



NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COMMUNITY TO HOLD VETERANS DAY SERVICE

ROCKPORT, TX – In honor of those who have served in the United States Armed Forces, a special Veterans Day Service will be held on Monday, November 12, 2018, at 11:00 a.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 Navy Junior ROTC, recognition of local veterans' organizations and law enforcement agencies, laying of the wreath and dedication, and the presentation of the National Anthem by Rockport-Fulton High School's Band and Choir. Rockport resident Sergeant Major (U.S. Army, Ret.) Ruben R. Garcia is the guest speaker.

Sergeant Major Garcia is a 1979 graduate of Rockport Fulton High School. He entered the United States Army in August 1988 and completed Basic Training, Advanced Individual Training and Airborne Training at Fort Benning, Georgia.

His duty assignments include Rifleman and Machine Gunner, Bravo Company 1st-501st Parachute Infantry Battalion, Fort Richardson, Alaska; Team Leader and Squad Leader Bravo Company 2nd-325th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Instructor, Alpha Company (Airborne), Jungle Operations Training Center, Fort Sherman, Panama; Squad Leader,

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Bravo Company 2nd-325th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg North Carolina; Platoon Sergeant, Bravo Company 1st-503rd Infantry Regiment (AASLT), Camp Casey, Korea; Platoon Sergeant, Alpha Company 1st-505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Observer Controller and First Sergeant, 3rd Brigade 85th Division, Indianapolis, Indiana; G-3 Operations Sergeant Major, 13th Sustainment Command Expeditionary, Fort Hood, Texas; First Sergeant 209th Quartermaster Company Balad, Iraq; First Sergeant Alpha Company 2nd-506th Infantry Regiment (AASLT) and SGM CJTF-101 CJ-5, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT) Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Student United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas; SGM, Senior Enlisted Advisor COS Hammer, I-TAM-Army Besmaya Combat Training Center, Iraq; United States Army Sergeants Major Academy, Staff Group Advisor Instructor, Fort Bliss, Texas.

He has been deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq (two times each) and Saudi Arabia. SGM Garcia's awards include Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (2OLC), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, The Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (8OLC), the Army Achievement Medal (3OLC), the Army Good Conduct Medal (7OLC), the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, The National Defense Service Medal (2), the Korean Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal (2CS), the Iraqi Campaign Medal (3CS), the Government War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Government War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal with (Bronze Star), the NATO Medal (ISAF), Army Service Ribbon, and additional honors.

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Garcia received an Associate Degree from Fayetteville Technical Community College in General Education and Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Indiana Wesleyan University.

This special event is sponsored by the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Prosperity Bank, 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. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony at the American GI Forum, located at 1911 Hardee Street.

In case of inclement weather, the Veterans Day program will be held at the American GI Forum.