



NEWS Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MAY 19, 2017

CONTACT: RICK MARTINEZ, DIRECTOR, PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES
PHONE: (361) 790-1136

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE IN ROCKPORT

ROCKPORT, TX -- In honor of the men and women who lost their lives while serving in the United States Armed Forces, a special Memorial Day Observance will be held on Monday, May 29, at 2 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park on Austin Street. The event is free and open to the public.

The ceremony will include presentation and posting of the colors by the ACISD Naval Junior ROTC, musical tribute and performance of the "National Anthem" by the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi, and a "Report of Units" from the American GI Forum Post & Unit #324F, Carl Morrison American Legion Post & Unit #363 & Sons of the Legion, and Stewart-Wendell Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #3904. This is the 32nd consecutive year of the Memorial Day Observance in Rockport.

Guest speaker for the event is Ram Chavez, founder and musical director of the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi. Born and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas, Ram Chavez received his undergraduate degree in Music Education at Texas A&M, Kingsville, and his graduate degree in School Educational Administration at Texas A&M, Corpus Christi. Mr. Chavez is a former band director, administrative assistant, and school assistant principal.

(more)

He has also served as Legislative Aide on Veterans Affairs and Military Affairs for State Senator Carlos Truan, and as Staff Director for the Texas Senate Committee for Veterans Affairs and Military Installations.

Always involved with veterans' affairs, issues and concerns, he is the Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 598, President of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 910, and is a member of other veterans' organizations.

Chavez has received numerous awards and recognitions during his career. He is a highly-decorated Vietnam Combat Medic, having been awarded the Silver Star medal, the Bronze Star with "V" for Valor, a Purple Heart medal, an Army Commendation medal, a Combat Medical badge, and the Presidential Unit Citation and Valorous Unit award, all for gallantry, valor and saving lives under fire during the Vietnam War.

The speech will be followed by recognition of the local veterans' organizations and the Laying of the Wreath and Dedication.

This special event was organized by the local post of the American G.I. Forum and the City of Rockport. Major sponsors are Prosperity Bank, Gary and Patty Howard, and the City of Rockport's Parks and Leisure Services Department. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at the American G.I. Forum Hall.

Refreshments will be provided at the American G.I. Forum Hall, located at 1911 South Hardee, immediately following the Memorial Day Observance program.