



A publication of The City of Rockport
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Winter 2011 Volume 2, Issue 1

Rockport Has “Best Tasting Water” in Texas

The next time you propose a toast, you may want to simply turn on the faucet instead of opening a bottle of bubbly.

Rockport’s drinking water, which is supplied by the San Patricio Municipal Water District, was the 2010 “Best Tasting Water in Texas” winner of a contest conducted by the Ameri-

can Water Works Association – Texas Section.

In addition to Rockport, the Water District provides drinking water to Odem, Taft, Portland, Gregory, Ingleside, Aransas Pass, Port Aransas, Fulton and two rural water systems. All the

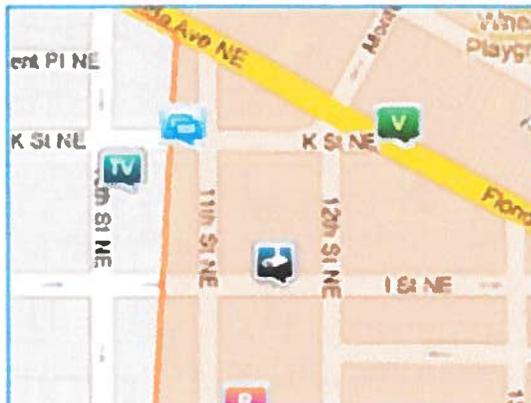


water delivered by the District comes from Lake Texana, Choke Canyon and Lake Corpus Christi.

Crime Reports Now Available Online

Rockport’s Police Department has teamed up with Crime Reports, a comprehensive mapping network, to provide reports of area crimes. This new service is available by visiting the Police section on the City’s web site.

After entering an address, a map will be displayed with a pinpoint of the designated location. A toolbar on the top of the map provides date ranges, which go back three years, and a list of more than a dozen types of crimes. Virtual push pins are used to identify the address and type of crime. No personal information is shared with the exception of registered sex offenders.



This is a representational photo of the actual Crime Reports map. The pinpoints mark the scene of a particular crime. By clicking on the graphic, one will be able to learn the type of crime, the date of its occurrence and the physical address.

According to Police Chief Tim Jayroe, this communication tool will help inform residents about crime trends in the area and share up-to-date information on what’s happening in their neighborhood. “We’re hopeful that by making people aware of criminal activities, they’ll be more observant as to what’s going on in their neighborhood and report any suspicious activity,” noted Jayroe. “This can be a great deterrent in preventing future crimes.”

A Truly Tropical Christmas

Residents and visitors alike were treated to beautiful, winter weather and an incredible array of events at this year's Tropical Christmas event. Thousands of people viewed or participated in the parades, art competitions, run, entertainment, children's events and more. Winners of some of the activities include:

Night Parade

- Best Overall Float* – Cub Scouts Pack 49
- Best Youth Float* – Rockport-Fulton Middle School Cheerleaders
- Best Out-of-Town* – Thomas Lee Danczek from Taft, Texas
- Best Vehicle* – Jenny Friesenhahn's 1925 T Bucket
- Best RV Park* – Ancient Oaks RV Park
- Best Commercial* – H.E.B.
- Best Group* – Little Bay Sea Queens

Chalk It Up Competition

0 - 5 Years

- 1st - Shaelee
- 2nd - Emily
- 3rd - Francisco

6 - 10 Years

- 1st - Trinity
- 2nd - Cameron
- 3rd - Stormi Lee

11 - 15 Years

- 1st - Charity
- 2nd - Rudee
- 3rd - Elissa

(photo courtesy of Drew Jacobs)

16 - 20 Years

- 1st - Colvin
- 2nd - Zach



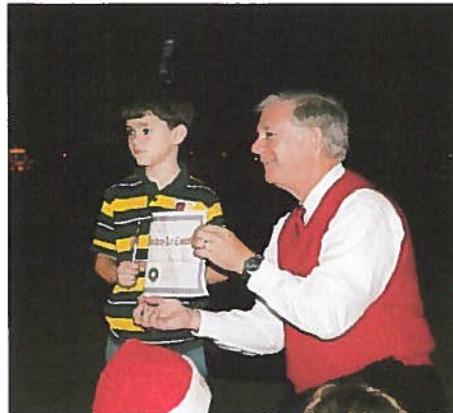
21+ Years

- 1st - Sylvia
- 2nd - Kim
- 3rd - Lisa

(photo courtesy of Drew Jacobs)

Cookie Competition

- "Cookies by Him"* – Kenneth Thurman
- "My Favorite Cookie"* – Jenifer Kuyken-



dall, first place; Ginny Gunderson, second place; and Mary Beth Thurman, third place.

Art Contest

Best of Show – Helen Hartman

Kindergarten – Peyton Gilliland, first; Sidney Scheumack, second; Astasis Bannister, third; and Jackson Burkhart and Carson Solis, honorable mention.

First Grade – Elissa

Covington, first; Inacio Vasquez, second; Morgan Schacht, third; and Ryan Alva-

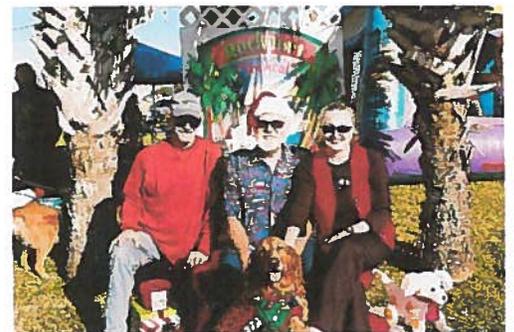
rez and Natalie Poaba, honorable mention.

Second Grade – Rainy Mayfield, first; Benjamin Gonzales, second; Ciara Garcia, third; and James Kremling and Genave Garcia, honorable mention.

Third Grade – Emily Reynolds, first; Daniel Posada, second; Deanna Monteith, third; and Sebastian Chadwick and Makaila Goad-Mills honorable mention.

Fourth Grade – Zoe Sundberg, first; Will Smith, second; Alex Vasquez, third; and Ashlynn Jones and Michaela James, honorable mention.

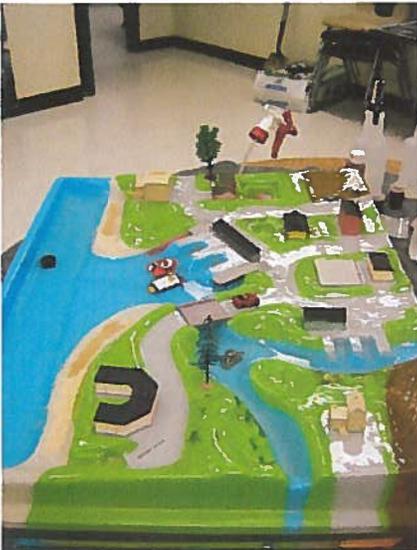
Fifth Grade – Helen Hartman, first; Ellie Covington, second; Hunter Harrell, third; and Heavenly Flores and Hailey Wedemeyer, honorable mention.



FLC Students Undertake Water Studies

Water, and its relationship to life in Rockport, was the foundation of a special curriculum for students at Fulton Learning Center. The science coordinators for the fourth and fifth grade classes called upon the City of Rockport, and other local entities, to assist in demonstrating and explaining the synergist effects of nature and daily life.

The children were given a hands-



on presentation in the classroom using a specially-designed model that demonstrated how rain and run-off water carried impurities from streets, yards, parking lots and open areas through the drain systems and into the bays.

The classes took day-long field trips as part of a “Wonders of our Wetlands” program to

further explore the importance of water to our natural environment. Following a trip to the Aquarium, the children were given an informational tour of the wastewater treatment plant, where City employees walked them through the plant and explained the various steps that are used to treat the water and other materials that are washed and flushed through the drains of their homes.

After a trip to the Wetlands Demonstration Garden and a visit to a downstream Tule Creek site for water sampling, their field work continued at Rockport Beach Park. A special boat trip and presentation by Captain Jay Tarkington further enlightened them as to the native habitats afforded by the beach and bays and the fragile interaction between man and nature. This was followed by personal instruction on fishing from members of the Texas Parks and Wildlife and the chance to try their hand at baiting, casting and, for a lucky few, catching a fish.

According to the educators, the program was designed as a multi-faceted offering for the children. In addition to the scientific and environmental educational aspects, the children were able to understand how their individual actions could impact the



community. And, for many of them, it was an opportunity to enjoy a new experience like going to the beach, riding on a boat or even fishing.

Funding for the educational materials and transportation were made available through grants from the ACISD Education Foundation, Captain Planet, and John and Larie Nelson.



City Receives National Award

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Rockport by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its 2009 comprehensive annual financial report. This is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management

Additionally, Jacky Cockerham, the City's Director of Finance, was presented with an Award of Financial Report Achievement, for her efforts in preparing the award-winning financial report. This marks the seventh time she has been a recipient of this prestigious award.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the newsletter, the artwork for the downtown demonstration project was attributed incorrectly. The credited artist should be Anita Diebel.

Call BEFORE You Dig

If you are about to undertake a major landscaping project or excavation on your property, call 800-DIG-TESS (344-8377) 3 days ahead. This is a free safety service that will notify the utilities to mark underground lines before work is undertaken.

Save the Date

The 23rd Annual Whooping Crane Strut will be held on Saturday, March 12. The event includes a 5K and 10K run, as well as a 2 mile walk. Details are available on the City Web Site.

Who Do I Call If

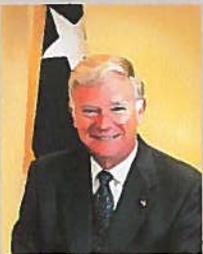
Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Public Safety	729-1111
Utility Bill Questions/Concerns	729-2213 x 234
Street Issues and Repairs	790-1160
Sewer, Water and Gas Issues	790-1160
Trash Pick-Up	729-2213 x 234
City Administrative Offices	729-2213 x 221
Building and Development Dept.	790-1125

For additional questions or concerns, visit the "Who Do I Call" or "Fix It" sections on the City's web site. www.cityofrockport.com or call City Hall at 729-2213.

This newsletter is named in honor of "The Transcript", the area's first newspaper. It originated in 1868 and was discontinued in 1886.

Rockport City Council

Mayor



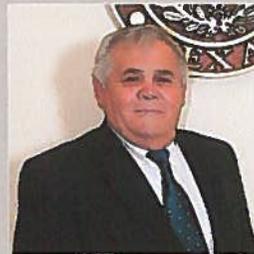
C.J. Wax

Ward 1



William Fisher

Ward 2



Leopoldo Villa

Ward 3



Paul Lippke

Ward 4



Adelaide Marlatt