



ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

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Photo Credit: GTH Studios

Countywide First Responder Training Exercise Earns Praise

The City of Rockwall, including the Rockwall Police and Fire Departments, Streets, and Communications, along with several other departments, participated in a countywide emergency services active threat training exercise at Celia Hays Elementary School recently.

The partnership was coordinated and conducted by the Rockwall County Office of Emergency Management and involved 21 different agencies in all.

The first responders and volunteers from multiple cities were working to test their collaborative planning and response capabilities with regard to large scale events.

It's one of the things you never hope to need, but it's definitely good to train and be prepared in the event a real world scenario strikes close to home.



Back to School Safety Reminders

Drivers need to remember to slow down for students. All across Rockwall this month, children are headed back to class, and that means school zones are once again in effect.

As students fill the streets every morning and afternoon heading to and from schools, parents, police, school officials and concerned residents urge caution in an effort to ensure children are safe in their journeys. It's also a good idea for parents to remind their little ones to use caution and look both ways before crossing streets.



Happening Around Town

Saturdays, May 6-September 30

Rockwall Farmers Market,
Historic Downtown Rockwall, 8-12 p.m.

Fridays-Saturdays, May-October

San Jacinto Music Series, San Jacinto Plaza,
(Downtown Rockwall), 7-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 16

Mother-Son Dance, Springhill Suites (The Harbor),
6-9 p.m. *Registration required. Details at
PlayRockwall.com

Friday, September 22

Family Fun Friday, Shores Park (2302 Shores Blvd.),
6-9 p.m.

Saturday, October 7

Rib Rub Run and Roll, Harry Myers Park,
Car Show Downtown, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information:

Rockwall.com, PlayRockwall.com

Out and About in Rockwall



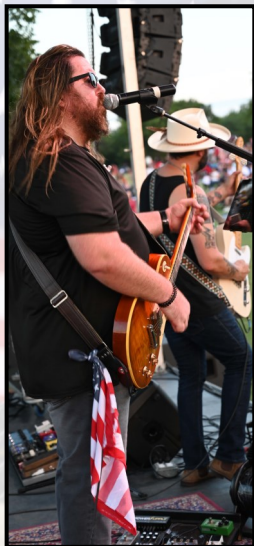
Junior Fire Academy Graduates Young Cadets

The Rockwall Fire Department's annual Junior Fire Academy is once again a success with students. Every year the FD plans an educational and fun-filled week for boys and girls ages 10-12. This year the event was expanded to two separate weeks to accommodate more students. The youths geared up like their grown-up counterparts and went to work to learn about what it takes to be a firefighter, even including a tour of a helicopter.



New Parking Signs Installed in Downtown

As part of the ongoing effort to bring awareness to available parking in Downtown Rockwall, the city has installed new signs to mark all the free public parking lots. In all, there are 13 public lots with nearly 600 spots in or very near Downtown Rockwall. Two of the biggest lots are behind The Center (108 E. Washington) and at City Hall (385 S. Goliad). For a complete list of all available parking downtown, please visit Rockwall.com/mainstreet.asp.



Record Crowds for July 4th

Continuing with tradition, the City of Rockwall celebrated Independence Day in grand style.

The day started with the festive Independence Day parade to the delight of the throngs of onlookers. Young and old gathered to celebrate their patriotism. Then later in the day, there was a flyover and parachute jump from an authentic WWII airplane, sponsored by the American Legion. Live music filled the air, leading up to a stellar fireworks display that went on for close to half an hour.

Love Your Landscape - Beware of These Pests

There are several bugs and other pests to watch for when you're trying to keep your landscape lush and green. Here are a few of the biggest offenders:

CHINCH BUGS love to dine on St. Augustine grass. Symptoms of their destruction include yellow to brown grass, mainly in sunny areas with random borders. To test, pull a handful of grass on the edge of the damaged areas and sprinkle the blades on white paper to detect the black and white insects the size of a grain of rice. Treatment includes granular insecticide labeled for chinch bugs.

GRUB WORMS attack mostly St. Augustine and Bermuda grass. You will know you have them if you have yellow to brown grass that pulls up easily with little to no roots, and has random borders. To test for these, dig a 12" x 12" square 2" to 3" deep and flip over (even having as few as four to five grubs per square foot is enough to damage your grass). To treat for these, use granular insecticide labeled for grub worms.

RED IMPORTED FIRE ANTS attack all grass varieties. It's pretty easy to tell if you have fire ants, as you'll see their mounds along your foundation, walkways, electrical boxes, and in the grass itself. To treat for fire ants, you'll need granular insecticide labeled for fire ants (Texas Two-Step is the best method, which uses a bait insecticide in spring and fall, and treats the mounds when needed).

