

# Northeast Newsletter

Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes - Precinct 3

Volume 13, Issue 1

"Working together for a better tomorrow"

February 2020

## COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



This week will mark the 11th year of our annual transportation summit, and we have taken it countywide! Join us Friday, February 14th at the Hurst Conference Center from 7:55 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for the Tarrant Transportation Summit. Be sure to register for this year's event themed "Tarrant County: The Heart of Transportation Innovation." Over 550 attendees will enjoy the morning sessions with topics including 5G's Role in Transforming Transportation Technology, Future of P3s in Texas, Next Stop: How Transportation Technology is Revolutionizing Transit, and AllianceTexas Mobility Innovation Zone: Could the North Texas Region Be Home to the Largest Transportation Technology Proving Ground? Our luncheon keynote speaker will be Rasheq Zarif who is a Managing Director at Deloitte in the Future of Mobility Tech Sector. Visit [www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com](http://www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com) for more information and to register to attend. I hope to see you there!

one to take precautions to help stop the spread of the virus. The first and most important way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated every year, and remember it is still not too late to get your flu shot. Maximum protection occurs about two weeks after receiving the shot. The latest information on influenza and Coronavirus for Tarrant County is available at [www.tarrantcounty.com/public-health](http://www.tarrantcounty.com/public-health)

The Primary Election is quickly approaching on March 3rd with early voting starting next week on February 18th. While the deadline to register to vote in this election or make changes to your address has passed, if you are registered in Tarrant County, you may vote at any polling location during early voting and on Election Day. Visit [www.tarrantcounty.com/elections](http://www.tarrantcounty.com/elections) to view early voting schedules, sample ballots, tutorials in using the new polling equipment, and to confirm your voter registration status. If you are not registered to vote, be sure to do so now, so you can vote in upcoming elections.

Enjoy this issue of the Northeast Newsletter which includes information on Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Bill Brandt, the 2020 Census, Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's office, City of Grapevine, and more. Note that we will not have Coffee with the Commissioner this month, so I hope you can join us this Friday, February 14th at the newly coined Tarrant Transportation Summit!

*Gary Fickes*

There is no Coffee with the Commissioner this month, so please **plan on joining us this Friday** for the

## Tarrant Transportation Summit

Register at

[www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com](http://www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com)



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[www.tarrantcounty.com](http://www.tarrantcounty.com)

## Question of the Month

**Question:** Texas is home to dozens and dozens of larger-than-life monuments – each worth the day trip to visit. Which Texas monument stands 15 feet taller than the Washington Monument?

(Answer on page 4)

**The Quote of the Month** - "Texas is the finest portion of the globe that has ever blessed my vision."  
– Sam Houston



**February is National Heart Month**

<https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/about.htm>



**Judge William  
"Bill" Brandt**



**Justice of the  
Peace, Precinct 3**

Judge Bill Brandt grew up in Grapevine, graduated from Grapevine High School, attended the United States Air Force Academy and Texas A&M School of Law. He lives in Southlake, where he and his wife Susan raised their three children. They have eleven grandchildren who live in Hurst and Bedford.

Judge Brandt is the Justice of the Peace in Tarrant County Precinct 3, which encompasses all of Grapevine, Colleyville, Euless, Bedford, Southlake, Keller, Westlake, and parts of Haslet, Roanoke, Trophy Club, Hurst, North Richland Hills, and north Fort Worth. Last year, Tarrant

County Justice Court Precinct 3 disposed of over 7,000 civil cases, a record for that court. Judge Brandt and his team of clerks work continuously to improve court processes to better serve litigants in northeast Tarrant County. Some of the improvements to date have been the implementation of a mediation program, electronic case filing and payment of fees, and closing the court's business checking account to take advantage of the Tarrant County Consolidated Cash Account.

Bill and Susan are very active at Messiah Lutheran Church in Keller where they have been members for over twenty-five years. He is the Church Council Secretary and serves on the governing board of Messiah Lutheran Classical Academy. Susan serves on the Altar Guild.

Bill enjoys participating in Grapevine Rotary, where he supports 6Stones and other service projects. He is a member of the Order of Dadaelians, the Air Force Association, the Heritage Foundation, and the Colleyville Lions Club. As a retired Air Force Colonel, Bill enjoys

staying up-to-date on national security strategy and foreign policy. Drawing on his experience as a combat veteran in Iraq, he enjoys speaking on leadership, character development, and service.

#### On a more personal note -

**What do you do for fun?** I have a somewhat extensive penny collection and enjoy sharing this hobby with my grandchildren.

**Favorite Movie?** Big Jake

**Favorite Restaurant?** Wherever Susan wants to go.

**Favorite vacation spot?** LA (Lower Alabama/Pensacola)

**Last book read?** "The Jungle Grows Back," "Loserthink," and "The Night Fire." (Who can read one book at a time?)

**People would be surprised to know...** One of the best jobs I ever had was Janitor of the Grapevine Middle School.

## Be on the lookout for the 2020 Census!

Every 10 years, all U.S. residents, regardless of citizenship status, are required to be counted. Expect Census information in your mailbox by mid-March.

Why should you take the Census?

It impacts federal funding, the number of Congressional seats for each state, redistricting, economic development and quality of life. For the first time, you will be able to take the Census online, by phone or through the mail. It is also important to remember that the Census Bureau cannot share your information with other government agencies.

Some of the information the Census Bureau will ask includes:

- The number of people at your specific residence on April 1, 2020.
- The type of dwelling.
- The phone number at the residence.
- The name, sex, date of birth, origin and race of each person living at the residence.

The Census will never ask for personal identification numbers, credit card/bank account information, monetary donations, or politically-affiliated contributions.

Here's a timeline of when to start looking for a letter from the Census.

**March 12-20:** An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census.

**March 16-24:** A reminder letter.

**March 26-April 3:** A reminder postcard.

**April 8-16:** A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.

**April 20-27:** A final postcard before we follow up in person.

For more information, go to [www.census.tarrantcounty.com](http://www.census.tarrantcounty.com) or call the Census Customer Service Center at 800.923.8282

There's also an opportunity to work part-time for the Census. Training starts in March and April with visits to non-responding households taking place from May through early July. Check out the 2020 Census website for listings of available positions.

Wages for temporary workers in Tarrant County will be \$22.50 an hour, according to the Census website.

To be eligible for a 2020 Census job, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old and have a valid Social Security number.
- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Have a valid email address.
- Complete an application and answer assessment questions.
- Be registered with the Selective Service System or have a qualifying exemption, if you are a male born after Dec. 31, 1959.
- Pass a Census-performed criminal background check and a review of criminal records, including fingerprinting.
- Commit to completing training.
- Be available to work flexible hours, which can include days, evenings, and/or weekends.
- Most jobs require employees to have access to a vehicle and a valid driver's license, unless public transportation is readily available.

To apply for a job go to <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>.

To receive updates and reminders on the 2020 Census, text TarrantCounts to 69310.

United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census**  
**2020**

One of the largest transportation summits of its kind has a new look!



Commissioner Gary Fickes | Tarrant County | Precinct 3

# TARRANT COUNTY

## THE HEART OF TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION

Friday, February 14, 2020 • 8:00am – 1:30pm  
Hurst Conference Center • 1601 Campus Drive, Hurst, Texas

Individual registration is \$75.

Register online at [TarrantTransportationSummit.com/register-now](http://TarrantTransportationSummit.com/register-now)



This year's event will feature the following topics and speakers:

- 5G's Role in Transforming Transportation Technology
- Future of P3s in Texas
- Next Stop: How Transportation Technology is Revolutionizing Transit
- AllianceTexas Mobility Innovation Zone: Could the North Texas Region Be Home to the Largest Transportation Technology Proving Ground?

This year, we have an exciting, globally recognized speaker:



**Rasheq Zarif**

Managing Director & Future of Mobility Tech Sector, Deloitte

Mr. Zarif will discuss the current transportation transformation, and the opportunities our region can leverage to be the global leader in the space.

### TITLE SPONSORS



### PLATINUM SPONSORS

### GOLD SPONSORS



### SILVER SPONSORS



### BRONZE SPONSORS

- Bedford Colleyville Euless Fort Worth Grapevine Haslet Hurst Keller North Richland Hills Richland Hills  
Southlake Tarrant County College Tarrant Transit Alliance Trophy Club Watauga Westlake

For more information, or to register, please visit [www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com](http://www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com)



**Sharen Wilson**

Tarrant County  
Criminal District  
Attorney



**TARRANT COUNTY CRIMINAL  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S  
OFFICE CELEBRATES  
CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY**

In 2019, the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office celebrated their centennial anniversary. From that first term of former teacher-turned Criminal District Attorney Jesse Brown and his 9 employees in 1919, the office has since grown to reflect what is now the nation's 15th largest county, with more than 340 attorneys, investigators and support staff. Last year, 29,141 misdemeanor and 20,141 felony criminal cases were filed with the Criminal District Attorney's office.

This centennial celebrates some true landmarks in Texas criminal justice history, which happened here in Tarrant County. Among the milestones established include:

- The hiring of Eva Barnes in 1945, the first female prosecutor in Texas, who would later become the first elected female district judge in Texas;
- The hiring of Ollice Malloy in 1959, the first African-American assistant criminal district attorney south of St. Louis;

- Creating the Deferred Prosecution Program in 1974, the first diversion program of its kind in the southwest;
- Creation of the first comprehensive disclosure compliance policies with law enforcement and laboratories in Texas;
- The first open file policy, pre-dating the standard-setting Michael Morton Act by three decades.

The first female Criminal District Attorney in Tarrant's history, former District Judge Sharen Wilson, was elected in 2015 and is now serving her second term.

"My predecessors could never have imagined the way new legislative initiatives, forensic discoveries, and cultural changes have continued to shape the criminal justice landscape in this county we love, and in the world around us," said Sharen Wilson. "As we begin our second century representing this community, I continue to ask of our employees that we meet each new task

with the firm knowledge that in this job, no day is unimportant, no decision is irrelevant, and no relationship is immaterial. They are all in the mission of providing equal justice for all residents of Tarrant County."



Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center  
401 W. Belknap Street | Fort Worth, TX 76196

*Article courtesy of Sam Jordan,  
Communications Officer*

~ An Opportunity ~

**A Class in Criminal Justice**

The Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office is taking applications for the Spring 2020 Citizen Prosecutor Academy! Don't miss out on this free 12-week program created to give residents an in-depth understanding of the criminal justice system in Tarrant County.

With Assistant Criminal District Attorneys and investigators as the instructors, participants review each step of the prosecutorial process to gain an insider's perspective on how the system works.

Classes are held Thursday mornings and evenings beginning March 5th.

For more information on the program or to apply, please visit [cda.tarrantcounty.com](http://cda.tarrantcounty.com) or contact the CDA Community Outreach Coordinator, Amy Bearden at (817) 884-3126 or [AHBearden@tarrantcountytx.gov](mailto:AHBearden@tarrantcountytx.gov).



**Question of the Month**

**Question:** Texas is home to dozens and dozens of larger-than-life monuments—each worth the day trip to visit. Which Texas monument stands 15 feet taller than the Washington Monument?

**Answer:** The San Jacinto Monument, located in Deer Park, Texas, has a 570-foot shaft and is topped by a 34-foot star. The monument marks the location of the final battle of the Texas Revolution. The star, on top of the monument, weighs 220 tons (as heavy as 20 of the *Titanic's* anchors)!



Welcome to our series "Northeast Tarrant County Cities," where we'll share information about one of the cities located in Precinct 3 in each newsletter. It's impossible to share everything on one page that makes a city great, but we hope to scratch the surface on what makes each city a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

Northeast Tarrant County is home to 16 municipalities in one of the most urbanized regions in the State of Texas. Commissioner Fickes, along with Tarrant County, partners with many entities, including our cities. With these partnerships, our communities continue to thrive via road projects, economic development, public health services, public safety, and emergency management.

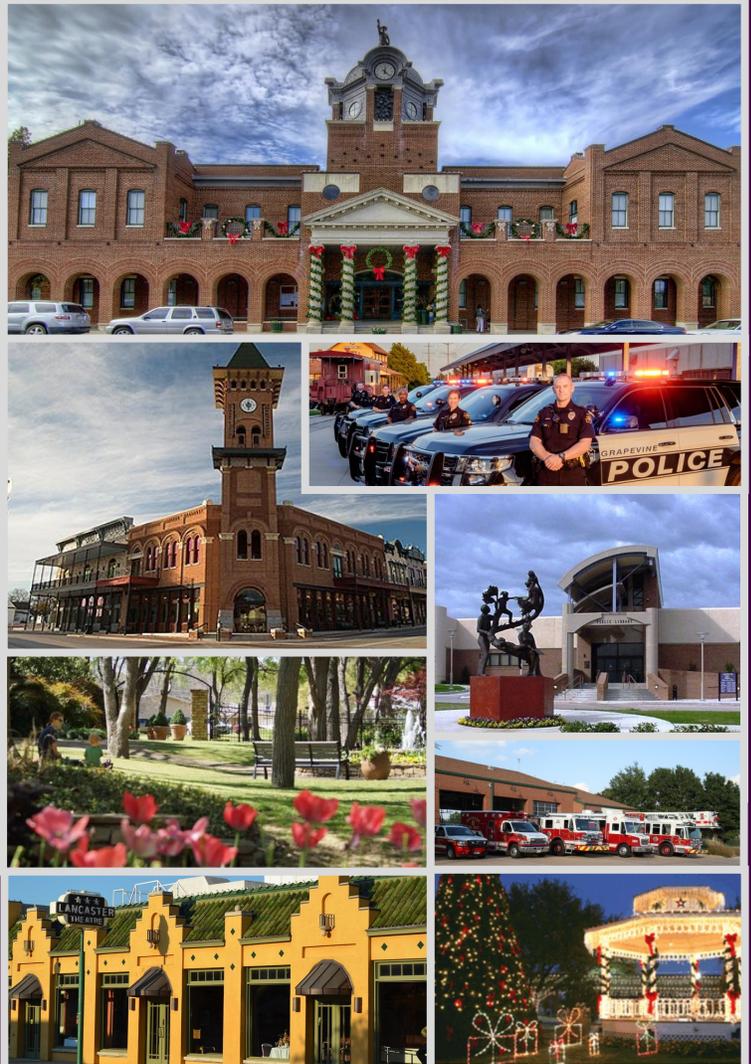
Grapevine, Texas, a community of more than 53,000 residents, is centrally located between Dallas and Fort Worth, offering easy access throughout the Metroplex. This historic city takes you back in time with its unique collection of charming shops, restaurants, and art galleries. Residents love the City of Grapevine for its family-oriented lifestyle, excellent schools, fun outdoor activities and a delightful downtown area. Year-round activities and fun include numerous events like their two main festivals, GrapeFest® and the Main Street Fest. Grapevine is also known as the Christmas Capital of Texas, and it provides many wonderful experiences throughout the holidays, including a ride on the North Pole Express!

The Grapevine Public Library is a popular attraction for all ages, including their Grapevine Resources on Wheels (GROW) mobile library that serves areas in the community with a particular focus on meeting the needs of the diverse Grapevine community. Certified through KultureCity, the Grapevine Public Library is the first sensory inclusive library in the State of Texas. Individuals with Autism, ADHD, Down's Syndrome, PTSD, Cerebral Palsy and anxiety often experience sensory issues. Sensory bags filled with items such as noise-canceling headphones, fidget toys, and weighted lap pads are now available at the checkout desk at the Grapevine Public Library.

With a staff of over 146, the Grapevine Police Department is a team of dedicated professionals providing exemplary service and thorough investigations. The officers are equipped and empowered to proactively address public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. The police department embraces the community policing model and encourages the community to be involved in reducing crime. Community relationships and partnerships have dramatically reduced crime and displaced the criminal element outside the city limits of Grapevine.

The Grapevine Fire Department stands for the purpose of serving this community and every individual in it, whether resident, visiting, or just passing through. Your family is their family, and they always strive to project this feeling in every encounter. Their team of dedicated professionals provides not only advanced life support Emergency Medical Services, but also fire suppression functions, rescue services, fire prevention, public education, fire/arson investigation, hazardous materials response, water rescue, and community emergency management. The department consists of 90 uniformed firefighters. All ambulances and fire apparatus are equipped with Advanced Life Support (ALS) equipment so that the first unit on the scene can initiate immediate patient care.

Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, a K-12 public school system, is home to over 14,000 students. They serve students from Grapevine, Colleyville, and portions of Hurst and Euless, and carry a graduation rate of 97.5%. Named a Top 100 Place to Work by the Dallas Morning News in both 2018 and 2019, the district maintains a positive culture with high expectations, one that strives to empower both staff and students.



**City of Grapevine**  
200 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Texas 76051  
817-410-3000

- Animal Services & Adoptions ..... 817-410-3370
- Code Enforcement ..... 817-410-3159
- Human Resources ..... 817-410-3176
- Library ..... 817-410-3400
- Municipal Court ..... 817-410-3284
- Parks & Rec Admin ..... 817-410-3122
- The REC ..... 817-410-3450
- **Emergency** ..... **9-1-1**
- Police Non-Emergency ..... 817-410-8127
- Fire Department ..... 817-410-4400

[www.GrapevineTexas.gov](http://www.GrapevineTexas.gov)



## An Historic Moment In Time "The Immortal Chaplains"

On January 23, 1943, the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, a civilian liner converted for military service in World War II, left New York as part of a convoy of three ships escorted by Coast Guard Cutters Tampa, Escanaba, and Comanche, en route to Greenland. She carried with her 902 American servicemen and civilian workers.

During the early morning hours of February 3, 1943, and only 150 miles from its destination, the vessel was torpedoed by the German submarine U-223 off Newfoundland in the North Atlantic. The strike was critical, hitting far below the water line and killing scores of men and seriously wounding many more.

Panic and chaos set in as the men frantically tried to get lifeboats off the ship. Through the chaos, four men spread out among the soldiers, comforting them, guiding them, and tending to the wounded. These four men were Army chaplains, Lt. George Fox, a Methodist; Lt. Alexander Goode, a Jewish Rabbi; Lt. John Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest; and Lt. Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister. They worked quickly and quietly to bring calm to the situation.

As the soldiers found their way to the deck, many were still in their underwear,

confronted by the cold winds of the Arctic. Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, reeling from the cold, headed back towards his cabin. "Where are you going" a voice of calm in the sea of distressed asked. "To get my gloves," Mahoney replied. "Here, take these," said Rabbi Goode as he handed a pair of gloves to the young officer. "I can't take those gloves," Mahoney replied. "Never mind," the Rabbi responded. "I have two pairs." It was not long after that Mahoney realized that the chaplain never intended to leave the ship.

The chaplains opened a storage locker and began handing out life jackets. When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. As the ship went down, survivors recounted seeing the four chaplains—arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices were heard, offering prayers and singing hymns.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, only 230 survived. In 18 minutes, the ship sank into the frigid sea. Before boarding the Dorchester back in January, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return, that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that

I shall do my duty, never be a coward, and have the strength, courage, and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate."

Although the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were awarded posthumously, Congress wished to confer the Medal of Honor. However, this situation did not meet the stringent requirements that included heroism performed under fire. So, a posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, "The Four Chaplains" Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on January 18, 1961.

Ref: [https://www.army.mil/article/34090/chaplain\\_corps\\_history\\_the\\_four\\_chaplains](https://www.army.mil/article/34090/chaplain_corps_history_the_four_chaplains)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four\\_Chaplains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Chaplains)



Distinguished Service Cross



Purple Heart

To read more about awards, please visit: <https://valor.defense.gov/>



George Lansing Fox  
Chaplain Lieutenant  
in the U.S. Army



Alexander David Goode,  
Chaplain Lieutenant  
in the U.S. Army



Clark Vandersall Poling,  
Chaplain Lieutenant  
in the U.S. Army



John Patrick Washington,  
Chaplain Lieutenant  
in the U.S. Army



Presented posthumously to the Four Chaplains

### PRIMARY ELECTION INFORMATION



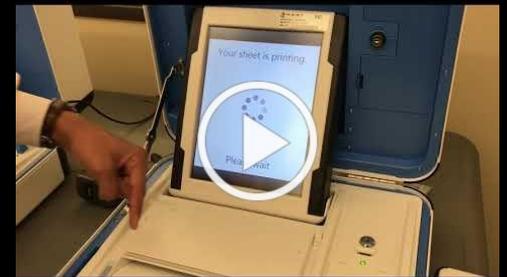
#### Early Voting for the March 3 Primary

Tuesday, February 18 to Friday, February 28.

Texas enables residents to vote early in person during the prescribed early voting period to make the voting process more convenient and accessible. Generally, a Tarrant County voter can go to any of the early voting locations in an election unless specified on the Early Voting Schedule. Follow the links below:

- ⇒ [Early Voting Schedule](#)
- ⇒ [View ID Requirements](#) for voting in person.
- ⇒ View the [closest early voting location\(s\)](#) to an address.
- ⇒ Additional [election information](#).

[Election Day Information - March 3, 2020](#)



Note that Tarrant County has new voting equipment. View more about how to use the equipment in the above video.



# TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), and Tax Consulting for the Elderly (TCE) offer free tax help to people who make generally \$55,000 per year or less. Tax counselors will answer your questions and also assist with the preparation of your 2019 tax forms

utilizing IRS-approved, professional computer programs.

Locations are in senior centers, libraries, recreation centers, community centers and some retirement homes.

**For a complete list of what to bring, click on the link below:**

[Important Documents to Bring to the Tax-Aide Site](#)

When looking for a TCE site, keep in mind that a majority of the TCE sites are operated by the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program.

To locate the nearest AARP Tax-Aide site, click on the following link or call 888-687-2277. [AARP TAX-AIDE LOCATOR](#)

To locate the nearest VITA or TCE site near you, click on the link below or call 800-906-9887. [Find a VITA or TCE Site Near You](#)

AARP Tax-Aide Locations 02/01/19 to 04/15/20 (Partial List)	Telephone Number
Bedford Public Library	817-952-2350
Colleyville Senior Center	817-503-1195
Eules Public Library	817-868-7400 x115
Eules Senior Center	817-685-1671
Grapevine - The REC	817-410-3465
Haltom City Public Library	817-222-7786
Hurst Public Library	817-788-7300
Keller Senior Center	817-743-4370
North Richland Hills Library	817-427-6714
Richland Hills Public Library	817-616-3760
Roanoke Library	817-491-2691
Saginaw Senior Center	817-230-0593
Southlake Public Library	817-748-8247
Summerglen Branch Library	817-232-0478
Watauga Community Center	817-514-5892



## Protect Yourself and Your Family

Infections caused by antibiotic-resistant germs are difficult and sometimes impossible to treat, but we can help stop the spread of these germs. [Antibiotic resistance happens](#) when germs like bacteria and fungi develop the ability to defeat the drugs designed to kill them.

No one can completely avoid getting an infection, but there are steps you can take to reduce your risk.

- ◆ Know Your Risk, Ask Questions, and Take Care
- ◆ Clean Your Hands - This video explains [how washing your hands can fight germs](#) that get on our hands every day.
- ◆ Get Vaccinated - Learn more about [vaccines recommended for all ages](#).
- ◆ Be Aware of Changes in Your Health
- ◆ Use Antibiotics Appropriately - Learn more about [using antibiotics](#), including when they are needed and when they are not.
- ◆ Practice Healthy Habits Around Animals - Learn more about [pets and antibiotic resistance](#).
- ◆ Prepare Food Safely - Follow [four simple steps](#) to avoid foodborne infections.
- ◆ Stay Healthy when Traveling Abroad - Visit [CDC's Traveler's Health](#) website for more information.

## VITA Locations (Partial List)

**01/21/20 to 04/30/20**

**Community Enrichment Center**  
6250 Northeast Loop 820  
North Richland Hills, TX 76180  
[CEC Tax Prep Information](#)

**01/27/20 to 04/15/20**

**GRACE in Grapevine (Main Site)**  
837 E. Walnut Street  
Grapevine, TX 76099  
[Grace Tax Prep Information](#)

Additional information:  
<https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/>

## Prevent Heart Disease

By living a healthy lifestyle, you can help keep your blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels normal and lower your risk for heart disease and heart attack.

## Choose Healthy Habits

You can choose healthy habits to help prevent heart disease.

- ♥ [Choose Healthy Foods & Drinks](#)
- ♥ [Keep a Healthy Weight](#)
- ♥ [Get Regular Physical Activity](#)
- ♥ [Don't Smoke](#)

For more information, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/index.htm>  
<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/heart-health-and-aging>



## CALENDAR



Feb 12	Colleyville Senior Center Valentine's Dance.....	<a href="http://www.colleyvilleparksandrec.com">www.colleyvilleparksandrec.com</a>
Feb 13	NRH Senior Center: Wellness Seminar.....	<a href="http://www.nrhcenre.com">www.nrhcenre.com</a>
Feb 13	Hurst Senior Center Valentine's Day Dance.....	<a href="http://www.hursttx.gov">www.hursttx.gov</a>
Feb 14	Colleyville Senior Center Valentine's Day Celebration.....	<a href="http://www.colleyvilleparksandrec.com">www.colleyvilleparksandrec.com</a>
Mar 6	Keller Senior Center Health Fair.....	<a href="http://www.cityofkeller.com">www.cityofkeller.com</a>
Mar 20	Hurst Senior Center Business & Benefits Expo.....	<a href="http://www.hursttx.gov">www.hursttx.gov</a>
Mar 21	Haltom City Senior Center: Senior Center's Burgers & Bingo .....	<a href="http://www.haltomcitytx.com">www.haltomcitytx.com</a>
Mar 28	Keller Senior Center Spring Craft Show & Market.....	<a href="http://www.cityofkeller.com">www.cityofkeller.com</a>
Apr 3	Eules Senior Center Senior Health Expo.....	<a href="http://www.eulesstx.gov">www.eulesstx.gov</a>



# Transportation

## Northeast Tarrant County

### DFW Connector Project

Hotline: 877-411-4212  
[www.dfwconnector.com](http://www.dfwconnector.com)



Sign up for e-alerts!

- The DFW Connector is a \$370 million Texas Department of Transportation project that includes rebuilding and widening SH 121 north of the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport to accommodate new interchanges at I-635 and FM 2499. The Bass Pro Drive bridge in Grapevine will also be widened to six lanes.

- The whole DFW Connector Project is **54% complete!!**



- Since the first of the year, NorthGate has opened the new northbound SH 121 auxiliary lanes, a new direct connector to FM 2499.
- NorthGate crews have demolished the old northbound FM 2499 bridge to further progress the project toward completion.
- Our utility, structures, paving, and roadway teams continue to make progress in various areas of the project.

### Highway 26

TxDOT - N Tarrant Office

817-399-4300  
[sh26project.com](http://sh26project.com)  
[www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov)



Sign up for e-alerts!

- Recent work completed on SH 26 includes the left turns and median curbs in the area from Brown Trail north to John McCain Road. Other recent work completed on SH 26 includes installation of driveways throughout the project limits. SH 26 construction activity continues with installation of remaining sidewalks, retaining walls, railing and permanent traffic signals. Irrigation and landscaping activity will begin in the near future.



- Project completion is estimated in Spring 2020.

### Driver Safety



Work zones present a different environment for drivers to navigate. Drivers are likely to encounter uneven pavement, narrow lanes, barriers, slow-moving heavy equipment and vehicles that make sudden stops. Please keep the following tips in mind when driving through work zones:

- *Slow down and always follow posted work zone speed limits. Remember, traffic fines double in work zones when workers are present and can cost up to \$2,000.*
- *Pay attention as workers and heavy equipment may only be a few feet from passing vehicles.*
- *Don't tailgate.*
- *Stay alert, minimize distractions and put the phone away.*
- *Obey road crew flaggers.*

Expect the unexpected. Delays from road construction can be frustrating, but it only takes a few extra minutes to slow down for a work zone.

Additional information at <https://www.txdot.gov/driver.html>

### Heads up, Texas!

Just a reminder that it's against the law to read, write or send a text while driving.

Approximately 1 in 5 crashes in Texas involve driver distraction. Anything that takes your eyes or mind off the road can be a dangerous distraction.

- Always give driving your full attention.
- Put your phone away—or turn it off—before you get behind the wheel.
- Pull off the road entirely before you talk or text.
- Tell friends, family, and coworkers you won't respond to calls or texts when driving.
- Use a smartphone app that sends auto-reply texts when you're behind the wheel.
- Spread the word. Tell your friends and family about the dangers of distracted driving.

# Calendar of Events

- Feb 14 Tarrant Transportation Summit..... [www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com](http://www.TarrantTransportationSummit.com)
- Feb 14 Southlake Women's Club Valentine's Day Luncheon. [www.southlakewomensclub.org](http://www.southlakewomensclub.org)
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day.....
- Feb 17 President's Day.....
- Feb 20 Keller Chamber 2020 Fired Up..... [www.kellerchamber.com](http://www.kellerchamber.com)
- Feb 21 Kids Matter Charity Ball..... [www.kidsmatterinternational.org](http://www.kidsmatterinternational.org)
- Feb 28 - Mar 1 The Cowtown Marathon..... [www.cowtownmarathon.org](http://www.cowtownmarathon.org)
- Feb 29 Colleyville Rotary Club Dancing for the Stars..... [www.colleyvillerotaryclub.org](http://www.colleyvillerotaryclub.org)
- Feb 29 Westlake Academy Gallery Night Benefit..... [www.westlake-tx.org](http://www.westlake-tx.org)
- Mar 1 ALZ Stars - The Cowtown Marathon..... [www.act.alz.org](http://www.act.alz.org)
- Mar 6 AHA - Go Red For Women Luncheon..... [www.ahafortworth.ejoinme.org](http://www.ahafortworth.ejoinme.org)
- Mar 6 City of Haslet Hiring Fair..... [www.haslet.org](http://www.haslet.org)
- Mar 7 Community Storehouse Concert & Dinner..... [www.communitystorehouseconcert.com](http://www.communitystorehouseconcert.com)
- Mar 8 Daylight Saving Time.....
- Mar 9-13 Spring Break.....
- Mar 11-14 Keller Lions Club Fair..... [www.kellerlionsclub.com](http://www.kellerlionsclub.com)
- Mar 14 North Richland Hills: Mayor's 5K Run & Walk..... [www.nrhtx.com](http://www.nrhtx.com)
- Mar 16 Colleyville Lions Club Knights of Sight Golf Tourn .... [www.colleyvillelions.com](http://www.colleyvillelions.com)
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day.....
- Mar 20 Colleyville Chamber City Slickers Casino Night..... [www.colleyvillechamber.org](http://www.colleyvillechamber.org)
- Mar 19-20 Alzheimer's Assoc. ABLAZE Ignite Passion for a Cure Event..... [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)
- Mar 20 A Wish With Wings Butterfly Wishes Gala..... [www.awww.org](http://www.awww.org)
- Mar 20-21 Celebrate Southlake..... [www.themarqsouthlake.com](http://www.themarqsouthlake.com)
- Mar 21 City of Bedford Library Mardi Gras Gala..... [www.bedfordlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.bedfordlibraryfoundation.org)
- Mar 27 CASA of Tarrant County Pull For Kids Clay Shoot.... [www.speakupforachild.org](http://www.speakupforachild.org)
- Mar 29 NE Tarrant Chamber Denim & Diamonds..... [www.netarrant.org](http://www.netarrant.org)
- Mar 30 Cesar Chavez Day.....
- Apr 2 Keller Women's Club Garden Of Roses Casino Night..... [www.gkwc.org](http://www.gkwc.org)
- Apr 3 Colleyville Woman's Club Lunch with the Girlz "April in Paris"..... [www.c-w-c.org](http://www.c-w-c.org)
- Apr 4 Bedford ArtsFest..... [www.bedfordtx.gov](http://www.bedfordtx.gov)
- Apr 6 Metroport Meals on Wheels Annual Golf Classic..... [www.metroportmow.org](http://www.metroportmow.org)
- Apr 9 Grapevine Chamber The Great Taste of Grapevine..... [www.grapevinechamber.org](http://www.grapevinechamber.org)
- Apr 10 Good Friday.....
- Apr 12 Easter.....
- Apr 12 City of Euless Arbor Daze..... [www.eulesstx.gov](http://www.eulesstx.gov)
- Apr 14 Community Enrichment Center Golf Classic..... [www.cecgolfclassic.com](http://www.cecgolfclassic.com)
- Apr 15 Tax Day.....
- Apr 16-19 Main Street Fort Worth Arts Festival..... [www.mainstreetartsfest.org](http://www.mainstreetartsfest.org)
- Apr 17 SafeHaven Purple Party..... [www.safehavenc.org](http://www.safehavenc.org)
- Apr 17-19 6Stones - CPR..... [www.6stones.org](http://www.6stones.org)
- Apr 18 Meals On Wheels of Tarrant County Casino Night..... [www.mealsonwheels.org](http://www.mealsonwheels.org)
- Apr 18 The Women's Center Victory Over Violence Walk/Run..... [www.vovfw.org](http://www.vovfw.org)
- Apr 18 The Clubhouse for Special Needs Dinner/Silent Auction..... [www.theclubhouse.org](http://www.theclubhouse.org)
- Apr 18 March for Babies Tarrant County..... [www.marchforbabies.org](http://www.marchforbabies.org)
- Apr 23 HEB Chamber Golf Classic..... [www.heb.org](http://www.heb.org)
- Apr 24-26 Southlake Women's Club Art In The Square..... [www.artinthesquare.com](http://www.artinthesquare.com)
- Apr 25 Keller Fest..... [www.kellerchamber.com](http://www.kellerchamber.com)
- Apr 25 City of Euless Arbor Daze..... [www.eulesstx.gov](http://www.eulesstx.gov)
- Apr 28 Keller Chamber - 2020 Rising Star Banquet..... [www.kellerchamber.com](http://www.kellerchamber.com)
- Apr 29 Arts Council Northeast .Shining Stars Luncheon.... [www.artscouncilnortheast.org](http://www.artscouncilnortheast.org)
- Apr 30 NW Metroport Chamber - The Taste..... [www.metroportchamber.org](http://www.metroportchamber.org)



Centered in Care  
Powered by Pride

## Locations In Northeast Tarrant County

### Health Clinics

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

JPS Medical Home Northeast Tarrant 817-702-1100  
3200 W. Euless Boulevard, Euless 76040

### School-Based Clinics

Birdville ..... 817-547-3046  
8200 O'Brian Way, N. Richland Hills 76180

Birdville ..... 817-759-2035  
2807 Layton Avenue, Haltom City 76117

Grapevine/Colleyville ..... 817-251-5751  
3050 Timberline Drive, Grapevine 76051

HEB ..... 817- 399-3500  
3115 W. Pipeline Road #B, Euless TX 76040

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](http://www.jpshealthnet.org)

## COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

February 17 - President's Day  
March 30 - Cesar Chavez Day  
April 10 - Good Friday

### Commissioner's Office Precinct 3

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