



Northeast Newsletter

Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes

Volume 15, Issue 3

"Working together for a better tomorrow"

June 2022

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

Join us for

COFFEE WITH THE COMMISSIONER

Friday, June 10, 2022

7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Northeast Courthouse Community Room

645 Grapevine Hwy. Hurst, Texas 76054




Summer is here, and this is a very busy time in our office working on many initiatives to provide services to our citizens. One of my priorities, when I became Commissioner for Precinct 3 was to find a way to communicate to the community in a meaningful way and to highlight all the incredible things happening in Northeast Tarrant County.

So, we began the *Northeast Newsletter*, which has improved communication and increased engagement within our community. We have received statewide and national awards for how well this newsletter has helped us interact with you as our constituents.

As we approach our 15th year of the newsletter, I am excited to announce a new look and format for our publication. Starting in August, we will launch a new design and concept. Rather than send one newsletter every two months, we will start sending shorter, more focused newsletters on a more frequent basis. This allows us to provide you with timely information that you can use.

Our popular Coffee with the Commissioner events – such as what we have this Friday morning – will continue every other month at their regular time.

This Friday, we are hosting our **7th Annual Tarrant County Big Give Blood Drive**. Please [click on this link](#) for location and reservation information. One of the

giving locations available is the Northeast Courthouse, located at 645 Grapevine Highway in Hurst, from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

I wrote earlier about this being a busy time for the county. We have just completed budget hearings with all our county departments as we begin to prepare our 2023 budget. We take our responsibility of being stewards of your tax dollars seriously, so we pay great attention to each of these budget areas.


With the extreme heat and humidity that we are already experiencing, please be careful this summer. Stay hydrated and be mindful of family, friends, and neighbors who might need assistance. [Click here](#) for more information on beating the heat. Also, remember with students out of school, more children will be out and about in public places and neighborhoods. Please slow down while driving and be aware of those around you.

This month's newsletter is full of information, including highlights on the City of Richland Hills City Manager, Candice Edmondson, Passport Program Information, Senior News, and more! Be sure to check the Calendar (page 8) for upcoming community events.

I hope to see you this Friday, June 10th, for our Coffee with the Commissioner starting at 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. in our Northeast Courthouse Community Room. Join us for hot coffee, donuts, and great conversation while visiting with others in our community. Everyone is welcome to stop by!

Gary Fickes

Inside this issue:

Economic Development Richland Hills.....Pg.2	
Community Leader Candice Edmondson...Pg.3	
Historical Moment in Time "The 1895 Room".....Pg.4	
Assistance Programs....Pg.5	Assistance Programs
Passport Services.....Pg.5	Passports
Senior NewsPg.6	Seniors
Beat the Heat.Pg.7	
Calendar.....Pg.8	

Question of the Month

Question: Which Texas body of water has one of the most interesting bits of geographic trivia involving its naming?

Answer on [Page 4](#).

The Quote of the Month -

Texas politics is proof you can fool all the people most of the time.

— anonymous

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CITY OF RICHLAND HILLS

Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic over the past two years, the City of Richland Hills has continued to see an increase in growth and diversity in our economy. FY2021 sales tax revenue rose 8% from the previous year, which was primarily aided by online shopping and the strong industrial presence in Richland Hills. As of May 2022, the City of Richland Hills has added 28 new businesses, and the opportunities for an increase in new businesses and developments are abundant.

The City’s first townhome development will begin construction this fall. The smaller, high-quality, multi-family homes are expected to draw in new residents of all ages. The Baker Landing neighborhood will include sidewalks and open space throughout the property for residents to enjoy.

Redevelopment of Glenview Drive, a major artery of Northeast Tarrant County, will be a significant priority in the coming years. In partnership with Tarrant County, the City of Haltom City, and the City of North Richland Hills, the reconstruction of Glenview will include pavement resurfacing, new curb and gutters, drainage improvements, and new signalization. These improvements will provide a safer, more efficient, and reliable corridor that improves the connectivity and traffic flow in the Northeast Tarrant Region. In coordination with the reconstruction of the roadway, the City will also be creating a corridor master plan for Glenview Drive to help define and encourage future redevelopment.



Baker Landing Site Plan

Richland Hills continues to make progress on the City’s 2019 Parks Master Plan. The City will install a restroom and pavilion this year at Kate Baker Park and Creek Trail Park. Creek Trail Park will be upgraded to include designated spaces for food trucks, and the City will increase parking at Kate Baker.

The City recently celebrated the opening of a new state-of-the-art Fire Station and complete remodel of its Law Enforcement Center. The City is also wrapping up a year-long branding project to develop a brand identity that supports and elevates our residents, businesses and community.



Richland Hills Fire / Rescue

For more information about development opportunities in Richland Hills, please visit www.richlandhills.com or contact Logan Thatcher, Assistant to the City Manager, at (817) 616-3745.



Creek Trail Park Master Plan

*Article courtesy of Candice Edmondson,
City Manager of Richland Hills*



Candice Edmondson



City Manager
Richland Hills

Candice Edmondson has served as the City Manager for the City of Richland Hills since January 2020. A servant leader at heart, Candice is passionate about public service and the local government's role in shaping a community's quality of life. As City Manager, Candice provides oversight and direction for all city departments and services. She works closely with her Executive Team to implement City Council priorities, promote citizen engagement, and deliver high-quality essential services.

Candice began her career in public service in 2007, working as a Management Assistant for the City of Hurst. She joined the City of Southlake in

2010 as Assistant to the Director of Community Services and was promoted to Deputy Director in 2013. In September 2018, Candice joined the City of Richland Hills as Assistant City Manager and was promoted to City Manager a year later.

Candice holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Texas. She is a member of several professional organizations, including Urban Management Assistants of North Texas, North Texas City Managers Association, Texas City Management Association, and the International City/County Management Association. She recently served on the Government Affairs & Policy Committee and Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Committee for ICMA.

Candice and her husband, Kevin, have been married for ten years and have two little girls, Everly (8) and Lyla (5). They are members of the University Christian Church in Fort Worth.

On a more personal note -

- What do you do for fun? *We love to travel together as a family. The beach is one of our favorite places and we try to go at least once a year. My husband is a TCU alumnus, so we also attend a lot of TCU sporting events. Unfortunately, my girls wear more purple than burnt orange.*

- Favorite Movie?
The Great Outdoors

- Favorite Restaurant?
Lonesome Dove Western Bistro

- Favorite Vacation Spot?
A beach with a good book

- People would be surprised to know.....*That I have been fascinated by sharks since I was a little girl and my #1 bucket list item is to cage dive with Great White Sharks in South Africa.*

Article courtesy of Candice Edmondson, City Manager of Richland Hills

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dee Long



Dee Long was recently promoted to the position of Assistant Precinct Administrator for Commissioner Gary Fickes, Precinct 3. Ms. Long started her career with Tarrant County over 26 years ago and looks forward to her new responsibilities and many more years with Tarrant County.

TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC MEETING

WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US.

MONDAY, JUNE 13 @ NOON

North Central
Texas Council of
Governments

616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

Attend in person, watch the presentations live at www.nctcog.org/input, or participate via phone by Dialing 855-925-2801 then code 2682.

A video recording will be made available afterward.

7th Annual Tarrant County Big Give Blood Drive

June 10, 2022
8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

**Donate and receive a t-shirt from Carter Bloodcare.*

For more information visit:
www.Carterbloodcare.com



**THE BIG GIVE
TARRANT COUNTY**



A Historical Moment in Time

“The 1895 Room”

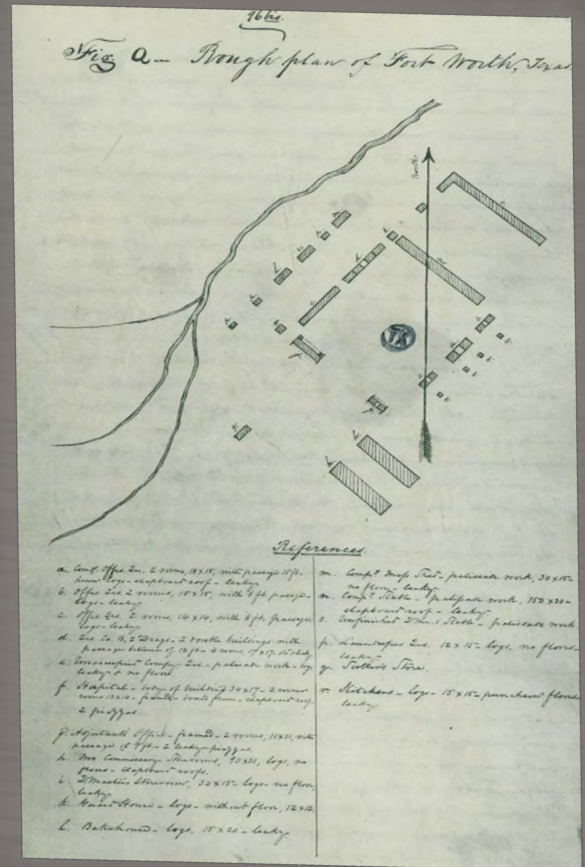
Located just inside of the majestic Tarrant County 1895 Courthouse, the 1895 Room is the commission’s museum/ visitor’s center. Funded largely through the generosity of the Bill Davis family, the museum includes documents, photographs, and artifacts depicting different periods of time throughout Tarrant County history. The museum also includes a professional video production on the history of the courthouse, renowned as one of Texas’ finest.

On June 6, 2022, the 1895 Room at the Courthouse was dedicated. This date was chosen specifically because on June 6, 1849, exactly 173 years ago, Major Ripley Arnold established an outpost on the Trinity River and named it “Fort Worth” after the recently deceased Major General William Jenkins Worth. The 1895 Room is the only museum space in the county that covers all our history from when Native Americans inhabited north Texas to the growth of Fort Worth and surrounding communities, right up to modern times.

The various time periods are depicted through text and artifacts located in display cases throughout the two rooms. The museum is administered by the Tarrant County Archives under the oversight of the Tarrant County Historical Commission and are partly funded by a generous donation from the Fash Foundation of Fort Worth.

The 1895 Room is a self-guided museum open five days a week during regular operating hours of the Courthouse. It is well worth a visit to see the history of Tarrant County through the exhibits of the 1895 Room *and* to explore our historic 1895 Tarrant County Courthouse. Admission is free and brochures are available for purchase.

Article courtesy of the Tarrant County Historical Commission



Question of the Month

Question: Which Texas body of water has one of the most interesting bits of geographic trivia involving its naming?

Answer: The Brazos River. A very poignant legend, accepted by most historians as fact, involves the explorer Francisco de Coronado, who in 1716 with his expedition party wandered through Texas for days without water and would have died had a band of Indians not led them to a stream. Upon finding the water, a padre accompanying the expedition exclaimed, “los brazos de dios!” which means “the arms of God!” Thus, the life-saving body of water became the Brazos.

Special Utility Assistance Program (SUAP)



The Special Utility Assistance Program (SUAP) offered by Tarrant County Department of Human Services provides assistance with the utility bills for low income Tarrant County residents who receive monthly Social Security benefits (SSA-Retirement, SSI, SSDI) or another long-term federal disability or retirement program income (Pension, VA) and if working (wages).

The gross benefit amount cannot exceed the current Human Services assistance level guidelines based on the number of individuals residing in the home.

For more information click [here](#).

Passport Services

The Tarrant County Clerk's office is responsible for five passport acceptance facilities serving the citizens of North Texas. Two of those offices are located in Northeast Tarrant County.

Northeast Courthouse

645 Grapevine Hwy. Suite 210
Hurst, Texas 76054
Phone: 817-248-6080



Southlake Town Hall

1400 Main, Suite 340
Southlake, Texas 76092
Phone: 682-732-3645

Both routine and expedited services are available. Citizens may apply for the passport book and/or card. Adult's and children's applications are accepted at both locations. There is no charge for appointments and they are encouraged; however, walk-ins are welcome. To schedule an appointment, please go to:

<https://nqa3.nemoqappointment.com/Booking/Booking/Index/tc45hyd76>

Most adult renewals can be done by mail with no visit to a facility necessary. For more information, please go to:

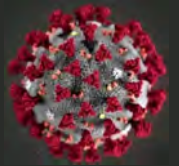
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/have-passport/renew.html>

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](#)



[Covid-19 Guidance for Schools](#)



[Covid-19 Family Resources](#)



[Frequently Asked Questions](#)



[Latest News](#)

En Español

Community Resources & 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](#)
[Metropport Meals on Wheels](#)
[MHMR of Tarrant County](#)
[Mid-Cities Care Corps \(MCCC\)](#)
[Mission Central](#)
[North Texas SNAP](#)
[One Safe Place](#)

[SafeHaven of Tarrant County](#)
[Salvation Army DFW](#)
[Senior Transportation Services](#)
[Sixty and Better](#)
[Tarrant Area Food Bank](#)
[Tarrant County Homeless Coalition](#)
[The Women's Center of Tarrant County](#)
[United Way of Tarrant County](#)
[U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

Senior News

ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. Everyone is at risk of developing this disease. Alzheimer's is not part of the normal aging process. It is a fatal disease that kills nerve cells in the brain and affects an individual's memory.



Five Facts about Alzheimer's

- 50 million people are living with Alzheimer's and dementias worldwide.
- Alzheimer's is the 6th leading cause of death in the U.S.
- Every 65 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's disease.
- One in ten people age 65 and older has Alzheimer's.
- Two-thirds of Americans with Alzheimer's are women.



The Longest Day is the day with the most light — the summer solstice. On **June 21**, thousands of participants from across the world come together to fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through an activity of their choice. Together, they use their creativity and passion to raise funds and awareness for the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association.

Progression of Alzheimer's Disease



For more information visit: www.alz.org

Visit Our New and Improved Empowering Seniors Website

Visit us year-round for news, information, to be inspired and learn, or just enjoy a special moment video. Play a game or enjoy one of the many virtual experiences. Plus, you can easily register to attend one of our virtual or in-person events!

www.EmpoweringSeniors.com



Too much heat is not safe for anyone. It is even riskier if you are older or have health problems. Getting relief from the heat quickly is important. If not, you might begin to feel confused or faint. Your heart could become stressed and stop beating.

Being hot for too long can be a problem. It can cause several illnesses, all grouped under the name *hyperthermia*:

- ⇒ **Heat syncope** is a sudden dizziness that can happen when you are active in hot weather. If you take a heart medication called a beta blocker or are not used to hot weather, you are even more likely to feel faint. Rest in a cool place, put your legs up, and drink water to make the dizzy feeling go away.
- ⇒ **Heat cramps** are the painful tightening of muscles in your stomach, arms, or legs. Cramps can result from hard work or exercise. Though your body temperature and pulse usually stay normal during heat cramps, your skin may feel moist and cool. Find a way to cool your body down. Rest in the shade or a cool building. Drink plenty of fluids, but not those with alcohol or caffeine.
- ⇒ **Heat edema** is a swelling in your ankles and feet when you get hot. Put your legs up to help reduce swelling. If that doesn't work fairly quickly, check with your doctor.
- ⇒ **Heat exhaustion** is a warning that your body can no longer keep itself cool. You might feel thirsty, dizzy, weak, uncoordinated, and nauseated. You may sweat a lot. Your body temperature may stay normal, but your skin may feel cold and clammy. Some people with heat exhaustion have a rapid pulse. Rest in a cool place and get plenty of fluids. If you don't feel better soon, get medical care. Be careful—heat exhaustion can progress to heat stroke.

EXTREME HEAT COOLING CENTERS

Fire Station Community Center	817-924-9971	1601 Lipscomb St., Fort Worth, TX 76104	view map
Hillside Community Center	817-871-7660	1201 E. Maddox., Fort Worth, TX 76104	view map
Martin Luther King Community Center	817-871-5960	5565 Truman Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76112	view map
Northside Community Center	817-871-5820	1100 NW 18th St., Fort Worth, TX 76106	view map
Riverside Community Center in Sylvania Park	817-871-7640	3700 E Belknap St., Fort Worth, TX 76111	view map
Salvation Army Arlington Family Life Center Family Life Center and Youth Education Town	817-860-1836	712 W Abram St., Arlington, TX 76013	view map
Salvation Army of Tarrant County Community Center Services	817-344-1800	1855 E. Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76103	view map
Sycamore Community Center Community Centers	817-871-7675	2525 E Rosedale St Fort Worth, TX 76105	view map

Click [here](#) for more information.



COMING THIS AUGUST

Look for our redesigned Northeast Newsletter!

Calendar

- Jun 10 Coffee with the Commissioner.....817-248-6295
- Jun 11 City of Hurst Dash & Splash 1 Mile & 5k Runwww.hursttx.gov
- Jun 14 Flag Day.....
- Jun 17 Southlake Chamber: Awards Banquet.....www.southlakechamber.com
- Jun 19 Father's Day.....
- Jun 20 MOW of TC: Annual Golf Classic.....www.mealsonwheels.org
- Jun 20 Juneteenth.....
- Jun 21 Alzheimer's Association: The Longest Day.....www.act.alz.org
- Jul 4 Independence Day
- Jul 16 Keller Chamber: Home, Lawn & Garden Expo...www.kellerchamber.com
- Jul 23 Mid-Cities "Sizzlin' Summer" Arts & Crafts.....www.hursttx.gov
- Jul 30 6Stones Operation Back To School.....www.6stones.org
- Aug 2 National Night Out.....www.natw.org
- Aug 3 Clean Air Action Day North Texas.....www.airnorthtexas.org
- Aug 5-7 Sales Tax Holiday/Tax-Free Weekend.....www.texas.gov



Fourth of July Events



- Jun 24 City of Colleyville: Stars and Guitars.....www.colleyville.com
- Jul 1 City of Haslet: Independence Day Celebration.....www.haslet.org
- Jul 1 City of Hurst: Hurst Stars and Stripes.....www.hursttx.gov
- Jul 3 City of Keller: July Celebration - Keller Lights!.....www.cityofkeller.com
- Jul 3 City of Roanoke: All American Fireworks.....www.roanoketexas.com
- Jul 4 City of Grapevine: Fireworks Extravaganza.....www.grapevine.com
- Jul 4 City of Southlake: Stars and Stripes.....www.southlake.com
- Jul 4 City of Trophy Club.....www.trophyclub.com
- Jul 4 City of Westlake: July 4th Parade.....www.westlake.com
- Jul 4 City of Richland Hills: Red, White, and YOU!.....www.thelinkrec.com
- Jul 4 City of Bedford: Bedford 4th Picnic.....www.bedfordtx.gov
- Jul 4 City of Euless: July 4th Fireworks.....www.euless.com
- Jul 4 NE Tarrant Family 4th Fireworks.....www.netarrant.org
(Haltom City, NRH, Richland Hills, Watauga & NE Tarrant Chamber)

Chambers of Commerce

- Colleyville Chamber of Commercewww.colleyvillechamber.org
- Grapevine Chamber of Commercewww.grapevinechamber.org
- HEB Chamber of Commercewww.heb.org
- Greater Keller Chamberwww.kellerchamber.com
- NE Tarrant Chamber of Commercewww.netarrant.org
- Metroport Chamberwww.metroportchamber.org
- Southlake Chamberwww.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.eulessstx.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 openings and hours have changed due to the public health situation. Be sure to call them for current information concerning their center.)



Locations In Northeast Tarrant County

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

School-Based Clinic

- Grapevine/Colleyville817-251-5751
3050 Timberline Drive, Grapevine, 76051

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

COUNTY HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

June 20 - Juneteenth
July 4 - Independence Day

Commissioner's Office Precinct 3

Gary Fickes, Commissioner
gfickes@tarrantcounty.com

Rebecca Barksdale, Precinct Administrator
rbarksdale@tarrantcounty.com

Theresa Parsons, Community Outreach Coordinator
tparsons@tarrantcounty.com

Dee Long, Assistant Precinct Administrator
sdlong@tarrantcounty.com

Freida Landerholm, Office Administrator
fmlanderholm@tarrantcounty.com

Ariana Raines, Administrative Assistant III
acraines@tarrantcounty.com

Northeast Courthouse

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