

NEWSFLASH

JUNE 2016

ROUNDROCKTEXAS.GOV

Parade, fireworks highlight July 4 festivities

A parade, fireworks, carnival rides, jalapeno pepper eating contest, Swifty Swine Pig Races, children's games, Sam Bass Shootout, Movies in the Park and skydivers are all part of the City's July Fourth Frontier Days Celebration.

This event is free for the entire family.

Independence Day festivities will begin at 10 a.m. with the Sertoma July Fourth Parade, which moves back to Downtown this year.

Activities at Old Settlers Park begin at noon. The City Council will serve free watermelon at the Lakeview Pavilion beginning at 7 p.m. We'll strike up the Austin Symphonic Band at 8:30, and fireworks will go off at dark.

After the fireworks, enjoy a Movie in the Park to avoid the traffic heading out of Old Settlers Park.

Make a splash with the family at the newly expanded Rock'N River

The Rock'N River expansion is complete and the water park is now more than double in size with exciting new attractions for the entire family.

Rock'N River now includes a huge spray-ground play area called Splashville that includes 51 play features. Also new is The Quarry, an adventure area featuring a 12-foot jumping platform and rock climbing wall with waterfall feature.

Not to be missed are the Watering Hole with covered swim-up concession seats, and the Hitching Post concession area.

Rock'N River Water Park is located in Old Settlers Park, 3300 Palm Valley Blvd. Hours are noon to 7 p.m. June 3 through Aug. 21 (closed Wednesdays) and noon to 6 p.m. Aug. 27-28 and Sept. 3-5.

Daily admission is \$8 for youth (ages 3-17), \$10 for adults (ages 18-49), \$8 for seniors (ages 50 and over) and \$5 for kids 2 and under.

Twilight admission rates (5 p.m. to close) are \$4 for youth (ages 3-17), \$5 for adults (ages 18-49), \$4 for seniors (ages 50 and over) and \$2.50 for kids 2 and under.



Season passes are \$60 for youth/seniors, \$70 for adults. A family pass (four people) is \$225. (Add additional family members for \$10 each.)

Season passes can be purchased in person at Rock'N River Water Park during park operating hours, Parks and Recreation Main Office, 301 W. Bagdad Ave., Clay Madsen Recreation Center, 1600 Gattis School Road, or the Baca Center, 301 W Bagdad Ave., Building B.

For more information, including rates for cabana, umbrella and picnic pavilion rentals, visit roundrocktexas.gov/river.

Summer's the time to water wisely

The City of Round Rock's four-tiered water rate structure, designed to encourage conservation, is in effect through the end of September.

Even though we had a wet spring and are out of the drought, we encourage customers to follow the watering schedule:

- ★ Residential **odd-numbered** addresses: Wednesday and/or Saturday
- ★ Residential **even-numbered** addresses: Thursday and/or Sunday

★ Commercial and multi-family customers: Tuesday and/or Friday

★ Please water between midnight to 10 a.m., or 7 p.m. to midnight only.

Visit roundrocktexas.gov/conservation to learn more about waterwise landscaping, rebate programs, a conservation rate calculator and more.

If you have questions or billing discrepancies, call the Billing Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 512-218-5460.



Sponsors include H-E-B, KASE 101, Spirit 105.9, Randalls and Fox 7. Visit roundrocktexas.gov/july4 for more information.

IN BRIEF

Smart911 now available

Smart911 is a free service provided by the Round Rock Police Department that allows residents to create and manage a secure Safety Profile for their household. The profile provides information to 9-1-1 and first responders before an emergency happens, so they can better help you during one.

The Safety Profile can include medical information, address details, family members, pets, vehicles and emergency contacts. The profile is immediately displayed when 9-1-1 is called, helping to facilitate the proper response to the proper location. For more information and to sign up, visit Smart911.com

Round Rock Library joins Family Place Libraries

Weeks of planning, organizing, and construction culminated with the May 3 opening of the Round Rock Public Library's Family Place.

Visit the library for some special playtime with your child, and a chance to interact casually with other local parents. In addition to creative and interactive toys, the Family Place also features a new collection of parenting books and information.

RRPL is one of 36 Texas libraries to be awarded a Family Place Libraries™ grant. The Texas State Library and Archives Commission recently approved funding to address early learning priorities in library communities and ensure that all children

enter school ready and able to learn through training provided by Family Place Libraries™.

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

Meet your Transportation staff Mike Ackerman, Transportation Superintendent, 512-341-3304



Mike has been with the Transportation Department for 17 years. In his role as Superintendent, he oversees all Street and Drainage projects plus is responsible for the administrative side of the department. Recently, he finished preparing the budget for next year and employee reviews. On the construction side of things, he made sure the reconstruction of the bridge in Old Settlers Park went smoothly and demolitions for city projects went off without a hitch.

Personal: Mike loves to cook. He is also into sports. Currently, he supports Hutto Hippo Athletics and prior to that he coached youth football for 14 years. In addition, he says he works with the best group of co-workers and they are the reason behind his success.

New intersection enhances safety, mobility

The Texas Department of Transportation, in cooperation with officials from the City of Round Rock and Williamson County, celebrated Monday, May 16, the full project completion of the I-35 and RM 1431/University Boulevard diverging diamond intersection project. More importantly, they celebrated the fact that the new innovative intersection is working extremely well.

Citizens have been driving in this new configuration since November 2015. Since then, TxDOT has had the opportunity to run some metrics on how the area's first diverging diamond intersection is performing and the results are promising.

Despite a **45 percent increase in traffic volume** at this intersection over the last four years, it is already **yielding a 13 percent reduction in morning and a 44-58 percent decrease in afternoon travel times**. This means that even though a lot more cars are traveling through this area, they are getting through one of Round Rock's most congested intersections much quicker than before.

UPS to build distribution facility in Round Rock

United Parcel Service (UPS) will build a new distribution facility in Round Rock, employing more than 300 employees at a \$70 million facility. The building is expected to open at the end of 2018, according to the company.

The City Council voted 6-0 Thursday, May 12, on an incentive agreement with UPS. To receive the incentives, UPS must purchase 50 acres, build at least a 100,000-square-foot facility worth \$70 million and employ at least 314 at the site. The jobs must have an annual average salary of at least \$50,000 a year.

Keep it local with a staycation this summer

The summer break doesn't have to break the bank for Round Rock families. There are plenty of activities to keep the young and young at heart playing and exploring for days on end.

Visit shoptherock.com/family-weekend and you'll find a family itinerary jam-packed with places to play, eat and shop.

Remember, to help pay for better roads and parks, all you have to do is Shop the Rock. What makes this possible? Sales tax. Though it may be the least sexy tax, it is the hardest working one. So next time you see a shirt you love, buy it. Your city will thank you.

