



WHAT'S INSIDE:



Dogs now welcome on participating restaurant patios!

PAGE 3



Light Up Rowlett, new outdoor holiday decor award!

PAGE 5



Stop a Cop for Christmas Annual Toy Drive!

PAGE 7

a monthly newsletter for the Rowlett community

Rowlett On the Move

Saturday, December 3 MAIN STREET FESTIVAL AND HOLIDAY PARADE

New Activities Added for 2016!



What better way to kick off the holiday season than with the annual Holiday Parade, followed by a fun filled night of live music, Tree Lighting Ceremony and lots of fun, family activities.

The Noon Exchange Club Parade gets the party started at 3:00 P.M. Due to the ongoing Village of Rowlett construction downtown, *the parade will begin at Commerce Street and end at the Rowlett High School parking lot.*

Pecan Grove Park will be transformed into a twinkly wonderland for the holiday season! This year's event brings fun new activities, including holiday lights and a "trail of trees" winding through the park from the Coyle House to the Rowlett Community Centre. Enjoy festive live music by the Lakeshore Symphonic Winds and Christmas Carolers, indulge your palate with favorite festival foods, preserve warm memories by getting pictures with Santa on the Coyle House porch, stop by Santa's Workshop, but that's not all. There are a few other surprises still to come!

3:00-4:00pm Parade
4:00-6:00pm Live Music & Festival Fun
6:00-7:00pm Tree Lighting Ceremony

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System Fully Implemented in 2018

Upgraded AMI Radio Antenna Installation Begins

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) antennas will transmit water consumption data directly to the City's Utility Billing Department.

The City of Rowlett has partnered with Pedal Valves, who will begin replacing the radio antennas for its upgrade of the water meter reading system on November 7. Approximately 18,000 meter radio antennas will be upgraded during the next six to nine months. These new Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) antennas will transmit water consumption data directly to the City's Utility Billing Department, thereby eliminating the need to drive by locations to acquire the meter readings.

AMI smart water meters help conserve and ensure a better water future. Working with our customers is the best way to reduce water use, improve the reliability and sustainability of our water system and minimize cost. When the system is fully implemented in late 2018, water customers will have the ability to access their daily water consumption online. Smart meter customers will have the tools and information to help save water and money!



continued on page 2

Mayor Gottel Nominated for Texan of the Year

Congratulations to our own Mayor Todd Gottel (BatMayor!) on his nomination as 2016 Dallas Morning News (DMN) Texan of the Year. His nomination specifically recognized his extraordinary efforts to



assist our community in the wake of the December 26, 2015 EF4 tornado. Others active in that response also nominated for this honor include First Baptist Rowlett senior pastor Cole Hedgecock and First Rowlett United Methodist Church associate pastor Dretha Burris!

This designation recognizes a Texan (or Texans) who has had uncommon impact --either positive or negative --over the past year. In December, the DMN editorial board will name one Texan of the Year and nine finalists, who will be featured in editorials that will publish over two weeks, followed by a Sunday Points cover essay focused on the 2016 Texan of the Year.

Upgraded AMI Radio Antenna Installation Begins

continued from page 1

WHAT IS AMI?

→ AMI stands for Advanced Metering Infrastructure. It is a method of using communication technology to read meters remotely without having to access the meter located in meter boxes in the ground.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

→ The City of Rowlett has chosen a fixed based network that provides two-way communication from the meter box to strategically located Base Stations. The City is replacing radio antennas throughout Rowlett with new antennas. The radio antenna, also referred to as an MXU, is used to collect and transmit meter reading data, unique identification numbers, operating status, and various alarms at regular intervals to the Base Stations.

WHY IS THE CITY UNDERTAKING THIS EFFORT?

→ Advanced meter systems are quickly becoming the standard for utilities around the country. These new devices allow for more accurate and faster collection of water usage readings than the current manual method and improve safety conditions for City staff. Currently, the meter readers must drive by almost every meter box to obtain a reading from the meter. Introducing automatic meter reading as the standard for Rowlett is one of the ways we can better serve our customers and improve the overall efficiency of the utility department.

WILL THE ELECTRONIC DEVICE INTERFERE WITH OTHER EQUIPMENT?

→ No. The radio transmission operates in compliance with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations to avoid interference with other electronic devices.

IS THE ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND DATA ENCRYPTED?

→ Yes. Data transmitted from the meter through the system is encrypted throughout the entire process.

CAN I ACCESS DAILY READINGS ONLINE?

→ Yes, when the system is fully implemented in late 2018, water customers will have the ability to access a variety of data, including daily water consumption, online.

DO I HAVE TO BE HOME FOR THE ANTENNA REPLACEMENT WORK?

→ No. Since the water meters are located outside of the home in the City right-of-way, you will not need to be home for the replacement work.

DOES MY METER HAVE TO BE REPLACED?

→ For the majority of customers, no. In most instances the meter will not be replaced, only the radio will be replaced with an upgraded AMI unit. There will, however be some instances where a meter is replaced due to poor electronic communications.

HOW DOES AMI BENEFIT CUSTOMERS?

→ Improved customer service by increasing accuracy and frequency of meter readings. Minimized need to access meters at the property.

CAN I COVER UP THE METER AFTER THE INSTALLATION?

→ No. Access needs to be available at all times. There will still be instances when meter technicians will visit the meter on site to perform routine maintenance, verify high readings, or emergency shut off. For example, be careful during the fall foliage season not to cover your water meter with piles of leaves!

HOW WILL I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE MY READING & NOT SOMEONE ELSE'S?

→ Each radio frequency device has a unique identification number, which is transmitted along with the meter reading. The unique number is compared to your account record electronically to ensure a match.

Once fully implemented in 2018, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) antennas will transmit water consumption data directly to the City's Utility Billing Department and customers can check their daily water consumption online!

Restaurants Now Have the Option to Welcome Dogs on *Outdoor Patios!*

On October 18, the City Council approved an ordinance allowing food service establishments to welcome dogs on their outdoor patios!

It's no secret that dog owners enjoy the outdoors with their pets. However, one of the limitations to walking dogs in most urban environments is the lack of dog-friendly dining or refreshment facilities. Well, that's all changing here in Rowlett as our community welcomes more citizen-centered, foot traffic-oriented development with activities for people of all ages, as well as their dogs! In an effort to enhance the citizen-pet experience and make it friendlier and more accommodating, dogs will now be allowed on exterior patios of the food establishments who choose to welcome them.

To be clear, the choice to allow dogs on exterior patios will be up to each individual food establishment and is limited by certain minimum health requirements. The City's Environmental Services staff will include pet friendly inspections during their annual routine inspections.



HOW WILL YOU KNOW WHICH ROWLETT RESTAURANTS WELCOME YOUR DOG?

All participating establishments have a dog friendly sticker or sign that is clearly visible to the public!

THE NEW ORDINANCE...

...addresses where animals can be (outdoor patios only), no dog may occupy a seat, stool, bench, table, countertop, or other similar surface.

...specifies where animals may enter and exit, outlines clean up procedures for "accidents" and where animal clean up equipment can be stored.

...maintains that dogs must be kept on a leash with a collar or harness at all times, and requires a current rabies vaccination be attached to the collar or harness.

...defines what food staff service activities can be conducted in animal friendly areas, i.e. according to the Texas Food Establishment Rules Section 228.44, food staff may not handle or care for animals while on duty.



Dallas Mavericks *Tornado Relief Donation*

The Mavs Foundation, in conjunction with Albertsons Food Stores, recently delivered a truckload of household goods and supplies to the Tornado Relief Center on Rowlett Road. This couldn't have come at a better time because tornado relief supplies were very low.

The Tornado Relief Center, open Tuesdays, 5-7pm and Saturdays, Noon-2pm, was established to serve as a "one stop shop" for those wishing to donate goods and supplies, and for tornado victims to access those supplies as needed. Now that many homes are either livable again, or close to it, residents are very much in need of everyday household items. The Tornado Relief Center depends on donations to continue assisting them. Would you like to

donate? Needed items include non-perishable food, household goods, small household appliances, kitchen goods, cleaning supplies, storage supplies, baby and toddler items, toiletries, and bathroom supplies.

To the Mavs Foundation, the Rowlett community is extremely grateful for your generous donation, thank you!!





Keep Rowlett Beautiful *Park Recycling Bin Grant*

Residents enjoying Rowlett parks should expect to find them cleaner this fall, thanks to a grant by Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, in collaboration with Keep America Beautiful, which provided recycling bins for public parks across the City! Thank you to Keep Rowlett Beautiful executive director, Martha Brown, for applying for this grant on behalf of the City after learning that most of the parks in Rowlett didn't have recycling bins.

“We are excited to be a part of giving our community the opportunity to participate in the parks recycling program. A lot of our park visitors have expressed an interest in recycling, so we expect it to be a great success. City staff will track the amount of recyclables collected to measure the effectiveness of the program.”

Martha Brown

Now in its fourth year, the public park recycling grant program has awarded more than 3,400 recycling bins to Keep America Beautiful affiliates, local governments and other community organizations across 28 states to expand the availability of recycling. This investment in recycling infrastructure has improved recycling accessibility and convenience in a variety of park settings, including neighborhood and larger regional parks, beaches, athletic fields and walking trails.

Rowlett Offers *Text to 9-1-1* *Call if you can, text if you can't!*

Residents of Rowlett have a tool at their disposal should they need help in an emergency situation and are unable to speak or hear. Rowlett Police Department accommodates text-to-911, which allows residents and visitors to interact with emergency services via the text message feature of their wireless phone.

Making a voice call to 9-1-1 is always the best way to get help in an emergency. However, if you are in a situation where speaking could put you in danger or you have trouble hearing or speaking, sending a text to 9-1-1 may be your best option.

When texting to 9-1-1, just enter the numbers 911 in the number field; do not include any spaces or dashes. In the message field, type in your exact location including the address, if possible. If you do not know the address, give as much detail as possible by using intersections and landmarks. Type a brief description of the problem, then press send. A text message is routed to a 9-1-1 call center based on location, just like a 9-1-1 call.

Important Tips on Texts to 9-1-1

Pictures and videos cannot be sent to 9-1-1, so only use text.

Keep your messages brief and to the point.

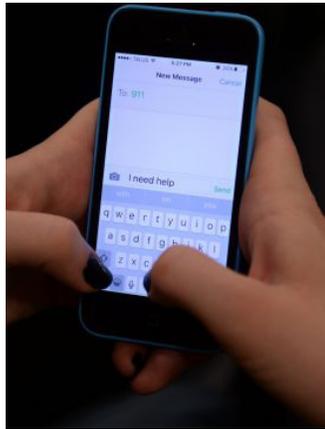
Avoid using slang or abbreviations.

The 9-1-1 personnel will ask questions and give instructions; do not leave the conversation until instructed to by 9-1-1 personnel.

When traveling outside of Rowlett, text to 9-1-1 may not be available. In the event you attempt to text 9-1-1 from an area where it is not available, you will receive an automated message from the wireless phone provider indicating that a voice call must be placed to 9-1-1.

In an emergency, your voice is still the best way to ensure the fastest and most appropriate and reliable response.

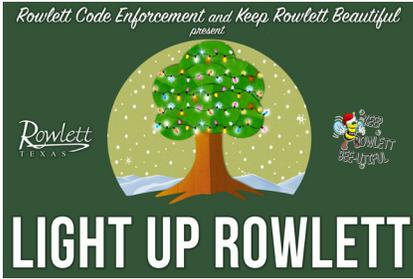
Call if you can, text if you can't.



Judge Pam Liston Installed *Chief Municipal Judge*



On September 30, 2016, Judge Owen Lokken retired as the City of Rowlett's Chief Judge. As a result, on September 20, 2016, the City Council appointed Pamela Harrell Liston as the new Chief Judge effective October 1, 2016. Judge Liston has 22 years of legal experience, more than 20 of which have been as a municipal judge or prosecutor. She was the prosecutor for the City of Rowlett for 15 years before being appointed as Associate Judge in Rowlett in 2011 and has continued in that role for the past five years. Judge Liston is a member of the State Bar of Texas and is admitted to practice law before all Texas courts, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court.



Holiday Neighborhood Beautification Award

The City of Rowlett and Keep Rowlett Beautiful are excited to announce the inaugural “Light Up Rowlett” awards!

Saluting the time and effort that goes into outdoor décor, one home in each quadrant of the City will be selected for their outstanding holiday displays during the week of December 12-16. Police and Fire Rescue staff will have this honor, as they are the folks out and about in the evenings enjoying the festive decorations!

Touring our neighborhoods to see lights and yard displays is a holiday tradition and a great way to create lasting memories with family and friends.

Another great way to share the holiday season is to decorate your neighborhood entryway feature. The City will feature festive entryway features on Rowlett.com and Facebook pages throughout the holiday season. So make everyone’s holidays merry and bright, gather your neighbors together to hang a wreath or decorate a tree and enjoy the display every time you enter your neighborhood.

**Contact Community Advocate
Coordinator Elise Bowers
972-412-6165
ebowers@rowlett.com
for more information**

Ho-Ho-Ho Holiday Relief

Holiday Decoration Drive for Tornado-impacted Residents

Tornado survivor Jim Holt works year-round as a “Christmas Man” for lighting supplier, 1000bulbs.com, based in Garland. Just recently back in his home after a 70 percent rebuild, Jim realized that most of those touched by the storm lost much of what they had, including holiday lights and decorations. Although after months of relocation many affected residents are back in their homes, thoughts of the upcoming holiday season may not be merry and bright. The Christmas Man was not OK with this. After persuading his suppliers to donate last year’s leftover items or those not in lots big enough to sell to the stores, Jim’s boss agreed to pay for all incoming freight from those donations and the Ho-Ho-Ho Holiday Relief ball was rolling!

After starting a Facebook page to identify those in need of lights and decorations, so many expressed a desire to assist that Jim and his volunteers are now welcoming the public to share in this effort. The Ho-Ho-Ho Holiday Relief volunteers want to provide tornado impacted families with everything they need to LIGHT UP the holiday and make their neighborhoods festive again. Please consider giving new outdoor lights and decorations, Christmas Trees, greenery, ornaments, wreaths, stockings and other décor to help brighten the holiday season! Don’t have time to shop? Consider donating a gift card, Ho-Ho-Ho Holiday Relief volunteers will shop for items to donate!

“I hope people feel normal again. I hope they feel like they have a festive holiday instead of a dark holiday. They can obtain a little hope and good cheer by knowing that others are standing in the gap with them to help them have a really good holiday season!”

Jim Holt

Would You Like to Give? Donation Locations & Times

Church in the City Relief Center
6005 Dalrock, Rowlett (corner of Dalrock and Hwy 66)
Tues/Wed/Thurs: 2:00-7:00pm

Tornado Relief Center
4813 Rowlett Rd., Rowlett
Tues: 5-7pm, Sat Noon-2:00pm

Sharing Life Community Center
3544 E Emporium Circle, Mesquite (next to Lakepointe Church in Mesquite)
M/T/W/F: 9am-5pm, Thurs: 9am-7pm, and Sat: 9am-Noon

Do You Need Decorations? Distribution Dates & Locations

Church in the City Relief Center
6005 Dalrock, Rowlett (corner of Dalrock and Hwy 66)
Saturday, November 19: 10am-2pm

Joseph’s House
6310 Lyons Rd, Garland (next to Living Hope Baptist Church)
Saturday, November 19: 9-11am

Sharing Life Community Center
3544 E Emporium Circle, Mesquite (next to Lakepointe Church in Mesquite)
Tuesday, November 15: 9am-5pm

For more information, please visit the [Ho-Ho-Ho Holiday Relief Facebook page](#) or email hohoho.holiday.relief@gmail.com.

2016 Top 55 Residential Projects Bayside Ranks #3



American City Business Journals, the largest publisher of metropolitan business newsweeklies in the United States, has published their Top 55 New Residential Projects of 2016...and Rowlett’s own Bayside has ranked #3!!

[**Read the story here!**](#)

With 43 business publications across the country, including the **Dallas Business Journal**, American City Business Journals provides unsurpassed coverage of the country’s commercial real estate market.

RECENTLY IN ROWLETT...

Bayside Regatta



Benefitting the Rebuild Rowlett effort, the Bayside Regatta on Saturday, October 1 offered a day of racing, BBQ cook-off, kid's activities, live music and more!

Relay For Life



Mayor Gittel (center) and City Councilmembers (l to r) Brown, Dana-Bashian, Hargrave, van Bloemendaal and Bobbitt participated in the recent Relay for Life.

Keep Rowlett Beautiful Volleyball Court Grant



Keep Rowlett Beautiful was a recipient of a 2016 Anheuser-Busch \$3,000 Community Restoration Grant to help restore public spaces and strengthen the communities that have been damaged by severe weather. Volunteers are not only restoring the sand volleyball court located in Lakeside Park, which was destroyed in the December 26, 2016 tornado, but adding some benches as well.

Would you like to help? KRB will be finishing this project on Saturday, November 12, 9-11am. Why not join the fun?

National Prescription Take Back Day



A total of 209 pounds of unwanted/unused prescription drugs were collected on Saturday, October 22!

National Night Out



Thank you to all of the Rowlett residents who organized their neighborhood parties on Tuesday, October 1. Your City staff, Mayor and Councilmembers had a great time meeting and chatting with everyone!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Veterans Day
Friday, 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.



Tornado Anniversary Remembrance

Monday, December 26
4:00 P.M.
Schrade Bluebonnet Park
(4701 Sunnybrook)

Mark the one year anniversary of the EF4 tornado that so devastatingly affected Rowlett with music, fellowship and the unveiling of a 30' memorial sculpture design. This event will also serve as an unveiling for the new park design, which when complete, will feature a splash pad, playground, pavilion, and restrooms along with a reflection area housing the tornado memorial sculpture.



City of Rowlett Holiday Closings

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

Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25

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

Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26

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

Monday, January 2

Waste Management Holiday Closings

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

Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 24



Annual Stop a Cop for Christmas Toy Drive

Saturday, November 26 – Saturday, December 23



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 3
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 10
2:00 – 6:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 17
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 or 972-412-6242.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Senior Lunch Social

Thursday, November 10
11:30 A.M.

Rowlett Community Centre

Held monthly on the second Thursday. Bring a side dish to share and the Parks & Recreation Department will provide the main entrée, which in November is pizza! Please pre-register by calling 972-412-6170



Senior Waxahachie Tour

Wednesday, November 30
9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

\$20

Visit the sites and historical locations in Waxahachie, with tour guide, Rosemary Rumbley. Trip will include a tour of a historic home, a visit to a historic hotel, and lunch at the famous Dove's Nest. Bus will depart from the RCC. Call 972-412-6170 for more information or to register.



Senior Healthcare Seminar

Tuesday, November 15

Rowlett Community Centre

Sponsored by SCOR The seminars will address important health and independent living topics which are important to Senior citizens. These programs will be held on the third Tuesday of each month. A new topic will be presented each month.



AARP Smart Drivers Class

Saturday, December 3

9:00 A.M. – Noon

\$15 AARP members

\$20 non-members

This refresher course for drivers age 50 and older has helped millions of drivers remain safe on today's roads. Tune up driving skills and update knowledge of the rules of the road.

COMMUNITY SERVICES NEWS

The Story of Gabby...



This month, we highlight two special dogs that were adopted, and that's because they were adopted together! Gabby came to the shelter in September as a stray wandering Rowlett. She was a little timid at first, but once she got to know the staff, she warmed up. In fact, Gabby was featured during Mayor Gottel's pet segment at a City Council meeting in October and she did a great job! When Xena was brought to the shelter in October, staff just knew that Gabby would help calm

...and Xena!



her and bring her out of her shell. Boy, did she! Both girls are full of energy and loved to run and play with each other. They really became bonded. On October 22, the luckiest of families came in and got to interact with the two girls. They knew right away that these energetic beauties would be a perfect fit for their home. Now these girls get to spend every day together, plus they have a family to call all their own.

There are lots of GREAT pets looking for their forever home at the Rowlett Animal Shelter, please visit today and check them out!

FALL FUN

at the Rowlett Library

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

Family Story Classics

Saturday, November 5 - 2:00 P.M.

Come in for stories and a craft, November's theme gratitude. Listen to readings of Amelia Bedelia Talks Turkey, The Thankful Book, and Ten Thank-You Letters and then create turkeys to help keep track of all the reasons to be thankful this season.

Recipe Swap

Saturday, November 12 - 2:00 P.M.

Stuff your friends and family with something new this holiday season! Bring in your favorite recipes and we'll copy them for other members of the group. Join us and share your new pie recipe or discover shortcuts for traditional dishes. Be prepared to devour some yummy samples provided by Library staff.

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

Saturday, Saturday, November 19 - 2:00 P.M.

A special Family Saturday program will celebrate the release of the new movie in the Harry Potter Book Series, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. Make your own collection of Fantastic Beasts to take home using origami or rubber bands or other craft materials. All materials, including "suitcase," provided.

Love on a Leash

Wednesday, November 9 - 4:00 P.M.

Independent young school-age readers have the opportunity to improve skills and read aloud to doggy reading companions in a safe non-threatening environment. Program occurs monthly on the second Wednesday. Call to make reservations, or sign up at the Library Service Desk today at 972 412-6161.

Whatever on Wednesdays

Wednesdays @ 4:00 P.M.

Ages 13-18

Get together with other teens and discuss current books, media and online content. Topics could include the best TV series for a weekend binge, the best Internet viral videos, the best games from Tabletop and of course, the best Young Adult books. Best of all? This material can all be found at the Rowlett Library!

Crazy 8's Math Club

Thursdays @ 4:00 P.M.

Ages 6-12

Elementary-age children learn that math is fun! Every week, kids build stuff and make a mess with math!



The Young & the Restless Baby Story Time

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

For babies up to age 2

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

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

Ages 2-4

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

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

Preschoolers

Continues a child's introduction to the alphabet and promotes early word recognition by encouraging little ones almost ready for school to read along and learn rhymes.

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH, OR NANOWRIMO!

NaNoWriMo is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. All month, participants work toward the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 PM on November 30. Over 250 NaNoWriMo novels have been traditionally published! They include Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*, Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, Hugh Howey's *Wool*, Rainbow Rowell's *Fangirl*, Jason Hough's *The Darwin Elevator*, and Marissa Meyer's *Cinder*.

The Rowlett Public Library's program will be for teens, 17 years and younger. By joining us for the Young Writers Program, your word total can be less than the 50,000 words for the regular program. We will be writing 250 words a day for 30 days for a total of 7,500 words.

To join the virtual classroom for Rowlett Public Library, visit <https://ywp.nanowrimo.org/>, "create" your novel (you can change it later), sign in, and then choose to join the Screaming Eagles Classroom. Our password is WEJCYPR. The Screaming Eagles will meet at the Library on Wednesdays in November (except for Thanksgiving week) at 4:30 if you need inspiration, or just join us virtually by email!

Adults can participate in NaNoWriMo by creating an account at nanowrimo.org, where you can track your progress as well as interact with other writers.

In observance of Thanksgiving, the Library will close at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23 and will reopen Saturday, November 26.

ROWLETT LIBRARY OFFERS TECH ASSISTANCE!



Phil's Technology Corner

Organize! Set Up Email Folders & Filters

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

You probably get a ton of email. Between work, communication from friends and family, and notifications from online services we use, our inboxes are regularly flooded with messages. That's not counting all the spam that sneaks in with our regular mail. Folders are a great way to organize all of that mail and make it more manageable. Your email already comes with a set of pre-established folders, such as inbox, sent, junk, and deleted folders. You can create even more. For example, you could create folders for Facebook emails, purchase emails (Amazon, eBay, etc.), family emails, and so on. Using folders keeps your inbox more organized, and makes it easier to find emails if you need them later.

For the sake of brevity, I'm going to use Gmail to describe examples of setting up folders and filters. However, other email services can do this as well, it may just look a little different. Gmail uses the word "label" instead of "folders", but labels function the same way folders do. To set up folders in Gmail, first look at the left side of the screen. Beneath your default folders (inbox, junk,

etc.), there will be a link that says "Manage labels." Depending on your browser and how you've previously set up Gmail, you may need to click "More" to display the "Manage labels" link. Click on it, and you'll be taken to a list of labels to which you can add or delete as you like. There are different options available for them, but to begin with just focus on creating the ones you feel will be useful for you. If you don't want to manage your labels, but create a new one, just click the "Create new label" link.

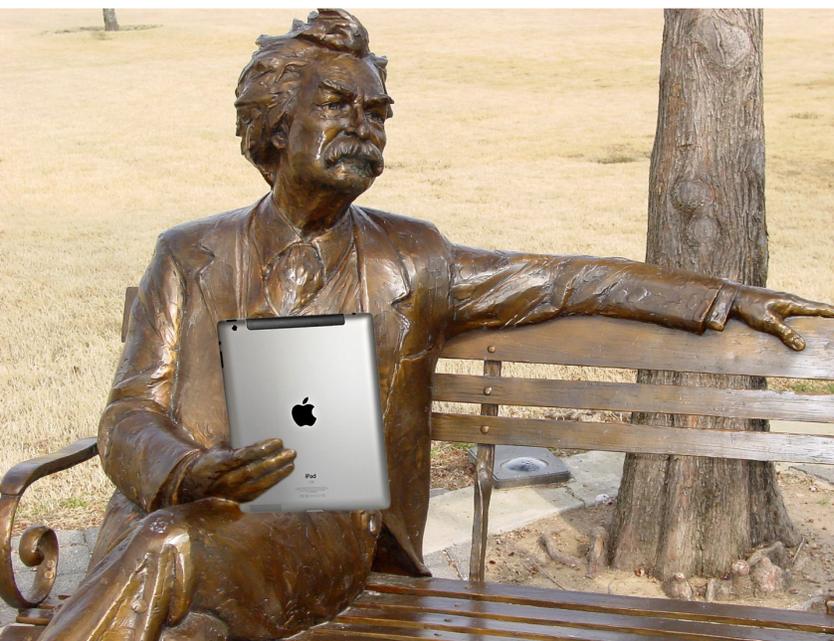
Folders are great from an organizational standpoint, but they do take a bit of time to set up and maintain. Once you've got your folders set up, you can use filters to automate the process of moving emails to those folders. With email filters, you establish a rule, and all emails that meet that rule follow a specific action. For example, if you set up a Facebook folder, you can then create a filter rule that says all emails from Facebook automatically get sent to the Facebook folder. Get enough folders and filters set up, and you'll have a much more manageable inbox.

To create new filters, go back to where you

had set up your folders (the manage labels link on the left side of the screen). Look at the top of the screen; one of the tabs will say "Filters and Blocked Addresses." Click on that tab, then on "Create a new filter." First you'll set the conditions to which the filter will be applied. Typically these conditions are if the email is from certain people, if it contains certain words, or if it has attachments. Once you define your conditions, click "Create filter with this search." Then, you'll choose what happens to emails that meet your criteria. You can do things like automatically delete messages, put them in folders, always mark important, never mark important, and others. Once you've made your choices click "Create filter." Going forward any email you receive that meets the conditions you've defined will automatically take the action you've chosen. You can always return to this filter later and edit it if you'd like to make changes.

If you're interested and need some assistance to set yours up, feel free to call 972-412-6161 or email me at pbarott@rowlett.com to schedule a free one-on-one appointment and I can walk you through the process!

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 Information Systems Administrator Phil Barott at 972-412-6161 or pbarott@rowlett.com. Reservations are on a first come first served basis so call today!

ROWLETT PARKS & RECREATION

Fall Programming at the RCC!

Young Anglers Club

6:00 P.M. Tuesdays, November 1-29 or December 6-27

\$25

This fun program will get your kids outdoors and teach them how to do some good ole fishing. We will take turns fishing different fishing spots around Rowlett just to show that you do not need a boat to fish. We will learn techniques and skills for bank fishing. Each participant will get a Rowlett Young Anglers Club patch!

Archery

6:00 P.M. Wednesdays, November 2-30 or December 7-28

Ages 6-14, \$20

Go on an archery adventure with a fully trained and experienced guide and learn the basic skills of archery, such as safety rules, terminology, bow and arrow identification and uses. All equipment will be supplied. The class is suitable for those that have no experience, or those that may just need a refresher.

Soccer Techniques and Teamwork

Saturdays, November 5-December 17 * 3:00 P.M. * \$77

Players will learn dribbling, passing, receiving, shooting, defense, etc. Fun skill games are played at every session, and every participant will have a ball at his or her feet. All participants receive a Kidz Love Soccer jersey!

Tot Pre-Soccer

Saturdays, November 5-December 17 * 3:45 P.M. * \$77

Teaches the basic techniques of the game and builds self-esteem through participation and fun soccer activities. Children learn to follow instructions in a nurturing, age appropriate environment. All participants receive a Kidz Love Soccer jersey!

Mommy/Daddy and Me Soccer

Saturdays, November 5-December 17 * 4:30P.M. * \$77

Introduce your toddler to the "World's Most Popular Game!" As you and your child participate in our fun age appropriate activities, your child will be developing their large motor skills and socialization skills. All kids receive a Kidz Love Soccer jersey!



Rowlett is Social!

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



Rowlett

City Calendar

November

		1 City Council Meeting 7:30 pm @ City Hall	2	3	4 One-on-One Tech Help @ Library	5 Family Story Classics 2pm @ Library
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends - 2am	7	8 Senior Health Checks @ RCC Healthcare Seminar 10am @ RCC Planning & Zoning Meeting 6:30pm @ City Hall	9 Love on a Leash 4pm @ Library	10 Senior Lunch Social 11:30am @ RCC	11 Veterans Day Ceremony 11am @ RCC One-on-One Tech Help @ Library	12 Holiday Recipe Swap 2pm @ Library
13	14	15 City Council Meeting 7:30 pm @ City Hall	16	17	18 One-on-One Tech Help @ Library	19 Fantastic Beasts & Where to Find Them 2pm @ Library
20	21	22 Planning & Zoning Meeting 6:30pm @ City Hall	23	24 Thanksgiving Day City Facilities Closed No Trash Collection	25 City Facilities Closed	26 Stop a Cop Toy Drive begins
27	28	29	30 Senior Waxahachie Trip 9am @ RCC			