



# ROCK BEATS

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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



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# Veterans Day Luncheon



The City of Round Rock hosted its employee Veterans Day luncheon on Monday, Nov. 10 at Round Rock Police Department. The event included the Round Rock High School Junior ROTC Color Guard, special remarks by retired U.S. Navy SEAL Floyd McClendon and Mayor Craig Morgan, a flyover by the Falcon Flight Formation Team, food and live music in honor of our City veterans.

We wish to thank our guests for their time, and our veterans for their service to our country.



[View the entire photo gallery on EmployeeNet!](#)



# Veterans Day Luncheon (cont.)





# THE HR HUB

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **W-2 Forms:** W-2 forms will be prepared in January. Payroll will notify all employees when they're ready.
- **"Self-Care: Invest in Yourself" Webinar, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m.:** Take some time around this "most wonderful time of the year" to make a brief action plan to take care of yourself physically, emotionally and mentally. Open to all City of Round Rock employees. Scan or click the QR code below to register.



**Register now!**

## CITY HOLIDAYS



**WED., DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE**

*City holiday*



**THURS., DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY**

*City holiday*



**THURS., JAN. 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY**

*City holiday*

# HR SPOTLIGHT

## ► **REMINDER: Dependent Eligibility Verification in Progress**

If you are covering **any dependents** on your 2026 medical, dental, or vision benefits, you must complete the **Dependent Eligibility Verification** process with **iVerifyPro** by Monday, Dec. 8.

Employees who need to complete verification should have received an email from **support@iverifypro.com** at their City of Round Rock email address. Be sure to search your inbox and quarantine mailbox for this address. If you received the message, **action is required**. Follow the directions given via the email. Please note that it may take multiple days to receive confirmation via email after submitting your documents.

If you did not receive an email from **iVerifyPro** and have a dependent on your insurance plan, please contact Sang ([sdhar@roundrocktexas.gov](mailto:sdhar@roundrocktexas.gov)) or Tyler ([tjarl@roundrocktexas.gov](mailto:tjarl@roundrocktexas.gov)) for assistance.

## ► **SAFETY TIP: Winter Weather Preparedness**

After months of warm weather that extended into much of November, it may seem like cold weather might be nothing more than a fairy tale...until you take a look at the area's recent past:

In February 2021, the Austin area was blanketed by five to seven inches of snowfall, falling over the course of a week. Temperatures reached a low of 6 degrees that month. Round Rock had 144 straight hours of below-freezing temperatures!

Now's the perfect time to gear up for another Arctic blast, which usually hit our area in January and February. Consider keeping the following at your disposal:

- Heavy blanket
- Candles
- Snow shovel
- Water bottles
- Gloves
- Booster cables
- Boots/shoes
- Gasoline



# AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH RECAP

November was **American Diabetes Month**, a time to raise awareness about the disease and promote action for a cure and prevention. Here's a recap of two employee events held last month:

## Nutrition 101

Human Resources held a two-part Nutrition 101 series this October and November with a large turnout. The kickoff session focused on the foundations—macro and micro nutrients, plate balance and how to read labels. The second session focused on everyday habits, from navigating the grocery store to testing out healthier recipes and easy swaps that make a real difference.



## Sugar Challenge

Not all sugar is easy to spot! Drinks like soda and juice usually have the most sugar because they contain added sugars and no fiber, causing fast spikes in blood sugar. Whole fruits may taste sweet, but their sugar is natural and paired with fiber, so your body processes it more slowly. To spot high-sugar items quickly, check the label for added sugars (not just total sugars), watch for multiple servings per container, and scan the first few ingredients for words like sugar, syrup or juice concentrate.





# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Friday, Dec. 5

- **Light Up the Lake** – 6-10:30 p.m. | Old Settlers Park, 3300 Palm Valley Blvd.

## Saturday, Dec. 6

- **Gingerbread House Decorating** – 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. | City Arts Center, 231 E. Main St.
- **Light Up the Lake** – 6-10:30 p.m. | Old Settlers Park, 3300 Palm Valley Blvd.
- **Round Rock Community Choir Concert** – 7:30-9:30 p.m. | First United Methodist Church, 1004 N. Mays St.

## Sunday, Dec. 7

- **“Unwrap Your Calm: A Mind-Body Guide to a Peaceful Holiday Season”** – 4-5:30 p.m. | Round Rock Library, 200 E. Liberty Ave.

## Friday, Dec. 12

- **Swedish Candlelight Christmas** – 6-9 p.m. | Old Settlers Association, 3300 Palm Valley Blvd.

## Saturday, Dec. 13

- **Mainly Art** – 10 a.m.-3 p.m. | Prete Plaza, 221 E. Main St.

## Multiple Dates, Dec. 12-28

- **“A Tuna Christmas”** – 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. | Penfold Theater Company, 2120 N. Mays St. #290

## Tuesdays-Saturdays, Dec. 2-23

- **Hometown Holiday Music** – 5-6:30 p.m. & 7-8:30 p.m. (Wednesdays until 9 p.m.) | Downtown Round Rock Main Street Parklets (Prete Plaza mainstage shows take place Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m.)



[VIEW CITY  
CALENDAR](#)



# BUILT BY TEAMWORK

The City of Round Rock celebrated the expansion of the Round Rock Sports Center indoor sports facility during a ribbon cutting on Monday, Nov. 17.



The Round Rock Fire Department held a topping out ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 18 to celebrate the completion of the highest structural point of Fire Station 10. Attendees signed the final beam before its placement, and staff raised the station's flag to mark the milestone.





# EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION & shoutouts

## NOVEMBER NEW HIRES



### GENERAL SERVICES

CEDRICK BURTON  
LUIS JOVEL

### POLICE

CHRISTINE MERSIOSKY  
GRANT GOLDEN

### PARKS AND RECREATION

DAMIAN KING  
JOSE NUNEZ MENDEZ  
MARCUS AYALA

### PUBLIC WORKS

MAZIAR MOKRI  
JEREMY WILSON  
JOHN SHRADER

### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

ROGELIO GONZALEZ

*Welcome*

► **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](mailto:mguajardo@roundrocktexas.gov).





# NOVEMBER EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS



## FIRE

**DANNY MARKS:** Promoted from SENIOR ADMIN ASSISTANT to CIVIL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**ARIANA BERNAL:** Promoted from GIS TECHNICIAN to SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

**TRE TAYLOR:** Promoted from SUPERVISOR - IT SUPPORT SERVICES to MANAGER - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## PARKS AND RECREATION

**PAUL TINER:** Promoted from PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER to PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER SR

## POLICE

**AEREN MESSINA:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**ALEXANDER DIXON:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**AUBREY HANSEN:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**BRANDON MACIAZEK:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**CARINA ALMENDAREZ:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**COREY KUROPAS:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**DYLAN THOMAS:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**GRAHAM DAVIS:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**JACOB RENTSCHLER:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**JAMES HEAD:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**JULIAN ORTIZ:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**MIGUEL MEDRANO:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**SOFIA SEIJO:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

**TIFFANY HALL:** Promoted from ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST to MANAGER - POLICE PLANNING AND RESEARCH

**TOMAS AVALOS:** Promoted from CADET to OFFICER

*Well Done!*

## PUBLIC WORKS

**JAMES KILE:** Promoted from UTILITY SERVICES WORKER to UTILITY SRVS WORKER - SR

**JORAE ROSENTHAL:** Promoted from ADMIN SUPPORT ASSOCIATE to PERMIT TECHNICIAN

**JENNIFER TROGDON:** Promoted from SOLID WASTE COORDINATOR to SENIOR SOLID WASTE COORDINATOR







## COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

DEVIN TAYLOR (2)

### FIRE

AUSTON CARTER (1)  
JOHN BALADEZ (1)  
ALJAEEL RAMIREZ (1)  
JACOB MUEHTER (1)  
JACOB SEARCY (1)  
STEPHANIE LOSSAU (1)  
BERNABE MANCHA (1)  
EAMON RILEY (1)  
RAY SIMMONS (7)  
ANDREW DENSMORE (7)  
RONALD ROCHA (7)  
ARTHUR RUIZ (7)  
RYAN MATTEI (7)  
DAMON BROOKES (7)  
COLBY BANE (7)  
JARED BRIGGS (7)  
RYAN DANDREA (7)  
ERIC CARRASCO (7)  
COLBY SULLIVAN (7)  
AARON DANNER (21)  
JOSEPH JOHNSON (21)  
STEVEN PETERS (21)  
JONATHAN TALLEY (21)  
LUKE CLARK (26)  
BRANDON LINCOLN (26)  
QUINTIN HOELSCHER (26)  
DARWIN SHELL (26)

## GENERAL SERVICES

ANNALYCE BARRERA (1)  
BRETT FURR (1)  
DEMETRIC GANDY (3)  
ANTHONY GARCIA (7)  
CONRADO SUAREZ (7)  
JUNARD GABRIELES (7)  
MATTHEW SMITH (9)  
RICHARD BOLTON (11)  
CHAD MCDOWELL (14)

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

NATHAN SMITH (7)

### LIBRARY

CLAUDIA CUELLAR (1)  
LINDSAY MCNEASE (1)  
CAROL FARLEY (3)  
ROSA MARTINEZ (23)

## PARKS AND RECREATION

CHRISTOPHER MATTICKS (1)  
ISAAK GONZALES (3)  
CAMERON BANKS (3)  
JAIME SALAS (10)  
MARCUS BRYANT (12)

## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

TAYLOR HUTCHENS (1)  
CHRISTOPHER CERVENKA (6)  
JORGE SCOTT (9)

### POLICE

ALYSSA GALLEGOS (1)  
COLLIN JOHNSON (1)  
ERIC PATETTA (2)  
LAURA BIERSDORFF (2)  
TANIA ZUNIGA (2)  
CHENOA TWOGOOD (4)  
BRIAN HELDMAN (6)  
BRIAN MICHAEL (6)  
CARREL KATE REGIS (6)  
DONALD GLOVER (6)  
NATHAN SOSA (6)  
JOSHUA BRAUN (6)  
SHELDON JACKSON (6)  
ASHLEY DALEY (8)  
EARIN JACKSON (8)  
ROBERT GARCIA (9)  
SCOTT RUTTER (9)  
CHRISTOPHER BRYANT (11)  
JASON BRISTOW (13)  
KASHEALA MAY (15)

## PUBLIC WORKS

CHRISTOPHER SOTELO (1)  
HOMERO GOROSTIETA (1)  
JAKE BANDAVANIS (1)  
JESSE LEONARD (1)  
LEO MOORE (1)  
ADAM AREVALO (3)  
FREDERICK GRECO (3)  
JENNIFER TROGDON (5)  
EDWARD POLASEK (7)  
OWEN WOODS (7)  
BRIAN KUHN (8)  
CODY ISHMAN (9)  
LUIS PALOMO (11)  
JOSE MORALES (25)





# MEET YOUR COWORKER



★ **Chip Hadley** ★  
*Library Supervisor*

**With CORR since:** 1985. For five years I worked part-time for the Library while attending UT. I left the City to work with children at the YMCA but came back to the Library in '92 full-time and have been here ever since.

**Job Responsibilities:** By title I am a Library Supervisor. I supervise staff in the Public Service department. My actual job is to try to make other people's lives better.

**Favorite Hobbies:** Making cheesecake, watching the Longhorns, acting, travel and gaming.

**Favorite Movies/TV Shows:** "Princess Bride," "Young Frankenstein," "Remember the Titans," "Burn Notice," "Amazing Race," "Blue Bloods"

**Favorite Food:** A medium rare ribeye

**Favorite Quote:** "Slow is Smooth, Smooth is Fast."



**Name:** Drogon  
**Owner:** Jennifer Patton, Fire Department  
**Age:** 6  
**Species:** Bearded Dragon

Drogon enjoys going on adventures around the house and exploring the outdoors. He has been camping, fishing, hiking and on many car rides. Drogon enjoys being able to visit the office and see people as he is always looking for a warm body to snuggle. His favorite foods are blueberries, Dubai roaches and meal worms.

## PETS of the MONTH

**Name:** Pinky  
**Owner:** Christina Coello, Library  
**Age:** 6  
**Breed:** Chihuahua Mix

Pinky is a diva! She loves to take long rides in the car and will stick her head out, ears flapping out of the window at 65 mph! Pinky was adopted from the Georgetown Animal Shelter. She came with the name Pinky; it turns out the shelter named her correctly as she is allergic to many things! Pinky's ears make some think she is part fruit bat. I believe she catches AM and FM radio with those ears.



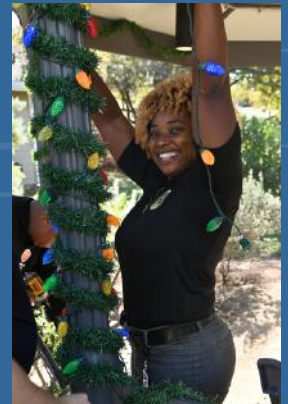


# SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER

City of Round Rock employees on Nov. 25 assisted Trinity Place senior residential community with its holiday tree decorating. The retirement community provides lights and décor while the City provides a bucket truck and volunteers for the setup.

Departments represented were Community and Neighborhood Services, Information Technology, Police and Transportation.

Through the assistance from the City, Trinity Place hosts an annual tree lighting event each December for its residents.





# ► **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](mailto:mguajardo@roundrocktexas.gov).

