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Rockwall County News

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Nebbie Williams Elementary School banded together recently for children who spent the holidays at Children's Hospital. Students donated books, games, toys and other items for the children. The gift drive, initiated by Collin Christian, elicited a lot of participation from students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Christian, a junior at Rockwall-Heath, was diagnosed with leukemia in 2011 and for the past four years has sent requests across the community to glean assistance with toy drives. Pictured above with Christian and his father and Lisa Gielow, principal, and Brandi Lindsay, counselor, with the donations received from Nebbie Nation.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Lawmen seek aid in identifying burglary suspects

Local law enforcement officers are seeking the public's assistance in identifying two males who attempted to kick in the door of a Kings Pass residence and may have been involved in other Metroplex-area burglaries.

At about 1 p.m. on Dec. 20, two men exited a black or dark blue Nissan Altima and knocked on the door of a home in the 1900 block of Kings Pass, according to a City of Heath news release.

The suspects then attempted to kick in the front door to the home, an action that was captured on the closed-circuit TV camera utilized at the residence.

The video shows the suspects drive past the residence several times prior to stopping, according to the release.

The suspects are believed to be working with someone operating a champagne-colored Chrysler minivan, according to the release. The minivan was driving close to the Altima in several of the camera shots.

The suspects are described as being black males with thin builds, according to the release. Both were wearing dark blue hoodies at the time of the incident and used the clothing to cover their faces when they approached the front door of the residence.

Anyone with information pertaining to the suspects should contact the Heath DPS at 972-961-4900 or the Rockwall County Crime Stoppers at 972-771-TIPS (8477).

Two arrested in Jan. 3 burglary

Two teens were arrested at 5:20 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 in connection with a Jan. 3 burglary in the Buffalo Creek area of Heath.

Cameron James Delange, 18, was arrested by Heath detectives and patrol officers, according to a city news release.

The press release included the name of an alleged accomplice whose name did not appear in the Rockwall County Jail Inmate list as of Tues. night, Jan. 10, 2017.

Delange was admitted in the Rockwall County Jail, Thurs. Jan. 5, 2017, pending arraignment on a charge of burglary of a habitation with intent to commit another felony, a first-degree felony.

The Rockwall County Jail inmate list indicates a Jan. 5 offense date.

Chamber of Commerce announcements

The Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its quarterly Partnership Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m., Thurs. Jan. 12, 2017, at Deno's. Speakers will include Rowlett Mayor Todd Gottle and Bayside Developer Kent Donahue.

The Chamber is scheduled to hold its annual banquet, beginning 7:00 p.m., Tues. Jan. 24, at 5574 Highway 276 in Royse City. Interested parties may register online at rockwallchamber.org.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Rockwall Habitat needs volunteers

The Rockwall Habitat for Humanity is in need of volunteers - groups or individuals - to help out on Saturday mornings. There are many open dates on the calendar, so those interested should call 972-839-3046 to sign up. Groups should schedule in advance so work can be planned according to group size; individuals can let Habitat know the day before they plan to come. Current location is 801 Lamar (don't rely on technology; traveling north on South Goliad, turn right on East Ross Street and right on Lamar - look for the site at the end of the street).

RISD closed for MLK Day observance

The Rockwall Independent School District will be closed on Monday, Jan. 16, in observance of the Martin Luther King Day holiday, according to the district's website.

Newcomers & Friends to meet Feb. 9

The Rockwall County Newcomers & Friends will meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9, at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City. Luncheon reservations must be made by Jan. 30. Call Becky at 712-202-6916 or Cathy at 972-400-9934. This is a social organization for women who live in Rockwall County; new residents and women who have lived in the county for many years are welcome.

Friends of the Library luncheon set Feb. 14

The February Friends of the Rockwall Library luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, in the library's Community Room, 1215 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. Speaker will be Jill Rumbley Beam, an event management professional and seniors recreation programmer for the Rowlett Parks & Rec Department. Her topic will be You're Not Getting Older, You're Getting Better. Lunch reservations are required, but lunch is optional. Lunch cost is \$20 and may be ordered by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7, by contacting Leigh Plagens at cplagens65@aol.com or 972-771-8976. Payment will be required unless cancelled by deadline.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued on Page 2)

Rockwall approves reduction of "prima facie speed limit" on IH-30

On Tues. Jan. 3, 2017, the Council of City of Rockwall Inc., met for a regular meeting at the City Hall located at 385 S. Goliad in Rockwall. Mayor Jim Pruitt was absent, and Mayor Pro Tem Mike Townsend led the meeting.

University scholastic honors

Three earn academic honors at LeTourneau

Three local residents were tapped for honors lists at LeTourneau University in Longview, according to news releases from the university.

Brendon Moore, a sophomore from Rockwall, was selected to the university's President's List, which recognizes students who have achieved a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. Moore is pursuing a bachelor's degree in scripture and theology, according to a news release.

Two local residents were named to the university's Dean's List, according to a university news release. Savannah Stutts, a junior interdisciplinary studies major from Heath, and Caroline Pop, a freshman mathematics major from Rockwall, were named to the Dean's List.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have achieved a grade-point average between 3.50 and 3.99 for the semester.

Collin College names academic honorees

Collin College recently announced its President's List and Dean's List honorees for the fall semester.

President's List honorees from Rockwall include Andrew Brandon, Krystal Contreras, Justin Couch, Caitlin Cruz, Jamie Giron, Sydney Hall, Devon Hayworth, Henelie Horn, Mykala Horn, James Juarez and John Singer, according to a news release from the college.

Royse City honorees are Jessie Callaway and Kaitlyn Rasmussen. Teresa Cash from Fate also was recognized.

To qualify for the President's List, a student must take a minimum of 12 credit hours and maintain a 4.0 grade point average.

Dean's List honorees include, from Heath, Breanna Aguirre, Rachel Blackmon, Kennedy Preas, Alex Simonson and Michael Smith.

Rockwall honorees include Rachel Block, Jessica Conley, Kaylee Dagenhart, Jacqueline Floyd, Amanda Gentile, John Gentile, Katie Glenn, Hope Green, Jacob Ham, Nathanael Le Roux, Mohammadkian Mahroumi, Lisette Martinez, Shannon Megovern, Casey Mitchell, Bailey Murphy, Thien Nguyen, Kenneth O'Farriell, Alicia Paredes, Ryan Phillips, Samuel Reidling, Adam Rodriguez, Susana Sanchez, Kurtis Szoboslay, Madilynn Szoboslay, Wyatt Wilson and Chase Wood.

Royse City residents recognized included Rosa Huerta Torres and Seth Thompson. Priscilla Bing and Karen Westrup from Fate also were recognized.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a GPA of between 3.5 and 3.99 while completing a minimum of 12 credit hours, according to the release.

The Council unanimously passed the consent agenda which included an ordinance to reduce the current "prima facie" speed limit along IH-30 main lanes to 60 mile per hour from the intersection of John King Boulevard to the Rockwall east city limits and established a speed limit of 45 miles per hour along the IH-30 eastbound and westbound frontage roads between the above points. The ordinance included an attached penalty not to exceed \$200.

Council member Scott Milder clarified that it would be a temporary speed limit reduction per a request from Texas Department of Transportation during construction. Milder emphasized that it was not a permanent reduction until the City changes it again. The wording of the notice did not indicate a temporary change.

The City Attorney did not advise the council on whether the state speeding restriction statute included a designated criminal offense with penalty for violation.

Based on research by the Rockwall County News, Texas Transportation Code Section 545.351 and Section 545.352 do not include a designated misdemeanor criminal offense and attached penalty. The City Attorney did not advise whether the state authorized the municipality to create criminal offenses and penalties that do not exist in the Transportation Code.

The consent agenda also included the minutes from the Dec. 19, 2016 meeting; awarding a bid to Pursuit Safety and Coban related to purchase of Police Pursuit Vehicle Equipment and Audio Video Computer Systems totaling \$118,953.45 to be funded out of the General Fund and Police Patrol Budget; request by Michael Scott related to an ordinance for a Specific Use Permit to allow for an accessory building that does not meet the minimum requirements as stipulated by Article IV, related to property located at 1950 Copper Ridge Circle; a request by from Mark S. Kelldorf of Arkoma Development for the approval of an ordinance amending Planned Development District 65 related to property located on the west side of North Goliad Street and North Lakeshore Drive.

Jim Lambeth of Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson LLP presented information about a bid received for delinquent property taxes at Lamar, Clark and Bourn streets. The bid from the Rockwall Habitat for Humanity would be at an amount less than the outstanding taxes. Lambeth explained that Rockwall ISD had approved the bid, and it was left to the City and County to decide what action to take.

The council unanimously approved the bid.

The Rockwall County News did not receive an order for publication of the required tax sale notices.

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Royse City Mayor Janet Nichol, left, proclaimed Tuesday, Dec. 27, as Lori Wright Day. More than 100 people turned out at the Melody Room at City Hall to extend best wishes to Wright as she prepared to move to El Serena, Calif., to live with her son and daughter-in-law, Patrick and Jill Wright, and their two children Liam, 11, and Allegra, 7. In the proclamation, Nichol said "the citizens of Royse City wish to honor Ms. Wright for her passion and commitment to the Royse City Library and her dedication to the community. She was one of the founding members of the Friends of the Library." She was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church of Royse City and an active member of the Tri-County Choral Society.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News



Reminiscing Royse City

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Hamburger and Malt Joints

During the 1950s, Royse City kids on their way home from school would drop in at one of the hamburger and malt joints to play the jukebox and dance. The name of the shop pictured is not certain. Blakeway Drug was one of the favorite hangouts for young people, but it didn't have a jukebox or a place to dance. Blakeway Drug was located to the left of where the post office is located. Pictured from the left are Bobby Charles Ballard (who married Deloris Cross); Don Woolridge; waitress, first name not known (Lowery) Roan; and Jamie Buck. This photo and information are courtesy of Deloris Cross Ballard, curator and docent of the Zaner Robison Historical Museum, as well as Sheri Stodghill Fowler's book, "Images of America-Royse City."

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

University Scholastics Degrees

Ward receives psychology degree

Rockwall native Rachel Taylor Ward graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology from Dallas Baptist University during winter commencement exercises, according to a university news release. While at DBU, Ward was on the Honor's and Dean's lists, according to the release. She was among the 505 graduates receiving degrees from DBU.

City of Rockwall approves new cellular tower ...

(Continued from Page 1)

The council heard a presentation by Lewis Martin related to a proposal for a new monopole cellular tower on City-owned property located at 3475 Springer Road, in the area of a water tower. The proposed Toll Term would be 30 years, with accommodations for multi-carriers. The council discussed the item in length, and established the wording of the motion before a motion was made.

The council unanimously passed the proposal. During the Public Hearing items, the council discussed Z2016-033 related to a request by Pastem Corporation for a Specific Use Permit related to a residence hotel in a Commercial District that exceeds 36-feet in height in the Scenic Overlay, involving Comfort Inn & Suites to be located at 700 E. IH-30.

The item was remanded to the Planning and Zoning Commission due to significant requested changes.

The council also discussed Z2016-040 related to a request from East Shore joint Venture to allow 47 single-family homes in Planned Development District 68 to be located on the east side of South Goliad Street, and north of the intersection of S. Goliad and Justin Road. The measure was passed unanimously.

In the action items, the council:

- Approved an ordinance amending the Parks & Recreation Park Use Rental Fee Guidelines to add fees associated with the rental of

Rockwall City Hall. It was clarified that alcohol use would be allowed as long as a police officer would be present. Follow the Rockwall County News for publication of the required notice in compliance with state law.

- Approved MIS2016-011 related to a request by Billy and Autumn Quinton for an exception to the minimum masonry requirements stipulated in the General Residential District Standards related to property located at 102 North Tyler Street.

- Approved an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances under Residential Code and Fuel Gas Code, related to corrugated stainless steel tubing regulations. It was explained that new construction would require compliance to the amended ordinance, and that gas disconnection due to non-payment would not generate the requirement to replace. It was not clarified whether the old black iron pipe systems created problems requiring replacement.

- Approved the departmental strategic plans. Following a closed meeting, the council authorized City Manager Rick Crowley to negotiate an agreement with the Hans Family for lease of property in the downtown area; and approved the reappointment of Matthew Nielson and Dale Cherry to the Rockwall Economic Development Corporation.

Milder seeks third term on Rockwall Council, Place 5

Rockwall City Councilmember Scott Milder recently announced his intent to run for a third term in the May 2017 local election. Milder first was elected in May 2013.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of serving the people of Rockwall," Milder said in a news release issued earlier this week. "This is a fantastic city for anyone to call home, which is my motivation for serving on Council. My desire to serve is driven simply by my desire to preserve and strengthen the quality of life and quality of place Rockwall has become for all of us."

Milder said he believes in the conservative principles of limited government and careful expenditure of tax dollars, but not at the expense of appropriate investment in city services and infrastructure.

"Jumping over dollars to save dimes is a foolish philosophy," he said in the release. "We are growing and we need to be sure city services are keeping appropriate pace with that growth."

Scott is a principal with Stantec Architecture where he

serves the firm's clients as chief elections campaign strategist. Scott and his wife, Leslie, moved to Rockwall in 2001. The Milders are owners of Our House Events Venue.

Milder earned his bachelor's degree in journalism and master's degree in public relations from the University of North Texas.

The Milders are the parents of Thomas, a junior at Rockwall High School, Grace, a sophomore at Rockwall High, and Mandy, a sixth grade student at Grace Hartman Elementary.

[Publisher's note: Based on research by the Rockwall County News, during the Jan. 1, 2014 regular meeting, the incumbent voted to allow City Secretary Kristy Cole to stop selecting the Rockwall County News for publication of required notice; and allow City Manager Rick Crowley to release tax dollars for payment to an out-of-state newspaper company for "advertising" of "public notices" in a newspaper that is not published in Rockwall County.

To date, Milder has not taken action to bring the City back into compliance with state law, related publication of required notice.]

Rockwall County News

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 in East TX: "Lake _____ Pines"
- 5 lawyer payments
- 6 stringed instrument on a big frame
- 7 TXism for "against"
- 8 TX pecan, e.g.
- 9 TXism: "greenhorn"
- 16 TX Randy Quaid 1988 film: "Solid Perfect"
- 18 this tribe inhabited the TX coast
- 21 TXism: "don't _____ off half cocked"
- 22 "Caddo _____" is on TX-LA border
- 23 TXism: "sour enough to pucker a _____"
- 24 nickname for famed 36th Infantry Division of TX Camp Bowie
- 30 undertakers
- 34 pos. for Cowboy Jason Witten (abbr.)
- 35 TX-based gas station company
- 36 _____ Park, TX
- 37 this Ford was in 1953 film "The Man from the Alamo"
- 39 law officers or Arlington ball team
- 43 TXism: "_____ up with" (married)
- 44 cattle-buffalo cross
- 45 co. prosecutor
- 46 a credit card corporation
- 47 snuggled
- 49 Craig of TX-based "Buchanan Rides Alone" (1958)

DOWN

- 1 card cheat uses "sleight _____"
- 2 in Freestone County on U.S. 84
- 3 "_____ Museum" in Big Spring
- 4 global sports network
- 9 state bigger than TX (abbr.)
- 10 common ducks
- 11 Aries astrological sign (2 wds.)
- 12 TXism: "_____ a look see" (check it out)
- 13 TX-based "ALON USA _____, Inc."
- 14 Britain (abbr.)
- 15 it ain't country music 17 popular TX game 19 in "My Blue Heaven," TX-born Steve Martin was in the _____ Protection Program
- 20 list of items to be considered at a city council meeting
- 24 how most watch the Cowboys and Texans an extra point for the Cowboys or Texans (abbr.)
- 26 this Baldwin is in 2016 film "Rules Don't Apply" with TX Dabney Coleman
- 27 TX culture the "Wink Sink" or the "Kermit"
- 28 party-givers
- 31 wet, muddy ground that can be found in East TX
- 32 wonderment
- 33 messy persons
- 38 "_____ out a living"
- 40 TXism: "wet as a drowned _____"
- 41 "Texas, our Texas! _____ hail the mighty state!"
- 42 bath nights
- 48 chili is the state _____ of TX
- 50 TXism: "como _____ (how are you?) by way of"
- 56 TXism: "down in the _____ (sick)"
- 57 "_____ and omega"

Founders Day vendor applications available

Planning is underway for the 2017 Rockwall Founders Day Festival and applications are being accepted for food and retail vendors.

Applications are available for arts and crafts vendors, as well as food vendors, and may be found at playrockwall.com.

Spaces are limited, according to information on the city's website.

The event is set for May 20.

There is no fear in love. But perfect love casts out fear.
1 John 4:18

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Early release set for RISD schools

The Rockwall ISD will observe early releases from schools on Feb. 22. Elementary students will be dismissed at noon; secondary school students will be released at 1 p.m., according to the district's website. Students will return to classes on Feb 23.

RISD spring break schedule outlined

The Rockwall ISD will be closed March 13-17 for spring break, according to the district's website. All school and offices will be closed. Staff and students will return to campuses on Monday, March 20.

Area Entertainment

Garland Symphony Orchestra

The GSO will feature pianist Konstantine Valianatos, starting 8:00 p.m., Fri. Jan. 20, 2017, in the Granville Arts Center located at 300 N. Fifth Street in Garland. For more information call 972-926-0611, or email info@garlandsymphony.org.

Mesquite Arts Center Jan. performance

The Mesquite Arts Center will host a performance by The Light Crust Doughboys, 7:00 p.m., Sat. Jan. 21, 2017. The Center is located at 1527 N. Galloway Avenue, in Mesquite. For information and tickets call 972-216-8132.

Mesquite Arts Center Black Box Series

The Series will also include a performance by Jeremy Smith, 7:00 p.m., Fri. Jan. 27. For information and tickets call 972-216-8132.

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Mary visits Elizabeth ... Luke, Part 3

After the encounter between Mary and the angel Gabriel, she likely became pregnant after her declaration, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it unto me according to your will" (Luke 1:38).

In fact, it says the angel left after her declaration -- Mission accomplished!

Next, Mary traveled in haste to see her cousin Elizabeth. Remember that Elizabeth was about six months pregnant with John during the time that Mary conceived Jesus.

Elizabeth and Zacharias were great in age, and they no doubt ruled out having children. Plus, Zacharias was unable to speak until after John was born. So it's possible she did not fully understand what was happening, unless he wrote it down similar to the way he indicated the name of their son.

Starting with Luke 1:40, we learn about Mary coming to Elizabeth and Zacharias' home.

When she gave a salutation to Elizabeth, the baby in Elizabeths womb leapt inside her, and she was filled with the Holy Ghost. At first glance, it might appear as if the filling occurred because of John. But he was not of age to believe and be filled with the Holy Ghost. Instead, it simply described how John was affected when his mother was filled with the Holy Ghost.

Throughout the Bible, there are fantastic examples of what people did when they were filled with the spirit. In nearly all cases, they started giving words of prophecy.

It's important to understand that it was not common for people to be filled with the spirit. At different points in time God put the spirit on people for a special purpose.

Why did John leap in her womb? This is so perfect. This would have been the time when he was also filled with the spirit. This is extremely helpful toward understanding the condition of babies in the wombs of mothers who are filled with the spirit today.

Now it's freely available for anyone to be filled with the spirit when they believe with their hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead. Thus, the babies in spirit filled women would also be filled.

This logically means that if that baby dies while in the womb, it's name would be written in the Book of Life, and has equal access to the future resurrection of the just.

Once filled with the Holy Ghost, Elizabeth started giving words of prophecy. This means she opened her mouth and started speaking words in her own language by the spirit.

It says, "And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?'

For lo, as soon as the voice of your salutation sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord'" (Luke 1:41-45).

Elizabeth clearly understood what led to the conception of Jesus in Mary; she believed! It's that simple. She believed the words that the angel said to her.

Verses 46-55 were allegedly about Mary's words. But the language and context strongly points to a continuation of Elizabeth's prophecy. E.W. Bullinger's notes for the Companion Bible state that it was common for the later writers to add a name to a pronoun. They may have mistakenly put Mary's name in place of the earlier text that read "she."

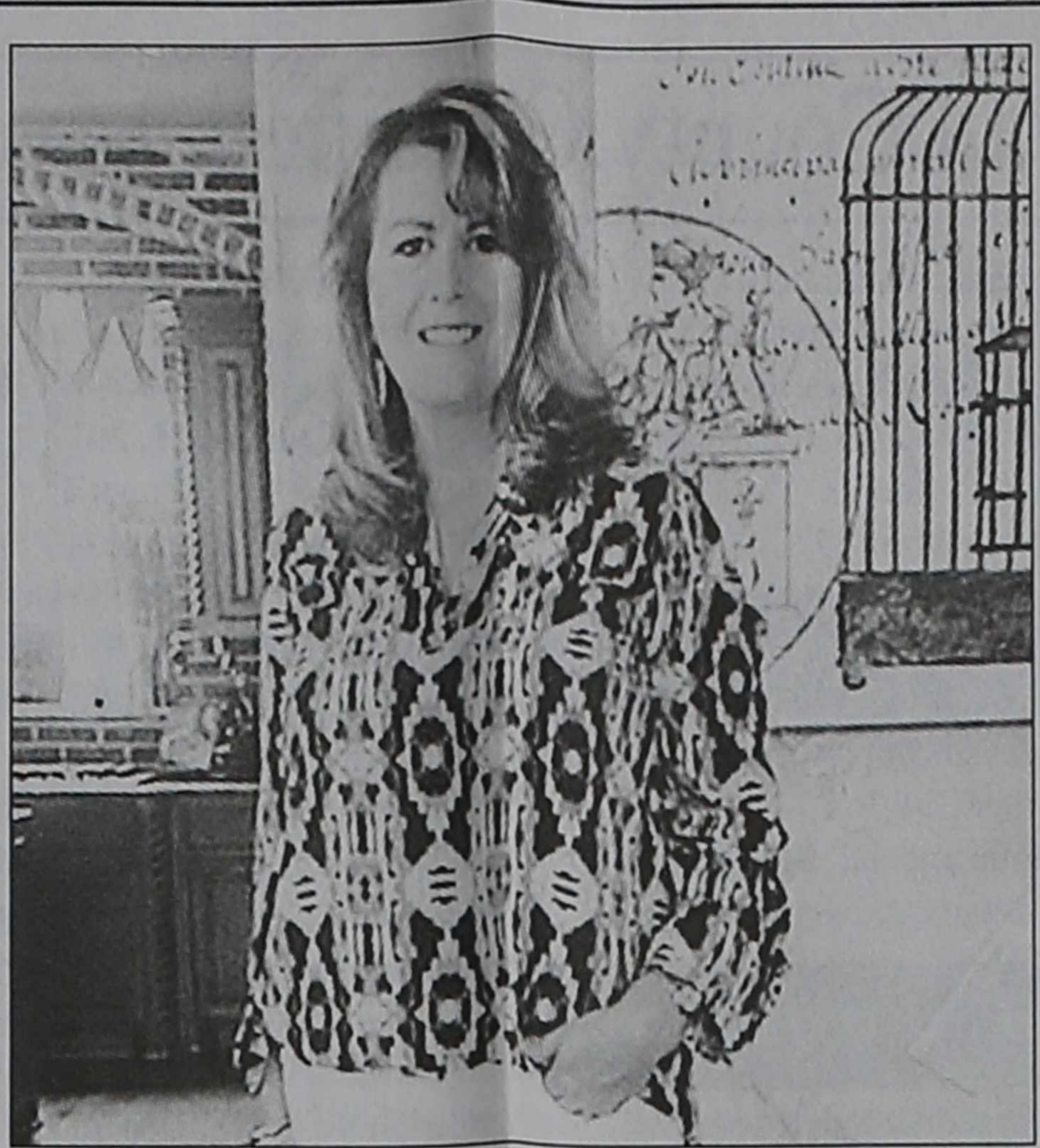
It is also notable to understand that Mary had not been filled with the Holy Ghost, as Elizabeth was filled. Thus, Mary would not have been able to prophecy by the spirit.

When we replace the word "Mary" with "she," it reads, "And she said, "My soul does magnify the Lord. And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed."

Remember that Elizabeth conceived by Zacharias when they were much older, and of course Elizabeth was extremely blessed. When she conceived, she was at a low point in her life. The story of Elizabeth bearing and giving birth to a first-born son while in her latest years of life, would be passed down through the generations.

"For He that is mighty has done to me great things; and holy is His name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him from generation to generation. He has showed strength with his arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He has filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy; As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever."

Mary stayed with her about three months and returned home. Imagine how Elizabeth built up and encouraged this young woman who would carry, give birth to, and raise the son of the Most High Creator of the heavens and the earth. She prepared Mary.



Melody Hail, pictured above, was recognized as the Rockwall Chamber's December Ambassador of the Month. Hail began her career with Helping Hands more than seven years ago when she assumed the position of development director. She brought to the agency more than 20 years of experience in nonprofit organizations and has served as officer/director on boards, chaired fundraising events and held officer positions in multiple organizations, including Rockwall Women's League, AMICA Women's Club, Rockwall Preschool Association, Special Events Board for the City of Heath and was an event planner for Auction & Event Solutions.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Jan. 28 wine, dine event to benefit Rockwall PAWS

An evening of "FUNdraising" is set to begin at 6 p.m. on Jan. 28 and will benefit Rockwall PAWS.

The event will take place at the Rockwall Golf and Athletic Club's Main Clubhouse, 2600 Champions Drive, in Rockwall. Dinner will include wine, silent and live auctions, a raffle and a cash bar.

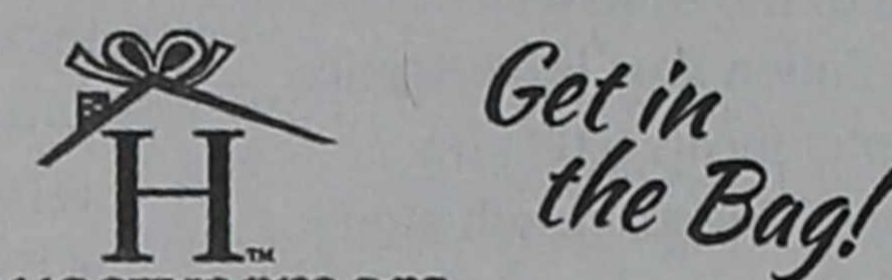
RSVPs should be made by Jan. 23. Tickets cost \$55.

Corporate tables of eight are available at a cost of \$500 and include two bottles of wine, logo or name signage, recognition at event and logo or name on slideshow. Pay by check to Rockwall PAWS, P.O. Box 44, Rockwall, TX 75087 or pay online at www.RockwallPAWS.com or Rockwall PAWS Facebook.

For more information contact Cathy at 214-532-4407 or cathy.bedsale@heartoftexasahs.com.

Rockwall PAWS is a 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to the treatment of heartworm-positive Rockwall shelter dogs adopted from the Rockwall Animal Adoption Center.

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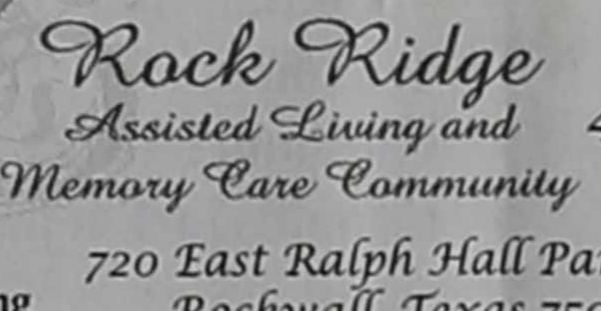
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"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

Psalm 150:6

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart,
and lean not unto thine own
understanding;"

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BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
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CENTRAL BAPTIST
Hwy. 66, Rockwall
CHISHOLM BAPTIST CHURCH
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749 Justin Rd., Rockwall
ChristChurchRockwall.org

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Hwy. 276, Royse City
DAY SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH
8602 Lakeview Pkwy., Rockwall

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813 Holiday Dr. (Hwy. 66)
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HEATH • 224 Smirl Drive

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKWALL • 610 Goliad St.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROYSE CITY • 900 Pullen Street

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1408 Damascus Dr., Rockwall

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701 E. I-30, Rockwall
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
850 Blackland Road, Fate

NEW CALDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
301 Bourn, Rockwall
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
400 Old Greenville Rd., Royse City

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals, guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. The sole purpose of government is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.



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Rockwall County News

legally qualifies for publication of required legal notices for all government units located in Rockwall County as a newspaper of general circulation under Texas Government Code Section 2051.044, 2051.045, 2051.046 and 2051.048 (b) and (c). To Submit legal notices call 972-722-3099 or email advertising@yahoo.com

Notice of Public Sale of property to satisfy Landlord's lien. Auction will be at **12:30 p.m. on January 21, 2017** at two Locations known as Rockwall Mini Storage - 1st Location will be **2000 Kristy Lane, Rockwall, TX** followed by 2nd Location **1760 I 30 East, Rockwall, TX 75087**. Clean up deposit required. All Cash sales. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Property includes contents of units: **John A. Clune** - 105 Furniture Household Items; **Dayna L. Meixell** - 703 Household Items; **Xanthia D. Tell** - 616 Household Items; **Garino S. Zertuche** - 635 Furniture Household Items plus approximately abandoned 20 units Auction Conducted by Ron Reed Auctioneer TDLR 13895 **Contact Mary Lou Garza @ rockwallmini@yahoo.com - 972-771-0138**

Notices to Creditors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that **original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Eula Mae Guthrie, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2017, in Cause No. PR16-0164, pending in the County Court of Rockwall County, Texas, to: Cynthia Fay Smith.**

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
e/o: Jack K. Robinson, Jr. Attorney at Law
Mailing Address: 2931 Ridge Road, Suite 101-162 Rockwall, TX 75032
DATED the 5th day of **January, 2017.**
/s/ Jack K. Robinson, Jr.
Jack K. Robinson, Jr.
Attorney for Cynthia Smith
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Request for Bids

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Lee Lewis Construction, Inc. as Construction Manager at Risk will be accepting proposals from qualified subcontractors and suppliers for the New Construction of Dobbs Elementary School Replacement Project for Rockwall ISD in Rockwall, TX. Bid packages are available through the Construction Manager by calling 972-818-0700 or by faxing a request to 972-818-0706. Proposals are due by Tuesday January 31, 2017 @ 2:00 pm. No bids will be accepted after this time. There will be a pre-proposal meeting held on Tuesday January 17, 2017. Time and location is TBD.

SECTION-00 11 13 ROCKWALL COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 6 will receive bids for the construction of **GRADING IMPROVEMENTS FOR WOODCREEK PHASE 6K; ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS.** Sealed bids must be delivered to the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 1651 N. Glenville Drive, Suite 212, Richardson, TX 75081) no later than 11:30 AM, Monday, January 30, 2016. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time and place. Bids received after this time will be returned unopened. The Developer, D.R. Horton - Texas, Ltd. will be the Payor for the contract for Rockwall County Municipal Utility District No. 6. Plans, specifications and bid documents are available at <http://www.civcastusa.com>; Keyword: 04021-06D01. Contract Documents may be downloaded or viewed free of charge at this web site. It is the downloader's responsibility to determine that a complete set of documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders are received. Printed copies of the Contract Documents may be purchased at the website for the

cost of printing. The cost for printed Contract Documents is non-refundable. This web site will be updated periodically with addenda, plan holders lists, bid tabulations, additional reports or other information relevant to bidding the Project. Pre-bid conference for the project will be held at 10:30 AM, Friday, January 20, 2017 at the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER, and is not mandatory. Bids must be accompanied by a cashier's check or a bid bond from a surety company holding a permit in the State of Texas for an amount equal to 2% of the amount bid. The amount of said cashier's check or bond will be forfeited to the OWNER and the bank or surety shall be liable to the OWNER for the amount in event the successful bidder fail or refuse to enter into a contract or furnish bonds as hereafter required within ten (10) days after the date of notice of award. Performance and Payment Bonds are required. The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities or irregularities in bidding in case of lack of clarity in stating prices. The OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or reject the bid.

Abandoned Vehicles

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle 1993 DODGE DAKOTA towed from 4325 BELTLINE RD ADDISON, TX. Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, Tx 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$1365.40 and increase \$21.65 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before FEBRUARY 6, 2017.

Texas Constitution Article 1, Section 16

No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, retroactive law, or any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be made.
The act of forcing any business and natural person to purchase any kind of insurance for others who render services constitutes "impairing obligation of contracts." One exception are Federal Instrumentalities engaged in statutory "employment" on the soil of Texas.
See Tx. Labor Code Section 201.101 & 26 U.S.C. 3306 (c)(g) and (j)(1 & 2). Apply the definitions in (j) to the definitions in (c) and (g).

Royse City Police Blotter Dec. 30 – Jan. 5

- Friday, 30 Dec.: Welfare concern, 300 block Medina Court; Accident, 500 block E. Main Street; Alarm, 200 block Brookhaven Circle; Suspicious person, 800 block Matthew Lane; Disturbance, 500 block Rosemary Drive; Disturbance, 6600 block I-30 NSR; Accident, I-30 eastbound near the 75-mile marker; Accident, I-30 eastbound at the 75-mile marker; Noise disturbance, 1600 block Cardinal Point; Suspicious person, 300 block N. Arch Street; Possession of marijuana arrest, 200 block S. Elm Street
- Saturday, 31 Dec.: Suspicious person, Area of Dyan Drive and S. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Suspicious vehicle, 700 block Brookhaven Drive; Suspicious vehicle, 900 block Pullen Street; Criminal mischief, 500 block Dyan Drive; Welfare concern, 300 block Medina Court; City ordinance violation, Area of S. Erby Campbell Boulevard and Mackenzie Drive; City ordinance violation, Area of Marti Drive and Lesli Drive; Alarm, 6200 block FM 2642; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77B exit; Medical assistance, 300 block N. Houston Street; Accident, Area of E. Main Street and N. Elm Street; Medical assistance, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Noise disturbance, 200 block West Creek Drive; Disturbance, Area of Elm Grove Road and Circle Drive; Public intoxication arrest, 2600 block Epps Road; Noise disturbance, 1600 block Kelly Lane; Noise disturbance, Area of Courtney Drive and Lesli Drive; Driving while license invalid/Garland Police Department's warrants arrest, 1200 block W. Hwy 66
- Sunday, 1 Jan.: 911 hang up, 100 block W. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, 3200 block Taylor Drive; Suspicious person, 1800 block Green Terrace Drive; Suspicious person, Area of Hwy 66 and Erby Campbell Boulevard; Assault arrest, 4600 block PR 2505; Medical assistance, 100 block Cookston Lane; Alarm, 100 block W. Main Street; Criminal trespass, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; City ordinance violation, Area of Rowdy Drive; Reckless driver, 100 block W. I-30 NSR; Royse City Police Department's warrant arrest, 100 block E. Church Street; Evading arrest, 8300 block FM 35
- Monday, 2 Jan.: Suspicious vehicle, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Noise disturbance, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Disturbance, 800 block Loganwood Drive; Welfare concern, Area of Hwy 66 eastbound from Erby Campbell Boulevard; Unauthorized use of motor vehicle, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Suspicious vehicle, Area of Sandy Lane and Welch Road; Suspicious person, Area of S. Erby Campbell Boulevard and Skelton Street; Driving while license invalid/Mansfield Police Department's warrants arrest, I-30 westbound at the 75-mile marker
- Tuesday, 3 Jan.: City ordinance violation, 700 block Valley Court; Alarm, 600 block S. Elm Street; Accident, Area E. I-30 SSR and FM 2642; Medical assistance, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Assault arrest, 900 block Loganwood Drive
- Wednesday, 4 Jan.: Alarm, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Disturbance, 1000 block Lakes Drive; Medical assistance, 200 block Lynn Street; Suspicious person, 800 block E. Greenville Road; Reckless driver, I-30 westbound from the 82-mile marker; Welfare concern, Area of FM 548 and W. I-30 NSR
- Thursday, 5 Jan.: Suspicious vehicle, 500 block E. Hwy 66; Alarm, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 300 block Pin Oak Lane; Welfare concern, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; 911 hang up, 900 block E. I-30 SSR; Accident, Area of W. I-30 NSR and FM 2642; Accident, Area of FM 548 and Rowdy Drive; Suspicious vehicle, 1000 block N. Houston Street; Medical assistance, 500 block E. County Line Road; Driving while license invalid/Dallas Police Department's warrants arrest, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Rockwall County Sheriff's Office warrant arrest, 300 block West Creek Drive

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Opinions

Economic ideas: Thomas Malthus on population, passions, property and politics

by **Richard M. Ebeling**
Future Freedom Foundation

Those of us who have been fortunate enough to have been born in what is often still referred to as the Western World (Europe and North America) rarely appreciate the historical uniqueness of our material and related cultural well being compared not only to many still around the globe today, but relative to those who lived in that Western World just a handful of generations ago.

A mere 200 years ago, in 1820, the world population numbered only around 1.1 billion people. Out of that 1.1 billion people, it estimated that about 95 percent lived in poverty, with 85 percent existing in "extreme poverty." By 2015, the world population had increased to over 7 billion, but less than 10 percent of this 7 billion people lived in poverty. Indeed, over the last quarter of a century, demographers calculate that every day there are 137,000 fewer people around the world living in extreme poverty.

This escape from poverty originated in Western Europe in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries with the coming of the Industrial Revolution and the freeing of men and markets from the heavy-handed regulations and commercial restrictions of government. Especially in the second half of the twentieth century and now into the twenty-first century that liberation from poverty has been slowly but surely enveloping more of the people in what is still often referred to as the "developing countries."

Before this economic revolution of human betterment was made possible by free, or at least freer, markets, life around the world was (borrowing part of Thomas Hobbes's famous phrase) basically nasty, brutish and short for virtually all of mankind. The idea and ideal of material prosperity for humanity as a whole was merely the dream of a few dreamers who concocted utopian fantasies of remaking society to make a better world.

For some at the end of the 1700s, the French Revolution served as the inspiration to believe that now that the "old regime" of power, privilege and political position was being overthrown a "new dawn" was opening for humanity.

The destruction of the ancient institutional order opened the door for remaking society and it's structure; and with the institutional transformation could come a change in man. There emerged a new version of Plato's belief that human nature was primarily a product of the social environment. Change the institutions within which men lived and the character of man could be transformed over time, as well.

William Godwin and the

Collectivist Remaking of Man and Society

A leading voice in support of this "transformative" vision was William Godwin, a British social philosopher and critic, who argued that selfishness, poverty, and the form and content of human relationships could be radically made over, if only the institution of private property and the political order protecting it was abolished.

He argued for this new understanding and conception of man and society in his books, *An Enquiry Concerning Political Justice* (1793), and *The Inquirer* (1798). Indeed, some have argued that Godwin was one of the first of the modern advocates of "anarchism" – an ideal society without a system of political coercion in which men will cooperatively and collectively live and work for a higher "common good."

The guiding principles in Godwin's political and economic philosophy (which received some revision and modification between the three editions that he published of *Political Justice* during his life) were:

First, the moral foundation of all human actions should be based on the individual being concerned with the interests and betterment of the collective society, and not himself; any judgment concerning the ethics

in men's behavior should not be based on the results those actions produce, but the intention or motive behind the actions undertaken.

Second, that human nature is not a universal "given," but rather man is born like a "blank slate," the content of which can be influenced by the social environment and the education experienced by the new mind.

Third, that poverty is not and need not be an essential part of the human condition; rather, it is the result of the institution of private property that gives what rightly belongs and should be shared equally by all men to some by arbitrary political power and legitimacy; a "new society" of communal work and sharing will raise production to unimaginable levels, abolishing poverty and creating plenty.

Fourth, this would be coupled with the fact that as there was less concern with material want, people would turn their minds to intellectual pursuits; this would result in a reduction in the sex drive, and a falling off in reproduction and the number of people in society. Thus, concerns that a materially better off world might mean a growth in population exceeding the capacity to feed it was down played. Besides, there were plenty of places around the world to which any excess population could migrate.

Said William Godwin in *Political Justice*:

If justice have any meaning, it is just that I should contribute everything in my power to the benefit of the whole . . . It is in the disposition and view of the mind, and not in the good which may accidentally and intentionally result, that virtue consists . . .

Human beings are partakers of a common nature; what conduces to the benefit or pleasure of one man will conduce to the benefit or pleasure of another. Hence it follows, upon the principles of equal and impartial justice, that the good things of the world are a common stock, upon which one man has as valid a title as another to draw for what he wants . . . What can be more desirable and just than that the produce itself should, with some degree of equality, be shared among them?

What if some individuals refused to sacrifice for the collective, and were unwilling to bend their own self-interest to the betterment of the societal group? Godwin was equally direct that the individual had no right to his own life if his forgoing it served the needs and necessities of the collective:

He has no right to his life when his duty calls him to resign it. Other men are bound . . . to deprive him of life or liberty, if that should appear in any case to be indispensably necessary to prevent a greater evil . . .

Thomas Malthus on the "Natural" Limits to Human Betterment

Thomas Malthus (1766-1834) was an ordained minister who became interested in various themes in political economy, and became famous for arguing against the theories espoused by William Godwin. His father, Daniel Malthus, took a view sympathetic to Godwin's on man, human nature, and society. Thomas took the opposite view, and ended up writing his famous, *An Essay on the Principle of Population as It Affects the Future Improvement of Society, with Remarks on the Speculations of Mr. Godwin, M. Condorcet, and Other Writers* (1798).

The gist of Thomas Malthus's argument was that physical capacities to regularly increase the supply of food for human survival falls far short of the natural inclinations of human reproduction. Thus, the growth in population, when left unchecked, and given the "passions" of men and women, has the tendency to outrun the supply of food.

Hence, there were natural limits on the improvement of the material conditions of man, which no change in the political, economic, and social institutions of society, by themselves, can assure or bring about a "heaven on earth," as prophesied and promised by Godwin and others.

Not surprisingly, the book caused a firestorm of controversy among those supporting and opposing the views of Godwin and Malthus. Malthus's apparent "pessimism" concerning the ability of humanity to improve the human condition through conscious social change led the British social critic and essayist, Thomas Carlyle, to call economics, "the dismal science."

Malthus argued that human existence is bound by two inescapable principles that have not and are not likely to change, given all of human history: the need for food to exist, and the degree of sexual passions of men and women for each other, which he enunciates in his *Essay on the Principle of Population*:

I think I may fairly make two postulata. First, that food is necessary to the existence of man. Secondly, that the passion between the sexes is necessary, and will remain nearly in its present state.

These two laws ever since we have had any knowledge of mankind, appear to have been fixed laws of his nature; and as we have not hitherto seen any alteration in them, we have no right to conclude that they will ever cease to be what they now are . . . I do not know that any writer has supposed that on this earth man will ultimately be able to live without food.

But Mr. Godwin has conjectured that the passion between the sexes may in time be extinguished. As, however, he calls this part of his work, a deviation into the land of conjecture, I will not dwell long upon it at present, than to say, that the best arguments for the perfectibility of man, are drawn from a contemplation of the great progress that he has already made from the savage state, and the difficulty of saying where he is to stop.

But towards the extinction of the passion between the sexes, no progress whatever has hitherto been made. It appears to exist in as much force at present as it did two thousand, or four thousand years ago.

The Checks on Mouths to Feed: Misery and Vice

(Continued in the January 19, 2017 edition of the Rockwall County News)

Donald Trump and the Ethanol Mandate

by **Merrill Matthews**
Institute for Policy Innovation

President-elect Donald Trump cruised to victory promising to get rid of the mandate to buy health insurance. While he's at it, how about getting rid of the mandate to buy ethanol?

The federal government mandates that virtually all gasoline include ethanol, known as the Renewable Fuel Standard. The Environmental Protection Agency, which oversees the ethanol program, recently released its 2017 guidelines for increased ethanol usage, calling for nearly 19 billion gallons of renewable fuel -- an increase of nearly 700 million gallons over the 2016 level.

When Congress first embraced ethanol, legislators thought adding it to gasoline would stretch fuel supplies, be cheaper and better for the environment, and reduce our reliance on oil imports.

As it turns out, most of those assumptions are no longer true.

First, ethanol hurts drivers. Existing blends provide fewer miles per gallon, forcing drivers to pay more to travel. According to the Institute for Energy Research, the RFS has saddled American drivers with an extra \$83 billion at the pump.

Second, increasing the percentage of ethanol in our gasoline past the current 10 percent "blend wall" could harm engines, especially in older cars. But Congress mandated that oil refineries increase annually the amount of ethanol they mix with gasoline. The problem is that gasoline usage has remained relatively flat since the recession, so the only way to meet the mandate is to increase the ethanol blend -- putting engines at risk.

Third, ethanol production hurts the environment. About 40 percent of corn grown in the United States goes into our gas tanks. Farmers have plowed up massive tracts of grassland and wetlands to plant more corn, which is the key ingredient in ethanol. That conversion releases carbon stored in soil, plus the corn must be harvested, transported and refined before being added to gasoline. The non-profit

Environmental Working Group has called the increased use of ethanol a "climate disaster."

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, while increasing the amount of ethanol to be added to gas, required the EPA to provide reports assessing the ethanol program. The EPA produced its first report in 2012, but failed to meet the next deadline.

As a result, the agency's inspector general recently called out the EPA for neglecting this obligation, noting that the agency "has not complied with the requirement to provide a report every 3 years to Congress." The inspector general furthered that the "information is needed to fully inform the EPA, Congress and other stakeholders of the environmental impacts of U.S. biofuel policy."

In the wake of the inspector general's condemnation, agency officials promised to produce the next assessment this year.

Why the delay? Maybe the EPA knows the United States no longer needs renewable fuels to wean itself off foreign energy. Thanks to the rapid expansion of the domestic oil and gas industry, this country has passed Russia and Saudi Arabia as the world's top energy producer.

Eliminating the RFS would also increase demand for gasoline, stoking renewed domestic production and accelerating our march to total energy independence.

During the presidential primaries, Trump proclaimed his support for ethanol in Iowa, a big ethanol-producing state. But since Trump understands why a mandate has skewed the healthcare market, he should understand why an ethanol mandate could skew the energy market.

We don't need to eliminate the ethanol industry, just the mandate to use it. Let consumers decide at the pump if they want ethanol in their gasoline.

Merrill Matthews is a resident scholar with the Institute for Policy Innovation in Dallas, Texas. Follow him at twitter.com/MerrillMatthews.

The Beat of a Different Drum

by **Dr. Don Newbury**

He frequently took jabs at pomp, sparred with circumstance and flat-out deflated folks too full of themselves, determined never to join the group. In all of this and more, he smiled, confidently moored to Christian linchpins that kept him focused on the "main thing being the main thing."

Dr. Paul Powell was felled by a stroke last month. He was 83. Pews were packed in the chapel of Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler. (It was formerly the sanctuary where he preached more than a thousand sermons and conducted hundreds of funerals and weddings during his 17-year tenure.)

Family members, friends and associates weren't sure whether the service would be remembered more for proper "funeralizing" or gentle roasting. It may have been--you'll pardon the expression--a dead heat, and why wouldn't it? Officiants at the "service" say he planned it all in advance, including participants, hymns, scriptures and obituary photograph. While perusing photograph albums, he even selected the photo he thought best to use with wife Cathy's obituary up the way. . . .

They say he was "retired," and they were wrong. This mountain of a man served with distinction in so many different ways, he didn't know how to "cold turkey" his way out. Instead, he plugged along, preaching when invited, sharing the Gospel and lending mature observations gleaned from a long life of rich experiences as a former pastor of five churches, denominational executive, seminary dean and all-around "Mr. Texas Baptist."

Somewhere in this piece, his literary efforts should be lauded. He was author of more than 50 books; God Works in Mischievous Ways was published in 2016. The title "nutshells" how Paul "did life."

He smiled his way through situations of all kinds--serious and humorous. They said he asked longtime friend Russell Dilday, "Have you read my last book?" Paul said Dr. Dilday responded, "Oh, I hope so." . . .

His keen humor usually was laced with self-deprecation. He claimed

he journeyed from "the backwoods of East Texas, to the back alleys of Port Arthur, to the back of the class in school." Ken Camp, who wrote a detailed obituary, called Dr. Powell "the always quotable."

Powell's wife of 62 years--and throngs of others across the years--wondered what he would say next, particularly at banquets. One evening, a banquet host expressed regret that Mrs. Powell was unable to attend. "Oh, she's here," Paul assured, "Cathy is still in the car, applying lipstick...preparing her body for viewing."

Tributes poured in from the greats, near greats and "ordinaries" throughout the nation. (He would have included himself among the latter.) Dr. Bill Pinson's tribute summed it up: "He was unapologetically Baptist in his beliefs and at the same time an unashamed member of the larger Christian family of faith: . . . a Baptist statesman who remained a down-to-earth, approachable servant leader." . . .

Noted for his courage kept close at hand, Dr. Powell is remembered for his response to critics of investment policies when he was President and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention's Annuity Board. In his 1994 annual report, he stated: "Since we are in the home of Disney World, I need to tell you that the Annuity Board is not a 'Mickey Mouse' operation, and it is not being run by Goofy and his friends."

He mentored hundreds of young ministers. They, and their elders, will long share Paul Powell stories, both hither and yon. When they gather, they'd best be prepared to "sit a spell." Dr. Powell was one-of-a-kind, and a description the late colorful sportswriter Blackie Sherrod once wrote of a long-ago friend likewise "fits" Paul Powell: "Before God made him, He broke the mold."

The hem-of-the-garment service spanned some 50 minutes. Smiling, Paul might have concluded, "As per instructions, they kept it under an hour." . . .

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Commissioners Court makes plans to provide office space for Holland

During the regular meeting of the Rockwall County Commissioners Court, Tues. Jan. 10, 2017, the Court discussed possible plans to approve the use of the Historic Downtown Courthouse by Justin Holland (House District 33). Holland's District Director Robert Paulson will be communicating with the County about setting up an office in the Historic Courthouse. Assistant District Attorney Grant Brenna advised the Court that the county can't give gifts, including donated offices. No action was taken, and the item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Court met in closed meeting to discuss "pending or contemplated" litigation related to the case of Scott Damon Richardson v. Avery #994, Hartman #987, Tilly #955 and Rockwall County, et al. in Cause No. 3:16-CV-2631-M-BH. No action was taken.

In other business, the Court:

- Approved reappointment of members of the Rockwall County Historical Commission, with Cliff Sevier opposing.
- Approved the division of responsibilities for Commissioner Court members. Judge David Sweet opened the discussion before the motion was made.
- Approved revisions to the Performance Pay Plan. Kami Webb presented the plan with three suggestions, one of which was to remove the court reporters from the list of job titles.
- Approved a subscription renewal with LexisNexis to continue providing online access to updated law library material at an annual cost of \$804, starting March 1, 2017. The service is for 439 District Court Judge David Rakow. The price will be locked in for three years.
- Approved the consent agenda including the minutes of the Nov. 29 regular meeting, Environmental Health Coordinator monthly report; Justice of Peace Precinct 1 monthly judicial activity report; J.P. Pct. 4 monthly judicial activity report; payments to Atkins North America, Inc. for engineering services provided thru Nov. 27, 2016 at FM 3549 from SH 66 to IH 30 in the amount of \$18,421.88; payment to HNTB Corporation for engineering services provided thru 11/18/16 at FM 552 from SH 205 to SH 66 in the amount of \$2000; payment to Dannenbaum Engineering Company for engineering services provided during Nov. 2016 at FM 549 from SH 276 to SH 205 in the amount of \$21,528.58; payment to Bear Creek Special

Utility District for the Pump Station #1 Replacement Modifications Project associated with FM 552 for Nov. 2016 in the total amount of \$40,750.

- Approved the Sheriff's Department's purchase from Capital Outlay of stainless steel worktable including shipping at an estimated cost of \$300.
- Approved non-emergency budget transfers 2017-09 related to transfer of \$195,000 within the Road & Bridge Fund budget to Contract Services from contingency due to road improvement expenses incurred at Alexander Ranch; and 2017-10 related to transfer of \$25 within the Maintenance & Operations General Fund budget to Capital Outlay from unanticipated expense due to additional cost for a computer that was budgeted at a lesser value.

Minutes from the Tues. Oct. 25 meeting

Judge David Sweet advised the Court that the Child Protective Services Board recommended the appointment of Jamie Ross Killough and JoAnne Miller to the CPS Board. The commissioners unanimously approved the recommendations.

The Court approved a one-year resolution with the Rockwall County Committee on Aging and an Agreement to continue providing home-delivered meal services for homebound persons in the County who are elderly and/or have a disability in the amount of \$25,000.

Meals on Wheels Director Margie VerHagen informed the Court that the Meals on Wheels program had grown 40% in the prior year.

Entech Sales and Service was awarded the contract to provide five RTU Condenser Coil Hail Guards on the units at the Adult Probation building at a cost of \$1,601.

The Court approved a Supplemental Agreement number 1 to the contract for engineering services between Rockwall County and Dannenbaum for the FM 549 Project.

The State Homeland Security Program provided grant money in the amount of \$4,690 under Texas Local Gov. Code Section 111.0106. The Court approved a special budget for the grant.

A special budget for grant money was adopted in the amount of \$22,500 that was provided by the Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division. The Court did not discuss how the funds would be used.

The Court approved the County's participation with the Rockwall County American Legion Post 117 to honor the 75th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day that took place Dec. 7, 2016.

Tues. Nov. 8, 2016 regular meeting

The Court approved a Proclamation honoring District Clerk Kay McDaniel on her retirement, and proclaimed Nov. 8, 2016 as "Kay McDaniel Day in Rockwall County, Texas."

Sheriff Harold Eavenson recognized Officer Hank Havens for a life-saving incident, October 11, 2016, on interstate 30. Eavenson read a letter from the person who was saved about how grateful she was for "his quick thinking and flawless actions that probably saved her life and the life of her passengers." The Deputy was presented the Lifesaving Award. Eavenson noted that this was the Deputy's second lifesaving award.

The minutes did not include a description of the life-saving event.

The Court received a plaque from the organization Women In Need Director Connie Pettitt, who thanked the Court and District Attorney Kenda Culpepper for their partnerships with the organization. Pettitt provided information about the teen dating program currently provided in Rockwall ISD and Royse City ISD high schools.

Eavenson expressed concerns about recruiting challenges for the Sheriff's department. The Sheriff proposed plans to hire non-certified candidates who may be sent to a police academy for five months while on the County's payroll. The Court approved a Sheriff's Office program for recruiting candidates for deputy sheriff positions that have not yet attended a police academy and are not yet certified as presented at an annual salary of \$45,000 for five months while in the academy and for the following four months while in field training with an increase to \$56,000 upon successful completion of FTO training.

Assistant District Attorney Grant Brenna offered to research how to enforce a 2-year commitment on the part of the candidate to remain with the County.

The Court approved out of state travel for Eavenson to attend the North Texas Crime Commission Legislative Committee Meeting, that occurred Nov. 16-18 in Washington, D.C.

The Court approved 26 non-emergency budget transfers.



Nebbie Williams Elementary School students recently helped spread cheer throughout Rockwall. Students in the school's Honor Choir (above) and orchestra (below) gave concerts to the school, as well as to a number of guests. The two groups then loaded up on buses and performed for audiences at the Rockwall County courthouse, Brookdale Summer Ridge, Liberty Heights and the Rockwall City Hall. Students have been practicing all year long and were excited to perform under the direction of Justin Foley, the school's music teacher, and Shari Allison, orchestra teacher. Twenty-eight chaperones assisted with the community performances.

Courtesy photos/Rockwall County News

