



ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

November 2023

Rockwall Prepares for Festive Christmas Season

Get ready to ring in the holidays with a hometown celebration to remember. Saturday, December 2 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 54th Annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade, which starts at the Rockwall County Courthouse (1111 E. Yellowjacket Ln.) and ends up in Historic Downtown. The theme of this year's event is "A Magical Christmas..." For more than 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 with the best bounce houses, snow hill and play area, puppet show, live entertainment, food trucks, games, photos, Santa and the Grinch, and more.

The celebration wraps up with the 40th 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 live music, a photo opportunity with Santa (bring your own camera), free Christmas cookies provided by Rockwall Women's League, and a coffee and hot chocolate bar. For more information about all the day's events, please visit Rockwall.com.



Lending a Hand to Our Neighbors

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 1,300 local children. The annual Toy Drive kicks off this year on November 10. 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 5 p.m. on Monday, December 4. For more information about ways to help with the toy drive, please visit: RockwallHelpingHands.com.



Happening Around Town

Saturday, November 25

Shop Small Saturday, Downtown Rockwall, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, December 2

*Kiwanis Christmas Parade, Downtown Rockwall, 9 a.m.
Hometown Christmas, Downtown Rockwall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Christmas Tree Lighting, City Hall, 6 p.m.*

Friday-Saturday, December 8-9

Holiday Home Tour, Downtown Rockwall, 5-9 p.m.

Saturday, December 9

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

Saturday, January 20

Daddy-Daughter Dance, Hilton at The Harbor, 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (pre-registration required)

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

Out and About in Rockwall



Thanking Rockwall's Superstar Volunteers

Rockwall held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception to thank the dedicated people who do so much to keep the city running smoothly. Volunteers donate thousands of hours every year with projects and events through groups such as Downtown Rockwall Association, Volunteers in Parks (VIPs), Friends of Downtown Rockwall, Citizens on Patrol (COPs), and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) just to name a few.



Volunteers Liven Up Downtown With Fall Décor

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

PETITION FOR LOCAL OPTION ELECTION TO LEGALIZE
(PETICIÓN PARA ELECCIÓN DE OPCIÓN LOCAL PARA LEGALIZAR)

SEAL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS
SELLO DE LA CIUDAD DEL ROCKWALL, TEXAS

Qualified voters of the City of Rockwall - Rockwall County, TX, hereby respectfully request that a local option election be called in accordance with Code, Title 17 in the above mentioned area for the purpose of submitting to the legally qualified voters of said area the determination of the following question:

To Legalize: **"The legal sale of all alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption only."**
Para Legalizar: **"La venta legal de todas bebidas alcohólicas para consumo solamente fuera del establecimiento."**

Printed Name (Nombre en letra de molde)	Residence Address (Dirección de residencia)	City / Ego Ciudad / Código	Country Condado	State Estado	Date of Birth Fecha de nacimiento
		Rockwall / Royse City 75	Rockwall	TX	
		Rockwall / Royse City 75	Rockwall	TX	
		Rockwall / Royse City 75	Rockwall	TX	
		Rockwall / Royse City 75	Rockwall	TX	
		Rockwall / Royse City 75	Rockwall	TX	
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Date of Issuance (La fecha de Emisión): 10/30/2023
Krissy Teague/TRMG, MPA - CITY SECRETARY

City Issues 2nd Petition to Legalize Liquor Sales

The City of Rockwall has once again been approached by an organization wanting to legalize retail liquor sales in the city. Last week, Friends of Total Wine in Rockwall, which is a specific purpose committee, contacted the City Secretary and filed paperwork to apply for a petition for that purpose. Look for people canvassing the community to get enough signatures to achieve their goal.

The petition process is long and governed by several precise steps. Once all the procedures are met and verified, then the potential legalization of alcohol sales in Rockwall may be brought before the voters to decide in the May 4, 2024 election.

The committee must collect 6,576 signatures, which is 35 percent of Rockwall's registered voters who participated in the most recent gubernatorial election. The committee must then submit the signatures to the City Secretary by Friday, December 29, for review and

authentication. The petition that is being circulated is on legal-sized (8.5"x14") light green paper and is embossed with the official city seal at the top, right-hand corner of each page.

City of Rockwall elected and appointed officials take no official or formal stance on these matters. However, city officials do want to make the public aware of these petitions. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact City Secretary Krissy Teague at kteague@rockwall.com or at (972) 772-6406.

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, butter 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

