



MURPHY MONTHLY

Official Citywide Employee Newsletter for the City of Murphy



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER MORGAN BARCLAY

We are excited to announce that Morgan Barclay - Planning Administrator since November 2024 - has been selected by the City Manager's Office as the recipient of the second Employee of the Quarter award!

Staff got to surprise her at the June Connection Crew meeting with some very loud confetti canons to inform her of this well-deserved honor.

Be sure to check out Morgan's feature on the City's social media pages and cheer her on as she accepts her award at the July 15th City Council meeting.

Here's what colleagues had to say about Morgan:

"Morgan has joined our team and did not need to crawl or walk, she hit the ground running and producing from day one. Her willingness to jump in and tackle any task that is presented has been an absolute breath of fresh air for our team. Having Morgan on our team makes our daily challenges more manageable and elevates our level of professionalism."

Congratulations to Morgan on this well-deserved recognition!

SEE PAGE 5 FOR A HIGHLIGHT OF ALL THE NOMINEES!

HR EVENTS



Wellness Wednesday – July 23

Vitamin Shot Clinic - 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
📍 Conference Room 116 (City Hall)

Wellness Walk - 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM
📍 Meet in front of the City Hall flagpole

Lunch & Learn - 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
📍 City Hall Fishbowl
• Investment Basics: lunch is on us!

SAVE THE DATE!

Open Enrollment is July 25 – August 3

ALL full-time employees are required to log in to the Benefit Connector website to update their benefit elections during this period,

AND attend ONE of the following **mandatory benefit education sessions:**

- July 25 – 2:00 PM
- July 29 – 7:00 AM
- July 31 – 7:00 AM or 9:00 AM
- August 1 – 9:00 AM

CORE VALUE TIP OF THE MONTH



BEING FRIENDLY

Being friendly is more than being polite. It's how we build connection, trust, and exceptional service. Friendly behavior helps create a positive, welcoming space for our coworkers and our community.

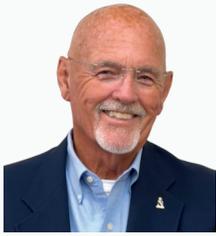
What does friendly behavior look like?

- A warm "hello" and a genuine smile
- A positive, can-do attitude (even on tough days)
- Active listening and being present
- Offering help without being asked
- Being approachable and respectful to all

Let's keep it COOL and keep it Friendly as we continue to serve with heart.

JUNE NEW HIRES

Welcome to the Murphy team!



Doug Box
Interim Director
PW

With 30+ years of municipal leadership experience, Doug brings a deep well of knowledge to his role as Interim Public Works Director for the City of Murphy. He has overseen complex utility systems, major infrastructure projects, and led teams as large as 100 personnel across multiple Texas cities. A Certified Public Works Professional and Army veteran, he's here to help keep Murphy running strong!



Michael Pruitt
Maint. Worker I
PW

Before coming to Murphy, Michael worked at Plastipak Packaging as a Line Technician. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his two kids and eating at On The Border. One day, he wants to try out sky diving, and his family is what motivates him the most.



Adam Ackerman
Telecommunications
Officer
PD

Prior to Murphy, Adam was a Campus Technology Assistant at Murphy Middle School. Outside of working, he enjoys reading and table top RPGs (like D&D). He hopes to visit numerous National Parks, always wants to learn more, and is most proud of taking care of his mother.

JOB OPENINGS



- Director of Public Works
- IT Systems Analyst
- Administrative Analyst
- PT Customer Service Specialist
- Parks Maintenance Technician I
- Recreation Specialist
- Special Events Assistant
- Police Officer (Certified)
- School Crossing Guard

WORKIVERSARIES



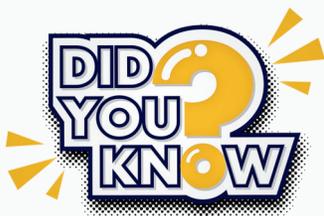
- Jennifer Chacon-Case** - 12 Yrs of Service
- Charles Richardson** - 7 Yrs of Service
- Daniel Sandoval** - 6 Yrs of Service
- Melvin Capers** - 5 Yrs of Service
- Abigail Vause** - 2 Yrs of Service
- Stephen Buhler** - 2 Yrs of Service
- Steven Orr** - 1 Yr of Service
- Allison Bass** - 1 Yr of Service
- Jackie Cooke** - 1 Yr of Service
- Caylee Birkett** - 1 Yr of Service
- Joseph Whitaker** - 1 Yr of Service
- Reagan Rothenberger** - 1 Yr of Service

*Thank you for your continued service to making
Murphy the incredible place it is!*

JULY BIRTHDAYS



- Aretha Adams - 7/8
- Daniel Sandoval - 7/12
- Brent Bartholomew - 7/14
- Colton Nations - 7/17
- Noah Klem - 7/16
- Jared Mayfield - 7/20
- Elise Dailey - 7/23
- Stephen Buhler - 7/26
- Tanner Smith - 7/30



SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS ACT

The newly passed Social Security Fairness Act eliminates the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset that previously lowered Social Security benefits for those with a government pension. Since the City of Murphy is a **non-Social Security City**, this change is relevant for those of you who worked for an organization who participated in Social Security before coming to Murphy – **you may now qualify for higher monthly benefits and even retroactive payments.**

Visit the SSA website or log into your Social Security account to check your eligibility and make sure your info is up to date!

RECOGNITION WALL | PERSONAL TOUCHES



GRADUATION SHOUT-OUT

We are very proud to celebrate **Joshua Simms's** graduation from the Police Academy! His hard work, dedication, and commitment to public service are truly commendable. Please join us in congratulating Officer Simms on this exciting achievement and welcoming him to the next chapter of his career in law enforcement with Murphy PD.



ON THE SPOT RECOGNITION

Recognizing **Sammi Clark** in Customer Service. Congratulations for redeeming a \$10 gift card in exchange for the 5 on the spot cards! Thank you for your positive impact to Team Murphy. We're glad your contributions don't go unnoticed.



EMPLOYEES IN MOTION RECOGNITION

COLIN McDONALD - PUBLIC WORKS

Colin McDonald, Meter Services Technician, recently responded to a resident report of a water leakage by their house and received praise for his professionalism and ability to get the job done - and do it well. This qualified him for our Employees in Motion recognition, which includes a Murphy COOL certificate and a \$25 gift card. Keep being COOL, Colin!



GRADUATION SHOUT-OUT

FROM: DAWNELLE COLLINGS

Join us in congratulating Tristyn Cook (**Dawnelle's** granddaughter) for graduating from Bland High School! As for post-graduation plans, she will be attending the UTA nursing program to begin her life's dream of becoming a NICU nurse - way to go, Tristyn!



BRINGING HOME THE TAMI!

Murphy just took home 1st place in Internal Communications (for cities under 75,000) at the 2025 TAMI Awards - and yes, it was for Murphy C.O.O.L.!

To have it recognized with a TAMI - the top honor in Texas municipal communications - is a huge deal, especially this year, with a record 658 entries! This win marks our fourth year in a row bringing home TAMI awards (eight total since 2021). So here's to you, the team that makes Murphy truly cool. Thank you for bringing the values to life and making this place not just award-winning, but meaningful.

Wellness Wednesday

This month's Wellness Wednesday was a success! We kicked things off with a Breakfast & Learn session led by Gardner Wallace, who gave a clear and practical overview of Social Security benefits.

From 8:00–9:00 AM, the Vitamin Shot Clinic was open for staff to get a wellness boost with Vitamin D, B12, and Lipotropic shots. (Good news: This clinic will now be a monthly staple (because consistency is key when it comes to staying well!))

We wrapped up the morning with a refreshing 1-mile walk from 9:30–10:00 AM - just in time to beat the heat!

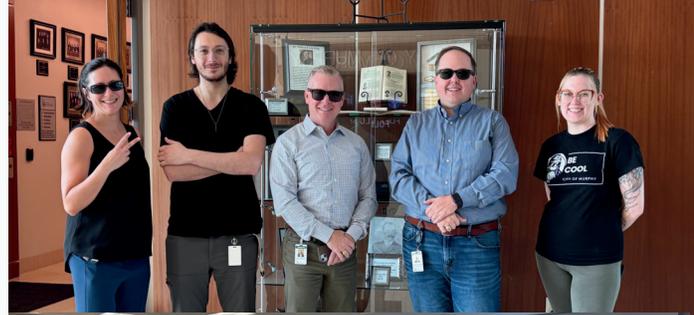
Thanks to everyone who joined us! Don't forget to mark your calendars for July's Wellness Wednesday! (Details on page 1.)

Citizen's Academy

The City's Murphy University Citizens Academy has officially commenced! We have successfully hosted the first three sessions of the MurphyU: Local Government Management 101, The Basics of Development Services, and most recently, Understanding Police & Court Operations. Citizens got to participate in a Mock Council Meeting, a Mock Planning & Zoning Session, and a Drone Show & Simunition firing. Next up is a Deep Dive into Fire Rescue on July 10th!

Youth Citizen's Academy

The Murphy Police Department recently concluded Youth Citizens Police Academy (YCPA) for the class of 2025. This free program is designed for students entering 6th to 10th grade, offering them a rare glimpse into the world of law enforcement!



WELLNESS TIP OF THE MONTH

STAYING HYDRATED

As the temperatures rise, so does your body's need for water. Proper hydration isn't just about quenching thirst—it helps regulate your body temperature, supports digestion, cushions joints, and keeps your energy up throughout the day. Remember—by the time you feel thirsty, you're already on your way to being dehydrated. Drink early, drink often, and your body will thank you!

Tip: Aim for 8–10 cups of water daily, and more if you're spending time outdoors or breaking a sweat. Carry a reusable water bottle with you as a simple reminder to sip throughout the day.



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER NOMINEES

Jennifer Chacon-Case - Police

“Detective Chacon-Case is a very active employee and leader in the department.”

“She is a true leader that her fellow employees can look up to. She is also very helpful and always ready to answer a question or help find the answer to any question.”

Jazmin Walker - Fire

“You can always find Jazmin going above and beyond to ensure our station looks clean and professional.”

“On 911 emergencies, Jazz is always levelheaded and empathetic toward his patients. He has been trusted with multiple assignments and has completed all of them in a timely and professional manner.”

Mike Shalev - Fire

“Mike leads by example - stepping up to guide others, volunteering to assist with assignments, and taking the initiative when challenges arise.”

“His professionalism and reliability make him someone we can all count on.”

Phillip Gilbert - Police

“In his social media role, he has built a reputation of being humorous, but at the drop of a hat he can put his police hat on and share difficult news in a professional manner.”

“Trust is hard to build, but Phillip has shown he has what it takes to be trusted.”

Kandi Jackson - CSO

“Her job is both highly demanding and meaningful. She doesn't run from the unexpected or stressful situations that arise. She handles it all with grace, determination, and positivity.”

“She demonstrates respect and integrity in all her interactions with customers, setting an excellent example for customer service.”

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO SUBMITTED THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS, MAKING THIS PROGRAM A SUCCESS!

As promised, your names have been entered into the annual drawing for a paid day off!

COUNCIL ROUNDUP

A RECAP FROM THE JUNE MEETINGS



Consent & Regular Agenda Items

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

- Ordinance amending the FY25 capital appropriations in the Utility Construction based on certificates of Obligations - series 2018
- Resolution establishing a no left turn lane on North Murphy Road
- Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a lease agreement with Platinum Copier Solution for purchasing and maintenance of copiers for city facilities
- Resolution creating an employee benefits trust
- Ordinance to create a Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC)
- Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Election - Congratulations Jene Butler
- Final plat for the Enclave at Maxwell Creek
- Election for Mayor Pro Tem - Congratulations Elizabeth Abraham!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Murphy Games - July 12

Supervisor Toolkit Training (Conflict Resolution) - July 15

Moonlight Movies Series - July 18

Supervisor Toolkit Training (Conflict Resolution) - July 24 (virtual)

Murphy Way Leadership Academy Kickoff
- July 24

Back 2 School Bash - July 24

Beat the Heat Employee Socials
August 1, 15 & 29 @ 2:30-3:00pm

Performance Management Essentials Training - August 15