



ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

November 2019

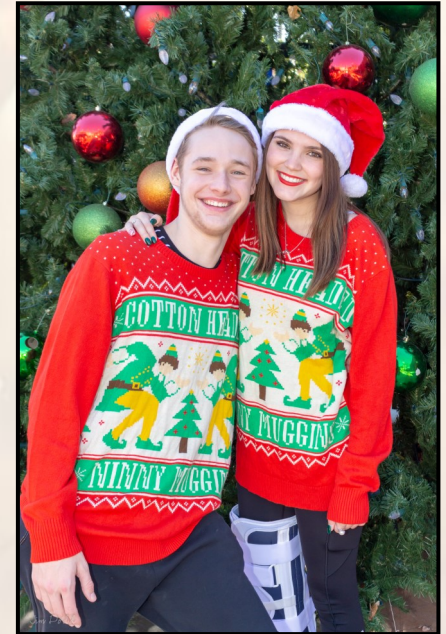
Celebrate Christmas in Rockwall!

Get ready to ring in the holidays with a hometown celebration to remember. Saturday, December 7 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 50th Annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade, which starts at the Rockwall County Courthouse (1111 E. Yellowjacket Ln.) and ends up in Historic Downtown. For five decades, 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 a kiddie skating rink, a snow tubing hill, Christmas musicians, food trucks, scavenger hunt, pictures with Santa, and a Christmas pet parade.

The celebration wraps up with the 36th 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 (bring your own camera), 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.



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 15. 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 Monday, December 9. For more information about ways to help with the toy drive, please visit: RockwallHelpingHands.com.



Happening Around Town

Saturday, November 30

Shop Small Donut Stroll, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, December 7

Rockwall Christmas Events, Historic Downtown Rockwall, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, December 13-14

Holiday Home Tour, Historic Downtown Rockwall, Sat. 10 a.m.-Sun. 3 p.m.

Saturday, December 14

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

Tuesday, December 17

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

Saturday, January 25

Daddy Daughter Dance, Rockwall Hilton at The Harbor, 6-9 p.m.

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

Out and About in Rockwall



Decorating Downtown

Once again, volunteers have worked to decorate Downtown Rockwall to help keep it festive to attract both visitors and patrons to the area. Every year a group of very dedicated volunteers work to help Rockwall stay vibrant, thriving, beautiful and festive.



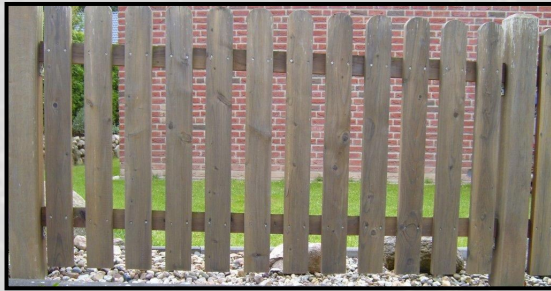
Fire Prevention Month

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.



Lifesaving Cheerleader

The City Council honored Rockwall High School senior cheerleader, Tyra Winters, for her heroism and quick action to save the life of a little boy. The two-year old was choking on a piece of candy during the RHS Homecoming parade and Tyra jumped off of her float to perform the Heimlich maneuver, saving the child. Tyra has been recognized on local and national news media programs, and even presented with a scholarship for her heroic efforts.



Maintaining Fences in the City

Did you know? In an effort to keep the area beautiful and maintain a high quality of life for Rockwall residents, the City Council amended the ordinance to help clarify minimum maintenance standards for fences. Some of the highlights of the ordinance include:

- All structures must be maintained in good condition.
- Structure and materials must be uniform.

To learn more, please contact the Building Inspections Department at 972-771-7709 or permits@rockwall.com.



City Celebrates Inaugural Arbor Day

Trees are an important part of the landscape in the City of Rockwall, and it's about to get a beauty boost. The City is hosting the inaugural Arbor Day Celebration this year. Rockwall Mayor Jim Pruitt will present a proclamation and the Parks and Recreation Department will mark the occasion by planting a handful of beautiful new trees at City Hall.

Defend Your Drains—Think Before Putting that in the Sink

As the holidays approach, we tend to create more FOG than normal. Fats, oils and grease, or FOG, comes from meats, butters and margarine, lard, food scraps, sauces, salad dressings, dairy products and cooking oil.

When FOG goes down the drain, it hardens and causes sewer pipes to clog. This can lead to a sanitary sewer overflow where **raw sewage actually backs up into your home, lawn, neighborhood and streets.**

Not only does this nasty mess cause health issues, it's also expensive to fix, and can run into a nearby stream or river, which affects our drinking water.

Here's how to properly dispose of FOG:

- Put oil and grease in sealable containers for recycling
- Wipe excess grease from pans and throw away
- Toss food scraps in garbage instead of disposal

