



ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

September 2023

Photo Credit: GTH Studios

Heroes Honored for Saving a Life at Rockwall Farmers Market

Mayor Trace Johannesen and the Rockwall City Council recognized a large group of employees recently – with a “Life-Saving Award” for working together to save the life of a Farmers Market vendor.

While setting up for the market, Farmer John (of State 28 Farm) suffered a cardiac arrest, and thankfully Rockwall Parks & Recreation employee Bryan Escobar jumped into action to perform CPR. Soon after, fellow Parks employee Daniel Ramirez joined in to help. After 9-1-1 was called, Rockwall Police Officer Garrett Stewart took over chest compressions.



Next, Captain Lewis Johnson and Firefighters Bogdan Rusmanica and Clay Crawford, along with Rockwall County EMS personnel defibrillated the man. He was transported to a local hospital and was able to walk out after a short stay—even after a diagnosis of Sudden Cardiac Death!

Of note, as the patient left, the fire personnel as well as Police Sergeant Jose Urive, and Officers Sonja Doss, Cameron Parker and Aaron Woolverton packed up Farmer John’s market booth, and located the keys, then loaded all the products onto the vendor’s vehicle.

As City Manager, Mary Smith (who was on scene helping during the market) said, “Farmer John lives today, thanks to this group of dedicated people willing and able to jump into action and do the right thing. I can’t emphasize enough the importance of getting CPR training—today.”



Rib Rub Run & Roll Coming Soon

Once again, the best in BBQ are firing up their grills and getting ready for the hottest competition around. The Outlaw BBQ Association sanctioned competition, the 15th Annual Rib Rub Run and Roll, is coming up on Saturday, October 7.

The day is packed full with fun, starting with 5K and 10K runs, live music all day, a car show, and food vendors galore. While the Rib Rub and Run portions of the day’s events will take place at Harry Myers Park, the car show or “Roll” portion will remain in Downtown Rockwall.

For complete details on Rib Rub Run and Roll 2023, including how to register for the race or as a BBQ competitor, please visit PlayRockwall.com.



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, October 7
Rib Rub Run and Roll, Harry Myers Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Car Show Downtown, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Saturday, October 28
Scare on the Square, Downtown Rockwall,
2-5 p.m.

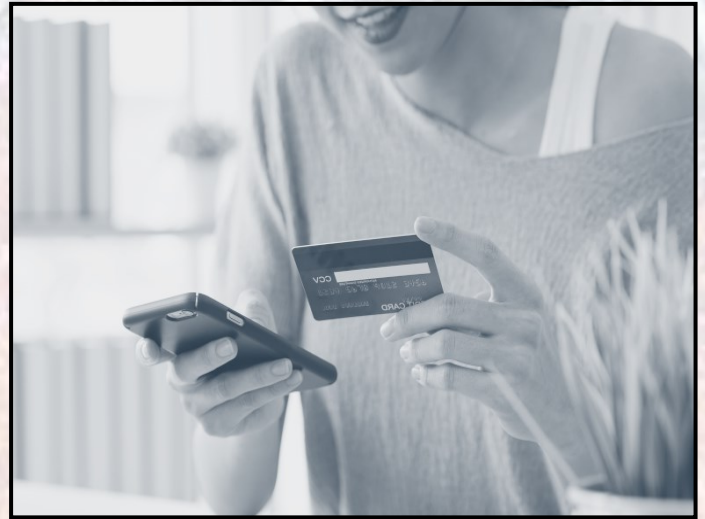
For more information:
Rockwall.com, PlayRockwall.com

Out and About in Rockwall

New System for Utility Billing Payments in Place

The City of Rockwall is offering a new method to access your Utility Billing account 24 hours a day, 365 days a year! The new system is accessed through Rockwall.com. Click to the Utility Billing page from the front page. After setting up a new user name and password, you will find the system to be more interactive and convenient. You can even see payments and account activity in real time.

In addition to logging on to the online portal to view and pay your bill, there is another service that provides a convenient way to pay your bills on your own time—with no waiting. Have your 8-digit account number handy and call 877-879-9890. You can access your updated account instantly, hear real-time balances, and perform transactions securely through an automated system.



DriveTexas.Org Offers Way to Manage I-30 Traffic Frustrations

The end may not quite be in sight yet to the frustration of driving on I-30 between Rockwall and Dallas—but you can definitely be more proactive before you head out on the road. Admittedly, it can be maddening to sit in traffic on the bridge, and now with the construction on I-30, that problem is exacerbated. Take note: There are a couple of tools you can utilize to plan for the drive ahead.

DriveTexas.org is a helpful TxDOT website that lets you navigate directly to the road you're traveling, and the website will provide accurate and timely information about driving conditions. The information on this website is updated frequently and covers all roads maintained by TxDOT.

Drivers can also sign up for text alerts through Nixle via the Rockwall County Office of Emergency Management. RCOEM sends text messages to Rockwall County residents about emergencies impacting our area. If you would like to start receiving these alerts, please text RCOEM to the number 888777.



Love Your Landscape - Dealing with Drought

Now that we are getting closer to fall, we hope to see more rain than we have in the past few months. All summer we've suffered through extreme temperatures and severe drought conditions... and so have our plants.

The good news is that landscape plants are resilient, so don't give up on them just yet. In case the plants can be salvaged, here are a few steps you can take to help your landscape recover:

1. Water as needed, but don't overdo it. Watering too much to catch up can be just as harmful as the drought.
2. Be careful with fertilizer. Keep application rates low and use slow-release fertilizer, because stressed plants cannot use the fertilizer efficiently, and it causes them to need even more water.
3. Your lawn and trees know when to start going into summer dormancy due to extreme temperatures and lack of rain to protect themselves. This means trees will drop older outer leaves and grass will turn brown.
4. Finally, wait until spring to see if the plant comes out of winter dormancy before considering it lost, unless it is very obvious it is dead.

