



"Working together for a better tomorrow"



Volume 8, Issue 4

## Help children be prepared for school

**Click here** 



# Coffee with the Commissioner

#### Friday, August 14th

7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Start your day with us!

Northeast Courthouse 645 Grapevine Hwy., Ste. 200 Hurst, Texas 76054



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**August 2015** 

## **COMMISSIONER'S CORNER**

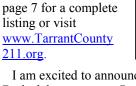
HOT! That's the only word I have to describe the start of August. Our office is in its hot time of the year with many exciting projects in the works including our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Empowering Seniors expo on Friday, October 2, at First Baptist Church Euless Campus West in Bedford.

We are gearing up for another exciting event with free health screenings, timely and informative workshops, over 140 exhibitor booths, free food, door prizes and entertainment. Joining us this year will be Dallas Cowboys' Legend, Randy White! This event allows us to provide critical information and screenings in a fun and casual environment to this important segment of our community. Last year's event attracted over 2,000 seniors, baby boomers and caregivers. More information can be found on page 4 or visit <u>www.empoweringseniors.com</u> to register for this year's event.

With the extreme heat we are experiencing, cooling centers have been opened throughout Tarrant County. Spending a few hours in an air-conditioned environment can bring down the body's core temperature and make it easier to handle the heat. Cooling centers may also have water and other liquids available to protect against dehydration, and some also

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allow pets. Please go to



I am excited to announce Rebecca Barksdale as our new Precinct Administrator. In this position, she will serve as chief of staff for my office. Rebecca has proven to be the right fit for her new role, and we look forward to her innovative leadership! See more on page 2.

Back to school time is quickly approaching with many area school supply drives and distribution events happening within the next few weeks. Many students throughout Tarrant County are not equipped for success on the first day of school. Events such as Back to School Round Up of Tarrant County and 6 Stones/ HEB Operation Back to School are two organizations with upcoming events to provide school supplies for economically disadvantaged students. Did you know it takes \$50 to provide one student with school supplies, immunizations and health and vision screenings? Please consider donating either your time or money to one of these organizations to help sustain their missions for this next school year.

Gary Fickes

## SAVE THE DATE!

- Empowering Seniors 10/2/15
- United Way Fundraiser 10/28/15
- NE Transportation Summit 2/19/16

## Question of the Month

Since America started electing presidents in 1789, third-party presidential candidates have consistently been part of our electoral process. Only one has ever won the election, but, a few have done better than others. Here's our pick of the 10 most interesting.

**Third-Party Candidates?** 

See page 3



### Rebecca Barksdale Administrator, Precinct 3

I grew up in Arlington, where my grandfather was one of the city's first doctors. He was a Marcus Welby-type general physician, riding his bicycle to make house calls on patients. In his later years (he practiced until his death at age 91), he ran a small clinic helping seniors and low-income residents. He taught me the fulfillment of being involved in my local community and that philosophy has truly defined my life.

After graduating from Baylor, I served an internship with the Texas Rangers during the spring and summer Nolan Ryan joined the team. Then I became sales manager of the Sheraton next to the Ballpark in Arlington and after one year was chosen by the Downtown Arlington Rotary Club to travel to India for six weeks as a Group Study Exchange Team Member before returning to Baylor for graduate school.

## <u> Kortheast Kewsletter</u>

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During graduate school, I was hired by an ad agency in Waco and worked with accounts such as Wendy's, the City of Waco, Allen Samuels, and helped produce the Baylor Radio Network for football and basketball. I became the Director of Advertising & Marketing for Allen Samuels North Loop Dodge, which introduced me to the Northeast Tarrant community, in 1995. Mr. Samuels promoted me to oversee the marketing and advertising for ten Allen Samuels dealerships throughout Texas. The North Richland Hills dealership was named the National Dodge Dealer of the Year each of my last two years there.

I came to work for Commissioner Fickes in February 2009 as Community Outreach Coordinator, and one of his first charges was to research the critical issues facing seniors. We formed a task force and immediately developed the strategy to create the Empowering Seniors Health & Lifestyle Expo. Now, six years later, Empowering Seniors attracts over 2,000 boomers, seniors and caregivers and has earned several prestigious awards including those from the National Association of Counties and the Texas Association of Counties.

I enjoy working with our local chambers

of commerce and organizations to help them achieve their missions. Not only is it meaningful work but I've also met many lifelong friends. I am currently serving on the boards of Girl Scouts of Texas Oklahoma Plains, A Wish With Wings, Mid-Cities Care Corps, the Colleyville Chamber of Commerce and the HEB ISD Education Foundation.

#### On a more personal note -

What do you do for fun? I like to be outside playing tennis, golf and traveling.

Favorite Movie? "Chariots of Fire"

**Favorite Restaurant?** *"The patio at Joe T. Garcia's"* 

Favorite vacation spot? Maui, Hawaii

**Last book read?** "Do the KIND Thing", by Daniel Lubetzky who is the CEO and founder of KIND Healthy Snacks

**Favorite Quote?** "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." by Margaret Mead



Maintenance Center News

Following all of the rain and wet conditions early this year, the weather has turned HOT and dry and our road construction crews are running at full throttle to complete the identified projects scheduled for this fiscal year which ends Sept 30th. Since the last update in June, we have completed four additional interlocal projects: Roadway stabilization on South White Chapel Blvd, between Continental Blvd. and Big Bear Creek (Southlake); Rehabilitation of College Circle from near Abbot Ave. to Terry Drive (North Richland Hills); Rehabilitation of Deaver Drive from Price Drive to College Circle (North Richland Hills); and Rehabilitation of Keller Smithfield Road between Bear Run and Village Trail (Keller).

Currently, most of our efforts are focused on completing construction of Willow Springs Road from US 287 to Bonds Ranch Road (Partially a Fort Worth Interlocal project and partially a Tarrant County project) and Bonds Ranch Road (Tarrant County project) from Big Fossil Creek to west of Willow Springs before the new NWISD V.R. Eaton High School opens on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Willow Springs Road is being rehabilitated and turn lanes are being added at the Willow Springs and Bonds Ranch intersection to help with traffic operations that will be generated by the new high school.

In September, we are scheduled to rehabilitate portions and place a hot mix asphalt concrete (HMAC) overlay on Vance Road from SH 26 to Dover Lane (Richland Hills); place a HMAC overlay on Watuaga Road from West Maurie to US 377 (Watauga); and start a rehabilitation project on West Caylor Road from Katy Road to North Caylor Road (Fort Worth). Additionally, we will be placing a second seal coat surface on three county roadways: Country Lane, Allen Trail, and Chaparral Lane to complete rehabilitation projects started earlier this spring. Pavement repairs and some temporary paving is also being planned for Blue Mound Road in front of the Lonesome Dove subdivision and on Willow Springs

Road north of Avondale Haslet to keep these roadways safe and passable until rehabilitation projects are started in 2016 and 2017 respectively. We will also continue with our routine summer maintenance activities of mowing, ditch cleaning, and spot sealing.

As always, your safety and the safety of our crews are of the utmost importance. Please be patient, drive slowly through the construction zone and be keenly aware of the large equipment and personnel working to make these improvements for you.



Pavement repair on Bonds Ranch Road in preparation for new asphalt surfacing.

Article courtesy of Richard Schiller, Director of Field Operations, Precinct 3 August 2015

#### Kortheast Kewsletter

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## **Commissioners Court**



Commissioners Roy Charles Brooks, Pct. 1; Andy Nguyen, Pct. 2; B. Glen Whitley, County Judge; Gary Fickes, Pct.3 and J.D. Johnson, Pct. 4

The governing body of each of Texas' 254 counties is the commissioners' court. In Texas, the court has five members: the county judge, and four commissioners. The County Judge is elected countywide and presides over the full Court and the four County Commissioners, each elected from one of the County's four precincts.

The four county commissioners have both countywide and precinct responsibilities. Each commissioner is responsible for construction and maintenance of county roads within his or her precinct. Commissioners maintain offices at both the Administration Building and within their precincts. They are responsive to the particular needs of people living within their areas of the county. In Tarrant County, each member of Commissioners Court serves as a liaison to a particular board or agency of the county such as the Hospital District.

Among the major duties of the Court:

1. Set the tax rate and adopt the county budget;

2. Appoint county officials and hire personnel;

3. Fill elective and appointive vacancies;

4. Establish voting precincts, appoint precinct judges and call county bond elections;

5. Let (award) contracts and authorize payment of all county bills;

6. Build and maintain county roads and bridges;

7. Build, maintain and improve county facilities, including jails;

8. Provide for hospitals, public welfare and veterans assistance;

9. Manage all county facilities;

10. Provide for the data service and archival needs of the county;

11. Appoint an Administrator to oversee the operations of those departments reporting to the court.

12. Develop the County Strategic Plan

Our County Administrator, G.K. Maenius, worked with elected officials, community and county staff to develop the County's Strategic Plan. The plan was approved by Commissioners Court July 1, 2014 and includes the county's goals and objectives for the next 5 years and charter initiatives that have been identified as priority improvement projects. Click here to view the <u>Tarrant County FY 2014- 2020</u> Strategic Plan.)

The Commissioners Court meets at 10 a.m. every Tuesday in the Commissioner's Courtroom on the fifth floor of the County Administration Building, 100 East Weatherford Street, Suite 502A, Fort Worth. All meetings are open to the public and citizens are urged to attend. For citizens interested in viewing the proceedings on television, the sessions are broadcast on a delayed basis on community access channels in the following cities: Arlington, Bedford, Euless, Forest Hill, Fort Worth, Haltom City, Hurst, Keller, North Richland Hills and Southlake. For more information call (817) 884-1234

Citizens are welcome to address the Commissioners Court at the regular open session, Tuesdays at 10 a.m. during the Public Comments section of the agenda. However, State Law mandates that the Commissioners Court is not allowed to respond to items or topics presented by citizens during the Public Comments section if the topic is not properly agendized. To have an item agendized in order for the Court to respond, please contact the Tarrant County Administrator's Office at 817-884-1267.

#### Congratulations Tarrant County! Great job on the Fourth Annual 2015 Senior Toiletry Drive!





The Tarrant County Historical Commission was recognized by the Commissioners Court on June 30th as a recipient of the Texas Historical Commission's 2014 Distinguished Service Award for their outstanding preservation work accomplished in the 2014 year of service.

### Question of the Month

Since America started electing presidents in 1789, third-party presidential candidates have consistently been part of our electoral process. Only one has ever won the election, but a few have done better than others. Here's our pick of the 10 most interesting.

#### **Third-Party Candidates?**

		% of popular vote		% 0	of popular vote
<ol> <li>1) Theodore Roosevelt</li> <li>2) Ross Perot</li> <li>3) Ron Paul</li> <li>4) Abraham Lincoln</li> <li>5) William Jennings Bryan</li> </ol>	1912 & 1996 2008 1860 1896	29.0 18.6 (1992) 0.03 39.8* 45.8	<ul> <li>6) George Wallace 1968, 1</li> <li>7) Millard Fillmore</li> <li>8) Robert La Follette</li> <li>9) Ralph Nader</li> <li>10) Strom Thurmond</li> </ul>		13.5 (1968) 21.6 16.6 2.74 2.4
5) william Jennings Dryan	1070	<b>-J</b> .0		1710	2.1

\* In 1860, the Republican Party was in its infancy. The major parties were the Whigs and the Democrats.



## Kortheast Kewsletter

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#### **New Data Center Coming** to Precinct 3 in North Fort Worth!



Facebook, a name most are familiar with, is coming to Precinct 3 in North Fort Worth!

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Tuesday, July 7th paving the way for a \$750 million dollar Facebook data center project promising jobs and tax revenue. Company representatives joined Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, County Judge B. Glen Whitley and Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes among others for the occasion.

This will be the Menlo Park, California based company's fifth data center and will be located on the northeast corner of Park Vista Boulevard and State Highway 170 in north Fort Worth. In her welcome to the elected officials, developers and media, Mayor Price said, "To our friends at Facebook, howdy and welcome to Cowtown"!

Bringing Facebook to Texas will help the state build an "even more robust and diverse economy", said Texas Governor Greg Abbott. Tarrant County and the Hospital District will receive a combined estimated \$30 million in taxes from the full Facebook project and Northwest ISD, with its full property tax rate applied, is expected to collect over \$150 million in property taxes, both during the 20-year incentive period. (Currently, this property produces \$2,500 in property tax). Governor Abbot also stated, "Make no mistake, this project does far more than just create jobs and add capital to the region. It is a magnet that high-tech companies are welcome to the state."

Facebook plans to build up to three 250,000 square-foot data centers at Hillwood's AllianceTexas mixed-use development. Grading is already underway, with construction of the first data center expected to reach completion in June 2016. The new buildings reflect the company's emphasis on green energy by using continuously recycled water and other environmentally-efficient features.

The Fort Worth data center will be fullyoperated by wind power. Facebook said it has partnered with Citigroup and Alterra Energy to build a 202-megawatt wind farm on 17,000 acres in Clay County, about 100



miles northwest of Tarrant County. Facebook will not own the wind farm, but will buy the power.

Tom Furlong, Facebook's vice president of infrastructure, said the Fort Worth facility will be its most efficient yet, since it started building its own data centers six years ago. It will have the latest in server and networking hardware, he said.

Facebook's scale is unprecedented. They currently boasts 1.5 billion worldwide users who daily post 45 billion messages, view four billion videos and post two billion pictures. Their mission is to connect the world. Just dealing with this kind of scale is a huge technological challenge. Their goal is to connect the next five billion people!

Facebook launched a new page, facebook.com/fortworthdatacenter, providing information about its new Fort Worth complex and job information.

Welcome to Texas Facebook!

## An Historical Moment in Time

"Looking Back at the One Room Schoolhouse"

Kids will be returning to school in a few weeks after the summer break and chances are, some probably are not real thrilled about going back. But taking a look back at what American schools were like in the 1800s might help them to see just how good they have it.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, one room schoolhouses were the norm in rural areas. A single teacher taught grades one through eight together. The youngest students, called Abecedarians, because they would learn their ABCs, sat in the front, while the oldest sat in the back. The room was heated by a single wood stove.

There was no transportation to get to school. Most schoolhouses were built to serve students living within 4 or 5 miles, which was considered close enough for them to walk.

At some schools, boys and girls entered through separate doors; they were also kept separate for lessons.

The school year was much shorter back then. When the Department of Education first began gathering data on the subject in the 1869-70 school year, students attended school for about 132 days (the standard year these days is 180) depending on when they were needed to help their families harvest crops. Attendance was just 59

percent. School days typically started at 9 am and wrapped up at 2 pm or 4 pm. There was one hour for recess and lunch, which was called "nooning."

There were no fancy school supplies in the 19th and early-20th centuries. Students made do with just a slate and some chalk.

Sometimes, students helped the teacher teach. In the monitorial or Lancasterian system, the older, stronger students learned lessons directly from the teacher and then taught the younger, weaker students.

Lessons were quite different than they are today. Teachers taught subjects including reading, writing, arithmetic, history, grammar, rhetoric, and geography. Students would memorize their lessons, and the teacher would bring them to the front of the room as a class to recite what they'd learned, so the teacher could correct them on things like pronunciation on the spot.

Teachers sometimes lived with their students' families. According to Michael Day at the Country School Association of America, this practice was called "boarding round," and it often involved the teacher moving from one students' house to the next as often as every week.

Discipline was very strict. Sure, stepping out of line in the 1800s and early 1900s



Pictured: The one room blab school attended by Abraham Lincoln in 1822. (A blab school is a type of children's primary school where the children recited their lessons out loud, separately or as a group.)

could result in detention, suspension, or expulsion, but it could also result in a lashing. Not all places had such a rule though; in other areas, teachers could use a ruler or pointer to lash a student's knuckles or palms. Other punishments included holding a heavy book for more than an hour and writing "I will not..." do a certain activity on the blackboard 100 times

No lunch was provided by the school, even if families had the money for it; kids brought their lunches to school in metal pails. Every student drank water from a bucket filled by the older boys using the same tin cup.

## <u> Kortheast Kewsletter</u>

## **Catholic Charities**



Catholic Charities Fort Worth (CCFW) is a faith-based, non-profit social service agency located in Fort Worth. The majority of these services fall into three categories: strengthening families, caring for children, and welcoming the stranger. In 2014, we served over 102,000 people in our community. We are dedicated to helping those who are able to move out of poverty, and caring for those who are not able to do so on their own. We are committed to finding a new way to end poverty once and for all. In doing so, we offer over 40 programs that range from clinical counseling, in-house dental care, disaster relief, financial assistance, international foster care, financial stability and coaching, housing assistance, street outreach, refugee and immigration services, transportation, volunteer income tax assistance, veterans services, translation and interpretation, and vocational services. Overall, our goal is to move clients from crisis mode, to stability, eventually into self-sufficiency and independence.

We also partner with the University of Notre Dame's Lab for Economic Opportunity (LEO) to identify innovative, effective, and scalable social service programs nationwide that will help move people out of poverty. Currently, we have two projects focused on delivering evidencebased solutions to help those in need. Our Stay the Course program is aimed at increasing persistence and degree-attainment among low-income community college students. Our Padua Pilot is an intensive case management program that promotes individual strengths and client's assets. We believe that this "supercharged" case



Street Outreach Services (S.O.S) Team Program Manager, Jay Semple, handing out toiletry items

management will assist in creating self-sufficient impacts for clients.

As a multi-program agency, CCFW provides dozens of volunteer opportunities short-term, long-term, special projects and everything in between. We will help you find an opportunity best-suited for your schedule, talents and personal preferences. If you would like to learn more about our volunteer opportunities, please contact our Volunteer Services at (817) 289-3871 or volunteer@ccdofw.org.

Currently, we are looking for volunteers to partner with us and our transportation program. We partner with the Tarrant Riders Network and provide support to transitdependent individuals who otherwise may not be able to attend medical appointments, have a stable ride to work, or to run simple errands. By volunteering as a driver, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of fellow community members.

Volunteers are able to drive their own vehicles, choose their own schedule, and support the mission of Catholic Charities Fort Worth. For more information and to register for training, please contact Merrissa Kuylen at (817) 413-3936 or <u>mkuylen@ccdofw.org</u>.

Upcoming dates for training are: Aug. 18th 10 am-12 pm Arlington Aug. 20th 10:30 am-12:30 pm Ft Worth Sept. 2nd 10 am-12 pm Tinker House Sept. 3rd 6 pm-8 pm Ft Worth Sept. 15th 10 am-12 pm Arlington Sept 17th 12:30 pm-2:30 pm Ft Worth



Some members of our transportation staff From left to right: Naaman Akinola- Mobility Manager; Norge Marrero- Operations Field Supervisor; Jim Ervin- Volunteer; Merrissa Kuylen- Transportation Volunteer Specialist; Andi Dedja- Billing Specialist

Catholic Charities 249 W. Thornhill Dr., Fort Worth 76115 Monday-Thursday 7:30 am-5:30 pm Friday, 7:30 am-5:00 pm (817) 534-0814 or email infocatholiccharities@ccdofw.org

Article courtesy of Shannon Rosedale, MSSW Public Affairs and Relations Manager

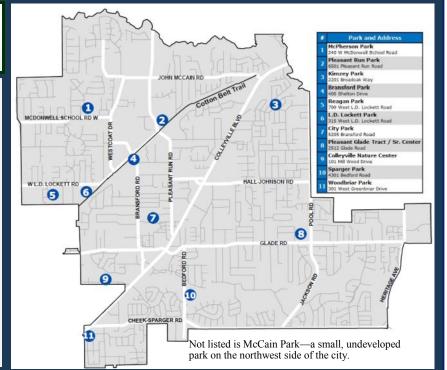
## Colleyville Parks Department



The City of Colleyville strives to provide opportunities and places where people can escape and enjoy an enriching environment. The quality of life in

Colleyville is defined not only by its luxurious homes and neighborhoods, but also by the opportunities afforded its citizens to enjoy themselves and spend quality time with family and friends. Colleyville boasts 12 parks, encompassing 202 acres. The city has 14.25 miles of public hike and bike trails.

> Article courtesy of Mona Gandy, Communications & Marketing



#### August 2015

### <u> Kortheast Kewsletter</u>

## SENIOR NEWS

Due to the extreme heat we have been experiencing lately, we are dedicating our Senior News page to places you can go to keep cool!

Heat is a potentially deadly problem—nearly 400 Americans die from heat waves each year. Most of them are elderly people who often don't realize when they are overheating and in danger. Part of the problem lies in the fact that older people simply can't handle the heat as

well as younger ones because they don't sweat as effectively and they have poorer circulation. Obesity, heart disease, dementia, diabetes and other chronic medical conditions can compound the risk. So can certain medications, especially diuretics or those prescribed for hypertension and Parkinson's disease.

To protect seniors, the standard advice is to get them into an air-conditioned building, have them dress lightly, and keep themselves hydrated. There are several cooling facilities that are open to the public during dangerously hot weather. Spending a few hours in an air-conditioned environment can bring down the body's core temperature and make it easier to handle the heat. Older and/or frail adults, homeless people, parents with small children and persons with health conditions that may be made worse by the weather should consider spending time in a cooling center, particularly between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. when temperatures are at their highest. Cooling centers may also have water and other liquids available to protect against dehydration, and some also allow pets.

<b>Extreme Heat</b>	<b>Cooling</b> C	enters			- Y
Salvation Army Arlington Family Life Center	712 W. Abram St.	Arlington	76013	817-860-1836	view map
Andrew Doc Session Community Center	201 S. Sylvania Ave	Fort Worth	76111	817-871-6585	view map
Chisholm Trail Community Center	4680 McPherson Blvd.	Fort Worth	76123	817-392-8070	view map
Como Community Center	4900 Horne St.	Fort Worth	76107	817-871-5030	view map
Diamond Hill Community Center	1701 NE 36th St.	Fort Worth	76106	817-625-1525	view map
Eugene McCray Community Center	4932 Wilbarger St.	Fort Worth	76119	817-871-7156	view map
Fire Station Community Center	1601 Lipscomb St.	Fort Worth	76104	817-924-9971	view map
Greenbriar Community Center	5200 Hemphill St.	Fort Worth	76115	817-926-6214	view map
Handley-Meadowbrook Community Center	6201 Beaty St.	Fort Worth	76112	817-451-0222	view map
Highland Hills Community Center	1600 Glasgow Rd.	Fort Worth	76134	817-293-0681	view map
Hillside Community Center	1201 E. Maddox	Fort Worth	76104	817-871-7660	view map
Martin Luther King Community Center	5565 Truman Dr.	Fort Worth	76112	817-871-5960	view map
North Tri-Ethnic Community Center	2950 Roosevelt Ave.	Fort Worth	76106	817-871-5853	view map
Northside Community Center	1100 NW 18th St.	Fort Worth	76106	817-871-5820	view map
R.D. Evans Community Center	3242 Lackland Rd.	Fort Worth	76116	817-731-8789	view map
Riverside Community Center (In Sylvania Park)	3700 E. Belknap St.	Fort Worth	76111	817-871-7670	view map
Southside Community Center	959 E. Rosedale	Fort Worth	76104	817-871-6605	view map
Southwest Community Center	6300 Welch St.	Fort Worth	76133	817-392-7613	view map
Sycamore Community Center	2525 E. Rosedale St.	Fort Worth	76105	817-871-7675	view map
Thomas Place Community Center	4237 Lafayette	Fort Worth	76107	817-735-1751	view map
Worth Heights Community Center	3551 New York Ave.	Fort Worth	76110	817-871-8722	view map
Salvation Army Northside Corps/Community Center	3023 NW 24th St.	Fort Worth	76106	817-624-3111	view map
The Salvation Army of Tarrant County	1855 E. Lancaster Ave.	Fort Worth	76103	817-344-1800	view map

If you don't see an area close to you contact 2-1-1 for additional information.

### Friday, September 25, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

YMCA Camp Carter 6200 Sand Springs Rd Fort Worth, TX 76114

Games · Picnic · Entertainment · Lots of Goodies! Come and enjoy a day outdoors. Call 817-514-5892 for more details



FRIDAY October 2, 2015 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

CAMPUS WEST, 205 N Industrial Blvd., Bedford, TX 76021 **REGISTER HERE TODAY** 

> Or call (817) 581-3600 www.EmpoweringSeniors.com



August 2015	Kortheast Kewsletter	Volume 8, Issue 4 Page 8
	ransporta Northeast	Tarrant County
SH 121/360 Ramp - In July,	FM 2499 - In early June, we completed and moved traffic onto the new southern portion of the Grapevine Mills Blvd. bridge. Drainage and wall work continues on the new, lowered FM 2499 mainlanes. In August, crews will begin concrete paving the FM 2499 mainlanes from SH 121 to Grapevine Mills Blvd. Due to heavy flooding at Lake Grapevine, and the subsequent flooding of Denton Creek, work is und FM 2499 bridge over the creek. the project team set beams on two new bridges for the new SH 121 wo new walls near Stone Myers Pkwy. We have started concrete paving 60.	
about construction impacts duri	Design on the Midtown Express is now over 75% complete. Initial bridge demolition has been ongoing on the SH 114 bridge over O'Connor Blvd. The setting of the first girders on the project over O'Connor was scheduled for this past weekend. The roadway team continues working on detours along SH 114 to open up the outside for new widening work. Utility relocation and drainage work have begun on SH 183 to clear the way for reconstruction of the frontage roads and sk Force meetings have begun as a forum for local businesses to learn ing the project and answer any questions they may have. The next agust 19 <sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m., at SouthGate's field office (2220 Chemsearch	
North Tarrant Express/ <u>I-35W</u> Hotline: 888-683-2015 www.northtarrantexpress.com Sign up for e-alerts!	The northbound I-35W exit to westbound Spur 280 will remain closed through early next year. Extensive construction activity continues around NE 28 <sup>th</sup> Street: in the next month, traffic will switch to the new portion of the bridge, allowing for demolition of the remainder of the bridge. There is also tremendous activity underway at the I-35W/I-820 interchange; farther to the north, the northbound I-35W entrance at Western Center Blvd. will close for several months beginning in August. Drivers are encouraged to visit the website regularly or sign up for e-alerts to stay informed about upcoming closures and detours.	
Two lanes of traffic have bee Substantial completion is estin	The SH 26 reconstruction project in Colleyville from Brumlow Avenue/Pool Road to John McCain Road continues. The center section of the Big Bear Creek Bridge and the remaining pavement areas within the John McCain Road and the Brumlow Avenue/Pool Road intersections have been completed. Construction is now concentrated on the remaining median area near the Brumlow Avenue/ landscape improvements along the project limits. en, and will continue to be, maintained during peak driving times. hated in summer 2015. The \$11.4 million project is widening the direction with raised curbed medians and left turn bays.	
placed at the project limits to a The \$20.6 million TxDOT pro	The FM 1938 Phase II reconstruction project in Southlake and Keller from Randol Mill Avenue to FM 1709 (Southlake Boulevard) is progressing. Temporary traffic signals are being installed at the FM 1938 and FM 1709 intersection, and detours on several cross streets have been implemented for construction activity. In addition, work is continuing on the right-of-way area of FM 1938 to install underground storm drainage. This construction between FM 1709 and Johnson Road order to minimize impacts to motorists, and message boards have been innounce lane closures, detours and future road work. ject is widening the roadway to two lanes in each direction with raised ual left turn bays at the intersection of FM 1938 and FM 1709. The	

curbed medians and includes dual left turn bays at the intersection of FM 1938 and FM 1709. The project also includes landscaping along the roadway with illumination and sidewalks on both sides of the roadway provided by the City of Southlake. The 1.6-mile project is estimated for completion in 2017.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug 14 Coffee with the Commissioner
Aug 24 First Day of School
Sep 4-6 Bedford Blues Fest and BBQwww.bedfordbluesbbg.com
Sep 7 Labor DayCOUNTY HOLIDAY
Sep 11 Patriot Day
Sep 11 NW Metroport Legislative Breakfastwww.nwmetroportchamber.org
Sep 11 6 Stones Sporting Clays Event
Sep 12 HEB Chamber 60 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash Awards Gala www.heb.org
Sep 12 Culinary Celebration 2015www.southlakecef.org/culinary-celebration
Sep 12 Mental Health America Run For Life 5K www.mhatc.org
Sep 12 5th Annual Tarrant County MOW Casino Nightwww.mealsonwheels.org
Sep 14 Wounded Warrior Charity Golf Tournament
Sep 17 State of the Cities Breakfastwww.heb.org
Sep 17 North Texas Giving Day www.northtexasgivingday.org
Sep 17 GrapeFestwww.grapevinetexasusa.com
Sep 19 Community Storehouse Run in the Dark <u>www.communitystorehouse.org</u>
Sep 19 North Texas SNAP Boots and Bling Casino Night www.ntxsnap.org
Sep 25 SCS Senior Spirit Awards www.seniorspiritawards.org
Sep 25 22nd Annual Lena Pope Home Golf Classic www.lenapope.org
Sep 25 Arts League NE Shining Stars Luncheon <u>www.shiningstarsartscouncil.org</u>
Sep 28 Glo Golfwww.kellerchamber.com
Oct 1 SafeHaven Legacy of Women Awards Luncheon <u>www.safehaventc.org</u>
Oct 2 Empowering Seniors 2015 <u>www.empoweringseniors.com</u>
Oct 2 - 4 Southlake Chamber Oktoberfest <u>www.oktoberfestsouthlake.com</u>
Oct 5 36th Annual Grapevine Chamber Golf Classic <u>www.grapevinechamber.org</u>
Oct 6 National Night Out
Oct 7 UW NE Report to the Community <u>www.uwnereport.eventbrite.com</u>
Oct 8 NWISD Annual Golf Classic
Oct 10 Hurst HCFAAA Steak Dinner
Oct 10 GRACE Gala www.graecegala.org
Oct 12 Columbus Day
Oct 13 Mental Health America Peppers & Pinatas Party www.mhatc.org
Oct 16 & 17         6Stones CPR Fall Blitz         www.6stones.org/cpr           Oct 17 Haslet Hustle 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run         www.haslet.org
Oct 17 Master Huster SK and Tivine Fun Kun
Oct 17 women's Center Monster Masin
Oct 19 NE farlant chamber Gon classic
Oct 24 National Make a Difference Day
Oct 24 National Make a Difference Day



Tarrant County Back to School Roundup - Will Rogers Memorial Ctr. Thursday, August 20, 2015 | 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. http://backtoschoolroundup.org



6Stones Operation Back 2 School - Campus West Saturday, August 22, 2015 | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. www.6stones.org

BISD Refresh Back to School Rally - FAAC Saturday, August 22, 2015 | 10:00 a.m. www.birdvilleschools.net

John Peter Smith Hospital Clinics
Northeast Tarrant County

#### <u>Health Clinics</u>

Gertrude Tarpley JPS Health Center	817-514-5036
6601 Watauga Road, Watauga 76148	
JPS Health Center Northeast	817-920-6400
837 Brown Trail, Bedford 76022	

#### School-Based Clinics

**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: <u>www.jpshealthnet.org</u>

### **COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

#### September 7 - Labor Day



## Commissioner's Office Precinct 3

Gary Fickes, Commissioner ggfickes@tarrantcounty.com

Rebecca Barksdale, Precinct Administrator rbarksdale@tarrantcounty.com

Devin Wenske, Community Outreach Coordinator ddwenske@tarrantcounty.com

Theresa Parsons, Assistant Precinct Administrator <u>tcparsons@tarrantcounty.com</u>

Freida Landerholm, Office Administrator <u>fmlanderholm@tarrantcounty.com</u>

#### Northeast Courthouse

645 Grapevine Highway, Suite 200 Hurst, Texas 76054 817-581-3600 *Fax: 817-581-3603*