

October 2010

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

At Commissioners Court, we approved the 2010-2011 annual Tarrant will be having Coffee with the Commis-County budget with no tax increase, no decrease in services and no layoffs. We have great employees in Tarrant County and we appreciate the hard work they do every day!

Special thanks to the staff at Precinct 3 for receiving the Texas Association of Counties "Best Practice Award" in Austin for our Northeast Newsletter.

WOW! The next couple of weeks are really going to be busy here in Precinct 3. If you haven't heard, Empowering Seniors dar is The Northeast Transportation 2010 is coming up on Friday, October 1, 8:30-1:30 at the Campus West facility across from First Baptist Church Euless and Trinity High School. We'll have health screenings, seminars, food, entertainment, door prizes and it's all FREE! For more information, please check our website: www.EmpoweringSeniors.com or see page 4 of this newsletter.

On Friday, October 8, at 7:30 a.m. we sioner at the Northeast Tarrant County Sub-Courthouse. On that same day, at the Precinct 3 Maintenance Center, 7301 Precinct Line Rd. North Richland Hills, we will have our Annual Precinct 3 United Way Fish Fry (see page 7 for details). The three events above are provided as a service to Precinct 3 constituents and are not funded with taxpayer dollars.

The last item to place on your calen-Summit on Friday, February 18. This event will be held at the new Hurst Conference Center. You will hear up-dates on all major highway and road projects in NETC, plus information concerning improvements at D/ FW International Airport and plans for the "T" and DART to serve D/FW.



Governor Rick Perry and Commissioner Gary Fickes during the Governor's recent visit to Precinct 3

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Have you ever heard about "The Crash at Crush"? See page 7



Pictured from left to right: Rebecca Barksdale, Carolyn Sims, Commissioner Gary Fickes and Tax Assessor/Collector Betsy Price.

COFFEE WITH THE COMMISSIONER

Please join me for coffee and donuts:

Friday, October 8th ~ 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Northeast Sub-Courthouse 645 Grapevine Highway, Suite 6 Hurst, Texas 76054



Gary Jickes

2ND ANNUAL EMPOWERING SENIORS 2010 Friday, October 1, 2010 www.empoweringseniors.com See page 4 >>> **Precinct 3 United Way**

Fish Fry Friday, October 8th See page 7 >>>

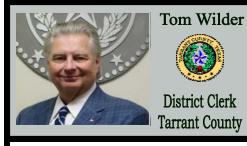
Save the Date February 18, 2011

Northeast Tarrant County **Transportation Summit** Hurst Conference Center Details coming soon!

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Northeast Newsletter

mployee Spotlig



District Clerk Tom Wilder was born in Fort Bragg, North Carolina during World War II when his father was training airborne troops for the invasion of Europe. His mother moved back to Fort Worth when his father was sent overseas and moved in with her parents and Tom's great-grandparents for the duration of the war. While Tom is about 3 months short of being a native Texan, he got here as soon as he could!

Tom's great-grandfather, Harry Hedges, came to Fort Worth in the 1880s as a cowboy but soon hired on with the Texas & Pacific Railroad where he worked for over 50 years as a train engineer. Mr. Hedges was a huge influence on Tom's life and instilled in him a strong work ethic and values for independence and regard for family.

After attending the University of Dallas and the University of North Texas, Tom developed a reputation as an involved community-oriented person, assisted by his wife, Charlene. They have been married for 48 years and live in Bedford. They have one son, Tom Jr, and three grandchildren who live in New England.

During his twenty-year career in the commercial real estate industry, Tom was appointed by Governor Bill Clements to the Board overseeing the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M. He was elected District Clerk in 1995 and has served on the Board of Directors for his state associations. He also serves on the Tarrant County Bail Bond Board, Information Technology Steering Committee, and Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. Tom is a charter member, past president, and Paul Harris Fellow of the Mid-Cities Pacesetters Rotary Club.

Under Tom's guidance the District Clerk's office has earned or shared in three Best Practices Awards from the Texas Association of Counties. His office manages about 59,000 new cases each year, 2,600 custodial accounts using 140 deputies, and processes passport applications for the U S State Department.

On a more personal note -

What do you do for fun? *Hunting, reading, civic work.*

Favorite Movie? "A Man For All Seasons" Favorite Restaurant? Carrabba's Favorite Book? "Hell's Half Acre" by Richard

F. Selcer

Favorite vacation spot? *Lake Tahoe* People would be surprised to know... *I am a*

classical music fan and study ancient history.

Tarrant County Facilities Management Department

The Tarrant County Facilities Management Department's mission is to successfully integrate people and places.

In delivering the mission, Facilities Management's number one goal is to provide for safe, healthy and comfortable building environments for County employees and the many thousands of visitors in Tarrant County buildings daily (and that includes the 3,500+ overnight visitors who have the privilege of staying with us from time to time in our jails).

There are three (3) unique groups that comprise the department of 105 employees.

The Building Services Group operates and supports over 4.6 million square feet of building space in 64 buildings. The



space includes jails, courts facilities, office buildings, storage facilities, parking facilities and a forensic crime lab. The Building Services Group executes detailed comprehensive preventive maintenance plans for equipment and building systems as well as delivers a capital maintenance, repair, and replacement plan for the buildings.

The Construction Services Group provides construction services which include space planning, design, new construction of buildings and renovation of existing buildings. In September 2010, over \$200 million in building design, new construction and renovations were in progress. The Construction Services Group includes a fine staff of professional carpenters and painters who provide exceptional value to the County when it comes to performing unique projects that require special, oldworld craftsmanship (i.e. replacing the damaged red oak wood trim and plaster ornamentation in the 115 year-old Historic Courthouse).

The Support Services Group includes a mail room staff. The mail room is responsible for handling postal mail delivered to, within and from the County departments. The mail room handles over 4 million pieces of mail annually.



The Support Services Group has professional staff responsible for special event operations (set-up of public speaking events, set-up of monthly auction on the Courthouse steps, etc.), moving equipment and furniture for County departments and overseeing the effort of the 75+ outsourced janitorial staff.

Last, but not least, several of the star employees in the Facilities Management Department are in the Graphics/Printing/ Photo Division, which is part of the Support Services Group. Graphics produces quality design and printing of brochures, manuals, posters, envelopes, etc. The Graphics and Photo staff produces over 14 million printed pieces annually.

Northeast Newsletter



The Southlake Senior Activity Center is home away from home for many Seniors in Southlake and surrounding areas. We offer **FREE** membership to those age 55 and better, and there are no geographical restrictions for members. Our Center is special in that it is located in a quaint home set on 2 acres of lovely wooded property with a creek running beside it and situated in a quiet, residential neighborhood. We provide a variety of free programs and activities <u>daily</u> including: exercise classes with professional instructors for Zumba Gold,



Senior Aerobics, Line Dancing, and Art classes. Groups (open to everyone) come and meet weekly to play Bridge, Mah-

jong, Dominoes and Bingo. Clubs for Music Lovers, Book Club, Sassy Lassies (Red Hats), R.O.M.E.O.S. (Retired Old Men Eating Out), and Lunch Bunch are open to

is all.

Every Tuesday is our popular & delicious luncheon, catered by Metroport Meals on Wheels along with various restaurants. The cost is \$4.00 per person and free for those age 90 and better. We often

provide free entertainment f o l l o w i n g lunch by local musicians and entertainers. Trips are p l a n n e d monthly to



theatres, musicals, gardens, museums, casinos and more. Each year we host two free dances with professional bands at our beautiful Southlake Town Hall. In the spring is our elegant **Starlight Ball** and in the summer is our fun **Sock Hop**. We also offer more casual dances and Jam Sessions throughout the year at the Senior Center.

The Southlake Senior Activity Center offers educational programs through our Lunch and Lecture series. Additionally,

we have a Resource Center with a wealth of information on home health care, assisted living, senior living residences, legal services, medical services and more for seniors. We are also a virtual branch of the Southlake Public Library for our members' convenience. Not to be missed in October is our Fall Fashion Show, The Up Swing Band Dance, and trips to the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens and Winstar Casino. Dress up for our Costume Contest and sign up for the seminar on Medicare Part D. Come and make new friends and join us for one or all of our upcoming events. Please see our current monthly newsletter for details on all of our great events. The Southlake Senior Activity Center is open Monday-Thursday, from 9:00am-4:00pm.

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Southlake Senior Center 307 Parkwood Drive Southlake, Texas 76092 817-748-8315 Open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. www.southlakeseniorcenter.com



Mid Cities Care Corps Transportation Services in NE Tarrant County

Mid-Cities Care Corps (MCCC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) established in 1981 with a mission "to preserve the independence of senior neighbors in N. E. Tarrant County". Services provided by MCCC include:

Transportation: For routine medical appointments Monday-Friday and quality of life drives on Saturday (grocery, banking, etc.).



Helping Hands: Assist seniors with minor home repairs, build wheelchair ramps, Adopt-a-Yard, and group work days for exterior painting and yard maintenance.

TLC Phone Tree: Connect seniors with one another to expand their social networks by phone, from the comfort of their home.

Holiday Outreach: Provide gifts and food baskets to "young at heart" seniors during the holiday season.

MCCC services are for seniors 65 years and older, 60 and older with a disability, who live in the one of the eleven communities in Northeast Tarrant County serviced by MCCC including: Bedford, Colleyville, Euless, Grapevine, Haltom City, Hurst, Keller, N. Richland Hills, Richland Hills, Southlake, and Watauga. Last year MCCC caring volunteers drove 24,683 miles, completed 141 Helping Hands service orders, and logged 3,881 volunteer hours for seniors.

All MCCC services are provided by caring volunteers. Anyone with three hours a month to spare is a candidate to be a MCCC volunteer.

Please visit our website or call the office for additional insight regarding services or volunteer opportunities.



November 4th is the annual Festival of Friends dinner, live and silent auctions to be held at the new Hurst Conference Center. You are invited to join the friends of MCCC at this celebration. Advanced purchase of ticket is required. Please call the office or visit the website for ticket information. Experience the spirit of MCCC supporters from faith-based communities, civic organizations, businesses and individual friends that enable MCCC to maintain the legacy of serving seniors throughout the community.

Mid-Cities Care Corps is located at 745 W. Pipeline Road in Hurst. You can contact them at 817-282-0531 or visit their website at:

www.midcitiescarecorps.org



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Commissioner Gary Fickes Tarrant County ~ Precinct 3



Northeast Tarrant County Senior Task Force

2ND ANNUAL EMPOWERING SENIORS 2010

Friday, October 1, 2010 ~ 8:30am to 1:30pm

FBCE Campus West, 209 N. Industrial, Bedford TX 76021 (Northwest Corner of Hwy 183 and N. Industrial)

NE Tarrant Residents ages 50+ join us for a day of information and education in a fun and casual environment at no cost to you - thanks to our generous sponsors!

We would like to invite you to the **2nd Annual Empowering Seniors 2010** event on October 1st.

> FREE Health Screenings •FREE Seminars •FREE Food •FREE Entertainment •FREE Samples from Vendors •DOOR PRIZES!

Anyone who registers in advance will receive a box lunch and a senior medical resource kit.

For more information or to register for this event, please visit: www.empoweringseniors.com

A glimpse at last year's Empowering Seniors...

"Screenings were

outstanding and very



professionally done Workshops were friendly, personal





Great fun and lots of wonderful brizes

"Vendors were so helpful and nice

Volunteers are an intricate part of our event. If you or someone you know would like to be a special part of this event, click here to provide us with the times you are available: **VOLUNTEEER FOR EVENT** Thank you!

information





Thanks to Merlin Entertainments Group, the world's second biggest visitor attraction operator, Grapevine will soon be the permanent home to a new \$12 million, 35,000-square-foot indoor attraction at Grapevine Mills mall - the LEGO-LAND[®] Discovery Center Dallas/Fort Worth.

LEGOLAND[®] Discovery Centers are Merlin's newest attraction concept that was first launched in Berlin in 2007. Slated to open in April 2011, LEGO-LAND Discovery Center Dallas/Fort Worth will be the second LEGOLAND® Discovery Center venue to open in the U.S. and the <u>fifth</u> in the world.

To officially commemorate construction of the new attraction, Merlin Entertainments Group, the City of Grapevine, The Mills[®], a Simon Company, Texas Senator Jane Nelson, Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes and other civic leaders recently held a special event that included an extravagant LEGO

Grapevine Mills Welcomes LEGOLAND® Discovery Center **Dallas/Fort Worth**

Bricks Dumping Ceremony of thousands of LEGO bricks and a "Turning of the LEGO Bricks" ceremony.

What exactly is a LEGOLAND[®] Discovery Center? When visitors step inside the LEGOLAND® Discovery Center Dallas/Fort Worth, they will feel like they have just jumped into the biggest box of LEGO[®] bricks ever. With over two million bricks under one roof, what will guests discover? This exciting indoor attraction is based off of the ever-popular toy and will offer its visitors a fun, highly interactive and educational two-to-three hour experience.





LEGOLAND® Discovery Center Dallas/Fort Worth is geared toward children ages 3-12 and their families and will be the perfect attraction for LEGO[®] bricks fans young and old. The Grapevine venue will be made up of a series of features, including hands-on play areas, a 4D cinema, master classes from the LEGO® Master Model Builder, LEGO[®] rides, special party rooms for birthdays and other celebrations, as well as the venue's signature MINILAND[®] exhibit which is a recreation of landmark buildings in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex out of LEGO[®] bricks.

Continue t o visit www.legolanddiscoverycenter.com to more information on how you can purchase tickets and be one of the first to enter the attraction in 2011!

Tarrant County Historical Commission October Events on the East Lawn

Tarrant County Historical Commission (TCHC) Chair Bob Morton has planned a series of events to take place in October on the grounds of the Historic 1895 Courthouse that will generate interest in the history and archaeology of Tarrant County. Admission is free. The events will take place from noon to 1 p.m. on each Friday in October.

October 1st - Rock Art presented by Brent Morton, Chairman, TCHC, sponsored by SHUMLA, an archaeological non -profit organization from Houston, and the TCHC.

October 8th - Public Archaeology **Programs** presented by Amanda McVay with the San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site, Levi Jordan Plantation State Historical Site, Texas Historical Commission and TCHC.

October 15th and 22nd - Public Archaeology Programs presented by Jennifer Price, Caddoan Mounds State Historic Site Park Manager, sponsored by Texas Historical Commission and TCHC.

October 29th - The Look of Nature: Designing Texas State Parks in the Great Depression, presented by Angela Reed, Historian, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which is sponsoring this event.

In case of rain, the events will be on the fifth floor of the Tarrant County Plaza Building located at 200 Taylor Street, Fort Worth.



1895 Courthouse 100 W. Weatherford St. Fort Worth, Texas

For more information on Tarrant County Historical Commission please visit: www.tarrantcounty.com/eHistory/site/default.asp

NE Sub-Courthouse

Larry	voting at ME Sub-Courtinot
★	& Southlake Town Hall

Oct 18-22	Mon-Fri	8am-5pm
Oct 23	Sat	7am - 7pm
Oct 24	Sun	11am-4pm
Oct 25-29	Mon-Fri	7am - 7pm

Important Dates Last Day to Register: Oct 4, 2010 (Must be received, not just postmarked)

Election Day: Nov 2

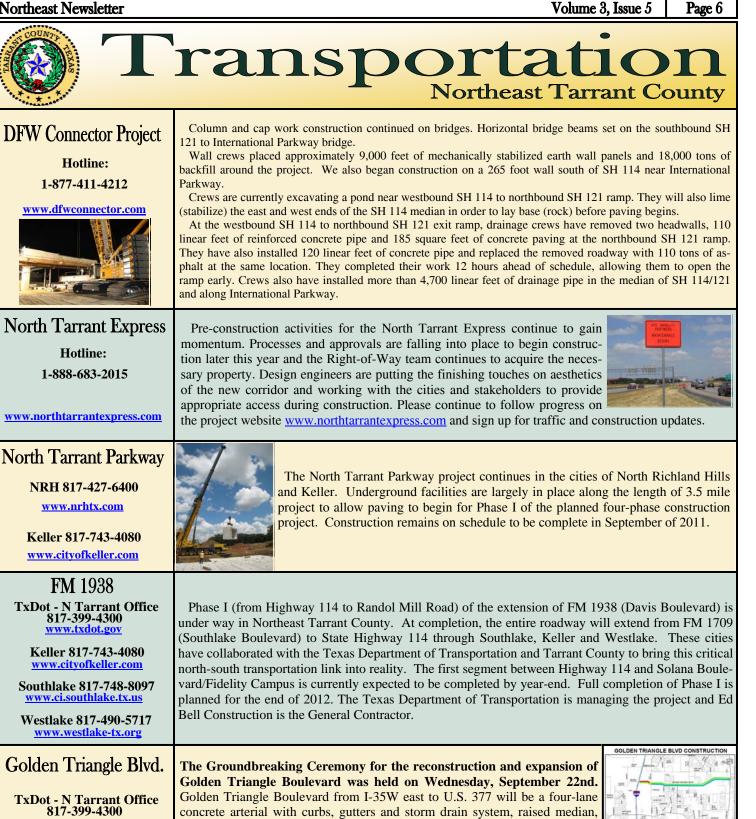
For more information:

www.tarrantcounty.com/evote/site/default.asp www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml



For organ donation information, please visit: www.donatelifetexas.org Northeast Newsletter

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traffic signals and left and right turn lanes. Construction will begin this fall

and will be complete in summer 2012. The \$26.9 million project is funded by

www.txdot.gov

ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION CONTACTS

a combination of city, county and federal funds.

Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T)...... www.the-t.com North Central Texas Council of Governments<u>www.nctcog.org</u> North Texas Tollway Authoritywww.ntta.org

Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition .. www.trtcmobility.org Texas High Speed Rail Transportation Corp......www.thsrtc.com TxDotwww.txdot.gov



Answer to Question of the Month

Question: Have you ever heard about "The Crash at Crush"?

Answer: On September 15, 1896, George Crush, a passenger agent for Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, engineered the publicity stunt of all times. George's plan was to have 2 M.K.&T. steam locomotives run at each other at 90 mph. He hoped that enough people would pay good money to watch his stunt. 50,000 spectators arrived on special trains and assembled in a field between West and Waco to watch the great crash. Two people were killed and many were injured when the spectacular crash occurred. Both boilers exploded on impact. I think George Crush lost his job!

Tarrant County Commissioners Court Meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. (Unless otherwise stated) 100 E Weatherford, Fort Worth, TX www.tarrantcounty.com	John NE Ta Gertr 660 JPS H
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	837 <u>NE T</u> a
Oct 1 "Empowering Seniors 2010"- Precinct 3 (Free event) FBCE Campus West 209 N Industrial Bedford <u>www.empoweringseniors.com</u>	Birdy
Oct 1-3 "Octoberfest 2010"- Southlake Chamberwww.southlakechamber.com	m Grape
Oct 8 "Coffee with the Commissioner - Precinct 3 Northeast Sub-Courthouse 7:30 am - 9:00 am	0 Birdy
Oct 8 "United Way Fish Fry" - Tarrant County Precinct 3 Pct 3 Maintenance Ctr, 7301 Precinct Line Rd NRH	2807 I
Oct 8 "A Celebration of Five Decades of Human Services" - Tarrant County 	3115
Oct 9 "Great Trail Ride" - Rocky Top Therapy Center <u>www.rockytoptherapy.or</u>	Georg
Oct 13 "United Way NE Luncheon"	5
Oct 15 "Seasons of Hope Style Show & Luncheon"- Open Arms817-281-1164	4 Sch
Oct 16 "Angels Among Us" - GRACE	
Oct 21 "Women Who Care, Share Luncheon" - YMCA817-332-619	Cinia
www.ymcafw.org/downtown/default.asp	
Oct 22 "Shining Stars Luncheon" - Arts League www.shiningstarsartsleague.con	T (
Oct 22-24 "Revitalization Weekend" - 6 Stones www.6stones.org	g Unite
Oct 29 "Legacy of Women Awards Luncheon" - SafeHaven <u>www.safehaventc.or</u>	- /
Nov 4 "Best of Northwest EXPO"	g (Tar
Nov 5 "Heart of Texas" Business Conference" maria.schoeneman@tccd.ed	<u>u</u> [
Nov 13 "Northeast Tarrant Chamber Gala"	g
Feb 18 "NETC Transportation Summit" - Precinct 3 Hurst Conference Center	,

John Peter Smith Hospital Contacts

NE Tarrant County JPS Clinics

Certrude Tarpley JPS Health Center ... 817-702-6600 6601 Watauga Road, Watauga 76148

PS Health Center Northeast 817-920-6400 837 Brown Trail, Bedford 76022

NE Tarrant County School-Based Clinics

 Birdville
 817-759-2035

 2807 Layton Avenue, Haltom City, 76117

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

For a complete list of Health Clinics and School–Based Clinics log onto: <u>www.jpshealthnet.org</u>

Child Abuse Hotline 800-252-5400
Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233
Foster Care Adoption Recruitment 800-228-8226
United Way of Tarrant County2 - 1 - 1

Tarrant County Holiday Closings

Thanksgiving Christmas Nov 25th & 26th Dec 24th & 27th

Pct. 3 ~ Commissioner's Office

Gary Fickes, Commissioner ggfickes@tarrantcounty.com

Staff

Carolyn Sims, Precinct Administrator cssims@tarrantcounty.com

Rebecca Barksdale, Community Outreach Coord. <u>rbarksdale@tarrantcounty.com</u>

> Mary Ann Rike, Executive Secretary mrike@tarrantcounty.com

Theresa Parsons, Executive Secretary tcparsons@tarrantcounty.com

> Northeast Sub-Courthouse 645 Grapevine Highway #6 Hurst TX 76054 817-581-3600

Southlake Town Hall 1400 Main St #410 Southlake TX 76092 817-481-8234

NE Tarrant County Contacts

	NE Sub-Courthouse	Southlake Town Hall
Constable Pct. 3	817-581-3610	817-481-8059
County Clerk	817-581-3604	817-481-8179
Passport Office		817-481-8190
Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	817-581-3625	817-481-8132
Juvenile Services	817-581-3645	
Travel - Public Health		817-321-4707
Tax Office	817-581-3636	817-481-8141
Maintenance Center	817-514-5000	
Constable Pct. 1	817-884-1385	
Justice of the Peace Pct. 1	817-884-1395	1000 T. 11

Public Health Centers

NE Public Health Ctr. 813 Brown Trail #6, Bedford, TX 76022 Watauga Public Health Ctr. 6601 Watauga Rd, Watauga, TX 76148

817-285-4155 817-702-6600

Tarrant County Website: <u>www.tarrantcounty.com</u>