“Well, it’s September. And that means a couple of things. First, it means FOOTBALL!!! So glad to have the Cowboys back playing in District 93 and college teams all across the state taking the gridiron. Second, the cool weather SHOULD be here. We go from the hot of the summer to the cool of the fall. Although District 93 isn’t known for its fall foliage like New England, there are some beautiful places where you can tell the leaves are turning colors.

Finally, September means school has begun. To all of the administrators, teachers, faculty, students, and parents, we pray for a very successful year inside the classroom. Ironically, many of life’s great lessons are learned outside of the classroom. And nothing is more important to a child’s educational development than an active and engaged parent. I encourage each and every parent to commit themselves to being more engaged during this school year. It won’t be a wasted effort and the return on the investment is likely to be immeasurable. Good luck this school year!”

SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEW:
KELLER MAYOR MARK MATHEWS
By Ernest Dominick, TCU Senior

Q: What are the City of Keller’s Core Values?

A: “Keller’s core values are: Communication, Excellence, Service, and my personal favorite, Integrity. I like that one in particular because I believe it’s important to always do the right thing.”

Q: Favorite part of the job?

A: “Speaking to youth on the role of government. I believe our Democracy is unique and that it should be appreciated, not taken for granted.”

Q: Any current projects that you can share?

A: “We are very excited about our 4.25 million dollar update to the downtown main street area, also known as Old Town Keller. Our primary objective with the update is to promote business growth. The expansion will include new restaurants like 7-Mile Cafe and Roscoe’s Smokehouse. It will also add approximately
100 parking spaces. We consider Old Town Keller the heart of dining and entertainment and are excited about its completion at the end of the year.

We are also constructing a 1.7 acre Dog Park between Town Hall and Keller Pointe. After reviewing several surveys of the park system, the dog park was consistently one of the highest recommendations. It was something we knew could be done, so we did it.”

Q: Any misconceptions that people have about being mayor?

A: “Despite what people think, being mayor is a volunteer, uncompensated position. And I accomplish that with my amazing team. Through the history and culture of past leaders, Keller citizens expect a lot of value out of their tax dollars.”

Q: What’s the one reason you love to wake up and go to work?

A: “The opportunity to help others by leaving people and teams better than I found them.”

Q: Any fun facts we should know about?

A: “I’ve had the opportunity to travel quite a bit. I’ve been to over 40 countries but my favorite three would have to be: South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia.”

Q: What does leadership mean to you?

A: “Leadership is servanthood. Helping others be better. To me, it’s not about what I do, but how I am. I leave something better than I found it.”

Q: What is your favorite ice-cream flavor?

A: “Right now I’m really into Blue Bell’s Cookie Two Step flavor.”
Monday, September 5th is LABOR DAY!

### September 22nd is North Texas Giving Day

“North Texas Giving Day is an online giving event for people across the nation (and the world!) to come together to raise as much money as possible for North Texas nonprofits on one day: September 22, 2016. In seven years, North Texas Giving Day has pumped more than $119 million into the North Texas community. In 2015, $33 million was raised through more than 118,000 gifts benefitting 2,020 nonprofits.” #NTXGivingDay

### HD 93 Chambers of Commerce Events

- **Arlington:** September 13, 2016  Ribbon Cutting Ebby Halliday - Beth Luton
- **Arlington:** September 29, 2016  2016 Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner
- **Fort Worth:** September 13, 2016  Coffee & Conversation - Central Area Council
- **Fort Worth:** September 19, 2016  30th Annual Chamber Golf Classic
- **Keller:** September 15, 2016  Providence Bank of Texas Ribbon Cutting
- **Keller:** September 19, 2016  Golf Under the Stars
- **Northeast Tarrant:** September 23, 2016  Shining Stars Luncheon
- **Northeast Tarrant:** September 24, 2016  Boots & Bling Casino Night
- **Northwest Metroport:** September 8, 2016  Ambassador Meeting
- **Northwest Metroport:** September 29, 2016  Ribbon Cutting Providence Bank of Texas - North Fort Worth
- **Saginaw:** September 13, 2016  SACC Board Meeting
- **Saginaw:** September 15, 2016  Breakfast Eye Opener

### Some Upcoming Events in HD 93 Cities

**Keller Yard Waste Drop-Off Day**

1792 Ottinger Road  
Keller, Texas 76262

“It’s Yard Waste Drop-Off Day every first and third Saturday of each month when you can get rid of your ‘green’ yard waste such as grass clippings, leaves, branches, stable matter and brush for free. You can drop off these items from 8 a.m. to noon. This service is available to all Keller residents or their lawn service (with a permit issued by the city). Proof of residency is required to use the site, so bring a current driver’s license or water bill. Materials collected will be composted and reused in our city parks.
“Please keep in mind that if inclement weather takes place (persistent or heavy rain, ice or snow), the location will be closed for the safety of our residents and volunteers. There will be no make-up day for the canceled day.

For information about the program or to get a permit for your lawn service, contact the City Manager’s office at 817-743-4000 or townhall@cityofkeller.com.” More info here.

People Reaching People in District 93

Say no to Commuting Distraction

Community involvement is key to living a healthy, happy life in our neighborhoods & towns. Keller Library seeks to provide education opportunities and awareness about timely topics, such as their recent hosting of an event focusing on the issue of distracted driving.

The “It Can Wait” campaign demonstration provided participants an opportunity to experience road situations and potential distractions in virtual reality simulation.

As we return to the routine of school schedules and activities, as well as the new adventures of going off to school and jobs, there will be many things vying for our attention while behind the wheel of our cars/vehicles, riding bicycles, etc., even walking/jogging.

Driver and pedestrian awareness are key to safe commuting. Always be aware of your surroundings on and off the road. And if it is a distraction, wait until you are off the roadways. Keep your eyes on the road and your sights looking ahead, Texas.

TRIVIA

Did you know?

At 268,601 square miles, Texas is the largest state in the contiguous United States and is the second biggest state in the U.S. (only Alaska is bigger). Texas is larger than many nations of the world, including every country in Europe.

If it were a country, it would be the 40th largest country in the world, after Chile and Zambia. From facts.randomhistory.com/texasfacts.html

Photo courtesy of selfstorage.com
**SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT, & TOURISM**

**Texas Rangers**

Congratulations to the Texas Rangers and Michael Young, #10, Texas Rangers 2000 – 2013. Michael was inducted into the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame in a ceremony held before the game Saturday evening, July 30, 2016 at Globe Life Park in Arlington. Known for his incredible work ethic and inspiring leadership, Michael is the 20th player to be inducted into the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame.

**Dallas Cowboys**

The Cowboys open their regular season on Sunday, September 11th at 3:25pm at AT&T Stadium against the New York Giants!

“**Deep Blue** is an engaging documentary series focused on the rich history of the Dallas Cowboys. This series takes a deeper dive into stories to reveal the untold truths and emotions straight from the players, coaches and front office personnel who lived them. Each story is told in two ways: a 1 hour documentary and an interactive online experience on DallasCowboys.com.”
Construction is expected to wrap up late this year on $4.25 million in public improvements to Old Town Keller aimed at enhancing public infrastructure in the area, providing a unique shopping and dining destination for Keller residents and visitors, and spurring additional economic development growth along the Hwy. 377 corridor.

Plans for the project, which focuses on the portion of Old Town west of Hwy. 377 and south of Keller Parkway, include completing Lamar Street by extending it south to Pecan Street; expanding public parking by about 170 spaces; connecting Old Town to the city trail system; and improving lighting for both aesthetics and pedestrian safety.

Old Town visitors will also see upgraded streetscaping and landscaping with the project including gateway structures into the area and a more prominently featured train engine at the end of Vine Street, fencing along Hwy. 377 to improve pedestrian safety, and a pedestrian promenade cut through the middle of the project to encourage activity away from the highway.

Along the promenade, Old Town visitors will be able to enjoy outdoor seating, swings, a giant chess board and areas established for permanent and/or rotating public art displays.

Keep up with Old Town Keller’s progress at www.cityofkeller.com/OldTown.
EDUCATION

Welcome back, HD 93 Students!

Below is a map of our HD 93 area high school mascots; Eaton Eagles, International Leadership of Texas Keller Eagles, Central Chargers, Fossil Ridge Panthers, Carter-Riverside Eagles, Lamar Vikings, Summit International Preparatory.

Keller Citizens Academy
By Rachel Reynolds, City of Keller’s Public Information Officer

For 14 Keller citizens interested in learning more about the inner workings of their community, class began Sept. 1! The city this fall is hosting its inaugural Keller Citizens Academy, through which participants will enjoy tours, presentations, demonstrations and hands on activities focused on every aspect of municipal government from public safety to parks and recreation, community development to library services, and public works to public art.

Inspired by similar classes in other Texas communities and designed to motivate increased civic engagement, Keller’s nine week program will offer residents a crash course in municipal government, providing the opportunity to go behind the scenes at city facilities, engage with staff and gain a solid foundation for understanding how the city impacts their daily lives.

While the Class of 2016 is full, interested residents are encouraged to check out this fall’s schedule at www.cityofkeller.com/academy and plan to get their application in next year.
HD 93 ISD 2016-2017 News Highlights

Arlington ISD  Compliments of AISD STEM Academy

“To continue the goal of being a district with cutting edge learning experiences, AISD has partnered with The University of Texas at Arlington for a new STEM Academy – science, technology, engineering and math. Students will have the opportunity to earn high school and college credits along four pathways: engineering, biology/biomedical science, computer science and math/science.

The program debuted at Martin High School in fall 2015 with about 100 ninth graders from across the district, and 100 students will be added each year until the program enrolls about 400 students across grades 9-12. There are no fees associated with being a part of the STEM Academy. Students in the STEM Academy will have a chance to complete a number of first year STEM college courses prior to high school graduation. Students will also be able to advance their STEM education outside the classroom with opportunities such as internships, mentorships, job shadowing, community service, enrichment programs and summer learning opportunities.”

Fort Worth ISD

By Superintendent Dr. Kent Scribner

“From here on, the emphasis will be on Focus, Alignment, Expectations and Opportunity. This is not an initiative. It’s not a gimmick. It’s not the flavor of the month. This will be our framework for the next decade. It’s a system change – and it’s the way we will do business in the Fort Worth ISD.

We are implementing a framework for:
• focusing on what we know will improve student achievement
• planning and delivering effective, interactive lessons across all disciplines, resulting in increased student engagement
• aligning the District to move in one direction toward our mission: preparing all students for success in college, career and community leadership

This plan engages students with teachers, putting the emphasis on content and connections.

It provides:
A clear FOCUS for our work
Tight ALIGNMENT of programs
High EXPECTATIONS of educators and students
And expanded OPPORTUNITIES for everyone – both staff and kids.”
Keller ISD

By KISD Department of Communications

“Keller ISD welcomes its 35,000 students back to school on Tuesday, August 23, as the District opens three new campuses – Sunset Valley Elementary School, the Keller Early Learning Center South, and the Keller Center for Advanced Learning.

Sunset Valley represents Keller ISD’s 23rd elementary campus (kindergarten through fourth grade) and the District’s first located west of Interstate 35 West, while the Early Learning Center South is the District’s second early childhood (prekindergarten) campus. The Keller Center for Advanced Learning will host Career and Technical Education programs and will open to our CTE students August 29. Keller Center for Advanced Learning, will feature seven programs in its first year, with Phase II planned to open in 2017.”

Northwest ISD

By Anthony Tosie, NISD Communications Specialist

“The Academies of Northwest ISD provide high school students with the opportunity to prepare for a potential career or college major through the use of unique four year plans. Beginning with a student’s freshman year, he or she will embark on an academic path throughout high school that includes advanced training in an area of interest to prepare for entry level employment, an associate’s degree, a baccalaureate degree or other milestone.

Northwest ISD now offers a variety of academic paths through eight academies: Aeronautics & Aviation Sciences; Biomedical Sciences; Business Management & Entrepreneurship; Collegiate; Cosmetology; Culinary & Hospitality; Media Arts & Technology; and Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics. Though academies are housed at specific high schools, any incoming ninth grader can apply to attend the academy of his or her choice, regardless of campus.

To read more about Northwest ISD’s newest academy, which focuses on aeronautics and aviation, click here. For more information on the Academies of Northwest ISD program, click here.”

INFRASTRUCTURE

FM 156 (Blue Mound Road) Roadway Widening

Project Length: 3.845 miles
Description: The proposed improvements would include the reconstruction and widening of the existing two lane roadway with a raised median with a curb and gutter. The proposed roadway would include sidewalks separated from the roadway and shared use outside lanes to accommodate bicyclists.
Construction Cost: The current estimated construction cost is $40 million.
Estimated Project Construction to begin in 2018 and finish in 2020.”
K9 Pointe Dog Park
By Rachel Reynolds, City of Keller’s Public Information Officer

Keller’s four legged family members will have a new place to play come November when the city unveils its first dog park: K9 Pointe. Conveniently located in the heart of the city off Rufe Snow Drive beside The Keller Pointe Fitness and Aquatics Center, the park will be easily accessible from the Big Bear Creek Greenbelt trail system. Just shy of an acre large, K9 Pointe Dog Park will offer separate areas for large and small dogs as well as a shade pavilion, seating and fountains.