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a monthly newsletter for the Rowlett community

# Rowlett On the Move

ISSUE NO. 1511  
NOVEMBER, 2015

*Catalytic development will change the face of Downtown!*

## Village of Rowlett Breaks Ground

Developers The Integral Group of Atlanta and Catalyst Urban Development of Dallas broke ground on this unprecedented and catalytic investment in the heart of downtown on Wednesday, October 28. Construction begins in November, completion in about 18 months!

The Village of Rowlett is a \$34 million project that will introduce a range of building types and uses within a unique village environment marked by modern housing concepts, local retail and commercial destinations, high quality pedestrian amenities, memorable open spaces and a vibe all our own.

The project has been planned to highlight existing trees and offer a range of green amenities including a community garden, rainwater harvesting, yoga patio, lounge pool and fire pits, pocket parks, and urban streetscapes all in an effort to deliver an urban resort-like experience unique to Rowlett.



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**It's Time to BUILD this Playground, Rowlett!**

## KIDS KINGDOM

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

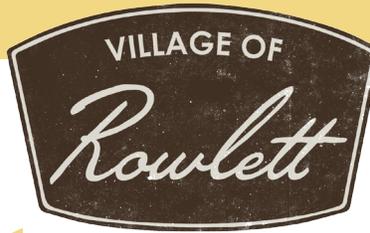
*Plans to rebuild* the Kids Kingdom community playground are currently ramping up. As this is a "community build" project, a ground breaking ceremony and volunteer recruitment fair took place on Saturday, October 17, to showcase the design and the many, many different volunteer assignments available. Kids Kingdom will be built over a two week period. The first week will be "site prep," when professionals from Play by Design and City of Rowlett staff will install the playground framework. The second week is where YOU, the volunteers, come in and finally BUILD THIS PLAYGROUND!!

The successful 2015 CIP Bond Election included partial funding for Kids Kingdom, but the rest has been dependent on the fundraising efforts of the citizen-based Playground Committee. Funds have also been raised to purchase several playground items, with an anonymous donation for the Zip Line, a donation from PARDners Foundation to purchase the Giant Bouncy Spider and a \$20,000 donation from Milestone Electric, which will fund the Dinosaur Sand Box!

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# VILLAGE OF ROWLETT

(CONT. FROM PAGE 1)



When the citizens of Rowlett voted to join the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) system in 1983, it was with the hope that it would eventually lead to economic development opportunities for the City. This vision was further confirmed and refined through the City's comprehensive plan update public process, which resulted in the community-formed vision appropriately named *Realize Rowlett 2020*. A key component of *Realize Rowlett 2020* is the Downtown Strategic Plan, approved by the City Council in 2012, which carries the vision statement:

*"Downtown Rowlett will reflect the City's history in a fully integrated and walkable environment that favors the pedestrian over the vehicle with capital improvements strategically located to leverage public investment."*

To that end, the City Council actively sought a development partner with a proven track record of bringing mixed-use projects to fruition.

*"This development culminates a vision created for downtown by Rowlett citizens 30 years in the making! Village of Rowlett will open the door to additional private investment by carrying forward the City's new urban energy to downtown's edges at Highway 66 and the President George Bush Turnpike."*

*Mayor Todd Gottel*

Since December 17, 2013, Integral and Catalyst Urban Development have been working closely with City staff on a development that seeks to introduce a transit-oriented mixed-use development at the center of Rowlett on an unprecedented scale for downtown. The planning strategy included moving the Chamber of Commerce west along Main Street and temporarily relocating the Library to 5702 Rowlett Road during the construction process. The Library will remain a key component of Downtown and, when the project is completed, will be located on the ground floor of the most prominent building along Main Street.

"Leveraging the City's two largest connectors, DART light rail service and PG&T, the Village of Rowlett is envisioned to provide a unique urban environment Downtown that will serve our residents, attract the larger Dallas/Fort Worth marketplace and diversify our housing stock," says City Manager Brian Funderburk. "Upon completion, it will create a place that is 'Uniquely Rowlett!'"

## Village of Rowlett Concept Renderings



*The project has been planned to highlight existing trees and offer a range of green amenities including a community garden, rainwater harvesting, yoga patio, lounge pool and fire pits, pocket parks, and urban streetscapes all in an effort to deliver an urban resort-like experience unique to Rowlett.*



## Kids Kingdom Fundraiser: Fence Pickets for Sale

One of the main fundraising components of the Kids Kingdom community playground rebuild 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 name engraved on their picket. These pickets are \$50 a piece and may be purchased [here](#).



**Good news:** to date, over 700 pickets have been sold! There are still 1,000 pickets available, which will remain for sale until they are all gone.

## Kids Kingdom *Its Time to Build!*

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



## Kids Kingdom Will Be A Playground Built by *Volunteers!*

Many, many volunteers are needed to build this magical playground, so please consider sharing your excitement, expertise and experience! 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 and construct the playground around them! Not so handy with tools? Don't worry! 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](mailto:kidskingdom@rowlett.com)!*

*Want more information about Kids Kingdom?  
Visit [www.rowlett.com/KidsKingdom](http://www.rowlett.com/KidsKingdom)*

## Recent Community Donors...

**Milestone Electric  
donated \$20,000!**



**Rowlett Firefighters  
Association donated  
\$1,000!**



# RECENTLY IN ROWLETT...



## Diversity Day

Everyone joined in the fun at this year's Diversity Day, whose theme was "Food, Fun, Dance, and Fitness from Around the World". Performances included a hula dancer, bagpiper, reggae music, jazz fusion, and more!



## Fire Station Tour

These little cuties were amazed at just how long and heavy fire hoses are during their recent tour of Fire Station 2!



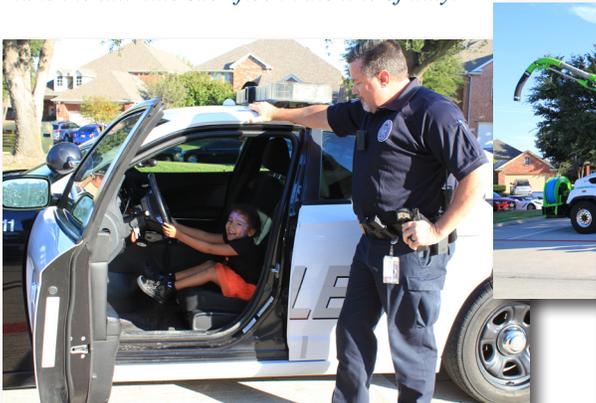
## National Honor Guard Academy

The Rowlett Fire Department hosted the National Honor Guard Academy the week of October 11. The NHGA specializes in providing honor guard training to firefighters, police officers and EMS personnel. This session of the academy is the largest class in the NHGA history, with 59 students from all over the DFW metroplex, state of Texas, and the United States. This academy allowed those in attendance to take what they learn and incorporate their expertise into their respective department's Honor Guard. The attendees are dedicated in providing Honor, Dignity, and Respect to those who make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.



## National Prescription Take Back Day

The Rowlett Police Department collected 100 pounds of prescription drugs at this year's event. This is a collaborative effort between state and local law enforcement agencies coordinated by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) focusing on removing potentially dangerous controlled substances from medicine cabinets. This one-day effort brought national focus to the issue of pharmaceutical controlled substance abuse.



## National Night Out

Thank you to all of the Rowlett residents who organized their neighborhood parties on Tuesday, October 6. Your City staff, Mayor and Councilmembers had a great time meeting and chatting with everyone!



# COMMUNITY EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



**Veterans Day**  
Wednesday, November 11  
11:00 A.M.  
Rowlett Community Centre

Join us as we recognize and honor our local veterans. Veterans Day is a time when the community gathers together to give thanks to those who have served our country. Please come show your support and appreciation

to those who have made so very many sacrifices for our freedom.



## City of Rowlett Holiday Closings

*City of Rowlett offices and facilities will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday:*

Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27

*City of Rowlett offices and facilities will be closed for the Christmas holiday:*

Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25

*City of Rowlett offices and facilities will be closed for the New Year's Day holiday:*

Friday, January 1



## Holiday Parade & Main Street Fest

Saturday, December 12  
3:00-4:00 P.M. – Main Street (Parade)  
4:00-7:00 P.M. – Pecan Grove Park (Festival)

Main Street and Pecan Grove Park come alive with holiday sparkle,

including children's activities, letter-writing to Santa, festival-style food, school choir performances, photos with Santa, Touch a Truck and a spectacular fireworks show! Make sure to grab your seat early on to watch the Noon Exchange Club's 29th Annual Holiday Parade at 3pm, then head on over to the park for live music and all the activities!

## Waste Management Holiday Closings

*Waste Management is closed and will delay trash and recycling pick up by one day on:*

Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26

Christmas Day – Friday, December 25

New Year's Day – Friday, January 1



## Annual Stop a Cop for Christmas Toy Drive

Saturday, November 28 – Saturday, December 19



Help the Rowlett Police Department and the Rowlett Needy Children's Fund give a less fortunate child living in Rowlett a Merry Christmas this year. Wave down any officer out on patrol, if not responding to a call, they will be happy to accept donations of toys and other gifts appropriate for children of all ages.

Toys may also be dropped off 24 hours a day at any of the Rowlett Fire Stations or the lobby of the Rowlett Police Station.

Other collection sites include the Community Centre, City Hall, Fire Administration Building and the Rowlett Chamber of Commerce.

***Don't forget our teens, there is always a great need for gifts in this age group!***

**ROWLETT POLICE OFFICERS AND ROWLETT VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE (VIPS) MEMBERS WILL ACCEPT TOY DONATIONS IN THE WAL-MART PARKING LOT ON:**

**SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 5  
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.  
DECEMBER 12  
2:00 - 6:00 P.M.  
DECEMBER 19  
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**All toys and gifts donated go to the Rowlett Needy Children's Fund and will be distributed to families living in Rowlett.**

For more information, contact Officer Chad Caldwell at [ccaldwell@rowlett.com](mailto:ccaldwell@rowlett.com) or 972-412-6242.

## Animal Shelter Maintains a 99% Live Release Rate!



**The Story of Gus**

Gus is a very loving pit bull that came into the shelter as a stray. He was brought in with another dog, whom he loved to play with. Gus' friend was adopted fairly quickly, leaving Gus alone here at the shelter for almost two months. Happily, his perfect match finally walked through the

doors looking for a candidate to be a therapy dog for autistic children. The dog had to be great with kids and not mind other dogs. After looking at several other dogs, she fell in love with Gus. Gus was the perfect candidate and found his forever home along with a job that would bring love and joy to many children!

It is illegal to keep a *Junked Motor Vehicle* on private property in Rowlett.



Section 22-81-22-87 of the Rowlett Development Code: Inoperable means not capable of being used or operated due to legal or mechanical incapability. Vehicles parked on the street will be reported to the police – moving it into the driveway is not the answer because it then becomes a Code Enforcement violation. Thank you for your assistance and ongoing vigilance in keeping Rowlett a safe, clean community where families enjoy life and feel at home!

The criterion for a *Junked Motor Vehicle*:

- it must be on private property;
- it must have expired registration or inspection;
- it must be wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled or discarded;
- it is inoperable and has remained inoperable for more than 30 days on private property.

For more info please call **Rowlett Code Enforcement** at 972-412-6283 or visit [Rowlett.com](http://Rowlett.com)



## Rowlett is Social!

*“Like” our Facebook pages to get more news and information...keep up with EVERYTHING going on in your hometown!*



City of Rowlett



Rowlett Public Library



Rowlett Public Works



Rowlett Parks & Recreation



Rowlett Fire Department



Rowlett Police Department

# 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 October includes financial information through August, the eleventh month of the City's fiscal year.

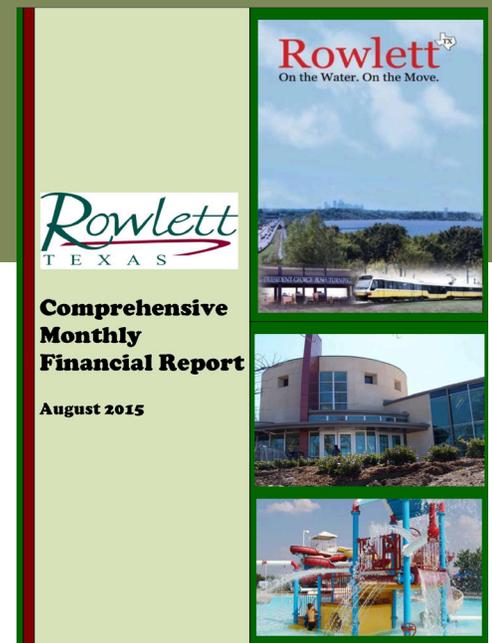
***"The net surplus from operations is \$5.55 million. This is \$5.49 million better than expected at this point in the year!"***

*Kim Galvin*  
Director of Financial Services

***Revenues have outperformed forecasts by 4.4 percent.***

To date, the City has earned or received \$81.5 million, or 96.8 percent, of the approved operating budget of \$84.2 million.

***Expenditures have outperformed***



***forecasts by 2.6 percent.*** The City has expended \$76 million, or 88.2 percent, of the approved operating budget of \$86.1 million. Both of these positive outcomes have resulted in a net from operations of \$5.55 million, which is \$5.49 million better than expected!

[View the August, 2015 Financial Report!](#)

## SENIORS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Senior Lunch Social**  
Thursday, November 12  
Rowlett Community Centre  
11:30 A.M.

Every month the Rowlett Community Centre hosts a Pot Luck Lunch Social on the second Thursday of the month.  
November – Turkey

Please pre-register by calling 972-412-6170 and bring a side dish to share!



**Senior Healthchecks**  
Tuesday, November 10  
Rowlett Community Centre

This free service is provided by the Rowlett Fire Department. Firefighters will be available to take blood pressure and blood sugar readings on the second Tuesday of each month.

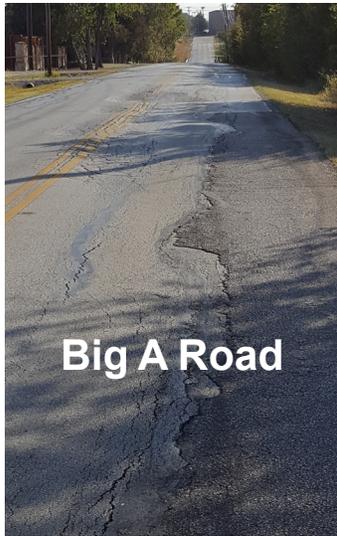


**Medicare Seminar**  
Tuesday, November 10  
Rowlett Community Centre  
10:00 A.M.

# Construction Corner

an update on public works projects around town

## 2016 Asphalt Rehabilitation/Overlay Project



Big A Road

**Big A Road from Rowlett Road to the east end  
Concrete Pavement - 2,813 Linear Feet  
Estimated Construction Cost - \$152,000**

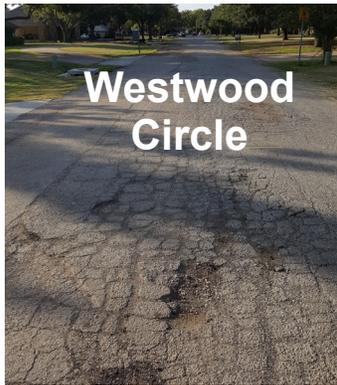
The resurfacing of Big A Road will take place after completion of the shoulder stabilization and widening project.

**Scope:** The old asphalt surface will be milled off to 2" and then a new asphalt surface will be applied at thickness.

**Traffic Control:** Through traffic will be detoured to Rowlett Road to Sh-66. Message boards will set out to let motorists know when the surfacing project will take place. Estimated time to complete this portion of the project is two weeks.



Big A Road



Westwood Circle

**Westwood Circle from Miller Road to the south end  
Asphalt Pavement - 764 Linear Feet  
Estimated Construction Cost \$75,000**

**Scope:** The existing roadway will be pulverized to a depth of 6 inches. Then lime will be added to stabilize the sub-grade. The final step is to apply a new asphalt surface.

**Traffic Control:** Roadway will be open to local traffic only. Estimated time to complete this portion of the project is two-three weeks.



Westwood Circle



Miller Road

**Miller Road from PGBT to the Railroad Crossing just east of CA Roan Road  
Concrete Pavement - 6,000 Linear Feet  
Estimated Construction Cost - \$444,000  
(Dallas County will fund \$100,000)**

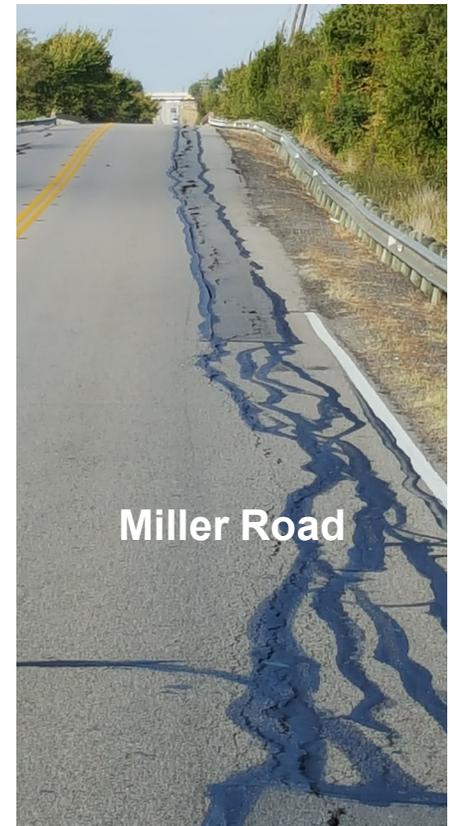
**Section 1:** From Sunrise east to the Railroad crossing just east of CA Roan Road.

**Scope:** The old asphalt surface will be milled off to a depth of three inches. A fiberglass mat will be installed and then a new asphalt surface will be applied at the same thickness. The fiberglass mat will provide stability and reduce the amount of reflective cracking. This is a cost effective way of extending the life of the existing roadway.

**Section 2:** From Sunrise to PGBT.

**Scope:** The old asphalt surface will be milled off to a depth of two inches and a new asphalt surface will be applied.

**Traffic Control:** Through traffic will be detoured to northbound PGBT service road to SH-66. Message boards will set out to let motorists know when the surfacing project will take place. Estimated time to complete this portion of the project is three-four weeks.



Miller Road

### Why doesn't the City reconstruct the roadway and widen it to four lanes?

The reconstruction of Miller Road will require a collaborative effort and additional funding sources with regional partners such as Dallas County, City of Dallas, TxDOT and NCTCOG. The estimated cost to reconstruct the roadway from PGBT to Dalrock could be over \$20 million.

# The Rowlett Library Family Cinema!

**Free Movies and Popcorn for the whole family!**

**Saturday Movie: *Cinderella***

Saturday, November 7

2:00 P.M. @ Rowlett Community Centre

In this live-action version of Disney's classic, released in 2015, Cinderella's father unexpectedly passes away leaving young Ella at the mercy of her cruel stepmother and her daughters. Never one to give up hope, Ella's fortunes begin to change after meeting a dashing stranger. Rated PG.

**Saturday Movie:**

***A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving***

Saturday, November 21

2:00 P.M. @ Rowlett Community Centre

Peppermint Patty and friends show up unexpectedly at Charlie Brown's on Thanksgiving, and Chuck, with the help of Linus, Snoopy, and Woodstock, shows them the true meaning of the holiday.



Arts & Humanities Commission

## Annual Photography Contest Winners

2015 Theme – "Whatever Floats Your Boat!"



**First Place**  
*People category*  
**Fay Stout**



**First Place**  
*Places category*  
**Daniel Work**



**First Place**  
*Things category*  
**Christian Newkirk**



**Best in Show**  
**Don Bittinger**

The contest was open to everyone in the Lake Ray Hubbard area ... professionals, amateurs, people of all ages.

All entries were on display in the City Hall Annex from September 8 through October 2.

Winners were presented their award checks at the October 20 City Council Meeting.



# STORY TIME!

by the Rowlett Library

The Library offers story times for all ages...



## **The Young & the Restless Baby Story Time**

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

For babies up to age 2

November 3 – Visit the Country

November 10 – I Like to Eat

November 17 – Yummy Food

November 24 - *No Story Time*

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

November 4 – Trains

November 11 – Flags

November 18 – Company's Coming

November 25 – *No Story Time*

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 Thursday @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.

For children 3 years of age and older

November 5 – Clip-Clop

November 12 – Whooo's That Owl?

November 19 – Toy Time

November 26 – *No Story Time*

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

## **Pajama Story Time**

Tuesdays @ 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!

## **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. Best of all? This can be found at your Library!

## **Prime Time Book Club**

Thursdays, @ 4:00 P.M.

Ages 6-11

October will feature creepy, scary stories during this weekly after-school reading club for elementary school students in grades 1 through 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.

## Library NEWS



### **Library Card Signup Month**

Winners of the Library Card Sign-Up Month prize drawings were Marianne Sasseen (left) and Augustine Whittington (right). The **275 new library cards** issued in August were a **14 percent increase** over August, 2014. August, 2015 library card renewals, 333 in number, jumped 53.5 percent when compared to August of last year!

*Keep reading, Rowlett!*



## **YOU ASKED...WE LISTENED**

For our patrons' convenience, Library fines over \$5.00 may now be paid by credit card!

# ROWLETT LIBRARY OFFERS TECH ASSISTANCE!



## *Phil's Technology Corner*

### **Learn How to *USE* Your Software with Atomic Training!**

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

This month, we'll explore a new database the library is offering called Atomic Training, a collection of video tutorials for different kinds of software. Do you have a Zinio account? Then you're all set up with Atomic Training. If not, it's easy to get started!

We'll begin at the [library's catalog page](#). Click in the upper right corner to log in with your library card number and PIN. Don't have them? Give us a call at 972-412-6161 and we'll look them up. Once you're logged in, look on the left side of the screen and you'll see the library's databases. There's a lot of neat stuff here, so make sure to come back later and see what else is available. Follow the link to the Atomic Training login page, where you'll need to either create an account or log in. To create an account, provide your name, email, and make up a password. Logged in now? Click on the blue "Browse Tutorials" button to access to the main Atomic Training page. There you'll see five tabs across the top of the screen, but the first three are the ones you really need.

The first tab, Discover, has a full list of available videos, broken down by category and software company. The companies are Microsoft, Adobe, Apple, and Google. Clicking on any of those headings will drop down a menu of available software tutorials. For each type of software, the videos are broken down into short chunks, so you don't have to set aside an afternoon to watch one. If you only have ten minutes, only watch ten minutes worth of videos and just focus on a couple of topics. The tutorial videos follow a logical progression to learn about the software, so if you wanted a full course of something, start with the first video and make your way through. However, since the videos are broken down topically, it's easy to find just what you want. For example, if you wanted videos on Excel formulas, search or browse just that topic. Finding videos is fairly straightforward, too. Use the Discover tab to browse them all, or use the Search tab (the second one on the top of the screen) to look for something specific. You can also mark videos as favorites, so it's easy to get back to them later. Just click on the star icon next to the video title to save it. Later, when

you want to watch it again, click on that third tab, Favorites.

I mentioned the four companies earlier, but those aren't the only software training available. Back on the Discover tab, click on the Additional Training menu, which serves as a kind of miscellaneous folder for software that doesn't fit into one of the other categories. One of the video links under Additional Training is Computer Basics, which is great if you or someone you know needs help when just starting out on a computer. The last category is Online Workshops. This is a series of videos that aren't necessarily software focused, but are useful nonetheless. For example, there are career building videos on time management and communication skills, as well as videos on mobile phones, among other things.

We're excited to provide this new database, along with all of the other handy databases already in place, and hope everyone gets a lot of use out of it. If you have any questions about Atomic Training or other databases we offer, please give us a call at 972-412-6161.

## One-on-One 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!

# Distracted Shoppers

## Avoid becoming a victim of theft!

As we enter into the busy holiday shopping season, criminals know shoppers will be carrying more cash, credit cards and checks. Your Rowlett Police Department offers these helpful strategies to help get you through the season with all of your personal property still in your possession!

**KEEP YOUR HEAD UP, your eyes open and display confidence.** Make eye contact when you are walking or shopping. Criminals choose the victim who looks like the easiest target.

**LOOK AROUND a parking lot before you exit your vehicle.** Lock it and activate the alarm when you walk away. Be prepared - have keys in hand when returning to your vehicle.

**AVOID placing your purse in a shopping cart** but if you must, don't turn your back on it even for a second. Criminals often "shadow" shoppers and will quickly remove the wallet or purse when their victim is distracted. They may have someone engage you in a conversation or ask for assistance while an accomplice takes your wallet out of your purse. A criminal may even drive or walk by a victim in a parking lot and snatch their purse from a cart while groceries or packages are being loaded into the car.

**SHOP with a friend.** The chance of being victimized drops dramatically when you are with a companion.

**CARRY only what you need.** Leave large purses at home and carry a smaller billfold or long strap wallet purse that you can put over your neck and shoulder and carry concealed under a coat. If you must carry a purse, keep it in front, close to your body.

**CARRY only small amounts of cash and the credit cards you plan to use that day.** Leave your social security card at home - if stolen, it can be used as the "key" to your credit and identity. Carry keys and ID in a pocket rather than in a purse.

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**“Remember your life is the most important thing and property can be replaced. If a suspect attempts to take your property by force, let it go. If you are threatened or a suspect displays a weapon (or claims to have one), give them what they want.”**

*Lt. David Nabors  
Rowlett Police Department*

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**BE ALERT and aware of your surroundings at all times.**

Know who and what is around you.



**BECOME a good observer.** Here are some signs of possible distraction theft tactics:

- *Individuals who seem to be strangers to each other yet appear to be signaling to one another. They may be on cell phones talking to a lookout.*
- *Individuals sometimes distract by asking for help reaching for something, spilling something, make a loud commotion or bumping their victim.*
- *Individuals that are watching people and not shopping or engaging in an event like those around them.*
- *Individuals loitering in areas with lots of people, staying in stores or parking lots for exceptionally long periods of time, mostly just looking around or shadowing potential victims.*
- *Individuals talking together and then splitting up, only to meet again at another location.*
- *Individuals asking for change. This may be a ruse to locate a victim's wallet or money location.*
- *Individuals cruising a parking lot looking for victims.*

For more information on crime prevention, please contact Officer Chad Caldwell at 972-412-6242.

# Holiday Cooking Safety

Fire Marshal Bryan Beckner Offers Some Important Home Safety Advice for the Holiday Season.

According to the National Fire Prevention Association, Thanksgiving Day leads the way with the highest instance of home fires involving cooking equipment of any day throughout the year!

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Our kids love to help and sample what we are preparing, in fact we all love to be involved in the holiday preparations!



- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop to keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep children at least three feet away from the stove.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, purses or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.

- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from the stovetop.
- Keep a lid nearby to smother small grease fires when cooking. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.

“Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people in the home.

Take some time to ensure everyone has a memorable holiday meal...for the right reasons and not because the Fire Department had to pay a visit!”

Make sure smoke alarms are working before the holiday cooking frenzy begins. Test them TODAY by pushing the test button! For more information, [email](#) or call Fire Marshal Beckner at 972-463-3940.

## Rowlett on the Move Monthly Newsletter

Click on **Notify Me** at [www.rowlett.com](http://www.rowlett.com) to have City news delivered right to your inbox!

Enjoy all the news, information, calendar of events and helpful crime and safety tips provided in this publication each and every month. Subscribe today and never miss an issue!

The screenshot shows the Rowlett City website with a navigation bar including 'OUR COMMUNITY', 'GOVERNMENT', 'DEPARTMENTS', 'RESIDENTS', and 'E-SERVICES'. A red arrow points to the 'NOTIFY ME' button under the 'OUR COMMUNITY' section. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for 'CONSTRUCTION DETAILS', 'ACTION CENTER', 'ONLINE BILL PAY', and 'PET FINDER'. The main content area features a 'Welcome to the City of Rowlett, Texas!' message, a 'ROWLETT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT' sidebar, and a 'ROWLETT NEWS' section with articles about town hall meetings, animal shelter hours, and water restrictions. A 'CITY CALENDAR' sidebar is also visible.

# Rowlett

## City Calendar

# November

1	2	3 <b>City Council Meeting</b> 7:30 pm @ City Hall	4	5	6 <b>One-on-One Tech Help @</b> Library	7 <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn: Cinderella</b> 2pm @ RCC
8	9	10 <b>Senior Health Checks @ RCC</b> <b>Medicare Seminar</b> 10am @ RCC <b>Planning &amp; Zoning Meeting</b> 6pm @ City Hall	11 <b>Veterans Day Ceremony</b> 11am @ RCC	12 <b>Senior Lunch Social</b> 11:30am @ RCC	13 <b>One-on-One Tech Help @</b> Library	14
15	16	17 <b>City Council Meeting</b> 7:30 pm @ City Hall	18	19	20 <b>One-on-One Tech Help @</b> Library	21 <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn: Charlie Brown Thanksgiving</b> 2pm @ RCC
22	23	24 <b>Planning &amp; Zoning Meeting</b> 6pm @ City Hall	25	26 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> City Facilities Closed No Trash Collection	27 City Facilities Closed	28
29	30 <b>Kids Kingdom Build Week begins!</b>					