



Rockport Transcript

A publication of The City of Rockport
622 E. Market Street
Rockport, TX 78382
Phone: 361-729-2213
www.cityofrockport.com

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May 14 is Election Day

There are several important positions and issues coming up for vote. The first is the city council representative for Ward 1. Additionally, the Aransas County Independent School District is presenting a bond issue for consideration.

Voting will take place at City Hall. It's important to note that all registered voters living within the ACISD boundaries will vote at Rockport City Hall even if they do not reside in the City.

Early voting will be held at

City Hall from 8 am – 5 pm on May 2-6 and from 7 am – 7 pm on May 9 – 10. The polls will be open from 7 am – 7 pm on election day.

Additionally, Aransas County will be holding a separate election on the proposed distribution of the venue tax. Early voting will take place at the Commodities Building at 602 Concho. Regular polling places for precincts will be open on election day



Rockport is Growing

According to figures released from the 2010 Census, the City of Rockport's population has increased by 14% over the past 10 years. The report shows our current population as 8766 --although annexation during and after the census period will skew the numbers a bit higher.

The Census is multi-purpose in that it helps the government to determine allocation figures for communities across the country

and realigns federal, state and local legislation districts based on population shifts.

Later this year the City will incorporate this data into its current research and will be making recommendations for the shift of ward boundaries.

Did you know that there are other ways to pay your monthly utility bill besides putting it in the mail or doing it in person? You can also utilize bank drafts and Internet banking.

To take advantage of the bank draft feature, contact us at 729-2213 ext 234. If you wish to start paying your bill online, please allow ten (10) business days for your first payment to be set up and processed by your financial institution.



Help with Water Conservation

As part of its ongoing efforts towards city improvement and beautification, the Keep Rockport Beautiful Advisory Board is now accepting applications for the third annual "Rockport in Bloom" contest. The deadline to turn in a nomination application is May 20.

Categories for this year's contest include private residences, businesses, churches, schools, government buildings and container landscaping.

Interested parties may download an application from the web site (www.keepprojectbeautiful.com) or pick one up at City Hall. Nominations can be self-made OR you may nominate a deserving individual or organization. All eligible participants will have a "Rockport in Bloom Nominee" sign to post in their yard.

Criteria for judging is described on the application. Master Gardeners from Corpus Christi will judge the entries on May 24th with awards to be presented to the winners on May 26th at City Hall.

According to the National Weather Service, the effects of La Nina have resulted in below normal rainfall and above normal temperatures for our area. Through the first three months of the year, Corpus Christi has received less than 25% of its normal monthly rainfall.

Although we are not currently in a drought situation, we encourage those who receive treated water from the City of Rockport to participate in a **voluntary water conservation program for the peak demand period of May 1 – September 30.**

Commercial and Multifamily
Tue and/or Fri

Residential
Odd Number Addresses
Mon, Wed, and/or Sat

Residential
Even Number Addresses
Tue, Thu and/or Sun

To make your watering most effective, you should water before 10 am and after 6 pm to reduce evaporation. Also, make sure that there is no run-off onto sidewalks or streets.



Get Involved

The successful management of a city relies not only on elected officials and staff, but also the involvement of concerned citizens. They play a significant role in overseeing programs, recommending and implementing ordinances, and laying the groundwork for future endeavors.

The citizen advisory committees are Keep Rockport Beautiful, Parks and Leisure Services, Planning and Zoning, Tree and Landscape, and Water Quality.

If you would be interested in participating, you may pick up an application at City Hall or download a copy from the web site (go to E-Services along the top menu, then click on Boards and Commissions). Deadline for submissions is May 31

City Inherits Art Collection

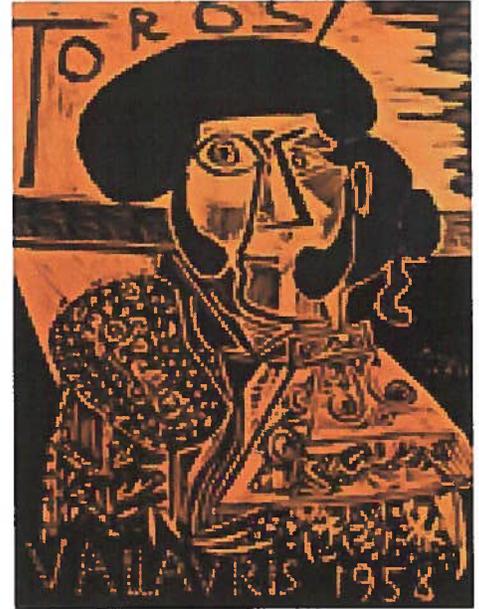
Rockport has been bequeathed a sizable and impressive art collection by Cora T. Keeler, a Corpus Christi philanthropist. Valued at almost \$250,000 the collection includes over 70 pieces of original paintings, sculpture and limited editions.

Among the artists represented are Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera, William Aiken Walker and Kent Ullberg. Such a collection would add even more credence to our reputation as an art community and bring in thousands of visitors.

The inheritance is contingent upon the City providing a suitable building for the artwork, which is climate-controlled, secure and insured. Rockport is actually the secondary beneficiary as Port Aransas was named first and chose not to pursue the terms of the inheritance.

City Council has established the Keeler Collection Acceptance Committee, which will discuss, research and make plans for the possible acquisition of the artwork. The six-member committee will be appointed by the Mayor and will include representation from the Rockport Center for the Arts. Additionally, the executive directors of the Art Center and the Texas Maritime Museum will serve as ex-officio members ensuring that the Committee has the benefit of their extensive knowledge and experience.

Should the Committee recommend not to move forward with the acquisition (and City Council concurs), the artwork will go to the South Texas Art Museum.



A limited edition (120 of 195) of Pablo Picasso's "Toros Vallauris 1958" is one of the many valuable pieces in Cora T. Keeler art collection.



The 23rd Annual Whooping Crane Strut was a huge success. Almost 300 individuals participated in the 5K & 10K Run and 2 Mile Walk. Mayor C.J. Wax, who also participated, presented awards to the winners. Proceeds benefit the operations and maintenance of Rockport Beach Park.

911 and Reverse 911 System

In conjunction with Aransas County, the City operates a joint communication center providing a 911 emergency call center and communication for all public safety agencies in our area. There are 12 full-time communication operators, who are a vital link between residents and public safety responders.

In addition to receiving all incoming calls, the communication center also has a Reverse 911 Emergency Notification System. This program will call citizens to deliver emergency messag-



es regarding evacuations, hazard material spills and other pertinent information. Your cellular phone can be added to this list by calling 790-1140.

The Community Aquatic & Skate Park is proposing several changes to benefit guests this summer. The first is to offer a \$20 book of 8 admission coupons, which reduces the regular one day admission fee from \$4 to \$2.50. Secondly, the family summer pass fee will be capped at \$150 for a family of four or more to make the pool more affordable and enjoyable for large families.

Also, a special "final hour" admission fee of \$2 is planned for those who arrive within an hour of closing. Additionally, a reduction in pool rental fees has been recommended for approval. So, get ready to party

The summer schedule, effective May 28th, will be published by early May. We're also in need of lifeguards for the summer. Just come to City Hall for an application.

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.

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

Rockport City Council

Mayor



C.J. Wax

Ward 1



William Fisher

Ward 2



Leopoldo Villa

Ward 3



Paul Lippke

Ward 4



Adelaide Marlatt