

October

Williamson County receives over one million dollars in grant award

Source: Community Impact Newspaper (<http://www.impactnewspaper.com>)

U.S. Congressman John Carter today announced that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded Williamson County with a \$1,110,780 grant award.

The Community Development Block Grants program provides annual grants to states and local units of government to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low-and moderate-income persons.

County Clerk warns residents of deed ad scams

Source: Community Impact Newspaper

<http://www.impactnewspaper.com/www/docs/183.875#countyclerk>

A recent scam is confusing many residents of Williamson County. A mass mailing from National Deed Service, Inc. in Northbrook, Ill., has an ad suggesting the U.S. Government Federal Citizen Information Center recommends every citizen get an official or certified copy of his/her deed. The company offers to acquire the deed for \$69.50. Another ad from a company in Arizona claims to file residents' homestead exemption for a fee. This ad states the company will record the homeowner's deed and a "homestead exemption certificate" in the county clerk records.

The public should be informed these services are unnecessary. Although not essential to have a copy of a deed, several options are available if a citizen would like one. A copy online is available 24-hours a day, seven days a week at <https://deed.wilco.org>. If a citizen would like a certified copy, a request for the deed is available on the Williamson County Clerk's Web site for \$1 per page plus a convenience fee. It will be mailed the following day after request is received. Any resident can also file a homestead exemption through the appraisal district for free. Filing the exemption in the county clerk's records costs money and will indirectly notify the appraisal district.

For more information, contact the Williamson County Clerk at 943-1515 or nrister@wilco.org.