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a monthly newsletter for the Rowlett community

# Rowlett

## On the Move

ISSUE NO. 1507

JULY, 2015

*Abundant Rain Washes Debris Downstream*

## Trash Clean-up in Lake Ray Hubbard

**Rowlett city leaders meet with City of Dallas representatives to address the issue and discuss developing a plan to help avoid a recurrence going forward.**

Trash washing downstream in Rowlett Creek, among other overflowing creeks, lakes and ponds, from communities to the north of us, such as Garland, Plano, Allen, Frisco and McKinney, has resulted in an unsightly mess along the Rowlett shores of Lake Ray Hubbard. This is particularly visible from the Rowlett Road bridge, as drivers pass over, either going in to or out of Garland. This trash is in the lake, and therefore the City of Dallas' jurisdiction, but the issue is truly a regional problem. An effort is underway by Rowlett and Dallas to work on a long-term plan, engaging



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**Rain-delayed construction now back underway!**

## AN UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENT

Our region has benefited from the unprecedented rainfall this spring, which resulted in full lakes across north Texas and the end of water restrictions. However, that abundant and much-needed rain also resulted in a delay of the construction of some of the exciting development projects here in the City of Rowlett. Good news, the rains have slowed down, summer is upon us and we are now beginning to see those projects get back underway!

Commercial development, such as Dairy Queen, the Lakeview Medical complex and, of course, Sprouts have really ramped up. Construction sitework is also beginning for the new Quik Trip on the corner of the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT), which includes the construction of a designated right turn lane onto the access road.

Exciting residential and mixed-use developments are also getting back underway. The Chamber of Commerce building was moved and the Library is all moved in, open and now enjoying their new home at 5702 Rowlett Road. These location changes were necessitated by the Village of Rowlett downtown development, which will break ground this fall. Look for progress soon on Terra Lago, Beacon Harbor and the Homestead at Liberty Grove as well!

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This catalytic transit-oriented development, *breaking ground this fall*, will change the face of Downtown Rowlett! The Village of Rowlett is a \$30 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 unique vibe all our own.

The project has been planned to highlight existing trees and offer a range of green amenities including a community garden,

## Village of Rowlett

**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**

dog park, yoga lawn, bocce ball court, pocket green courts, and urban streetscapes all in an effort to deliver an urban resort-like experience exclusive to Rowlett. Part of the planning effort has included a strategy to move the Chamber of Commerce and temporarily relocate the Library during the construction process, both of which were accomplished in May. 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.



**THE ROWLETT LIBRARY IS NOW OPEN AT 5702 ROWLETT ROAD, WHICH WILL BE HOME FOR THE NEXT 18-24 MONTHS WHILE THE VILLAGE OF ROWLETT IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION**



**THE ROWLETT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING HAS BEEN RELOCATED TO THEIR PERMANENT NEW LOCATION ON THE CORNER OF CENTENNIAL AND MAIN STREET.**



# Homestead at Liberty Grove

One of the key principles that came out of the Realize Rowlett 2020 visioning effort was the need for diverse housing options in order to make Rowlett a community that is attractive to people at all stages of their life. We have the market cornered on single family homes, what we now need, for example, is housing for seniors who don't want to

maintain their large homes and yards anymore, young professionals just out of college and young couples not yet ready for the bigger home! The Homestead at Liberty Grove will offer those options, helping to diversify the City's tax base by providing the population and demographics needed to attract commercial businesses.

**Located on Liberty Grove Road near Princeton Road, The Homestead at Liberty Grove is a \$200 million, multi-phased housing development project covering approximately 195.5 acres with 620 lots.**



The homes will also offer amenities like front and wrap around porches, bay windows, balconies, stoops and garden rooms, all designed to encourage social interactions and enhance the feeling of community within the neighborhood. All homes will either be on a park, across the street from a park or within a three-minute stroll down a narrow, tree-lined street from a park! The project will be completed over the next 8-10 years and, upon build out, will generate an excess of \$1,500,000 in annual property tax revenue to the City.



**Progress Report: Water, sewer and stormwater lines are 100% installed and subgrade preparation is underway.**



**Progress Report: Terra Lago will break ground this summer. Pre-construction site activity has begun, grading will begin soon.**

# Terra Lago

Located on Lake Ray Hubbard next to Scenic Point Park, Terra Lago will be a 447 unit very high-end mixed residential complex consisting of two four-and-five story buildings with an entrance into the park. This community will serve as a wonderful alternative to a "single family home" for the many employees of Lake Pointe Medical Center, the City's largest employer. The developer of Terra Lago has been very mindful of the adjacency to Scenic Point Park and adjoining neighborhoods and has worked to incorporate significant design elements such as open space, sidewalks, street trees and lighting to further enhance the public experience and interaction with the natural beauty of the site.



# Sprouts Farmers Market



Sprouts Farmers Market operates 175 stores in ten states and has become one of the largest specialty retailers of natural and organic food in the United States, generating revenue in excess of \$1 billion annually. Offering a different kind of shopping experience, fresh produce and grains are available from field bins, barrels and wooden crates. There's low shelving so the whole store is visible from the moment shoppers enter, with spacious aisles and bright, natural light that evokes the feel of an indoor farmers market.

The store, along with the adjoining 7,500 square feet of additional retail development, will create 75-80 new jobs and generate property tax and sales tax revenue of approximately \$62,500 annually to the City!

**Progress Report: The building is going up and Sprouts anticipates opening later this year!**



## Also Coming Soon...



*Dairy Queen - located just west of PGBT on Lakeview Parkway (next to Applebee's), anticipates opening this summer!*



*Lakeview Medical Offices - located just east of Chaha and Lakeview Parkway. Grading is complete and pads are being poured.*




*Quik Trip - located on the corner of PGBT and Lakeview Parkway. This project includes a designated right turn lane from Lakeview Parkway onto the access road!*





*Bullitt Multi-sport Complex - located at the corner of Liberty Grove and Princeton, construction is set to begin this summer.*

*Take a drive up and down Lakeview Parkway to see all the new construction!*

## Lake Trash Clean-up

with the other cities around the lake and upstream on a regional level to control the trash before it is washed into Lake Ray Hubbard. This is still in the very early stages and may take several months.

The good news is that Rowlett has met with the City of Dallas to work out an abatement plan for this debris. In July, Dallas will contract with a lake clean-up company to remove the worst part of the floating trash on the



# Rowlett Once Again Named a Playful City USA!

241 cities and towns, including Rowlett, earned recognition from national non-profit KaBOOM! as 2015 Playful City USA communities for their efforts to increase play opportunities

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, play is critical to healthy brain development. It allows children to use their creativity while simultaneously developing imagination, dexterity and physical, cognitive and emotional strength. Yet today's children spend less time playing outside than any previous generation in part because only 1-in-5 live within walking distance of a park or playground. The resulting play deficit is having profound consequences for kids physically, socially and academically.

the play deficit. Playful City USA communities are making a commitment to play and physical activity by developing unique local action plans to increase the quantity and quality of play in their community.



Cities like Rowlett are key allies in the fight to combat the play deficit and serve as outstanding role models for government and community leaders across the country.

Along with developing concepts and programs in an effort to increase play opportunities for children, KaBOOM! also selected Rowlett for the creation of the "While You Wait" program. Rowlett created a mobile recreation program to decrease disturbances from children and teens after school. The program resulted in reducing these disturbances and engages youth in fun activities they can look forward to.

Presented by The Humana Foundation, Playful City USA is a national program advocating for local policies that increase play opportunities for children and is a key platform in combating

*“At the end of the day, the issue of trash in the lake is not just a Rowlett issue or a City of Dallas issue. It is truly a regional problem and something that we all have to address.”*

Todd Gottel  
Mayor of Rowlett

lake – at the aforementioned Rowlett Road Bridge. This is not a “quick-fix” project, which could cost as much as \$200,000 (again, this cost will be funded by the City of Dallas) and take three or four weeks to facilitate. Something to note, deposits of driftwood will not be included in this garbage removal and is something that may warrant further discussions at a later date.

Keep Rowlett Beautiful is also planning a lakeshore clean-up campaign, which is a joint effort with the Cities of Rowlett and Garland. For more information on how you can help, please contact them at 972.463-3929 or [keeprowlettbeautiful.org](http://keeprowlettbeautiful.org).



Trash in Lake Ray Hubbard

Watch an informative YouTube video created by Rowlett staff illustrating this situation.

## Kids Kingdom Update

**Fundraiser: Fence Pickets for Sale**  
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 names, their business name or even a treasured pet engraved on their picket. These pickets are \$50 a piece and may be purchased [here](#). There are also many,

many playground features citizens may donate directly toward the purchase of, see those, along with pricing, [here](#).

November 18 – 20 are the pre-build days, a time when consultants from Play by Design (the City's playground contractor) will be onsite to get staff and volunteer leaders started on the build process and site preparation. Play by Design describes this visit as a time when much of the “heavy lifting” will be done, preparing the foundation of the playground and setting many of the required posts to attach the playground components to.

The new Kids Kingdom will be a “Community Build”



playground, like the original, and volunteers are actively being sought to assist in the rebuild. Volunteering to help rebuild the Kids Kingdom playground will impact generations of children in our community, affecting many aspects of their maturation process. Kids develop skills to enhance their growth physically, emotionally, mentally and socially on a playground.

*Please consider volunteering YOUR time to this valuable community asset! Send an email to [KidsKingdom@rowlett.com](mailto:KidsKingdom@rowlett.com) today!*

# City Provides Strong Financial Stewardship and Transparency



*CIP Bond projects are already in the planning and execution stages!*

## CIP Bond Projects and Refinancing

City has the opportunity to refund existing bonds to leverage better rate.

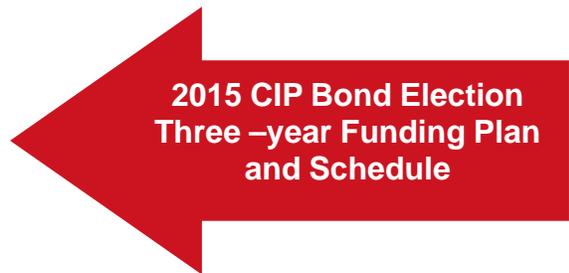
As shared in the May issue of this newsletter, the \$25.8 million capital improvement plan bond election passed on May 9. Projects funded by those bonds are fully in the planning and execution stages! Kids Kingdom will break ground in November, various parks improvements will soon be underway, and the pre-construction planning and design has begun on some of the streets projects. These bonds will be sold over a three year period as part of a pre-determined strategy to sell the bonds without having to increase the property tax rate.

Beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, the City's general obligation debt service starts to dramatically decline. This freed-up bond capacity provides the City the ability to sell \$25.8 million in general obligation bonds without a tax rate increase to the citizens

of Rowlett. To keep pace with construction efforts and based on projected tax value, the City will issue this general obligation debt over three-years, with the first \$10.1 million being issued in FY2015, \$4.8 million being issued in FY2016 and the final \$10.9 million being issued in FY2017. Staff will make every effort to complete as many of the projects as possible in that three-year period. Residents have asked the City why not sell all of the bonds at once? The reason for this is to provide strategic management of these projects. Selling the bonds over three years ensures

1. that the tax value is there to support the debt without a tax increase and
2. that the projects are able to be completed in a timely manner so that bond funds don't sit idle waiting for projects to occur.

CIP-PROJECTS - BOND ELECTION 2015 - THREE YEAR FUNDING PLAN/SCHEDULE						
Proj #	Project	Total Project Cost Estimate	Year 1 Costs 4Q/FY15	Year 2 Costs 4Q/FY16	Year 3 Costs 4Q/FY17	Totals
1	Primrose Lane Street Reconstruction	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000			\$1,550,000
1	Phase 1 Dalrock Estates Street Reconstruction	\$3,400,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,700,000	\$100,000	\$3,400,000
1	Phase 1 Highland Meadows Street Reconstruction	\$3,030,000	\$430,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,600,000	\$3,030,000
1	Phase 1 Lake Country Estates Street Reconstruction	\$3,650,000			\$3,650,000	\$3,650,000
1	Main St. Reconstruction from Roundabout to PGBT	\$1,870,000	\$1,870,000			\$1,870,000
1	Right Turn Lane on Main & PGBT	\$260,000	\$260,000			\$260,000
1	Merritt Road Interconnector Phase 2	\$1,500,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000
1	Traffic Signal at Chiesa & Liberty Grove	\$225,000	\$225,000			\$225,000
1	Alley Reconstruction Program	\$2,000,000	\$750,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$2,000,000
1	Advanced Traffic Mgmt System	\$800,000			\$800,000	\$800,000
1	Sidewalk Connections	\$280,000	\$80,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$280,000
<hr/>						
2	Pecan Grove	\$75,000	\$75,000			\$75,000
2	Wet Zone Waterpark	\$660,000	\$660,000			\$660,000
2	New Kids Kingdom	\$557,500	\$557,500			\$557,500
2	Rowlett Community Centre Renovation	\$350,000				\$350,000
2	Lakeside Park	\$185,000	\$185,000			\$185,000
2	Paddle Point Park	\$165,000		\$165,000		\$165,000
2	"Hike & Bike" Trail Plan	\$300,000	\$30,000	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$300,000
2	Katy Railroad Park Soccer	\$100,000	\$100,000			\$100,000
2	Katy Railroad Park Phase 2	\$310,000		\$0	\$310,000	\$310,000
2	Springfield Park	\$600,000		\$60,000	\$540,000	\$600,000
2	Community Park	\$665,000		\$66,500	\$598,500	\$665,000
2	Nature Trail	\$94,000		\$9,400	\$84,600	\$94,000
2	Veterans Park	\$33,000			\$33,000	\$33,000
2	Shorewood Park	\$30,000			\$30,000	\$30,000
<hr/>						
3	Public Safety Dept Training Center & Close Fiber Ring					
	Site Plan	\$550,000	\$50,000		\$500,000	\$550,000
	Fiber Optic	\$330,000	\$135,000	\$95,000	\$100,000	\$330,000
	Site Preparation	\$300,000	\$200,000		\$100,000	\$200,000
	Flatwork Parking	\$200,000	\$150,000		\$50,000	\$150,000
	Confined Space	\$150,000	\$150,000			\$150,000
	Trench Rescue	\$150,000	\$150,000			\$150,000
	Training Tower	\$700,000	\$150,000	\$550,000		\$700,000
	Driving Course	\$200,000			\$200,000	\$200,000
<hr/>						
All Projects Total:		\$25,269,500				\$25,119,500
<b>TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSE (ESTIMATED)</b>			<b>\$9,957,500</b>	<b>\$4,630,900</b>	<b>\$10,681,100</b>	<b>\$25,269,500</b>
<b>APPROXIMATE PROJECT FUNDS AVAILABLE (TARGET)</b>			<b>\$9,955,000</b>	<b>\$4,635,000</b>	<b>\$10,758,000</b>	<b>\$25,348,000</b>
			\$ (2,500)	\$ 4,100	\$ 76,900	
<b>APPROXIMATE COST OF ISSUANCE (adjusted on June 10, 2015)</b>			<b>\$130,000</b>	<b>\$115,000</b>	<b>\$176,500</b>	<b>\$421,500</b>
<b>BOND ISSUANCE AMOUNT (TOTAL EACH YEAR)</b>			<b>\$10,085,000</b>	<b>\$4,750,000</b>	<b>\$10,934,500</b>	<b>\$25,769,500</b>



**2015 CIP Bond Election  
Three-year Funding Plan  
and Schedule**

Please visit [www.rowlett.com/2015CIP](http://www.rowlett.com/2015CIP) for more information and to view this schedule.

## Bond Refinancing

A strategic part of the management of City debt involves continuous evaluation of debt service and the terms of existing bonds. Due to the current market, the City has the opportunity to refund bonds, much like refinancing your home to get a better interest rate, thereby obtaining significant savings in interest payments on some of these existing bonds.

As a result, the total amount of bonds the City will sell in July is approximately \$48.4 million, which consists of the \$10.1 million for new projects based on the successful May 9th election and \$38.3 million in refinancing bonds.

**In all, the City will refinance \$38.3 million, including:**

- **\$25.4 million in governmental bonds**
- **\$12.9 million in water & sewer revenue bonds**

**This will save the City \$2.6 million over the remaining life of the bonds.**



## American Heart Association Recognizes Rowlett Fire Rescue

### 2015 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Level Recognition Award

Rowlett Fire Rescue has received the 2015 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Level Recognition Award from the American Heart Association. The award is based on statistics from care provided in 2014, which highlighted Rowlett Fire Rescue EMS providers as the key to improvements in the outcomes of STEMI (cardiac) patients and patients who suffer a sudden cardiac arrest and who achieve return of spontaneous circulation. A STEMI is an ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction; a very serious heart attack during which one of the heart's major arteries is blocked.

The American Heart Association recognized Rowlett Fire Rescue as an agency that delivers thorough education in STEMI identification, provides essential access to 12-lead ECG heart monitors for immediate recognition and transmission of key information, and has developed protocols derived from American College of Cardiology (ACC)/American Heart Association STEMI Guidelines. Criteria to achieve Lifeline® EMS Gold Recognition is based on meeting the applicable achievement measures annually for at least two years with no single measure scoring below 75% and having achieved Silver recognition the prior year. Rowlett Fire Rescue EMS met and maintained these measures for Lifeline® EMS Gold Recognition, which has demonstrated their ability to implement technical requirements and best practices for a heart related patient.

*Rowlett citizens are truly receiving the absolute best pre-hospital care available anywhere!*

*AHA's Shanti Raj presented the 2015 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Level Recognition Award to Fire Chief Neil Howard and EMS Director Chris Weinzapfel at the June 2 City Council meeting.*

## Connect Rowlett Emergency Notification Service

**Extreme weather like we experienced this spring is just one reason for a mass notification system. The success of *Connect Rowlett* depends on Rowlett citizens, create your personal profile today!**

**T**he reason for a mass notification system is to expediently alert citizens about emergencies and other events of interest in their community. Having a mass notification system allows the City to do that with one simple message. As many residents have moved away from the traditional "land line" and now use their cell phones for calls, text and email, ***it's imperative that everyone register as individuals rather than as a household.*** This will ensure as many people as possible are notified when a disaster or emergency strikes!

### WHAT IS CONNECT ROWLETT?

*An emergency notification service which allows Rowlett residents to opt-in and receive information via phone, text messaging, e-mail and more based on locations and subjects relevant to them. These notifications would include events that may affect home, workplace, families, schools and more.*

### WHEN WILL IT BE USED?

*This system will be used to notify residents of imminent threats to health and safety as well as informational notifications that affect home and/or work environments. The City will send notifications regarding severe weather, flooding, gas leaks, police activity and more.*

### WILL I STILL GET EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS IF I DON'T SIGN UP?

*Yes, emergency notifications will still be sent to citizens in Rowlett based on 9-1-1 data, but citizens are encouraged to sign up to customize the way information is delivered.*

### WHAT IS IN MY PERSONAL PROFILE?

*Residents should include any health conditions, pets, vehicle information, emergency contact, home access points, anything that will help first responders be prepared and knowledgeable when a call to 9-1-1 is placed.*



## DID YOU KNOW...

### Kari's Law

The passage of "Kari's Law" requires Texas businesses with a multiline phone system provide direct access to 9-1-1 service without having to dial an additional digit or code first by September 1, 2015. This law is the result of an incident in late 2013 in Marshall, Texas when a nine-year old girl tried to call 9-1-1 from a hotel room because her mother, Kari Hunt, was being attacked by her estranged husband. Tragically, the child was unable to reach the 9-1-1 call center because she did not know to dial '9' first to get an outside line, and her mother died. Since his daughter's death, Hank Hunt and his family have made it their mission to educate the public and elected officials across the country about the need to change phone systems at hotels and other businesses.

*Your Rowlett public safety departments encourage businesses not to wait until the deadline and, if necessary, to reprogram phone systems today.*

**CONNECT ROWLETT: [SIGN UP HERE!!](#)**

# FIREWORKS AT BAYSIDE!

**Saturday, July 4**  
**6:00 – 10:00 P.M.**  
**Bayside (Dalrock and IH30)**

Join friends and neighbors for a fun-filled night for the whole family featuring live music, children's activities, food and, of course... FIREWORKS!

The City of Rowlett is so excited to welcome Sister Sledge as the headline act for this year's Fireworks at Bayside! They are established as one of the world's most successful female groups, earning rave reviews and selling millions of records worldwide. The album, 'We Are Family' soared past the RIAA Platinum mark, reaching the top of both Pop and R&B charts. Siblings Debbie, Kim, Joni, and Kathy Sledge - collectively Sister Sledge - began singing at an early age at the Williams Temple C.M.E. church in their hometown of Philadelphia. Since the 1979 release of



their breakthrough album 'We Are Family', this remarkable group has received over one hundred awards and commendations for outstanding work in the entertainment field. Other big hits include 'Lost in Music', 'Love Somebody Today', 'Reach Your Peak' and the international Gold Record, 'Frankie'.

### Food and Fun

All your favorite festival foods, including brisket sandwiches, snow cones, nachos, funnel cakes, hot dogs, and much more! Kid's activities include Bounce Houses, face painting, a touch-a-truck area where kids can see, touch and climb on all sorts of construction and public safety vehicles and more!

## Thank you to our community sponsors!

**Bayside Land Partners, LLC**

**98.7 KLUV**

**Lake Pointe Medical Center**  
**First Rowlett Methodist Church**

**State Farm**

**Hilton Dallas/Rockwall Lakefront**

**Waste Management**

**Chick-fil-A**

**Jason's Deli**

**Congressman Pete Sessions**

**Main Street Dental Care**



## Fireworks at Bayside Parking

Parking for the event will be in the grass fields of Bayside.

When leaving the event:

- The right lane out of Bayside will be routed onto eastbound IH30.
- The left lane will have the choice of entering westbound IH30 or continuing on Dalrock into Rowlett.

*The intersection of Dalrock and Chiesa will be closed at approximately 9:45 P.M. for traffic control purposes, so even if you don't plan to attend the event, please be aware of the traffic plans for the area.*

# VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



## 6th Annual Boards and Commissions Volunteer Fair

Thursday, July 30 - 6:30-8:00 P.M.  
Rowlett Community Centre

The City of Rowlett is a truly blessed community in so many ways. One of those is evidenced by the contributions made, day in and day out, by the hundreds of volunteers who so selflessly give of themselves to better their hometown.

Join us at the 6th Annual Boards and Commissions Volunteer Fair to learn about the various City boards and commissions and the opportunities available to serve on one of them. There will also be information about

volunteer opportunities at the Animal Shelter, Library, Police Department and more. These

*Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community in which you want to live.*

departments would all experience cuts in the services offered without the help of those

volunteering for the City. Volunteerism does not have to be a huge time commitment, the City will tailor a position to meet any potential volunteer's needs, be it an hour a week or 50 hours per month!

Keep Rowlett Beautiful and the Rowlett Citizen Corps Council (RCCC) will also be on hand to provide information about their organizations, which create opportunities for preserving the environment and serving in the public safety realm, respectively.

**SO FAR THIS FISCAL YEAR, ROWLETT CITIZENS HAVE VOLUNTEERED 13,695 HOURS A COST SAVINGS TO TAXPAYERS OF \$320,469!**

**16,437 HOURS WERE VOLUNTEERED IN FISCAL YEAR 2014, THE EQUIVALENT OF 7.87 FULL TIME EMPLOYEES, AT A TAXPAYER COST SAVINGS OF \$384,625**

*Thank You* to all of the citizens who volunteer in the City of Rowlett!

### Public Safety Volunteer Opportunity



*Being Prepared is Everyone's Responsibility.*

*Get Ready Today!*

## Become a Member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

### CERT Class

Saturday, August 1 and August 8  
8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

**The Rowlett area CERT team is actively recruiting residents to be trained in the CERT program, which includes Disaster Medical Operations, Light Search and Rescue and Fire Suppression following FEMA guidelines. The Rowlett Citizen Corps Council sponsors this two-day class, which is open to the public.**

The Rowlett **CERT** program is well established and integrated into the City of Rowlett's Emergency Plan. It serves an essential role in disaster preparedness and emergency response in the Rowlett area. During a natural or man-made disaster, CERT teams assist Fire and Police in doing damage assessment, accounting for residents and securing quick, accessible routes into neighborhoods. Rowlett CERT is also an essential component of large

City events, providing access and traffic control, fire watch, courtesy patrols, communications and information technology services, first aid stations, public information and education.

A course fee of \$20 covers disposable materials used in the class. For more information or to register for the class, visit [www.RowlettCERT.com](http://www.RowlettCERT.com) or email [CERT@rowlettcitizencorps.org](mailto:CERT@rowlettcitizencorps.org).

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



## Chamber of Commerce Freedom 5K

Saturday, July 4

7:45 A.M. - 1 Mile Fun Run

8:00 A.M. - 5K

\$25 for adults

\$10 for kids 12 and under

Come on out for a fun morning and support your Chamber of Commerce. Contests include

*Most Patriotic* and *Most Patriotic Pet!* Prices are good until June 19 to guarantee a shirt, after that the price will increase by \$5.00 and \$10.00 up to and including race day.

Register at [www.Rowlett5K.com](http://www.Rowlett5K.com)



## Senior Potluck Lunch Social

Thursday, July 9

11:30 A.M.

Rowlett Community Centre

A special themed lunch is held each month for our community's senior citizens. Join friends and neighbors for fun and

fellowship, July's menu features Pizza! Please pre-register at least two days in advance at 972-412-6170 and bring a side dish to share.

**City Facilities Closed Monday, July 6 for the Independence Day holiday.**

## 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](http://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

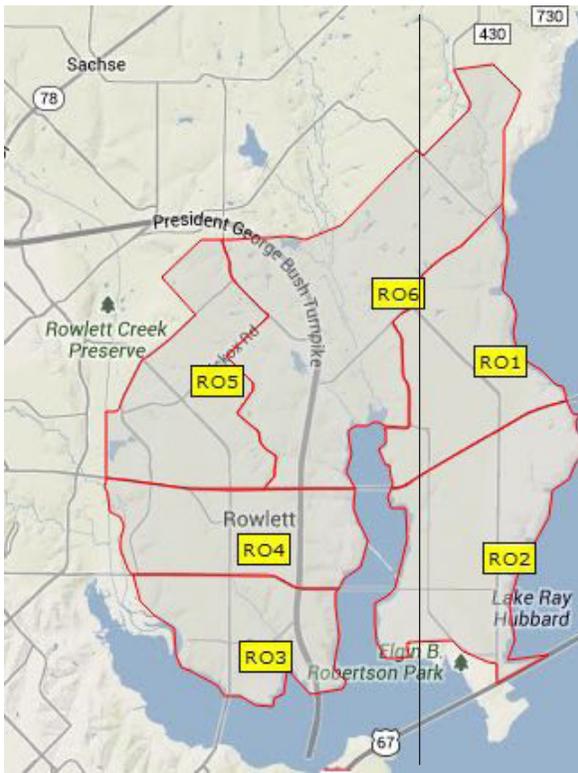
\$100 - First Place in each category  
\$150 - Best of Show

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

# MOSQUITO SEASON IS HERE

**AFTER AN EXTREMELY WET SPRING, PLEASE INSPECT YOUR PROPERTY FOR STANDING WATER!**

## 2015 MOSQUITO TESTING AND ABATEMENT PLAN



### THE CITY OF ROWLETT CONTRACTS WITH DALLAS COUNTY FOR MOSQUITO TESTING, ABATEMENT AND SPRAYING.

This contract covers ALL of Rowlett, including the portion that is located in Rockwall County.

In 2014, Dallas County increased the number of mosquito traps set in “zones” around Rowlett from five to six for a more even activity surveillance. Dallas County also changed the ground spraying strategy in an effort to more effectively combat the spread of West Nile Virus.

After studying the 2012 human cases, the County found it very difficult to determine just where the victims came in contact with the infected mosquitoes. Therefore, instead of waiting for a **human** to test positive for the virus, they now perform ground spraying of the entire zone when a **mosquito** testing positive is located.

- In Rowlett, mosquito testing will occur on Wednesdays.
- The City will be notified of results by 10:00 A.M. on Friday.
- If positive mosquitoes were present, ground spraying of the zone will occur at dusk **the same evening** (weather permitting).

The City will notify residents of the affected area through [Connect Rowlett](#) messages and information on the City’s website, [www.rowlett.com](http://www.rowlett.com).

## WHAT IS DALLAS COUNTY DOING?

Dallas County Health officials are working with the City of Rowlett to minimize the risk of residents of contracting mosquito borne diseases. Dallas County uses an

Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) program to abate mosquito populations. IMM uses various techniques that include the following tools:

**Surveillance** – The collection of mosquitoes to determine the location, species, quantity and virus potential.

**Source Reduction** – Remove water sources that support mosquito breeding habitats.

**Larvicide** – The use of EPA approved products to kill mosquito larvae in standing water or stocking water with mosquitofish.

**Adulticide** – The spraying of EPA approved products from trucks and planes to reduce mosquito populations. The pesticides that can be used for mosquito control have been judged by the EPA not to pose an unreasonable risk to human health.



### What Can I Do? Mosquito Proof!

Follow the **Four D's**

Remember: the Best Offense  
is a Good **D-fense!**

#### Dress

Wear long, loose and light-colored clothing to avoid mosquito bites when outside.

#### DEET

Use insect repellent products with “DEET” or other EPA approved repellents and follow product instructions.

#### Drain

Inspect property for standing water, regularly clean roof gutters, dump water from potted plants, change birdbath and pet water daily. Upend wheelbarrows, buckets, tires, cans and other outdoor containers.

#### Dusk & Dawn

Stay indoors during

dusk and dawn hours—when mosquitoes are most active.

Ensure **YOU** receive ground spraying notifications, sign up for [Connect Rowlett](#) today!

# RECENTLY IN ROWLETT...



## Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party

The Summer Reading Program kicked off with a party on the Library's lawn on Monday, June 9. "Every Hero Has A Story" is off to a "Super" start, online registration is up 26% over last year. Events will continue through the summer at the RCC, so don't be surprised if you catch a glimpse of knights and princesses, superheroes, or Minecraft enthusiasts there.



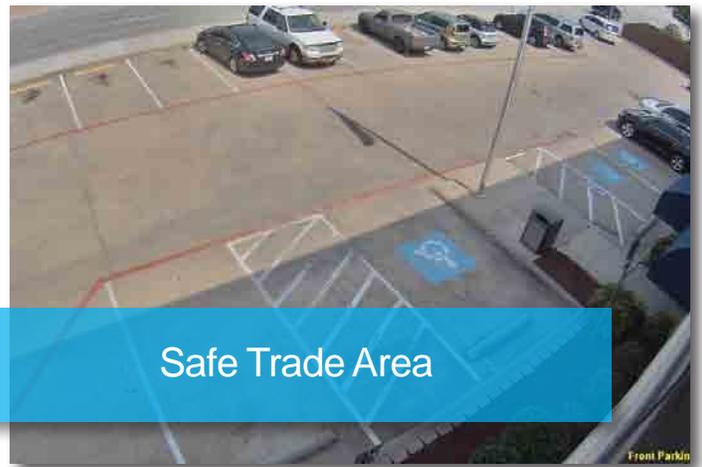
## Carry the Load National Relay

Members of the Rowlett Police Department, along with friends and family, participated in the Carry the Load National Relay on Sunday, May 24. The relay is a 27 day, 2000 mile walk from West Point, NY to Dallas and is dedicated to restoring the true meaning of Memorial Day. The last leg of the relay started at 4:00 a.m. at the Rockwall County Courthouse and ended at Reverchon Park in Dallas at 3:30 p.m.



## Citizens Fire Academy

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Tammy Dana-Bashian, along with Councilmembers Robbert Van Bloemendaal and Debby Bobbitt, get decked out in full gear as participants in the current session of the Rowlett Fire Department's Citizens Fire Academy.



## Safe Trade Area

Two video cameras have been installed in the front parking lot of the Rowlett Police Department, creating a "Safe Trade" area to be used by buyers and sellers who connect through online markets (i.e. Craigslist, Facebook "garage sale" pages), giving both parties a location to meet offering 24 hour surveillance.



## Police Lifesaving Award

On Tuesday, June 16, 2015, Corporal Vedran Nasic (l) was awarded the Police Lifesaving Award by Chief Mike Brodnax (r) for his response to an attempted suicide call.

When Corporal Nasic arrived on scene he found a subject bleeding heavily from a self-inflicted knife wound to the neck. He applied a hemostatic agent and pressure to the wound to control the bleeding until Rowlett Fire-Rescue personnel arrived and transported the victim to the hospital. Corporal Nasic also demonstrated extraordinary compassion, transporting the subject's family to the hospital after recognizing they were unable to safely drive due to their emotional distress. Great job, Corporal Nasic!!



**Animal Shelter Maintains a 98%  
Live Release Rate!**

## The Story of Champ!

A medium sized mix breed with sad eyes and a droopy tail, Champ came into the shelter as a stray. He wanted to go home, but no one came to claim him. His first night at the shelter was on April 10, and every night after that he seemed to be counting the days. It was almost as if Champ was putting a chalk mark on the shelter walls every night, four little marks down and then one diagonal; another five days passed and Champ was still at the shelter. He was a very quiet dog who, while outside, stood and stared out the fence as if waiting for someone to come pick him up. He did not play with other dogs or toys, he just wanted to go home.

Six sets of five lines were crossed off and Champ had been at the shelter for over thirty days. He lost weight and started catching a cold, he became lethargic and disinterested, it was as if Champ was giving up hope of ever going home. The shelter staff knew that Champ was not doing well. Through generous donations and deep concern of other shelter animals being infected with his illness, he was quarantined at Stonebridge Veterinary Hospital for almost two weeks. The Friends of Rowlett Animals donated over \$900 to save Champ's life.

After returning to the shelter, Champ was chosen to participate in the Doggy-Day-Out program, where he spent time at the City Hall and Utility Billing Departments. He met many new friends, and received lots of TLC, making his recovery time easier. Champ was introduced to the City by Mayor Todd Gottel during a City Council meeting. Then, after an even 60 days, Champ was adopted! When he left the shelter with his new family he looked back at the shelter staff, who saw a new shine

in his eyes and then his tail wagged a good bye wave. It was a wonderful feeling to erase the chalk marks off Champ's walls!

**UPDATE:** Unfortunately, Champ's new family was unable to take care of him and he was returned to the shelter. **This sweet boy is again available to be the love bug in your home!**



## CODE ENFORCEMENT TIP Summer fun is underway!



*Just be sure you are in compliance with City codes when parking your boat, trailer or RV.*

*They must be on an improved surface, not on grass or dirt, which must be the entire width and length of the trailer/boat, including the access point.*

Rowlett Development Code Article VIII, Section 22-263(3)A,D

The following surfaces are required for storing hauling trailers for boats and other purposes, recreational vehicles, and travel trailers on parcels or tracts of land: **a.** All hauling trailers for boats or other purposes shall be parked on a required dustless surface of concrete or asphalt pad, brick or patio pavers, or gravel (cased in) with a depth of six inches, along with the access to the pad site being of the same material.

Exemption: Lots within the SF-40 Single-Family Residential District shall be exempt from the access requirement, provided the parking surface is located behind the front building line. **b.** All recreational vehicles and motorized vehicles shall be parked on a concrete surface. **c.** All vehicles shall be parked on a required surface at least three feet from the rear property line, provided that vehicles on corner lots shall not be stored on any side of the lot adjacent to a street. **d.** All pad sites must be of a surface as required in this section and equal to or greater in size than the size of the trailer or vehicle, plus any permanently attached towing mechanism.

**For more information, please contact Rowlett Code Enforcement at 972-412-6283  
or visit [www.rowlett.com](http://www.rowlett.com)**

# 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 June

includes financial information through April, the seventh month of the City's fiscal year.

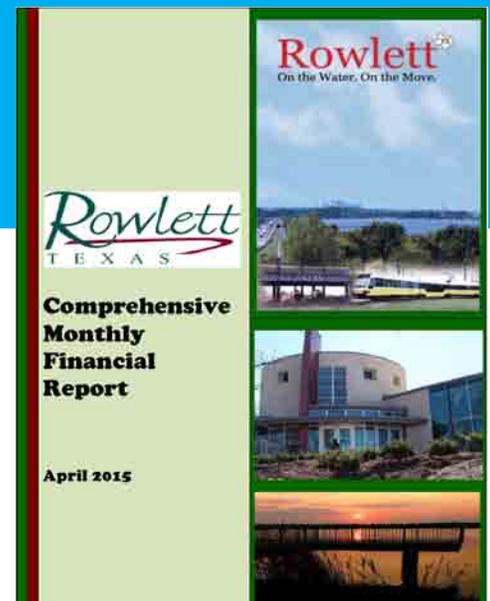
*On the revenue side* of the equation, across all funds, the City has earned or received \$60.0 million in FY 2015. This amount is 70.4% of the approved operating budget of \$85.3 million and is 5.0% more than the forecast.

*"The net surplus from operations is \$9.4 million. This is \$4.8 million better than expected at this point in the year."*

*Wendy Badgett  
Interim Finance Director*

*Expenditures* have totaled \$50.6 million through the same time period. This amount is 58.8% of the approved operating budget of \$86.0 million and is 3.7% lower than forecast. Based on these figures, the net from operations is \$9.4 million, which is \$4.8 million better than expected at this point in the fiscal year.

This month we would like to spotlight Economic Indicators, a series of key statistical figures that indicate the direction of the economy. The economic indicators reported are for the City's 2nd quarter end. US Gross Domestic Product (GDP) - one



of the primary indicators used to gauge the health of a country's economy - represents the dollar value of goods and services produced in the U.S. - increased at a rate of 2.2%. Unemployment rate: National 5.5%, marking its lowest point since mid-2008 - down from 6.7% in Qtr2 of 2014. Texas 4.2% - down from 5.3% in Qtr2 of 2014. Rowlett 3.9% - down from 5.4% in Qtr2 of 2014. New Home Sales increased nearly 8%, marking their highest level since early 2008. Consumer confidence reached its highest level this quarter since the 2nd quarter of 2007, as lower gasoline prices and an increase in personal income helped generate higher amounts of disposable income.

View the [April Financial Report](#).

## MINT BILLS

### A convenient new way to pay Rowlett utility bills!



The City of Rowlett is proud to partner with Mint Bills, a consumer bill pay service with over 11 million customers in the United States and a member of the Intuit family of companies, which includes Turbo Tax, Quicken, and QuickBooks. Mint Bills allows customers on the go to

quickly and easily pay Rowlett utility bills with no added charges via cell phones and other mobile devices, such as iPads or tablets, through a downloadable app available from the App Store or Google Play. Mint Bills will also be accessible from the [Utility Billing page](#) at Rowlett.com.

*Mint Bills allows customers to...*

- Pay utility bills with all major credit cards including American Express, previously unavailable as a payment method.*
- Sign up for both recurring check and credit card payments and receive payment confirmations, along with making one time payments.*
- See all bills and accounts in one centralized place.*
- Schedule future payments and have the option to receive alerts when bills are due, funds are low or credit limits are close to being reached.*

*Download the app today!*

# ROWLETT LIBRARY OFFERS TECH ASSISTANCE!



As many Rowlett residents commute to work, and we're right in the middle of summer when folks are taking family road trips, this month's tech tip puts the spotlight on apps that improve your driving experience.

First, it's important to actually get where you're going! Most phones have a built in maps app that works fairly well, but there are others. **Waze** is a favorite, as it's also social navigation app. Users report accidents and other problems on the road, providing a real-time view of road conditions. **Moovit** is a similar app, but instead focuses on public transit. Both Waze and Moovit are available for free on IOS and Android.

For those who log their mileage, **TripLog** is a useful GPS mileage tracker. It has a host of features for both regular and commercial vehicles. It also has customizable, IRS compliant reports that can be exported to Excel, and it can integrate with QuickBooks. Some of these features are free, but for most of them you need to purchase a monthly or yearly plan, of which there are several available.

## *Phil's Technology Corner*

### Commuting and Travel Apps!

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

**Automatic** is a sort of digital assistant for your car. It requires you purchase the \$100 adapter, which plugs into your car's diagnostics port, but this allows you access to a lot of information. It tracks fuel efficiency, telling you about how much in gas your trips cost you and offering suggestions on improving mpg. It reads check engine light codes, and describes the problems associated with those codes. The app can also provide information on well-reviewed mechanics in the area, so if it's a serious problem you can find someone to fix it. If you're in a serious accident, a staff member at Automatic will call you, as well as notify local emergency services. Automatic will also remember where you parked, so the next time you can't find your car you can just pull it up on the phone. So, even though you have to make an up-front purchase, there are a lot of neat features available.

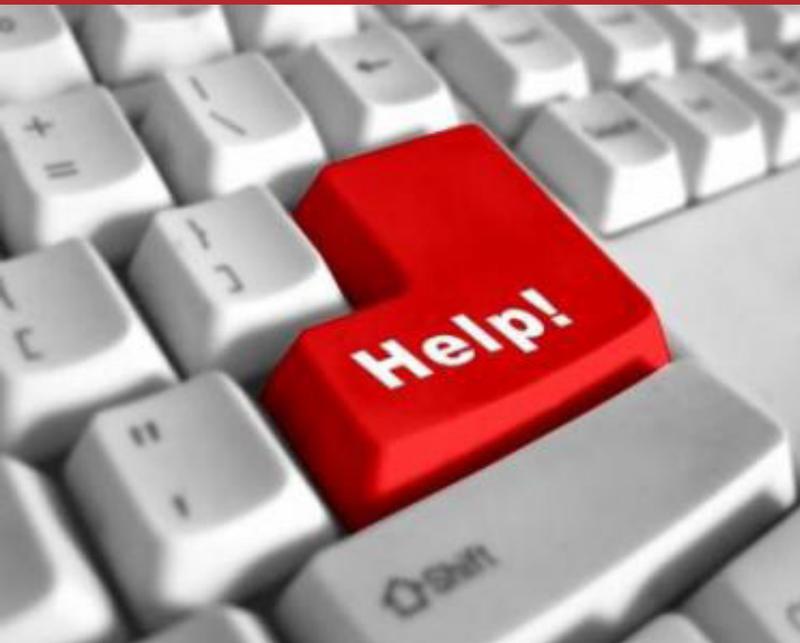
**Agent** lets you automate certain tasks on your phone. The Drive feature triggers when you're driving. It can automatically respond to people to let them know you're driving and can't respond. It can also read text messages aloud and respond with your voice. It can be set to only respond to certain people, so you don't have to worry about missing calls from the important folks in your life. The Parking feature remembers where you parked, which can be useful

if you can never remember your parking space. There are several other neat features for Agent, including battery saving settings, meeting settings that sync with your calendar, and sleeping settings.

For those road trips, the Library offers downloadable audio books through **OverDrive**. Check out several, download them to your smart phone through the OverDrive app, and listen to them on your drive. If you'd prefer to purchase your audio books, Amazon offers the **Audible** app, through which you can purchase and download audio books, either individually or by subscribing to the Audible service. If you prefer podcasts to audio books, **Stitcher** allows you to track your favorite podcasts or discover new ones to enjoy. For music, **Spotify** and **Pandora** are popular streaming services. Spotify lets you create your own playlists and Pandora will create personalized radio stations for you based on artists or songs you already enjoy. Any of these apps can provide great stuff to listen to on your trip.

This isn't an exhaustive list of apps to improve your commute or road trip, but hopefully you've found something that will make your drive a bit more enjoyable. For more information please visit us at Rowlett Public Library, now in our new location at 5702 Rowlett Road!

## Technology Assistance



The library is now offering **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!



## *Every Hero Has A Story!* Summer Reading Program *for Children*

**Ages 12 and under**  
**Read 3 hours per week**



Encourage a lifetime of learning and enjoyment in young readers! Kids are awarded fun and yummy prizes just for reading, and in the process learn about setting and achieving

### **K-9 OFFICERS ON PATROL**

**Tuesday, July 7**

**2:00 P.M.**

Enjoy a visit and demonstrations from the Officers and their canine partners in the Garland Police K-9 Unit!

### **PUPPETS WITH NANCY WORCESTER**

**Tuesday, July 14**

**2:00 P.M.**

Nancy weaves storytelling and ventriloquism together with her puppet "family" in an entertaining show that will delight children of all ages!



goals. Free activities at the Rowlett Community Centre include live entertainers every Tuesday and movies on Thursdays!

### **AMATEUR COMMUNITY THEATER OF ROWLETT**

**Tuesday, July 21**

**2:00 P.M.**

Explore the fundamentals of theater and try out your improv skills with members of Rowlett's own community theater group, A.C.T.O.R.!

### **CRITTERMAN**

**Tuesday, July 28**

**2:00 P.M.**

Meet "Extra Furry Animal Ambassadors" that will spark children's interests in learning about the world around them.



Stop by the Reference Desk or call the Rowlett Public Library at 972-412-6161 for more information.



# *Unmask!*

## Summer Reading Program *for Teens*

**Ages 13-18**  
**Read at least 5 hours per week**



Teens looking for fun, challenging and crazy activities this summer will find what they like during the Summer Reading Program as they *Unmask!* Parents, incentives help the teens set reading goals, encourage

motivation to complete them and foster reading for enjoyment. Free activities at the Rowlett Community Centre every Wednesday and movies on Thursdays!

### **PATRIOTIC T-SHIRTS**

Wednesday, July 1

2:00 P.M.

Be patriotic this July Fourth with your own hand decorated t-shirts. Materials, including t-shirts, will be provided!

### **PUPPETS!**

Wednesday, July 22

2:00 P.M.

Explore the dramatic arts while entertaining each other with puppets.

### **FEMA DISASTER PREP**

Wednesday, July 8

2:00 P.M.

Do you have what it takes to survive a disaster of epic proportions? Learn from FEMA how to respond to Super Volcanoes, total Internet meltdown, hurricanes, earthquakes, and lack of essential food.

### **PARTY FOR TEENS**

Wednesday, July 29

2:00 P.M.

Bring your summer photos and your great summer stories and get together with other teens for fun and friendship and free food.

### **NAIL ART**

Wednesday, July 15

2:00 P.M.

Just for fun, let's paint fingernails and create shimmering, polished art.



Stop by the Reference Desk or call the Rowlett Public Library at 972-412-6161 for more information.



# Rubber Ducky Club Story Times!

## Summer Stories *for babies, toddlers and preschoolers*



Rowlett Public Library is promoting reading this summer, including reading to young children. Choose an early literacy activity for you and your baby. Check or color the duck when an activity is completed. Bring your

log in once a week to record each early literacy activity completed. After completing the summer early literacy activities, baby will receive a rubber ducky and a board book.

### THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS SUMMER PLAY DATE

**Mondays @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.**  
**Babies ages 0-2**

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

- July 6 – no story time
- July 13 – Bouncing Balls
- July 20 – Musical Instruments
- July 27 – Stuffed Animals
- August 3 – no story time
- August 10 – no story time
- August 17 – Water, Water
- August 24 – Things with Wings
- August 31 – Clap for Baby

### GIGGLE, WIGGLE STORYTIME SUMMER PLAY DATE

**Wednesdays @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.**  
**Ages 18 months to 3 years**

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

- July 1 – America’s Birthday
- July 8 – Picnics
- July 15 – Boats Float
- July 22 – Animals Save the Day
- July 29 – Hot! Hot! Hot!
- August 5 – no story time
- August 12 – no story time
- August 19 – Big, Wide Ocean
- August 26 – Crazy Cars

### SHAKE, RATTLE AND READ SUMMER PLAY DATE

**Fridays @ 10:00 & 10:30 A.M.**  
**Ages 3 years and older**

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

- July 3 – Firefighters are Heroes
- July 10 – Doctors are Heroes
- July 17 – Storybook Heroes
- July 24 – Animal Heroes
- July 31 – Ready for School!
- August 7 – no story time
- August 14 – no story time
- August 21 – Zoom in My Car
- August 28 – In the Sky

### PAJAMA STORY TIME

**Every Thursday**  
**7:00 P.M.**

Bring a pillow and blanket, wear your jammies and enjoy bedtime stories that are sure to give your little ones sweet dreams.



Stop by the Reference Desk or call the Rowlett Public Library at 972-412-6161 for more information.



## *Heroes Save the Day!*

### Summer Reading Program *free movie and popcorn!*

**Every Thursday**  
**2:00 P.M.**

**Rowlett Community Centre**

As part of the Summer Reading Program, the Library offers families a way to beat the summer heat

without spending a dime! Enjoy a great family movie and **FREE popcorn!**

#### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**Thursday, July 2**

Rated PG-13

Unfriendly aliens try to destroy our planet's population on the July Fourth weekend, but are thwarted by the efforts of some brave earthlings!

#### **MAN OF STEEL**

**Thursday, July 9**

Rated PG-13

Go back to the beginning, to the origins of Superman, and watch how he must become a hero to save those he loves from a dire threat.

#### **THE LIGHTNING THIEF**

**Thursday, July 16**

Rated PG

After he is kicked out of school, Percy Jackson must attend a special Summer Camp where he learns that he must save the world!



#### **THE FANTASTIC FOUR**

**Thursday, July 23**

Rated PG-13

When four people teleport to an alternate universe, which alters their physical form and grants them new abilities, they must learn to harness their abilities and work together as a team to save the Earth from a familiar enemy.

#### **X-MEN**

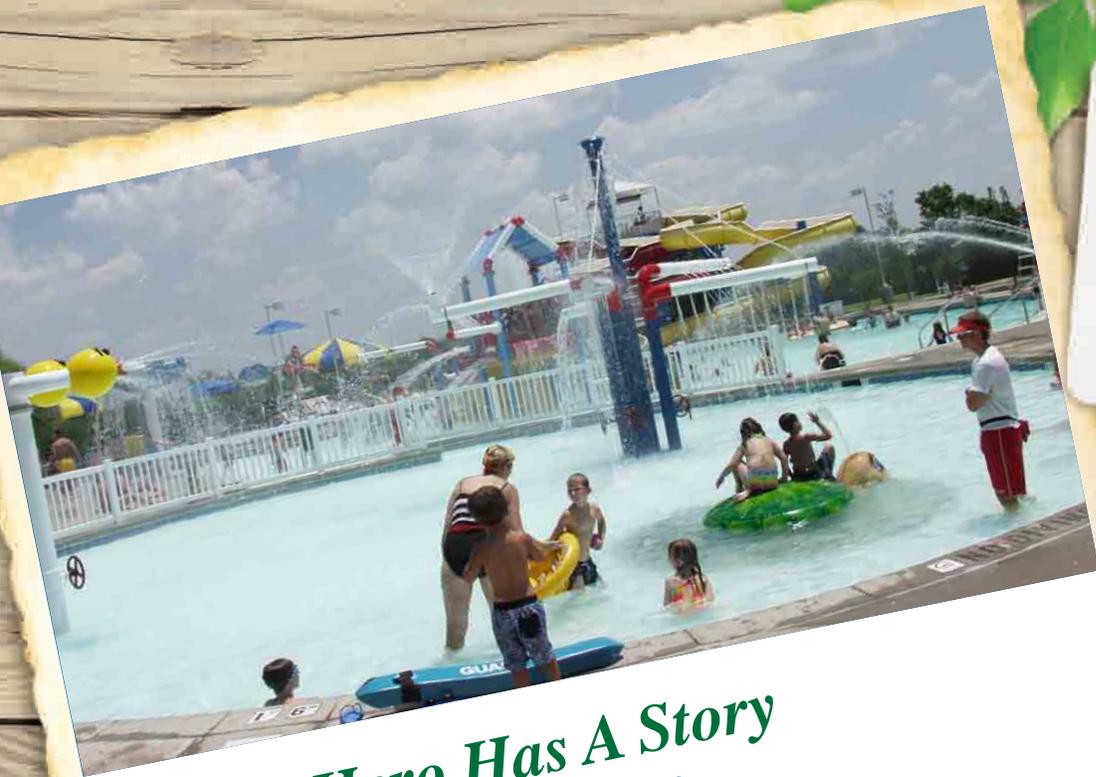
**Thursday, July 30**

Rated PG-13

A battle of good versus evil erupts between people possessing superhuman powers.



Stop by the Reference Desk or call the Rowlett Public Library at 972-412-6161 for more information.



## **Every Hero Has A Story** **Summer Reading Program** **End of Summer Party!**

**Saturday, August 1**  
**11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**  
**The Wet Zone**

Summer Readers: gather for some fun in the sun and a last splash as the Summer Reading Program draws to a close. Readers who report hours for each week are

eligible for a free pass to the Wet Zone and any accompanying adults, children or friends not participating in the program will receive discounted admission!

**Thank you to the Summer Reading Program Sponsors!**

McDonald's  
Whataburger  
Chick-fil-A  
Raising Cane's

Sonic  
Carino's  
Frontiers of Flight  
Museum

Ringling Bros. Circus  
Bowl-a-Rama  
**Texas Rangers!!!**

*For more information about the  
**Every Hero Has A Story! Summer Reading Program,**  
call the Rowlett Public Library at 972-412-6161.*





## *Family Super Saturdays*

### **The Summer Fun *for Everyone Continues!***

The Summer Reading Program isn't the only thing going on at the Library this summer...check out the **FREE** Library activities planned for kids of all ages at the Rowlett Community Centre!!

#### **SUPER GROUPS**

**Saturday, July 25**

**2:00 – 4:00 P.M.**

Celebrate Super Heroes with costumes, games, and prizes, too!

#### **MINECRAFT**

**Saturday, August 29**

**2:00 – 4:00 P.M.**

Themed activities such as keychain making, 3D Minecraft with paper blocks, creeper toss, Minecraft-inspired treats and more! Please do not bring laptops or mobile devices to the Minecraft Party.



## *Library Camp @ The Rowlett Community Centre!*

### **Free End-of-Summer Fun *just for kids 12 and under***

#### ***Jedi Training***

**Friday, August 7**

**2:00 P.M.**

As Yoda would say, "Sharpen your skills you must!" Learn the essentials of a good Jedi and finish out the summer with a fun time! Learn about the FORCE, make your own tiny Jedi army, and battle the evil empire.

#### ***3D Pen Printing***

**Friday, August 14**

**2:00 P.M.**

Learn about the newest way to create 3D objects - using a pen! Similar to 3D Printers, this technique allows creativity and imagination to flow into a wonderful sculptural item.

#### ***Rule the School!***

**Friday, August 21**

**2:00 P.M.**

Sharpen your back-to-school skills and finish the summer with some fun. Learn how to navigate school, what supplies are best to bring, what makes the best lunch, the latest in backpack design and how to avoid those playground spats!



# Are You Ready for the Summer?!

## Rowlett Parks & Recreation *Summer "Camps"*

The Parks and Recreation Department has a "camp" for every child. Kids will learn, have fun, stay active and make new friends!

For more information or to register call 972-412-6170 or visit [www.Rowlett.com/ParksandRec](http://www.Rowlett.com/ParksandRec)!

### MARTIAL ARTS CAMP

Ages 12 and up

#### Jujitsu

July 2-30, August 1-31

\$30, \$50 or \$60/month

Taught by US Martial Arts Hall of Fame instructor, Grand Master Duane Ethington, Jujitsu is an explosive and effective system offering easy and applicable methods of protecting yourself.

#### Tae Kwon Do

Tuesday & Thursday

July 2 – 30

August 4 – 27

Beginner – 6:30 P.M.

Intermediate/Advanced – 7:30 P.M.

\$30/month for 1 night per week, \$50/2

Learn traditional Tae Kwon Do in a positive atmosphere with 5th degree black belt Bobby Blakey. With 30+ years of

training experience and numerous black belts under him, Bobby sits on the board of the Texas Martial Arts Federation. Discipline, power, focus and conditioning are just some of the positives taught in this year round program.



cont. on page 22

Monday – Friday

June 8 – August 14

7:30 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Ages 11-14, \$15 per day or \$70/week

### SOAR Summer Day Camp

Drop the kids off at the Rowlett Community Centre where Parks and Recreation staff provides

entertaining, educational, themed-based fun to keep them up and moving all day long.

#### Manic Monday

Start the week with games, activities, crafts and contests on this Monday-fun day. Improve teamwork and problem solving skills.

#### Rookie Tuesday

A sports program with a focus on FUN! Kids will play basketball, flag football, soccer, volleyball, pickleball and other fun games like Frisbee and golf. Everyone has a great time while getting tons of exercise!

#### Wacky Wednesday

Play some wacky games and wear some wacky clothes! Wednesdays will have a different theme each week with fun, wardrobe and activities tied into it.

#### Tidal Wave Thursday

Water is the name of the game! Kids cool down from the hot Texas heat with a day full of wacky wild water fun! Participants will enjoy an EXTREME cool down, fun in the sun at Wet Zone Waterpark, and lots of wild water games!

#### Fantastic Fun Friday

Prepare for adventure, challenges, laughter and teamwork. Game shows, nature exploration, arts and crafts, and gym games are all entertaining ingredients at this recreational program.



## ***Are You Ready for the Summer?!*** **Rowlett Parks & Recreation *Summer "Camps"*** *(cont. from page 22)*

**For more information or to register call 972-412-6170!**

### **ADVENTURES IN ART CAMP**

**Monday – Thursday,  
July 13 – 16, 2:00 – 4:45 P.M.  
August 3 – 6, 9:00 – 11:45 A.M.  
Ages 5-13, \$60**

Finally, an art camp for youth emphasizing fine art and creative thinking instead of just crafts! Your young artist will complete eight amazing finished works of art in this four-day camp. Paint with oils, watercolors and acrylics using color theory, time-saving techniques and more. Bring paper towels, snacks and wear old clothes!

### **YOU CAN PAINT CAMP**

**Saturdays  
June 27, July 11 or August 8  
9:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.  
Ages 13 & Up, \$20**

Complete an amazing finished landscape, seascape or still life worthy of framing, step-by-step under the patient guidance of Robert & Susan Garden, award winning artists noted for their teaching talents. All art supplies and detailed instruction are provided. Bring paper towels and wear old clothes!



### **MUSIC DISCOVERY CAMP**

**Wednesdays, July 8 – August 12  
12:30 – 1:30 P.M.  
Ages 5-13  
\$65**

Introductory-level piano class to develop a child's understanding of the fundamentals of music. Material will be carefully laid out to help students build a solid musical foundation. Musical involvement with other children encourages development of positive social skills and a great sense of self-reward!

### **GUITAR CAMP**

**Thursdays, July 9 – August 13  
12:30 – 1:30 P.M.  
Ages 8-13  
\$65**

Learn how to pick, strum & shred on the guitar! Acoustic and electric lessons with a focus on blues, rock, jazz, metal and country. Please bring your own guitar.

### **SKYHAWKS BASKETBALL CAMP**

**Monday – Friday, July 13 – 17  
1:00 – 4:00 P.M.  
Beginner, Ages 6-9  
Intermediate, Ages 7-12  
\$110**

A fun, skills-intensive week-long camp for the beginning to intermediate player. The progression-oriented curriculum focuses on the whole player, teaching kids the

skills needed to be a better athlete both on and off the court. After a week of passing, shooting, dribbling and rebounding, your child will show you why this is one of our most popular programs.

### **SKYHAWKS VOLLEYBALL CAMP**

**Monday – Friday, July 20 – 24  
1:00 – 4:00 P.M.  
Beginner, Ages 6-9  
Intermediate, Ages 7-14  
\$110**

All aspects of volleyball are taught through drills and exercises that focus on passing, setting, hitting and serving. Boys and girls will learn fundamental skills through games, speed drills and daily scrimmages aimed at developing the whole player.

### **SKYHAWKS BEGINNING GOLF CAMP**

**Monday – Friday, July 27 – 31  
9:00 A.M. – Noon  
Ages 5-8, \$110**

Golf is a challenging lifelong sport, so young athletes need proper focus on the fundamentals of form, swinging, putting and body positioning right from the beginning. Skyhawks has adopted the SNAG (Starting New at Golf) system to its curriculum. Specifically designed for the entry-level player, SNAG simplifies instruction so that young players can make an easy and effective transition onto the golf course.

*cont. on page 24*



## *Are You Ready for the Summer?!*

### **Rowlett Parks & Recreation *Summer "Camps"*** *(cont. from page 23)*

**For more information or to register call 972-412-6170!**

#### **JEDI ENGINEERING LEGO CAMP**

**Monday – Friday, August 17 – 21**

**9:00 A.M. – Noon**

**Ages 5-8, \$179**

Young Jedi will explore worlds far, far away and engineering principles right in front of them. Defeat the Empire by designing and refining LEGO® X-Wings, R2-units and settlements on far-flung edges of the galaxy. Imagination and engineering combine to create motorized and architectural projects such as energy catapults, shield generators and defense turrets.

#### **JEDI MASTER ENGINEERING LEGO CAMP**

**Monday – Friday, August 17 – 21**

**1:00 – 4:00 P.M.**

**Ages 9-12, \$179**

The Force is strong in this class. Build complex machines and structures based on the best designs from a galaxy far, far away. Projects include LEGO X-Wings, AT-AT walkers, Pod Racers, Star Destroyers, Cloud Cities, settlements and fortresses. Play-Well's Jedi instructors reinforce key engineering concepts and more as students tap into the powerful forces of imagination and engineering.

## *Camp Opportunity!*

*These camps are for teens with a focus on the future!*

#### **ACT MINI-CAMP**

**Monday – Friday, July 27 – 31**

**5:30 – 6:30 P.M.**

**Ages 14-18, \$40**

**Improve the chances of getting into the college of your choice by increasing your ACT scores. This 10-hour course includes instruction in math, grammar and writing, then students will complete one practice ACT test.**

#### **SAT PREP CAMP**

**Saturdays, August 22 – September 26**

**9:00 A.M. – Noon**

**Ages 14-18, \$75**

**Improve the chances of getting into the college of your choice by increasing your SAT scores. This course includes 18 hours of instruction in math, grammar and writing, then students will complete two practice SAT tests.**



# *Camp Rowlett is Not Just for Kids!*

## *Opportunities to Stay Fit and Have Fun for Everyone*

### *Fitness Fun all Summer Long!*

*There is a multitude of fitness classes at the Rowlett Community Centre, in fact there is*

*truly something for every age group and fitness level!*

*Pilates*

*Spin*

*Jazzercise*

*Insanity*

*Pound*

*BodyWorks*

*Zumba*

*U-Jam*

*Mommy & Me Fitness*

*Personal Training by Paramount Fitness*

*PACE (People with Arthritis Can Exercise)*

*Senior Fitness Fun*

*Senior Stretch*

*SAIL (Stay Active In Life)*

Call 972-412-6170 or visit  
[www.Rowlett.com/ParksandRec](http://www.Rowlett.com/ParksandRec)  
for more information or  
to sign up today!



### **AquaFit!**

**Get Fit...in the Water at the Wet Zone Waterpark!**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays**

**July 7 – July 30**

**6:45 – 7:45 P.M.**

**\$100/session or \$150/both sessions**

AquaFit Water Fitness transfers the basic principles of aerobics and resistance training to the water, combining water aerobics with water walking to exercise every muscle and joint in the body at the same time. Water buoyancy helps reduce strain and stress on the joints for a well-rounded, full body workout that is perfect for EVERYBODY!



### **Aquafit BOOTCAMP!**

**Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 P.M.**

**Saturdays, 9:30 – 10:30 A.M.**

**July 6 – August 1**

**\$165/session or \$300/both sessions**

An awesome mix of traditional boot camp drills mixed with fun high energy exercises done in the water. Turn your body into a “fat burning” machine! Highlights include body composition measurements, nutritional guidance, fat burning workouts along with group support and accountability.

**Dive in!**

## **The Wet Zone, Rowlett's Family Water Park**

Get wet and have a great time at the “cool” events all summer long!

### ***Learn to Swim!***

Ensure children are safe when visiting friends and relatives. Swim lessons are offered all summer long, from June 11 through August 3, for ages 6 months right on up to adults! With group sessions, semi-private and private lessons offered, there is a class for everyone.

### ***Sand Volleyball Tournament***

Saturday, July 11  
11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.  
\$45/team

Think your team has what it takes to bring it all home? Prove it at this annual 3-on-3 double elimination tournament at the Wet Zone's sand volleyball court. All team members get free admission to the park for participating in the tournament, top three teams win prizes!

### ***Angel Swim***

Saturday, July 18  
8:30 - 10:30 A.M.

This swim time is specifically set aside for those with special needs and their families. Play, swim and enjoy the Wet Zone without all the crowds!

### ***Flick 'n Float***

Monday, July 13 – *The Boxtrolls*  
8:30 – 10:30 P.M.

Enjoy a movie from the comfort of lawn chairs or floats! Free with your daily admission or \$6 after 7:00 P.M. Special meal price of \$3 for a hot dog, chips, and a drink starts at 7:30!

### ***Junior Lifeguard Training***

July 20 – August 6  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

Ages 11-15  
\$65

Don't sit at home all summer! Work with the Wet Zone lifeguards and learn what they do as well as valuable lifesaving skills.

### ***Season Pass Day***

Monday, July 20

We appreciate our season pass holders - this is our chance to show you how much! Bring a friend with you to the Wet Zone and they can enjoy the day on us! Each pass holder can bring one guest free of charge.

**For more information visit**  
**[www.wetzonewaterpark.com](http://www.wetzonewaterpark.com)**

# Rowlett Police Department Keep it Rollin': Preventing Wheel and Tire Theft

Summertime always brings with it an anticipated increase in crime, especially crimes of opportunity, such as theft.

One common type of theft that has made its way to some unfortunate Rowlett citizens this summer is wheel and/or tire theft.

Most of the wheel and tire thefts that have been reported in Rowlett this summer have taken place during the early morning hours, usually between 1:00 and 4:00 A.M. There are a couple of precautions you can take to increase the odds of your property being returned to you in the unfortunate event your wheels or tires are stolen.



**Protect Yourself AND  
Your Vehicle!**

First, mark your wheels and/or tires with an identifiable mark that you could use to prove ownership. This could be etching something, such as a number or word, inside the interior of the wheel or tire. Second, video surveillance cameras are a very useful tool in helping police identify suspects. If you are able to install video surveillance cameras on your property, please ensure they are directed in areas where vehicles or other valuable items are kept around your home.



*If you have any questions, concerns, or information regarding wheel and tire theft, contact Community Services Officer Chad Caldwell at 972-412-6242 or email him at [ccaldwell@rowlett](mailto:ccaldwell@rowlett).*



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## Tips to Help Prevent Wheel and Tire Thefts

**1**  
If at all possible, park in the garage.

**2**  
If unable to park in the garage, park in a well-lit area around your home.

**3**  
Equip your vehicle with an alarm system.

**4**  
Use wheel locks and/or lug nut locks.

**5**  
Watch for suspicious activity and/or persons.

# Rowlett

## City Calendar

# July

			1	2 <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn</b> 2pm @ RCC	3 <b>One on One Tech Help</b> @ Library	4 <b>Fireworks at Bayside</b> 6-10pm
5	6 <b>City Offices &amp; Facilities Closed</b> <i>(Library Open)</i>	7 <b>K-9 Officers on Patrol</b> 2pm @ RCC  <b>City Council Meeting</b> 7:30 pm, City Hall	8 <b>FEMA Disaster Prep for Teens</b> 2pm @ RCC	9 <b>Senior Potluck</b> 11:30am @ RCC  <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn</b> 2pm @ RCC	10 <b>One on One Tech Help</b> @ Library	11 <b>Sand Volleyball Tournament</b> 11am-6pm @ Wet Zone
12	13 <b>Flick 'n Float</b> 8:30pm @ Wet Zone	14 <b>Puppet Show</b> 2pm @ RCC  <b>Planning &amp; Zoning Meeting</b> 6:30pm, City Hall	15 <b>Nail Art for Teens</b> 2pm @ RCC	16 <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn</b> 2pm @ RCC	17 <b>One on One Tech Help</b> @ Library	18 <b>Angel Swim</b> 8:30am @ Wet Zone
19	20 <b>Season Pass Day</b> @ Wet Zone	21 <b>ACTOR Group</b> 2-4 pm @ RCC  <b>City Council Meeting</b> 7:30 pm, City Hall	22 <b>Teen Puppets</b> 2pm @ RCC	23 <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn</b> 2pm @ RCC	24 <b>One on One Tech Help</b> @ Library	25 <b>Super Groups!</b> 2pm @ RCC
26	27	28 <b>Critterman</b> 2pm @ RCC  <b>Planning &amp; Zoning Meeting</b> 6:30pm, City Hall	29 <b>Teens Summer Party</b> 2pm @ RCC	30 <b>Free Movie &amp; Popcorn</b> 2pm @ RCC	31 <b>One on One Tech Help</b> @ Library	