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Burch hopes to use experience as Precinct 4 constable

May 10, 2012 By Mark Miller [Leave a Comment](#)



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Thanks to a downturn in his previous career and the guidance of one of the long-time leaders in Denton County, Tim Burch feels he's finally ready to take on his biggest challenge.

The 54-year-old Roanoke resident hopes that will be as constable for Denton County Precinct 4 which covers much of the southwest portion of the region including Flower Mound. He faces Argyle's Sam Mooney in the May 29 election to replace 71-year-old John Hatzenbuehler, who is retiring after 24 years, believed to be the longest tenured constable in Denton County history.

"I have always wanted to help people," Burch said. "It's something I've had a passion for where I could assist in public service, something for the people."

Burch believes the constable's office affords him the best chance to do that. Constables in Texas are considered peace officers who perform such civil duties as executing warrants, serving subpoenas, settling family and landlord-tenant disputes, assisting local municipalities and serving as court bailiffs.

“Constables are the oldest law enforcement agency mandated by the state of Texas,” Burch said. “If the office runs efficiently, it allows a lot of time for public service.”

The Lynchburg, Va., native didn’t start his public service until well after moving to Texas and graduating from Euless Trinity High School. After a year at the University of Texas-Arlington, he obtained his associates degree in aviation maintenance technology at Tarrant County Community College.

He used his background to land a position in Grand Prairie first in aviation mechanics and later quality aircraft engineering. But when that industry began to shrink in the mid-1990s, he decided to pursue his true love of law enforcement.

He spent eight months at the North Central Texas Council of Governments Police Academy in Arlington where he received his training to become a police officer. He began his new career in 1998 as a North Richland Hills patrol police officer, then in 2002 was hired by Hatzenbuehler as a deputy constable. Two years later he was promoted to chief deputy constable and began learning about the top job from the venerable boss.

“He’s allowed me to have full authority over the deputy constables and has been a mentor to me for the position,” Burch said. “He’s established quite a legacy.”

“When he started me on the mentoring process he said ‘when you are ready, I will know and you will know.’ It didn’t take eight years to learn everything. He let me know late in 2011 that it’s time. He said ‘you are more than ready for this position and have my full endorsement and I will give you everything you need.”

Burch believes the current six constable office structure has become too fragmented and if elected, would like to see it become a cohesive unit that works together for all in Denton County.

“I envision a stronger office and ultimately providing more services,” Burch said. “There are too many underprivileged children and battered wives and downtrodden people who don’t have some things.”

“We are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whether it’s dealing with a family breaking up or a landlord issue, we’re always available.”

He envisions services like eating lunch with area seniors and providing deputies to the families of fallen soldiers who pass through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

“We will maintain the level of public service we already have provided,” he said. “We will be able to do that because of our efficiencies.”

“I’m all about what I can do for the general public, not what they can do for me.”

Because he’s been so tied to the popular Hatzenbuehler, he believes things would continue to operate in an efficient manner.

“I see it as a seamless transition of the position if I’m elected,” Burch said. “I’ll just change titles.”

“Following John, I hope to bring some of that legacy and passion. These last eight years I like to think I’ve done a good job.”

“My main thing is my passion and desire and willingness to help out and I believe my personality has a calming affect. I’m like a counselor.”

Filed Under: Flower Mound TNC, News

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About Mark Miller

Mark Miller, a Flower Mound resident since 2008, is an award-winning writer, editor and public relations specialist. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin journalism school, he has worked as a daily newspaper sports writer, national magazine writer and editor and spent nearly 25 years in corporate/public relations and publications for the United States Bowling Congress based in Arlington. He has been quoted in most major media including USA Today, CBS-TV, Los Angeles Times and New York Times. Currently working as a freelancer, he is the national and Dallas-Fort Worth bowling writer for the Examiner.com website.

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Flower Mound Sports Feature

Playoff Roundup: Hebron crushes Americas 7-0, Jaguars fall to Southlake Carroll in one game playoff



Chelsea Herndon and Sarah Flores each hit a two-run home run as Hebron crushed El Paso Americas 7-0 on Friday in Game 1 of the Class 5A Regional Semifinals. The Hawks (27-10-1) pounded out nine hits while standout pitcher Heather Stearns gave up just two in the win. Hebron has now won eight in a [...]

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- Umpires must be held accountable for their actions



The University Interscholastic League must take a look at it's appeal process — or lack thereof. Guyer hosted the Class 5A Regional Quarterfinals on Saturday between the Flower Mound softball team and nationally-ranked Plano East. Despite the game being postponed from Friday due to inclement weather, things were moving along pretty smooth. That is until [...]

Flower Mound Inside Community

Denton County Track Club

May 17, 2012 By Staff



On May 21, student athletes from all over Denton County will take the field at Denton Guyer High School to begin practice for the 2012 summer track and field season. Now in its fifth year, Denton County Track Club looks forward to continued growth and relationships with returning athletes and nurturing new athletes in a [...]

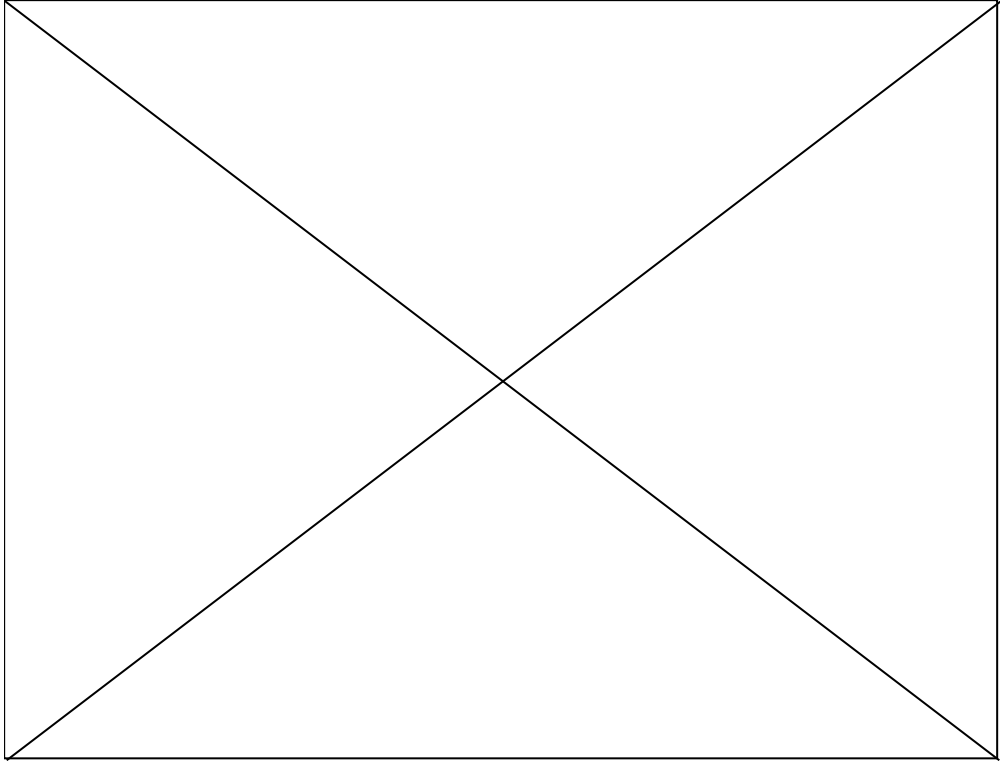
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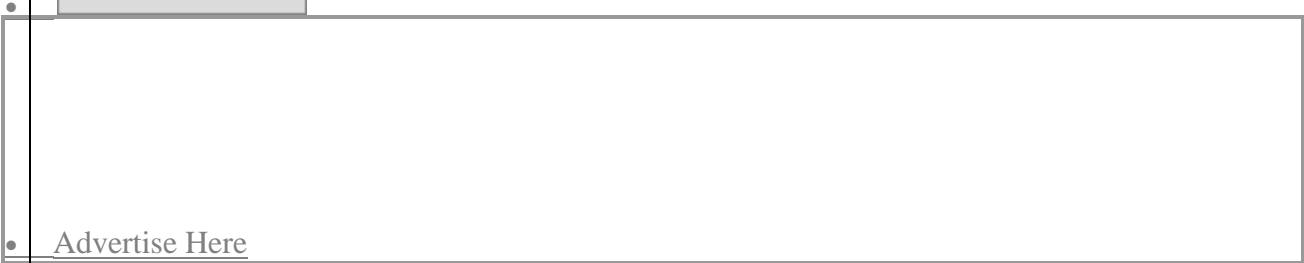
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