

The Bedford Citizen

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO GUIDE YOUR CITY

Vol. 1 No. 26

Monday

August 6, 2007

FEATURES

PERSONS TO BE HEARD DEADLINE

Anyone who intends to speak at next week's City Council Meeting as a "Person to Be Heard" must submit a written request no later than noon Wednesday.

A VERY SPECIAL LIBRARY THING

Last month Bedford Public Library became the second library in the nation to add Library Thing for Libraries to its online catalog.

COME AND MEET COUNCILMAN TURNER

Councilman Roy Turner will be available in the Starbucks at the corner of Central and Airport Freeway on Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to noon.

DIALING FOR THE HELP YOU NEED

And then there's 2-1-1 – the number for Texas Information and Referral, a service that connects people in Texas with health and human services in their community, as well as with information relative to state benefits and connections for reporting waste, fraud, and abuse.

WHO OWNS MY MINERAL RIGHTS?

The easy answer to this question was given at the July 23 Town Hall Meeting regarding the gas drilling ordinance: check your deed and check your title insurance document. If there is no mention of the mineral rights having been retained by the seller, or leased or sold, then you probably own them, but if you would like to have a little fun, you can search your own records.

ABOUT THIS E-NEWS

The mission of this electronic newspaper (e-news) is to increase citizen awareness of current events and thereby increase their involvement in our government's decision-making process. [Read more](#)

If you find this e-news helpful and informative, please help us grow by passing it along to others.

FEATURES

PERSONS TO BE HEARD DEADLINE

[Back to the top](#)

Anyone who intends to speak at next week's City Council Meeting as a "Person to Be Heard" must submit a written request no later than noon Wednesday. The request must include the speaker's name, address and phone number as well as the topic of discussion. It may be emailed to the City Secretary at:

sjennings@ci.bedford.tx.us

or mailed to:

Bedford City Hall
ATTN: City Secretary Shanae Jennings
2000 Forest Ridge Dr.
Bedford, TX 76021.

A VERY SPECIAL LIBRARY THING

By dona weisman

[Back to the top](#)

Last month Bedford Public Library became the second library in the nation to add Library Thing for Libraries to its online catalog. The new Amazon-like feel is intended to appeal to patrons of all ages as they search for books, DVDs, CDs and other library items from the library's homepage <http://www.bedfordlibrary.org/> or from computers in the library.

The new service allows library users to find out about items similar to those they like and to search for items using "tags". Unlike the controlled-vocabulary subjects that libraries traditionally use, tags (descriptors)

are subjects assigned by people using the items. For instance a person might assign the tags "serial killer" or "female friendship" to describe the book *6th Target* by James Patterson. Although those aren't traditional library subjects, they *are* useful to anyone who knows vaguely what the book is about but can't remember the name of it. Tags are useful, also, to anyone who liked that book and wants to find others like it.

In what's called a "tag cloud," subjects appear in sizes which reflect how frequently that subject or tag has been used in connection with the item question. The bigger the type, the more relevant a tag is to the item. Tags with very low relevance appear very small. Numbers in parenthesis after each tag indicate how frequently that tag has been used for that item.

The tag cloud for *6th Target*, then, looks like:

2006(11) **2007**(3) **20th century**(5) **21st c.**(4) **American Literature**(4) **Audible**(2) **audio**(4) **basement**(2) **Book**(5) **book 1**(2) **California**(8) **crime**(12) **Crime Fiction**(5) **Crime Thriller**(2) **detective**(13) **English**(4) **favorite author**(4) **female**(3) **Female friendship**(5) **fiction**(44) **First Edition**(4) **Hardcover**(9) **James Patterson**(17) **library book**(3) **Lindsay Boxer**(11) **mm**(3) **murder**(6) **mystery**(48) **Mystery fiction**(5) **mystery/suspense**(3) **OWN**(8) **pat**(2) **patterson**(4) **police**(3) **Private Collection**(5) **ps**(2) **read**(11) **read in 2006**(3) **San Francisco**(11) **San Fransisco**(5) **serial killer**(2) **serial murder**(4) **Serial murders**(2) **series**(24) **suspense**(15) **tbr**(8) **thriller**(28) **unread**(8) **women detectives**(6)

LibraryThing began as a website which allows a person or group to enter what they're reading or even their entire library into an easy, library-quality catalog. It can also connect people with others who share the same reading interests. To tour the site, go to:

<http://www.librarything.com/tour/>.

COME AND MEET COUNCILMAN TURNER

[Back to the top](#)

Councilman Roy Turner will be available in the Starbucks at the corner of Central and Airport Freeway on Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to noon.

This is your chance to come and share a cup of coffee and your views with him.

DIALING FOR THE HELP YOU NEED

By dona weisman

[Back to the top](#)

It's probably safe to say that most Americans recognize 9-1-1 as the number to dial for emergency assistance – police, ambulance, poison and fire. Dialing 4-1-1 will connect you – for a fee – with Directory Assistance for things like phone numbers and business addresses. Anyone with hearing impairment probably recognizes 7-1-1 as the number for RELAY TEXAS, which enables telephone communication between TTY (Text Telephone) users and hearing persons. And people in Dallas, and in other cities where the service is available, have come to know 3-1-1 as the number for non-emergency police and utility services in one's own city.

Not many people, it seems, know that 5-1-1 is a nationwide number used for traveler information and is promoted by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Intelligent Transport System initiative.

And then there's 2-1-1 – the number for Texas Information and Referral, a service that connects people in Texas with health and human services in their community, as well as with information relative to state benefits and connections for reporting waste, fraud, and abuse. This service is available by phone at 2-1-1 as well as through the Internet at:

<http://www.hhs.state.tx.us/tirn/aicsearch.asp>.

Through the 2-1-1 Texas website, it's possible to search information contained in databases of over 6,000 Texas-wide agencies. The companion 2-1-1 phone number enhances that service by connecting callers with knowledgeable, specialized staff that is local to this area. In other words, when you need help but don't know where to find it, call 2-1-1 or access the 2-1-1 Texas website.

Information and referral (2-1-1, option 1) is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year. Information can be provided in over 90 different languages. Eligibility Services/State Benefits (2-1-1, option 2) is available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 8 pm. The Office of Inspector General, to report waste, fraud, and abuse (2-1-1, option 3) is available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. A toll-free alternate access number, 1-877-541-7905, is available for calling from outside of Texas, or for anyone who

experiences technical difficulties when dialing 2-1-1.

To learn more about the service, go to the Frequently Asked Questions page at: <https://www.211texas.org/211/faq.jsp>.

dona weisman has been a Bedford resident since 2000 and a member of the Bedford Library Advisory Board since 2003. She has been a degreed librarian for 25 years and served as a public library consultant with the Texas State Library System for over a third of that time.

WHO OWNS MY MINERAL RIGHTS?

By Stu Updike

[Back to the top](#)

The easy answer to this question was given at the July 23 Town Hall Meeting regarding the gas drilling ordinance: check your deed and check your title insurance document. If there is no mention of the mineral rights having been retained by the seller, or leased or sold, then you probably own them, but if you would like to have a little fun, you can search your own records.

It is important to remember that we are all amateurs and there is no guarantee. If you find your mineral rights have been transferred away, then you know, but if you *do not* find that they have been transferred, the probability is very good that you still own them.

When the staff of The Bedford Citizen asked ourselves who owned our mineral rights? We did the natural thing and called the Tarrant County Clerk's Office and asked how we could find out. The clerk told us that we could hire a lawyer, or we could come down to room B30 in the basement of the Tarrant County Courthouse and do it

ourselves. So, off we went.

It turned out that there were some steps we needed to take before we went to B30. The first step you can perform before you even leave home if you have an Internet connection. Go to the Tarrant Appraisal District web site at:

<http://www.tad.org/default.asp>

From the menu selections on the left side, select **Property Data Search**. Enter your name to start the search and select your name from the resulting list. Then, your property information should display. Write down the "georeference" number. It will be in the form #####-##-## where the first five will locate your folder; the next group is your block number; and the last group is your lot number.

Now that you have your georeference number, grab a roll of dimes and head downtown. You will not be able to carry scissors, pocket knives or other weapons into the Courthouse, so leave them at home.

Your first mission is to go to the Tarrant County Administration Building, which is across Weatherford Street from the Courthouse. When you come through the front door, follow the right wall around to the right and you will come to a door with a sign-in sheet on a clipboard. Sign in and go through the door. On your immediate left is the copier. Just in front of you is a single stack perpendicular to your path, which houses the "abstracts". Behind the abstracts, there are four parallel stacks.

In the parallel stacks, locate the folders with your georeference number. Just to the

left of them, there will be a manila folder with the "master cards" in it. Locate the master card that has the plat of your subdivision on the back and copy it.



Now go to the folder that has your georeference number and block number on it and find the card inside that has your lot number on it. This card should record the sale of your house to the person who sold it to you. Copy this page.

Now go to the front of your master card and you will find a line that looks like:

"ABST. 202 BBB&C RR CO.,
SUR TR 1B1, 1C1, 1E1 ..."

In this example, you would now go to the abstracts, locate folder 202, and pull the cards that have 1B1, 1C1, 1E1 ... in the "Tract" box in the upper right corner. These represent the tracts that were brought together to make up the land that your developer subdivided. Copy all of them.

After you return your cards to their folder and the folder to the stack, you are ready to go across the street to the basement of the Courthouse.

Once in B30, you will want to search the documents referenced by each volume and page number on each of the pages you brought from the earlier search. In most cases, the volume number represents a microfilm cassette number. Most of these are located in the cabinets in the middle of the room with the microfilm readers. There are two different types of microfilm readers, two different types of microfilm and there are computers, so we will not go into how to use each device, but we found that the other searchers were very willing to help when asked.

After you have reviewed all of the documents referenced on all of your cards,

HISTORY STORAGE TARRANT COUNTY

ASSESSOR'S ABSTRACT OF CITY PROPERTY

REDFORD PARK ESTATES ADDITION CITY OF BEDFORD

ABSTRACT NO. 204 NAME BBB & C RR

LOT NO. 6 BLOCK NO. 3 MAP NO.

OWNERSHIP RECORD		KIND OF INSTR.	VOL.	PAGE	DATE	CONSIDERATION
Bedford Park Est Inc; Colony V Inc		PLAT	388-123	92	7 18 78	
Mid Cities Dev Corp The Ryland Group Inc		WD	6945	2219	6 6 80	10 00ovc
Steven C Reece & Nancy L		WD	6971	705 7	29 80	10 00ovc
Steven D Anderson et ux Linda		WD	7876	2120	6-21-84	10-00ovc

NUMBERS
CONTROL LOTS LOT
1987

if you have not found any reference to your mineral rights having been retained by the seller, or sold or leased, then you probably own them. On the other hand, if you do find that a transfer has taken place, then you can be pretty sure that you don't own them. Remember, this was just for fun and there

are no guarantees.

Prior to retiring in April, 2007, Stu Updike completed 27 years as a regional airline pilot. He has lived in Bedford since 1993.

FREE CLASS AT THE OLD BEDFORD SCHOOL

The Bedford Parks and Recreation Department and sponsor Scrapbook Warehouse have teamed up to offer a free scrapbooking class at the Old Bedford School on two Thursday evenings. The classes will be offered from 6-9 p.m. Aug. 16 and Sep. 20. Pre-registration is required

The hands-on class will explain such scrapbooking basics as where to start and which tools, supplies and techniques will save you time and money. Participants will produce a completed scrapbook page and be prepared to develop additional pages independently.

Participants should bring simple basic supplies, such as adhesive, cutting tools and pens. Pre-registration by phone (817/952-2323) or in person at the Boys Ranch Activity Center.

ONSTAGE in Bedford

The musical comedy *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* opens Fri. Aug. 10 at 8 p.m. and runs through Sat. Aug. 25 at the Trinity Arts Theater in the Bedford Boys Ranch Park. Performances are scheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and 2 p.m. on Saturdays throughout that period. Evening show tickets are \$15, and matinee tickets are \$10. For reservations, call 817/354-6444.

The musical, which features music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, was written by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart. The ONSTAGE in Bedford presentation is directed by Johnathan Wilson and choreographed by Alisa Behrens. Charles Whitehead is the Musical Director.

For additional details, including audition information, go to:
<http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us/Departments/tourism/onstage.htm>.

ABOUT THIS E-NEWS

[Back to the top](#)

The mission of this electronic newspaper (e-news) is to increase citizen awareness of current events and thereby increase their involvement in our government's decision-making process. As a result, *The Bedford Citizen* will focus on providing Bedford's residents with the information they need in order to cast an informed vote. We also will include occasionally some helpful and entertaining information.

The Bedford Citizen is currently a volunteer effort which we expect to be circulated from friend to friend via email in its PDF format. If you find it helpful and informative, please feel free to pass it along to others.

During this introductory period, the subscriptions are free. This will allow us to gauge the demand and work out the bugs. Eventually, we plan to charge a fee for subscriptions. This will allow us to avoid the conflicts of interest that can arise from accepting paid advertising.

Initially, we plan to publish an issue every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, subject to volunteer availability and the amount of news to report.

To subscribe, please send us an email at Be.A.Citizen@earthlink.net Please include your name, address and email address.

The Bedford Citizen welcomes free of charge:

- ◆ News articles from any volunteer writers, provided we judge the articles are relevant to our readers and the facts can be substantiated

- ◆ Position papers from political incumbents and candidates provided these position papers clearly state that person's position and they do not attack any other party

Our policies are as follows:

- ◆ *The Bedford Citizen* does not share or sell its mailing list information.
- ◆ Paid advertising is not accepted.
- ◆ Except when identified as editorials, letters to the editor or opinion pieces, stories will contain only facts that can be verified. Writers should expect to be asked to provide documentation before articles are published.
- ◆ All submitted articles must deal with issues relevant to Bedford's residents and not exceed two pages, as published in this format.
- ◆ Only one letter to the editor or opinion piece will be accepted from a single household during any 30-day period.
- ◆ Public service announcements will be included as space allows.
- ◆ The staff of the Bedford Citizen will be the final judge.
- ◆ Submissions must be received at least 72 hours prior to publication.
- ◆ Submissions should be sent to Be.A.Citizen@earthlink.net and must include the author's name, address, email address and phone number.