

CENTRAL DIVISION PRESS FORT WORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 2024 NEWSLETTER

Page 1 of 8





WELCOME CENTRAL DIVISION'S NEW COMMANDER

Hello Central Division, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Rob Stewart and I have recently been assigned as the new Central Division Commander. I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome and express how excited I am to be back in Central Division after nearly 17 years. Adam District was my first assignment after completing field training and I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to return to Central Division.

In the coming weeks, I plan to make several roll calls as an informal meet-and-greet so we can get to know each other. I believe in open respectful communication and I hope that everyone will be willing to share their perspectives and experiences when we meet. I look forward to working together to enhance the effectiveness and cohesiveness of our division.

I will office at 501 Jones St and my door is always open, and I am here to support you in your roles and ensure that our division maintains its reputation of setting the standard for professionalism and community service.

Newsletter Published By:

Eartha Pitre, M.A. Central Division Crime Prevention Specialist 501 Jones Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102

Office (817) 392-3997 or eartha.pitre@fortworthtexas.gov



<u>Pictured below</u>: Adam and Baker District Neighborhood Police Officers worked together to help unload a large truck full of items for *Cheryl's Voice*, a non-profit agency that helps victims and families of domestic violence. They receive donations from Amazon and put together toiletry kits for their clients in need.











TCTCPA cooks monthly for families at Ronald McDonald House



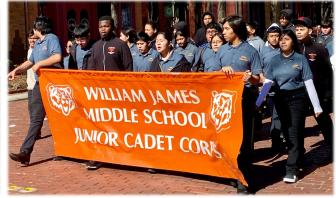
Downtown Security Group

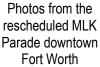
















The **37th edition** of the **MAIN ST. Fort Worth Arts Festival** takes place April 18 – 21, 2024! Downtown comes alive with incredible **Art**, fantastic **Music** and delicious **Food!** With new entertainment venues and over **200** juried artists from the local, regional and national areas, the MAIN ST. Fort Worth Arts Festival turns Downtown into Texas' largest and revered arts festivals!

For details visit https://mainstreetartsfest.org/festival-guide/



CAMP FORT WORTH 2024

School will be out soon, but the fun and learning doesn't have to stop. Enroll your children in Camp Fort Worth and let them discover new skills and friendships. The Camp Fort Worth program is full of challenging and creative activities for children ages 5 to 13.

Each day promises nonstop fun and excitement.

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. 2024 dates coming soon!

https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks/services/camp



Fort Worth pedals forward with innovative bike lane project

Article posted in City News

Last month, the Transportation & Public Works (TPW) Department held a public meeting in Council Districts 8 and 11 about the exciting East Fourth Street/First Street Bike Lane project that will debut new bike signal technology in Fort Worth.

Why it matters: The location was chosen to connect Gateway Park and downtown through designated bike lanes and special bike signals at three intersections. Bike detection pads communicate with standard signals showing a red, yellow or green stenciled bike signal.

<u>Go deeper:</u> Construction costs are estimated to be \$2.9 million and funding is provided by the North Central Texas Council of Governments through the Transportation Alternatives Project, which funds pedestrian bicycle related projects across the region.

<u>What's new:</u> One existing lane along East Fourth Street/East First Street will become a bike lane, which will run in both directions from I-35 to Haltom Road.

This project is going into construction and once installed, it will provide connectivity, innovation, safety, inclusivity, safe user experience with protected bike lane signals.





Both officers were nominated for NPO of the Year for the Annual Mayor's Neighborhood Awards

Historic Southside NA nominated Mike Marquez

Garden of Eden NA nominated Isaiah Garner (Recently Promoted)





Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

FREE TO COMMUNITY

Klabzuba Parking Garage Lot 1300 W. Terrell Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Free Parking for Attendees in the Klabzuba Parking Garage

(Entrance off of 6th Avenue)

No registration required. Any cancellation will be communicated by our Facebook page.

TexasHealth.org/FortWorth

Join Texas Health Fort Worth for a family-friendly safety event:

- Hands only CPR
- Life jacket and bicycle helmet fittings
- Home safety
- Child safety
- Drowning prevention
- Gun safety
- · Poison control tips
- Suicide prevention

- Food Trucks
- Fort Worth Fire Department
- · Fort Worth Police Department
- Hot Car Demo
- Emergency Vehicle Tours
- MedStar
- Stop the Bleed

AND, MUCH MORE!



*Write supplies tast. Disclors on the medical staffs practice independently and are not employees or agents of flexas Health hospitals or flexas Health Resources. © 2003

SM 2/24



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS

MARCH 10th

TURN YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR



Federal Trade Commission says H&R Block pressures people into overpaying for tax prep

By: Ari Lazarus

People hate filing taxes, but they love getting something for free. So, when H&R Block advertises that people can use its online tax product for free, people listen. The problem, according to the FTC? It often isn't free.

H&R Block's online tax product is free only if you meet H&R Block's definition of a "simple return," a tax situation that the FTC says many people think they have, but don't. It's also a tax situation that isn't defined — H&R Block can (and does) change what tax situations qualify for free at any time.

Once you're alerted that you don't qualify for the free version — after you've taken the time to enter in all your information — you're prompted to choose one of H&R Block's paid tax filing products. But what if you choose the wrong version and want to switch? You'll face major hurdles.

The FTC says that H&R Block makes it easy to upgrade to a more expensive version but adds barriers that make it difficult and burdensome to downgrade to cheaper products. Moving to a more expensive product? The information you already entered online is seamlessly transferred to the new product. But if you later realize you could get by with a cheaper version and ask to switch, H&R Block will wipe out all the information you had (painstakingly) put in. But that's not all. To downgrade, you'll also have to contact customer service (if you can even get through to an agent).

The result? The FTC says a lot of people are stuck paying for the more expensive product — that they didn't want or need — so they wouldn't have to reenter their tax info. Others abandoned their returns, having wasted hours of their time.



In the check-out line buying gift cards? Read on to avoid a scam

By Cristina Miranda, Consumer Education Specialist

If you're in the checkout line with a gift card (or several) in your hand, ask yourself: is the gift card you're buying for a gift? Or is someone on the phone with you as you're checking out telling you what to do – like buy a gift card to pay for something and give them the numbers? Gift cards are ONLY for gifts. That means if the gift card isn't for someone's birthday, anniversary, or for any other gift giving reason, it's a scam.

Gift card scammers only want your money. First they'll call, text, email, or send a social media message. Then comes a made-up story: They're from the government (pay taxes or a fine), tech support (something's wrong with your computer – pay to fix it), or you've won a prize (but pay for it first.) Other scammers might use Al voice cloning to sound like a family member in trouble. It's always urgent. They always want you to act fast or something bad will happen. And it's always a scam.

Think you gave gift card numbers to a scammer? Act fast. Grab your gift card and the gift card receipt. Then,

Report the gift card scam to the gift card company. It doesn't matter when the scam happened. Use this <u>How To Contact Gift Card Companies</u> list to report it.

Ask for your money back. Some companies are helping stop gift card scams and might give your money back. Always ask.