



MURPHY MONTHLY

Official Citywide Employee Newsletter for the City of Murphy



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

CHERYL BLASINGAME

CUSTOMER SERVICE SPECIALIST

I am a Customer Service Specialist with the Utility Billing Department. My favorite part of my role is that, even though there are various challenges in interacting with customers on a daily basis, being able to be a positive in someone's day by assisting them with what might be a big problem to them - but may only take me a few minutes to resolve - it can be very satisfying! Plus, I enjoy interacting with my coworkers. Even though our days are usually busy, we still can find opportunities to laugh with one another or share important aspects of what's going on in our lives and with our families.

I spent many years in the insurance industry before joining the City of Princeton in their Utility Billing Department. After three years with Princeton, I left to explore the world of real estate, but eventually came to work with the City of Murphy in 2022. A highlight of my career is that I have my General Lines Insurance License as well as a Real Estate License.

If I had to pick a different area of the City to work in for a day, although we do not have a library, but if we did, that's the area I would like to work because I personally love to read and would like to help others, especially young people, discover that passion of finding new adventures and possibly new life opportunities through reading. Getting lost in a book is one of my favorite hobbies.

The best piece of advice I have ever received is: "give your cares to God and go to sleep."

Lastly, a fun fact about myself is that I like to explore genealogy, which is the researching the history of both sides of my family tree. I have come across some interesting new characters on this journey. Also, my husband and I are avid cruisers.

WELLNESS EVENTS



11/20 - Wellness Wednesday

Breakfast & Learn on Financial Planning

@ Public Works Building

- 7:15a.m. - 8:00a.m.

Wellness Walk @ City Hall Front Entrance

- 11:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Chair Massages @ City Hall Fishbowl

- 1:30p.m. - 3:30p.m.
- \$10 for 15 minutes

Reminder: Activity participation earns credit toward your wellness program scorecard!

Complete your scorecard by 8/31/25 to earn a monthly wellness rebate of up to \$30. Visit

www.murphytx.org/915 to **sign up!**

CITY EVENTS



11/2 - Arbor Day

9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. - 601 Creekside Dr.

11/11 - City offices will be closed for Veterans

Day

11/15-11/16 - Murphy Camp Out

4:00p.m.-9:00a.m. - Murphy Central Park Pond

11/21 - Thanksgiving Potluck

11:30a.m.-1:00p.m. - Community Room

Go to www.murphytx.org/915 to sign up to bring side dishes, drinks, or desserts!

11/28-11/29 - City Offices will be closed for the

Thanksgiving Holiday

12/7 - Christmas in the Park

6:00p.m.-8:00p.m. - City Hall Complex

NEW HIRES

Welcome to the Murphy team!



Nichole Arledge
HR Assistant
Human Resources

Nichole worked at the City of Duncanville as a Human Resources Intern for 1.5 years before coming to Murphy. She's currently a Master's student and trying out new vegan recipes. Making her mother proud is what motivates her, and she's most proud of all the obstacles she's overcome as a first-generation college graduate.



Harley Cox
Recreation Aide
Recreation

Harley used to work as a lifeguard at the City of Plano before coming to Murphy. He's currently a college student who enjoys going to the gym and hanging out with friends. His bucket list includes visiting all continents in his lifetime, and he's most proud of starting his own online business that's been operating successfully for over a year!



Timothy Sapp
Finance Technician
Finance

Timothy was a Director of a Preschool for nine years before coming to Murphy. He enjoys spending time with his fur-babies, watching adventure movies, and playing video games. Being open to new experiences and growth opportunities is what motivates him. He is most proud of fostering a positive team culture at his former place of employment.



Judith Friedline
Records Mgmt Specialist
City Secretary's Office

Judy was a Clerk Counselor at Plano ISD before coming to Murphy. She loves working with children, and enjoys watching Resident Evil and exercising. Completing projects successfully motivates her, and she is most proud of being a practical person and an advocate for recycling.



David Lovato
Irrigation Technician
Parks & Recreation

David worked at Xscapes Irrigation before coming to Murphy. He's secretly good at all sports but loves baseball the most. He likes Dr. Pepper, watching Breaking Bad or Severance, and hanging out with his family. His family and God motivate him, and he is proud of how much he's accomplished in his life.

JOB OPENINGS

View more details at

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/murphytx

- Firefighter / Paramedic
- Maintenance Worker I
- Recreation Programmer
- School Crossing Guard
- Telecommunications Officer



MILESTONES

- Wesley Smith** - 1 Yr of Service
- Robin Roy** - 1 Yr of Service
- Colton Nations** - 1 Yr of Service
- Christopher Wooley** - 1 Yr of Service
- David Pitcock** - 2 Yrs of Service
- Cheryl Blasingame** - 2 Yrs of Service
- Ezequiel Martinez** - 2 Yrs of Service
- Tyler Lamarre** - 3 Yrs of Service
- Andrew Chase** - 4 Yrs of Service
- Jonathan Hunter** - 11 Yrs of Service
- Kim Gann** - 20 Yrs of Service

Thank you for your continued service to making Murphy the incredible place that it is. Because of your hard work and dedication, Murphy continues to improve for our staff and residents.



BIRTHDAYS

- Bianca Brown - 11/29
- Carla Blatney - 11/25
- Daniel Paredes - 11/18
- Del Albright - 11/21
- Heather McGee - 11/5
- John Grant - 11/30
- Mario Reyes - 11/2



MONTH IN REVIEW

Culture Committee Meeting

On October 3rd, the Murphy Culture Committee (comprised of representatives from each City Department) held their fifth monthly meeting to discuss future employee engagement ideas, such as the Thanksgiving Potluck, Employee Service Awards, in December and future Wellness Wednesdays!



Fall Clean & Green

The Keep Murphy Beautiful team and other awesome City Staff collected items as part of the Fall Clean & Green. In total, 417 vehicles came through the event!



Wellness Wednesday

HR held its second wellness Wednesday on October 16th, with a pre-shift stretch provided by Airrosti, a wellness walk & talk, and a financial wellness lunch & learn with Gardner Wallace. Make sure to sign up in advance for our next Wellness Wednesday on November 20th!



Halloween Potluck

On October 31st, the Halloween Potluck, Secret Pumpkin, and Costume Contest were a spooky blast! **Shahrzard Rizvi** won Most Original, **Dawnelle Collings** and **Sammi Clark** won Best Group and **Paulette Overman** snagged the titles of Scariest and Best Overall. A big thank you to all who brought food, participated in Secret Pumpkin, and dressed up in awesome costumes - don't forget to sign up for the Thanksgiving Potluck!



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION



For the month of November, HR is proud to recognize & celebrate **Municipal Court Week (11/4-11/8)** - thank you for all that you do! See the photos to the right of our AMAZING staff.



CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS

Joseph Whitaker of Public Works recently achieved promotion to Construction Inspector, and **Ezequiel Martinez** of Public Works achieved promotion to Meter Services Technician! *Congrats on your well-deserved career advancements. We look forward to seeing you achieve great heights in your new roles!*

RECOGNITION WALL



CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE

Maize Days Shoutouts - Kayla McFarland

Ashley Hudson received high praise for her exceptional planning, passion, and hard work to pull off the “best Maize Days yet” according to Murphy residents.

Jacy Mitchell excelled in her first real event as an event coordinator, with excellent management of food and market vendors before, during, and after the event.

Melvin Capers engaged the crowd as “DJ Melly Mel” all day across three different platforms, wrapping up the night with a fun silent disco. At the end of the night, he still worked with a smile on his face to help with cleanup.

Recognition also goes to the Parks, Recreation, and Public Works crews for working until 1:30am to ensure everything was cleaned up after the event even after multiple long days of very hard work.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SHOUT-OUT



Congratulations to **Antonio Titsworth** (Public Works) for passing his water distribution test; he now has a class C water distribution license issued from Texas Commission of Environmental Quality. We are so proud of you for continuing your education and expanding your skill set, and thank you for enriching the City with new knowledge, skills, and abilities.

COUNCIL ROUNDUP

A RECAP FROM THE OCTOBER MEETINGS



OCTOBER 1ST & 15TH MEETINGS

- National Night Out Proclamation was presented to Chief Gibson
- National Fire Safety Week Proclamation was presented to Fire Marshal, Perry Elliott
- National Planning Month Proclamation was presented to Reagan Rothenberger
- There was a presentation about the Plano Mayor Internship Program in hopes to work with Murphy in the future
- FY25 Budget Film debut
- Update on the Water Line Looping Project - did you know we have 80.4 miles of water distribution system in Murphy??
- Maize Days Recap by Ashley Hudson
- Council unanimously approved installing two weather stations that will collect low altitude information
- The Fleet Vehicle Lease Program was also unanimously approved