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DATE DISTRIBUTED 3/5/11 DATE OF ARTICLE 2/23/11 NEWSPAPER FWST

Area cities oppose Oncor rate hike

The Public Utility Commission will consider the company's request at a May 2 hearing.

By Aman Batheja
 abatheja@star-telegram.com

More than 140 Texas cities are fighting Oncor Electric Delivery's latest request to raise rates on residential electric bills.

Fort Worth, Arlington, Dallas and more than 30 other North Texas cities have adopted resolutions in recent weeks temporarily suspending Oncor's request to raise rates on residential customers by four-tenths of a cent per kilowatt-hour for the transmission and delivery of electricity.

Oncor spokeswoman Catherine Cuellar said the rate increase will allow the company to recover investments of more than \$2 billion that it has made since 2008, including infrastructure improvements to reduce the frequency and duration of outages.

Cities' resolutions

North Texas cities that have adopted resolutions suspending Oncor's rate increase request include:

Arlington, Bedford, Benbrook, Burleson, Cleburne, Colleyville, Crowley, Dallas, Edgecliff Village, Everman, Euless, Flower Mound, Forest Hill, Fort Worth, Haslet, Haltom City, Hurst, Irving, Kennedale, Keller, Lake Worth, Mansfield, North Richland Hills, Rhome, Richland Hills, River Oaks, Saginaw, Trophy Club, Watauga and White Settlement

Source: Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor

The size of the request has been met with indignation by elected officials representing the 146 cities that constitute the Steering Committee of Cities served by Oncor.

"I hope that through our group here, we can do everything we can to eliminate this," Colleyville Councilman Michael Muhm said recently.

The increase translates into a 14.6 percent increase

Rate requests

Current Oncor revenue increase request: **\$350 million**
 Potential impact on residential bills based on 1,300 kilowatt-hours use: **\$5**

2009 Oncor rate increase request: **\$275 million**

Amount granted by PUC: **\$115 million**
 Impact on residential bills based on 1,000 kilowatt-hours use: **\$2.92**

Sources: Oncor, PUC, Star-Telegram archives

in residential rates, a 15.5 percent increase in commercial rates, and a 25.9 percent increase in street lighting rates. "A 26 percent increase for street lights? That is ridiculous," North Richland Hills Councilman Tim Welch said. Cuellar said the response by the cities was expected. "The denial or suspension of the rate case at the municipal level is a typical step in the process so that the Public Utility Commission can set one rate for the entire Oncor area," Cuellar said.

The Dallas-based company officially made its request to the PUC last month, slightly more than a year after its last rate hike took effect.

The PUC has scheduled a May 2 hearing to consider Oncor's request, PUC spokesman Terry Hadley said.

Oncor provides electricity to 401 cities in 91 Texas counties. The average Oncor customer pays \$41 a month for transmission and delivery of electricity, she said. Under the rate increase, customers will pay \$46 a month for that service, or an extra \$60 over a year.

Muhm described as "laughable" Oncor's contention that a 14.6 percent bump in residential rates translates to only a \$60 annual increase in the average resident's electric bill.

Cuellar said the estimate is based on use of 1,300 kilowatts per month, which is what the PUC considers average for a single residential customer.

Oncor would receive \$350 million more in annual revenue under the rate increase, though its charges would still be lower than those of any other transmission and distribution utility of an investor-owned company in Texas. Oncor is a subsidiary of Energy Future Holdings, the former TXU Corp.

In 2009, the PUC granted Oncor a \$115 million annual revenue hike, leading to a rate increase of \$2.92 for a customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours, Hadley said.

Oncor had originally asked for a \$275 million annual revenue hike, in part to cover the cost of more than 600,000 automated meters that didn't fully meet the commission's smart meter standards. This report includes material from Star-Telegram archives.

Aman Batheja, 817-390-7695

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OBITUARIES

Sandra Kaye Baker Hicks

LINDALE — Sandra Kaye Baker Hicks, 63, of Lindale/Hideaway passed away Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011, at 5:28 a.m. in Tyler.

FUNERAL: 10 a.m. Monday at Caudle-Rutledge Funeral Home in Lindale. **GRAVESIDE SERVICE:** 4 p.m. in Bluebonnet Hills, Colleyville.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald Joe Hicks; and her parents, Charlie Bernice and Robert Baker.

SURVIVORS: Her son, Brandon Joe Hicks; granddaughters, Kesla and LeAndra Hicks; her brother and sister, Bobby Baker and Debi Chesney; and many nieces and nephews.

Caudle-Rutledge Funeral Directors
Lindale, 903-882-3141

View and sign guestbook at www.star-telegram.com/obituaries

Sister of former Council Member Bobby Baker.

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Election filings

Candidates who have filed to run for seats in the municipal and school board elections in Northeast Tarrant County on May 14. The filing period ends March 14.

Cities

Bedford

City Council Place 4

Raymond J. Champney (i), 70, marketing and business management consultant

City Council Place 6

Chris Brown (i), 22, college student

Sarah Sisson, 39, respiratory therapist

Colleyville

Place 3

Stan Hall (i), 65, retired

Place 4

Jody Short, 45, civil engineer

Euless

Mayor

Mary Lib Saleh (i), 80, homemaker

Place 2

Leon Hogg (i), 75, retired

Place 4

Donna Mickan (i), 68, retired

Grapevine

Place 5

Chris Coy (i), 44, sales manager

Place 6

Roy Stewart (i), 78, banking and real estate investor

Haslet

Mayor

Robert Golden (i), 67, retired

Place 4

Harold Williams (i), 59, self-employed

Hurst

Place 1

Charles Swearingen (i), 77, retired

Place 2

Larry Kitchens (i), 70, educator

Place 6

Henry Wilson (i), 65, engineer

Keller

Mayor

Pat McGrail (i), 65, retired

John Baker, 60, retired

Place 2

Gary Reaves, 60, attorney

Place 5

Mitch Holmes (i), 52, engineering group manager

Place 6

Doug Miller, 45, project manager

Online



Find complete election coverage at star-telegram.com/elections

North Richland Hills

Place 1

Steve A. Holleman, 41, administrative manager

Place 3

Tom Lombard (i), 54, software engineer

Place 5

David Whitson (i), 61, financial analyst

Place 7

Tim Welch (i), 52, civil engineer

Roanoke

Ward 1

Holly Gray-McPherson (i), 38, business developer

Ward 2

Brian Darby (i), 41, engineer

Ward 3

Steve Heath (i), 53, network support director

Southlake

Place 6

Pamela Muller (i), 59, retired

Mike Tilbury, 58, retired

Place 1

Martin Schelling, 56, real estate developer

Shahid Shafi, 46, surgeon

Trophy Club

Mayor

Connie White (i), 64, retired

Place 1

Bill Rose (i), 63, retired

School districts

Birdville

Place 1

Joe Tolbert (i), 49, attorney

Place 2

Dolores Webb (i), insurance agent

Place 4 (special election for one year on unexpired term)

David Pokluda, 56, home builder

Carroll

Place 1

Craig Rothmeier (i), 59, executive

Place 2

Bernie Ausdenmoore (i), 48, sales

Fred Stovall, 44, attorney

Place 3

Sue Armstrong (i), 45, homemaker

Grapevine-Colleyville

Place 5

Jesse G. Rodriguez (i), 59, senior account manager

Place 6

Leon Leal (i), 46, business owner and consultant

Place 7

Jorge Rodriguez (i), 40, engineer

Hurst-Euless-Bedford

Place 6

Andy Cargile (i), retired

Place 7

Mark Cyrier (i), business owner

Northwest

Place 5

Devonna Holland (i), 49, data banking manager

Place 7

Mel Fuller (i), 45, education consultant

Place 6

Richard Daniel (i), 47, finance director

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Italian eatery opens second area location

■ Betty Dillard

bdillard@bizpress.net

Downtown Fort Worth's dining scene has turned the tables once again with the recent addition of Saviano's, a family-owned and operated Italian restaurant now serving at 400 Houston St.

The new kid on Sundance Square's 35-block historic district takes the entire 4,400-square-foot prime spot of Zippy's All American Grill and Sammy's Pizza, both of which shuttered their doors in late 2010.

The new downtown Cowtown restaurant is the Italian eatery's second North Texas location. Savio "Sal" Alfieri and his sons, Giacomo and Anthony, opened Saviano's Italian Pizzeria and Restaurant

on Main Street in Euless 17 years ago. Sal will oversee the Fort Worth restaurant, while his sons will continue running the Euless business.

The Alfieri family has known its way around the kitchen for decades.

In 1978, Alfieri and his three brothers opened the first Saviano's on Long Island when Sal was just 17. His brothers still run the New York restaurant. Their parents had immigrated to the United States from Saviano, Italy – hence, the name – their hometown near Naples. Alfieri says many of the dishes the family serves today are based on his mother's original recipes.

"Cooking is a way of life for our family," said Brooklyn-born Alfieri. "I grew up eating Italian food and learning how to cook from my mother. We spoke Italian before we spoke English. My mother was even in the kitchen for the first five years of our restaurant."

Alfieri said the new Sundance Square location offers the same classic Italian fare and New York-style pizza that diners are familiar with at the other locations, along with a few additional features and some nightly specials.

The new restaurant seats about 48 patrons and includes a "warm and inviting" interior, a "cozy bar" and a patio opening onto Houston Street. The menu features imported ingredients such as olive oil, pastas and parmesan cheeses from Italy to create authentic cuisine.

Johnny Campbell, CEO and president of Sundance Square, said in an earlier news release that Saviano's "will offer a great price point for diners during lunch and dinner, which is always something we consider when introducing a new restaurant."

The restaurant originally was set to open in time for Super Bowl XLV, and although the huge crowds might have been missed, Alfieri said business is off to a brisk start.

"We have the most incredible customers

in Euless and have built a tremendous base there," Alfieri said. "Now, we have been received warmly here. There's a certain feel down here in Sundance Square. It's a warm, inviting place and we wanted to be a part of that. We love the feeling and the friendliness of the people we've met. We're proud to be here and look forward to meeting more wonderful people," he said.

"Fort Worth is unique. I love it here. We feel blessed and very happy that the community has supported us."

Saviano's opening is part of a transition for Sundance Square. Last September, Billy Miner's on Houston Street closed after 27 years of slinging burgers and pulling beers. According to Carolyn Alvey, a spokesperson for Sundance Square, management continues shopping for a tenant to replace that popular burger joint.

After an almost \$1 million renovation, City Streets, a 10-year-old, 21,000-square-foot dance club at 425 Commerce St., reopened as Lone Star, featuring six new nightclub venues.

In March, Frankie's Sports Bar, which has locations in Dallas' Uptown and in Lewisville, is expected to open in 8,000 square feet of space on the first floor of The Carnegie building, a 16-story office building that opened in 2008 at 421 W. Third St., across from the Fort Worth Central Library.

Oliver's Fine Foods, a 6,600-square-foot gourmet grocery store located at 415 Throckmorton St., is slated to open later this year. ■

There's a certain feel down here
in Sundance Square.
It's a warm, inviting place and
we wanted to be a part of that.

– Saviero "Sal" Alfieri,
Italian restaurant and pizzeria patriarch

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Aero Dynamix Announces Expansion

Aero Dynamix Inc., located in Euless Texas, is very proud to announce significant expansion of their facilities so that they can better support the growing customer base. Aero Dynamix has outgrown their current 8,200 square foot facility and is currently in the process of expanding into a 24,300 square foot facility.

“The customer demand for our work has grown significantly in the past couple of years” stated General Manager Dennis Trout. Aero Dynamix, founded in 1994, has already undergone two other expansions in previous years due to their growth. “It seems like on paper that we always plan on enough space to allow growth but in reality the demand has outgrown what we projected just a few years ago” Dennis continued.

The growth of the night vision goggle market has been tremendous over the last few years as the industry has realized the safety and operational advantage afforded by night vision systems. Aero Dynamix Inc’s market share is growing at the same time so growth has been exponential over the past few years. “The commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction is paying off” says Sales and Marketing Manager Mike Guinn. “It is always exciting to see return customers.”

The expansion of the facility is allowing Aero Dynamix to keep more of their work in house. Many of the machines are multiplying in number due to the increased work load. Where once stood one water jet will stand three water jets. “The ability to control our own processes is paramount to our success” stated Business Development Manager David Oglesbee. “What we do is so critical to flight safety we simply cannot depend on outside vendors to supply us mission critical parts.” Aero Dynamix is a very vertically integrated company with over 90% of their parts being created in house. The goal of the expansion is the company is able to maintain control of its supply chain and the quality thereof.

“The thing that drives the customer towards Aero Dynamix is the quality of the work being performed” stated Mr. Trout. “We simply need to control our processes and thereby our future and our customer’s success.” Aero Dynamix plans to occupy their new facilities in April of this year.

Aero Dynamix Inc. is located in Euless, Texas and is the industry leader in NVG cockpit modifications. Aero Dynamix currently holds 24 Supplemental Type Certificates involving 36 different aircraft along with two EASA certificates. (www.aerodynamix.com)

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Parts of Tarrant grew much more crowded in last decade

Population density ■ Most Tarrant communities still have plenty of room for more people.

By Aman Batheja
 abatheja@star-telegram.com

Tarrant County gained 362,815 residents over the last decade, but they didn't spread out around the area evenly.

New population figures released by the Census Bureau indicate that

some pockets of Tarrant have grown significantly denser since 2000 while other areas didn't get much more crowded at all.

Parts of north Fort Worth, Keller and Saginaw had some of the biggest gains in population density, according to a *Star-Telegram* analysis, as well as much of Mansfield and south Arlington.

Communities including Forest Hill, Bedford and Richland Hills became slightly less crowded as their populations declined.

With more than 23,000 residents in just over four square miles, Watauga, in Northeast Tarrant, is the county's densest city. The community was also the densest in 2000, with roughly 5,356 people per square mile. Over the last decade, the city's population grew by 1,589, increasing its density to about 5,646 people per square mile.

Watauga city officials said the high density hasn't caused any major

problems, though little room is left for further growth. Only 5 percent of land is left undeveloped, so the city is expected to gain perhaps 500 more people before being completely built out, a city official said.

Of the seven largest Texas cities, Arlington is the densest, with more

people packed into less space than Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, Austin, El Paso or Fort Worth. An average of 3,811 Arlington residents live in each square mile.

Dallas is the next-densest, followed closely by Houston, both at around 3,500 people per square mile. San Antonio, Austin and El Paso all have fewer than 3,000 people per square mile.

Arlington's "growth has happened more recently at a time where density is accepted or more encouraged than it has in the past," said Kent Butler, director of community and regional planning at the University of Texas at Austin.

Views on population density have shifted in recent years as people factor the costs of a long commute, he said.

"There's an increasing understanding that the cost of living is not just housing. It's the cost of housing plus transportation," Butler said.

Fort Worth remained the roomiest of the state's big cities, though its density increased significantly. Cowtown now has 2,181 people per square mile, up from about 1,787 people in 2000. Fort Worth's sharp population growth was tempered by the more than 30 square miles the city annexed over the last decade.

Other cities gained residents but annexed little or no land, meaning they just got more crowded. Population density in Saginaw and Crowley jumped more than 50 percent.

Just like its population, Mansfield's density more than doubled, soaring from 769 to 1,549 people per square mile. The booming city may have a lot more people, but Planning Director Felix Wong disputed any notion that Mansfield is starting to feel crowded. He noted that 10 years ago, Mansfield was just 50 percent developed. Even with its population doubling, the city is still only about 60 percent developed, he said.

"We have the biggest land mass behind Fort Worth and Arlington," Wong said. "We've still got lots of room."

Though plenty of farmland remains, Mansfield's growth has transformed its image.

"In the '80s and early '90s, there was a lot of talk of coming out here to escape the city," Wong said. "But let's face it. In the 2000s, no one thought they were moving to the country when they came to Mansfield. They were moving into a growing suburb."

Butler said cities that are already largely developed will grow denser over time, but slowly as older housing stock gets replaced.

"Redevelopment typically comes in at a higher density," Butler said.

Room to stretch

So what's the roomiest community in Tarrant County?

The same one recently declared by *Forbes* magazine to be the country's most affluent neighborhood. Westlake has grown by 379 percent since 2000, yet the tiny community of 992 still only counts 148 residents per square mile.

Density at the citywide level doesn't tell the whole story.

The census also collects population information by census tract, smaller geographic units that are supposed to be drawn to be more or less equally populated. In Tarrant County, tracts range in size from one-third of a square mile in Arlington to 30 square miles in northwest Tarrant.

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Eules envisions vast Glade Parks development

■ A map shows some 35 buildings with a huge area for "future retail."

By Steve Norder
 snorder@star-telegram.com

EULESS — Shops, restaurants, offices and — in the

future — town homes could be coming along the western edge of Texas 121 in Eules as work on the Glade Parks development resumes after a two-year hiatus.

When completed, the 193-acre development, between Glade Road on the north and Cheek-Sparger Road on the south, could rival Southlake Town Square in size, scope and ambition.

Rubloff Development Group of Rockford, Ill., the developer working under the Texas name Glade 121, intends to complete the project in phases, according to Ron Young, Eules' director of public works.

About two years ago, land was cleared and preparations were made for the drainage and a bridge over Little Bear Creek. Then the recession brought work to a halt.

Under an agreement between the developer and Eules, the city has contracted with McMahon Contracting of Grand Prairie, for \$1.9 million, to do some of the initial infrastructure work, Young said.

The construction involves rebuilding Heritage Avenue in Colleyville south of Glade Road. Heritage would become Glade Parks' backdoor entrance. To accommodate the reconstruction, Heritage will be closed to through traffic starting Monday until the roadwork is completed April 18, said Eric McMahon, the project manager.

Rubloff's website has a rendering of the development's core, which will consist of four five-story buildings. They would surround a traffic circle dominated by a clock tower. A map of the area shows some 35 buildings — many along the Texas 121 frontage road — with a large area labeled "future retail." A Rubloff spokesman did not return repeated phone calls for comment.

Southlake Town Square, the area's premier upscale outdoor shopping center, also boasts 35 buildings — not counting brownstones — on 130 acres.

Financing plan

Eules officials have stressed that what Rubloff has presented as concepts may not be built.

The city has agreed with the developer to use money from a tax increment reinvestment zone to spend up to \$12.1 million on public projects such as streets and drainage, waterlines and sewer lines. While the city will initially pay for the work from other sources, the money will be repaid through the expected increase in sales taxes generated by the new stores. Tarrant County and Tarrant County College have agreed to forgo some future sales tax money to help pay for the work.

Young said the city will contract to do the infrastructure work in phases. Streets will initially be installed at the northern

portion of the development with the construction of a segment of what will be called Rio Grande Boulevard. It will be an extension of what is now Harrington Gardens Parkway, which runs south from Glade Road in front of the Target to a dead end. Two short streets, Loving and Chisholm trails, will connect Rio Grande to the Texas 121 frontage road.

"We will develop it there. Then the city will look to extend Rio Grande south to the [Little Bear] creek," Young said. A third segment will take Rio Grande down to Cheek-Sparger Road.

Trail turn lanes

McMahon said the initial construction will also include installing turn lanes along the frontage road for Loving and Chisholm trails.

Work on the first phase is to be completed in July, Young said. By doing the work in phases, Eules officials hope the initial development will attract stores that will then generate sales tax revenue to help pay for the remaining phases.

Further street development could include a back street, to be called Brazos Boulevard, which will swing east to the Texas 121 frontage road, plus another short connecting street, Goodnight Trail, that will also go to Texas 121, according to the Rubloff map.

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The densest tract in the county is No. 1135.18 in Euless. Less than half a square mile, the tract crams in 5,258 people in an area that runs from Fuller-Wiser Road in the west to Texas 360 in the east with Bear Creek Parkway snaking down the middle. The tract contains 11 apartment complexes with a total 3,186 units, according to information provided by the city.

Happy with growth

The area may be dense but it's no problem from the city's perspective, Planning Director Mike Collins said.

"I don't think any of us view it as a negative at all," Collins said. He praised the complexes' property owners for improving landscape and infrastructure in recent years.

"There's been a nice level of investment made to try and keep that area fresh and relevant," Collins said. "In fact, we're very, very encouraged that that's really going to spur additional development and provide opportunities for retail and commercial and deliver some services that we believed are kind of underserved to that area."

After Euless, the densest tracts are mostly just east of Texas 360 in Arlington, around the Rosemont neighborhood in south Fort Worth, and in west Fort Worth just west of Las Vegas Trail and south of Interstate 30.

The least dense tracts are largely at the edges of the county and in industrial areas.

Butler said the growth is going to keep coming in North Texas so regional and city planners will need to focus on keeping congestion in check. That means looking into public transportation and nur-

turing walkable communities.

"We have reason to expect that the demand is going to be steady and strong for the next 10 years," Butler said. "The real question for people in cities is how do we want that growth to occur?"

—
 Aman Batheja, 817-390-7695

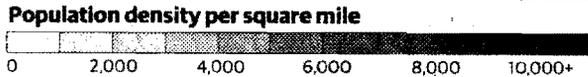
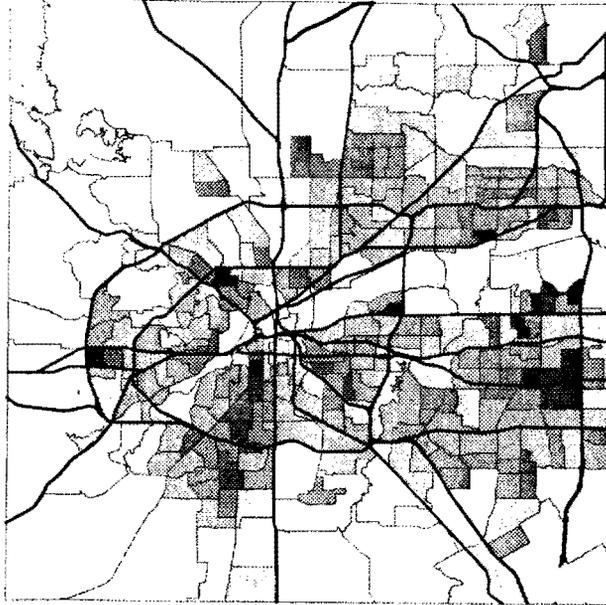
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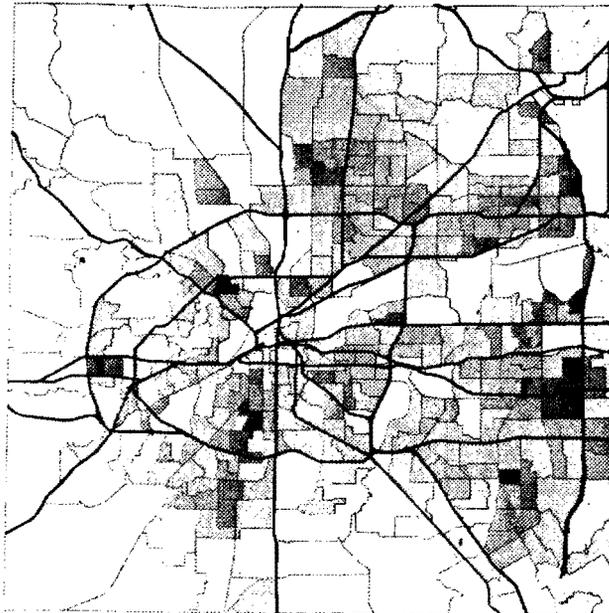
Population density

Over the past decade, Northeast Tarrant County, particularly far north Fort Worth and Keller, experienced tremendous increases in population per square mile. So did south Arlington and Mansfield, and the communities along I-35W south of Loop 820.

2000 Tarrant County census tracts



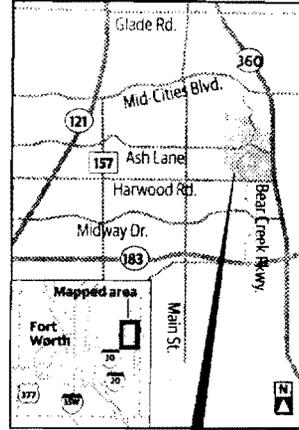
2010 Tarrant County census tracts



Source: U.S. census

Star-Telegram

Tarrant County's densest census tract



Census Tract 1135.18 in Euless is the densest census tract in Tarrant County, with 5,258 people. The density results from 11 apartment complexes with 3,186 units.

Star-Telegram

Tarrant population density

Population density of some Tarrant cities and major Texas cities per square mile

City	Density
Watauga	5,646
Bedford	4,692
Blue Mound	4,616
Arlington	3,811
Sansom Park	3,777
Hurst	3,766
River Oaks	3,712
Dallas	3,518
Houston	3,501
N. Richland Hills	3,485
San Antonio	2,880
Austin	2,653
Fort Worth	2,181
Keller	2,147
Crowley	1,765
Colleyville	1,741
Mansfield	1,549
Southlake	1,215
Westlake	148*

Sources: Census Bureau, North Central Texas Council of Governments, Star-Telegram research

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DATE DISTRIBUTED 3/8/11 DATE OF ARTICLE 3/7/11 NEWSPAPER FWST

Mission volunteers building addition for extended family

A faith-based nonprofit has refurbished 72 homes in Hurst-Eules-Bedford.

By Terry Evans
tevans@star-telegram.com

EULESS — Laifa and Semisi Leota have a full house.

They share their 1,000-square-foot home in Eules with 18 children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, family spokeswoman Piti Leota Alaiasa said.

The family, from American Samoa, moved into the house more than 20 years ago. They've had to make do as relatives who moved out to start their own families suffered economic setbacks and returned.

So unless the weather's really cold, Alaiasa's sons and a handful of their cousins sleep in a backyard shed with a plastic-tarp roof and openings where doors and windows should be.

But soon, they'll be able to stretch out a little after volunteers and businesses associated with 6Stones Mission Network build a 723-square-foot, two-bedroom, one-bath addition to the Aransas Drive home.

Hundreds of 6Stones volunteers have refurbished 72 homes

for disadvantaged residents in Hurst, Eules and Bedford. In October, more than 900 volunteers worked on 27, Eules spokeswoman Betsy Deck said.

"I was on the committee when this started in 2007 as Eules Revitalization, just a little group trying to figure out what we could do to make a difference," she said.

A year later, Deck said, 6Stones was formed as a faith-based nonprofit in Bedford.

Wes Higdon, 6Stones' volunteer coordinator, said First Baptist Church of Eules and Restoration Church, also in Eules, asked to become part of the revitalization effort. That was the origin of an organization that coordinates several churches, civic groups, businesses and area residents.

Volunteers are expected to finish the Leota project in early April. Work on the addition began Thursday with donated materials and professional carpenters, plumbers and electricians donating their labor, Higdon said.

"Right now we're sitting at a structure that's a minimum of \$50,000, and our out-of-pocket is around \$2,400," he said.

Alaiasa said her 61-year-old



Clockwise from left, August Alaiasa, Angel, Dakota, Susana, Piti Alaiasa, Auna Leota, Dasha, Princess, Elu and Sione are among 20 people living in "Grandma's house" with matriarch Laifa Leota seated at left. The nonprofit 6Stones Mission Network is adding 723 square feet to the 1,000-square-foot home.

Star-Telegram/Terry Evans

mother and 72-year-old father can hardly believe the blessings that have come since her 18-year-old son, Cisco, shone a light on their situation.

"He had a mentor at Trinity High School who asked him what he wanted last Thanksgiving," she said. "He said he wanted to fix Grandma's house."

Jon Westrom of the Westrom Group said he and his wife, Tracy, mentor 20 to 30 Trinity High School sophomores, juniors and seniors. Cisco and his cousin, Wawa, are among them.

Alaiasa said the Westroms' group replaced the home's leaky roof, put in new carpet and installed the first working furnace and air conditioner they've had in 10 years.

Westrom knew that the family needed more. A friend connected him with 6Stones.

"They came by to see what we were doing and said they could help," he said. "They really took it to a new level."

Terry Evans,
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