



NEWS Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: CMDR. LARRY SINCLAIR
PHONE: (361) 463-9453

Annual Operation BLUE SANTA to be held December 20th

The Rockport Police Department along with other area law enforcement agencies will be gathering at the Wal-Mart store in Rockport on Tuesday, December 20 at 1:00pm for Operation BLUE SANTA. Operation BLUE SANTA allows for economically disadvantaged children from the Rockport area to come and “shop with a Cop” and purchase holiday gifts for themselves, family members and special people in their lives.

The program came to Rockport in 2007 and has become a highlight for local law enforcement officers. “Many of these kids may not have much of a Christmas, Blue Santa gives us a chance to brighten up the holidays for them,” said Commander Larry Sinclair.

Participants are chosen by Aransas County ISD counselors and there are about 100 children each year. “It can be quite an emotional day as there are some children who chose to purchase groceries for the family rather than toys for themselves,” Sinclair noted. “Then there’s the comic element of an officer trying to shepherd four kids and several overflowing baskets.”

The funds that support Operation BLUE SANTA come from various community groups and private individuals, as well as the officers themselves, who are associated with the Rockport Police Department, Aransas County Sheriff’s County, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

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Anyone interested in donating to Operation Blue Santa is encouraged to contact Nikki Yarnall at the Rockport Police Department at 361-790-1101 or nyarnall@cityofrockport.com. Donations can also be made care of BLUE SANTA at the Rockport Branch of Prosperity Bank.