving historical Tarrant County records to ensure they would live on for future generations.

This fund was established to do more than just preserve old records. It also provides for the digitization of paper records that are not considered historic, ensuring electronic records are appropriately backed up, and providing public access to them.

The preservation process involves chemically treating documents to protect them from degradation. They are then covered in a specialized protective material and placed in fortified binders. Preserved records are stored on specialized shelving in the Tarrant County Records warehouse. Contemporary records are digitized to protect them from being handled.

The County Clerk's Office also has reached out to other departments to preserve Tarrant County history. The County Archives sent 617 books, including school census records, convict records, dockets and official bond records.

The Sheriff's Office sent 61 books including daily and federal prisoner records, committed and released books as well as execution dockets. The Transportation Department sent 15 books of surveyor's records.

The Tax Assessor/Collector's Office sent four tax ledgers, including the first Tarrant County Tax Ledger compiled in 1876. These ledgers are popular with historians and genealogists because they list not only the land owned by property owners, but also farm implements and livestock.

Efforts to restore and preserve Tarrant County records will be a priority for the County Clerk's Office, even as the definition 'historic record' evolves with the passage of time. Since 1991, more than $5 million has been spent or earmarked towards preservation.

Healthy Lives Matter

The Precinct One Tarrant County Commissioner's Office invites men who are at high-risk for prostate cancer to take advantage of a free screening at the Moncrief Cancer Institute at 400 W. Magnolia Ave. in Fort Worth on Saturday, Feb. 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The screening is recommended for men who are over 45 and are at high risk, which includes men of color as well as those who have had a relative diagnosed with prostate cancer. Early diagnosis gives all men nearly a 98.9 percent chance for survival.

Each year, approximately 200,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer in the United States. Prostate cancer is known as the "silent killer" because men do not exhibit symptoms until it is too late. Among African American men, prostate cancer is the leading cancer killer.

For additional information, call 817-531-5600.

DWI Intervention Program Merits Award

Tarrant County's Felony Alcohol Intervention Program (FAIP) received national recognition for integrating a community crime prevention initiative into the traditional roles of supervision, intervention and sanctioning of offenders. The American Probation and Parole Association 2016 Award for Excellence in Community Crime Prevention is one of several prestigious awards announced during its Winter Training Institute in Atlanta, Georgia.

The FAIP is a post-conviction program for the high-risk repeat DWI offender and is designed to coordinate alcohol abuse intervention with judicial oversight, enhanced supervision and individual accountability.

The program was started in 2006 to create a safer community by providing successful treatment outcomes and changing the attitudes and behavior of DWI offenders. The program is administered in Criminal District Court No. 3.

For more information about FAIP, go to tarrantcounty.com, select Courts from the Government drop down menu and then select Criminal Courts. The FAIP is listed under Specialty Programs.

Two Steps, One Sticker Enters Second Year

Beginning on March 1, the transition year of the "Two Steps, One Sticker" program ends, and all vehicles will have one convenient expiration date for both inspection and registration. From now on, Tarrant County vehicle owners need to take note of the expiration date on their vehicle's registration sticker and take two steps.

TWO STEPS ONE STICKER

Inspection & Registration – Together At Last!

Step 1: Pass a vehicle inspection no earlier than 90 days prior to your registration expiration and keep a copy of your vehicle inspection report. For example, if your registration sticker expires in August 2016, you can pass your inspection as early as June 3 which is 90 days before your sticker expires on August 31. You can find your nearest inspection station in Tarrant County by searching for it on the Texas Department of Public Safety's (DPS) website at txdps.state.tx.us.

Step 2: After your vehicle passes inspection, renew your registration online at txdmv.gov, by mail to 100 E. Weatherford Street, Fort Worth, 76196, or in person at any Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector's office. Your inspection status will be verified electronically.

Remember that your vehicle inspection and registration will expire on the last day of the month that's indicated on your sticker. For more information, go to www.TwoStepsOneSticker.com or *http://access.tarrantcounty.com* -- where you can also find a list of Tarrant County Tax Office locations. For more information, call 817-884-1100, email *mvt@tarrantcounty.com* or send questions via Twitter to *@AskTCTax*.

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