

# Northeast Newsletter

#### **Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes - Precinct 3**

Volume 17, Issue 2

"Working together for a better tomorrow"

April 2024

#### COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



Will Rogers - Amon G.

Carter Jr. Exhibits Hall





Spring has arrived in Northeast Tarrant County, and we have enjoyed some beautiful weather. All around Texas, the blooming of bluebonnets and other wildflowers makes weekend

drives more enjoyable. Also, with spring comes the threat of severe weather, so please keep in mind the alerts issued in your area and have a safety plan in place.

Join me, other Tarrant County elected officials, and area victim services professionals on Monday, April 22nd, at 9:00 a.m., at the Tom Vandergriff Civil Courts Building in downtown Fort Worth to kick off National Crime Victims' Rights Week. We will celebrate and honor survivors and local non-profits that offer support services to victims.

April is National Volunteer Month, and it's the perfect time to express our gratitude to the individuals who selflessly give their time to help others. Our success at Empowering Seniors and the Tarrant Transportation Summit is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers. Their active participation in our events and functions each year is invaluable. We couldn't give back the way we do without them. Thank you, volunteers!

Speaking of great events, our 14th Annual Tarrant Transportation Summit, held on Friday, February 9th, at the Hurst Conference Center, had a full house with

over 600 attendees. This event brought together business, transportation, and community leaders to hear speakers and motivators inform them about "SURGE: Readiness for Exponential Population Growth." I want to thank our incredible speakers, sponsors, volunteers, cities, and my staff for making this a very informative and memorable event.

We have big news! Tarrant County Judge Tim O'Hare and I are teaming up and joining Senior Synergy and Empowering Seniors to bring you the best senior expo ever! Save the date for Empowering Seniors on Thursday, August 29th, at Will Rogers Exhibition Hall. It will be a day filled with fun and informative activities for seniors, caregivers, and volunteers in our community. This year's epic event will be unforgettable! You can watch for more details at EmpoweringSeniors.com.

Please note there will be no Coffee with the Commissioner this month. However, you can stay informed and enjoy this issue of the Northeast Newsletter. This edition is packed full of information on Tarrant County Judge Tim O'Hare, National Work Zone Awareness Week, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, Older Americans Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, the history of the City of Euless, Local Elections, Tarrant Area Food Bank Farmers Market, and much more. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy reading!

Gary Fickes

#### **Question of the Month**

Who was the first Texas-born astronaut?

Answer on page 3.

The Quote of the Month - "Texas is strong country. It's optimistic country with blue skies, white fleecy clouds, and warm sunshine"

— Liz Carpenter



#### **COMMUNITY LEADER**

#### Tim O'Hare

Tarrant County Judge



Judge O'Hare is a fifth-generation Texan and a lifelong resident of our area. After graduating from The University of Texas at Austin in 1991 with a BBA in Finance, he earned his law degree from SMU School of Law in 1995.

Prior to taking the Oath of Office as Tarrant County Judge, Tim spent the last twenty-five years building a successful legal practice and real estate investment company. During this time, Judge O'Hare earned the title of "Texas Super Lawyer" for ten consecutive years.

Judge O'Hare served as a City Councilman in his hometown of Farmers Branch for three years before serving as Mayor from 2008-2011. During his two terms in office, he spearheaded reductions in local government spending, reduced crime, and significantly lowered the city's unfunded pension liability.

Judge O'Hare was previously appointed in 2013 by Texas Governor Rick Perry to the State Board of Dental Examiners to help prevent Medicaid fraud in the dental industry. In 2018, Judge O'Hare was appointed by Sheriff Bill Waybourn to serve as Chairman of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Civil Service Commission. He has also served on the National Board of Directors for the Christian Legal Society (CLS) and their Center for Religious Freedom Committee. Judge O'Hare is currently Chairman of the Tarrant County Workforce Governing Board and serves on the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board.

Judge O'Hare and his wife, Christen, live in Southlake with their four

daughters, where he coaches recreational youth sports. They are members of First Baptist Grapevine, where Tim serves as a Deacon and is on the Welcome Team for Children's Sunday School. The O'Hare's are long-time Children's Ministry volunteers.

**Special Interest:** *Texas Longhorns, Cowboys, Rangers, Stars, travel* 

What do you do for fun? "Watch sports, travel, attend concerts."

**Favorite Movie?** "The Empire Strikes Back"

Vacation Spot? "Hawaii or Jackson Hole Wyoming"

Last Book Read? "Johnny Carson; A biography"

**People would be surprised to know...** what? (This is the fun one!) "I collect pinball machines (2 Kiss, 1 Elvis, 1 Star Wars)"

## **2024 Entity Elections**

Early Voting April 22nd – April 30th

Texas enables residents to vote 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 early voting location in an election unless specified on the Early Voting Schedule.

Election Day May 4, 2024

**Election Information** 

# APRIL

# National Child Abuse Prevention Month



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAPM), and we want your help to empower communities with resources to support Texas children, youth, and families where they live, work, and play!





#### **April 13, 2024**

Panther Island Pavilion 395 Purcey St, Fort Worth, Tx 76102

Registration Time: 8:00 AM Event Time: 9:30 AM

Join the movement here!

#### **Historical Moment In Time**

"City of Euless"

In March 1879, Elisha Adam and Judy Trigg Euless purchased a tract of land south of Bear Creek and built a new home and a cotton gin in the area of present-day Main Street and Euless Junior High School. In April 1879, Euless petitioned the Tarrant County Commissioners Court to create a road from Bedford, about three miles west of his land, to the Dallas County line at Bear Creek. He requested that the road pass by the "Grange Hall," which was now on his property. The court ordered the road established and appointed a jury, including Euless, to lay it out. The Grange Hall on the Euless property served as the location for a community school, probably sponsored by the local grange. The Grange Hall was torn down in the early 1900s after much use. After his settlement there, the community thrived, and local farmers decided to honor the popular young man whose arrival and gin seemed to coincide with the end of the hard times. They named their community for him.

Adam Euless continued farming until he was again lured into politics. In 1892, he defeated three contenders in a landslide election for county sheriff and was re-elected in 1894. Euless moved to Fort Worth when he was elected and was the first sheriff to occupy an office in the newly constructed county courthouse. After two terms, health problems persuaded Euless to retire from law enforcement and politics. Shortly afterward, in 1911, a stroke claimed his life, and he was buried in Fort Worth's Oakwood Cemetery.



The Himes Log House, among the oldest structures in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, is located in Heritage Park, Euless, Texas.



Photograph Date: 1893 circa / In 1893 Adam Euless was elected sheriff of Tarrant County. In this picture, on the steps of the new courthouse, Sheriff Euless is second from right in the middle row. His son is first from right in the middle row.

Article courtesy of <a href="https://www.eulesstx.gov/community/history">https://www.eulesstx.gov/community/history</a>

# **Question of the Month**

Question: Who was the first Texas-born astronaut?

**Answer: Alan Bean** was born in Wheeler, north of Shamrock in the Panhandle, in 1932. After graduating from the University of Texas he joined the Navy and, in 1963, was selected by NASA for the astronaut program. He was on the backup crew for Gemini 10 but his first space flight didn't actually come until Apollo 12 in 1969. This second lunar landing was made dramatic when lightning struck the rocket on launch. Bean, the lunar module pilot, became the fourth human to walk on the moon. He also served on the second Skylab crew in 1973. Bean resigned from NASA in 1981 to become a professional artist and lived in Houston.

# 14th Annual Tarrant Transportation Summit



## Thank you to our Speakers and Moderators

Lorie K. Logan - President & CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas; Ross Perot, Jr. - Chairman, The Perot Companies and Hillwood; Victor Vandergriff - Executive Director, Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition;

Becky Redman - Government Relations Manager, Lockheed Martin; Pat Deen - County Judge, Parker County; Paul Paschall - Mayor, City of Weatherford; Dillon Maroney - Executive Operations Administrator, Precinct 4, Tarrant County; Michael Jacobson - President & CEO, Arlington Chamber of Commerce; Ron Jensen - Mayor, City of Grand Prairie; Dan Lamers, P.E. - Senior Program Manager Transportation Planning, NCTCOG; Rob Matwick - Executive Vice President Business Operations, Texas Rangers Baseball Club; Trey Yelverton - City Manager, City of Arlington; Russell Laughlin - Executive Vice President, Hillwood Companies; Robert Allen - President & CEO, City of Fort Worth Economic Development Partnership; Craig Cavileer - Executive Vice President, Majestic Realty Co.; Ryan Dickerson - Chief Executive Officer, Walsh Companies; Kelly Porter - Assistant Director, City of Fort Worth Transportation & Public Works; Michael Morris, P.E. - Director of Transportation, NCTCOG; Robert Hinkle - Director, Corporate Affairs, NTE Mobility Partners LLC & LBJ Infrastructure Group LLC; Betsy Price - Former Mayor, City of Fort Worth; Oscar Trevino, Mayor, City of North Richland Hills; John Huffman - Mayor, City of Southlake; Tim O'Hare, County Judge, Tarrant County

#### **Special Thanks To:**

City of Hurst and the Hurst Conference Center, Fort Worth Business Press and Cooksey Communications. We also want to thank our wonderful volunteers, Tarrant County IT Department, Graphics Department, Precinct 3 Maintenance Department, Precinct 3 Constables, and Devin Designs Flowers

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Commissioner Gary Fickes

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#### **Weather Preparedness**

Severe weather can occur with little or no warning. Taking precautions before the storms, such as developing an emergency plan, learning the warning signs, and monitoring tornado watches and warnings, can help you stay safe.

#### **Understanding Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories**

THUNDERSTORMS (no label)	1 - MARGINAL	2 - SLIGHT	3 - ENHANCED	4 - MODERATE	5 - HIGH
	(MRGL)	(SLGT)	(ENH)	(MDT)	(HIGH)
No severe*	Isolated severe thunderstorms possible	Scattered	Numerous	Widespread	Widespread
thunderstorms		severe storms	severe storms	severe storms	severe storms
expected		possible	possible	likely	expected
Lightning/flooding threats exist with <u>all</u> thunderstorms	Limited in duration and/or coverage and/or intensity	Short-lived and/or not widespread, isolated intense storms possible	More persistent and/or widespread, a few intense	Long-lived, widespread and intense	Long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense
			90000		

NWS defines a severe thunderstorm as measured wind gusts to at least 58 mph, and/or hail to at least one inch in diameter, and/or a tornado. All thunderst



#### National Weather Service



For more information go to: www.weather.gov/ind/preparedness



#### Do you have a passion for community involvement?

Tarrant County Precinct 3 is seeking a CPS board position, a Historical Commission board member, and a Human Service Advisory Committee member.

For more information, send an email to our office at: Commissioner3@tarrantcountytx.gov

#### 2024 NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK

#### April 15-19, 2024

In recognition of National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 15-19, 2024, this is a friendly reminder to drive safely. In 2023, more than 26,000 traffic crashes occurred in work zones in Texas, resulting in 190 deaths and another 803 serious injuries. Of the 190 traffic fatalities in Texas work zones in 2023, 77 percent were drivers or their passengers. In addition, two roadside workers were killed. Speeding, driver inattention, and unsafe lane changes were among the leading causes of work zone crashes.

**Driver Safety:** Work zones often present a challenging environment for drivers to navigate. Drivers may encounter uneven pavement, narrow lanes, concrete barriers, slow-moving heavy equipment, and vehicles that make sudden stops. Driving too fast and not paying attention are the leading causes of work zone crashes. Watch for warning signs and stay alert when driving through work zones. We want to ensure everyone and their passengers get home safely.

Please keep the following tips in mind when driving through work zones:

- Plan ahead to avoid delays.
- Pay attention and put the phone away
- Don't tailgate
- Obey road crew flaggers
- Slow down and follow posted work zone speed limits

For more information, click here.





# Thursday, August 29, 2024

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

## Will Rogers - Amon G. Carter Jr. Exhibits Hall

For more information or questions, please send an email to empoweringseniors@tarrantcountytx.gov or contact Kathryn Rotter at klrotter@tarrantcountytx.gov or call 817-248-6295

**EmpoweringSeniors.com** 

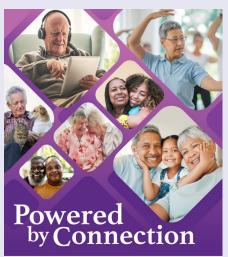
# Senior News



Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads the nation's observance of Older Americans Month (OAM). The 2024 theme is *Powered by Connection*, which recognizes the profound impact of meaningful relationships and social connections on our health and well-being. We will explore the vital role that connectedness plays in supporting independence and aging in place by combatting isolation, loneliness, and other issues.

Join us in promoting the benefits of connecting with others. Here are some ways you can participate.

- Share facts about the mental, physical, and emotional health benefits of social connection and how it contributes to overall well-being.
- Promote resources that help older adults engage, like community events, social clubs, and volunteer opportunities.
- Connect older adults with local services, such as transportation, that can help them overcome obstacles to achieving or maintaining meaningful relationships.
- Encourage partners to host a connection-centric event or program focused on older adult mentors to youth, peer-to-peer support, or similar efforts.
- Challenge professional and personal networks to prioritize meaningful social connections and share the benefits.
- Inspire older adults to share what connection means to them on social media using the hashtag #PoweredByConnection.



For more information, visit: www.ACL.gov/OAM

#### **Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)**

In the transfer of the transfe

In 2024, TAFB will be able to offer the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) through TDA! This program will provide qualifying low-income adults age 60+ with \$50 worth of vouchers to use for vegetables, fruit and honey at our partnered Farmers Markets. This program is similar to the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) for families receiving WIC benefits.

Vouchers will be issued for SFMNP from May-September on a first come-first served basis.

Find more information at www.tafb.org/farmers-market/

#### **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 www.haslet.org Haslet Senior Weekly Meetings ..... (817) 439-5931 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 www.richlandhills.com Richland Hills Sr. Activities Center (817) 616-3738 www.ci.southlake.tx.us Southlake Senior Activity Center ... (817) 748-8315 Watauga Senior Center ..... (817) 514-5892 www.ci.watauga.tx.us

#### **Senior Events**

Apr 20 City of Keller Senior Center: Spring Craft Show & Market www.cityofkeller.com



#### **NONPROFITS**



February 28, 2024 – We were very excited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Sid W. Richardson Agricultural Hub ("AgHub") at the Tarrant Area Food Bank. The Ag Hub is Public-private partnership designed to lead and solve a state-wide produce supply issue for food banks. Supported by TDA, Tarrant County, Fort Worth, Feeding America & Feeding Texas.

The Tarrant Area Food Bank, through the AgHub, receives donated fresh produce via agreements with local farmers in the Tarrant Area and growers in the Rio Grande Valley and Arizona. This program brings fresh produce from farm to food bank to fork.

For more information visit: www.tafb.org

# **Donating For a Cause**



On Monday, March 18, 2024, Commissioner Gary Fickes presented RecoveryResource Eric Niedermayer, President & CEO of conquering addiction, healing families. Recovery Resource Council, a \$10,000 donation for their 501(c)(3) nonprofit

organization. Recovery Resource Council plans to use \$5,000 of the donation to support their veterans' programs, Enduring Families, and the other \$5,000 to support financial gaps in their permanent supported housing program that serves the formerly unhoused homeless due to a documented disability.

To learn more about the various Recovery Resource Council programs, please go to www.recoverycouncil.org





Did you know that April is National Volunteer Month? This month is dedicated to promoting, encouraging, and celebrating volunteerism. With volunteers donating their time and passion to the causes they care about, most endeavors are possible. Volunteers make it happen!

National Volunteer Month has been celebrated on and off since the 1940s but has gained official recognition since 1990. Each year, a particular week is selected as National Volunteer Week: April 21-27. National Volunteer Week was made official in 1974 when Richard Nixon declared its importance. He called upon all communities to "recognize volunteers by observing the week with special ceremonies to honor those who have given countless hours for the betterment of our communities and the American way of life." So now we celebrate a month with a special appreciation week within the month.

## Volunteer Opportunities

2-1-1 6 Stones ACH Child & Family Services Alliance for Children Area Agency on Aging Call A Ride Southlake (CARS) Catholic Charities Fort Worth Christ's Haven for Children Community Enrichment Center (CEC) Community Storehouse

The Gatehouse **GRACE HEB Transit** Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County Metroport Meals on Wheels MHMR of Tarrant County Mission Central North Texas SNAP One Safe Place SafeHaven of Tarrant County

Salvation Army DFW Social Transportation for Seniors (STS) Serving Our Seniors (SOS) Sixty and Better Tarrant Area Food Bank Tarrant County Homeless Coalition The Women's Center of Tarrant County United Way of Tarrant County

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



National Donate Life Month is observed every year in April. This month-long observance is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of organ donation and encouraging more people to register as donors. During this time, events and activities are held nationwide to promote donor registration and celebrate the lives of those who have received organ transplants. By registering to become an organ donor, you have the power to save lives and make a difference in the world. Let us use this month to honor those who have donated.

For more information visit: www.donatelife.net

## **Promotion**

#### **Congratulations Matthew Byles!**

Matthew Byles with Tarrant County Precinct 3 Maintenance Facility was promoted from Equipment Operator V to Project Supervisor October 23, 2023.

Matthew has been employed with Precinct 3 for seven years. Matthew welcomes the responsibilities of the new position.



# Options, services and hope for crime survivors. HOW WOULD YOU HELP? TARRANT COUNTY CELEBRATES NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK MONDAY April 22, 2024 9:00 AM Tom Vandergriff Civil Courts Building Main Floor 100 N. Calhoun Street

Fort Worth, TX 76196

Hosted By: TARRANT COUNTY VICTIM SERVICE PROFESSIONALS

May 27, 2024



Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States that honors and mourns military personnel who have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. It is observed annually on the last Monday in May. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials on this day to pay their respects to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.



#### Calendar

Apr 13 City of Colleyville: Annual Car Show <u>www.colleyville.com</u>
Apr 13 Victory Over Violence Walk/Runwww.vovfw.org
Apr 15 Tax Day
Apr 17 Lena Pope: Fiesta de Orowww.lenapope.org
Apr 18 2024 HEB Chamber Golf Classic Tournamentwww.heb.org
Apr 18 Metroport Chamber: The Taste <u>www.metroportchamber.org</u>
Apr 19-20 6Stones: CPRwww.6stones.org
Apr 20 Town of Trophy Club: Community Garage Sale <u>www.trophyclub.org</u>
Apr 25 CEC Golf Classicwww.cechope.org
Apr 26-28 City of Southlake: Art in the Square <u>www.artinthesquare.com</u>
Apr 27 City of Hurst: Arbor Adventurewww.hursttx.gov
Apr 27 City of Euless: Arbor Daze <u>www.eulesstx.gov</u>
Apr 27 Colleyville Chamber: City Slickers <u>www.colleyvillechamber.org</u>
May 2-5 Fort Worth: Mayfest
May 3 A Wish with Wings: Butterfly Wishes <u>www.awww.org</u>
May 3 Alliance for Children: Sporting Clay Tournamentwww.allianceforchildren.org
May 4 American Heart Association Heart Ballwww.heart.org
May 4 City of Roanoke: Roanoke Roundup 2024 <u>www.roanoketexas.com</u>
May 5 GRACE Designer Bags & Bingo <u>www.gracegrapevine.org</u>
May 6 SOS Golf Tournament <u>www.servingourseniorstexas.org</u>
May 9 Grapevine Chamber: Taste of Grapevine <u>www.grapevinechamber.org</u>
May 10-12 TCWC Art & Garden Festival <u>www.tcwcartandgardenfestival.com</u>
May 11 City of Flower Mound: Arts Festival Heritage Park <u>www.flower-mound.com</u>
May 12 Mother's Day.
May 14 Stars in Recovery Luncheon <u>www.recoverycouncil.org</u>
May 16 Taste of Southlake <u>www.atasteofsouthlake.com</u>
May 16-19 City of Watauga: Watauga Fest 2024 <u>www.cowtx.org</u>
May 17-19 Grapevine Main Street Fest <u>www.grapevinetexasusa.com</u>
May 18 City of Colleyville: City Fair <u>www.colleyville.com</u>
May 18 City of Bedford: Art at the Park <u>www.bedfordtx.gov</u>
May 27 City of Haslet: Memorial Day Celebrationwww.haslet.org
May 27 Town of Trophy Club: Memorial Day Celebrationwww.trophyclub.org
May 27 Memorial Day.
Jun 4 HEB Chamber: Expo 2024www.heb.org

## **Chambers of Commerce**

Colleyville Chamber of Commerce	www.colleyvillechamber.org
Grapevine Chamber of Commerce	www.grapevinechamber.org
HEB Chamber of Commerce	<u>www.heb.org</u>
Greater Keller Chamber	<u>www.kellerchamber.com</u>
NE Tarrant Chamber of Commerce	<u>www.netarrant.org</u>
Southlake Chamber of Commerce	www.southlakechamber.org



#### **Locations In**

#### **Health Clinics**

Gertrude Tarpley JPS Health Center .......... 817-702-1100 6601 Watauga Road, Watauga 76148

JPS Medical Home Northeast Tarrant.......817-702-6474 3200 W. Euless Boulevard, Euless 76040

#### **Pediatric Clinic**

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

For a complete list of Health Clinics visit: www.jpshealthnet.org

#### **COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**



# Commissioner's Office Precinct 3

Gary Fickes, Commissioner <a href="mailto:gfickes@tarrantcountytx.gov">gfickes@tarrantcountytx.gov</a>

Theresa Parsons, Executive Administrator Administrative & Constituent Services <a href="mailto:teparsons@tarrantcountytx.gov">teparsons@tarrantcountytx.gov</a>

Kathryn Rotter, Executive Administrator Programs & Outreach klrotter@tarrantcountytx.gov

Dee Long, Community Outreach Coordinator sdlong@tarrantcountytx.gov

Freida Landerholm, Office Administrator <a href="mailto:fmlanderholm@tarrantcountytx.gov">fmlanderholm@tarrantcountytx.gov</a>

Ariana Raines, Office Administrator acraines@tarrantcountytx.gov

Maria Hogue, Administrative Assistant III <u>mdhogue@tarrantcountytx.gov</u>

#### **Northeast Courthouse**

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