



# The Cross Roads Times

The Town of Cross Roads, Texas

## Special Interest Articles:

- Odds and Ends from the Mayor's Desk
- Next installment on the Town History

## Individual Highlights:

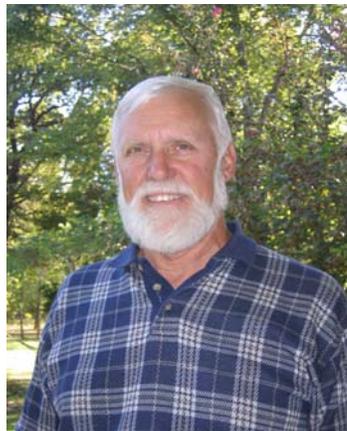
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## From the Mayor's Desk by Harv Kitchens, Mayor



### ODDS AND ENDS THINGS THAT YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW - - -

**Budget** –Cross Roads new budget period begins October 1, 2007, and goes through September 30, 2008. The budget process begins in June and is approved by the Town Council in September. Our budget committee is chaired by Carol Roberts and includes Monnie Ritchie, Katherine Ritchie and Harv Kitchens. At the July 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting, the preliminary budget was presented at a Public Hearing and to the Council. The final budget will be presented at the August 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting and Public Hearing. We invite each citizen to be present for this presentation. Our budget will be a balanced budget based on projected revenues and expenses.

This year the budget will be just under \$1,000,000. The major expenditure, \$380,000, will be for Road Maintenance and Improvement, representing approximately 38% of the total budget. A significant addition to the budget will be used for greater police protection. Another significant item is \$100,000 to be placed in a Legal Contingency Account to ensure that we have the funds should there be challenges to our ordinances, such as our one-acre minimum residential lot requirement. We are also considering the addition of another staff member to serve as a Municipal Clerk.

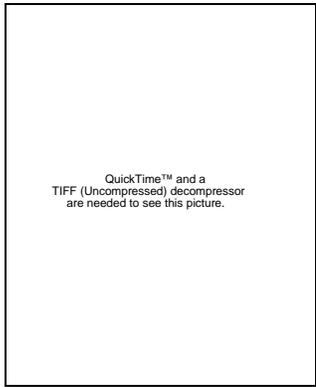
**Sales Tax Revenues** – Over 40% of the revenues for the Town of Cross Roads come from Sales Tax. These funds allow us to operate our Town without levying Property Taxes. If you collect State of Texas Sales Tax as a retailer or home business, you must use the local code 2061284 for Cross Roads to receive the proper allocations. This assures that taxes collected do not go to another town or city. Please check your Texas Sales and Use Tax Rate booklet regularly for current rates. If you are an end user, meaning you purchase item(s) outside the Town of Cross Roads and have the item(s) drop shipped to you

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From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

Your help is needed for the Town of Cross Roads to receive its proper tax allocations

Check out the Cross Roads website... www.crossroadstx.gov



Sales Tax Revenues (continued) (mailed, Fed-Ex, UPS delivery, etc.), Make sure the retailer knows that you live in the Cross Roads area, and provide that retailer with the local code number 2061284 so that when the business pays its taxes, Cross Roads will receive its proper tax allocation. If you need help with this matter, please contact Katherine Ritchie at Town Hall (365-9693) for assistance.

Pot Holes – The Town of Cross Roads and much of North Texas have experienced abundant rain this year. The excess water creates pot holes and makes them difficult to repair. Pot holes can only be repaired during adequate dry weather. The Cross Roads Road Committee is aware of the problems and is planning the necessary repairs.

Fire Burn - We recently met with the Denton County Fire Marshall and he advised us of the proper procedures to follow. We are to go to the Denton County Web Site and register as a resident of the county planning to burn outdoors. You will be registering to legally burn brush, yard trimmings, timber and untreated lumber. It is illegal to burn tires, paint, plastics, furniture and some other items. If you plan to burn material outdoors, go to www.dentoncounty.com PRIOR to burning. If you wish to conduct a controlled burn and IF it is a good burn day, you may leave your location and contact information on this website, or you may use the voice mail system to RECORD by voice your location details at 940-349-2840.

Speed Limit Change for Highway 380 - We have received notification from Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) that they will change the Speed Limit from 65 MPH to 60 MPH through Cross Roads. This is a step in the right direction after many meetings and conversations with TXDOT. We are not satisfied with this reduction and will continue to work with TXDOT to get it reduced to 55 MPH. This reduction is in response to many citizens comments and will provide safer driving in our Town. We are still trying to convince TXDOT to install a traffic signal at Highway 380 and Mosely Road/Fish Trap.

Web Site - Town of Cross Roads Just a reminder, the Town's website is www.crossroadstx.gov You can refer to this site to obtain information about the ordinances that govern our Town, and general information that is helpful in keeping abreast of its activities. Back copies of the Cross Roads Times are also available online.

Temporary Signs – We have an ordinance that requires a permit for temporary signs. This ordinance is to help prevent our Town from being cluttered with signs that do not enrich its appearance. The permit fee is "no charge" but does require a permit that is issued at the Town Hall. Examples of the types of signs requiring permits are real estate signs, advertising a specific property for sale, construction signs, and temporary signs advertising specific events. Please help to keep our Town attractive. Refer to the website for further ordinance information.

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## From the Mayor's Desk (continued)

### Allegiance Retail Development -

The latest scheduled projected opening date for the Wal-Mart Super Center is the fall of 2008. The scheduled opening date for the new Villa Grande (Christina's) Mexican Restaurant is October 1, 2007. As the Wal-Mart proceeds with construction, we will have additional information about other retailers, offices, etc. scheduled to open.

### Good-Bye to the Ottinger's -

The Town would like to take this opportunity to say "Good-Bye" to the Ottinger family. Bill and Neva were one of the original founders of the Town of Cross Roads and contributed much of their time to the development of our Town. They have relocated to the Valley View area and we want to say "Thank You" for all you have done.

*"...opening date  
for ..."*

## History of Cross Roads... *Saving the Town*

by Jim and Eddie Cundall

For seventeen years from its incorporation in 1973, the Town of Cross Roads struggled along, learning the laws governing a town. It learned how to pass ordinances, and how to conduct town business. The Town Council was learning Texas law. During this period, a dedicated group of men worked long and hard to keep the roads in some kind of decent repair. Frank Bartel, Gerry Burns, Ronnie Grissom, Jim Cundall and others were constantly working with tractors, graders, shovels and muscle power to keep the roads under control. It was at one of the elections that a crisis occurred. A new council came into office in a surprise move. This council quickly took actions over the objections of the voters and eventually attempted to de-annex a large portion of the town, saying that there were insufficient funds to take care of the roads, and it would be better to revert them back to the county. This would mean that the county would be responsible for the roads instead of the town as a corporate entity, since the town would no longer have the required area and population to be an incorporated town.

After word got around about this attempt to de-annex the large area around Naylor Road, about 1600 acres or more, many residents attended a meeting. Attendees signed a petition to prevent the de-annexation. Approximately 125

residents signed as plaintiffs and shared in the expense of the lawsuit. A large crowd eventually met in the old courthouse on the square in Denton, before Judge Sam Houston who issued a restraining order prohibiting the town officials from voting on the proposed de-annexation. This first ruling by Judge Houston also called for an election to be held on Saturday, December 7, 1991, to decide whether or not the 1600 acres would be removed from the city limits.

Shortly after this event, a group of local residents started a monthly newsletter in an effort to help the townspeople become a more aware and cohesive group. The first issue of The Cross Roads Citizen was printed in January, 1992.

In this issue, everyone was urged to attend council meetings to keep informed about local issues. The next election was held on April 2, 1992. We were honored to receive a flag that had flown over the White House at a ceremony that included a troop of Boy Scouts, a presentation by Congressman Ralph Hall, and speeches by Roger Fraim and Pat Waddle. Ronnie and Janie Grissom donated a flagpole to the town. Many people had become active in the progress of the town. Dr. John Findley was elected mayor. This turned out to be a turning point for the Town of Cross Roads, Texas.



## Precinct One Government Center Cynthia White, County Commissioner, Precinct One

One of my goals as Commissioner is to provide increased access to county services and I am excited to report that we are almost ready to open the new Precinct One Government Center. This new center has already been named in honor of a long time Road and Bridge East employee who lost his battle with a terminal disease, Steven Everett Copeland. The Copeland Center is located on FM 424 across from Cross Roads Town Hall just north of Highway 380. Citizens will be able to access services from the following offices which will be housed there: Tax Assessor-Collector, County Clerk, Justice of the Peace #5 and Constable #5, Adult Probation and Sheriff. And lastly, I will be moving my primary office out of the Courthouse-on-the-Square to the Copeland Center. The building also has a community room, which will be available to the public.

In spite of the rain, the contractor has done a great job staying on schedule and still believes the contracted finish date of November 2007, will be met. If you go to the site you will see that most of the grading is complete, the rough-in plumbing is complete and the slab has been poured. Two-thirds of the parking lot is completed and all exterior walls (except the main entrance) have been completed along with 85% of the interior walls. The majority of the trusses have been installed and work has begun on the sub-roof. The stonework around the facility is almost complete and then the laying of brick will begin. The electrical rough-in should begin next week.

Once the Copeland Center is completed and we get moved into the building, we will host a Grand Opening Celebration. Stay tuned for the party announcement!

### Citizen Profile on *Dick Weston*

Meet **Dick Weston**, a resident of Cross Roads since March of 2005, and a property owner in Cross Roads since 1995. Dick is an active member of the community and appreciates its pride and spirit. He has served his town as chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission, and as treasurer of the Lake Lewisville Oak Shores Property Owners Association.

Dick retired from GTE in 1998, after 29 years of service. His last position held with GTE was Assistant Vice President-Enterprise Planning.

Dick served in the United States Navy, and is a Vietnam veteran. He served his country from 1962-1966. Later, he attended the University of Southern Florida from which he graduated in 1969 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Dick has been married to his wife, Nancy, for 40 years. They have a daughter, Deborah, who lives in Spring, Texas, with her husband, Jeff Hefley.

When asked what he would change about Cross Roads, he replied, "Nothing. I trust that the (Town) leaders, both elected and volunteers, will continue to do everything to ensure that Cross Roads does not lose its rural, small town pride, spirit, and appearance."

He hopes to continue to enjoy his family and the life with which he has been blessed.

***By the way, does Dick look like someone who had long hair and played in a local rock band while in high school? Surprise! He did.***

QuickTime™ and a PDF (Acrobat) document viewer are needed to see this picture.

Dick enjoys reading books by W.E.B. Griffin and Tom Clancy.

His favorite movie is "Saving Private Ryan", because he perceives it to be the most accurate and honest film he has seen about war.

## Undiscovered Treasure... by Kathy Gilson

North of Cross Roads, one block off of Highway 377 is a local treasure that many Cross Roads residents have yet to discover. Travel north on 377 and turn west onto Stanley, by First Security Bank, or by going west onto Highmeadow by Sonic Drive-In. The treasure that is yours to enjoy is the Aubrey Area Library! Cross Roads residents have free and open access to the local public library.

The services that are available include: copy, print, fax, high speed internet, WiFi, Office Productivity Software, and 12 public access computers. There are special programs such as story times, summer reading programs, and the Aubrey Book Club. Facilities include a conference room, event space, and a meeting room. Help is available for writing resumes and becoming a lifelong learner. You may check out both books

and audio books. Friendly, helpful librarians will assist you with your informational needs.

Come discover the treasure, and tell me that you are from Cross Roads.

The Aubrey Area Library, Schedule:  
 Tues., Wed., Thurs. 10:00 – 7:00  
 Fri. 10:00 – 6:00  
 Sat. 10:00 – 3:00

*Kathy Gilson*  
 Library Director

Aubrey Area Library  
 226 Countryside Drive  
 Aubrey TX 76227

cell: 940-391-9180  
 fax: 940-365-9411  
 phone: 940-365-9162  
[www.myaubrey.net/library](http://www.myaubrey.net/library)

**Cross Roads recently made a \$5000 donation to the Aubrey Area Library.**

## Citizens Receive Awards

Congratulations to two Cross Roads citizens who were recently honored by the Rotary International.

Herman Oosterwijk was presented with the District 5790 Rotarian of the Year award. The district includes 63 clubs with 3,500 Rotarians. It is bordered to the east by Fort Worth, Arlington, and Mid Cities; to the north by Wichita Falls; to the south by Brownwood; to the west by Abilene.

In addition, Herman received the Distinguished Service award for the Denton Noon Rotary Club. Herman has worked on the Children of Chinandega Dump project for the last two years. He and his wife, Johanna, have spent time in Nicaragua delivering donated

clothing, books and medical supplies. Herman led a team of Rotarians who built a school house and a medical clinic in Chinandega.

Harv Kitchens was named Rotarian of the Year for the Denton Noon Rotary Club. He is an active member of the 90-member club and was the chair for the 2007 Mardi Gras-themed fundraising event. The proceeds from the fundraiser benefited local and international charities sponsored by Rotary.

Rotary International members are business, professional and community leaders from all walks of life who are united in a common goal of promoting world peace through humanitarian and educational service.

Hats off to these outstanding citizens. We're proud you are a part of our Town.

**Herman Oosterwijk at work in Nicaragua**



## Spelling Dilemma Resolved. . .by Virden Seybold

Since the founding of Cross Roads in 1973, the Town name has been spelled with two words- "Cross Roads." Then came the ruling from the US Post Office that if residents didn't want their mailing address to be Aubrey, they could use Crossroads, spelled as one word. The post office said there was another town in Texas with the same name spelled as two words, so our town had to be spelled as one word to avoid making any postal mistakes.

Residents of our Town soon began to realize that it didn't make any difference whether their letters bore the Town's name in two words or one word. They still got all their mail as long as the zip code was 76227.

The problem was compounded because some people bought and

sold property with the spelling as one word. However, *officially* the Town had not changed the spelling, so there was confusion at the County level when sales were recorded. Also, businesses were not sure whether to put up signs using one or two words to spell the town name. When articles appeared in the paper the name of the town was spelled both ways.

In order to finally put an end to this dilemma, the Council at the last Town Council meeting ruled that the official spelling of the Town is two words: "Cross Roads."

Hence all property transactions must be recorded as "Cross Roads;" all approved signs must read "Cross Roads;" and all other official and non-official use of the name should be written as "Cross Roads."

*Is that Crossroads or Cross Roads?*

## New Doctor in Town

Meet Dr. Michael Auvenshine, M.D., who will be relocating his practice to Cross Roads this summer. His office of Family and Sports Medicine will be in the Presbyterian medical plaza at 3201 Highway 380 Suite 101. Featuring same-day appointments, he will have openings available for wellness exams, sick visits, splinting/casting, and minor emergencies.

Dr. Auvenshine graduated from UT Southwestern in Dallas, and completed his residency at Texas Tech Health Science Center in Lubbock. He completed a Fellowship in Sports Medicine. While doing his medical school studies and residency, he served on the medical staff at Camp Sweeney, a summer camp in Callisburg, Texas, for children with diabetes.

Dr. Auvenshine recently married in Pilot Point, and is settling into the area. He said, "I enjoy being back... in this part of Texas. I like the small town kind of feel, but I like being close to the city for big sporting events, concerts and shows."

The Medical Clinic of North Texas is the management group that offered Dr. Auvenshine his position at the Cross Roads office.



Dr. Michael Auvenshine  
[www.MCNT.com](http://www.MCNT.com)



## Wood from Cross Roads Trees Available

**Do you have a project requiring beautiful oak wood? Are you a crafter who enjoys making things from wood?**

There are still some oak logs available for lumber or craft wood from the trees taken from the property at the northeast corner of Highway 380 and FM 424. The logs have been clearly marked as Cross Roads oak logs and have been taken to Woods of Mission in Sanger for cutting into lumber.

These logs are all oak and range in size from 6 to 13 feet long. The lumber can be cut into whatever size you desire based on availability at the time of your order.

This wood can be used in a home or for all types of projects:

- Mantles
- Ceiling Beams
- Stair Railings
- Carving/wood turning

The wood can be ordered and purchased based on your specifications. You will need to advise Woods of Mission of the following when you call:

- Size of lumber (example 2" X 6" X 10 foot)
- Quantity of each size
- Rough or planed
- Dried or green

Pricing will depend upon the specifications you provide to Woods of Mission. You **MUST TELL THEM YOU ARE FROM CROSS ROADS AND WANT CROSS ROADS WOOD** to receive the Cross Roads wood and the Cross Roads pricing.

**To order your lumber, please contact Woods of Mission directly at 940-458-4750.**

## County-Maintained Bridge on Naylor Road Impassable



The county-maintained bridge on Naylor road, just south of Cross Roads town limits, was left impassable following rains that washed out the substructure. A huge crevasse remains where rock used to be compacted over culverts. For further information, contact the county commissioner for Precinct 1, Cynthia White, at 940-349-2810.

## **TOWN OF CROSS ROADS, TX.**

*Harv Kitchens, Mayor  
Ross Schraeder, Mayor Pro Tem  
Michelle Meek, Council Member  
Dan Prins, Council Member  
Tony Russo, Council Member  
Virden Seybold, Council Member  
Katherine Ritchie, Town  
Administrator  
Judy Moudy, Admin. Assist.  
Jeanie Burch, Editor*

**Town of Cross Roads  
1401 FM 424  
Cross Roads, TX 76227**

PHONE: 940-365-9693  
FAX: 940-665-6898  
[www.crossroadstx.gov](http://www.crossroadstx.gov)

## **Dates to Remember**

- Town Council Meetings are the second Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.
- Tree Protection and Preservation meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.
- Planning and Zoning Commission meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.
- Comprehensive Planning Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.
- Road Repair Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the Council Meeting.
- All meetings are posted on the Town Hall bulletin board 72 hours prior to meeting.

*Enjoy a safe and happy  
remainder of the summer.*

Town of Cross Roads  
1401 FM 424  
Cross Roads, TX 76227