

Northeast Newsletter

Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes - Precinct 3

Volume 14, Issue 2

"Working together for a better tomorrow"

April 2021

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



87TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

<https://capitol.texas.gov>



As we look back over the past year, we realize we have all come a long way since the beginning of COVID.

Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) and our community partners continue to persevere through the challenge of vaccine distribution and communicating information to Tarrant County residents. As of Monday, March 29, everyone 16 years and above in Texas is eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. To register to receive the vaccine through Tarrant County Public Health, visit www.tarrantcounty.com/covidshot. If you are unable to register online, call 817-248-6299 for assistance. FREE RIDES are also available for your vaccine appointment. Visit www.tarrantcounty.com/vaccinerides for more information.

Tarrant County is below the 2020-2021 baseline for influenza-like illness. However, please remember to be vigilant in your flu prevention. 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 is available at www.tarrantcounty.com/public-health.

Joint elections for cities, school districts, and water districts, have regular general

elections for members of their governing bodies or special elections to fill vacancies on May 1, 2021. Early voting is from April 19 to April 27. Find more information on [page 5](#) of the newsletter, or visit www.tarrantcounty.com/elections to view early voting schedules, sample ballots, tutorials in using the new polling equipment, and confirm your voter registration status.

Tarrant County is in the process of bringing voters a Road-Transportation Bond Program in the November 2021 General Election. We are partnering on a 50/50 basis with our cities to make these improvements. Read more [here](#).

April is National Volunteer Month, which provides a perfect opportunity to thank all the volunteers who are an important part of numerous non-profits and organizations. They are a significant part of these agencies and a big reason these groups can function and help so many. Read about our Tarrant County Medical Reserve Corps volunteers [here](#).

Enjoy this issue of the Northeast Newsletter that includes information on Carroll ISD's new Superintendent, Dr. Lane Ledbetter; the City of Bedford's Generations Park; our non-profit highlight, The Miracle League of Southlake; The Old Grapevine Depot; the Town of Trophy Club, and more.

Please note we will not have Coffee with the Commissioner this month, but we look forward to a time soon when we can gather safely.

Gary Fickes

Inside this issue:

Dr. Lane Ledbetter, Superintendent Carroll ISD Pg. 2

Covid-19 Vaccine - Register here Pg. 2

Generations Park, City of Bedford Pg. 3

Tarrant County Medical Reserve Corps Pg. 3

The Miracle League of Southlake Pg. 4

The Old Grapevine Depot Pg. 5

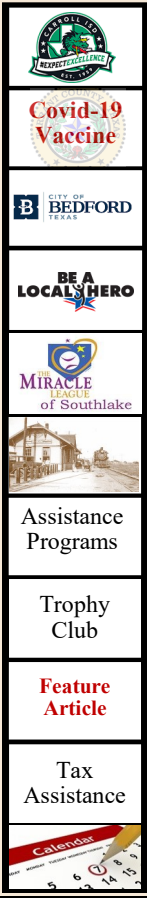
Assistance Programs Pg. 6

Town of Trophy Club Pg. 7

Working With Your Hands Helps Your Mind .. Pg. 8

Senior Page - Tax Assistance Pg. 9

Calendar. Pg. 10



Question of the Month

Question: Texas' largest monument is not even made of stone! What is it?

[Answer on page 4](#)

The Quote of the Month - "We surrender everything and , in reality, we get nothing, only protection. – Sam Houston."





Dr. Lane Ledbetter
Superintendent,
Carroll ISD

Carroll ISD recently welcomed home a familiar name to fill the position of Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lane Ledbetter. He once walked the halls of Carroll Elementary School as a third grader, played ball on the freshly cut grass of the high school baseball field, earned his diploma as Valedictorian of the Class of 1989 and later taught and coached in the district.

The son of two former Carroll educators, Dr. Ledbetter has 27 years of total experience himself, the past eight of which were spent serving as a superintendent. He was first hired as Superintendent in Graham ISD from 2012-2015. For the past 5-1/2 years he led Midlothian ISD, a fast-growing district of 9,800 students and 1,470 employees.

While at Midlothian, Dr. Ledbetter helped roll out a 1:1 technology initiative, passed the largest bond program in school history and led the staff and community through the

strategic planning process.

Dr. Ledbetter earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Baylor University, his Master of Science in Education from the University of North Texas and his Doctorate in Educational Administration from Baylor University.

He taught and coached in the Lake Travis, Grapevine-Colleyville, and Carroll Independent School Districts before serving 13 years on the leadership team at Birdville ISD. While in Birdville, Dr. Ledbetter served as a secondary Principal, Administrator of Virtual Education and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

His first few months in Carroll have been spent meeting with taxpayers, parents, community leaders and staff. Looking ahead, Dr. Ledbetter plans to oversee a public engagement process to involve key stakeholders in updating the district's 5-year strategic plan and start a student advisory committee. He and his wife, Penny, have three children: Landon, a sophomore in college, Luke, a junior in high school and Lauren, a freshman in high school.

On a more personal note -

What do you do for fun? *Watch his kids' sporting events and he likes to run.*

Favorite Movie? *He likes suspense/thriller type movies*

Favorite Restaurant? *P.F. Chang's*

Favorite vacation spot? *Beach/waterfront vacations*

Last book read? *"No More Excuses" by Tony Evans*

People would be surprised to know... *Dr. Ledbetter was Valedictorian of his senior class at Carroll High School.*



TARRANT COUNTY COVID-19 - Where We Are

As of Monday, March 29, all adults age 16 years and above in Texas are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, so **NOW is the time to register**. Those most at risk of catching, spreading, or having severe complications from COVID-19, are still **strongly encouraged** to seek vaccination.

To avoid long lines, people are urged to sign up for an appointment. Unless specifically stated to do so, if you show up without an appointment, you may be turned away.

To date, Tarrant County has issued vaccine appointments to all people on their waiting list. If you have registered recently and have not received an appointment, **call the hotline at 817-248-6299**.

To get a FREE RIDE to your vaccination location [click here](#). Passengers will need to show the operator or train conductor the appointment text or email from Tarrant County Public Health.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines [click here](#).
Other information can be found [here](#)

VACCINES ADMINSTERED
(As of Wednesday, April 7, 2021)

Total Vaccines Administered	842,523
Tarrant Co. Residents	708,007
Out of Co. Residents	134,516

Tarrant County Residents

At least one dose	450,242
Fully vaccinated	265,617

REGISTERED TO RECEIVE VACCINE
(As of Wednesday, April 7, 2021)

*Total Registered	888,124
Tarrant Co. Residents	594,250
Out of Co. Residents	293,874

*** Late breaking news - Monday, April 12, 2021: Tarrant County has just crossed the 1 million mark for vaccine registrations!**

Tarrant County Covid-19 Statistics
(As of Friday, April 9, 2021)

Total Cases	252,669
Confirmed	212,998
Probable	39,671
Recovered Deaths	244,995 3,351

Community Spread Level
MODERATE



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Generations Park

On November 6, 2017, Bedford voters passed a park revitalization project/bond package, authorizing funding for the redevelopment of Boys Ranch Park, transforming it into Generations Park at Boys Ranch, a new world-class park with amenities second to none.

Currently under construction, Generations Park will offer a softball/baseball complex, along with a special events lawn featuring a large lawn with two pavilions for staging entertainment. The centerpiece of the park is The Center, a multi-generational recreation center that will include indoor and outdoor pools with various play features, community and fitness rooms, a games lounge, fitness mezzanine with indoor track, double court gymnasium, and heavily amenitized locker

rooms.

Generations Park will improve the quality of life in our community, benefit the economic development of our region by aiding in the City’s business recruitment and retention efforts, and will continue to make Bedford a community of choice for our existing and future residents.

Some impactful economic benefits of Generations Park include:

- **Direct Revenue Enhancement:** The enhanced Park will generate revenue from its rental facilities, recreation services, programs, special and private events, as well as direct employment and spending.
- **Increased property values:** Homes and properties near parkland such as Generations Park, have stable and often higher values than those farther away, maintaining the City’s tax base.
- **Visitor Spending:** The local and regional draw of the Park will spur tourism in the form of new visitors to our restaurants and hotels as they attend concerts, festivals, sports tournaments, and other events, all generating significant economic activity and helping local

businesses.

■ **Public Perception:** The City’s investment and strong commitment to a project of this type shapes perceptions of a community and helps build a sense of place and pride for our residents and business community.

To follow progress on the Park’s construction, you may visit www.bedfordtx.gov/phasenext or for general information about the City of Bedford, please visit <https://bedfordtx.gov>.

Article courtesy of Andrea Roy, Development Director, City of Bedford



Volunteer Spotlight

Tarrant County Medical Reserve Corps

April is National Volunteer Month. Volunteers are an vital part of numerous non-profit groups and organizations. They are a significant part of these agencies and a big reason these groups can function and help so many. During National Volunteer Month, we want to recognize our Local Heroes who volunteer with the Tarrant County Medical Reserve Corps, for being instrumental in assisting with Covid-19 testing and vaccine operations.

Between December 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021, Local Heroes worked a combined total of 6,124 hours assisting with Covid-19 vaccine operations. Their volunteer hours are estimated salary savings to the county of \$141,402.37. In late December, there were 1,800 Local Heroes registered, and once the community heard volunteers were needed, they answered the call and today there are now 2,969 registered Local Heroes. These Local Heroes take time away from their families, in the midst of a pandemic, and have unselfishly given of themselves to assist the Tarrant County community.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to Tarrant County Medical Reserve Corps for all you do for Tarrant County citizens.

Become a Local Hero TODAY. Read more [here](#)





The Miracle League of Southlake, a 501 (C) 3 registered charity, has been providing the opportunity to play baseball to children and young adults with special needs since September of 2015. Our players are both male and female, range in age from 5 to 45 years old, and have special needs, both physical and mental, ranging from mild autism to people who are blind, non-verbal wheelchair-bound, and everything in between. We provide a safe, state-of-the-art environment by playing on a specially designed, flat synthetic ball field, which allows all types of assisted mobility equipment to roam freely around the field.

The Miracle League of Southlake offers two seasons each year for baseball. Each Spring and Fall season includes nine fun-packed one-hour games and other activities for our players and their fans to enjoy. Each player is dressed in a major league uniform, bats, and rounds the bases just like their peers.

The players, who represent 28 - 30 different municipalities in North Texas, are divided into three different divisions, based on their age and skill level. The divisions are:

Minor - Consists of athletes ages 5

through 11 who require constant on-field supervision (a buddy) whether in the field or at-bat.

Triple-A – Consists of athletes ages 12 into young adults who also require constant on-field supervision (a buddy) whether in the field or at-bat.

Major – Consists of athletes, usually ages 12 and up, who require minimal to no supervision on or off the field. In this division, athletes make plays and hit unassisted, pretty much like a normal baseball game.

How the Game Is Played!

- All games are two innings in length.
- Every player gets to bat once each inning.
- Every player has a “Buddy” (Except the Major Division players) who is there to assist them and, more importantly, to cheer them on.
- Every player rounds the bases and gets to score a run each inning.
- The last player in the lineup gets a home run!
- Every game ends in a tie!

We are extremely fortunate to have had the support of several corporate and individual donors, allowing us to provide the players with uniforms, equipment, supervision, and snacks at no cost to the parents.

As in any charity, we can always use additional donations and support to continue providing a safe, first-class opportunity to play baseball to these special individuals.

Enjoy the pictures of our special players.



Article courtesy of Tom Kormondy, Director of Operations

Question of the Month

Question: Texas’ largest monument is not even made of stone! What is it?

Answer: The U.S. Navy battleship USS Texas served the country in two world wars, including as flagship for Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander of the Atlantic fleet in WW II. At the end of the war, beyond her age of retirement, the “Mighty T” was given to the state of Texas. A commissioner was established to pay for towing the ship to Texas and providing a permanent berth. The vessel was placed in the Houston Ship Channel near the San Jacinto Monument.



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!



**Roselee Kerr,
Specialist,
Lead Customer
Support**

26+ years of
service

We want to express our most sincere appreciation for your dedication and hard work for Tarrant County, and more specifically, Precinct 3. Although you will be terribly missed, we do wish you all the best in your retirement. Enjoy!

A Historical Moment in Time “The Old Grapevine Depot”

The Grapevine Cotton Belt Railroad Depot is a lasting remnant of the community’s development as an economic hub for the region northeast of Fort Worth. It was operated by the St. Louis Southwestern Railway (also known as the Cotton Belt Route) until 1972, when the station was closed.

Grapevine’s first rail service connected the community to Fort Worth and Waco. The development of the railroad ended Grapevine’s relative isolation and opened a bright economic future.

Following the Great Depression, the depot was first constructed in 1901 (earlier structure may have been built in 1888) along the tracks of what had become the Southern Pacific line that ran a daily train to Fort Worth. As the community’s agricultural producers transitioned from cash crops to poultry production, Grapevine developed a massive grain operation to provide feed for the 125 poultry farms within a 50-mile radius.

That development led Merchants Milling Company (now B&D Mills) to become the city’s largest employer at the time.

Through the efforts of the Grapevine Garden Club, the Depot was saved from demolition and moved to Heritage Park at Ball and Wall streets, where it remained for 20 years

In 1972, the Grapevine Historical Society was organized to utilize the Depot building for a new museum to preserve Grapevine’s unique history and heritage.

history and heritage.

Twenty years later, the Depot and the Grapevine Historical Museum moved back to Main Street near the railroad tracks on land that is now called the Heritage Center.

The Grapevine Heritage Foundation acquired the entire original tract from the Southern Pacific system and conducted exhaustive archaeological and document research to determine an appropriate location for the depot.

Today’s Depot once again serves its historic function as a terminal for daily steam-powered rail service for the Grapevine Vintage Railroad and it also serves the TEXRail commuter rail line.

Several historic buildings with historical markers and several well-known artists offering demonstrations and classes are located on the Heritage Center property.



ELECTION DAY

May 1, 2021

Early Voting - Joint Special Election

April 19, 2021 to April 27, 2021

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](#)
- ⇒ Last day to register to vote for this election was April 1, 2021
- ⇒ [View ID Requirements](#) for voting in person.
- ⇒ [Voter Lookup and Registration Status](#)
- ⇒ [Additional Election Information](#)

[Election Day Information](#) - May 1, 2021



View more about how to use the equipment in the above video.

Tarrant County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

The 2020 Care 4 Tarrant program provided rental assistance to over 2,300 households within Tarrant County, but a large need still exists. Through ERAP, Tarrant County hopes to continue providing rent and utility assistance to residents financially hurt by COVID-19. ERAP is open to Tarrant County renters outside the cities of Fort Worth and Arlington.

Applications opened on Monday, March 29th, 2021.

For more information on the new Emergency Rental Assistance Program, please review the [FAQs](#) and [Documentation Requirements](#) or visit the website [here](#).

Should your organization have questions about this program, please contact ERAPInfo@tarrantcounty.com

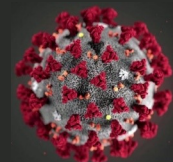















Winter Storm Disaster Assistance	Disaster Assistance www.disasterassistance.gov	Texas Health and Human Services www.211texas.org	Texas Workforce Commission www.twc.texas.gov
	FEMA www.fema.gov	TDI- Texas Department of Insurance www.tdi.texas.gov	U.S. Small Business Administration https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov
	Tarrant Area Food Bank www.taafb.org		

COVID-19 INFORMATION

CARE 4 TARRANT

[Tarrant County Coronavirus \(Covid-19\) Information Page](#)
[Tarrant County COVID-19 Updates; County Declarations and Orders](#)



 Covid-19 Vaccine	 Covid-19 Testing	 Report a Covid-19 Case	 About Covid-19	 Contact Tracing	 Contact Tracing Alert Messaging	 Local County Orders
 Latest News	 Covid-19 Family Resources	 Covid-19 Transmission	 Covid-19 Health Guidance	 Frequently Asked Questions	 Covid-19 Guidance for Schools	En Español Tiếng Việt

Community Resources & Volunteer Opportunities

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Stones ACH Child & Family Services Alliance for Children Catholic Charities Fort Worth Christ's Haven for Children Community Enrichment Center (CEC) Community Storehouse The Gatehouse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRACE Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County Metroport Meals on Wheels Mid-Cities Care Corps Mission Central North Texas SNAP One Safe Place SafeHaven of Tarrant County | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salvation Army DFW Sixty and Better Tarrant Area Food Bank Tarrant County Homeless Coalition The Women's Center of Tarrant County United Way of Tarrant County VITA Curbside Drop Off Tax Help |
|--|--|--|

2-1-1 ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

www.211texas.org is a website for individuals needing assistance related to COVID-19. Enter "COVID-19" as search term.

You can also dial 211. The phone line is serviced 24/7.

Welcome to our series "Northeast Tarrant County Cities," where we 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 14 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.

Trophy Club, a town of 14,000 people within 4.2 square miles located in North Tarrant and Denton Counties, is located in the fastest growing area of the Dallas/Fort Worth region, offering unique commercial development opportunities.

The four top-rated public schools in town are part of the Northwest Independent School District (NISD), one of the most progressive school districts in the State where staff and community members are committed to excellence.

The Parks and Recreation Department is committed to enhancing the quality of life and environment while providing leisure time opportunities to benefit the citizens and families of Trophy Club. This mission is accomplished by providing consistent and reliable public service and working diligently to ensure an exceptional quality of life through strategic planning and aesthetically pleasing parks, common areas, and medians. Some highlights include Harmony Park, a 13-acre multi-use park with playgrounds, soccer fields, tennis/pickleball courts, bocce courts, and a basketball court; Independence Park, a park covering 23 acres that is dedicated to youth sports and outdoor recreation activities.

Trophy Club also has a vibrant trail system that helps connect and unite the community, provides a place for exercise and enjoyment, and allows users to breathe fresh air and get back to nature. A trail system surrounded by open space offers an even more pleasant experience. The Trophy Club Park has over 1,000 acres of open and natural trails throughout town for residents to enjoy.

No matter what the season, there is always something fun and exciting happening in Trophy Club. Here you'll find events that cater to your inner artist, festive spirit, perfect planner, or your taste for holiday cheer.

The Trophy Club Fire Department, initially established in 1982 as an all-volunteer organization, today has transitioned to include 15 professional Firefighter/Paramedics and 17 part-time professional Firefighter/EMTs. Their staff is committed to serving the community and providing the highest quality protection for your family and property through the effective management of fire suppression, emergency medical incidents, hazardous materials incidents, and natural or man-made disasters.

Recognized by the Texas Crime Prevention Association for its efforts in crime prevention and community involvement, the Trophy Club Police Department serves approximately 14,000 citizens. Since its formation in 1990, the Police Department has provided traditional law enforcement services to the community having a staff of 18 full-time sworn officers, up to eight sworn reserve officers, and non-sworn employees. They also foster innovative approaches to community issues through partnerships with various organizations and problem-solving activities.

Over the years, Trophy Club has developed from a small, golf-centric, rural getaway for Dallas executives and retirees into a premier North Texas residential community that is beautiful, safe, and a well-maintained community oasis today.



Town of Trophy Club

1 Trophy Wood Drive, Trophy Club, TX 76262
682-237-2900

- Emergencies 9-1-1
- Police Non-Emergency 682-237-2960
- Fire Department 972-434-5500 opt. 9
- Animal Control 682-237-2900
- Economic Development 682-237-2901
- Human Resources 682-237-2985
- Municipal Court 682-237-2990
- Parks and Recreation 682-237-2926
- Permits 682-237-2917
- Town Manager's Office 682-237-2901
- Town Secretary's Office 682-237-2903

www.trophyclub.org



EMPOWERING SENIORS CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Please enjoy the following article from the Presenting Sponsor of Empowering Seniors, Care N' Care Insurance Company. "How Working With Your Hands Helps Your Mind" is a great article that offers valuable information. Be sure to check it out.

Also, a new trivia game starts Monday, April 19. Full details will be posted at 9:00 a.m. Monday morning. Good Luck!



Shortcuts to your favorite places... Click on the box of your choice.

Sponsors	Special Guest Videos	Virtual Expo	Ask the Doctor/ Provider Workshops	Resources	Other Helpful Videos	Fun and Activities
-----------------	-----------------------------	---------------------	---	------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------

How Working with Your Hands Helps Your Mind

When thinking of healthy aging, thoughts that come to mind are regular check-ups with a doctor, taking proper medications, maintaining a healthy diet and staying relatively active. A good thing to add to this list is mental stimulation through creative pursuits. Whether it is painting, knitting, dancing, expressive writing or any other pastime, creativity does not need to stop as we age and, in fact, it has been shown to be an important part of healthy aging.

Working with your hands also helps your mind! The National Institute of Aging reports that taking on creative pursuits may help with cognitive abilities like memory, creativity and the ability to solve problems. Some activities and how they can help are:

Engaging in visual arts: Older adults working on visual arts like painting saw reduced negative emotions and anxiety, as well as mental, social and spiritual health. Other forms of visual art include pottery, knitting, embroidery or drawing.

Participating in music: Those participating in a choir or playing an instrument saw higher nonverbal memory recall and greater emotional and social health.

Creative writing: Seniors who engage in creative writing often report improvements on how quickly they were processing knowledge, an increased attention span and noticeable improvements in verbal processing.



Knit and Crochet for a Cause

Activities like knitting and crocheting are not only good for health- you can donate your knitted or crocheted creations to help those in need. Here are some charities that accept crocheted or knitted items:

Warm up America: Based in Carrollton, TX, accepting knitted or crochet squares, hats, scarves, shawls, or blankets to be donated to those in need nationwide. Visit warmupamerica.org to learn more.

Project Linus: This organization accepts blankets for children in need. "It is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "Blanketeers." Visit projectlinus.org to learn more. **National WWII Museum's "Knit your Bit":** This program accepts knitted or crocheted scarves to be distributed to homeless veterans nationwide. Visit nationalww2museum.org/programs/knit-your-bit to learn more.



Insurance Company, Inc.

CARE N' CARE INSURANCE COMPANY, INC., 1701 RIVER RUN, SUITE 402 • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76107



Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads our nation's observance of **Older Americans Month**. The theme for 2021 is "Communities of Strength."

Older adults have built resilience and strength over their lives through successes, failures, joys, and difficulties. Their stories

and contributions help to support and inspire others. This OAM, we will celebrate the strength of older adults and the Aging Network, with special emphasis on the power of connection and engagement in building strong communities.

We all can do many things to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive. Connecting with others is one of the most important—it plays a vital role in our health and well-being and our communities. Find joy in small things and sharing our stories, and be sure to look at the big picture and giving to others. Join us in promoting the ways we are connected and strong.

Be sure to stay tuned for materials, resources, and activity ideas to help you observe OAM at <https://acl.gov/oam/2021/older-americans-month-2021>. Don't forget to share your #OlderAmericansMonth plans and stories on social media.

Here's a great activity to get you started:

Intergenerational Pen (or Keyboard) Pals

The pandemic and its resulting social isolation have been hard on people of all ages. We can help each other through this time by sharing our strengths and our experiences—the resilience we have developed in our lives and what has gotten us through tough times in the past. Encouraging intergenerational pen pals can reduce isolation and increase resilience in people of all ages.

Adolescents and young adults—many of whom are facing a significant struggle for the first time in their lives—especially need to hear how others have dealt with difficult times. It can help them adjust to circumstances out of their control. When older adults, with their diverse life experience, share their wisdom, time, and encouragement, they build connections with new generations.

There are lots of ways to start an intergenerational pen pal activity. Organizations serving older adults can work with local schools or youth groups to find and connect potential pals. Churches and recreational organizations serving all ages can also connect members of different generations. Individuals can reach out to long-distance relatives or even nearby neighbors they've missed seeing over the past year.

Here are some writing prompts to get the conversations started:

For anyone:

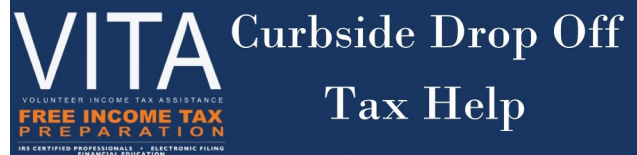
- What do you see as your biggest accomplishment? What obstacles did you overcome to achieve it?
- Who or what have you missed most during the pandemic? What have you done in place of seeing them or doing that activity?
- Did you take on a project, develop a new hobby, or learn a new skill during the past year?
- What are your goals for this coming year?

For older adults:

- What would you tell your 20-year-old self?
- What do you think your 20-year-old self would tell you now?
- What lessons have you learned from tough times in your life? How have those experiences made you stronger?

For younger adults:

- What have you learned from your elders? How has it shaped your experiences?
- What questions would you like to ask people who have lived through tough times?
- When you are older, in what ways do you think you'll be different? In what ways do you hope you are the same?



VITA offers FREE tax filing assistance from February 1st through April 30th* for taxpayers who make less than \$60,000 per year. Taxpayers must schedule an appointment to drop off documents at one of seven locations. When you arrive for your appointment, remain in your vehicle. Staff will copy documents and return the originals. To learn more, click [here](#).

Due to the winter storm, the Internal Revenue Service announced that individuals and businesses in Texas have until June 15, 2021, to file returns and pay any taxes that were originally due during this period.

Read more [here](#).

*Service dates for VITA are extended due to the winter storm. Be sure to check with your local VITA site for available dates and times.



Senior Synergy

Thursday, July 1, 2021

If you are 50 years of age or better, Senior Synergy Expo is for you!

Tarrant County Judge Glen Whitley invites you to learn more about the services and opportunities for healthy living available to you in Tarrant County.

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

If you are interested in more information, please email [Kathryn](#) or call: 817-884-1234.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Calendar

- Apr 13 CEC Brent Barrow Golf Classic www.cecgolffclassic.com
- Apr 16 Christ's Haven's 28th Annual Golf Classic ..<https://christshaven.ejoinme.org>
- Apr 16 SafeHaven: Purple Partywww.safehavenc.org
- Apr 16-17 6Stones: CPRwww.6stones.org
- Apr 17 Kites Over Eulesswww.eulesstx.gov
- Apr 17 City of Bedford: Chunk your Junk Event.....www.bedfordtx.gov
- Apr 17- 18 Keller's Spring Trash Bash 2021www.ktb.org
- Apr 19- 27 Early Voting**www.tarrantcounty.com
- Apr 19 GCISD Edu. Foundation Golf Tournamentwww.gcedfoundation.org
- Apr 22 HEB Chamber Golf Classic www.heb.org
- Apr 22 Grapevine Job Fair www.grapevinejobfair.com
- Apr 24 City of Colleyville: Car Show.....www.colleyville.com
- Apr 24 Grapevine Main Station Grand Openingwww.grapevinetexasusa.com
- Apr 24 Town of Trophy Club: Community Cleanupwww.trophyclub.org
- Apr 30- May 1 6Stones: CPR.....www.6stones.org
- Apr 30 NE Leadership Forum Awards Luncheon..... <https://heb.org>
- May 1 Election Day**.....www.tarrantcounty.com
- May 1- 2 North Richland Hills: Great American Cleanupwww.nrhtx.com
- May 2 American Heart Association Heart Ballwww.ahafortworth.ejoinme.org
- May 3 Mid-Cities Care Corps Golf Tourn.www.midcitiescarecorps.org
- May 4 Keller Rotary Charity Golf Tourn.www.kellerrotary.golfreg.com
- May 6 The Taste - Block Party & Grand Opening www.metroportchamber.org
- May 9 Mother's Day**.....
- May 13 Keller Chamber: 2021 Fired Upwww.kellerchamber.com
- May 13 Colleyville Chamber Awards Banquet ...www.colleyvillechamber.org
- May 14 Colleyville Woman's Club: Caring With Commitment www.c-w-c.org
- May 15- 16 Grapevine Main Street Festwww.grapevinetexasusa.com
- May 20 Alliance For Children: Sporting Clay Tourn.... www.allianceforchildren.org
- May 22 GRACE Fabulous Poker Tourn.. www.gracegrapevine.wordpress.com
- May 22 Colleyville City Fairwww.colleyville.com
- May 31 Memorial Day - County Holiday**.....

Chambers of Commerce

- Colleyville Chamber of Commerce www.colleyvillechamber.org
- Grapevine Chamber of Commerce www.grapevinechamber.org
- HEB Chamber of Commerce www.heb.org
- Greater Keller Chamber www.kellerchamber.com
- NE Tarrant Chamber of Commerce www.netarrant.org
- Metroport Chamber www.metroportchamber.org
- Southlake Chamber www.southlakechamber.com

Senior Centers

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Bedford Senior Center | (817) 952-2326 | www.bedfordtx.gov |
| Colleyville Senior Center | (817) 503-1195 | www.colleyville.com |
| Euless Family Life Sr. Center | (817) 685-1671 | www.eulesstx.gov |
| Grapevine Active Adults at The REC | (817) 410-3465 | www.gograpevine.com |
| Haltom City Sr. Citizens Center..... | (817) 834-8021 | www.haltomcitytx.com |
| Haslet Senior Weekly Meetings | (817) 439-5931 | www.haslet.org |
| Hurst Sr. Citizens Activities Center | (817) 788-7710 | www.ci.hurst.tx.us |
| Keller Senior Activities Center..... | (817) 743-4370 | www.cityofkeller.com |
| N. Richland Hills Senior Center | (817) 427-6600 | www.nrhtx.com |
| Richland Hills Sr. Activities Center | (817) 616-3738 | www.richlandhills.com |
| Southlake Senior Activity Center ... | (817) 748-8315 | www.ci.southlake.tx.us |
| Watauga Senior Center | (817) 514-5892 | www.ci.watauga.tx.us |

(Please note, center opening and hours have changed due to the public health situation. Be sure to call them for current information concerning their center.)



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

COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

May 31 - Memorial Day

**July 5 - Observance of
Independence Day**

Commissioner's Office Precinct 3

Gary Fickes, Commissioner
gufickes@tarrantcounty.com

Rebecca Barksdale, Precinct Administrator
rbarksdale@tarrantcounty.com

Devin Sanders, Community Outreach Coordinator
dwsanders@tarrantcounty.com

Theresa Parsons, Assistant Precinct Administrator
tparsons@tarrantcounty.com

Freida Landerholm, Office Administrator
fnlanderholm@tarrantcounty.com

Dee Long, Office Administrator
sdlong@tarrantcounty.com

Northeast Courthouse
645 Grapevine Highway, Suite 200
Hurst, Texas 76054
817-248-6295
Fax: 817-581-3603