



Winter 2018

# Q COUNTY JUDGE Quarterly

News & Notes from the Tarrant County Judge  
and important information from Tarrant County

Vol. 5, No. 3

TARRANT COUNTY: OUR NORTH TEXAS HOME



Tarrant County Judge  
B. Glen Whitley

## Your Vote Makes a Difference

# Be Informed for Upcoming Primary Elections

With 2017 now behind us, we reflect on what we have learned over the past year and strive to make each day of the new year even better.

This new year brings with it the chance to be heard by exercising our right to vote. This is an opportunity

for each of you to let your local, state, and federal elected officials know how well you believe we have been taking care of the issues which affect you, the citizens of Tarrant County.

Did you know the Tarrant County Elections Department is responsible for conducting all federal, state, and county elections? In addition, they are also responsible for certain city elections, independent school districts, other political subdivisions and manage voter registrations for Tarrant County voters. In 2017 alone, Tarrant County had over 974,000 registered voters. Additionally, elections for 41 cities and 21 school districts along with several other agencies were administered by our Elections Department.

Elections Department staff, lead by newly appointed Elections Administrator Nathan Neblett, is already hard at work preparing for the upcoming elections by ensuring the voter registration and electoral process is conducted at the highest level of professional elections standards.

In March, there are local, state and federal offices with contested races in the 2018 Democratic and Republican Primaries. This primary election will determine which candidates will be considered in the general election this November.

With so many candidates to consider in each of these primary races, it is essential to get to know the candidates and where they stand on the issues that are important to you. Citizens can do so by contacting the candidate directly and attending public forums.

To see a complete list of candidates you can visit the Texas Secretary of State's website or by contacting your local party headquarters.

In order to make your voice heard, now is the time to make sure you are registered to vote or update your voter registration. In order to vote in the upcoming primary elections, you must be registered no later than February 5th. This applies to Election Day on March 6th, as well as early voting February 20th through March 2nd.

We are fortunate to live in a free country where we have the right to vote. Voting empowers us not only to voice our opinion but more notably for that opinion to be heard. It is vital not to take this right for granted and exercise your civic responsibility by going to the polls on Election Day.

B. Glen Whitley  
Tarrant County Judge

### Voter Registration Information

To register to vote or update your voter registration:  
go to [www.tarrantcounty.com/elections](http://www.tarrantcounty.com/elections)  
and click on "Voter Registration"

**Tarrant County Elections Department**  
**817-831-8683**

For additional information regarding elections and voter registration please visit the Texas Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.state.tx.us](http://www.sos.state.tx.us)

\*\*\*\*\*  
**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**  
\*\*\*\*\*



A health and lifestyle expo event for boomers, seniors and caregivers!



6th Annual SENIOR SYNERGY EXPO

Thursday, May 3, 2018 Title Sponsor
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Cigna HealthSpring.

FREE EXPO

Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley and Cigna invite you to the 2018 Senior Synergy Expo. Come learn about the services available in Tarrant County that will empower boomers, seniors and caregivers to live a healthier lifestyle.

FREE: Admission • Health Screenings • Workshops • Parking • Lunch\*

REGISTER

To attend the Expo, register today at:
www.seniorsynergyexpo.com
817-884-1234
klrotter@tarrantcounty.com
\*Must register before April 23rd to guarantee lunch.

LOCATION

Will Rogers– Amon G. Carter Jr. Exhibits Hall
3400 Burnett-Tandy Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76107

TITLE SPONSOR



PLATINUM SPONSOR



FORT WORTH BUSINESS PRESS

OUR OTHER SPONSORS



AARP • Blue Zones • Ciera Bank • Home Instead Senior Care • Lucas Family Funeral Homes • MHMR of Tarrant County
ONCOR Electric • Senior Downsizing Experts • United Way Area Agency on Aging

Knowledge is power, come learn about services available for you to live a healthier and independent lifestyle.

**Don't Delay! Get a Flu Shot Today**

# Flu Season is Here

The winter months are prime flu season.

Protect your family and friends by encouraging everyone to get a flu shot. You can get a flu shot at the corner pharmacy, the supermarket, college health centers, employers, schools or wherever vaccinations are offered. The Tarrant County Public Health Department will offer flu shots at its public health centers throughout the county. If you do get sick, take the appropriate medications and try not to spread the highly contagious virus.

"Flu season typically has a couple of peaks, right before Christmas and a second peak in late January or early February," said Vinny Taneja, Tarrant County Public Health Director.

You can be contagious a day before symptoms develop and up to seven days after becoming sick.

Young children and people with weakened immune systems can infect others for an even longer time.

The virus spreads when sick people cough, sneeze or talk and tiny droplets land on people. A person can get flu touching a surface that has the virus on it and then touching the mouth, eyes or nose.

The illness can last a week or longer, though severe cases can lead to hospitalization and even death. Mild or severe, flu symptoms can affect the nose, throat, and lungs and arise quickly. There can be fever, chills, headache, and muscle aches, fatigue, a sore throat and a deep, bronchial cough.

Older adults with chronic health conditions and young children are most at risk for serious complications.

### Protect Yourself From Getting Sick

- ◆ Get Vaccinated
- ◆ Wash your hands often with soap and warm water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- ◆ Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your arm when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- ◆ Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth because germs spread this way.
- ◆ If you are sick with flu-like symptoms, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone. Your fever should be gone without using fever-reducing medicine.
- ◆ Stay away from others as much as possible so you don't make them sick.

**For more on flu and immunization contact Tarrant County Public Health**  
(817) 321-4700; <http://health.tarrantcounty.com>

## *2018 State of The County*

Come hear about the highlights of the past year and forecast for 2018 while having an opportunity to engage with city/county businesses, civic, and city leaders.

**Friday, February 9, 2018**

**11:30 a.m.—1:15 p.m.**

**Sheraton Arlington Hotel**



Register online at [www.arlingtontx.com](http://www.arlingtontx.com)

Or call **817-275-2613**



## Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo

# Boots, Chaps and Cowboy Hats

Dust off your boots and grab your cowboy hat!

The 122nd annual Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo “Buck, Sweat & Steers” gets underway January 12th and runs through February 3rd at Will Rogers Memorial Center. For 23 days, the heart of Cowtown’s Cultural District will be filled with events and activities for all ages.

From its humble beginnings in 1896 on the banks of Marine Creek in north Fort Worth, the event has continued to expand to the internationally known event we have today. In 1901, local merchants began bringing their best livestock to exhibit. In 1903, the event was officially named the Texas Fat Stock Show and was renamed in 1909 to the Southwest Exposition and Livestock Show.

The event began to grow quickly with roundups, or ranch work demonstrations, which were billed as Wild West Performances. In 1918, the first indoor rodeo was held in what was then the Northside Coliseum. By 1944 the event had outgrown its home and moved to the Will Rogers Memorial Center. As a result of its continued growth, the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo will move to the new Dickies Arena in 2020. The new arena is currently being constructed between Trail Drive and Montgomery Street.

The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo has a tremendous impact on the economy of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. This historic event continues to grow every year drawing over 1 million visitors for the past 6 years including over one thousand visiting from 94 different countries.



## Family Fun

The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo promotes a family friendly environment. Families can visit the carnival /midway, take a stroll through the many barns for a variety of educational activities or peruse the hundreds of exhibitor and sponsor booths in the exhibit hall.

The carnival provides the excitement of bumper cars, the Wave Swinger and a Monkey Maze. There are plenty of food vendors and carnival games for the whole family to enjoy.

Children can get a sense of the importance of agriculture and livestock at Planet Agriculture, presented by Texas Farm Bureau. Exhibits provide educational information about the way

crops provide food and clothing as well as how technology plays a role.

The Children’s Barnyard is full of farm animals and their babies. Kids will get to see chicks hatch before their eyes. To add to this experience, families can stroll through the barns to get an up close view of very pampered livestock being prepared for the show ring. For an even more “up close” experience, the Bank of Texas petting zoo provides kids with hands on interaction with livestock.



On January 21st, in partnership with Texas Wildlife Association, kids can participate in Kids Gone Wild! This event provides an opportunity for kids to understand the importance of nature and how it impacts them. Kids will be able to catch a catfish, experience archery and many other activities while in a supervised and safe environment.

Looking for a pair of boots or maybe a cowboy hat? The Amon Carter Jr. Exhibit Hall is the place to go. Exhibitors and sponsors fill the more than 200,000 square foot space with plenty of items for everyone to choose from.

## Stock Show

The barns and arenas will be bustling with an assortment of activity throughout this 23 day event. Entrants will compete for scholarships and cash prizes in livestock competitions, art and mechanics contests.

Everything from llamas to poultry will be occupying the barns located on the Will Rogers complex. Entrants will be pampering and prepping their animals for judging and auctions.

Young artists will be showcasing their work in the Star-Telegram Art Contest and Auction. This provides students an opportunity for scholarship prizes and having their work shown at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame.

Texas M.A.D.E. is a scholarship program promoting Mechanics, Agriculture, Development and Education. Entrants will showcase projects and provide educational information along with verbal presentations. In 2017, eight scholarships were given totaling \$68,000.





### Rodeo

This year is the 100th anniversary celebration of the first indoor rodeo entertaining audiences with 29 performances. The rodeo is considered one of the top ten PRCA and WPRA events. Cowboys and cowgirls from all over the United States, Canada and Mexico will be competing for championship titles and their share of more than \$700,000.

Multiple PRCA performances will be held throughout the 23 day event with special performances such as Bulls Night Out and the Fort Worth Super Shootout. Rodeo fans, young and old, will be captivated with bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, barrel racing, team roping, steer wrestling, and the ever popular bull riding, just to name a few.

The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo continues to support our service men and women by designating January 26th Military Day. Active duty and retired personnel can show their military identification and receive tickets to the 2 pm and 7:30 pm rodeo performances for themselves and immediate family members.

In addition, January 31st has been designated Cook Children’s Day at the rodeo. One half of all rodeo tickets sold for each performance will be donated to Cook Children’s to support their neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).

### Event Parking

Visitors to the 122nd annual Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo will enjoy the newly completed parking garage which will serve the new Dickies Arena when it opens in 2020. Additional public parking is available at various locations surrounding the Will Rogers Memorial Complex.

In addition, visitors can use the Rodeo Redline Express Shuttle. For \$5 per vehicle, visitors will be shuttled from the Billy Bob’s parking lot to the front door of the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo.

Shuttle service will begin January 13th with 55 passenger buses running every 20 minutes. The last bus to the Stock Show grounds will leave at 8 p.m. and the last bus returning to Billy Bob’s departing at 10 p.m.



**Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo**

**Event and Ticket Information**

**817-877-2420**

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

The Rodeo Ticket Box Office located at 3401 W. Lancaster in Fort Worth is open Monday - Saturday from 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

FORT WORTH BUSINESS PRESS

# HEALTHCARE HEROES 2018

### **Asthma 411 Receives 2018 Health Care Hero Award**

County Judge Glen Whitley and Fort Worth ISD Board President Tobi Jackson will be recognized by the Fort Worth Business Press for their support of the Asthma 411 initiative.

Asthma 411 is a collaboration between UNT Health Science Center, Cook Children’s Hospital, John Peter Smith Health Network and schools throughout Tarrant County. This program provides school nurses with the training, medication and equipment necessary to treat a child experiencing respiratory distress. Since implementation, schools have experienced fewer absences and 9-1-1 calls.

**For More Information about the Asthma 411 Program**

Visit [www.asthma411.org](http://www.asthma411.org)

or contact Judge Glen Whitley’s office at 817-884-1441





# 9th Annual Northeast Tarrant Transportation Summit

Commissioner Gary Fickes Tarrant County • Precinct 3

## SAVE THE DATE

### 9th Annual Northeast Tarrant Transportation Summit

Friday, February 16, 2018 | 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Hurst Conference Center | 1600 Campus Drive, Hurst, Texas

**Topics:** This year's summit will focus on how emerging technologies including Smart City initiatives, Uber Elevate, Hyperloop and autonomous vehicles are impacting North Texas today.

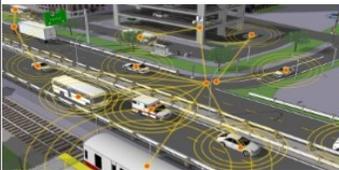
## SESSIONS



**Uber Elevate -  
The Sky's the Limit...or is it?**



**Hyperloop | one**



**The Future of Smart Cities  
in America**

**Autonomous Vehicles**



**Project Updates**

*Learn about current and upcoming projects, and talk to local experts in our display area!*

## TITLE SPONSORS



Questions? Please contact Devin Sanders at [dwsanders@tarrantcounty.com](mailto:dwsanders@tarrantcounty.com) or call (817) 581-3600  
[www.NETransportationSummit.com](http://www.NETransportationSummit.com)  
Register **TODAY** at any Northeast Tarrant County Chamber of Commerce



**Enhancing Mobility Using Technology**

# Arlington Begins Rideshare Pilot Project

With an ever growing population, major entertainment venues and a globally renowned university, transportation in the City of Arlington is a top priority.

To address community needs regarding transportation, the Arlington City Council appointed a Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) composed of residents and stakeholders. Over a twelve-month period, beginning in September 2016, the Committee met monthly to gather information and analyze data to develop a recommended transportation strategy framework. Recommendations were presented to the City Council in September 2017, but nothing has been formally adopted to-date.

The City is the first municipality in the nation to offer ongoing autonomous shuttle rides for the general public. Milo, as the autonomous shuttle has been named, was recently introduced to those visiting Arlington’s Entertainment District. Riders can try out one of the two Milo shuttles for free during regularly scheduled Rangers games, Cowboy games and other major events at Globe Life Park and AT&T Stadium. These shuttles can hold up to 12 passengers and are wheelchair accessible. Although Milo runs autonomously, a certified operator is always on-board. This innovative driverless technology includes collision avoidance systems to detect vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians and other obstacles.



Customers can book and track their trip using Arlington’s Via smartphone app.

In December, the City Council launched the first owned/operated public partnership rideshare pilot project with Via. Via is an on-demand rideshare service that allows riders to summon a Via van using a smartphone application or dial-in phone number. This program replaces and expands service previously provided through the Metro ArlingtonXpress, or MAX bus service.

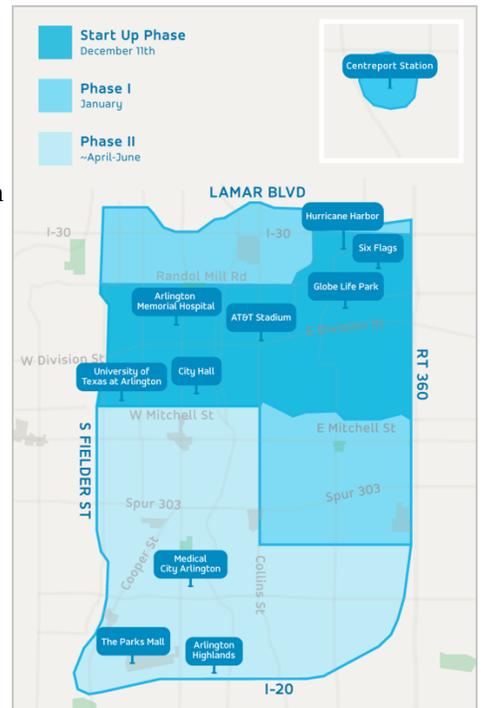
“For Arlington, Via’s comprehensive ridesharing service is an exciting and innovative alternative to a traditional fixed-route bus system, allowing us to provide a higher quality

transportation option that is relevant to even more of our residents and visitors,” Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams said.

Via, which was first introduced in New York City in 2013, also operates service in D.C. and Chicago and has provided over 21 million rides to-date. Via has also licensed their technology platform to a variety of partners in locations such as Austin, Orange County, CA; Kent, UK and LeCab, Paris.

Customers book their trip through an account-based system by using a smartphone app or by calling Via directly. A vehicle will pick up passengers at their doorstep or a nearby location and take them to the desired drop-off location. Trips cost a \$3 flat fee and vans generally show up within 12 minutes of booking a ride. The initial service hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

The Via service will be expanded in mid-January to include a larger service area and later evening hours. A second expansion will take place by summer 2018, when the service will expand down to I-20, including locations such as Medical City Arlington, the Parks Mall and the Arlington Highlands areas. Based on rider feedback, ridership growth and data gathered over time, service areas and hours of operation may shift to better meet demand.



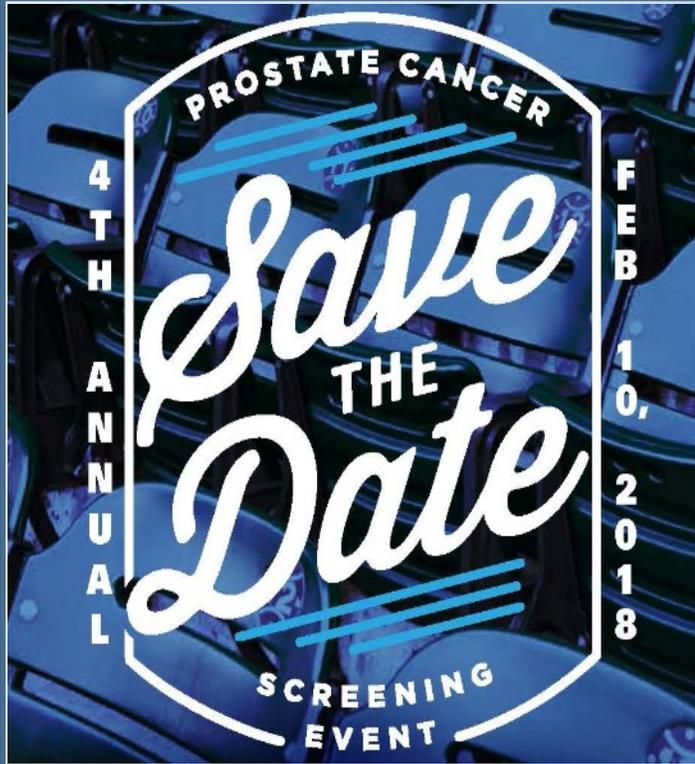
This map reflects the service areas being implemented for the Via ride share project.

For Additional Information and to download the Via app go to

[www.arlingtontx.gov/via](http://www.arlingtontx.gov/via)



# HELP US KNOCK PROSTATE CANCER OUT OF THE PARK!



Join Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks at the 4th Annual Prostate Cancer Screening Event, a Healthy Lives Matter Initiative. A FREE Continental breakfast and lunch are provided at this educational event with a special guest from the Texas Rangers attending.

**February 10, 2018**

**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Moncrief Cancer Institute**

**400 W. Magnolia Ave., Fort Worth, TX**

**For more information call: 817-531-5600**

## TARRANT COUNTY CONTACTS

<a href="#"><u>County Administrator</u></a> .....	817-884-1267	<a href="#"><u>Resource Connection</u></a> .....	817-531-7600
<a href="#"><u>County Clerk</u></a>		<a href="#"><u>Tax Assessor-Collector</u></a>	
Criminal / Misdemeanor Records .....	817-884-1066	Auto Tag Renewal / Property Taxes .....	817-884-1100
Probate Courts .....	817-884-1770	<a href="#"><u>Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension</u></a> .....	817-884-1945
Records Intake / Deeds .....	817-884-1062	<a href="#"><u>Veterans Services</u></a> .....	817-531-5645
Records Library .....	817-884-1069	<a href="#"><u>Sheriff's Office</u></a> .....	817-884-3009
Vital Records: Birth/Death Certificates, Marriage Licenses, and Business Records/DBA's .....	817-884-1550	Jail Information .....	817-884-3116
<a href="#"><u>District Attorney</u></a> .....	817-884-1400	Victim Information .....	817-894-8463
<a href="#"><u>District Clerk</u></a>		Warrant Division .....	817-884-1320
Civil Records .....	817-884-1240	<b>Commissioners Court meets every Tuesday at 10 am</b>	
Criminal Records .....	817-884-1342	<b>Tarrant County Administration Building</b>	
Family Court / Divorce Records .....	817-884-1265	County Judge, Glen Whitley .....	817-884-1441
Jury Services .....	817-884-3820	Commissioner Roy C. Brooks, Precinct 1 ..	817-531-4500
<a href="#"><u>Fire Marshal</u></a> .....	817-838-4660	Commissioner Andy Nguyen, Precinct 2 ....	817-548-3900
<a href="#"><u>Human Services</u></a> .....	817-531-5620	Commissioner Gary Fickes, Precinct 3 .....	817-581-3600
<a href="#"><u>Public Health</u></a> .....	817-321-4700	Commissioner JD Johnson, Precinct 4 .....	817-238-4400

**GENERAL INFORMATION** 817-884-1111



For additional information, visit: [www.tarrantcounty.com](http://www.tarrantcounty.com)