



NEWS Release

City of Rockport · 622 E. Market Street · Rockport, Texas 78382 · (361) 729-2213

EXCLUSIVE TO THE ROCKPORT PILOT
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CONTACT: TOM STALEY, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES
PHONE: (361) 790-1136

KEEP ROCKPORT BEAUTIFUL—DID JUST THAT!

ROCKPORT, TX – Established in 2003 by the Rockport City Council as a city-affiliate board of citizen volunteers, Keep Rockport Beautiful (KRB) identified, planned, and accomplished projects and programs designed to enhance the beauty of the city. Under the leadership of Board Chairperson Barbara Long, they were highly successful.

Standing out as the most notable and publicly recognized KRB achievements are:

1. **Compass Rose Park & Labyrinth** – Compass Rose Park & Labyrinth, on Hwy 35 North across from Little Bay, was dedicated in 2009. A labyrinth is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. This internationally registered Compass Rose Labyrinth incorporates a nautical theme displaying compass orientation points.
2. **Knock-Out Rose Beds** – To the south of Compass Rose Park, on the east side of Bus. Hwy. 35 N., Knock-Out Rose beds are located at the intersection of Austin St. and Hwy 35. Knock-Out roses and purple fountain grass were planted and later wild flowers were added.
3. **Pride Park** – Continuing south along the turn of Hwy 35 toward Market Street, there's a small area of city-owned green space on the right. Spanning a period of

(more)

several years, plantings were incorporated along the outside border of the area, including esperanza, crape myrtle, plumbago, Knock-out Roses, butterfly weed, firecracker shrubs, assorted salvia and other native and adapted plants. Recently, the project was completed with the addition of three wind sculptures, titled “Trancer,” “Kinetic DNA” and “Jellyfish”. The sculptures were picked not only for their unique design, but for their ability to withstand Rockport’s salt air.

4. **Welcome Sign** – Finally, the south “Welcome to Rockport and Fulton” sign located at the intersection of Hwy 35 and SR 70 (Church Street) was totally renovated with fresh paint, international maritime signal flags spelling out “welcome,” along with a sail.
5. **Code Enforcement** – More recently KRB has assisted the City’s Code Enforcement Officers by identifying properties suspected of being in violation of city codes.

Since its inception, 30 people have served on KRB. With the retirement of longtime Chairperson Barbara Long and other members, City Council decided to temporarily suspend the group on May 12, 2015, rather than eliminate the KRB altogether. At an undetermined time in the future, Council will evaluate KRB, its mission, and the possibility of reviving the group.