



[Learn more here...](#)

## Coffee with the Commissioner

**Friday, June 12th**  
**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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## COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



It's hard to believe we have kicked summer off with such a heavy rain streak! Hopefully, the weather will set us up for an enjoyable summer with full lakes, nice lawns, and mild temperatures. Because we have endured so much rain the past several months, Tarrant County is on high alert for mosquitoes. As the weather warms and more mosquitoes begin to appear, Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) continues its ongoing mosquito surveillance efforts, though now with a new twist. The emergence of a new disease threat has resulted in a change from the term West Nile Virus season to Mosquito-Borne Illness Season. Learn more about precautions and weekly monitoring updates [here](#).

We found a break in the rain-soaked weekends on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "Team Fickes" LifeGift Second Chance Run held at the Fort Worth Stockyards. Our team indulged in great conversation with friends and donuts! As always, I appreciate everyone's support in bringing to light the importance of organ donation. View more information on how to become a donor [here](#).

After almost a decade of extraordinary leadership as Precinct Administrator for Tarrant County Precinct 3, Carolyn Sims has retired. It has been a real privilege and honor to work side by side with Carolyn

for these eight years. During her leadership, we have accomplished significant achievements including the Northeast Tarrant Transportation Summit, Empowering Seniors, expanding awareness of the county in the Northeast area, and our new Tarrant County Northeast Courthouse. Her insight in bringing organizations and people together has definitely benefited Northeast Tarrant County.

Our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Empowering Seniors Expo is slated for Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at First Baptist Church Euless – Campus West. We are currently accepting applications for sponsors and exhibitors and will be opening participant registration soon. Keep informed on event updates at

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

Check out our June newsletter for information on Tarrant County's new Veterans Services Director, Tom Belton, the tax office's Texas Two Steps, One Sticker Program, the City of Watauga's Economic Development report, the City of Hurst's Parks Department, the non-profit Safe City, and the senior transportation agency Senior Transportation Services.

*Gary Fickes*

### SAVE THE DATE!

- Empowering Seniors 10/2/15
- United Way Fundraiser 10/31/15
- NE Transportation Summit 2/19/16

### ? Question of the Month ?

Question: What famous landmark in Texas was named for the cottonwood tree?

Answer on page 3

### Congratulations on your Retirement!



A celebration was held last Friday honoring Carolyn Sims for her 8 years of service to Tarrant County. We wish you all the best Carolyn!

## Spotlight



**Thomas J. Belton III**  
Director of Veteran Services

I grew up in Quincy, Massachusetts which is right outside of Boston. At the age of 19, I joined the United States Marine Corps. During my 10 years of service, I was deployed twice in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Unified Protector.

I was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps in August of 2013 and started working as an Assistant Veterans Service Officer in Williamson County, Texas. While living in Central Texas, I

volunteered to coach the youth sports that my oldest son was in, with the YMCA in Round Rock, Texas. I believe that volunteering is something that everyone should do. It not only brings happiness to those you are helping, it also gives you a feeling of self-worth.

I was hired as the new Director of Veteran Services for Tarrant County in early May, 2015. Since taking over as the Director, I have made numerous connections with Veterans & Veteran's groups such as the local VFW's, American Legion, Marine Corps League and the Disabled Veterans of America to inform them of the new leadership in this office and that we have an open door policy for our Veterans. Please contact us if you need assistance or guidance with a situation, or if you just want someone to listen to what you have to say.

I'm a single father of three boys, Logan (6), Connor (5) and Brady (2) and do have a special someone in my life. I've been raising my sons with the help of my brother Greg for the last 2 ½ years. We currently reside just east of Benbrook.

## On a more personal note -

**What do you do for fun?** *Spending quality time with my little ones and going to the movies, amusement parks & Chuck E. Cheese.*

**Favorite Movie?** *"The Godfather" or Superhero movies when the boys are controlling the TV.*

**Favorite Restaurant?** *"Texas Roadhouse"*

**Favorite vacation spot?** *Boston, MA (It is still home for us).*

**Last book read?** *"American Sniper" by Chris Kyle*

**Favorite Quote?** *"It's not who I am underneath, but what I do that defines me". - Batman*

**People would be surprised to know...** *I can wiggle my ears!*

**Tarrant County Veterans Services**  
1200 Circle Dr., Fort Worth 76119  
817-531-5645  
[www.tarrantcounty.com](http://www.tarrantcounty.com)

## Tax Office provides helpful information on "TwoSteps, One Sticker" Program



The new one sticker program began March 1, 2015. A vehicle owner only needs to remember to inspect before registering. Here's how it works:

Pass a vehicle inspection and retain your vehicle inspection report.

Renew your annual registration by mail, online or in person, and your inspection status will be verified electronically. A passing inspection is required for registration and you will be issued one sticker as proof of both inspection and registration!

During the first year, you will be allowed to register your vehicle as long as your vehicle inspection is valid the day you register.

However, if your inspection and registration expire in the same month, a new inspection is required before registering.

If your vehicle passed inspection but the system is unable to electronically verify it, simply present your valid, passing Vehicle Inspection Report issued by the inspection station to register. Beginning March 1, 2016, in order to register on time, you must have your vehicle inspected within 90 days before your sticker expires.

Visit [www.twostepsonesticker.com](http://www.twostepsonesticker.com) for more information. There you will find a handy calculator to help you figure out if you need your inspection.

No time to visit one of our offices? The most convenient way to renew 24 hours per day is online at [www.texas.gov](http://www.texas.gov). We also contract with Kroger, Minyards, and Tom Thumb stores in convenient neighborhood locations. Check our website for the addresses of these stores, plus Carnival and Fiesta stores.



The new Northeast Courthouse Tax Office was well utilized with the new "Two Steps, One Sticker" Program going into effect on March 1st of this year. It was standing room only for a few days.

Here's what you need for the grocery store locations:

- Vehicle Inspection Report in case your inspection cannot be verified.
- Registration renewal notice, proof of insurance, and ID.

You can renew last month, current month and next month at these locations. They issue stickers only, and are not able to issue license plates or disabled placards.

*Article courtesy of Vickie Doane,  
Manager, Staff Development & Communications*



### Precinct 3 Maintenance Center News

What a difference a New Year makes! In contrast with last year's record-breaking hot and dry conditions, the skies have opened up this spring and given us some much appreciated rain, rain and more rain. While all of the drought-busting moisture has replenished our lakes and parched

soils, it has also slowed and hampered many of our planned dirt operations. Consequently, we have shifted our focus to stay on higher and drier ground and have completed several of our resurfacing projects despite the unusually wet spring weather.

As the summer approaches and the ground begins to dry out, we have a full construction schedule of projects planned to complete within the next few months. Additionally, we have issued a call for projects to the cities within Precinct 3 to start the budgeting and planning process for fiscal year 2016.

Some residents in the un-incorporated areas have asked what our mowing policy is. Typically, we will complete three to

four mowing cycles a year. Our mowing height is 4-6 inches to promote the establishment of native bunch grasses and not kick up rocks, etc. We usually start mowing around the first of June, however due to all the rain and soggy ground conditions, we will start mowing as soon as it dries out enough to allow us to mow with our tractors without rutting the right-of-way.

We'll mow again in mid-August and a final mow usually in November after the first frost to trim off the dead grass. Our mowing cycles are based upon providing safe sight lines for the traveling public and erosion control, not as much on providing a park or lawn-like appearance. We will occasionally spot mow for safety reasons in addition to our regular mowing cycles as needed. Some homeowners and HOAs may choose to supplement our mowing if they want a more manicured look.

#### PRECINCT 3 - TARRANT COUNTY PROJECTS - Roadways or segments of roadway completed in unincorporated Tarrant County.

Location	Type	Completed	Scheduled
Maxwell Road	Reconstruction (Partial)	Jan 2014	
Allen Trail	Reconstruction	Apr/May 2015	
Chaparral Road	Reconstruction	Apr/May 2015	
Ridgetop Road	Repair Base Failures and Resurface	Apr/May 2015	
Valetta Ranch Road	Repair Base Failures and Resurface	Apr/May 2015	
Chapel Hill Road	Repair Base Failures and Resurface	Apr/May 2015	
Prairie Clover Road	Repair Base Failures and Resurface	May 2015	
Coneflower Trail	Repair Base Failures and Resurface	May 2015	
Magnolia Blossom Drive	Repair Base Failures & Resurface	May 2015	
Wine Cup Trail	Repair Base Failures & Resurface	May 2015	
Country Lane	Reconstruction	May 2015	
Willow Springs Road	Reconstruction		May/June 2015
Bonds Ranch Road	Reconstruction/Widening Phase I		Aug 2015



One of our big county projects this year is the addition of turn lanes on Bonds Ranch Road at Willow Springs Road in anticipation of the opening of the new NWISD V. R. Eaton High School. Utility adjustments and roadway construction of the turn lanes on Bonds Ranch started this spring, but have since been severely slowed due to the extremely wet conditions. Construction should start up again very soon with our goal to have turn lanes constructed on Bonds Ranch and Willow Springs before the end of August. Your safety and the safety of our crews are of the utmost importance. Please be patient, drive slowly through the construction zones and be keenly aware of the large equipment and personnel working to make these improvements for you.

*Article courtesy of Richard Schiller, Director of Field Operations, Precinct 3*

#### INTERLOCAL PROJECTS - These projects are a cooperative effort between the County and Cities to complete needed rehabilitation and reconstruction projects on City streets. The City provides the material funding and the County provides the labor and equipment to perform the work.

Location	Type	Completed	Scheduled
Blue Mound Road (Haslet)	Partial Reconstruction	Jan 2015	
Carolyn Drive (Bedford)	HMAC Overlay	Mar 2015	
Schumac Lane (Bedford)	HMAC Overlay	Mar 2015	
Thousand Oaks Drive (Hurst)	HMAC Overlay	Mar 2015	
Harwood Road (Hurst)	HMAC Overlay	Mar 2015	
Hurstview Drive (Hurst)	HMAC Overlay	Mar 2015	
Old School House Road (Haslet)	Repair Bridge Approaches	Apr 2015	
South White Chapel Blvd (Southlake)	Stabilization		Jun 2015
College Circle (North Richland Hills)	Reconstruction		Jun/Jul 2015
Deaver Road (North Richland Hills)	Reconstruction		Jun/Jul 2015
Keller Smithfield Road (Keller)	Reconstruction		Jun/Jul 2015
Willow Springs (Fort Worth)	Reconstruction		Aug 2015
Vance Road (Richland Hills)	Reconstruction		Aug/Sep 2015
Watauga Rd (Watauga)	HMAC Overlay		Sep 2015
West Caylor Road (Fort Worth)	Reconstruction		Sep 2015

### Question of the Month

**Question:** What famous landmark in Texas was named for the cottonwood tree?

**Answer:** The Spanish mission Alamo was named for a grove of cottonwood trees nearby; *alamo* is the Spanish word for cottonwood.





## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### City of Watauga

We are Watauga, a home-rule city of over 24,000 citizens with a vibrant business and residential community. The city continues to build its legacy of prosperity through aggressive economic growth, low crime rates, highly rated school districts, attractive neighborhoods and award-winning public parks.

2015 is proving to be a year of economic growth for the city. Sales tax, on a cash basis, has increased over 7% YTD through April 2015. New construction is also underway. Pollo

Tropical is finishing up construction on its newest store along Denton Highway and plans to open mid-June. The fast-casual restaurant offers



Caribbean-style cuisine with a Latin flare. Alliance Chiropractic is also constructing a new office along Watauga Road. Dr. Ruth and his team at Alliance Chiropractic offer a wide variety of services including massage therapy, spinal decompression, and active therapeutic movement. Phifer & Associates have also begun construction on the final garden office building in the Parkway Terrace development. In addition to new construction, our shopping centers are thriving as well. Over 80% of the new businesses who have opened in Watauga this year are located in one of the city's many shopping centers.

Not only is the City of Watauga attracting new business, but also it's providing new services and support to existing businesses. This year, Watauga celebrated National Small Business Week by hosting events and speakers from the Tarrant County Small Business Development Center, Small Business Administration and Digital



Brand Makeover. Small businesses were given information on free business counseling, how to increase website traffic and best practices for social media.

Watauga continues to thrive as the economy improves. Come grow with us and see why we are proud to say "We are Watauga". For more information, contact Planning and Development at 817-514-5813 or visit [www.wataugatx.org](http://www.wataugatx.org).

*Article courtesy of Jacquelyn Reyff, AICP Planning and Development Manager and Victoria Vaughn, Economic Development Coordinator.*

## An Historical Moment in Time

### The Great Rainmaking Experiment - 1891



With the abundance of rain we've had lately, we thought it would be good to reflect on the desperate measures taken in earlier times when rain was scarce.

On the morning of Friday, October 16, 1891, several curious onlookers gathered in Duval County, Texas, about one and a half miles from the San Diego railroad station. The site had recently been dubbed Camp Edward Powers in honor of the man who wrote the book, *War and Weather*. Published in 1871, the book strongly suggested that bombarding the atmosphere with loud explosions could force rain to fall "out of season" as it appeared to do after heavy use of artillery on the battlefield.

Several years after the publication of Powers' book, the U.S. Commissioner of Patents, General Daniel Ruggles, along with Senator Charles B. Farwell of Illinois, persuaded Congress to appropriate nine-thousand dollars to the Department of Agriculture to experiment with rainmaking. In mid-1891, a party of scientists gathered in Midland, Texas, to test the explosion theory. When a local newspaper reporter asked for an explanation of the theory, he was told: *There are various currents of air passing through space and when these become mixed or in violent*

*contact a storm is produced. It has been proved by many battles that rain follows violent explosions. We are putting this knowledge to the test. By our explosions on the ground and one in mid-air we can cause a disturbance among the various air currents which, throwing out moisture and heat, collect clouds.*



After the Midland experiment, none of the original appropriation remained with which to continue the project. However, the apparent success of the experiment encouraged local farmers and ranchers to support the scientists' efforts.

The day before the Duval County test, the weather report stated the entire region would remain hot and dry, as most of South Texas had been for many weeks.

Professor John T. Ellis of Oberlin College considered this a perfect time to move ahead. A series of explosions would

be triggered during the next two days and nights, some of them at ground level, some from balloons, and some from a twelve-pound cannon.

The explosives were made from a combination of dynamite and a substance called rackarock. The ten-foot balloons were made of muslin, covered with varnish, and filled with a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen. He planned to detonate explosives every five to ten minutes for several hours and then follow up with a more concentrated burst of nearly one thousand explosions on the night of October 17. The experiment was completed during the wee hours of October 18, at which time the sky was clear and star-filled.

About 3 o'clock on the morning of October 18th, clouds began to mushroom over the region. The wind suddenly changed and it began to rain. Nearly half an inch fell by 5 in the morning.

Since 1891, atmospheric scientists have learned a great deal about rainmaking, not least of which is the fact that noisy explosions will not produce rain. The Duval County experiment, it seemed, had been nothing more than a coincidence. But at that time, to the farmers and ranchers of South Texas, it was an overwhelming success.

*Inserts from "It Happened In Texas" by James A. Crutchfield*

## Keeping Older Adults Connected In North Richland Hills



Suppose you're an older adult – mid 70's, say – and you're no longer comfortable driving yourself to places that are important destinations for you: the grocery store, the bank, the senior center. What are your options?

If you live in North Richland Hills (zip codes 76180 and 76182), you have one great option! Social Transportation for Seniors (STS), a volunteer-driven project serving adults 62 and older, will transport you to any social (nonmedical) destination within a 7-mile radius of the city center. And you're likely to make a new friend.

Volunteer drivers who have passed background checks sign up with volunteer executive director Rosa Gonzalez, an American Airlines international flight attendant. When a rider calls the scheduling office, Rosa matches the ride request with an available driver.



Rides are available Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., at no charge to the rider; donations are accepted but not requested. Drivers are not paid, but Rosa treats top performers quarterly to a light luncheon and a minimal gasoline card as a thank-you.

STS grew out of a United Way initiative in North Richland Hills called Neighbor Helping Neighbor, and it began to offer service in 2009 with 3



drivers and 12 participants. Data for April shows 33 drivers and 99 riders for the month.

The City of North Richland Hills has been a terrific partner, housing the STS scheduling office in their Parks and Recreation building on NE Loop 820 and providing access to phone, computer and internet. A grant from Tarrant County via Commissioner Gary Fickes' Transportation Summit has also provided financing, and United Way continues to offer administrative support to the STS Board.

Need a ride in NRH? Looking for a great volunteer opportunity? Call 817-571-0773. Or visit the STS website at [www.stsrides.org](http://www.stsrides.org).

*Article submitted by Faye Beaulieu,  
Vice-Chairman CARS*



Safe City Commission is a comprehensive crime prevention agency serving Tarrant County, with the mission of preventing crime and violence in our neighborhoods, schools and homes. In addition to providing specialized equipment and training to the law enforcement community, three Commission programs directly serve citizens throughout the county.

One Safe Place is the largest and most comprehensive family justice center in the world, providing comprehensive, integrated services to victims of domestic violence and their children, all in one location. Currently there are seventeen partner agencies working together at One Safe Place. Critical services for every client include danger assessment and safety planning. One Safe Place is also unique in its focus on children and youth exposed to violence, and even operates Camp Hope Texas, an outdoor adventure camp designed to address the special issues faced by children living in violent homes.

Safe City Commission Crime Stoppers is a cooperative effort between citizens, law

enforcement and the media. It allows citizens with information about crimes or criminals to convey that information anonymously. Not only does Crime Stoppers remove any fear of retaliation, it offers the incentive of monetary rewards if information leads to arrests or cleared cases. Campus Crime Stoppers programs, active in every middle and high school in Tarrant County, not only allow students to



anonymously report crime on campus, they also encourage students to share information about classmates who are being victimized through the *Friends for Life Hotline*. Crime Stoppers tips lead to the arrest of hundreds of dangerous criminals and hundreds of cleared cases each year. To report a crime, or for more information, call 817-469-TIPS(8477) or visit [469tips.com](http://469tips.com).

Each year more than 50,000 elementary and secondary students produce original, compelling artwork as part of the Imagine

No Violence Art Contest. Students are encouraged to promote a culture of nonviolence through art that inspires people to think, discuss solutions and take action. Through the years, Imagine No Violence artwork has reached millions of people through public education campaigns offering practical solutions to reduce violence. For more information and to view some outstanding artwork, visit [www.ImagineNoViolence.org](http://www.ImagineNoViolence.org)



Safe City Commission is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. For more information about the Commission and all of its programs, visit [www.safecitycommission.org](http://www.safecitycommission.org)

To get help, or for more information, call 817-916-4323, go to [www.onesafeplace.org](http://www.onesafeplace.org), connect with us at [Facebook.com/OneSafePlaceTarrant](https://www.facebook.com/OneSafePlaceTarrant) or visit us at 1100 Hemphill Street in Fort Worth.

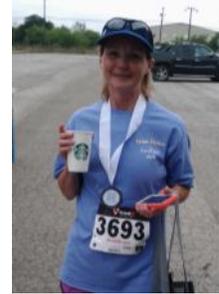
*Article courtesy of Ken Shetter,  
Executive Director*



# Thank you Team Fickes!

## LifeGift Second Chance Run

We had a great day for the LifeGift Second Chance Run!  
Thank you all for helping to bring awareness to this vital need for organ donation.



Thank you Tarrant County's Credit Union for your Sponsorship!



817-884-1470  
[www.tarrantcu.org](http://www.tarrantcu.org)

## City of Hurst - Parks Department

The Hurst Parks System is comprised of 23 parks totaling 280 acres. Our parks are classified as either Neighborhood, Community, Special Purpose or Linear Parks. Our amenities range from 2 family aquatic centers, 12 tennis courts, 11 half basketball courts, 23 rentable pavilions, 3 acre fishing pond, 16 playgrounds, 6 baseball fields, 8 softball fields, 12 soccer fields and close to 7 miles of walking/jogging trails.



### Taking Care of City Parks

We make sure our crews inspect our parks on a regular basis, however, litter and vandalism still may occur and additional maintenance may be needed between crew visits. The next time you visit one of our parks and you notice anything that needs attention, please notify the Parks Department at 817-788-7220. [www.hursttx.gov](http://www.hursttx.gov)

### Facilities

- A** Hurst Conference Center
- B** Brookside Center
- C** Hurst Library
- D** Hurst Senior Center



CITY OF HURST TEXAS

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

- 1) Cotton Belt Trail  
7300 Block of Precinct Line Rd.
- 2) Echo Hills Park  
500 Heneretta Dr.
- 3) Hurst Athletic Complex  
2104 Precinct Line Rd.
- 4) Chisholm Park  
2200 Norwood Dr.
- 5) Mayfair Linear Park  
1725 Norwood Dr.
- 6) Smith-Barfield Park  
640 Pleasantview Dr.
- 7) Mayfair Park  
1725 Norwood Dr.
- 8) Windmill Park  
840 W. Cheryl Ave.
- 9) Valentine Park  
610 Bedford Court West
- 10) Library Park  
901 Precinct Line Road
- 11) Hurst Hills Park  
575 Billie Ruth Lane
- 12) Heritage Village Park  
841 W. Pipeline Rd.
- 13) Hurst Community Park  
601 Precinct Line Rd.
- 14) Central Park  
700 block of Mary Dr.
- 15) Vivagene Copeland Park  
501 Pecan Dr.
- 16) Jaycee-Baker Park  
500 Belmont Dr.
- 17) Parker Cemetery  
1308 Cardinal Ln.
- 18) Billy Creek Park  
161 Billy Creek Dr.
- 19) Redbud Park  
525 Redbud Dr.
- 20) Bellaire Park  
500 Pecan Dr.
- 21) Wan-Ka-Kani Park  
748 Shady Ln.
- 22) Highway 10 Linear Park  
188 Arwine Dr.
- 23) Rickel Park  
1001 Bluebonnet Dr.

Article courtesy of Cody Maberry,  
Parks Director



# SENIOR NEWS



**Save the Date!**  
**Friday, October 2, 2015**

**First Baptist Church  
 Campus West**

**209 N. Industrial  
 Bedford, TX 76021**

**Sponsorship and Exhibitor  
 information available at**

**(817) 581-3600**

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



BenefitsCheckUp is a free service of the National Council on Aging (NCOA), a nonprofit service and advocacy organization in Washington, DC.

Many adults over 55 need help paying for prescription drugs, health care, utilities, and other basic needs. There are over 2,000 federal, state and private benefits programs available to help. But many people don't know these programs exist or how they can apply.

BenefitsCheckUp asks a series of questions to help identify benefits that could save you money and cover the costs of everyday expenses.

After answering the questions, you will get a report created just for you that describes the assistance programs you may be eligible for. You can apply for many of the programs online or you can print an application form.

Types of expenses for assistance

Medications	Food	Utilities
Legal	Health care	Housing
In-home services	Taxes	Transportation
Employment Training		

[www.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.org)

About NCOA: The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is a respected national leader and trusted partner to help people aged 60+ meet the challenges of aging. Our mission is to improve the lives of millions of older adults, especially those who are struggling. Through innovative community programs and services, online help, and advocacy, NCOA is partnering with non-profit organizations, government, and businesses to improve the health and economic security of 10 million older adults by 2020. Learn more at [www.ncoa.org](http://www.ncoa.org)



The REC of Grapevine (formerly the Community Activities Center) facility is a space for kids of all ages and will meet the needs of a growing community, as well as enhance the quality of life in Grapevine. The REC, an acronym for Recreation, Education and Community, perfectly captures the hopes for the new multi-generational center that is NOW OPEN! 108,000 square feet of awesome!

For adults age 55 and better, we offer many dynamic activities, special events, field trips, complimentary computer classes, daily lunches and more!

The REC of Grapevine provides transportation for Grapevine residents 55 and better to and from The REC Monday through Friday. Also provided and scheduled by The REC

are opportunities for transportation to the bank, post office, grocery shopping, and various Active Adult activities and special events. Daily transportation reservations are required by 12 PM the preceding day.

Senior Citizen Services of Greater Tarrant County, Inc. provides hot lunches that supply one-third of the RDA at 12 PM, Monday through Friday. For those under 60, the cost of the meal is \$6. For those 60+ and their spouse, the meal is available for a suggested contribution of \$2. Reservations are required 24 hours in advance.

SeniorMovers is a volunteer-based program that assists with the medical and dental transportation needs of the Grapevine Senior population. Riders must be pre-registered, give 48 hours notice of need and require very minimal assistance. For information about this program, please call 817-410-3465.



## Northwest Tarrant County Senior Centers

- Bedford Senior Center** (817) 952-2325 [www.ci.bedford.tx.us](http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us)
- Colleyville Senior Center** (817) 503-1195 [www.colleyville.com](http://www.colleyville.com)
- Eules Family Life Sr. Ctr.** (817) 685-1670 [www.eulesstx.gov](http://www.eulesstx.gov)
- Grapevine Sr. Activities Ctr.** (817) 410-8130 [www.grapevinetexas.gov](http://www.grapevinetexas.gov)
- Haltom City Sr. Citizens Ctr.** (817) 834-8021 [www.haltomcitytx.com](http://www.haltomcitytx.com)
- Hurst Sr. Citizens Activities Ctr.** (817) 788-7710 [www.ci.hurst.tx.us](http://www.ci.hurst.tx.us)
- Keller Senior Activities Ctr.** (817) 431-8727 [www.cityofkeller.com](http://www.cityofkeller.com)
- NRH Senior Center** (817) 427-6620 [www.nrhtx.com](http://www.nrhtx.com)
- Southlake Senior Activity Ctr.** (817) 748-8398 [www.ci.southlake.tx.us](http://www.ci.southlake.tx.us)
- Watauga Senior Center** (817) 514-5892 [www.ci.watauga.tx.us](http://www.ci.watauga.tx.us)



### Cataract Awareness Month

Cataract is a clouding of the eye's lens and is the leading cause of blindness worldwide. An estimated 20.5 million Americans age 40 and older have cataracts in one or both eyes. The total number of people who have cataracts is estimated to increase to 30.1 million by 2020.

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



# Transportation

## Northwest Tarrant County

### DFW Connector Project

Hotline: 877-411-4212

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



Sign up for e-alerts!

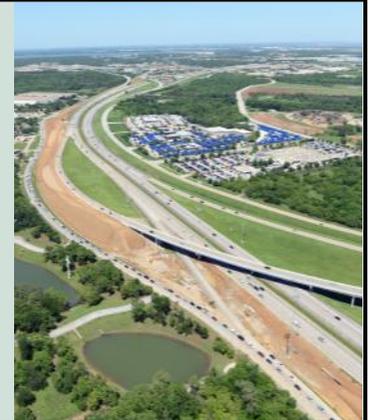
- We continue to perform bridge work on new southbound FM 2499 bridge over Denton Creek.
- Crews are performing dirt, drainage and wall work on the new, lowered FM 2499 mainlanes.

#### SH121/360 Ramp Progress:

- Crews are performing dirt, drainage and concrete removal work.
- Bridge crews continue to build two new bridges for the new SH 121 on-ramp.

#### FM 2499 Progress

- We opened the Stars and Stripes Way intersection on April 29, three weeks ahead of schedule!
- We are nearly finished with the southern portion of the Grapevine Mills Blvd. bridge. We plan to move traffic onto this new construction in late May or early June, approximately two months ahead of the originally scheduled date.



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

- On SH 114 crews are out performing dirt work, drainage work and setting a barrier wall to shift traffic lanes onto temporary pavement.
- Initial bridge demolition has been performed on the SH 114 bridge over O'Connor Blvd. in preparation for the bridge widening.
- Traffic lighting, cameras and signal relocations are being done.
- On SH 183 utility locations are being performed.



### North Tarrant Express/ I-35W

Hotline: 888-683-2015

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



Sign up for e-alerts!

Owners Task Force meeting on Wednesday, June 24, at 9:30 a.m., at the UA Fossil Creek Stadium 11 (6100 North Freeway, Fort Worth). This meeting is open to the public and is a great opportunity for business owners, land owners, tenants and other interested parties to get more detailed project information, including construction milestones and upcoming activity.

In recent weeks, the project team has increased construction activity in and around the I-35W/I-820 interchange. In June, contractors will begin placing beams in this area, so stay alert for upcoming closures. Extensive work continues on the on- and off-ramps north of I-820. The southbound I-35W exit to Basswood will close for two weeks, and work continues in the Western Center Blvd. area. Closer to downtown Fort Worth, the northbound I-35W exit to westbound Spur 280 remains closed through early next year. The project team will host a Business



### Highway 26

TxDot - N Tarrant Office

817-399-4300

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

The work on the SH 26 project in Colleyville from Brumlow Avenue/Pool Road to John McCain Road continues to progress. Traffic switched in late March and in early April moved motorists to new pavement at the intersection of Brumlow Avenue/Pool Road and moved southbound SH 26 motorists to new pavement. The contractor is now concentrating construction efforts on the center median area and the Big Bear Creek bridge section. The traffic switches mark major milestones for the project even while crews were dealing with significant late winter and spring rain events.

Two lanes of traffic have been and will continue to be maintained during peak driving times. Substantial completion is estimated in late Spring 2015. The \$11.4 million project is widening the roadway to three lanes in each direction with raised curbed medians and left turn bays.

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### FM 1938 - Phase II

TxDot - N Tarrant Office

817-399-4300

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

Southlake 817-748-8098

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

The \$20.6 million TxDOT project is widening the roadway to two lanes in each direction with raised 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.

The FM 1938 Phase II reconstruction project in Southlake and Keller from Randol Mill Avenue to FM 1709 (Southlake Boulevard) is ramping up. Work has begun on the right-of-way area of FM 1938 and crews will soon be placing temporary signals at the intersection of FM 1938 and FM 1709 in preparation of a future traffic switch. Message boards have been placed at the project limits and will be used to announce future road work to motorists.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June	FREE Outdoor Movies at Sundance Square.....	<a href="http://www.sundancesquare.com">www.sundancesquare.com</a>
Jun 8	24th Annual Golf Tournament.....	<a href="http://www.metroportmow.org">www.metroportmow.org</a>
Jun 10	Keller Chamber Golf Tournament.....	<a href="http://www.kellerchamber.com">www.kellerchamber.com</a>
Jun 12	Coffee with the Commissioner.....	817-581-3600
Jun 13	Healthy Hurst "Dash & Splash" Fun Run.....	<a href="http://www.hursttx.gov">www.hursttx.gov</a>
Jun 14	Flag Day.....	
Jun 14	Blood Donor Day.....	
Jun 18	Southlake Chamber Annual Banquet.....	<a href="http://www.southlakechamber.com">www.southlakechamber.com</a>
Jun 21	Fathers Day.....	
Jun 26	Celebrating Women in Business Event.....	<a href="http://www.nwmetroportchamber.org">www.nwmetroportchamber.org</a>
Jun 26	Clean Air Action Day.....	<a href="http://www.airnorthtexas.org">www.airnorthtexas.org</a>
Jun 29	Dave and Buster's Charity Golf Tournament.....	<a href="http://www.grapevinechamber.org">www.grapevinechamber.org</a>
Jul 23	The Empowered Woman Luncheon.....	<a href="http://www.colleyvillechamber.org">www.colleyvillechamber.org</a>
Aug 1	Hispanic Wellness Fair.....	<a href="http://www.hispanicwellnesscoalition.org">www.hispanicwellnesscoalition.org</a>
Aug 8	GCISD Connect-Back to School.....	<a href="http://www.connectgcisd.org">www.connectgcisd.org</a>
Aug 15 & 22	HEB Operation Back 2 School.....	<a href="http://www.6stones.org">www.6stones.org</a>
Aug 20	Tarrant Co. Back to School Roundup.....	<a href="http://www.backtoschoolroundup.org">www.backtoschoolroundup.org</a>
Aug 21	Senior Citizens Day.....	
Aug 24	First Day of School.....	
Sep 4-6	Bedford Blues and BBQ.....	<a href="http://www.bedfordbluesfest.com">www.bedfordbluesfest.com</a>
Sep 7	Labor Day.....	
Sep 12	HEB Chamber Annual Awards Gala.....	<a href="http://www.heb.org">www.heb.org</a>
Sep 17-20	Grapefest.....	<a href="http://www.grapevinetexasusa.com">www.grapevinetexasusa.com</a>
Sep 17	North Texas Giving Day.....	<a href="http://www.northtexasgivingday.org">www.northtexasgivingday.org</a>
Sep 19	Sporting Clays.....	<a href="http://www.6stones.org">www.6stones.org</a>
Sep 19	Run in the Dark.....	<a href="http://www.communitystorehouse.org">www.communitystorehouse.org</a>
Sep 19	Boots and Bling Casino Night.....	<a href="http://www.ntxsnap.org">www.ntxsnap.org</a>
Oct 2	Empowering Seniors 2015.....	<a href="http://www.empoweringseniors.com">www.empoweringseniors.com</a>

## John Peter Smith Hospital Clinics Northeast Tarrant County

### Health Clinics

**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

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

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

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

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

**Georgia Kidwell - HEB** ..... 817-399-3366  
3115 W. Pipeline Road #D, Euless, TX 76040

For a complete list of Health Clinics and  
School-Based Clinics log onto: [www.jpshealthnet.org](http://www.jpshealthnet.org)

## COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

July 4 - Independence Day  
September 7 - Labor Day



Jun 26	Red, White & Sousa.....	<a href="http://www.colleyville.com">www.colleyville.com</a>
Jul 2	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade & Celebration.....	<a href="http://www.haslet.org">www.haslet.org</a>
Jul 3	Southlake Stars & Stripes.....	<a href="http://www.visitsouthlaketexas.com">www.visitsouthlaketexas.com</a>
Jul 4	Independence Day & Play.....	<a href="http://www.cityofkeller.com">www.cityofkeller.com</a>
Jul 4	Hurst Stars & Stripes.....	<a href="http://www.ci.hurst.tx.us">www.ci.hurst.tx.us</a>
Jul 4	4thFEST Independence Day Celebration.....	<a href="http://www.bedfordtx.gov">www.bedfordtx.gov</a>
Jul 4	32nd Annual Fireworks Extravaganza.....	<a href="http://www.grapevinetexasusa.com">www.grapevinetexasusa.com</a>
Jul 4	Family 4 <sup>th</sup> Fun & Fireworks Celebration.....	<a href="http://www.netarrant.org">www.netarrant.org</a> (Haltom City, NRH, Richland Hills, Watauga & NE Tarrant Chamber)
Jul 4	Fort Worth's 4 <sup>th</sup> .....	<a href="http://fortworthsfourth.com">fortworthsfourth.com</a>
Jul 4	Trophy Club July 4 <sup>th</sup> Festivities.....	<a href="http://www.trophyclub.org">www.trophyclub.org</a>
Jul 4	Annual July 4 <sup>th</sup> Celebration.....	<a href="http://www.richlandhills.com">www.richlandhills.com</a>

## Commissioner's Office Precinct 3

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