

Andy Sommerman
Dallas County Commissioner
District 2 Newsletter



APRIL 2024



Picture Credit: Shawn E. Presley

Nationwide Seminar

On Thursday, April 18th, I had a wonderful c time speaking at the Nationwide Seminar, inspiring employees of Dallas County to enroll in a retirement program. We also had an engaging conversation about kiwis



Active Shooter Refresher Course

On April 23rd, my staff and I attended an Active Shooter Refresher Course, where Billy Gipson, Aaron Street, and Scott Forster from Dallas County Homeland Security & Emergency Management educated us on the steps to take if an active attacker entered our workplace.

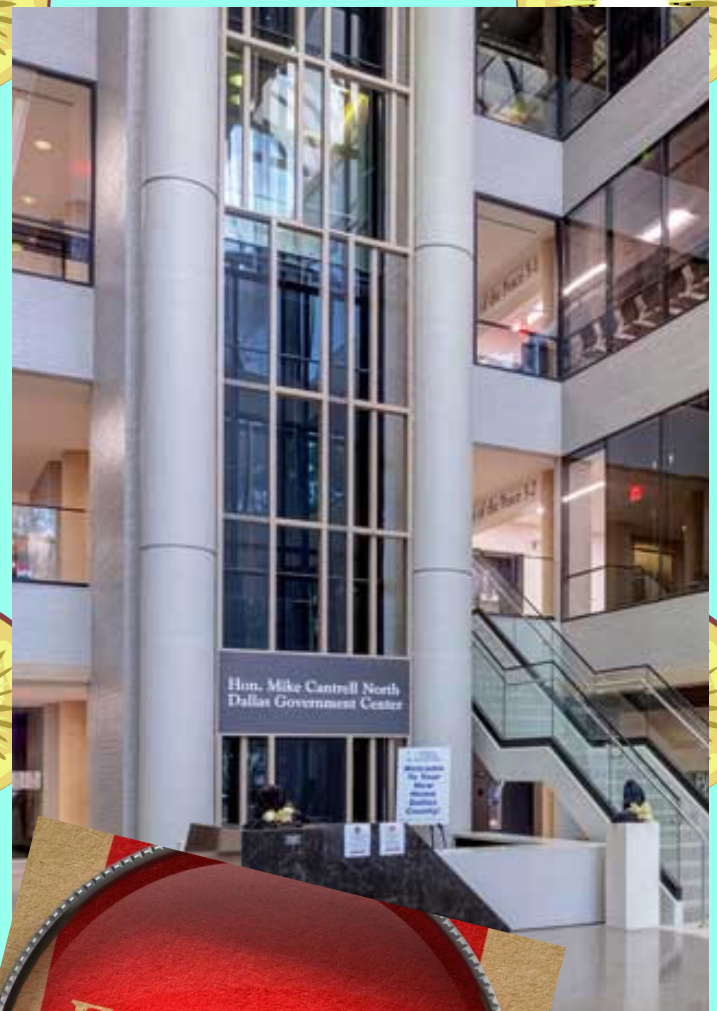
3 TAKEAWAYS

Run- move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible because the more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better.

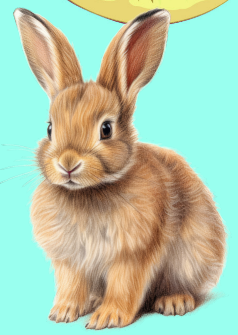
Hide - If running away is difficult or seems impossible...

Find a hiding place, barricade it, turn off the lights, silence your phone and remain out of sight and quiet by hiding behind large objects.

Fight - if you cannot run or hide, be prepared to defend yourself. Be aggressive and committed to your actions - this is about survival and you have the right to protect yourself.



National Animal Therapy Day - April 30th



National Animal Therapy Day aims to recognize and honor therapy animals who comfort and help heal their companion (handler). Therapy animals help lower anxiety, reduce stress, and increase mental stimulation. National Animal Therapy Day raises awareness & educates people about the importance of therapy animals and how they can enhance the mental and physical well-being of humans.



What animals are used for therapy?

Most common animal used for therapy is dogs, but other types of animals such as cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, pigs, horses, dolphins, and birds can be used too. As long as the animal is well-trained and are able to provide the services needed by the handler.



Earth Day



Earth Day is celebrated on April 30th around the world. This day celebrates Earth's environmental diversity and raises awareness of harmful causes that destroy our ecosystem & planet and highlights actions we can take to protect our planet.

Ways we can protect it



1. Reduce, reuse, and recycle – Cut down on what you throw away.
2. Conserve Water – The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater will end up in the ocean.
3. Educate yourself and others on the value of our natural resources.
4. Shop Wisely – Buy less plastic and use a reusable shopping bag.
5. Volunteer for park and community clean-ups.
6. Turn off lights to conserve electricity.
7. Plant trees! Trees convert carbon dioxide into oxygen.

Events Around District 2



*Metrocrest Services
Building Tour 4/4*



*Dallas District 11 -
Trash-a-thon 4/13*

Events Around District 2

Leadership Forum & Awards Celebration April 30th



Left to Right:

Liz - Cedillo, Esq. Asst. City Manager - City of Dallas;

Marcellene Malouf, Esq. Chair, Dallas County Child Welfare Board;

Sarah Saldana, Former Chief of ICE Homeland Security;

Deborah Roberts, Journalist;

Hon. **Teresa Guerra Snelson**;

Rebecca Greenan, Esq. Assistant Dean of Student Life, UNT Dallas College of Law;

Meg M. Fitzpatrick, Management Consultant, MMF Strategies.



Left to Right:

Dr. Ronica Watkins, Budget Officer;

Marcellene Malouf, Esq. Chair, Dallas County Child Welfare Board;

Hon. **Teresa Guerra Snelson**

WORD SCRAMBLE - Unscramble the words below!!

- 1. ULYSB**
- 2. HTEAR YDA**
- 3. AMDNARA**
- 4. IRLAP LSOOF YDA**
- 5. IOSNESCOMIMR**
- 6. DOSERCR LIDGUNBI**
- 7. KCAJOSN TS. RGGAAE**
- 8. LOIANTNA MLAANI AETPYRH AYD**
- 9. IDE**
- 10. LIAPR**
- 11. RTEESA**

Hints

1. On the 1st Floor of Records Building - has amazing food
2. Planet appreciation day
3. Month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community observed by Muslims worldwide.
4. Day where people play pranks and jokes.
5. ____ Court starts at 9 am on Tuesdays biweekly in Dallas County
6. Name of building where Commissioners Court takes place
7. Garage that was inaugurated on May 1st on Jackson St.
8. Recognizes and honors therapy animals who comfort and help people.
9. Celebration of successful completion of a month-long fast.
10. 4th month of the year
11. Marks the resurrection of Jesus three days after his death by crucifixion.



Have Great News in District 2 to add to the newsletter? Would you like Commissioner Sommerman to attend your next neighborhood meeting? Contact us at District2Office@dallascounty.org

GET THE NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX:

[DISTRICT2OFFICE@DALLASCOUNTY.ORG](mailto:District2Office@dallascounty.org)

ANSWERS TO WORD SCRAMBLE

1. LUBYS
2. EARTH DAY
3. RAMADAN
4. APRIL FOOLS DAY
5. COMMISSIONER
6. RECORDS BUILDING
7. JACKSON ST. GARAGE
8. NATIONAL ANIMAL THERAPY
DAY
9. EID
10. APRIL
11. EASTER

