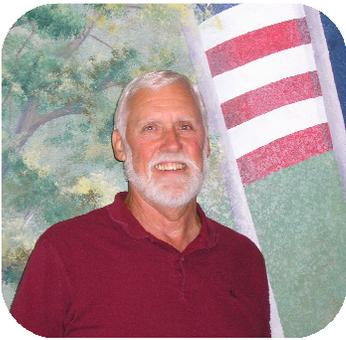


The Cross Roads Times

Quarterly Publication of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas (Denton County)

From the Mayor's Desk

by Harv Kitchens, Mayor



Financial Report

The headlines are filled with news about municipalities and businesses being in financial trouble. We want each citizen to know that the financial condition of the Town of Cross Roads is excellent!

Most municipalities are preparing their budget for next year and are considering the need to increase property taxes to cover their shortfall. As most citizens of Cross Roads know, we do not have property taxes in the Town of Cross Roads. Our goal is to continue with this plan in the future.

Our revenues are almost totally driven by our sales tax receipts. This plan has worked well. Recently, an article in the Denton Record Chronicle

indicated that the Year-To-Date (January - June) total collections for the Town of Cross Roads were behind last year's revenues more than any other city in Denton County.

This statement was very misleading. Last year we collected \$126,967 in previous period taxes that had not been reported promptly to the State Comptroller. This previous period of tax collection was later deposited into our town account in 2008 and consequently showed a temporarily large monthly increase in sales taxes collected. That tax is now being collected and reported monthly as it should be. When this previous period tax collection is subtracted from our total sales tax receipts, our sales tax receipts last year were \$103,672 versus \$163,019 for 2009 (Jan thru June) - an increase of 57.24 %. Our Sales Tax revenues for fiscal year 2008-2009 have exceeded our budget year to date.

Our assets at the beginning of this fiscal year, October 1,

Volume 8 Issue 3

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*Run or walk the Lake Lewisville Bridge
August 1, 2009*

2008 were \$905,529 and our current assets as of June 30, 2009 were \$1,009,785. We have managed our expenses well and have completed \$141,372 in road repairs and replacement. Even after completing these projects and others, we have increased our current assets by \$104,256.

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From the Mayor's Desk...(continued)

Planning has begun on our 2009-2010 budget. Our future financial goals are to continue to reduce the Sheriff's Department and fire protection costs and to avoid the need for a property tax increase. The budget Department from EMT and fire protection. By using this method we are managing our funds and not creating large overhead departmental costs.



New Council members Becky Porter and Steve Smith are being sworn into office with incumbent Virden Seybold by Mayor Harv Kitchens.

Katherine's Corner ... by Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator

The Town of Cross Roads, the City of Aubrey Fire Department, and the Office of Insurance Services are working together to lower the OIS fire protection rating in The Town of Cross Roads. All of the required documentation has been submitted to the Office of Insurance Services for review and evaluation. If Cross Roads qualifies for a lower rating, your homeowner's insurance rates could be lowered. I will keep you informed of our progress.

ODDS & ENDS

TOWN PARK IMPROVEMENTS The Park Board has begun the addition of 3 more picnic table sites and a monument sign for the Town Park.

TOWN WEBSITE You can find the town's website at www.crossroadstx.gov.

MEETINGS Town Council, Planning & Zoning Commission, Comprehensive Planning Committee, Park Board and Road Repair Committee agendas are posted for review. All citizens are invited to attend all meetings. Some committees are in need of members, so if you would like to serve your community please come to a meeting or call Town Hall with questions.

CAREFLITE UPDATE Remember to complete a CareFlite membership form and return it to Town Hall, if you did not submit a form last year. Your CareFlite membership is free to you as long as it continues to be paid by the Town of Cross Roads.

HEALTH & SAFETY Do you know that there is a "24 Hour Emergency Room" available within 4 miles of Town Hall? The Magnolia Medical Center is located on the north side of Highway 380 at 26791 Highway 380, Aubrey, TX 76227. The telephone number of the emergency room is (972) 347-2525. Some of the services available are diagnostic imaging services,

Continued on Page 3

Katherine's Corner ... (continued)

CODE ENFORCEMENT Code Enforcement Officer Mike Carroll has reviewed the town's ordinances and has begun contacting individuals regarding code compliance. If you have been contacted by Officer Carroll, please follow his voluntary compliance directions to avoid being

issued a ticket by the Town to correct the violation.

MEET NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

New Council Member **Becky Porter** has been, and still remains involved with Cross Roads as Chairperson of the Park Board.

Becky has been married to Robert for 34 years, and they have two grown children. Becky's interests include bow hunting, fishing, quilting and traveling.

Becky taught elementary school for ten years. She has two Masters Degrees. She also has taught at the college level. She has traveled worldwide and is a leader for the People to People Student Ambassador organization founded by Dwight D. Eisenhower. She works with



New Council Member **Steve Smith** has served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for two and a half years. He is such a fan of Cross Roads that he convinced his parents to move here recently when they retired.

Steve and his wife, Jennifer, have three elementary-aged children. They live in the Spring Mountain Ranch subdivision. Steve's hope for Cross Roads is that the City Council will continue to intelligently manage the inevitable growth of the Town.

Run the Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge
August 1, 2009 • 8 am until noon

The LLTB corridor is approximately 13.8 miles and creates an east-west connection between I-35E and the Dallas North Tollway. It includes improvements to the portions of roadway that follow existing western and eastern arterials near Lewisville Lake. The corridor is divided into eight sections, with Section 2 designated as the toll bridge.

Participate in this historical opportunity to run across the new Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge prior to being open. The City of Lake Dallas, Town of Little Elm, Denton County, TxDOT, and NTTA will host a 5K run and Family Fun Walk across the bridge. Come be a part of history as we celebrate the much anticipated bridge across Lewisville Lake!

Sponsorship as well as many volunteers are needed. The 5k race is limited to the first 2500 registrants, \$30 entry fee, register online. The Family Fun Walk begins at 10 am, please bring a food item to donate.

Access to the bridge will only be possible on the Lake Dallas side, where parking is limited. Visit the website for a printable map of parking areas and shuttle schedules. Shuttles will bring participants to the staging area. Volunteers for manning water stations, t-shirt distribution, set-up and break-down can register online. Event planners anticipate 10,000 participants, so there's a huge need for volunteers.

www.runlltb.com

Welcome New Citizens

Jim & Linda Hampton, 2701 Oak Point Drive

Gerardo & Olga Perez, 3301 Mill Creek

James & Marie Hoffpauir, 1985 Woodland

Matthew Fox, 117 Las Colinas

Carl & Cassie Smith, 950 Spring Mountain Road

Richard & Katherine Leach, 4000 Historic Lane

Tim & Carol Chambers, 3300 Oak Point

Geraldine Whitley, 1950 Oak Shores Court

William & Lisa Dandridge, 1450 Timber Ridge Trail

Christian Haggmark, 1511 Keyes Lane

Matt Jennings, 212 Lake Way

John & Rebecca Gibson, 3300 W. Oak Shores

Lino & Consuela Mora, 8600 Hwy 380

Gary Foss, 3901 Oak Point Drive

Angelee Bazemore, 209 Lake Way

James & Mica Bates, 4400 Oak Shores Circle

Pat & Paul Smith, 2000 Hidden Creek Court

Eva Marie Smith, 2600 Tipps Road

Brent Scott, 1810 Waterstone

Citizen Response Guidelines ...

by Larry Fisher

From time-to-time, each of us faces situations where we may need to call for critical assistance or to resolve a problem. For example, some of these situations may arise from a personal or family emergency such as the need for immediate medical attention or to report observing a burglary in progress. At other times, we encounter an important situation that needs to be addressed but does not constitute an immediate emergency, such as a missing street sign or seeing a piece of old furniture that has apparently been abandoned in one of the Town's roadside ditches.

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Kernels from Kay

When I was approached to submit a humorous article for the Cross Roads newsletter I wondered what I would find to write about-- but since most of my life tends to be humorous, at least to me, I figured I could come up with something. To begin with I thought I would share some bits of wisdom gleaned about husbands after almost 42 years of marriage. So here they are (and I'm sure most of you could add your own -- I would certainly be glad to receive them.

1. When venting to your husband about something that is bothering you, do not expect him to react with sympathy and a crying towel. Men are mammoth hunters. He will attempt to solve your problem by giving you reasonable solutions, instead of allowing you to wallow in your misery. Vent to a girl friend.

2. Husbands do not enjoy quaint, little shops that reek of potpourri. Take your girl friends instead.

3. Regardless of how loving a grandfather is, a dirty diaper is still a dirty diaper.

4. When a man cooks dinner it involves turning on the grill, throwing something on it and opening a can of beans and a package of pre-mixed salad greens. Smile and say "thank you."

5. When a man cooks dinner it does not involve cleaning up. Smile and say "thank you" anyway.

6. A man may have lived in the same house for 50 years and will still not know where the kitchen utensils are stored.

7. We still love them anyway

Kay Lamb

Citizen Response Guidelines... *(continued)*

While the Town hopes the following list of situations and their categorization is helpful to you in determining what your response might be, please recognize that this information is only a guideline to help you contact assistance. This list cannot address every potential situation that you may encounter. First and foremost, you must continue using your best judgment to determine the most effective way to deal with an emergency. In many cases, only you will have access to the important information needed to take timely action during an emergency.

Please consider posting the Call List (below) where you can have easy access to it.

Emergency Situations Call List



Emergency Situations (Call 911 day or night.)

- Fire
- Family health emergency (to request an ambulance or CareFlite transportation)
- Traffic accident (both personal injury and non-injury traffic accidents)
- Break-in or burglary in progress
- Weather (tornado, ice storm, highway flooding)
- Local street flooding or a bridge washed out

Local Town of Cross Roads concerns and issues

(Call Town Hall of Cross Roads at 940-365-9693 during normal Town business hours.)

- Code/ordinance violations
 - Door-to-door sales
 - Bar ditch obstructions
 - Illegal business activity
 - Tall grass/weeds
 - Illegal signs
- Road problems
 - Potholes
 - Missing road/stop signs
- Illegal dumping of trash in ditches or on roadways

Other

- Denton County fire ban information (Call the Denton County Fire Marshal at 940-349-2840 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Saturday through Sunday a recording will provide information and instructions regarding open burning for the day.)



Please remove this page and post it in your home or business.

Cross Roads C-Store ... by Larry Fisher



Yion Dang



Yion Dang and her daughter Barbara Lin own the Cross Roads C-Store, otherwise known to many of us as “the Shell station and Dickey’s BBQ”. In describing her mother, Barbara tells us, “My mother Yion Dang has had over 30 years of retail experience. Growing up she would tell us (her daughters) stories of her working at the local 7/11 gas station until wee hours of the night. Even exhausted she had to make ends meet to provide for her young family. Her strong work ethic, hard work, and perseverance made her a success today.” If you sense the pride Barbara takes in her mother and her accomplishments then you will also sense the pride she takes in customer service at their place of business.

Barbara continues, “We purchased C-Store Gas in 2005 and the business is growing every year. We have a great loyal customer base. Our customers like to keep coming back because we offer fast and friendly service, fresh and quality food at a competitive price.”

I experienced that fast and friendly service this very morning as I ducked in for a quick breakfast burrito. Although the store was busy with a constant flow of customers getting gas and picking up the necessities for a day of busy activities, I quickly made my breakfast selection and was on my way in a few minutes, delicious food in hand!

“Everyone enjoys our two options at Dickey’s (drive through/pick up or our casual dine in)”, says Barbara. “The quality of food is fresh because it’s made every morning. We also serve breakfast tacos (egg/bacon/or sausage/cheese/jalapeno) and biscuit for under \$2.00.”

You will find that the C-Store supplies everything from basic household necessities to a mouth-watering BBQ dinner for your family. My family agrees that this level of convenience can’t be beat. It’s a fast, friendly one-stop shopping experience for our local Cross Roads residents.

Barbara also asked that I please mention that they are having a Dickey’s Family Special Pack sale. It’s good on any weekend for \$21.99 (1 pound sausage, 1 pound brisket, and your choice of three vegetables) instead of the regular price of \$24.99. I don’t know what you and your family will be eating during this hot Texas summer, but doesn’t a family style serving of Dickey’s famous BBQ with all the fixin’s sound mighty tasty in the comfort of your air conditioned home? If so, I know the place to go!

One Step Beyond ... by Ross Schraeder

Herman and Johanna Oosterwijk, citizens of the Town of Cross Roads, have taken one step beyond the normal contributions in the support of those in need of help. Their support of the children in Nicaragua is beyond what most of us do for charities. Herman, traveling the world in his profession as trainer of people using medical imaging equipment, has had the opportunity to personally see many areas of need. While traveling with a Rotarian group in Nicaragua he realized that it was the place he could make a significant impact. He determined that with his direction and minimal financial support he could make a major impact on the health and survival of the children in the outlying areas of the country.

In Nicaragua, because rural families travel mostly by horse or by walking, remote areas may be only 20-40 miles from a significant city. As a result, families have a hard time getting to schools and medical clinics. For example, a mother with four children and no husband (which is typical in rural Nicaragua) has essentially no way to travel. As a result, the children go without education and without preventive medical care.

Herman realized that he could make a significant contribution to solving this problem by establishing small clinics and schools in these rural areas. The Oosterwijks raise money and collect contributions of medical equipment, arrange for Nicaraguan government support, and travel to Nicaragua each year

to supervise the building of one of these facilities with local labor.

The facilities being built in the rural areas of Nicaragua have to be within walking distance for the people who are going to be served by them. The facilities are small and practical. A clinic must have two rooms, a water well, electrical service and an outhouse. The land

for the clinic is donated and the government provides the electricity once the facility is



built. The picture below shows one of the clinics where children may receive preventive care. One of these facilities has had over 10,000 patients in one year and as many as 180 in one day. The government provides doctors and nurses as needed

In addition to building four clinics over the past five years, Herman and Johanna have also built a school with a playground and provided books and supplies. The school has three rooms, one for kindergarten, one for grades 1 through 4, and one for grades 5 through 8. Students in the 7th and 8th grades become valuable workers in the sugar cane fields, so the school is now serving a lunch of rice and beans to try to keep the older students

You may contact Johanna Oosterwijk at 940-440-9791.

in school. The average school attendance is between 60 and 90. Of those students attending, about 75 are being served lunch.

Some of the workers who help construct the buildings are paid the equivalent of \$7 per day for their skilled labor, but most of them are volunteers. In addition to building a new building each year, in 2008 and 2009 buildings



were expanded, additional medical equipment was provided, and hygiene packets were given to over 250 children

The cost to build a two-room clinic, outhouse and drill a fresh-water well is about \$17,000. The furniture and medical equipment are donated by people in the USA. Herman and Johanna fly to Nicaragua annually at their own



www.fonclub.org

Town of Cross Roads, Texas

Harv Kitchens, Mayor

Ross Schraeder, Mayor Pro Tem

Becky Porter, Council Member

Tony Russo, Council Member

Virden Seybold, Council Member

Steve Smith, Council Member

Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator

Judy Moudy, Admin. Assist.

Jeanie Burch, Editor

Cross Roads Town Hall

PHONE: 940-365-9693

FAX: 940-665-6898



TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULE

Town Council Meetings 2nd Monday of the month

Planning & Zoning Commission meetings 4th Tuesday of the month

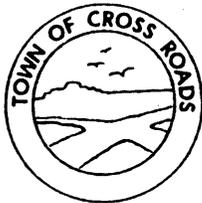
Road Repair Committee meetings the Thursday before the Town Council meeting

Comprehensive Planning Committee meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month

Town Council Workshop Meetings 4th Monday of the month

Park Board Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of the Month

All meetings except Town Council Workshop start at 7:00 pm; Council Workshop starts at 5:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public and held at Town Hall unless specified on the agendas, which are posted on the front window of Town Hall. Please call Katherine Ritchie at Town Hall if you would like to join a committee to serve your community.



Town of Cross Roads

1401 FM 424

Cross Roads, TX 76227