



# ROCKWALL CITY NOTES

A Monthly City Publication

March 2020

## Anticipation Builds as Annual Founder's Day Festival Nears

Fans are already excited about this year's lineup at the Rockwall Founder's Day Festival. Headliner, Texas Country singer/songwriter Wade Bowen, and opening act, Jack Ingram will take the Southwest Kia of Rockwall Main Stage for the big event. It's no wonder that this is one of the most highly anticipated events in the *Free Live Music Capital of North Texas!* This year's festivities take place on Saturday, May 16, at Harry Myers Park from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and here is a list of all the musicians you can hear at the day-long family event:

- Graycie York 10-11:15 a.m.
- Gun Powder and Lead 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Blake Nation 1:30-3 p.m.
- Coral Creek 3:30-5 p.m.

For more information about the day's events, visit [playrockwall.com](http://playrockwall.com).



## City of Rockwall Honors New Hometown Hero

For nearly 45 years, Main Street Board member Claudette Hatfield, has devised ways to help improve our community, and her dedication to Rockwall has earned her the honor as the newest Hometown Hero.

Claudette, wife of former Mayor George Hatfield, and her longtime friend, Barb Coleson, created Friends of Downtown Rockwall and later the Rockwall Farmer's Market to infuse new life into the Historic Downtown area. These volunteer projects bring people downtown, create a reason for them to stay... and keep coming back.

Now Downtown Rockwall is lively and a thriving tax generator. Her projects helped create a turning point for the area, although Claudette downplays the significance of her role in the transformation. "A few key businesses came in, and that helped, but we needed more," she said.

The Rockwall Farmer's Market regularly draws more than 1,000 patrons Downtown every Saturday, and was instrumental in Rockwall's Main Street designation in 2009. Mayor Pruitt wanted to spotlight Mrs. Hatfield's decades of accomplishments. "Her example of volunteerism has led the way for many to follow, and we want to honor that." The Rockwall City Council presented the second Hometown Hero Award at their meeting on Tuesday, February 18.



## Happening Around Town

### Saturday, April 4

*Easter Egg Hunt, Harry Myers Park, 9:30 a.m.*  
*SNAP Easter Egg Hunt, Yellowjacket Park, 9:30 a.m.*

### Friday, April 17

*Movie in the Park, The Park at Breezy Hill, Toy Story 1, 6 p.m.*

### Saturday-Sunday, April 25-26

*Outdoor Family Campout, Harry Myers Park, 3 p.m.*

### Saturday, May 9

*Fishing Derby, Harry Myers Park West, 9-11 a.m.*

### Saturday, May 16

*Founder's Day Festival, Harry Myers Park, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.*

### Friday, May 22

*Movie in the Park, The Park at Hickory Ridge, Lilo and Stitch 1, 6 p.m.*

For more information:  
[Rockwall.com](http://Rockwall.com), [PlayRockwall.com](http://PlayRockwall.com)

## Out and About in Rockwall



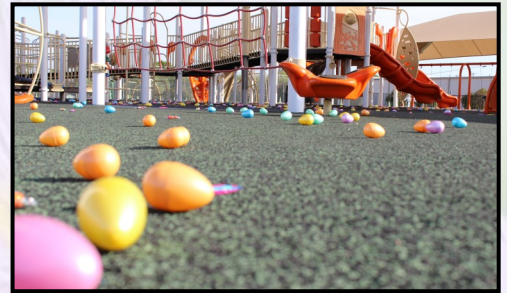
### Get Ready to be Counted

There are three ways to respond to the United States Census 2020: online, by phone, and by mail. Instructions for responding have been mailed to all homes, and more information is available at [2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov). The Census results determine important decisions, such as key funding and Congressional seats.



### Flip it Forward for Kids

The City Council recognized the Shriners for their work to help area children. The Shriners Hospitals for Children partnered with IHOP to raise much needed funds to help provide medical treatment for kids. Shriners for Children helps kids receive treatment for severe medical issues and injuries. The campaign mission: to transform a stack of pancakes into free medical treatment for children.



### Easter Events are Hopping

Two special Easter events take place on Saturday, April 4. The 18th Annual Easter Egg Hunt happens at Harry Myers Park East; children line up to find that extra special prize-winning egg. Also, at Yellowjacket Park, the 4th Annual SNAP (Special Needs and Adaptive Programming) Easter Egg Hunt takes place. Children of all abilities can have fun hunting for the best eggs. Details at [playrockwall.com](https://playrockwall.com).



### Rockwall Swears in New Chief of Police

Surrounded by his family, Max Geron has been sworn in as the new Chief of the Rockwall Police Department. Of the choice, City Manager Rick Crowley said, "Chief Geron brings a great attitude, skill set, broad range of experience and the resolve to continue the great tradition of service to our citizens and departmental professionalism that we currently enjoy."

Geron began his career with the Dallas Police Department in 1992 and was promoted through the ranks to Acting Deputy Chief before accepting the position in Rockwall. "I'm

honored to be chosen to lead this outstanding police department with such a great reputation of public service and community partnership," Chief Geron said.

Chief Geron holds a Master Peace Officer Certification, and is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Police Executive Research Forum. He received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Midwestern State University and a master's degree in national security studies from the United States Naval Postgraduate School.



### Rockwall's Fields of Dreams

**Did you know?** The City of Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department has been awarded the Pioneer Athletics Fields of Excellence Award for the 3rd straight year! Under the leadership of Parks & Recreation Director Travis Sales, the Parks Department has mastered the turf grass maintenance program at Leon Tuttle Athletic Complex. This honor is bestowed on only a handful of cities throughout the state. For more information about Rockwall's ballfields, please visit [playrockwall.com](https://playrockwall.com).

### Love Your Landscape: Tips for Fertilization

As temperatures begin to stabilize, April is typically a good month to fertilize your lawn and landscape. Most types of grass take 4-6 pounds of nitrogen per thousand square feet per year to remain healthy. Generally, a good rule of thumb is to apply 1.5 pounds of nitrogen per thousand square feet in four separate applications: March or April, June, July and October or November. The choices in March or April and October or November are based on the weather as it can be drastically different.

Examples of good balanced fertilizers include: 20-5-10 or 15-5-10 (1st number is N / 2<sup>nd</sup> number is P / 3<sup>rd</sup> number is K)

N: Nitrogen (gives leaves their green color and growth)

P: Phosphorus (makes new roots, seeds, fruit and flowers, and fights disease)

K: Potassium (encourages strong stems, fast growth and fights disease)

We have an abundance of P & K in the soil naturally, so the last two numbers should be as low as possible.