



ROCK BEATS

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



YOUR MONTHLY PULSE ON
WHAT'S HAPPENING
AT THE CITY OF ROUND ROCK

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National Hat Day

The Library and Human Resources participated in National Hat Day on Thursday, Jan. 15.



Human Resources



Library



Library



Human Resources



Human Resources

THE HR HUB

ANNOUNCEMENTS



**ROUND ROCK
LEARNING**

Round Rock Learning platform gets an update

The [Round Rock Learning](#) platform has been updated! It now includes:

- Microsoft 365 training, including Outlook, OneDrive, Word, Excel and more
- HR Course Catalog, including professional development courses and City of Round Rock-specific training
- IT Course Catalog, including new hire technology onboarding and Adobe Acrobat Sign
- Links to other online resources throughout the City, including Esri and LinkedIn Learning
- New microlearning courses added to HR Catalog:
 - Understanding How People Deal With Conflict
 - How to Ask Better Questions for Critical Thinking

Access your 2025 W-2 forms

2025 W-2 forms were mailed out on Friday, Jan. 23. Electronic copies are also available on Employee Self Service.

CITY HOLIDAYS



MONDAY, FEB. 16 - PRESIDENTS' DAY



HR SPOTLIGHT

Consider creating an estate plan

Texas Legal on Jan. 15 hosted a lunch and learn training session on estate planning at the Bob Bennett Utilities and Transportation Building.

Attorney Eileen Lawrence covered the basics of an estate plan, including safeguarding your personal information, powers of attorney and creating an actionable plan to provide peace of mind for your loved ones.

An estate plan is a set of legal documents and strategies that outline how your assets, finances and personal affairs will be managed and distributed during your life and after you pass away. It allows you to appoint an independent executor, choose where your assets go when you die, choose who will make decisions for you if you can't while you're alive, choose who will take care of your children if you can't take care of them and to express what you'd like to happen to your remains.

An estate plan can include:

- A will or trust
- Financial power of attorney, which allows you to nominate an agent to manage your financial affairs
- Medical power of attorney: allows someone to make medical decisions for you if you ever become incapacitated
- A “living will” or advance directive
- HIPAA authorization
- Declaration of a guardian for children
- Final disposition authorization (concerning burial, cremation and organ or body donation)

The misunderstanding exists that all assets are governed through a will. Assets with designated beneficiaries are not governed by probate court, and thus are not overseen by the context of wills.

Texas Legal recommends getting a plan in place to complete your estate plan. The plan should include:

- Making a list of your financial accounts
- Checking beneficiary designations on all accounts
- Completing or changing designations on accounts
- Updating online legacy contacts for social media accounts and other websites
- If you're married and want joint accounts to pass to your spouse upon your death, ask if those accounts are held with “right of survivorship”; if not, add that designation to your joint accounts
- Reviewing your estate plan documents
- Finding an attorney

For more information on estate planning or other legal benefits, visit [EmployeeNet:](#)



Keeping Our Residents Safe

When temperatures dropped and many dipped indoors, City employees were out in the elements, preparing city roads and infrastructure, or responding to emergencies during the icy January winter storm. A huge thank you to these unsung heroes!



Transportation



Transportation



Transportation



Transportation

Keeping Our Residents Safe (cont.)



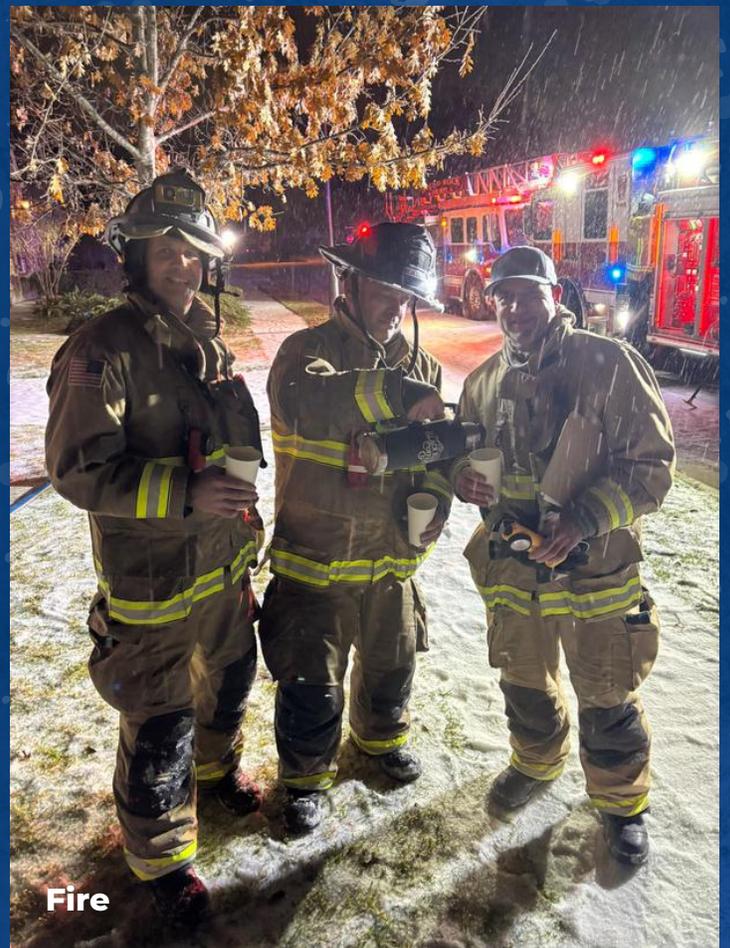
Crisis Response Unit



Police



Fire



Fire

From **BURNOUT** to **BALANCE**

by Claudia Cuellar, Library Assistant



Claudia's wellness journey began with a wake-up call – a diagnosis of health-related issues including pre-diabetes and high cholesterol.

However, it motivated her to act while balancing career changes and mental health.

She shifted from chasing quick results to building long-term habits, a wise decision that led to results. She lost 40 pounds, reversed pre-diabetes, and improved her cholesterol while continuing toward her long-term goals.

She actively engaged with the City's Wellness Center gym, city wellness programs, and other resources to support her journey.

Her success comes from consistency, not extremes: short workouts, kindness on hard days, meal prepping, and never quitting after setbacks.

By finding movement that she enjoys and taking a balanced approach to nutrition, wellness became realistic and sustainable.

“
The real win is that I don't give up anymore.”

Read Claudia's full wellness journey testimonial



UPCOMING EVENTS

EMPLOYEE EVENTS



**HEALTHY WEIGHT
KICKSTART**
(FEB. 11)



**SUPERVISOR
SERIES**
(FEB. 18)



**ROAD TO
RETIREMENT**
(FEB. 19)



**EAT TO BEAT
INFLAMMATION**
(FEB. 25)

Wednesday, Feb. 11

- **Lunch and Learn: Healthy Weight and Wellness Kickstart** – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
| Allen R. Baca Center, 301 W. Bagdad Ave.

Wednesday, Feb. 18

- **The Supervisor Series: Prioritization - The Way to Better Time Management** – 10-11:30 a.m.
| Bob Bennett Building Training Room, 3400 Sunrise Road (*managers/supervisors only*)

Thursday, Feb. 19

- **Road to Retirement Education Session with Tom Bosworth of Prudential Pathways** –
2-3 p.m. | Library Meeting Rooms A & B, 200 E. Liberty Ave.

Tuesday, Feb. 24

- **Round Rock Retirement Education Session with Ida Gomez of TMRS** – 2-3 p.m. | Library
Meeting Rooms A & B, 200 E. Liberty Ave.

Wednesday, Feb. 25

- **Lunch and Learn: Eat to Beat Inflammation Education Session with Crystal Cisneros of
Care ATC** – Noon-1 p.m. | HR Training Room

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Friday, Feb. 6

- **Golden Gala Senior Prom** – 6-10 p.m. | Baca Center, 301 W. Bagdad Ave.

Tuesday, Feb. 10

- **Lunch and Learn: Trails, Tales and Tradition: European Migration and
Stagecoach History** – Noon-1 p.m. | Baca Center, 301 W. Bagdad Ave.



CITY CALENDAR

EMPLOYEES ON THE MOVE

JANUARY NEW HIRES



FIRE

TAYLOR CHAVEZ

COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

DAVID REY

POLICE

ZACHARY WRIGHT

PUBLIC WORKS

MACARIO RODRIGUEZ

JOHNNY CORNEJO

CALEB HABEGGER

Welcome

JANUARY RETIREMENTS



FINANCE

BRENDA GAMBLE (6 YEARS)

PARKS AND RECREATION

RICCI STRAYHORN (23 YEARS)

POLICE

CHRISTIAN WILSON (25 YEARS,
BUT JUST 3 WEEKS SHY OF 26!)

— HAPPY —
Retirement

JANUARY EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS



POLICE

TIMOTHY CHANCELLOR: PROMOTION from
LIEUTENANT to COMMANDER

*Well,
Done!*

▶ **Have a recognition to
submit for our next edition?**

Submit a story or shoutout by using this QR code
or by emailing mguajardo@roundrocktexas.gov.





ADMINISTRATION

CHRISTINA STEWART (4)
TARA AMBROSE (11)

COMMUNICATIONS

ILIANA ALBERTO GARCIA (2)

COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

JAY JOHNS (8)

FINANCE

RACHELLE LONGWITH (5)
ANDREA SAIZ (8)
CECILIA REYES (18)

FIRE

REBECCA ZAHLER (4)
LEIGH BURWELL (4)
CHEREE SMITH (5)
GUNTHER VON SELTMANN (23)

GENERAL SERVICES

CHELSEA MCROBERTS (2)
DANIEL DZIALO (2)
ANA RANGEL LUGO (2)
HOMER ESPINOZA (3)
JOSE TAPIA (3)
COREY AMIDON (7)
RONALD TAYLOR (10)
PAMELA KELTGEN (16)
LETICIA HERNANDEZ (20)

HUMAN RESOURCES

KEVIN VAUGHN (15)

INFORMATION

TECHNOLOGY

JANY BRAVO ALVAREZ (2)
HANNAH FRIEDMAN (4)

LIBRARY

ELIZABETH LAMPP (4)
MELISSA TIDMAN (9)
TERI JACKSON (10)

PARKS AND RECREATION

JONATHAN DE LEON (2)
JOSEPH HUDSON (2)
ASHTON PACKER (2)
JOSEPH UGHI (2)
MICHAEL HEMKER (3)
MELANIE GOMEZ (3)
ANGELA HARRIS (3)
MICHAEL TINSLEY (7)
JENNIFER WESSON (7)
JANET MUNFORD (12)
LAKERIAN MILLER (13)
LEE GETTYS (13)
KATHY MISITI (24)

PLANNING AND

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

FREDDIE GARCIA (2)
LILY PARK (3)
LANE IMKEN (9)
JEFFREY BROOKS (12)
VERONICA CHANDLER (18)
JOELLE JORDAN (23)
KIMBERLY JONES (26)
SUSAN BRENNAN (28)

POLICE

MATTHEW STEPHENS (2)
ENEREL ORGIL (2)
TANNER PARKER (2)
MICHAEL SLANEY (2)
WILLIAM SESSOM (2)
JASON KASH (2)
JOSEPH NARLO (2)

POLICE (cont.)

JUSTIN WIRTH (2)
JACOB O'CONNELL (2)
JUSTIN SPIARS (2)
GAGE BUSSEY (2)
EDGAR CEJA (2)
CRYSTAL VELASQUEZ (4)
ANNIE LEIHARDT (4)
KATHRYN SCHROEDER (5)
MING CHUNG (7)
ANGELA CARBARY (7)
MARCUS VASQUEZ (7)
JAMES NORTON (7)
RYAN WILSON (10)
MICHAEL CHILDRESS (10)
JAMES BELL (18)
THOMAS SLOAN (18)
CHRISTIAN WILSON (26)
RYAN CONNOLLY (21)
SARAH FREITAG (9)

PUBLIC WORKS

JON KEISER (3)
ANGEL GRANDE FLORES (3)
CHAD HANSEN (3)
BRYCE WILLIAMS (3)
ALEXANDRO GONZALES (4)
KAITLYN SAUCEDO (5)
SHELBY NOLES (6)
JAVIER PEREZ CHAVEZ (7)
MATTHEW BUSHAK (7)
ISAAC HERNANDEZ (7)
KEITH WERCHAN (12)
RODNEY MORENO (10)
CHET WILSON (10)
JESSICA WOODS (17)
RICHARD REEDY (27)

SPORTS

MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM

TOSHA GALVAN (8)
JASON REMMERT (11)

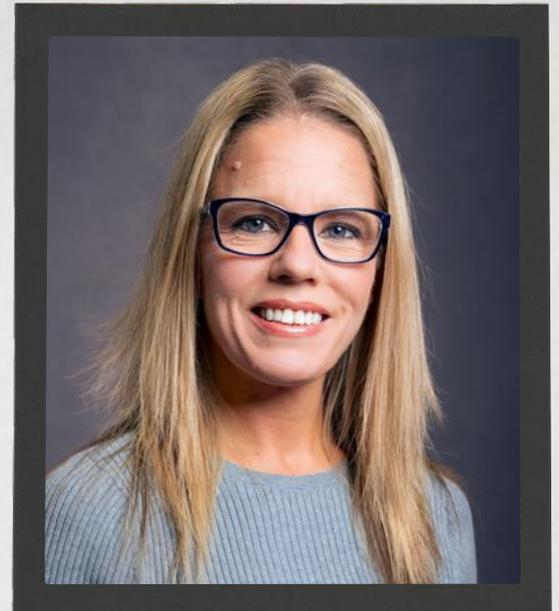
You're
awesome



MEET YOUR COWORKER

★ Becca Thibodaux ★

Community Investment Program Accounting Supervisor



With CORR since: January 2001 – I was 25 years old when I started with the City and never imagined I would still be here 25 years later.

Job Responsibilities: As the Community Investment Program Accounting Supervisor, I manage accounting for Citywide CIP projects and fixed assets. Beyond my CIP responsibilities, I collaborate closely with the Public Works Department to support regional water and wastewater partnerships with neighboring cities and to develop utility rates that ensure cost recovery while maintaining some of the lowest rates in the area.

Favorite Hobbies: Fishing with my husband, shopping with my daughter and my newest hobby – playing with my 2-month-old grandbaby.

Favorite Movies/TV Shows: “Friends,” “Sopranos,” “Young Sheldon,” “Big Bang Theory,” “Schitt’s Creek,” “NYPD Blue,” “Criminal Minds,” “Blue Bloods,” “Sixteen Candles,” “Top Gun,” “Little Miss Sunshine,” “Dirty Dancing”

Favorite Food: Steak and baked potato, sweet potatoes, cheesecake, Italian cream cake, greasy cheeseburger, Chuy’s chips & salsa/creamy jalapeño

Tell us something interesting about yourself: Although I didn’t grow up in Round Rock or Williamson County, my family roots are firmly planted here. As a sixth generation Texan, the Kokel family emigrated from Germany in the 1840’s and entered Texas through Galveston, settling in Walburg. My grandfather grew up working on the family farm and attended the Zion Lutheran Church and School. He spoke fluent German and English until the day he died at age 93 but the funny thing was, I never realized until high school (when my brother-in-law pointed it out) that he had a German accent. To me, that was just the way Grandpa talked.



PETS of the MONTH



Names: Irie and Kiedis

Owner: Nicole Percival, Library

Ages: 10 and 11

Breeds: Siberian Peking-Pug-Ihuahua and Rat Terrier Mix

Irie enjoys his luxurious lifetime appointment of Most Handsome Boy in the Whole Wide World, while Kiedis likes to nervously follow his mom all over the house and scream-cry at such everyday occurrences as being fed and going for a walk. Together, they boast an impressive 17 years defending the home's interior from would-be Amazon delivery intruders and also squirrels.

Name: Lucas

Owner: Mary Araiza, General Services

Age: 5

Breed: Mini Australian Shepherd

His name is Lucas, and he was bred for herding cattle. As a puppy, we were his "cattle," and he proudly herded us by nipping at our ankles. He grew out of that phase around the age of 1 and is still an energetic little ball of love with a big personality. He lives for daily walks and nonstop playtime, which helps burn off some of that endless energy... just a little! 🐾 He truly is a bright light in our lives.



▶ **Want to submit info to be included in future issues?**

Submit a story or shoutout by using this QR code or by emailing mguajardo@roundrocktexas.gov.

