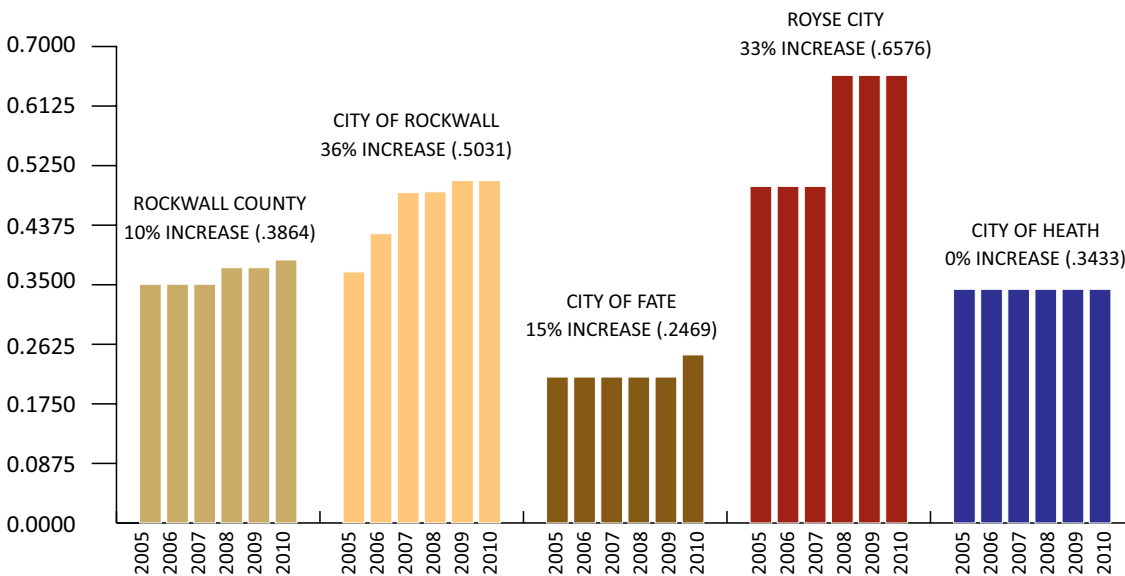




City Council Adopts Budget for 2011-2012

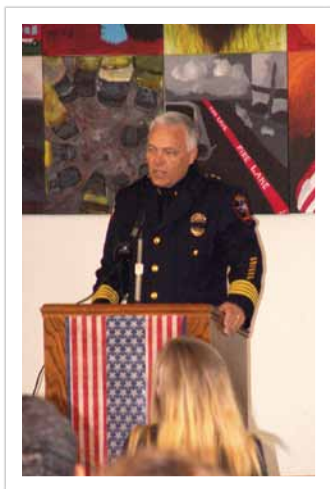
For 20th Consecutive Year, No Tax Increase in Heath

AREA TAX RATES SINCE 2005



The Heath City Council unanimously adopted a budget for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012. The new budget maintains the tax rate at .3433 per \$100 of appraised assessed property value. Of that tax rate, .2636 funds the City's maintenance and operations budget of approximately \$4.4 million, and .0797 funds the debt service budget of \$1.2 million. Water and sewer rates were increased to provide adequate resources to operate the delivery and collection systems. An updated fee schedule is available at www.heathtx.com.

Heath Remembers 9.11



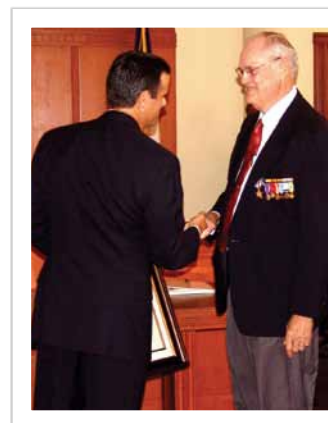
The Heath Department of Public Safety hosted a ceremony to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on Sunday, September 11. The program began at 7:46 a.m. central standard time, the exact time the first plane hit the first tower in New York on September 11, 2001.

First Responders from Rockwall County fire and police departments joined in reading the names of the 411 police and firefighters who sacrificed their lives as a result of the attacks. Readers included Rockwall Police Officer Steve Brassil, who was a New York police officer called to ground zero on September 11.

Above: "We remember these first responders and all of the 2,819 victims lost on September 11, and we honor their memories with a commitment to the United States of America that is stronger than ever" said Chief Terry Garrett, director of Heath's DPS.

Heath Resident Receives Silver Star Medal

There was a standing-room-only crowd at the historic Rockwall Courthouse on August 20 when Heath resident Dr. (Corporal) James E. Nicholson received the Silver Star Medal for Gallantry in Action from the President of the United States for his heroic actions during the Korean War.



On April 22, 1951, then Private First Class Nicholson was serving as a Browning Automatic Rifleman with the Marines. Despite being outnumbered and under intense enemy fire, Private Nicholson applied suppressive fire and advanced to retrieve a seriously wounded fellow Marine. His courage was a source of inspiration to his platoon and resulted in his promotion to the rank of Corporal.

Above: Dr. Nicholson was also honored by Heath Mayor John Ratcliffe, who proclaimed August 20, 2011 as Dr. James E. Nicholson Day in Heath.

FM 740 Widening Update

The section of FM 740 now being widened will have six-foot sidewalks behind the curb on both sides of the new roadway, which is the minimum width to be classified as a bike trail. The FM 740 sidewalks/trails will be one of the last items to be installed to avoid damage during the remainder of the construction project.

For the second phase of the FM 740 widening project from FM 740/FM 1140 to FM 740/Smirl Road, Heath City Council approved an eight- to 10-foot sidewalk/trail on one side of the new roadway and a five-foot sidewalk on the opposite side of the roadway.

World's Top Olympic Triathletes to Compete in Heath/Rockwall

On Sunday morning, October 2, the Toyota U.S. Open Triathlon will start and finish at the Rockwall Harbor. The U.S. Open is an Olympic Distance triathlon that features top professional triathletes and Olympic medal winners and contenders from around the world. However, because it is an "Open" race, even amateur triathletes can enter.

Miles 3 and 4 of the run course will take place in Heath on Country Club Drive, between White Road and Kings Pass. This presents a unique opportunity for Heath residents to watch the world's best compete for one of the largest prize purses in the sport. They can also cheer for Rockwall/Heath area amateurs who are participating and include City of Heath Councilmember Barry Brooks, City of Heath Associate Judge Tim Hartley, Jason Ross, Steve Whitworth and Scott Ervin!

The first runners should enter Buffalo Creek by 9 a.m., and the final runners should leave Buffalo Creek around 11:30 a.m. Enjoy the event, but please use caution when driving through the area and allow for traffic delays. More information about the race is available at <http://www.toyotausopentriathlon.com>.



Heath Recycles

If every household in Heath increased its recycling of paper by the amount equivalent to the weekly Sunday newspaper, together we would save 330 trees each month! If you have recycling ideas like this to share with the community, please contact Les Horvath at lhovath@www.heathtx.com or 972-961-4883.

Acceptable Items for Recycling:

- Plastic containers #1 thru #7
- Aluminum and steel containers
- Glass bottles and containers
- Newspapers
- Corrugated card board
- Magazines, Packaging, Paper - be sure to shred or cut off personal information
- Wax coated paper drink containers - do not include anything with food residue

Volunteers Help Prevent Storm Water Pollution

The City of Heath thanks the Jones family, who volunteered their time in July to place storm drain markers throughout the Heath Crossing neighborhood. The storm drain markers remind residents that anything such as litter, motor oil, paint or grass clippings that enter the drain becomes a part of the storm water runoff and will pollute area creeks, streams and lakes. If you would like to become a volunteer or learn more about how you can help prevent storm water pollution in Heath, please contact the City of Heath Public Works Department at 972-961-4892.



Above: From left , Garrett, Miranda and Logan Jones.

Drought Conditions Persist

Weather forecasters predict that the warm, dry and windy weather will continue through the fall, and possibly into the winter. Some things to keep in mind:

* Stage 2 mandatory water restrictions remain in effect and include limiting landscape watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems to no more than two days per week between the hours of 7 p.m. to 10 a.m.

* All of Rockwall County is under a burn ban. You can register for emergency notifications that include wild fire warnings at www.nixle.com or on the Heath DPS alert page at www.heathtx.com.

* The Terry Park boat ramp is closed due to low lake levels.

* Another unpleasant effect of the drought is a restless snake population. The hot summer has taken a toll on the normal food supply of snakes, and the reptiles are ranging closer to backyards and homes in search of a meal. "They're very hungry right now," said central Texas snake expert Jerry Cates. "Put the flip-flops aside and wear leather shoes or boots whenever you are walking in or around tall grass, or while you are doing gardening work or lawn mowing." In the case of a snake bite, get to a doctor as quickly as possible.

NOW ON OUR WEBSITE - www.heathtx.com

Get the latest FM 740 construction updates, request public works services with My Fix It, and sign up for emergency alerts via Nixle.