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a monthly newsletter for the Rowlett community

Rowlett On the Move

A Great Community Begins with YOU

Get Involved to Make A Difference in YOUR Hometown!

ISSUE NO. 1509
SEPTEMBER, 2015

Start Planning Your Neighborhood Party Now!

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

One of the factors keeping our community safe is the partnership between citizens and the Rowlett Police Department. We invite you and your neighborhood to participate in the 32nd Annual National Night Out, an event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and to send a message to criminals letting them know that citizens are organized and fighting back. It also fosters neighborhood camaraderie, making them safer, better places to live. Together, we are making that happen! National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community and provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Residents throughout the community are encouraged to turn on the porch light, lock the door and gather with neighbors to show unity against criminal activity. Many neighborhoods plan special events such as block parties, swimming

cont. on page 2



Community Playground Build Needs YOU!

KIDS KINGDOM UPDATE

Fundraiser: Fence Pickets for Sale
Volunteers Needed: Build Week is November 30-December 6

Plans to rebuild the Kids Kingdom community playground are currently ramping up. The successful 2015 CIP Bond Election included partial funding for Kids Kingdom, but the rest is dependent on the fundraising efforts of the citizen-based Playground Committee. One of the main components of that effort is the sale of engraved fence pickets, which will decorate the fence outlining Kids Kingdom, when complete. Donors may choose to have their name, their children's, their business or even a treasured pet's names engraved on their picket. These pickets are \$50 a piece and may be purchased [here](#). Good news: to date, over 200 pickets have been sold! Funds have also been raised to purchase two playground items, with an anonymous donation for the Zip Line and a donation from PARDners Foundation to purchase the Giant Bouncy Spider. There are many more playground features citizens may donate directly toward the purchase of, see those, along with pricing, [here](#).



cont. on page 2

National Night Out

parties, bike parades and cookouts.

If yours is one of those, the Rowlett Police, Fire Rescue and Public Works Departments would love the opportunity to drop in and visit with everyone. They can bring the SWAT vehicle, squad cars, fire engines, large construction vehicles and more for kids (and adults!) to climb on, into and enjoy. Mayor Todd Gottel and members of the City Council and City staff will also be dropping in on all the celebrations.



Please contact Officer Chad Caldwell in the Police Department's Community Services Division via [email](#) or at 972-412-6242 to sign up your neighborhood or for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Nextdoor is the private social network for your neighborhood



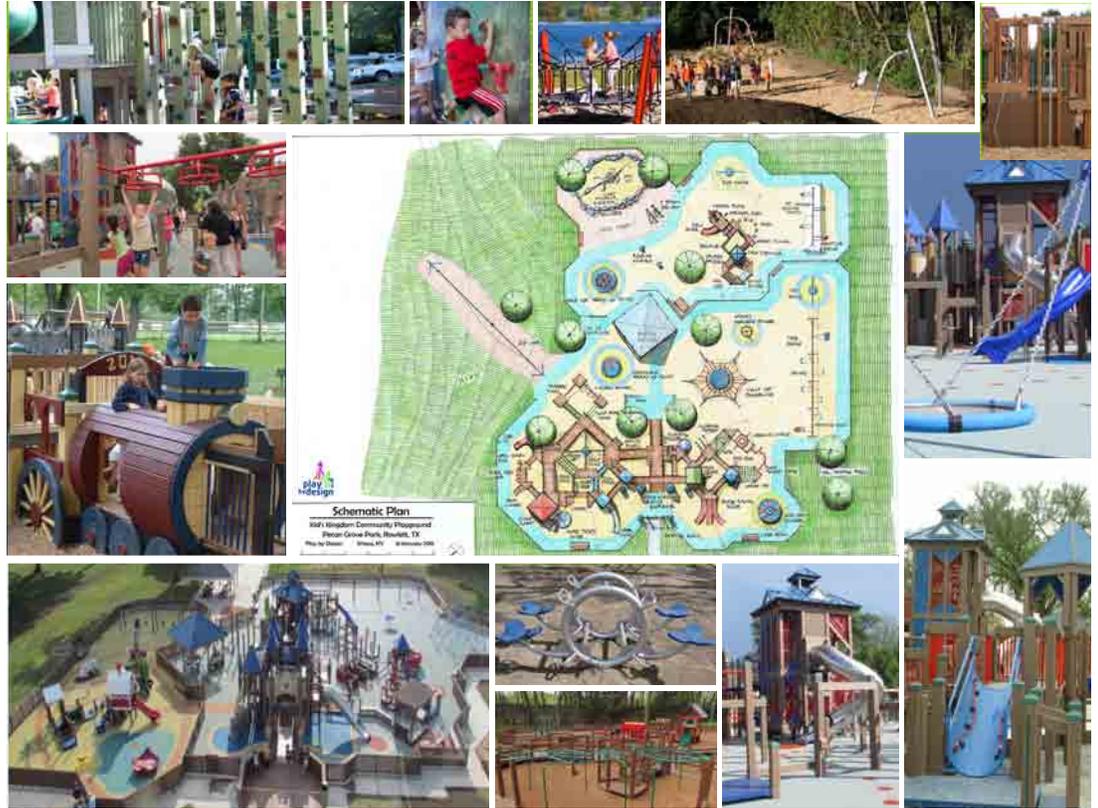
The Rowlett Police Department has partnered with a private online network called Nextdoor, a free private social networking website for your specific neighborhood. Nextdoor makes it easy to connect with your neighbors and build stronger, safer, happier places to call home.

[Join Rowlett's Nextdoor site here!](#)

Kids Kingdom Update

Fundraiser: Fence Pickets for Sale

Volunteers Needed: Build Week is November 30 – December 6!



A Playground Built by Volunteers!

Many, many volunteers are needed to build this magical playground, so please consider sharing your excitement, expertise and experience! November 20-22 are the Pre-Build days, when playground consultants from Play by Design (the City's playground equipment vendor) will be in town to get staff and volunteers started on building the new playground. During this time, much of the "heavy lifting" will be done. Staff and skilled volunteers will be needed to not only prepare the foundation of the playground, but set many of the required posts to attach the playground components to. But you don't have to be handy with tools, there are SO many different ways you can help!

BUILD WEEK VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:

- **Skilled Construction Team Members** – those volunteers who are comfortable using professional grade power tools, ladder work and lifting.
- **Construction Team Members** – volunteers who can paint, carry and assist the skilled team members.
- **Childcare Members** – volunteers interested in assisting with childcare for the construction team members.
- **Food Service Members** – volunteers to support the construction teams by manning the food and beverage tents.
- **Check In and Runners** – volunteers to man the check-in/volunteer tent and perform miscellaneous tasks.

Even though the focus of this project is to build a playground for our children, this community build event offers adults the opportunity to reach out across the community to make new contacts, new friends and strengthen ties within neighborhoods. Please join us so that you and your family can become a part of Rowlett's history!

*Interested in volunteering?
Email kidskingdom@rowlett.com!*

Want more information about Kids Kingdom?

Visit www.rowlett.com/KidsKingdom

City Volunteer Organization Hosts Two Clean-up Events

Keep Rowlett Beautiful

Reuse, Recycle and Clean-up!

Great American Cleanup Day

Saturday, September 19

9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Check-in at The Wet Zone for assignments



Calling all families, scout troops, church groups, friends and neighbors... help take care of our little piece of the planet! Come on out for a volunteer cleanup day in our parks, streets and lakeshore and make a difference in YOUR community. The event will culminate in a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at The Wet Zone with prize drawings. Grand prize is a 12' Jackson Riviera kayak donated by Kayak Instruction Foundation! Call 972 463-3929 or email info@keeprowlettbeautiful.org for more information.

Shredding & Electronics Recycling

Saturday, October 10

9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Rowlett High School parking lot

Get rid of the e-waste cluttering up your home! "E-waste" is defined as any electronic equipment that has reached its "end-of-life" or "end-of-usage," whether in working or non-working condition, such as Monitors, TV's, Computers, Laptops, Printers, Cell Phones, Corded Phones, Stereos, DVD Players, batteries of any type, ink and toner cartridges...almost anything that runs on electricity! This event also includes FREE document shredding! Email info@keeprowlettbeautiful.org or call 972-463-3929 for more information.



KEEP ROWLETT BEAUTIFUL

Community Partner Finalizes Design to Utilize \$250,000 State Highway Landscape Grant!

Last year, Keep Texas Beautiful recognized Keep Rowlett Beautiful (KRB) as one of 10 winners of the 2014 Governor's Community Achievement Awards for outstanding community improvement, one of the most coveted annual environmental and community improvement honors in Texas. The winners shared \$2 million in landscape funding from the Texas Department of Transportation; Rowlett received \$250,000 for a landscaping project along SH 66 (Lakeshore Parkway).

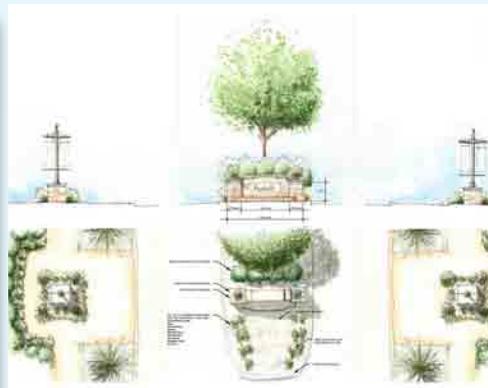
Communities submitted materials to one of 10 population categories and judges chose the winners based on their achievements in seven environmental and community improvement areas: community leadership and coordination, education, public awareness, litter prevention and cleanup, litter law and illegal dumping enforcement, beautification and community improvement, and solid waste management.

Keep Rowlett Beautiful, submitted the application on behalf of Rowlett, but this is an award that the entire City can be proud of. Community improvement project information and statistics were provided by KRB, the City of Rowlett, Parks & Recreation, Police, and Fire departments, Boy and Girl Scouts, churches, civic organizations, businesses and schools.

Since last June, Keep Rowlett Beautiful has been working with design professionals, Parks & Recreation, Development Services and Public Works on potential locations, sustainable design of improvements and an extremely detailed budget. Creating two gateway opportunities into Rowlett was determined to be the best way to maximize this grant, with one project near the entrance to Rowlett from Rockwall, the other coming into the City from Garland. The design not only utilizes drought-tolerant plantings, but also offers banner opportunities to advertise

City events and is structured so that the City may add to it in the future. It was presented to the City Council in August and will now be submitted to TxDOT for their approval, as they will be the "project manager". It is anticipated TxDOT will have a six month bid process, with construction lasting approximately one year.

KRB, an affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful, was established in 1996 with a vision to educate and energize our community to keep Rowlett clean and green. KRB hosts city-wide parks, streets, and lakeshore cleanups twice a year, in addition to free electronics recycling/document shredding events. Scholarships and beautification grants are also awarded to individuals and neighborhoods in the Rowlett community. To volunteer or make a donation to KRB visit www.keeprowlettbeautiful.org.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Senior Chocktaw Casino Trip

Wednesday, September 16
8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
\$10

Hop on the bus at the RCC for Durant, OK. and enjoy a day of fun! Call 972-412-6170 for more information or to register.



Senior Health Checks

Tuesday, September 8
Rowlett Community Centre

This free service is provided by the Rowlett Fire Department. Firefighters take blood pressure and blood sugar readings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Rowlett Community Centre.



Senior Lunch Social

Thursday, September 10
11:30 A.M.

Every month the Rowlett Community Centre hosts a Pot Luck Lunch Social on the second Thursday of the month. Please pre-register by calling 972-412-6170 and bring a side dish to share!
September - Subs
October - Lasagna
November - Turkey



AARP Smart Drivers Class

Saturday, September 26
9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
\$15 AARP members
\$20 non-members

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest refresher course for drivers age 50 and older and has helped millions of drivers remain safe on today's roads. It is designed to help tune up driving skills and update knowledge of the rules of the

road. Call 972-412-6170 for more information or to register.

Free Family Fun!

Movies at Pecan Grove Park

Fridays in September

5300 Main St., behind the Community Centre

6:30 P.M.

Pack a picnic dinner and head on down to Pecan Grove Park for a memorable evening of family cinema under the stars! Free movies begin at dusk. There will also be face painting, music, lawn games and other children activities. Popcorn, snow cones and other snacks will be provided free of charge by local businesses and churches!



Friday, September 4
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY



Friday, September 11
Paddington



Friday, September 18
Big Hero 6

Diversity Day!

Saturday, October 3

Noon – 4:00 P.M.

Rowlett Community Centre

The Community Centre is transformed into a global exploration of various cultures and heritages found right here in the City of Rowlett.

Enjoy performances by exciting dancers, singers, storytellers and more from around the world. Experience and celebrate the variety of cultures by visiting booths featuring food tastings, activities and crafts.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



National Prescription Take Back Day

Saturday, September 26
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Rowlett Community Centre

The Rowlett Police Department is participating in the National Take Back Day, a collaborative effort with state and local law enforcement agencies coordinated by the Drug Enforcement Agency focused on removing potentially dangerous controlled substances from our nation's medicine cabinets. A national take-back day provides a unified opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for destruction. This one-day effort will bring national focus to the issue of pharmaceutical controlled substance abuse. The program provides an opportunity for law enforcement, prevention, treatment, and the business community to collaborate and establish a safe collection site for all Americans, regardless of where they reside.

**City Offices and Facilities Closed Monday, September 7,
in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
Garbage collection will occur as regularly scheduled.**

Arts & Humanities Commission

Annual Photography Contest

2015 Theme – “Whatever Floats Your Boat!”



Are you an Ansel Adams aficionado? Do you look at daily life as if through a lens? Do you have more photo albums than books in your home? Is your family tired of pulling over to the side of the road every time you leave the house so you can jump out and “get that shot”?

Then here is your chance to prove that you have what it takes - enter the Arts & Humanities Photography Contest!

Entries will be accepted at the Rowlett Community Centre on Saturday, September 5 from 10:00 A.M. – Noon.

Photos entered will be on display at the City's Annex Building, located at 4004 Main Street, from September 8 through October 2.

First Place and Best of Show awards will be presented during the City Council meeting on Tuesday, October 20.

For complete rules and information visit the [Arts & Humanities page](http://www.rowlett.com) of www.rowlett.com.

Categories

People

children, students, politicians, citizens, family, etc.

Places

lake, library, Community Centre, buildings, DART, Bush Turnpike, etc.

Things

boats, automobiles, artwork, nature, bridges, etc.

Guidelines

Limit of three entries per person.

Photos must have been taken within one year of contest deadline.

Entries must be 8”x10”.

Entries should be matted on black – NO FRAMED PHOTOS ACCEPTED.

Entries may be color or black and white.

Prizes

\$100 - First Place in each category
\$150 - Best of Show

It is the goal of the Arts & Humanities Commission to encourage appreciation of, and participation in, the arts in the City of Rowlett!

RECENTLY IN ROWLETT...

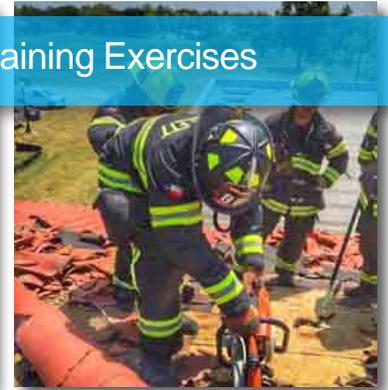


Blue Wednesday

The men and women of the Rowlett Police Department would like to thank the citizens and businesses of Rowlett for their show of support on Blue Wednesday (August 12). “We saw hundreds of cars with their headlights on, we’ve had children come to the police station to thank us, and businesses have dropped off coffee, cookies, and of course doughnuts! Your support has not gone unnoticed, and it is a pleasure to serve each and every one of you!”



RFR Training Exercises



Rowlett Fire Department took advantage of the empty Library building, which will soon be removed to make way for the Village of Rowlett downtown development, to facilitate some training exercises and practice safe and effective techniques for ventilation. Crews were able to discuss and train on the specifics of roof construction including, the style of roof frame, style of decking, material type and roof covering. The training also included types of tools that would be necessary to vent the roof that may not be typically needed.



Coyle Street Now One Way

Narrow streets encourage “walkability”. In an effort to provide a safer environment for both pedestrian and vehicle travel, traffic on downtown’s Coyle Street has been transitioned to one way and may now only head west.



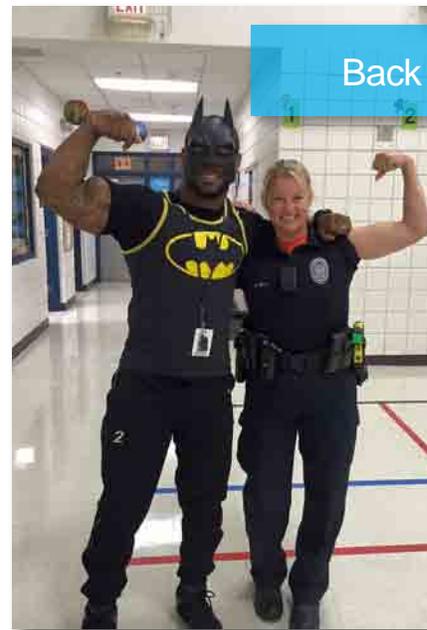
Tennis Anyone?

New windcreens have been installed at the Herfurth Park Tennis Courts. This is a much needed upgrade to this facility!



Honor Academy

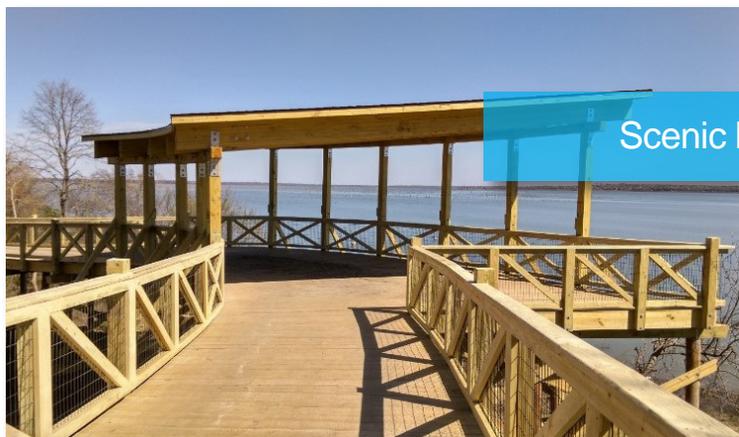
Throughout this summer, the Rowlett Community Centre’s SOAR attendees have spent time each week on Honor Academy, a character education program started last January. Participants learned to C.H.A.S.E. their dreams – character, honor, accountability, sacrifice and excellence. Each week, staff and participants worked through the lesson plans and activities together through stories and games.



Back to School!

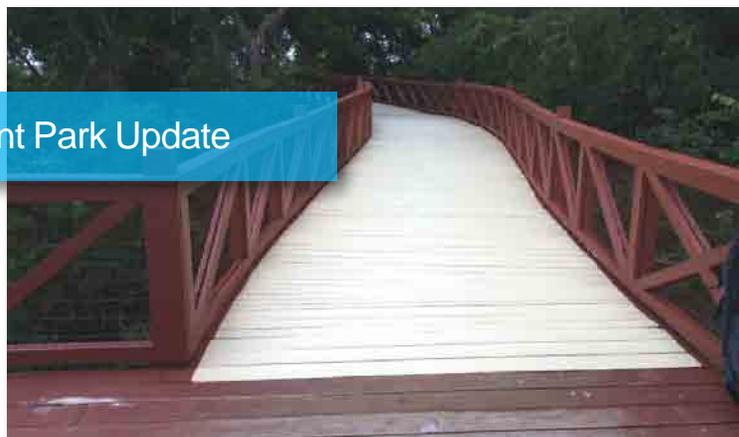
School Resource Officer Dianna Bell and Batman (Dorsey Elementary’s Marquale Pierson) teamed up to welcome Rowlett kids back to school on Monday, August 24!

RECENTLY IN ROWLETT...



Scenic Point Park Update

Currently, York Bridge Concepts, the firm the City is working with to build and install the bridge and entry into the park, is on location conducting a maintenance inspection on the bridge. This involves checking all pilings, joints and hardware. They are also applying sealants, which require a curing time. While the City had hoped the



park would already be open, every safety precaution possible relative to public safety has to be taken and this facility will be audited properly with the proverbial fine tooth comb! The expected opening date for this phase of the park is now mid-October. We look forward to seeing you there!



Volunteers in Police Services

Three new VIPS were sworn in by Officer Chad Caldwell recently! Ken Romaine, Darrell Test and Matt Boeringa join more than 30 active VIPS currently volunteering for the Rowlett Police Department. These volunteers assist with administrative police functions, Code Enforcement, Handicap Parking Enforcement, Holiday Safety Patrols and Vacation House Checks.

Rowlett Police Corporal Patrick Ray Receives *Lifesaving Award*

l to r: Chief Mike Brodnax, Corporal Patrick Ray, Tammy Norvell and Bexley Norvell.



On Tuesday, August 18, 2015, Officer (now Corporal) Patrick Ray was awarded the Rowlett Police Department's Lifesaving Award for his actions, which saved a little girl's life on Sunday, July 26.

Although at the end of his shift, Corporal Ray responded to a call to the 3800 block of Remington Drive, where a two-year old child named Bexley was unresponsive. Bexley's mother stated her child was playing in a shallow swimming pool at their residence. The mother advised the child became lethargic, turning blue, and then stopped breathing. Corporal Ray arrived on scene and took command of the incident,

placing his finger inside Bexley's mouth in an attempt to clear her airway. He was able to push the object through and she regained consciousness and started to breathe again. Bexley was transported to Lake Pointe Hospital where an x-ray revealed that a coin had most likely been lodged in her airway and was cleared by Corporal Ray. He remained calm during the incident and performed a lifesaving technique, which was instrumental in saving Bexley's life.

Bexley's family was extremely grateful to Corporal Ray, so much so that they had the coin made into a keychain, which they presented to him as a gift.

The Rowlett Police Department's Meritorious Board met to review the officer's actions in this incident and *unanimously* recommended that he receive the Life Saving Award.



Animal Shelter Maintains a 98% Live Release Rate!



The Story of Midas!

Empty the Shelter day, held Saturday, August 15 for the City of Rowlett, resulted in the adoption of over 20 pets!

One dog that touched many hearts of both shelter staff and volunteers is Midas. Midas was brought in by a good samaritan worried about his well-being since she had seen him out running around for several days. While he was waiting to see if his owners were coming for him, his finder couldn't stop thinking about him and decided to come back for him. Midas was one of the first adoptions out the door on Empty the Shelter day!



Code Enforcement tip of the month

Keep those Trees and Shrubs Trimmed!

Overhead vertical clearance of public sidewalks must be seven (7) feet; lateral clearance of public sidewalks must be six (6) inches from each edge of the sidewalk.

Overhead vertical clearance of streets must be twelve (12) feet, lateral clearance of streets, and no encroachment over or above the back of a curb or edge of pavement.

Sight clearance at intersections of city streets must have a sight distance of 200 feet. Sight clearance for signs must have an uninhibited sight distance of 100 feet.

Overhead vertical clearance of public alleys and easements is twelve (12) feet; lateral clearance is eighteen (18) inches.



The annual Pooch Plunge at the Wet Zone is one of FRAS most popular fundraisers!

Friends of Rowlett Animals Community Partner Provides Invaluable Support to the Animal Shelter!

Friends of Rowlett Animals (FRAS) was started by three concerned citizens who wanted to make a difference in the lives of homeless animals in our community. Up until 2012, there were only four members, but in the last few years their membership has swelled to over 200, 50 of which are considered "active".

The Rowlett Animal Shelter would absolutely not be able to maintain their amazing 98-100 percent live release rate without the tireless efforts of our FRAS partners. Volunteering at the shelter on a daily basis to help socialize and correct pet's behavioral issues, contacting rescue groups, marketing pets on Facebook, Petfinder, Adopt-a-Pet and other online resources, searching the many Lost and Found sites to try to match up strays that come into the shelter, taking professional-quality photos to market the pets, performing hands on evaluations in order to find strays the perfect homes and then offering assistance to adopters once the pet goes

home (which helps keep animals from being returned to the shelter because of a "bad fit" with the adopters home), soliciting food and other donations when supplies run low, conducting off-site adoption events, which allow potential adopters to see the animals outside of the shelter environment, the list of assistance offered by FRAS is endless and all-encompassing.

FRAS also offers financial support. When an animal comes in with a serious injury, FRAS may pay for treatments, additional testing, or will utilize their vast network to find a rescue to take the injured animal. Spaying/neutering and vaccinations are sometimes necessary. They also sponsor heartworm treatments on a regular basis. In 2015,

FRAS medical expenses have already exceeded \$11,000! A minimum of 90 percent of donations received are used directly for animal care and adoption support, with operational expenses kept between 5-9 percent.

"We are able to achieve these goals by the generosity of our sponsors along with the hard work, dedication, and time invested by our volunteers. Our group continues to adapt to the needs of the community as it expands in order to continue providing these services to help the Rowlett Animal Shelter maintain its exemplary live release rate."

Friends of Rowlett Animals

How does FRAS make a difference? Ask Chase...

Chase was dumped in a neighborhood. A family tried to gain his trust so they could find a home for him, but in the meantime, Chase was hit by a car and left on the side of the road to die. The family took him to a vet, who contacted FRAS. They were able to assist with the treatment for his fractured jaw and damaged eye (which was eventually removed). They located a foster family and within minutes of meeting him, the foster family knew that it was 99 percent going to be a foster-to-adopt situation. The Hitt family just fell in love with him, Chase fit right in so they adopted him within a month!

Construction Corner

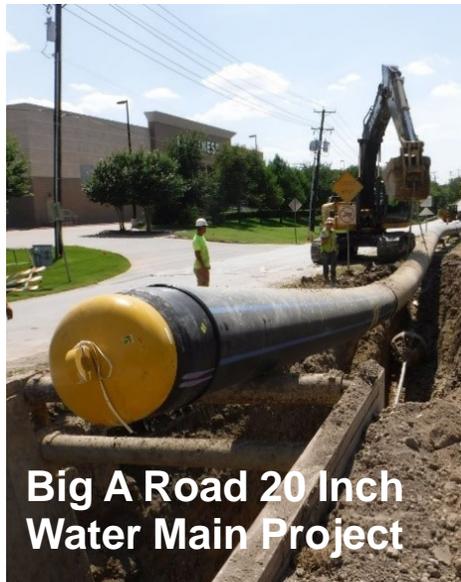
an update on public works projects around town



**Old Princeton Road
12" Water Main
Extension**

Utility Division staff has been installing a new section of 12 inch water main to connect Liberty Grove Road to the new Homestead subdivision. This is in an effort to eliminate an existing six inch main line which conflicts with pavement scheduled to be installed. This also eliminates dead end water mains, which require monthly flushing.

Crews will ultimately install 460 linear feet of 12 inch PVC water main and approximately 40 linear feet of six inch PVC water main to complete the connection.



**Big A Road 20 Inch
Water Main Project**

The City's continued efforts to improve the distribution system is very much reflected in this project! The contractor, TriCon has completed the water main installation beneath Big A Road and the directional bore is complete on Rowlett Road from State Highway 66 to Big A Road, which has been reopened through to the PGBT service road. This main line is designed to work in conjunction with the new 1.25 million gallon elevated storage tank on Main Street to assist in stabilizing water pressure in the system.



**North Shore Sanitary
Sewer Project**

The installation of the 18 inch sanitary sewer main is complete. The water main tie-in for the Huffhines Development is also complete!



Chaha Guardrail

The Streets Division has completed the installation of a new guardrail at the curve on Chaha near Tracy Trail. This area has been the location of several automobile accidents over the years due to the sharp curve. The addition of this guardrail will assist in protecting the homes on the outside of the curve, which have been subject to damage from vehicles in the past.



**Westwood Circle
Drainage Project**

The drainage flume and retaining wall construction is complete!



Monthly Financial Update

The City of Rowlett's monthly financial report is provided as one element in the City's effort to ensure financial transparency for its citizens and policy makers.

The Finance Department prepares the report and presents it to the City Council at a regular City Council meeting each month. While the presentation made at the Council meeting usually provides a high level overview, the report itself is very detailed, providing information on each of the City's funds, key local, state and national economic indicators, and "dashboard" information about the City's primary operating funds, major revenue sources and overall fund performance.

The purpose of this report is to inform the City Council and public regarding the status of the City's financial position. In other words, where are we versus where did we project we would be at this

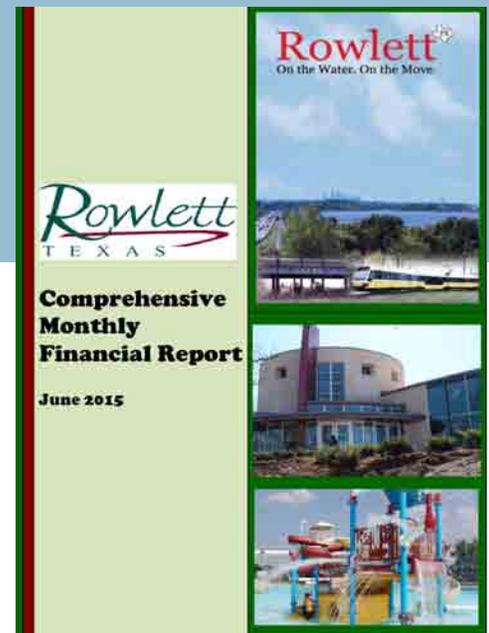
time of the fiscal year. Also, the report informs the staff and City Council about significant variances in projected versus actual revenues and expenditures and allows the Council to monitor the City's financial position and make adjustments as needed.

The report provided to Council in August includes financial information through June, the ninth month of the City's fiscal year.

On the revenue side of the equation, across all funds, the City has earned or received \$70.0 million thus far in FY 2015. This amount is 82.1 percent of the approved operating budget of \$85.3 million and is **3.0 percent higher** than the forecast projected

"The net surplus from operations is \$7.1 million. This is \$3.9 million better than expected at this point in the fiscal year."

*Wendy Badgett
Interim Finance Director*



through the month of May.

Expenditures have totaled \$62.9 million through the same time period. This amount is 73.1 percent of the approved operating budget of \$86.0 million and is **2.9 percent lower** than forecast through June. Based on these figures, the net from operations is \$7.1 million, which is \$3.9 million better than expected at this point in the fiscal year.

[View the June Financial Report!](#)

**STRONG FINANCIAL
STEWARDSHIP
RECOGNIZED**

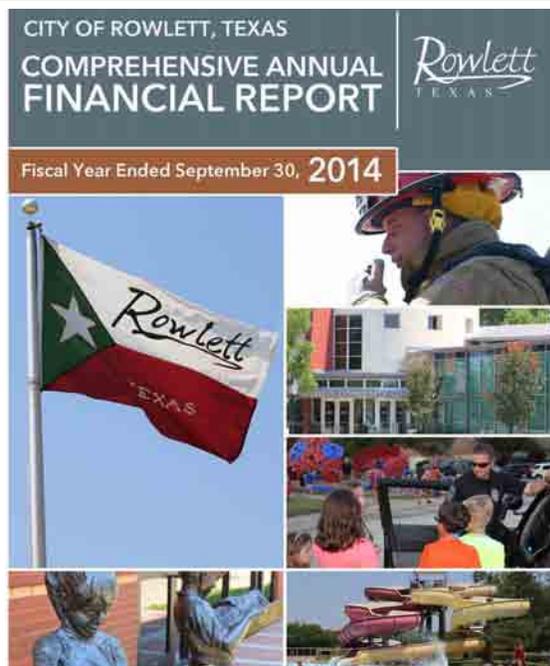
Rowlett Receives *Excellence* in Financial Reporting Award!

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) once again has awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the City of Rowlett for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the eleventh consecutive year that the City has received this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, the City had to publish an easily readable and efficiently organized CAFR that satisfied both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. The City will submit its current year end September 30, 2015 CAFR to GFOA in February 2016, and believes it will continue to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and award status.

Visit the City of Rowlett's Financial Reports webpage [here!](#)



SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

The library card is the smartest card in your wallet because it's your free ticket to lifetime learning and entertainment. Parents, it's the most important school supply of them all. Come on in to the Rowlett Public Library and get yours today!

An important reminder as students head back to school: the Rowlett Public Library offers the most important school supply of all ... a library card! A library card is a membership in a one-stop shop that places thousands of resources at students' fingertips, they'll find the tools they need to succeed at the Library.

From free access to databases and homework help, to encyclopedias and test preparation materials, the Library has something for every student. And young readers can enjoy educational programs and activities in addition to a wide variety of reading resources that make learning fun. Nook and Kindle users can even check out e-books!



The entertainment available from the Rowlett Library doesn't stop at reading material. Check out music CD's by top of the charts artists and the latest movie and television series on DVD!

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Celebrate with a trip to the library to explore all the many services and resources available! Free library cards are available every day but only in September will cardholders have a chance to win special prizes! It's the smartest card in your wallet because it's your free ticket to lifetime learning and entertainment. For more information on how to sign up for a library card, stop by the Library at

5702 Rowlett Road today, call 972-412-6161, or visit us online at www.rowlett.com!



Have you visited the Library's new location yet?



Rowlett Public Library New Location Opened June 1 5702 Rowlett Road

Please come visit, our friendly staff is eager to welcome you and show off our new digs! As always, we have lots and lots to choose from, whether you're looking for a fun new book to read, children's books and storytimes, DVD's, audiobooks, computers onsite so you can access lots of useful online databases, and even ebooks to read on your Kindle, Nook or tablet. We hope to see you soon at the Rowlett Public Library!



For the 10th consecutive year, the Library was a recipient of the Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award from the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association.

Of the 555 public libraries in the state of Texas, only 39 received this award!

Back To School with the Rowlett Library

Enjoy a variety of programs and activities to entertain and educate audiences of all ages!

Saturday Movie – *Back to the Future*

Saturday, September 5

2:00 P.M.

Rowlett Community Centre

Attention families: join us on the first Saturday of every month for a free movie and popcorn! A young man is accidentally sent 30 years into the past in a time-traveling DeLorean invented by his friend, Dr. Emmett Brown, and must make sure his high-school-age parents unite in order to save his own existence. Rated PG.

Family Saturday Crafts

Saturday, September 12

2:00 P.M.

Rowlett Community Centre

Families are invited to enjoy a creative, interactive free arts & crafts session.



Technology Petting Zoo

Saturday, September 26

2:00 P.M. @ the Library

Bring your tablet or eReader and explore all of the electronic resources the Library has to offer. Let Library staff help you connect with eBooks on OverDrive and eMagazines on Zinio. Need to upgrade? A representative from Best Buy will showcase the newest tablet technology!

STORY TIME!

by the Rowlett Library



The Young & the Restless Baby Story Time

Every Monday @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.

For babies up to age 2

September 7 - *Holiday (no story time)*

September 14 - *I Move*

September 21 - *I See*

September 28 - *I Taste*

An interactive story time between baby and caregiver, which includes board books, songs, nursery rhymes, baby sign language, peekaboo, bubbles and parachute play.

Giggle, Wiggle Toddler Story Time

Every Wednesday @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Ages 18 months to 3 years

September 2 - *Monkey School*

September 9 - *When I Grow Up*

September 16 - *ABC Antics*

September 23 - *Ride 'Em Cowboy*

September 30 - *Fall is Here*

Toddlers will have lots of fun learning as they are introduced to letters of the alphabet and new words to build their vocabulary.

Shake, Rattle and Read Preschool Story Time

Every Friday @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.

For children 3 years of age and older

September 4 - *Train Tracks*

September 11 - *Busy Boats*

September 18 - *Fall is Here*

September 25 - *Big Tex*

Continue your child's introduction to letters and words through stories, books, rhymes and much more!

Whatever on Wednesdays

Wednesdays @ 4:00 P.M.

Ages 13-18

Get together with other teens and discuss current books, media and online content, such as the best TV series for a weekend binge, the best viral videos, the best games from Tabletop and, of course, the best Young Adult books.

Prime Time Book Club

Thursdays, @ 4:00 P.M.

Ages 6-11

Weekly after-school reading club for elementary school students in grades 1 to 5. Each week, a book series or favorite book will be read and discussed, with a take-home activity to do relating to the books.

Pajama Story Time

Thursdays @ 7:00 P.M.

Families are invited to wind down the day with a blankie, pillow, lullaby and bedtime story. Yes, kids are encouraged to wear their jammies and parents should wear their slippers!

ROWLETT LIBRARY OFFERS TECH ASSISTANCE!



Although we've covered cell phone security in the past from a software standpoint, there's always the possibility you'll lose your phone or it may even be stolen. To that point, Apple and Android devices both have security features or apps to download, which help keep physical track of your mobile devices. They certainly aren't perfect, a clever and determined thief can get around them, however they can give you some peace of mind when used properly.

For iPhone and iPads, Apple has an app called **Find My iPhone** that you should install (if it isn't already on your device) and enable. If you lose your phone or tablet, you can log in to your iCloud account from a different device or computer by going to <https://icloud.com/find>. Hopefully, you'll discover that you've just left it at work or a friend's house and you can get it. However, if you find that your device is somewhere you haven't been, it may have been stolen and you have a few options. The first thing

Phil's Technology Corner

Cell Phone Security!

Phil Barott, Technical Services Supervisor with the Rowlett Public Library, offers a useful technology tip each month.

you'll want to do is put your phone into Lost mode, which locks the screen with a PIN and displays a message of your choosing. For example, you might have it display "I've lost my phone, please call me at..." and give a number at which you may be reached. One can hope that the person who has your phone will give you a call. If you're really worried, you can remotely wipe your iPhone or iPad, which will remove all personal data from the device and restore it to factory settings. You can then call the police and report your stolen device's location. If you didn't enable Find My iPhone on your device before it disappeared, then you can at least change your Apple ID and any passwords that are stored on your phone, such as for email or Facebook. That will provide a little defense from someone trying to use your phone or tablet to get into your accounts.

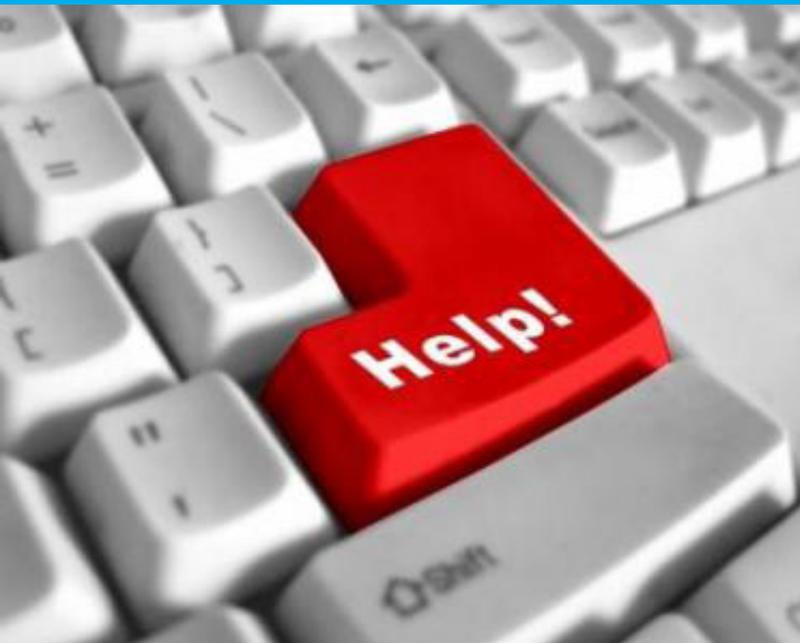
For Android devices, Google also has a native app for locating, locking, and wiping your phone or tablet. It's called **Android Device Manager**, though in your apps menu it may just be listed as Device Manager. As with Find My iPhone, you want to make sure Device Manager is enabled. Open Google Settings on your phone, click on Security, and choose to turn on or off the options for "Remotely locate this device" and "Allow

remote lock and erase." I would suggest turning them both on so you have more options in the event your device disappears. Once you notice you've lost your phone or tablet, on a different computer go to <https://www.google.com/android/devicemanager> and log in with your Google account. From there you can locate your device, remotely lock it, or wipe it. If you didn't enable remote lock and wipe ahead of time, you'll want to change your Google password as well as any passwords stored on your phone.

For Android and Apple users, these two programs may meet your security needs. If you want something a bit more comprehensive, you can purchase a program like **Cerberus** (Android only) or **Prey**. These programs do everything described above, but can also take pictures or video of people trying to unlock your phone, or play a loud alarm continuously, making it difficult for any would be thief to go anywhere with your phone.

As always, if you have any questions about this or any other tech tip we've discussed, give us a call at the library at 972-412-6161. We're here to help.

Technology Assistance



The library offers **FREE** one-on-one sessions to help you get the most from your computers and personal devices such as cell phones or tablets.

One-on-One Tech Help

Every Friday
Rowlett Library
Flexible times

Two 30 minute sessions are available every Friday for reservation. Contact Technical Services Supervisor Phil Barott at 972-412-6161 or via [email](#). Reservations are on a first come first served basis so call today!

ROWLETT PARKS & RECREATION

Back to School Means LOTS of Fun at the Rowlett Community Centre!

Parents Day Out

Tuesdays & Thursdays

9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Ages 3-6

Children are introduced to numbers, letters, colors, and shapes through music, stories, arts & crafts, environmental and physical education. Each month has a theme that will incorporate fun learning. The Parents Day out program is scheduled on a monthly basis and the rate varies due to holidays. Children must be potty trained.

Beginners Knitting Class

Wednesdays, September 2 – December 30

3:00 P.M.

Free! Learn the basic styles of knitting and important techniques to make knitting more fun. You will learn to cast on; the knit stitch; the purl stitch and binding off. Your project will consist of a 9" square dish cloth. Best part???? NO materials are needed to be purchased for the class, they will be provided!

Kidz Fitness Dance Party

Thursdays, September 3-December 31

10:45-11:45 A.M.

\$20/month

Come dance and play your hearts out! Kidz Fitness Dance Party is perfect for homeschool kids, mommy & me and kids of all ages! In our class, your kids will learn the fun-damentals of fitness while having FUN!

Skyhawks Volleyball Clinic

Saturday, September 12

9:00 A.M.-Noon

Ages 7-14, \$49

Enhance all aspects of your volleyball game through speed drills, exercises, games and activities that focus on passing, setting, hitting and serving. Our staff will assist girls and boys in developing the whole player through life guidance skills such as leadership, sportsmanship and teamwork. The clinic concludes with athletes participating in the Volleyball Championship Game.

Skyhawks Basketball Clinic

Saturday, September 19

9:00 A.M.-Noon

Ages 7-14, \$49

Fun, skill-intensive program designed for intermediate and advanced athletes. Passing, shooting, dribbling and rebounding makes this one of our most popular programs. Boys and girls will also learn vital life lessons such as respect, teamwork and responsibility. The clinic concludes with the NBA Finals Game.

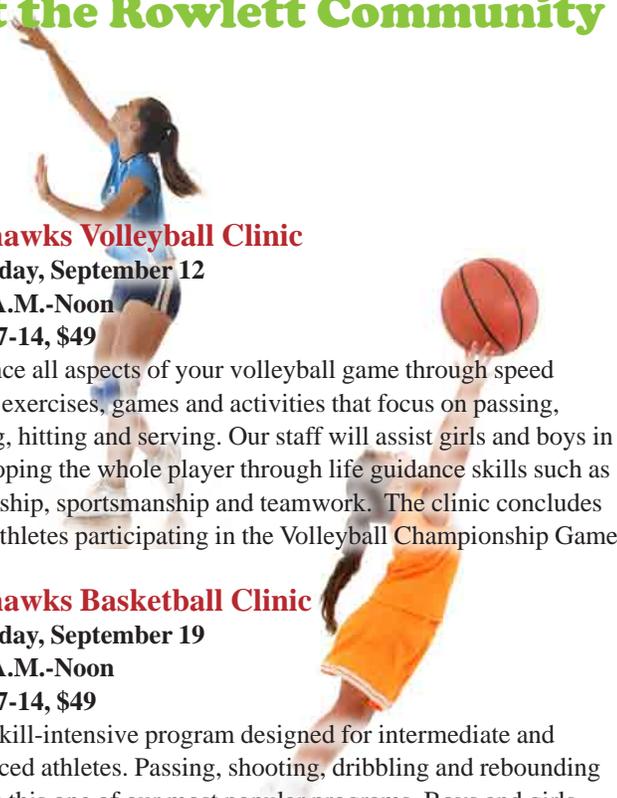
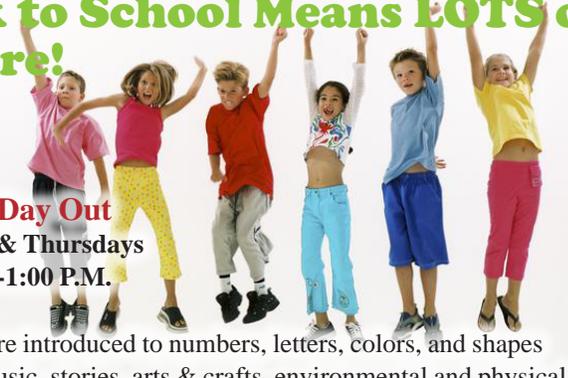
Little Kickers Soccer

Thursdays, September 24-October 15

6:00 P.M.

Ages 3-5, \$35

This five week instructional program teaches basic soccer skills to kids just starting out in the sport. A practice game will be



Call 972-412-6170
to sign up!

**GET FIT AND STAY ACTIVE AND ENTERTAINED
AT THE ROWLETT COMMUNITY CENTRE**



**School is back in session...
time to focus on YOU!
Shape up with fall fitness
classes!**

Pilates

Zumba

Pound

Spin

BodyWorks

Jazzercise

Fitness Ballet Fusion – NEW

Tai Chi & Qi Gong Fitness – NEW

Ball Empowerment Training – NEW

Activities for Seniors!

SAIL (Stay Active in Life)

*PACE (People with
Arthritis Can Exercise)*

Senior Fitness Fun

Senior Stretch



Clothes Dryer Safety

Fire Marshal Bryan Beckner Offers Some Important Home Safety Advice

Doing laundry is most likely part of your everyday routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety precautions, you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not use your dryer without a lint filter.
- Clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove the lint that has collected around the drum.
- Use only rigid or flexible metal venting material, which will sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Once a year, or more often if the time it takes for clothes to dry increases, clean the lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload the dryer.
- Clothes that have come in contact with flammable substances, like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then they can be washed and dried as usual.



“According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, there are an estimated 15,500 fires, 10 deaths and 10 injuries annually due to clothes dryer fires.

The leading cause? Failure to clean them. Please take a few moments to ensure **YOURS** is operating safely!”

National Fire Protection Agency FACT

The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them. For more information, [email](#) or call Fire Marshal Beckner at 972-463-3940.



Online Crime

Tips to help **you** avoid online identity theft and credit card fraud!

With the holiday shopping season quickly approaching, the opportunity for online crime increases as well. Computer crimes are some of the fastest growing crimes in America, so

Community Services Officer Chad Caldwell offers a few helpful tips that will help prevent **you** from becoming a victim.

Keep Personal and Password Hint Information Confidential!

Private information should stay just that...private! This includes:

- Credit Card Account Numbers
- Social Security Numbers
- Mother's Maiden Name
- Date of Birth
- Place of Birth

Carry only the credit and ID cards you need... leave the rest at home!

Other credit protection precautions include:

- Sign credit cards
- Do not carry your social security card with you.
- Do not give personal information or account numbers to anyone without verifying their identity.

Check your credit report often!

Credit monitoring services (Equifax Credit Watch, Credit Check Monitoring Service, etc.) monitor credit daily and alert subscribers to changes that can be an early warning of identity theft, such as new account openings or address changes.

For more information on identity theft prevention, [email](#) or call Officer Caldwell at 972-412-6242.

Rowlett

City Calendar

September

		1 City Council Meeting 7:30pm @ City Hall	2	3	4 One-on-One Tech Help @ Library Movies @ Pecan Grove Park 6:30pm	5 Saturday Movie <i>Back to the Future</i> 2pm @ RCC
6	7 Labor Day City offices and facilities closed	8 Senior Health Checks @ RCC Planning & Zoning Meeting 7:30pm @ City Hall	9	10 Senior Lunch Social 11:30 @ RCC	11 One-on-One Tech Help @ Library Movies @ Pecan Grove Park 6:30pm	12 Volleyball Clinic 9am @ RCC Saturday Crafts 2pm @ RCC
13	14	15 City Council Meeting 7:30pm @ City Hall	16 Seniors Chocktaw Trip	17	18 One-on-One Tech Help @ Library Movies @ Pecan Grove Park 6:30pm	19 Great American Cleanup 9am @ Wet Zone Basketball Clinic 9am @ RCC
20	21	22 Planning & Zoning Meeting 7:30pm @ City Hall	23	24	25 One-on-One Tech Help @ Library	26 Prescription Takeback Day 10-2 @ RCC AARP Drivers Class 9-1 @ RCC Technology Petting Zoo 2pm @ Library
27	28	29	30			