



ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

November 2018

Celebrate a Hometown Christmas in the Heart of Rockwall

Get ready to ring in the holidays with a hometown celebration to remember. Saturday, December 1 will be a day-long event filled with Christmas cheer with festivities from 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Get a seat early for the 49th annual Kiwanis Christmas parade, which starts at the Rockwall County Courthouse (1111 E. Yellowjacket Ln.) and ends up in Historic Downtown. For nearly 50 years, this parade has been a fun family tradition in Rockwall, and it's still going strong.

After the parade, you can head over to the Square to continue the celebration. The Hometown Christmas festivities begin right after the parade at about 10 a.m. The heart of Downtown Rockwall will be transformed into a winter wonderland with snow flurries on the plaza, Christmas carolers, scavenger hunt, pictures with Santa, bounce houses, a snow tubing hill, and a Christmas pet parade.

The celebration wraps up with the 35th annual Christmas Tree Lighting on the lawn in front of City Hall (385 S. Goliad St.). This is a can't miss event that's complete with bounce houses, a photo opportunity with Santa, free Christmas cookies and hot chocolate bar—all as lively holiday music fills the air. For more information about all the day's events, please visit Rockwall.com.



Happening Around Town

Saturday, November 24

Shop Small Saturday, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, December 1

49th Annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade, Rockwall County Courthouse (1111 E. Yellowjacket Ln.) to Downtown Rockwall, 9-10 a.m.

Saturday, December 1

Hometown Christmas, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, December 1

Christmas Tree Lighting, City Hall (385 S. Goliad), 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, December 8

Breakfast with Santa, The Center (108 E. Washington St.), 8:30-10 a.m., 10:30 a.m.-12 noon

Tuesday, December 18

Santa's North Pole Workshop, The Center (108 E. Washington St.), 5:30-8:30 p.m.

*For more information:
Rockwall.com, PlayRockwall.com*



Helping Hands Toy Drive

Every year Rockwall residents rally to help our neighbors in need during the holidays. Rockwall County Helping Hands has a program to provide toys to make Christmas brighter for more than 1,000 local children. The annual Toy Drive kicks off this year on November 16. Toy tags are available at drop-off locations, such as City Hall, located at 385 S. Goliad St., and new unwrapped toys must be dropped off by noon on Tuesday, December 11. For more information about ways to help with the toy drive, please visit: RockwallHelpingHands.com.

Out and About in Rockwall



Fire Prevention Month

While some recognize Fire Prevention Week every year, the Rockwall Fire Department dedicates a whole month to fire safety education and awareness, including visits and instruction at all area elementary schools. The Rockwall City Council marked October as Fire Prevention Month to honor the FD's efforts to inform and protect people.



Décor Downtown

Once again, volunteers have worked to decorate Downtown Rockwall to help keep it festive to attract both visitors and patrons to the area. Above are very dedicated volunteers, Claudette Hatfield and Pat Buttgen working to help Rockwall stay vibrant and thriving.



Best in BBQ

This little guy waited patiently to discover the Best in BBQ at the 10th Annual Rib Rub Run and Roll. Thousands turned out for the race, live music, Taste of Rockwall, car show and BBQ competition. Details at playrockwall.com



Your Vote Counts!

Rockwall residents united to vote for Cain's Corner Park—and we won! Thank you! The park was honored with the People's Choice Award for Best Public Improvement from the Texas Downtown Association. The park is a collaborative effort between the City of Rockwall Main Street, Rockwall Parks and Recreation, and the Cain family.



Giving Thanks for Our Volunteers

Did you know? Volunteers are vital to keeping the City of Rockwall running smoothly and helping maintain a dynamic quality of life. Our volunteers dedicate resources and thousands of hours of their time each year, and City leaders show their appreciation with an annual reception at San Jacinto Plaza in Downtown Rockwall.

The good news is there is always room for more! If you're interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact Bethany Browning at bbrowning@rockwall.com.



Rockwall Parks Awarded for Excellence in Maintenance

The Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) honored Rockwall Parks and Recreation with the Excellence in Maintenance award at the TRAPS North Region Conference held recently at the Hilton in Rockwall.



The award recognizes Rockwall's excellence in design and maintenance for the rock formation in front of City Hall, designed to counteract the effect of heavy rains. Parks Operations Supervisor Brian Sartain (pictured top center right) supervised the project. The rock structure acts as a river bed to contain runoff, while adding to the curb appeal. The rock formation will help improve drainage and minimize future erosion.



Winter Yard—What Happened to My Lawn?

As winter approaches and temperatures begin to drop, your grass may gradually start to turn brown. Don't worry, because it's perfectly normal. Your grass and landscape has what is called microclimates, which means that some areas of your lawn will develop frost and some areas won't. The result is a temporary tiger striping or a mosaic pattern of green and brown in the grass. Eventually, your entire lawn will slowly brown as it goes into dormancy for the winter.