



NEWS Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: TOM STALEY, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND 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 25 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 performance by the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi, recognition of local veterans' organizations, laying of the wreath and the dedication. This is the 30th consecutive year of the Memorial Day Observance in Rockport.

Also included will be an Award Recognition of a local resident for his outstanding service to our country.

Guest Speaker for the event is Ramiro "Ram" Chavez. Born and raised in Corpus Christi, Chavez received an undergraduate degree in Music Education from Texas A&M University- Kingsville and a graduate degree in School Educational Administration from Texas A&M - Corpus Christi.

He is the founder and musical director of the Veterans Band of Corpus Christi, Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 598, president of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 910, and a member/life member of many other veteran organizations.

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Chavez has received numerous awards and recognition during his lifetime. 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.

Chavez is a former band director, administrative assistant, and school assistant principal. He also served as Legislative Aide on veterans’ affairs and military affairs for State Senator Carlos Truan and served as the Staff Director for the Texas Senate Committee for Veterans Affairs and Military Installations. He has been married to Janie Chavez for 44 years; they have three children, 11 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

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.

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