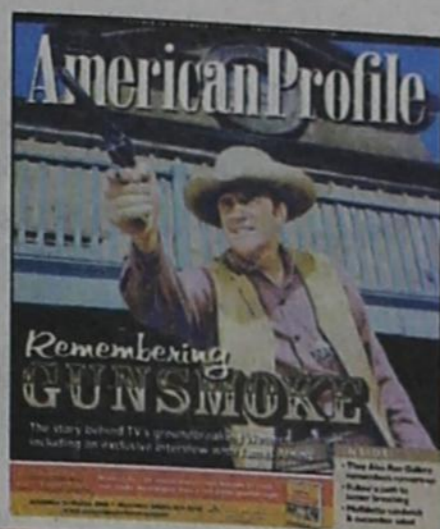


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Rockwall County News

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McLendon-Chisholm Mayor Mike Donegan explains the voting process to (left to right) Caila Fryhover, Bryanna Pihlstrom and [unclear] Pihlstrom at Saturday's Youth Mock Vote at Chisholm Baptist Church, as mom Jennifer Pihlstrom listens in. The city and church sponsored the event to give school-aged children the opportunity to experience the voting process.
Staff photo by Kathy Williams

More than 14,000 early ballots filed locally as Election Day approaches

More than 14,000 Rockwall County voters had cast early ballots as of mid-day Wednesday, according to a report from the county's election administrator.

At 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, the updated early vote total stood at 14,429, elections administrator Glenda Denton said.

Early voting in Rockwall County appears to be following the same trend being reported nationwide: Voters are casting their ballots early in anticipation of crowded polling places on Election Day.

Rockwall County's total number of registered voters is approximately 44,500, Denton said.

Early voting ends Friday

Early voting will continue through 5 p.m. Friday at the following locations:

- Elections Office, 107 E. Kaufman, Rockwall
 - City Hall Council Chambers, 200 Laurence, Heath
 - Royse City Hall Community Room, 305 N. Arch, Royse City
 - Community Room, 104 S. W.E. Crawford, Fate
 - Lake Pointe Medical Center, 6800 Scenic Drive, Rowlett
- Extended hours also will be offered today (Thursday) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., according to the election administrator's Web site.

Election Day polling places

Voting on Tuesday, Election Day, will run from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at locations throughout the county. The following is a list of polling places provided on the election administrator's Web site:

- Precinct #1 - Reinhardt Elementary, 615 Highland Drive, Rockwall
- Precinct #1A - Lake Pointe Medical Center, 6800 Scenic Drive, Rowlett
- Precinct #1B - Ridgeview Church, 1362 E. FM 552, Rockwall
- Precinct #1C - Nebbie William Elementary, 350 Dalton Road, Rockwall
- Precinct #2 - Heath City Hall, 200 Laurence, Heath
- Precinct #2A - Lake Pointe Church, 701 E. IH-30, Rockwall
- Precinct #2B - Cullins Lake Pointe Elementary School, 5701 Scenic Drive, Rowlett
- Precinct #3 - Chisholm Baptist Church, 1388 Hwy. 205 South, Chisholm
- Precinct #3A - Amanda Rochell Elementary School, 899 Rochell Court, Rockwall
- Precinct #3B - City Municipal Court Building, 205 W. Rusk St., Rockwall
- Precinct #3C - Pullen Elementary School, 6492 FM 3097, Rockwall
- Precinct #4 - Royse City City Hall, 305 N. Arch, Royse City
- Precinct #4A - Fate Community Center, 104 S. WE Crawford St., Fate
- Precinct #4B - Rockwall ISD Administration Building, 1050 Williams, Rockwall
- Precinct #4C - Rockwall Fire Station, 305 E. Boydston, Rockwall
- Precinct 4D - Dorris Jones Elementary School, 2051 Trail Glen, Rockwall

In addition to voting to fill local, district, state and federal offices, Rockwall County voters also will be asked to decide a special election proposition seeking the issuance of \$100 million in road bonds to be used to construct roads throughout the county.

Sample ballots for the election are available by logging onto rockwallcountytexas.com

Subscription drive helps Meals on Wheels with extra funding

Meals on Wheels will get a special financial boost this holiday season with a new fund raising campaign announced this week by Rockwall County News publisher Wesley W. Burnett.

"We are contributing 100 percent of every new subscription and every subscription renewal during the month of November to provide an extra financial boost for our county's Meals on Wheels program," Burnett said.

Inspiration for the campaign came from a recent Neil Diamond concert in Dallas. "My wife, Pat and our son, Tim attended the concert," Burnett explained, "and during the event Mr. Diamond announced that 100 percent of sales of CDs, photos and other items at his concerts would be set aside to help build houses for the victims of the recent hurricane which devastated Galveston.

"Tim suggested that we donate all of our subscription sales to a county charitable organization. He said he was so impressed with Neil Diamond's idea he thought it'd be a good and right thing for us to do."

(Continued on Page 2)

News Briefs

Pumpkin Patch open through Friday

Pumpkin Patch will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday in the grassy area of Rockwall's Ridge Road Center between the main entrance and the entrance to Brookshire's. For a schedule of all Patch activities, rockwallpumpkinpatch.com.

Saturday is deadline for blankets

Soldiers' Angels Organization Sewing Team will make blankets to soldiers spending the holidays in a war zone. Made or store-bought fleeces or quilts should be personally made with patriotic buttons, embroidery or appliques. Contact Janik at dianejusa@yahoo.com or at 972-998-9892 for details. Deadline is Saturday.

FUMC women plan Saturday fair

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church in Rockwall will host their annual Bazaar & Craft Fair Saturday. Proceeds from the event, as well as vendor booth rental and admission, will aid the UMW's mission work. For more information, contact Kathy Lane at 972-977-3922.

DAR to host Saturday luncheon

Col. Jerry Hogan, U.S. Army (retired) and former vice president of MCI Telecommunications, will be guest speaker at Rock Wall Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution National Defense Luncheon set for 10:30 a.m. Saturday. For more information, contact Faye Heil at 972-771-3033 or 2004@sbglobal.net.

Library to offer class on health info

The Rockwall County Library will offer a two-session class, "Information on the Internet," from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesday and Wednesday. Class registration may be handled at the library's upstairs reference desk. The class will be conducted in the second-floor tech lab.

Free immunization clinic on Tuesday

A free immunization clinic for children up to 18 years of age will be offered at the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall, 1200 East Yellowjacket Lane, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. No appointment is necessary, but children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. A copy of the child's shot record is required. More information is available at carevan.org or 972-689-8285.

Breakfast Club event slated

The Royse City Chamber of Commerce and the Royse City Street Breakfast Club will meet from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Wednesday at the Denny's in Royse City. A light breakfast will be served for a \$2 donation. Call 972-636-5000 for more details on this event, which takes place the first and third Wednesdays each month.

Center to host Wednesday Senior Health Fair

The 7th Annual Senior Health Fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday at The Center. Refreshments will be served, door prizes will be given away and flu and pneumonia information will be available.

News Briefs Continued on Page 2

McLendon-Chisholm citizen committee seeks funding ideas

by Kathy Williams

The McLendon-Chisholm city council is looking for ways to tighten its financial belt after ending the last two fiscal years with a deficit on the books and an uncertain forecast for the coming year. It hopes a newly formed citizens committee will work with the council to come up with a financial strategy to avoid implementing an ad valorem tax.

Mayor Mike Donegan, City Administrator Dave Butler and members of the city council invited the community to a Town Hall Meeting Oct. 21 to offer their suggestions for possible solutions to the budget issues. First on the agenda was the prospect of establishing the ad valorem tax.

Most of the residents who spoke said they moved to the town because there is no property tax. McLendon-Chisholm is one of the last cities in the area without an ad valorem tax - Butler called the city "the last jewel."

Butler began the meeting by giving a rundown of the city's financial status. The last two years have seen budget deficits due to a lack of income and the continued expense of maintaining the city.

The budget year 2005-2006 ended on a positive note, despite an expected deficit of \$31 thousand. The city had a net income of \$98 thousand, boosted from the sale of a piece of land in the city's ETJ (extra-territorial jurisdiction) to the City of Heath.

Butler also gave a rundown of the city's reserve account balance. Despite an increase in the reserve in '06-'07 from the land sale, the account has steadily decreased from \$206 thousand in '05-'06 to \$123 thousand in '07-'08. The projected balance at the end of '08-'09 is expected to be \$53 thousand. The city anticipates the account could be depleted by '09-'10.

Income sources for the city come from sales taxes, franchise fees, permits, development filing fees, interest income and donations. Despite trimming excess spending in the face of rising costs, the city is still affected by the economic downturn sweeping the country. Butler showed how the number of new home permits dropped from 40 in '06-'07 to 21 in '07-'08. The city projects only 11 permits will be issued in the coming year.

Butler said some residents have questioned the need for an ad valorem tax, or any tax for that matter, as they believe "the city doesn't provide services." He reminded the assembly that the city provides support to the volunteer fire department, EMS service, building inspections, code enforcement, engineering services, planning and development, and legal services. The city also pays a salary to two full-time employees, Butler and city secretary Debbie Sorenson.

If an ad valorem tax were to be established, a 0.25 tax rate would result in an annual contribution of \$625 per home, with a 0.30 tax rate equaling \$750 annually. These amounts are based on a property valuation of \$250 thousand.

(Continued on Page 2)

Owned & Operated by Rockwall County Folks

McLendon-Chisholm ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Neighboring cities and their tax rates include Fate at \$ 0.2144; Rockwall County at \$ 0.375; Heath at \$ 0.3433; City of Rockwall at \$ 0.504, and Royse City at \$ 0.6586. Royse City's tax rate was



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Michele A. Ratcliffe joins Lamberth Mateer, PLLC



Brad Lamberth, Jeff Mateer, and the law firm Lamberth Mateer, PLLC are pleased to announce that Michele A. Ratcliffe has joined the firm as Senior Litigation Counsel. "Michele's courtroom experience and knowledge of the law are both impressive and unequalled. We are excited that she has joined our team of litigation specialists," says Brad Lamberth.

Michele is an AV-rated attorney who, for the past 18 years, has served the legal needs of individuals, corporations and the children of Texas as a Litigator, Federal Prosecutor, Court-appointed Mediator and Guardian Ad Litem. Michele began her career as a civil litigator in private practice before working for the U.S. Department of Justice in the U.S. Attorney's office for five years.

After serving our country as a Federal Prosecutor and Project Safe Childhood Director, she is returning to private practice to further serve the children of our country in assisting victims pursue justice and recover from exploitation, trauma and/or injury. Michele is frequent guest speaker on internet safety, cyber-crime, victims' rights, and legal rights of children.

Michele is a 1990 graduate of Southern Methodist University School of Law and a 1987 graduate of Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan. She has been married to John Ratcliffe for 18 years and they have two daughters, Riley and Darby. John is the Mayor of Heath.

"I am pleased to associate with Lamberth Mateer, as these true professionals have earned an excellent reputation in the legal community and in their service to Rockwall County's citizens. Mr. Lamberth and Mr. Mateer understand that my passion is to expand their practice to the children of our community, who, whether injured in a car accident or traumatized by the negligent or intentional act of another, seek justice through the legal process."

Lamberth Mateer, PLLC, was formed in 2007 by two AV-rated attorneys, formerly at large Dallas law firms, who sought to combine their large-firm experience with the efficiency and creativity of a small firm. The firm advises and represents large national and international companies, local businesses, schools, churches and individuals in the areas of business and commercial law, litigation and appeals, employment law, personal injury, real estate, aviation, civil rights and constitutional law in both state and federal courts.

increased significantly this budget year to offset an almost \$2 million budget shortfall in '07-'08.

Mayor Mike Donegan outlined recent city council achievements to remind citizens that the city does provide services and progress is being made. He said the council negotiated two planned developments that are now in the city limits; a Thoroughfare Land Use Plan and Comprehensive Plan to include a Thoroughfare Plan with stronger guidelines for zoning and road use in future developments; conducted a water/sewer study, resulting in negotiations with the cities of Rockwall, Heath and Forney to provide sewer service to a portion of McLendon-Chisholm; are currently working on a Downtown District; and are revising the Comprehensive Plan to provide guidance to future developers to plan for open space areas, trails and parks.

"We have done good work in the past, but if doesn't come free," he said.

Future plans include two school sites within the city, sewer service for the commercial retail district, increased public safety capabilities as the population increases, implementation of regional water and sewer services and the possibility of future new public facilities, including a city hall, fire station and community center.

The council would like to replenish the reserve funds to have 12 months of operating capital on hand.

Donegan pointed out that if a tax were established, it would not immediately take effect. "If a tax is created, it would not be for this year. It will come next year," he said.

Butler said the city must plan now for the future. The city's anticipated build-out population is 20,000, but that is a high estimate. He said, "We asked our engineers to study all developable land in the city. That number is based on available land, but we know not everybody will sell their land to developers."

Concerned citizens were passionate in their resolve not to create a new tax, offering comments at Chisholm Baptist Church for almost three hours. A handful said establishing the tax would be the right thing to do for the city. Some residents cited past financial difficulties in other cities caused by out of control taxes, while others

Meals on Wheels funding ...

(Continued from Page 1)

It didn't take very long to identify Meals on Wheels as a logical beginning for the subscription drive. "Our shut-in senior citizens are too often the forgotten ones," the publisher commented. "We know from first hand experience that the Meals On Wheels volunteer may be the only person many of our older citizens see during the week," he added.

Holidays are frequently the loneliest times for senior citizens, "and this year we want to do what we can to make this holiday just a little bit better," Wes Burnett emphasized.

The campaign is very simple ... beginning November 1 and continuing through November 30, payment from all new subscribers and renewals to the Rockwall County News will be dedicated to Meals on Wheels.

"Meals on Wheels needs more funding ... and hopefully this campaign will benefit our readers as well, we know it will be a good thing for our elderly who depend daily on Meals on Wheels," Burnett added.

"We'll give you a weekly report on the campaign and we pray God's blessing for those who participate," Burnett concluded.

Call the Rockwall County News at 972-722-3099 to join the newspaper in this important campaign.

suggested a flat tax for all homeowners. Resident Sheri suggested the city bring in more retail to the area, such as Brookshire's Grocery Store or a Sam's Club.

Butler and Donegan both agreed that more retail to the city, referring back to the proposed Downtown District Comprehensive Plan, but said, "to get more retail, you have rooftops."

Others suggested requiring developers to continue roads and sewers in their developments, as they do no code enforcement and building inspection responsibility contracts. That would move the financial burden to the and help reduce the city's budget for those services.

At least six residents have signed up to be on the committee. Donegan said they have yet to schedule their first meeting but will do so soon. The city has scheduled another Meeting for January 2009.

News Brief

Republican Lunch Bunch scheduled

The Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Luigi's Italian Café. Cost will include lunch, beverage and tip (pay at the reservations required for this informal social gathering of area Republicans. For more details, call Leon Tuttle at 6874.

Computer group to meet Wednesday

The Rockwall Computer Council will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at The Center at Rockwall City Place, 1000 Washington St. RCC member Dennis Allen will talk about the personal computer and the changes introduced over the last 30 years. The meeting is open to anyone interested in the use of computers for home or office. For more information, contact Allen at 972-771-6621 or Joe Conner at 972-771-8712.

Masons to host Nov. 8 blood drive

The East Trinity Masonic Lodge in Rockwall will host a blood drive to benefit the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children at 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 8. The event will take place at the Masonic Lodge Hall, located on the southwest corner of house square.

Canine fashion show, contest slated

As part of its National Animal Shelter Appreciation event, the City of Rockwall's Animal Services staff will host a Hottest Pooch Fashion Show & Contest from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 8 at the Animal Adoption Center, 1825 Airport Blvd. All dogs will be required to be on leashes and have current vaccinations.

Thanksgiving meal drive under way

A Thanksgiving Meal Drive, sponsored by the Rockwall Police Department, American National Bank, the First United Methodist Church, Texas Leadership Bank and Trinity Lutheran Church, is in need of items for holiday food baskets: canned soups, cornbread mix, cranberry sauce, boxed potatoes, pumpkin pie mix and pie shells. Drop-offs may be made at any of the sponsors listed above or at the RC City Hall.

NAMI support groups to meet Nov. 8

Two free NAMI support groups - one for individuals with mental illness (Room 205) and one for their families (Room 206, B Building) - will be offered from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 8 at the First United Methodist Church in Rockwall, 1222 Yellowjacket Lane. Call Hall or Dee Whitfield at 972-722-3099 for more details.

Planting for the Holidays class set

A free class on beautifying the home for the holidays is being offered at 2 p.m. Nov. 8 at Covington's Nursery and Landscaping, 5518 Liberty Grove Rd., in Rowlett. For more information, call 972-475-5888.

Walk in the Park event set Nov. 8

The Patriot PAWS Service Dogs Walk in the Park will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 8 in Harry Myers Park, Rockwall. Organized as a salute to America's heroes, the event will include a veteran honor walk, dog walk, dog show, children's games, raffles, vendors and other activities. Admission to the fundraising event will be free. Funds generated will go to train service dogs for American veterans and others with physical disabilities. For more information visit patriotpaws.org or call 757-5420 or e-mail patriotpawsusan@aol.com.

RHS to host Nov. 8 arts, crafts show

The Rockwall High School PTA will conduct a Holiday Arts & Crafts Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 8 at 901 Yellowjacket Lane. More than 40 vendors will show their holiday and home décor, jewelry, floral arrangements, gifts and items. A holiday quilt will be given away, and baked goods will be available for purchase.

Adoption, foster care conference set

Lake Pointe Church will host a free adoption and foster care conference from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 8. The event is open to anyone interested in learning more about adoption and foster care. Registration must be completed by Oct. 22 at adoptionconference.net. For more information, call 469-698-2200, or



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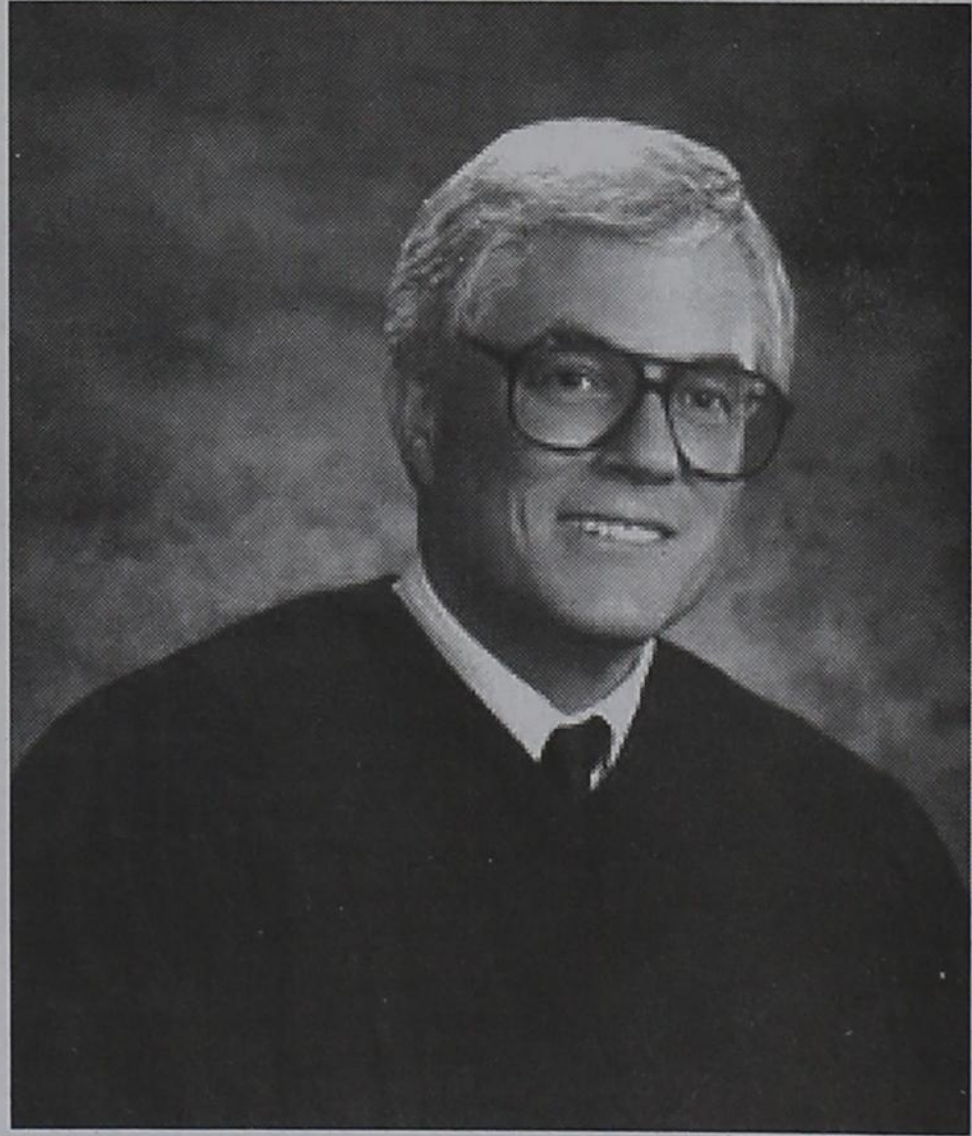
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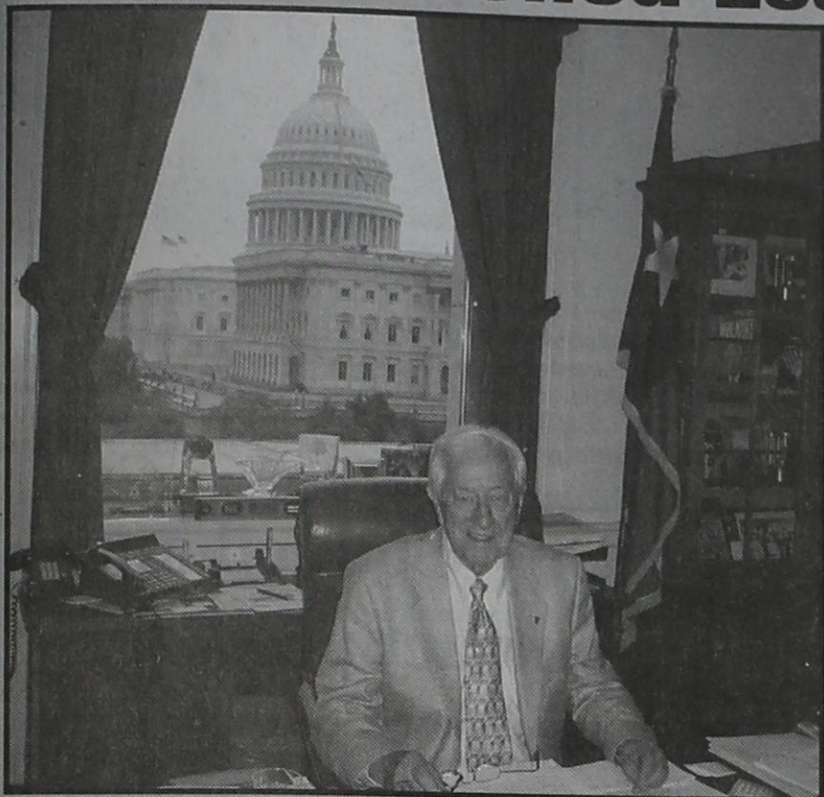
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Ralph M. Hall

Ralph M. Hall

The Ralph Hall Congressional Record

- ★ Co-Authored The President's tax cuts and economic growth package in the U.S. House
- ★ Voted against the recent Wall Street bailout
- ★ Co-Authored legislation to protect our children from internet pornography
- ★ Co-Sponsored legislation and served as Floor leader in the House to provide prescription drugs to the Medicare Bill
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Before you cast your vote for Congress, please compare the record — it will be crystal clear Congressman Ralph Hall is the best choice for us.

CONGRESSMAN HALL

OPPONENT

	CONGRESSMAN HALL	OPPONENT
Occupation and Business Experience	U. S. Representative Ranking Member of the Science Technology Committee Served as Chairman of the Board of two banks Served as President and CEO of Texas Aluminum Company, a multimillion dollar operation	From Louisiana Works in Oklahoma Lives in Denison
Public Service	Elected U.S. Representative 1980-Present Served in Texas Senate for 10 years President pro tem Texas Senate Served as County Judge in Rockwall for 12 years and as President of the Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association	None
Military Experience	Fighter Pilot, U.S. Navy, WWII	None
Endorsements and/or Awards	U. S. Chamber, Spirit of Excellence Award National Right to Life Texas Right to Life Texas Alliance for Life National Federation of Independent Business National Rifle Association National Defense PAC Texas Farm Bureau (Friends of Agriculture) AARP Veterans' Vision National Vietnam & Gulf War Veterans Coalition National Community Pharmacists Assn. TREA Senior Citizens League	None
Newspaper Endorsements or Recommendations	The Paris News Rockwall County Enterprise-Success - "Ralph Hall Best Choice for U.S. Congress" Sherman Herald Democrat Pottsboro Press/Denison Press/ Texarkana Gazette Mt. Pleasant Daily Tribune/Sulphur Springs News-Tribune	None

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Students and teachers at Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary School Team Up Against Drugs by wearing their favorite team jersey on Tuesday. The school's hallway is decorated with handprints and a poster stating, "Hand in hand we take a stand against drugs." Taking a stand against drugs are (back left to right) counselor Gloria Hill, teacher Carla Rhodes, Armana Hague, Hope, Emma Bishop, Daria Howard, Aimee Norwood, Kylie McGhie, Christopher Stephens, Jordan Freeman, Paul Emordi, a principal Jane Bruning (middle row) Katherine Healy, Michael Valdez, Seth Nuziard, Jarrett Loden (front row) Zane Duke, Ayala, Bryce Lewis, Christian Gresham, Moh-Julien Ntchobo, Brittany Barton, Maya Bniague, Dawson Michel, Wyatt Cook. Staff photo by Kathy Williams

McLendon-Chisholm City Council approves single waste removal contract provider

by Kathy Williams

What was meant to be a secondary agenda item at the McLendon-Chisholm Town Hall Meeting - the signing of a five-year contract for citywide trash service - quickly took on a life of its own as residents on both sides of the issue vocalized their opinions with the decision made by the city council.

The contract between the City of McLendon-Chisholm and IESI, a subsidiary of BFI Canada, takes effect Jan. 1, 2009.

Residents currently contract for their own trash removal, with at least one neighborhood banding together to use the same service. According to council member Beverly Stibbens, there are four separate trash companies doing business in McLendon-Chisholm.

Concerns from residents about the IESI agreement ran the gamut, from disappointment they were not given the opportunity to vote on the change, to reports of past poor service by the company and alleged damage to driveways and roads caused by heavy trash trucks.

Stibbens said the city council chose to contract with a single trash removal service for several reasons. She said accountability for good service and conflict resolution with IESI was essential. The city has had limited success and authority in the past when asked by residents to help with difficulties with their personal trash contractors. Stibbens said, since the current contracts are with the homeowners and not the city, the city's hands are mostly tied to resolve differences.

By contracting with one service for the entire city, the council has a written agreement for certain services and leverage with the company if problems are reported. "We were looking for ways to give additional service to the community that didn't cost the city money. And we were looking for ways to help the neighborhoods," she said. "With a contract with the city, they (IESI) will have to answer to us."

Stibbens said another benefit of the partnership with IESI is the addition of curbside recycling. She said none of the current trash companies offer that service.

"A lot of our residents have asked for recycling, but the other companies didn't offer it. This is a huge plus for the neighborhoods."

Representatives from IESI said, although they have three sizes of trucks in their fleet, they would use the mid-size truck for the McLendon-Chisholm route, which will be easier on the roads. They said this truck is comparable in size and weight to the trucks contractors currently use in the city.

Residents also questioned the city council about the bidding process for the trash contract. Mayor Mike Donegan and council members explained that bids were requested from several companies using different means - through legal notices placed in newspapers, by sending letter requests directly to the companies and with personal

phone calls. IESI was the only company to submit a bid in accordance with the specifications of the bid. One other company responded that they could not meet the specifications of the bid.

City Administrator Dave Butler said the companies bidding for the contract will begin receiving their first quarter 2009 bill by the end of the month. He said residents need to make arrangements with trash collectors to not pay those bills, as they will begin receiving them at that time.

Donegan said he has been questioned as to why he let the decision about the trash issue go on so long when it was not a minor part of the meeting. He said it was important to let residents have their say on the issue, even though the contract was for the service. Although many at the meeting were not in support of the contract, City Hall did receive calls in support of the contract for the recycling option.

A majority of the council voted to award the contract to IESI. He believes, in the long run, residents will come to find they are getting more for IESI's services and are, in fact, getting more money.

IESI will provide a 95-gallon trash bin and 18-gallon recycling bin to each home. Trash and recycling will be collected on the same day of the week yet to be decided.

Rockwall County Sheriff Association hosts chili cook-off

The Rockwall County Sheriff's Association is hosting its first ever chili cook-off, with proceeds going to less fortunate families and children in the county.

The cooking competition will take place Nov. 15 at the Rockwall County Sheriff's office, located at 972 T.L. Townsend Drive, just north of Utley Middle School. Set-up begins at 9 a.m., with judging starting at noon. The cost is \$25 per entry.

Judges for the Rockwall County Sheriff's Association chili cook-off are: Florance, Sheriff Lt. John Broderick, and Fate Broderick.

Concessions will be available for the event. Activities will be set up for the kids. The event will feature a bake sale and a raffle. To donate an activity, contact Deputy Cheryl Yocum at 972-204-7001.

For entry information, contact Lt. Todd Calkins at 972-7112.

Animal poster contest entries due Friday

Entries for the "Animal Adoption Without Animal Shelter" poster contest are due at the Animal Adoption Center, 1825 Airport Road, Rockwall, Texas.

Winners will be selected from four age groups: under 5, 5-13, 13-18 and 19 and over. Posters will be displayed at the adoption center.

The poster contest is part of the City of Rockwall's annual event recognizing National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week. From 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31, the Animal Adoption Center will be a Hottest Hotspot for Animal Show Contest. Judges will be judging the "hottest" poster. Judges also will be judging the best owner/dog match.

Each dog must be adopted and have a current vaccination.

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Weldon Collier (center) with his sister Guyrene Randles (left) and his niece Carolyn Bryan (right).



Rockwall High School Jazz Band members performing Saturday at the season-ending Rockwall Farmers Market on the square are (left to right) Allan Losanes on the keyboard and Mike McBee on trumpet. The Jazz Band is directed by assistant band director Michael Jones. Photo by Roy Heath

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Groundbreaking set for new fire stations

Groundbreaking ceremonies for two new Rockwall fire stations will take place at 5 p.m. on Nov. 10 at 2915 S. Goliad St. The public is invited to attend the groundbreaking events for the fire department's No. 3 and No. 4 fire stations. Information for the event will be available at Springer Elementary. For more information, contact the fire department at 972-771-1111.

Thanksgiving Meal Drive seeks food donations

A Thanksgiving Meal Drive is under way in Royse City. Organized by the Royse City Police Department, the drive needs specific non-perishable food items as part of Thanksgiving baskets to be distributed to those in need that reside within the Royse City limits or attend the Royse City Independent School District. Items needed include canned vegetables and sweet potato gravy mix, cornbread mix, cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing, pumpkin pie mix and pie shells. Cash contributions are also needed to purchase turkeys. Donations may be dropped off at any of these co-sponsors' locations: National Bank, the Royse City City Hall, the First Methodist Church, the Royse City Police Department, Texas Bank or Trinity Baptist Church, Careers and Dental Associates, the Royse City Independent School District. Donation forms may be obtained at all drop-off locations. The drive will be completed and turned in to the police department, 1001 W. 18th St., in Royse City, by Nov. 21.



Retired Air Force Colonel and Astronaut Buzz Aldrin tells stories of his adventures as a fighter pilot and walking on the moon at a fundraiser in Rockwall for Congressman Ralph Hall on Saturday, Oct. 25. Aldrin was the Lunar Module Pilot on the Apollo 11 mission. He was the second man to walk on the moon, following Neil Armstrong down the module's ladder on July 20, 1969. The fundraiser also celebrated the 50th year of NASA. Staff photo by Kathy Williams

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Rockwall County Births

Jensen Garrett Barker

Johnna Barker of Royse City announced the arrival of their son, Garrett Barker, on Sept. 12, 2008. The baby, born at 2:50 p.m. at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas, weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces.



Garrett was welcomed home by his sister Taylor Barker.

Garrett's grandparents are Danny Sr. and Donna Barker of Royse City, Donna Skinner and John Skinner of Little Rock, Ark.. Great-grandparents are Callie Barker of Rockwall, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jensen of Rockwall, Fla., and Clara Larson of Little Rock, and great-grandmother is Marie Jensen, also of Vera Beach.

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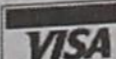
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Rockwall County Obituaries

Margaretta Groark

Groark, Margaretta, age 67, of Rockwall transitioned from this life on Oct. 26, 2008, after a tenacious three-year battle with cancer and pulmonary fibrosis.

She was born to George Arthur and Mary Martin Bisson of Newport, R.I., on Jan. 12, 1941. On Dec. 27, 1960, she married her beloved fighter pilot, David, spending 48 adventurous and loving years together.

Margaretta was an avid skier, SCUBA diver and pilot. She spent 10

years doing formation flying with David in air shows across the southwest. She and David participated in the first "Amazing Race" TV reality show. Margaretta adored children and was a CASA volunteer advocate for Child Protective Services and served on the board of directors for the Rainbow Room of Rockwall County. She was a reporter for two local newspapers and delighted her readers with a humor column in local newspapers, as well as several others. She also was published in both national and international aviation publications.



Preceded in death by her parents, she is survived by husband, David, of Rockwall; daughter, Dr. Michele Curtis, and granddaughters, Jessica and Rachael Curtis, of Houston; daughter, Laura Gangeme, and husband, Steve, of Rockwall, and grandchildren, Alexis and Christopher Gangeme; daughter, Lisa Wood, and husband, Steve, of Rockwall and grandsons, Zachary and Joshua Wood; son, Michael Groark, and wife, Constance, of Rowlett and grandchildren, Charlotte, Orion and Samantha Groark; and sisters, Michele Andrade of Newport and Mary Bisson of Portsmouth, R.I.

A memorial service will take place on Nov. 8 at 11:30 a.m. at the Unity Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane, Dallas. Margaretta requested that no one wear black.

In lieu of flowers, Margaretta requested that donations may be made to the United Church of Dallas in her memory.

Margaretta's desire is to be cremated and her ashes interred at the U.S. Air Force Academy awaiting her reunion with her fighter pilot husband.

Gene Hammons

Services for Gene Hammons, 61, of Royse City were conducted from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27, 2008, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

He died Oct. 23.

Born Jan. 4, 1947, in West Virginia to Jink and Lockie (Meadows) Hammons, he was employed at the Garland Rehab Center. He enjoyed yard work, reading, hunting and fishing.

Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Linda (Briley) Hammons of Royse City; his mother-in-law, Thelma Purvis; his daughters, Kim and her husband, Bubba, and Tracie and her husband, Eric; his grandchildren, Brianne, Halie, Bryant, Erica, Lacey and Brandon; two brothers; five sisters; and his dog, Belle.

He was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers; two sisters; and his father-in-law, E.W. Purvis.

Joe Frank Isbell

Services for Joe Frank Isbell, 79, of Heath were conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2008, in the First Baptist Church of Heath with Dr. Paul Jacobs officiating. Burial followed in the Heath Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

He died Oct. 25 at his home.

Born March 21, 1929, in

Chisholm, he served in the U.S. Army in Korea and was a civil engineer for Otis Engineering, now Halliburton, for 29 years. A lifetime resident of Rockwall County, he is remembered as a loving and faithful man.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Clarice Isbell; one sister, Edna "Sis" Perryman; one sister-in-law, Edna Isbell; several nieces who were a special part of his life and their spouses, Darla and Lee Parker, Lisa and Jerry Jayroe and Susan and Curt Hodgson; several grandnieces and grandnephews, Wesley Jayroe, Chelsie and Zane Parker and Carter He; several brothers- and sisters-in-law, Wayne and Neta Jo and Theresa Lindsey, Anna Smirl, Tommy and Carolyn their families.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Grady and and his brothers, Tully Mac and Grady Isbell Jr.

The family has suggested memorials be made to Baptist Church of Heath Building Fund or the Heath Association.

Margaret Jane Messina

Services for Margaret Jane (Patton) Messina, 88, of Mesquite were scheduled for 11:30 a.m. today, Thursday, Oct. 30, 2008, in the Sacred Heart Mausoleum Chapel in Rowlett with the Rev. Monsignor Robert M. Coerver officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rowlett Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

She died Oct. 25.

Born Jan. 7, 1920, in Morganton, N.C., she was the third of eight children born to Robert L. (Hallyburton) Patton. She graduated from Appalac University, worked as a teacher and was employed by government in Washington, D.C. She met John Messina in the U.S. Army, while he was waiting to go to the Pacific War II. They married Feb. 3, 1943, in West Palm Beach and moved to Dallas to await the end of the war and later worked side her husband in his photography business.

Survivors include her sons, John Messina and his wife and Robert Messina and his wife, Darlene; her daughter Goldy and her husband, Bill; her sisters, Martha W. Harvey and Virginia Wagner; her grandchildren, John A. Armao Nino, Sam, Nick, Todd and Troy Messina, and Lindsay Golder; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, and six brothers and sisters.

Grady White

Services for Grady White, 92, of Garland were conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Joseph Parker officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He died Oct. 24.

Born April 30, 1916, in Woodland to Bud Leon and Essie Lee (Reeves) White, he served in the U.S. Army for two tours in World War II. A devoted family man, he had been a resident of Garland for 54 years.

Survivors include his wife, Jean T. White; his daughter Rodgers and her husband, Schuyler Hooker, of Dallas; White and her husband, David Buyze, of Richardson; one White and his wife, Kristie, of Garland; one sister-in-law White of Garland; his grandchildren, Aaron, Andrea and great-grandchildren, Megan, Taylor, Devin, Alex, Brooklyn.

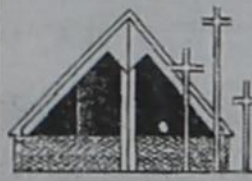
He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister; brothers Herman, Reggie, Grant and Reuel.

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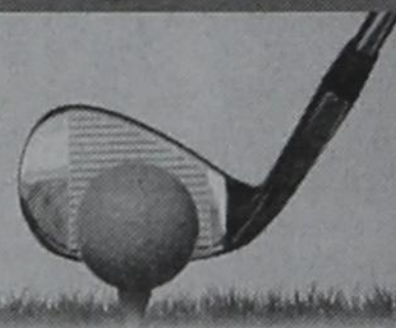
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Rockwall County Religious Life

Sabine Creek Holds first service Sunday
 The church's new location is 5651 Hwy. 276 in Royse City. They met at Sabine Creek Ranch. The first worship service at the new location is 6 p.m., Sunday.

Go to Great Marriage Enrichment Conference
Nov. 14-15, Lake Pointe Church

For your marriage from good to great by joining Lead Pastor and his wife, Marsha, as they host this marriage enrichment conference. Cost is \$14 per couple with advance registration at the door. Childcare is available for ages birth through 12 with pre-paid registration for an additional \$18 per child. For more information, visit lakepointe.org or contact Eva Gour, 469-698-2239, lakepointe.org.

Rockwall, announces classes for children
 in the Launching Pad of the Children's Building and Bible Study one-hour classes: Saturdays, 7 p.m.; Sundays, 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Day evening activities for youth: Chimes, 5 p.m.; Choir for grade six, 5:30 p.m.; Mission Organizations, 6:30 p.m. Christians Class, Nov. 2 through Nov. 23. Reservations recall the First Baptist Church of Rockwall at 469-698-2514.

Rockwall's Purse/Operation Christmas Child project Church of Rockwall is collecting shoeboxes packed with gift items for children in need. For more information, call the office at 469-698-2514.

Amy Parks plans Nov. 14

Juvenile Diabetes Kids Walk

In observance of World Diabetes Day, Nov. 14, Amy Parks Elementary School students will host a Juvenile Diabetes Kids Walk to raise money to help find a cure for the disease.

Finding a cure for juvenile diabetes is particularly important to the school's student body because one of their own, fifth-grade student Ian Douglas, was diagnosed with the disease just before his fifth birthday. He will be insulin-dependent for the rest of his life, which means he is required to monitor his blood sugar closely, as well as his food intake.

Diabetes affects all aspects of Douglas' daily life -- from playing sports to playing with his friends. Because of this disease, he is at great risk for blindness, circulatory problems that could lead to amputation, kidney and heart disease and even early death.

Amy Parks Elementary students will do fundraising for two weeks prior to the walk. To help, sponsor a child, participate in the walk or make a donation to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Heritage Christian Academy to honor veterans on Nov. 11

The students and faculty at Heritage Christian Academy in Rockwall are hosting a Veteran's Day Ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 11 to honor past and present members of the armed services.

Congressman Ralph Hall will be the guest speaker. The ceremony is at 9 a.m. in the school's Multi-Purpose Room, with a reception to follow. The school has invitations available that can be given to veterans, inviting them to the ceremony.

Guests are requested to sign in at the office. For more information or to request an invitation, please call the school at 972-772-3003. Heritage Christian Academy is located at 1408 S. Goliad Street.

Annual Hays Husky Fun Run Nov. 8

Celia Hays Elementary School will have its second annual Hays Husky 5K/1 Mile Fun Run at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 8. Registration begins at the school at 7:30 a.m.

The event is a fundraiser to enhance the educational experience of the students, as well as promote healthy living, according to assistant principal Lisa Gielow.

Participants will be treated to free food, games, entertainment, prizes, and all all-school performance by the students of Hayes Elementary.

The run begins and ends at Hayes, located at 1880 Tannerson, which is at the intersection of Tannerson and FM 552 in north Rockwall. The course will take runners around the school and through area neighborhoods.

Pre-registration can be done online at www.active.com.



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 Mark 11:24

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Rockwall County Entertainment

Eagle Scout book drive

A book drive to benefit the Rockwall County Public Library will take place Nov. 22. Donors may donate books or funds at three collection points — Rockwall High School, Rockwall-Heath High School or at the public library, located at 1215 E. Yellowjacket

Lane — from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the designated date.

The book drive is being organized by Rockwall Heath High School senior Matthew Nelson as a requirement to earn his Eagle Scout rank. Eagle Scout is the highest award given by the

Boy Scouts of America.

One requirement for Eagle is to plan, supervise and carry out a service project, such as the book drive. Matthew is currently a Life Scout with Troop 314 in Heath.

Contact Matthew Nelson at 972-722-8831 for more information on the book drive and service hour opportunities.



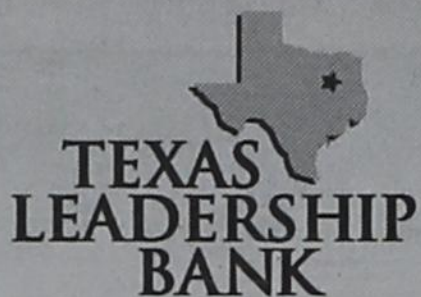
Poetry Community Christian School students enrolled in the Ballroom Dance class led by M. Kochan performed recently at the Worldfest, an international festival with more than 60 dance groups, at Addison Circle Park. Pictured at back, from the left, are Chad Rush, Josh N. Nick McTaggart, Justin Fussell, Emily Nickel and Anna Brown, and, at front, Daneille Thompson and Rachel Huddleston.

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ACROSS

- TXism: "at the drop of _____"
- TXism: "plain as the _____ on your face"
- song "Walk Like _____"
- Crowell paper: "Foard County _____"
- TXism: "trapped like a _____"
- "_____ the wheels in motion"
- USS Dallas is a sub in "The Hunt for _____"
- TX Clark who was ambassador to Australia
- TX Ross met Margot on a blind _____
- TX TV actress Annette
- interstate from Dallas to Arkansas
- "the _____ is on you"
- TXism: "mad as a _____-eyed cow"
- country singer Loretta (init.)
- "Santa Ana Wild- _____"
- actress in TX-filmed "Silkwood"
- oil weight abbr.
- TXism: "cut from the _____ (related)"
- TXism: "beer _____ (bar)"
- _____toma (clotted blood in tissue)
- "_____ life" (special person)

- sub detection device
- O.J.'s judge
- New Braunfels dish: _____kraut
- _____voyage
- this Wright co-wrote state song (init.)
- network of TX Rather
- TXism: "if it ain't true, there a cow in Texas"
- TX-bred "Assault" won Derby in '46
- kinda
- Daly of "Wings" with TX Crystal on you"
- word used as a prefix or suffix
- TXism: "guilty as _____"

DOWN

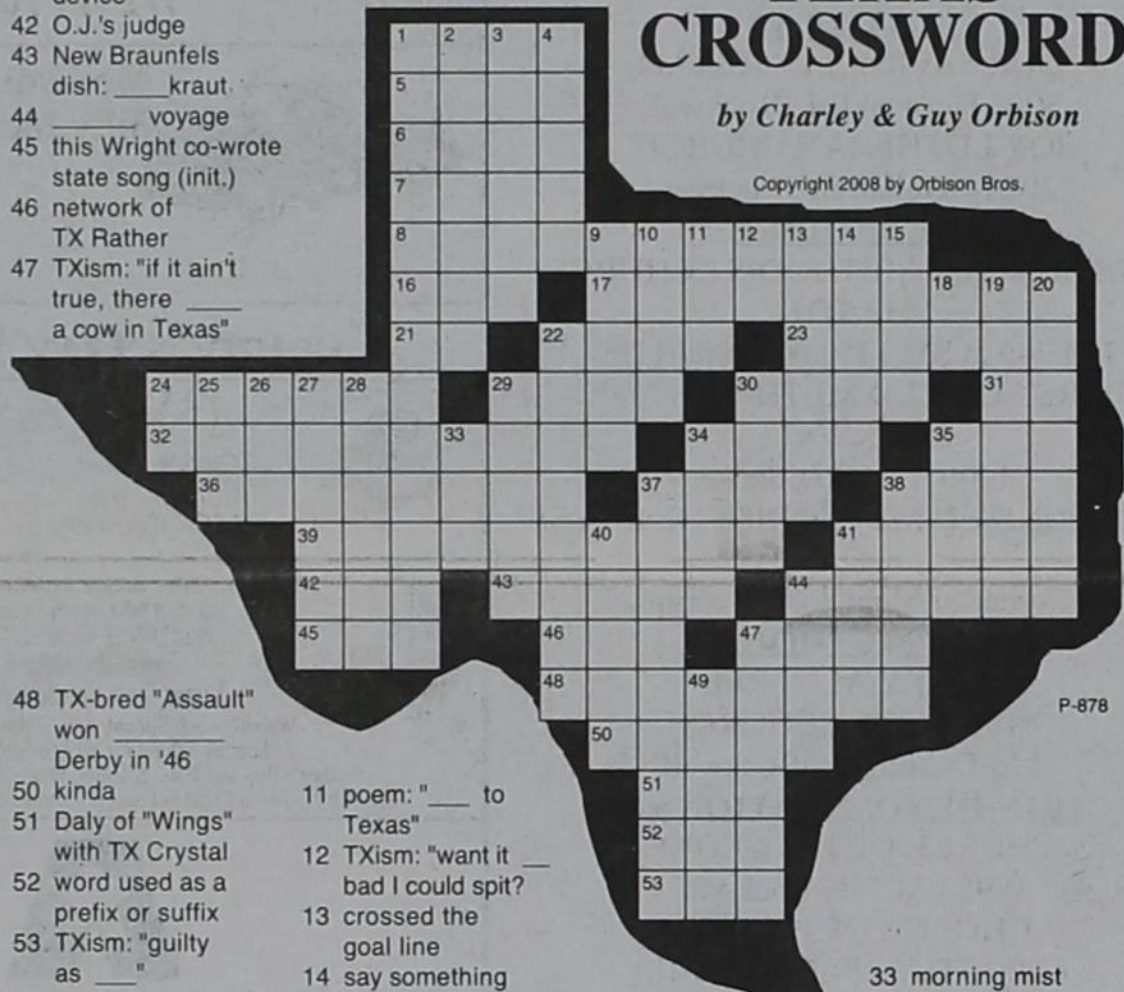
- TXism: "short as _____"
- hit a four bagger
- TXism: "mad _____ hen"
- TXism: "wound tighter than an eight-day clock"
- actress Dona of "Down Laredo Way"
- Fort Stockton big roadrunner: "Paisano _____"
- poem: "_____ to Texas"
- TXism: "want it bad I could spit?"
- crossed the goal line
- say something
- Glen Miller hit: "In the _____"
- TX "_____ Pilgrim founded largest chicken co. in U.S."
- TX singer: _____ Morse
- grasp again
- La Marque's Gulf Greyhound Park (2 wds.)
- TX singer/actor Lopez (init.)
- TXism: "he's lying through _____ teeth"
- TXism: "_____ hog had wings he'd be an eagle"
- former Jasper Co. town named for Gilmer but spelled backwards
- Austin "_____ Oak"
- TX baritone Bledsoe
- TXism: "active as a fox in _____ house"
- morning mist
- partially burn
- transmit
- song: "_____ Bad As All That"
- TXism: "_____toity"
- Guadalupe floaters
- TXism: "_____ like an anvil in a stock tank"
- mineral once produced in TX
- this Sirena was star BB player at SHSU
- first name of 24-down

The Original

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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Alberts named to ASU Honors Program

Nicholas Alberts of Rockwall is one of 59 students accepted to the Angelo State University Honors Program for the fall semester, according to a university press release.

The Honors Program is designed for academically exceptional students seeking an enriched educational experience. Program participants take special courses and must meet additional academic requirements. They also have access to the Honors Lounge in the Porter Henderson Library and reserved housing in the Texan Hall student residence complex in San Angelo.

Students who complete their degrees and the program curriculum receive special recognition at graduation and on their transcripts.

Mock election set at Reinhardt

Students at Reinhardt Elementary will conduct a school-wide mock election on Election Day, Nov. 4.

Students will cast ballots in Room 19, with most activities taking place between 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 2:45 p.m.

Entertainment Bric

H'ween Extravaganza at The Harbor

This year's Halloween Extravaganza will take place at The Harbor from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday. Live music, carnival games, face painting and bounce houses will be offered. A costume contest will take place on the main stage. For more information visit rockwall.com/parks or call 972-771-7740.

'Dracula' visiting Royse City

Members of the Royse City Theatre Company will present performances of "Dracula" on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Theatre-goers are invited to wear Halloween costumes to the night's show. Tickets cost \$4 for adults and \$2 for students. City High students with current ID will be admitted for free. The production, which because of subject matter may not be appropriate for "very young" children, will mark the inaugural theatre production at the new Fine Arts Center.

Springer PTA plans Fall Festival

The Springer PTA will host a Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., rain or shine. Bounce houses, games and contests will be part of the fun. Pre-order tickets by contacting Denise Veece at denice@webwheeler.com or calling 469-273-3007.

Tree Lighting ceremony set

The 25th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Rockwall City Hall will take place at 6 p.m. Dec. 4. Live entertainment, Santa's Workshop, cookies, coffee, photos and visits will be available. For more information visit rockwall.com/parks or call 972-771-7740.

Heath Holiday in the Park slated

The annual Heath Holiday in the Park event will begin on Dec. 5 in the Towne Centre Park Pavilion. The event will feature school choir performances, sing-alongs, holiday refreshments, miniature train rides and the arrival of Santa, who will interact with Heath's youngest residents. Canned food donation for Rockwall Helping Hands food pantry also will be collected. For more information, visit healthx.com or call 972-771-6228.

Ballroom Extravaganza scheduled

A Holiday Ballroom Extravaganza dance party will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 6 at The Center. Open to individuals 13 and older, the event will celebrate the season with live music, dancing. Light refreshments will be served. Cost will be \$10 per person. For details visit rockwall.com/parks or call 972-771-7740.

Next Lunch Basket set Dec. 9

The next Lunch Basket event will be Dec. 9 at the Rockwall CityPlace. Creative holiday settings by area vendors will be featured. Reservations cost \$20 and may be made by calling Leigh Plagens at 972-771-8976 or cplagens65@aol.com.

Lunch with Santa on Dec. 18

Lunch with Santa will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 18 at the Rockwall ISD Education Center Gym. A photo with St. Nick will be included in the \$10 cost. For more information visit rockwall.com/parks or call 972-771-7740.

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Rockwall County Community News



Winners of the annual Pumpkin Patch decorating contest selected last Saturday were (front row, left to right) Korryn Stamper, Jaron Johnson, Corbyn Stamper, Drew Page, Jessie Page and Andrew Page. Joining the winners were (back row) Josh Stamper, Sherri Mueller and Paul Johnson. Photo by Tim Burnett

Vernon Elementary staff helps booster club

For the second year, a team of walkers and runners from Miss May Vernon Elementary School in Roysse City participated in the Stick Robinson Memorial Scholarship Fun Run/Walk during the Roysse City FunFest Oct. 18.

Desmond "Stick" Robinson played football for the Roysse City High School Bulldogs, leading the 1988 team to their first playoff game in over 20 years. At only 5'8" and 165 lbs., Stick rushed for over 1,200 yards, scored many touchdowns and was known for his long-yardage kickoff returns. In 1989, his senior year, Stick again led the Bulldogs to the playoffs.

After graduation, he attended Ottawa University in Kansas. As a member of the football team,

he broke the school record with 1,504 yards rushing in a single season and was named to the All-American Junior Team.

In 1994, a football physical revealed he had leukemia. Stick received a bone marrow transplant, but died in 1997 at the age of 26.

Since 1999, the Roysse City Athletic Booster Club has sponsored the fun run/walk to raise money for the Stick Robinson Memorial Scholarship. Roysse City High School seniors can apply for the scholarship and the booster club chooses the recipients. The award is given each May.

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Boyle, a sixth grader at Springer Elementary, has his teeth examined at school as part of the Dentist Smiles Program. Dr. Marcy Borofsky and Dr. Margo Woll of Chicago co-founded the program 10 years ago to bring dental care to children who most need services and are least likely to get them. For the first time, all Rockwall elementary and middle school students are being given the opportunity to receive exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments, x-rays and sealants. Forty-four students were examined at Springer and a second date is scheduled for May 2009. Courtesy of Jessica Perez

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The Rockwall Noon Lions Club recently observed its charter ceremony with the help of officers and past officers of Lions Club International District 2-X1 and an international director. They were present to induct members and install local officers. In honor of the charter and as a way to serve the children of Rockwall County, members were asked to bring peanut butter and jelly -- 186 jars were delivered as a result. Pictured, from the left, are Past District Governor Wallace Roberts, LCI Multiple District 2 Past Council Helping Hands as a result. Pictured, from the left, are Past District Governor Wallace Roberts, LCI Multiple District 2 Past Council Joe Montag, Wylie Lions Club Immediate Past President Don Ables, current District Governor Alice Conway, Rockwall Noon Lions Charter President Justin A. Holland, LCI International Director Beverly Stebbins, LCI MD 2 Past Council Chair John Eads and Past Governor Carolyn Dorman. The club meets the first and third Mondays of each month at Joe Willy's on South Goliad. To become a member call 214-863-5724.

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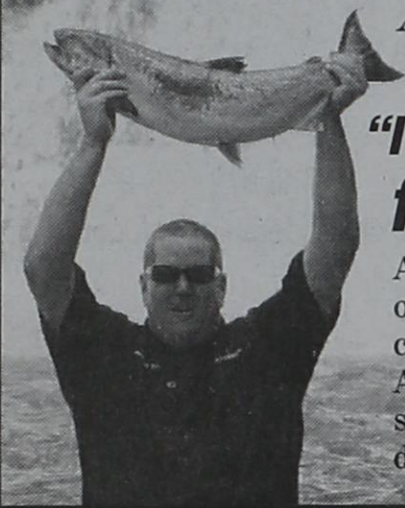
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Joe B. Hewitt (left) and Frederick Lewis

Hewitt recognized for service

Rockwall Mediator Joe B. Hewitt was honored last month by the Dallas Chapter of Association for Conflict Resolution. Hewitt was recognized for outstanding service to the profession of mediators and other conflict resolution specialists. Hewitt received a plaque during the organization's Sept. 23 meeting. Hewitt served as president of the organization in 2006 and since served as past-president, counseling the new officers, editing the Speakers Bureau and serving as newsletter editor. A resident of Rockwall County since 1985, Hewitt is a pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fate for 13 years and a member of the Princeton Baptist Church in Rowlett for nine years. He began mediator training in 2001 and began training as a mediator. Hewitt has served as a mediator for Dallas-area cases since 2002.

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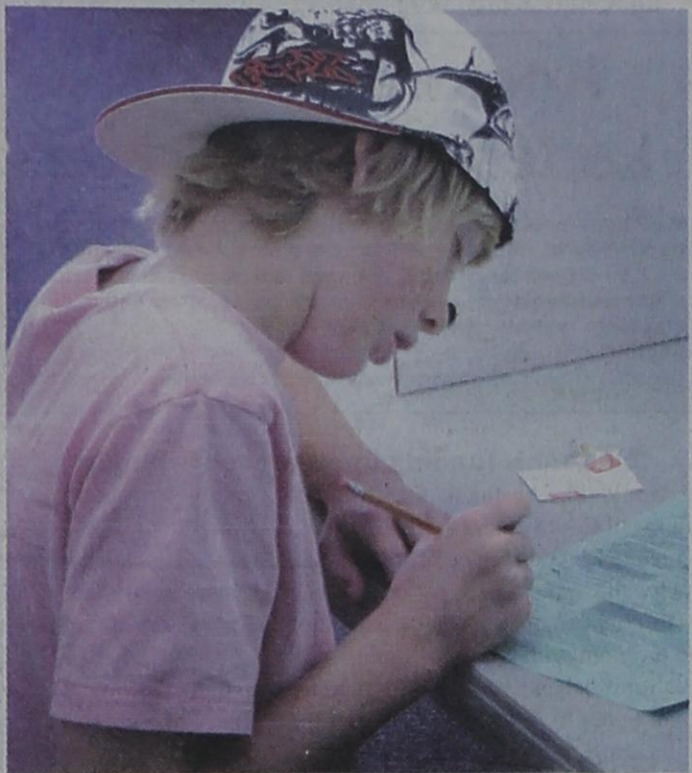


Adrienne Bowyer and Katelyn Geisert, Rockwall High School seniors, recently volunteered to paint a mural for Patriot Paws Service Dogs, which trains and provides service dogs for disabled Americans, most of whom are returning from the war. The project will be used for a game at Friday's Halloween Extravaganza at the Harborside. Photo Courtesy of Donna Thomas

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Coy Brittain contemplates the choices on his ballot at the Chisholm Baptist Church-City of McLendon-Chisholm Youth Mock Vote on Saturday, Oct. 25. School aged children could cast their vote for president, senators and congressmen, as well as the county's \$100 million road bond.
Staff photo by Kathy Williams



It was an exciting day for Amy Parks-Heath Elementary school students as they raced to be the first ones to use the school's new playground equipment. The playground has upgraded old equipment with new surfaces and new equipment to go with the existing swings. The play area in the lower playground has a rubber safety surface, and the play area for the older students has new equipment to help with drainage and prevent injuries from trips and falls.
Photo contributed by Mary Thacker

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Creating one-of-a-kind scarecrows at Grace Hartman Elementary School are (left to right) Roach, Hayes Hill, Rylie Dorrough and Faith Brightwell. The students worked in teams to create character traits of resourcefulness, respect and patience.
Photo Courtesy of Lacy Packard.

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Rockwall County Sports

No. 1 HCA defeats Dallas Covenant 58-20

Heritage Christian Academy maintained its No. 1 ranking in TAPPS six-man football Saturday by winning 58-20 at district-rival Dallas Covenant School.

Senior Noah Ward led the Eagles with three touchdowns, two on pass receptions and the third by returning a fumble recovery 77 yards. Heritage Christian had trailed twice, at 8-0 and 14-12, before Ward's second touchdown put the Rockwall team ahead to stay.

The touchdown passes came from another senior, Zach Read, who threw for four scores all together. Read completed 8 of 13 passes for 233 yards.

HCA's defense took the ball away six times. Read and Josh Peschell each intercepted two passes, and Ward and Travis Arterburn recovered fumbles.

Peschell also caught two touchdown passes from Read and threw for a TD himself.

The Eagles (7-1) travel to

Waxahachie Friday to take on Waxahachie Eagle Advantage Academy (5-3) in a non-district game.

Game scoring

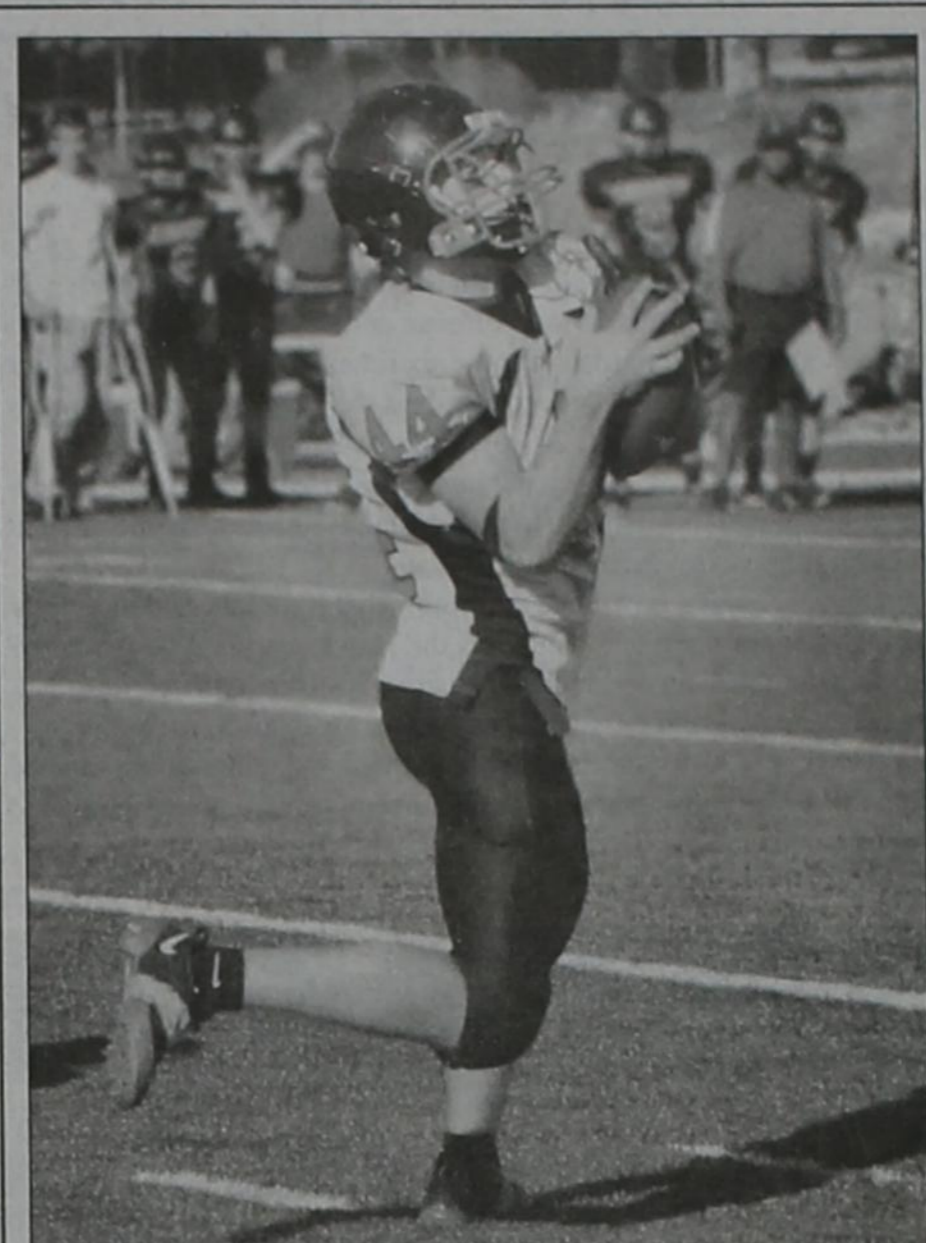
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
HCA	6	28	8	16	58
DC	8	6	6	0	20

DC - Trevor Miller 36 pass from Michael Hendricks (Hudson Wilson kick)
 HCA - Noah Ward 23 pass from Zach Read (kick failed)
 HCA - Josh Peschell 61 pass from Read (kick failed)
 DC - Miller 29 run (kick failed)
 HCA - Ward 50 pass from Read (Aaron Mateer kick)
 HCA - Kevin Prater 9 run (kick failed)
 HCA - Ward 77 fumble return (Mateer kick)
 DC - Wilson 32 run (kick failed)
 HCA - Micah Griffey 7 pass from Peschell (Mateer kick)
 HCA - Prater 25 run (Mateer kick)
 HCA - Peschell 55 pass from Read (Mateer kick)

	HCA	DC
First downs	11	10
Rushing yards	19-139	34-131
Passing yards	240	213
Passing	9-14-0	8-15-4
Punts-average	2-35.5	2-30.0
Penalties	7-81	12-131
Fumbles-lost	3-1	4-2

Individual statistics

Passing - HCA: Zach Read 8-13-0-233, Josh Peschell 1-1-0-7; DC: Trevor Miller 7-14-4-177, Michael Hendricks 1-1-0-36.
 Rushing - HCA: Kevin Prater 7-52, Josh Points 6-47, Zach Read 4-32, Josh Peschell 2-8; DC: Austin Martin 18-73, Hudson Wilson 11-62, Michael Hendricks 10-54, John Hanrahan 7-26, Riley Maxwell 1-14, Trevor Miller 2-6, Patrick Miller 1-1.
 Receiving - HCA: Josh Peschell 4-137, Noah Ward 2-73, Kevin Prater 2-23, Micah Griffey 1-7; DC: Josh Hanrahan 2-74, Hudson Wilson 2-68, Trevor Miller 1-36, Cody Sharpless 2-26, Michael Hendricks 1-9.



HCA receiver Noah Ward (44) nabs a pass during last Saturday's game against Dallas Covenant. Photo by William Crowe



Fulton Falcons Adam Gilbreath finds a hole for more yards during last Saturday's game against Balch Springs Christian Academy. Assisting in the play are teammates Brian Tiffie (52) and Milan Rabah (10). The BSCA Crusaders won 64-18. Photo courtesy of Fulton School

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Rockwall County Schools • Rockwall-Heath

Defense produces heroic goal line stand, Lawrence finishes OT win against Pearce

by Matt McGillen

In a heart-stopping performance that made the outcome of the game all but a certainty, the Rockwall-Heath defense – which had already surrendered nearly 750 yards in total offense and seven touchdown passes – somehow stopped Richardson Pearce six times inside the two-yard line in overtime, giving the ball back to Heath as the Hawks tried desperately to hold off the Mustangs Oct. 24 at Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium.

Taking over after that gut-wrenching series, Heath, following a penalty, quickly moved from the 30 to the Mustangs' three-yard line on their possession of the extra period.

From there, Kendal Lawrence did, well, what Kendal Lawrence does, powering over for the game winner as the Hawks escaped with a 56-49 win to remain unbeaten and clinch a District 10-4A playoff berth.

The Hawks now stand 8-0 overall and 5-0 in the district, with only lowly RL Turner (1-7, 0-5) standing between them and a highly-anticipated home showdown with undefeated and currently third-ranked Highland Park on Thursday, Nov. 6.

The Scots, who had to come from behind to slip by Royse City 46-43 last week, are also 8-0, 5-0 in district, and will need to get by an improving Rockwall (3-5, 2-3) to make it a battle of unbeaten.

"The kids did great. I was pretty impressed," said Heath coach Mickey Moss. "They stepped up and made the plays. I'd say it was in the top five games (with regards to exciting finishes in his career)."

Unable to stop the Pearce air attack, directed by quarterback Caleb Lewis, who threw for a mind-boggling 517 yards and half a dozen scores – the other touchdown pass came on a 69-yard Lawrence pass – the Hawks countered with the one-two ground tandem of Heath and Everett Gilbert, who each scored three times and combined for 499 rushing yards.

Lawrence ran for a season-high 312 yards on 41 carries, and in addition to the game-clincher, scored on runs of 55 and one yard and now has 26 TDs for the year.

Gilbert, meanwhile, ran for 187 yards on 13 rushes and scored on runs

of 43, 29 and 15 yards as well as running for a two-point conversion. "What a one-two punch. They are both special," Moss said. "I made some great plays. I'd hate to have to try and stop them." Adding to the excitement of a game that generated 40 yards of combined offense and 14 touchdowns, were a courageous coaching call – and one officiating non-call – that justified the chest-pounding drama that unfolded before a surprisingly large capacity crowd.

With the Heath tied 46-46 after the Mustangs had wiped out Heath fourth quarter lead, Pearce faced a fourth-and-one at the 20 with 2:28 left in the game.

Despite having over 700 yards in offense at that point, the coaches chose to try a 45-yard field goal, which kicker Michael Howes – who had already missed two extra points – converted by 10 yards to give the Mustangs a 49-46 lead with 2:22 to go.

In the overtime period, however, faced with a fourth-and-one, Heath two after five straight running plays had netted minus the Mustangs chose to go for the TD, with Lewis' pass to Miles being ruled a trap for an incompletion.

But perhaps the biggest call, though, was one that wasn't. Out of timeouts and scrambling to get their kick team on the field for a tying field goal as the clock wound down, it appeared player had not made it to the sideline prior to the snap, which had been a penalty for having 12 men on the field.

No flags were thrown, however, and after center Austin Howes sailed through the uprights after time had expired to send the game into overtime.

"We thought we'd have enough time to get our kick team and get the kick off," said Moss. "Time was running down but (Howes) could see the (play) clock between his legs (at the stadium) so he knew when to snap it. It was a good snap and good kick."

On Heath's overtime possession, it looked like Gilbert would be the ultimate hero as he bolted 25 yards for a score on the first play of the extra period. A holding penalty, however, wiped out the score and the celebrating players and fans back to the sideline – before the comeback Pearce Hollingshead found Gilbert down the left side of the field for a 27-yard completion to the Mustangs' end zone.

Enter Mr. Lawrence. Exit the heartbroken Mustangs.

Game scores

Pearce	6	14	12	17	0
Heath	17	7	14	11	7

Heath – Kendal Lawrence 1 run (Brad Howes Kick)

Pearce – Bard Wegner 23 pass from Caleb Lewis (kick failed)

Heath – Matt Bielski 62 pass from Drew Hollingshead (Heath)

Heath – Howes 34 field goal

Heath – Lawrence 55 run (Howes kick)

Pearce – Blake Jumonville 71 pass from Lewis (pass failed)

Pearce – Madison Kvapil 69 pass from Lewis (Jumonville)

Lewis)

Pearce – Michael Webb 18 pass from Lewis (kick failed)

Heath – Everett Gilbert 43 run (Howes kick)

Heath – Gilbert 29 run (Howes kick)

Pearce – Jumonville 20 pass from Lewis (Michael Hunnicutt)

Heath – Gilbert 15 run (Howes kick)

Pearce – Jumonville 69 pass from Michael Webb (Hunnicutt)

Pearce – Josh Gold 11 pass from Lewis (Hunnicutt kick)

Pearce – Hunnicutt 45 field goal

Heath – Howes 34 field goal

Heath – Lawrence 2 run (Howes kick)

Individual statistics

	Pearce	Heath
First downs	21	25
Rushes-yards	28-156	59-466
Passes	28-42-1	9-14-0
Passing yards	587	187
Penalties	4-30	10-86
Punts-ave.	2-27.0	3-27.0
Fumbles-lost	1-1	4-1

Receiving: Pearce – Jumonville 8-265, Webb 7-62, Gold 4-47, Jake Allen 5-85, Wegner 1-23. Heath – Bielski 3-94, C

Passing: Lewis – 28-41-518-1. Webb 1-1-69-0. Heath – Hunnicutt 9-14-187-0.

Receiving: Pearce – Jumonville 8-265, Webb 7-62, Gold 4-47, Jake Allen 5-85, Wegner 1-23. Heath – Bielski 3-94, C

Will Smith 2-14.

Up next

When: Oct. 31

Where: RL Turner High School

Records: Heath 8-0, 5-0. Turner 1-7, 0-5

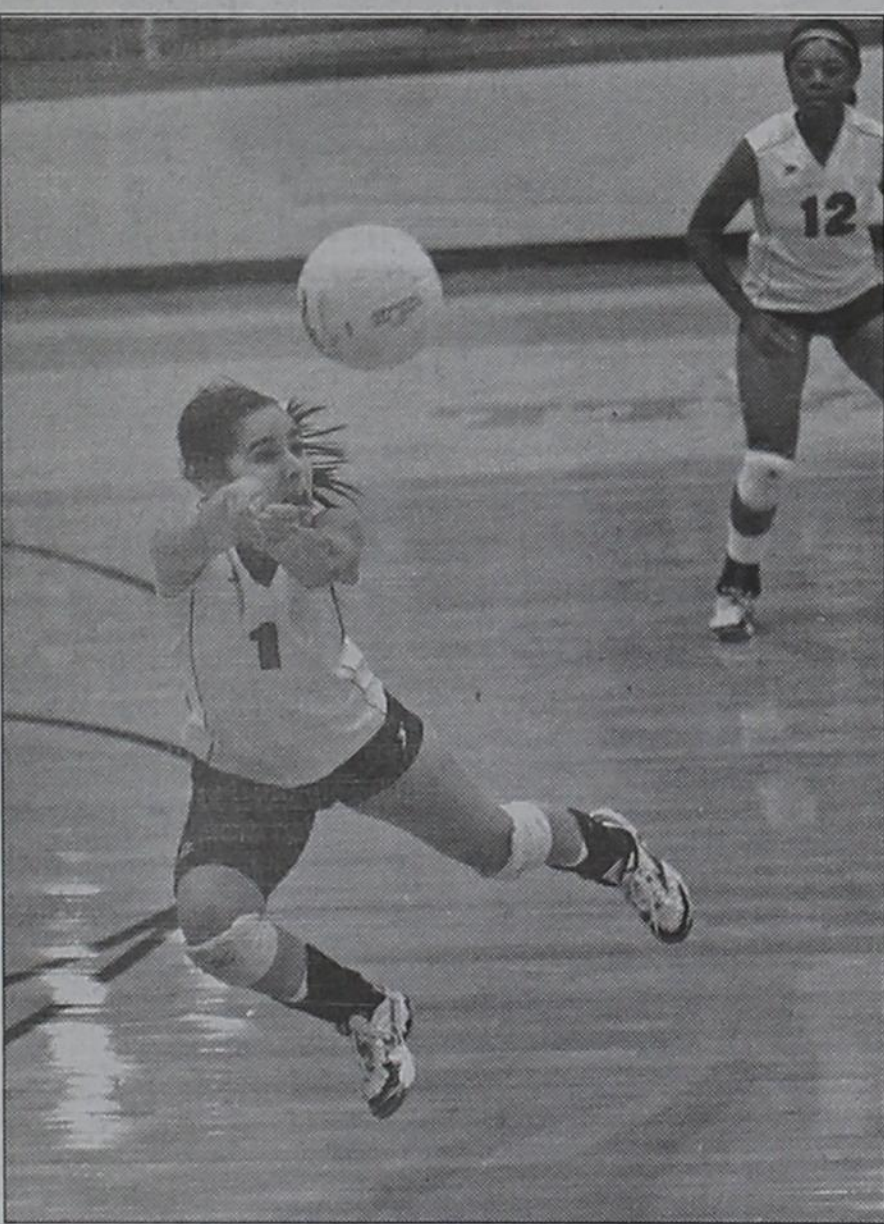
When Heath has the ball: Lawrence has run for 1,592 yards and 26 scores. Gilbert has 524 rushing yards and 457 receiving yards. Bielski has 26 catches for 448 yards. Hollingshead has thrown 127 yards and eight TDs with no interceptions in 127 attempts.

When Turner has the ball: RB Miles Williams has rushed for 156 yards and three touchdowns. QB Mikal Patterson is 61-for-156 for 624 yards and eight interceptions.

Injuries: none reported



Hawks senior Darius Jones (15) takes a turn for more yards against JJ Pearce under the watchful eye of teammate Everett Gilbert (14) during last Friday's win at Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium. Staff photo by Carl McClung



Lady Hawks Audrey Cavendish (1) dives to keep the ball in play as teammate Sharniece Pratt (12) sets to assist during Tuesday's volleyball action against the Lady Jackets. Staff photo by Carl McClung

Lady Hawks end their volleyball season with losses to Lady Jackets and JJ Pearce

Unable to keep up with the speed and power of Rockwall, the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks were swept 25-10, 25-20, 25-14 in their final District 10-4A volleyball match of the year at Rockwall High School Oct. 28.

Heath was also swept by Richardson Pearce 25-8, 25-5, 25-15 Oct. 24.

Despite dropping their final four matches to end up 5-9 in the district, the Lady Hawks ended the season just two games out of the fourth and final playoff spot. Heath finished 12-14-1 for the year.

Rockwall, meanwhile, won six of its final seven district matches to finish 8-6 (16-14-1 overall), good enough for third place, behind Richardson Pearce (14-0, 29-4) and Highland Park (12-2, 32-6).

"It was a long hard fight, but it was a great ride," said Heath coach Maggie Younger, whose team was hampered by early season injuries as well as a lack of players with varsity experience. "I have a lot of great kids that I'm going to miss. I just wish I could have done more for them."

Heath lead only once in the three-game set with Rockwall, taking a 7-6 lead in the third game and trailed just 12-10 before the Lady Jackets went on a 8-1 run to open an insurmountable 20-11 lead.

Playing their last game for the Lady Hawks were seniors Audrey Cavendish, Jordan Hill, Rachel Short, Emma English, Laine Garret, Sharniece Pratt and Hailey Horton.

Heath girls cross country aims for top-three finish at District 10-4A championships

Having placed no lower than fourth in any of their meets so far this season, including four straight runnerup finishes, the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks hope to earn a spot to regionals at the District 10-4A meet Nov. 1 at Samuell Farm in Mesquite.

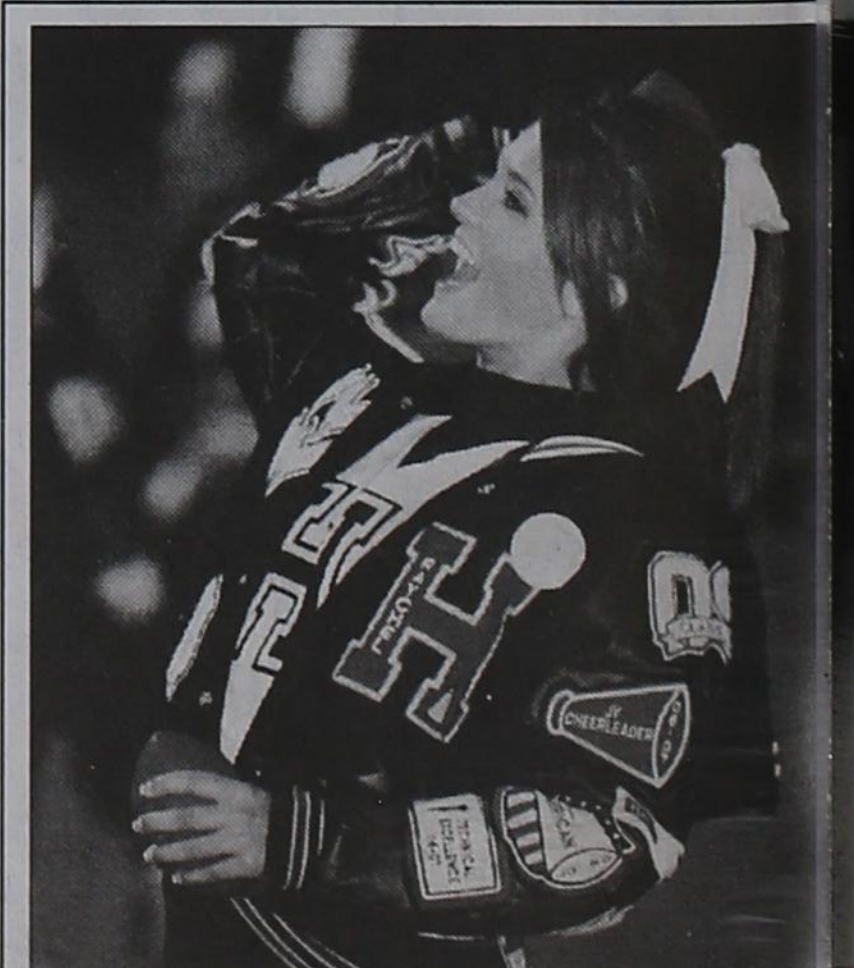
The top three teams as well as the top 10 individual finishers qualify for the regional meet Nov. 8 at Vandergriff Park in Arlington.

"The girls have a great opportunity to be extremely competitive with Highland Park," said Heath coach Libbey Holley. "I expect our girls to get first or second overall. I cannot wait until we compete."

The girls qualified as a team in 2007, and are led by last year's state qualifier, junior Andrea Moeller as well as sophomores Jackie Meyers and Aly Coughlin and seniors Vanessa Bovee and Cassie Munoz.

The two-mile 10-4A girls' race gets underway at 8 a.m. while the three-mile boys' event will start at 9:30 a.m.

Hunter Beauchamp and Aaron Contreras lead the Heath boys team. Samuell Farms is located on the eastbound service road of Highway 80 between Beltline Road and Collins Road.



RHHS senior cheerleader Raychel Clark sets to football into the fan-filled stands during last Friday's game against JJ Pearce in Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium. Staff photo by Carl McClung

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Yellowjackets secure chance for playoff berth with victory over Newman Smith

Newman Smith came to Rockwall hoping to solidify its final playoff berth from District 10-4A.

Trojans left Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium Oct. 23, wondering what had hit them.

It was a hard-hitting defense featuring linebackers Matt Aaron Arterburn. There were special teams pinning Newman Smith and clearing the way for Grant Gunderson to return a punt. And there were quarterback Adam Dingwell and running backs hitting the Trojans' defenders in the air and on the ground.

It was probably the most complete game the Yellowjackets have seen during Scott Smith's four years as head coach, they routed Newman Smith 41-6.

Rockwall drew even with the Trojans at 2-3 in the district playoffs.

Rockwall's hopes, all but left for dead after a 51-35 loss six days earlier, were revived when Richardson Pearce, took on a new life.

Richardson Pearce, took on a new life. He said that the Jackets might not even have to win Friday's game at Highland Park to reach the playoffs.

"It would be a sliver of a chance," he said, "but this team would have to beat Pearce (Nov. 7).

"I'm proud of our kids and our coaches. We were coming off a week when we could have lost the kids.

"When you have a short week you do OK because you have enough time to do too much. We had a good week of practice. We're ready."

The Yellowjackets were ready!

They got out of the blocks scoring on their first two possessions for 17 and 11 points in the first 10 minutes of the game. But then Rockwall took a 0-21 lead at Pearce before its defense gave up 37 points in the second half.

At the end of the game, the Jackets' D spent most of the second quarter on the field, allowing Newman Smith to run 25 plays to just 4 for Rockwall. The defense bent but didn't break. Even more important, it recovered two fumbles inside RHS' 10 yard line to preserve a 20-0 halftime lead.

Dingwell was virtually flawless, completing 11 of 12 passes. In the first quarter, he completed all six of his passes, to five different receivers, for 122 yards. The quarterback ran four yards for Rockwall's first touchdown, then threw a swing pass to Anthony Strange for 10 yards and the second TD.

After that, the Trojans went on three long drives that produced no points because RHS recovered the fumbles and Rodney Watson blocked a 30-yard field goal attempt.

"The fumbles and the blocked field goal really were big," Smith said. "It also helped that the Jackets weren't giving up big plays. Pearce had scored four touchdowns of 59 yards or longer.

Instead, it was Rockwall with a big play on one of its four second-quarter snaps. Jarron White took a handoff from Dingwell and ran 67 yards to give RHS its 20-0 lead.

The Jackets' defense played even better in the second half. Newman Smith received the kickoff, but punted just three plays later. That's when Gunderson took the kick 53 yards to score.

The Trojans scored on their next possession, but after that it was almost all Rockwall. Really, mostly Josh Broach. He scored the final two touchdowns, on a 20-yard pass and a 31-yard run. Sophomore Travis Shinn gave safety/kicker/punter Gunderson a break to kick the final two extra points.

The coaches named Dingwell the Offensive Player of the Game. Matt Claggett was the Defensive Player of the Game as well as one of four Special Teams Players of the Game with Gunderson, Watson and Luke Knochel.

Rockwall (3-5 overall), Newman Smith and Pearce all are 2-3 in the district. The Jackets and Pearce are expected to beat Greenville (1-4 in 10-4A) during the next two weeks, but Pearce faces a fight from Royse City (3-2) this week.

Scoring
Newman Smith 0 0 6 0 6
Rockwall 14 6 14 7 41

Rock - Adam Dingwell 4 run (Grant Gunderson kick)
Rock - Anthony Strange 10 pass from Dingwell (Gunderson kick)
Rock - Jarron White 67 run (kick wide left)
Rock - Gunderson 57 punt return (Gunderson kick)
NS - Al Lasker 27 pass from Aldo Quiroga (PAT aborted)
Rock - Josh Broach 20 pass from Dingwell (Travis Shinn kick)
Rock - Broach 31 run (Shinn kick)

First downs Newman Smith 18 Rockwall 13
Rushing Yards Newman Smith 47-156 Rockwall 27-156
Passing Yards Newman Smith 123 Rockwall 180
Passing Newman Smith 13-21-0 Rockwall 11-12-0
Punts-avg. Newman Smith 5-30.4 Rockwall 3-37.3
Penalties Newman Smith 1-5 Rockwall 2-15
Fumbles-Lost Newman Smith 3-2 Rockwall 1-1

Individual Statistics
Passing: Newman Smith - Aldo Quiroga 14-19-0-123, Randall Joyner 0-1-0-0, Aakash Patel 0-1-0-0; Rockwall - Adam Dingwell 11-12-0-180.

Rushing: Newman Smith - Randall Joyner 32-133, Aldo Quiroga 13-26, Matt Agnew 1-minus 2, Kevin Gaines 1-minus 1; Rockwall - Jarron White 6-75, Josh Broach 10-54, Anthony Strange 2-11, Del Myles 2-6, Will Beasley 1-5, Adam Dingwell 6-5.

Receiving: Newman Smith - Al Lasker 5-72, Matt Agnew 5-38, Daniel Kemp 3-11, Randall Joyner 1-2; Rockwall - Will Beasley 6-92, Josh Broach 2-48, Jarron White 1-23, Anthony Strange 1-10, Drew Beddow 1-7.

Rockwall Yellowjackets
Park Fighting Scots
Friday, Oct. 31, 7:30

Highlander Stadium,
Ark

Rockwall 3-5 overall,
10-4A; Highland Park

The Yellowjackets
Carrollton Newman Smith
Friday, Oct. 23. The next
Highland Park held off
for a 46-43 victory.

Rockwall has no major
injuries starting cornerback
Arford isn't expected
to suffer a ruptured
ankle after practice four weeks
ago.

The history in this
district is mostly Rockwall head
coach Scott Smith's connection to
Highland Park. He was the Scots'
quarterback for two seasons,
leading them to a 12-1 record in
1995. Then he coached HP
for 15 years, including a trip to
the state semifinals in 1996.

Rockwall has clinched their
district playoff berth
with five winning streaks in
10 games, 46 regular-season
and 52 home contests.

Expect: Signs point to
a high-scoring game. The
Trojans scored at least 40
points in every game, and are
averaging 39.5 points per contest.
Rockwall's offense has taken off
in the last three weeks, during
which they have averaged 39.3
points per game.

Highland Park is 6'3"
quarterback Luke Woodley,
who has thrown for 2,173 yards
and scored 21 touchdowns and
two TDs.

Rockwall's top rusher is Bryan
Arford with 848 yards, 8.5
yards per carry and nine touch-
downs to go along with four
receiving TDs. Austin Mai has
caught 31 passes for 612 yards
and three scores, and Morgan
Stringer leads the team with five
touchdown catches. Matt Bonano,
like Rockwall's Grant Gunderson
a senior defensive back/kicker,
has six field goals.

RHS' 26 touchdowns are half
of Highland Park's total. The
Jackets' statistical leaders are
6'4" junior quarterback Adam
Dingwell with 1,296 yards and
11 TDs passing; Josh Broach with
496 yards, 5.2 yards per carry
and four TDs rushing, as well as
three touchdowns; Will Beasley
with 21 catches for 360 yards and
two TDs, and Gunderson with one
field goal. Jarron White also has
caught three scoring passes.

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Yellowjackets defenders Matt Clagget (47) and Aaron Arterburn (81) bear down on a Newman Smith ball carrier during last Thursday's game against Newman Smith in Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium. Staff photo by Roy Heath

Rockwall freshmen split games with Newman Smith

Rockwall's freshman Orange football team rallied in the second half to beat Carrollton Newman Smith 38-26 Wednesday, Oct. 22, at Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium.

The Trojans led 20-19 in the third quarter before RHS scored three touchdowns, one by recovering a blocked punt in the end zone, for a 38-19 advantage in the final quarter.

Newman Smith defeated The Yellowjackets' freshman White team 14-7. The only Rockwall touchdown was on Ryan Heiden's 15-yard pass to Grant Snyder.

The coaching staff singled out Heiden, Dylan Easter and Michael O'Boyle for their play on offense, and London Mitchum and J.D. Miramontes among the defensive players.

Say you read it Where?
The County News

Lady Jackets close in on playoff berth against Royse City

Rockwall came a step closer to its quest for the school's first volleyball playoff victory Tuesday when the Lady Jackets won at Royse City 25-17, 25-17.

That sweep moved RHS into a tie with the Lady Bulldogs for third place in District 10-4A. Each team has a 7-5 district record.

A win in either of their two remaining district matches would guarantee a playoff berth for the Lady Jackets (23-14-1 overall). Two victories would clinch third place, because they have defeated Royse City twice. The Lady Bulldogs also have to face the top two teams in 10-4A, Richardson Pearce and Highland Park, in their final two matches.

Rockwall is scheduled to play at home against Carrollton Newman Smith (6-6 in the district) Friday and Rockwall-Heath (5-7) Tuesday. The final regular-season home match, against the Lady Hawks, will be Senior Night. The Lady Jackets will honor the 10 seniors on their 12-player roster.

A victory over Newman Smith is important because the Lady Trojans won three games to two at home against RHS. They'll finish the season in an intra-city rivalry against Carrollton R.L. Turner (0-12).

The Lady Jackets had been unable to win a game Friday against district champion Pearce (12-0). The first game was close at 25-22, but then the Lady Mustangs took the final two games 25-9 and 25-17.

At Royse City, the Lady Jackets dominated at the net. Kim Grinnan and Maggie Brindock provided 10 kills apiece, and Stephanie Shaw and McKenna Abbott each had six. Anna Thomas set them up with 11 assists. Libero Sarah Hubbins led the defense with 15 digs.

Over the weekend, Brindock teamed with Taylor Story of Plano in a successful defense of their AVPNext beach volleyball 18-and-under national championship in Siesta Key, Fla.

Rockwall opens playoffs vs. McKinney North

Who: Rockwall Lady Jackets vs. McKinney North Lady Bulldogs

When: Tuesday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m.

Where: Garland Naaman Forest High School

Records: Rockwall 25-14-1 overall; McKinney North 27-14

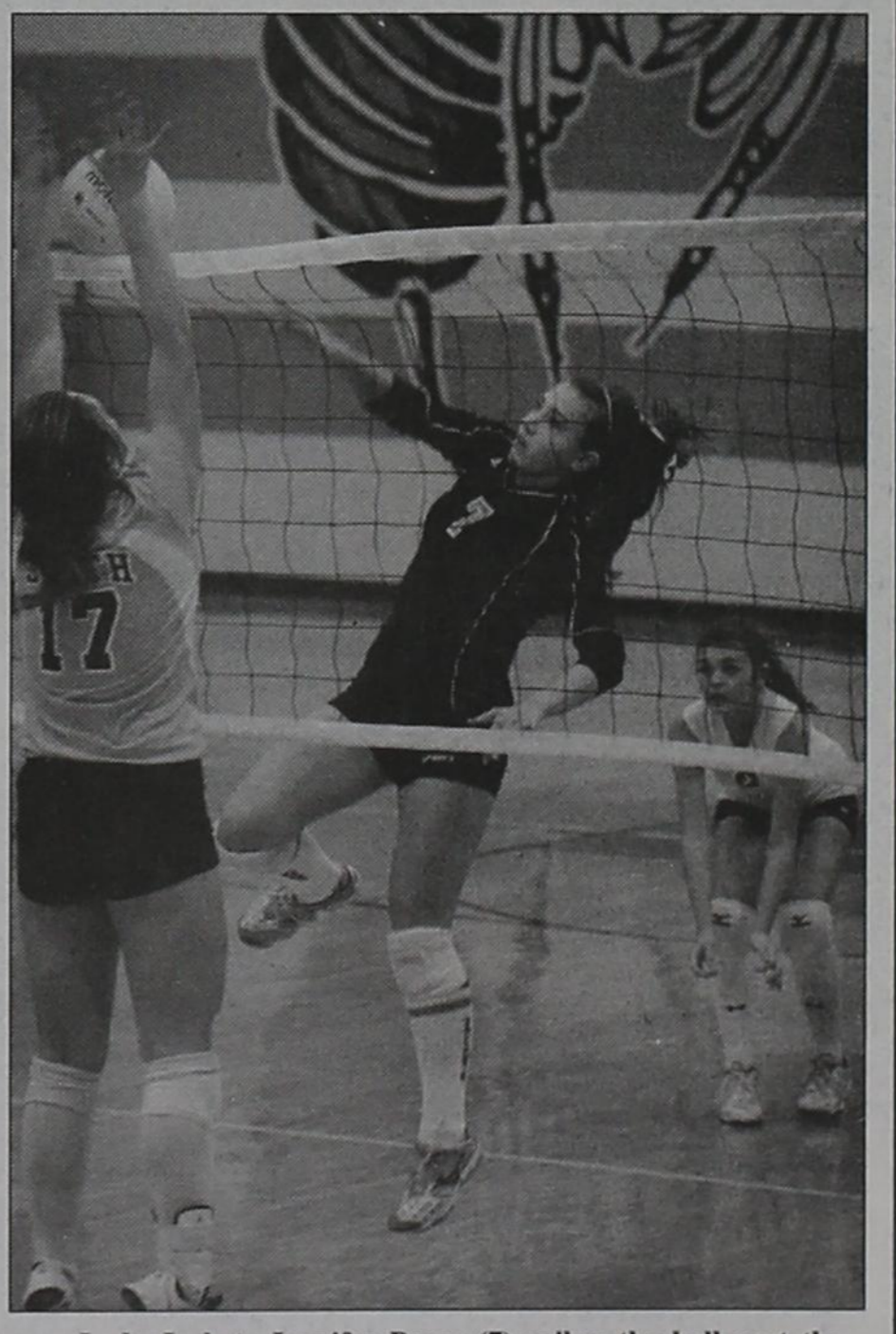
Last match: The Yellowjackets swept Rockwall-Heath 25-10, 25-20, 25-14 Tuesday to finish their District 10-4A season 9-5 and in third place. The same night, North finished second at 11-3 in District 9-4A with a 25-16, 25-14, 25-11 victory over last-place Sherman.

History: Neither team has a history of volleyball success. RHS' season-long goal has been to win its first playoff match.

What to expect: Rockwall's front line powered the Lady Jackets to a 6-2 second half in district matches, with the only losses to state powers Richardson Pearce and Highland Park.

North has won its last four matches. For Alysia Neill's Lady Bulldogs, the strength is in Kathy Shelton and Allison Stubbs, two outside hitters who are good two-way players.

The winner of Tuesday's best-of-five match will move to the Area round Thursday, Friday or Saturday. The most likely opponent is 12-4A champion Dallas Woodrow Wilson.



Lady Jackets Jennifer Broze (7) spikes the ball past the hands of Newman Smith defenders for the JV team last Friday in the RHS gym. Set to assist in the play is teammate Carrie Rich (2). The Lady Jackets won 25-21 and 25-22. Staff photo by Tim Burnett

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Rockwall County Sports

Maggie Brindock targets Olympic gold medal in beach volleyball

by Lary Bump

When Maggie Brindock was 13, she saw Olympic gold medalist Misty May Treanor and others playing beach volleyball and decided that's what she wanted to do.

"About three years ago, I went to a tryout camp," the Rockwall high school junior said. "They paired me with Taylor Story, and we clicked."

They clicked so well that the 16-year-old Brindock and Story, a 15-year-old sophomore on the Plano Senior High School team, have won the last two AVPNext 18-and-under national championships.

This month, when they went to Siesta Key, Fla., to defend their national title they found no other teams willing to challenge Team Ma'Tay.

So instead of playing against girls their age and slightly older, Brindock said, "We played in an open women's bracket and won all our matches."

Then she returned to Rockwall and helped the Lady Jackets clinch a playoff berth. This is her third year of varsity volleyball. As a freshman and sophomore, she was good enough on the varsity gymnastics team to compete in the state meet. The 6-footer has given up that competition to concentrate on volleyball.

Rockwall's head coach, Damon Wilson, doesn't mind that Brindock's volleyball attention is split between the indoor and outdoor games.

He said, "We promote that our kids play beach. It's a great way to develop skills. The beach is about controlling the ball and hitting it where they're not standing."

That brings us to our five questions for Maggie Brindock:

Q: Which do you prefer, beach or indoor volleyball?

A: I like beach better. It's more laid back, more fun.

Rockwall sweeps Lady Hawks

The Rockwall volleyball Senior Night festivities were delayed Tuesday, but no one seemed to mind because causing the delay was a hard-fought junior varsity match, which the Lady Jackets came from behind to win 22-25, 27-25, 25-23. That allowed all four RHS volleyball teams to defeat rival Rockwall-Heath to finish successful seasons.

The night was especially sweet for three players promoted to the varsity for the playoffs. The JV team provided sophomores Jennifer Broze, Loren Kelly and Ashton Atwell from the freshman A team.

JV coach Tosha Ridgeway said Broze and Kelly are "just players who hustle after everything."

Freshman A coach Heather Kraft gave this scouting report for Atwell: "She plays outside. She has come a very long way this season. She's a softball player starting to get into volleyball."

The junior varsity had to work hard to outlast Heath, which the Lady Jackets had defeated in two games on the road. The victory capped a 10-4 season in District 10-4A matches.

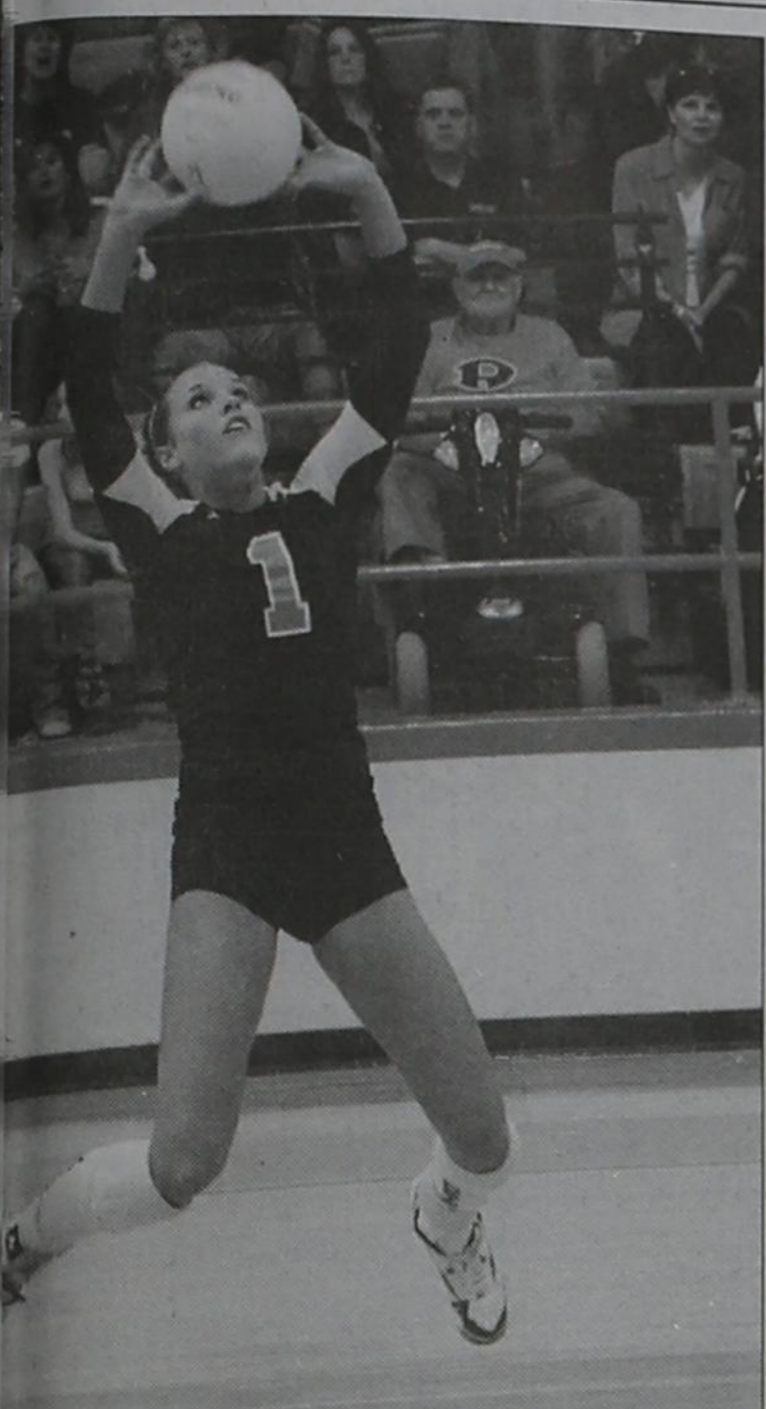
Ridgeway wasn't surprised by the comeback effort. She said, "We out-hustled everybody we played. We definitely improved every game. Our girls provided a hustle play when we needed it."

Kraft's freshman A team finished 11-3 in the district by defeating Heath 25-11, 21-25, 25-15.

She said, "It was a really talented group with a lot of hopefuls to make up the future of the program. I'd have to say team unity was our best attribute. Whenever we played well as a team, we won. The girls became a family of sisters supporting each other."

The freshman B also completed a winning season with a convincing 25-9, 25-9 win over the Lady Hawks.

Coach Kelli Walker said, "These girls were great the entire season. They dramatically improved. They really started competing hard at the end of the season. You could see the level of intensity rise as they realized they were playing high school volleyball."



Jackets Maggie Brindock keeps her eyes on the ball during last Friday's game against Newman.

photo by Tim Burnett

all Yellowjackets' schedule this week

Nov. 1 - Girls' basketball: varsity, JV and freshmen at Frisco (mmage), 11:30 a.m.

Nov. 3 - Varsity 1 boys' golf: at District Championships, Samuell Farm

Nov. 3 - Varsity 1 boys' golf: at Highland Park, Lakewood

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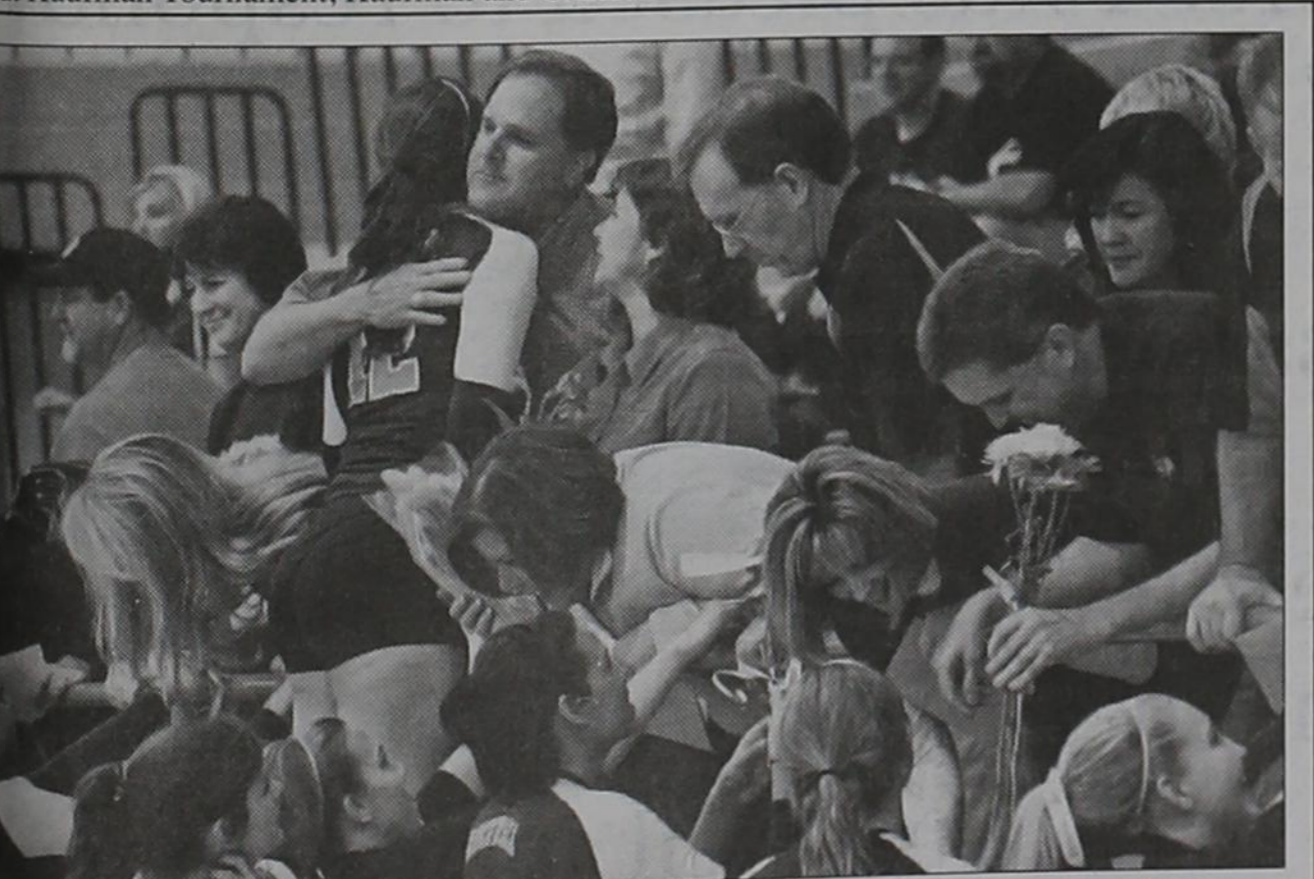
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Lady Jackets JV and Varsity volleyball teams graced last Friday night's game against Newman with a special presentation of flowers and cards to their parents and loved ones.

photo by Tim Burnett



Hawks cross country team returning with a strong second place finish just under Forney during recent Run the Farm Invitational at Samuell Farm in Mesquite are (left to right) Vanessa Bovee, Alyssa Munoz, Cassie Munoz, Andrea Moeller and Jackie Myers. The team returns to Mesquite on Saturday, October 31 for the district meet.

photo courtesy of Dave Kirwan

Q: Does beach volleyball help you indoors?
A: My beach has definitely helped me. Jumping is easier, and I know where the holes are from playing beach.
Q: What has made you so successful on the sand?
A: We work really good together. We're really good friends. We always take the plane to tournaments. That's a good bonding experience. I think that's a key, making sure you're friends on the court. You have to talk a lot more and make sure you communicate or the ball will go through you.
Q: When you get back from a beach tournament, does it look to you like the court is full of people and there's nowhere to hit the ball?
A: I'm fine with the transition back to indoor. It helps me to work harder. I can still see the holes.
Q: What is your ultimate goal?
A: I'm hoping to bring it out in college, maybe go to some California school, and then play professional.

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<p>2008 PONTIAC G6 Automatic, air conditioning, power windows, power locks, tilt, AM/FM/CD, On-Star, floor mats and much more! MSRP \$19,100 HERITAGE PRICE... \$15,988 Includes rebate</p>	<p>2008 PONTIAC TORRENT A/C, am/fm/CD automatic transmission, power windows/locks, keyless entry, cruise control, XM Satellite Radio and much more! MSRP \$23,965 HERITAGE PRICE... \$18,988 Includes rebate</p>	<p>2008 BUICK LUCERNE 6 passenger seating, alloy wheels, On-Star turn-by-turn navigation and much more! MSRP \$27,815 HERITAGE PRICE... \$21,988 Includes rebate</p>

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07 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS. Fully loaded and very low miles still under factory warranty! Super gas saver, without giving up luxury! Only \$12,972	07 TOYOTA CAMRY LE. Only 26K miles. Super nice car. Still has the warranty! Power everything. Gotta see this one! Only \$15,982
07 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE. This baby is sporty! Power windows, locks, cruise, tilt, am/fm/CD, spoiler, alloy wheels, auto. Still under factory warranty! Only \$12,972	06 CHEVY IMPALA SS. GEEZ! What a car! One-owner trade in! Extremely clean, well taken care of! Leather, sunroof, am/fm/CD, power windows, power locks, cruise. Only \$15,988
07 CHEVY EXPRESS VAN. CERTIFIED! Still under \$12,973 factory warranty. Great for work or play! Low miles, only \$12,973	07 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED. Auto, cruise, tilt, am/fm/CD, oversized wheels, lift kit, never been off-road! Only \$18,988
07 NISSAN SENTRA. This is the one! Great car for that everyday commute. Super gas saver. Power windows, locks, cruise, tilt, am/fm/CD. Low miles, non-smoker car. Only \$12,986	05 MERCEDES BENZ C230. Fully loaded, smells new, looks new. One owner trade in! Low miles Only \$18,988
06 BUICK RENDEZVOUS. CERTIFIED! This vehicle is extra clean with low miles. Fully loaded and still under factory warranty! Only 28K miles. Only \$13,960	04 AUDI A6 QUATTRO 2.7T. Absolutely gorgeous! Fully loaded! Has all the bells and whistles! Non-smoker vehicle. Extremely clean! Only \$19,988
	06 CADILLAC DTS. Low, low miles! This car is brand new! Fully loaded with all the amenities. Smells new, looks new. Only \$22,988

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To My Friends in Rockwall County:



My Mary Ellen and I have always enjoyed representing you at home and in Washington D.C. I entered this race at her request – and I dedicate this Campaign to her – and to those of you who loved her and honor her memory.

As we begin another year of my public service - I make a special request of those in my home county - a county I have returned to for most weekends for twenty seven years. I've missed coming home only sixteen weekends out of over a thousand weekends.

It is because this is the green, green grass of home - my family - especially grandchildren - and you, my neighbors. If I have failed you in any way or have cast a vote with which you differ, I only ask that you remember that I am human and I am capable of making errors. I was pleased to respond to your request that I vote "NO" on both Bailout Bills.

I assure you, however, that I think of every one of you as I stand on the floor of Congress - or spend long nights on conference committees.

I hope you can support me on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4th, with your friendship, your vote, and your prayers. It is important to me that I run well in my home county!

Your friend,

Ralph M. Hall (Texas 4th)

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Needed: Barber / Stylist with clientele. Great opportunity and working environment. Call 972-722-8121.

Full or part-time day care staff. Must be 18 yrs. or older, with a high school diploma. We will train. Monday through Friday. 972-772-0011.

Garage Sales

HUGE GARAGE SALE
Saturday November 8, 7101 Hunt Lane, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Lamps, rugs, electronics, bedding, pots, cutlery, dining set, mattresses, blankets, decor, kitchen tables, chairs, oak dining room table and chairs, game table and chairs, household items, books and MUCH MORE.

Trailers for Sale

16' Utility Trailer \$895.00. 4'X6' Cargo \$1,716.00. Many models available. Kearney Trailers 903-527-5866, Ask for Shane.

Lost and Found

Sheriff's Posse has a shetland pony and donkey that were picked up together on Hwy. 276 & Streetman October 20th. Call 972-204-7001.

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jackie Hardwick, Deceased, were issued on October 20, 2008, in Cause No. PR08-101, pending in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, to Lamar Hardwick.

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.

c/o: Lamar Hardwick
3004 Deer Ridge
Rockwall, Texas 75087
DATED the 30th day of October, 2008.
Cathy Penn
Attorney for Lamar Hardwick
State Bar No. 00794240
965 W. Ralph Hall Pkwy., Ste. 105
Rockwall, TX 75032
(972) 772 2636

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS

Advertisement for Bid
The CITY OF ROCKWALL will receive sealed bids for the construction of Pedestrian Trail Segments until November 17, 2008 at 2:00 PM. Bids should be delivered to Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall TX 75087 on or before the above due date and time. Pre bid meeting will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers on November 12th at 10:00 am. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Council Chambers, Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087.

Bids are invited upon the several items of work as follows: Pedestrian concrete trail and drainage

All quantities are estimated and subject to change. General and Automobile liability and statutory Worker's Compensation insurances are required. Bid Security required 5% Bidders Bond and 100% Performance and Payment Bonds.

Proposal documents, including plans, drawings and technical specifications, are on file at City of Rockwall Purchasing Office, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than the minimum salaries and wages must be paid on this project, and that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

The CITY OF ROCKWALL

reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

In order to assure that all potential bidders receive any corrections or addendums to the specifications, an official "Bidder's List" will be maintained in the City Purchasing Agent for the project. Any notices on changes in the specifications will be sent to those on the "Bidder's List" and the City will not be held responsible for those not on the list.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause No. D 1 GN 08 003693
ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS
TO: ALL TAXPAYERS, BOND HOLDERS, PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITIES OF BRYAN, DENTON, GARLAND AND GREENVILLE, TEXAS, AND OF THE COUNTIES OF BRAZOS, COLLIN, DALLAS, DENTON, GRIMES, HUNT, ROCKWALL AND TRAVIS, AND ALL NONRESIDENTS OF SUCH CITIES OR COUNTIES, IF ANY, OWNING PROPERTY THEREIN, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN ANY PROPERTY OR FUNDS TO BE AFFECTED BY THESE PROCEEDINGS OR BY THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF PUBLIC SECURITIES DESCRIBED HEREIN, OR INTERESTED IN OR AFFECTED IN ANY WAY THEREBY.

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) are notified of the hearing described in the attached order and you may file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days from the date of the attached order, that is to say at or before 10:00 A.M. of Monday, the 10th of November, 2008 (or the first day thereafter that is not a legal holiday according to Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 4), and answer the Original Petition of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 261st Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 10th day of October, 2008. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by the above deadline, a default judgment may be taken against you.

Said suit being number D 1 GN 08 003693, in which
TEXAS MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY ("TMPA") Plaintiff(s),

and
ALL TAXPAYERS, BOND HOLDERS, PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITIES OF BRYAN, DENTON, GARLAND AND GREENVILLE, TEXAS, AND OF THE COUNTIES OF BRAZOS, COLLIN, DALLAS, DENTON, GRIMES, HUNT, ROCKWALL AND TRAVIS, AND ALL NONRESIDENTS OF SUCH CITIES OR COUNTIES, IF ANY, OWNING PROPERTY THEREIN, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN ANY PROPERTY OR FUNDS TO BE AFFECTED BY THESE PROCEEDINGS OR BY THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF PUBLIC SECURITIES DESCRIBED HEREIN, OR INTERESTED IN OR AFFECTED IN ANY WAY THEREBY, Defendant(s),

and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

BEING AN ACTION AND PRAYER FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT THAT (A) TMPA IS AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO ISSUE THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY SUBORDINATE LIEN REVENUE REFUNDING AND IMPROVEMENT BONDS SERIES 2008A (THE "BONDS"); (B) THE BONDS, WHEN ISSUED AND EXECUTED PURSUANT TO THE PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS PROVIDED BY LAW, INCLUDING APPROVAL BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS, WILL CONSTITUTE VALID AND VALID OBLIGATIONS AND CONTRACTS OF TMPA, ENFORCEABLE ACCORDING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE TERMS; (C) ALL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN OR PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE AND EXECUTION OF THE BONDS ARE VALIDATED AND CONFIRMED; (D) ALL PROVISIONS FOR THE PAYMENT OF, AND PLEDGES, LIENS AND SECURITY PROVIDED FOR SUCH DEBT AND THE INTEREST THEREON WILL CONSTITUTE VALID AND BINDING OBLIGATIONS AND CONTRACTS OF TMPA UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS; (E) EACH EXPENDITURE OR PROPOSED EXPENDITURE OF THE MONEY RELATING TO THE BONDS IS A LEGAL AND VALID EXPENDITURE OF TMPA; (F) THE BONDS HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED AND APPROVED BY THIS COURT; (G) THE COURT'S JUDGMENT IN THIS LAWSUIT SHALL CONSTITUTE A PERMANENT INJUNCTION AGAINST THE INSTITUTION OR PROSECUTION BY ANY PERSON OR ENTITY OF ANY NEW OR EXISTING ACTION OR PROCEEDING CONTESTING THE VALIDITY OF THE BONDS; THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE BONDS; THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEY RELATING TO THE BONDS; THE PROVISIONS MADE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS OR OF INTEREST THEREON; THE

FUNDS AUTHORIZED TO PAY FOR THE BONDS; ANY MATTER ADJUDICATED BY THE COURT'S JUDGMENT IN THIS ACTION; AND ANY MATTER THAT COULD HAVE BEEN RAISED IN THESE PROCEEDINGS.

AS MORE FULLY SET OUT IN THE ATTACHED AMENDED ORDER OF COURT AND NOTICE OF SETTING OF HEARING.

ALLOF WHICH MOREFULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND TO WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this 17th day of October, 2008.

REQUESTED BY:

JAMES R. BAILEY
600 CONGRESS AVE., STE. 2400

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

(512) 474-5201
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767

By
IRIS LARYEA, Deputy
CAUSE NO. D 1 GN 08 003693

EX PARTE:
TEXAS MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

261st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
AMENDED ORDER OF COURT

AND NOTICE OF SETTING OF HEARING

ATTENTION: THIS ORDER AND NOTICE IS DIRECTED TO ALL TAXPAYERS, BOND HOLDERS, PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITIES OF BRYAN, DENTON, GARLAND AND GREENVILLE, TEXAS, AND OF THE COUNTIES OF BRAZOS, COLLIN, DALLAS,

DENTON, GRIMES, HUNT, ROCKWALL AND TRAVIS, AND ALL NONRESIDENTS OF SUCH CITIES OR COUNTIES, IF ANY, OWNING PROPERTY THEREIN, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN ANY PROPERTY OR FUNDS TO BE AFFECTED BY THESE PROCEEDINGS OR BY THE PROPOSED issuance of public securities described herein, OR INTERESTED IN OR AFFECTED IN ANY WAY THEREBY.

ON THIS 17 of October, 2008 came to be considered the Texas Municipal Power Agency's Original Petition (the "Petition") in the above entitled and numbered cause, as a proceeding in rem under Chapter 1205 of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Municipal Power Agency ("TMPA" or the "Petitioner"), seeks a declaratory judgment by this Court that:

(a) TMPA is authorized by law to issue the Texas Municipal Power Agency Subordinate Lien Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds Series 2008A (the "Bonds");

(b) the Bonds, when issued and executed pursuant to the procedural requirements provided by law, including approval by the Attorney General of Texas, will constitute lawful and valid obligations and contracts of TMPA, enforceable according to their respective terms;

(c) all proceedings taken or proposed to be taken in connection with the issuance and execution of the Bonds are validated and confirmed;

(d) all provisions for the payment of, and pledges, liens and security provided for such debt and the interest thereon will constitute valid and binding obligations and contracts of TMPA under the laws of the State of Texas;

(e) each expenditure or proposed expenditure of the money relating to the Bonds is a legal and valid expenditure of TMPA;

(f) the Bonds have been confirmed and approved by this Court;

(Continued on Page 19)

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Preparation of Sell Sheets
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Requirements:
Accounting bookkeeping experience
Microsoft (books is a must)
Experience in administrative position
Computer knowledgeable with Excel and Word
Strong organizational skills
Flexibility and ability to work under pressure
Excellent Communication Skills

Additional Requirements:
Available to work the days and hours necessary to perform all assigned responsibilities and tasks.

Interested, please fax resume to 469-402-0383.

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Services is now hiring for light industrial and office positions with the following companies in the Greenville, Mesquite, Rockwall and Garland area!

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SALES - Must have previous sales experience and strong communication skills. Base pay plus bonus. Rockwall area.

Must be able to work flexible hours and overtime!

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KELLY SERVICES

18601 LBJ Frwy, Ste 148;
Mesquite, TX 75150
972-681-7014

2715 Traders Rd, Suite F;
Greenville, TX 75402
903-450-1007

Legal Notices

Mixed Beverage Restaurant Permit with FB

Application has been made for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant Permit with FB for Joe Manuel Hernandez and Arturo Carmona Cardoso Dba Cote D'Azur French American Restaurant at 2095 Summer Lee Drive, Suite 100, Rockwall, Rockwall, Tx.

Application made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

Joe Manuel Hernandez, general partner
Arturo Carmona Cardoso, general partner

- Public Notice -

The City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, November 11, 2008** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, and the Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, November 17, 2008** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, to consider the following item:

H2008-007: Proposed Historic Landmark - 102 San Jacinto
Hold a public hearing to consider a City initiated request for Historic Landmark designation for the Hall Office Building located at 102 San Jacinto. The tract is zoned (DT) Downtown and is located outside of the Old Town Rockwall Historic District and identified as a "Contributing Property" within the Downtown Historic & Architectural Survey.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions.

Real Estate

Home of the Week

Each week Ebby Halliday Realtors at the Rockwall office tour new listings, and the associates vote on "Home of the Week."



1922 Stallion Cir Rowlett, TX \$269,900

You will be wowed by this superbly constructed home tucked away on a quiet tree lined cul de sac. Pecan & Oak trees surround this recently updated beauty. Entering the spacious 2 story foyer, one is impressed by the quality thru-out. Blonde hardwoods & new frieze carpeting (7/08) catch your eye immediately. Off the entry is the study/formal living & dining room. Stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, wood flooring & tiled backsplash will make any chef happy to call this kitchen theirs. The spacious nook, kitchen & den allows for comfortable everyday living.

Linda Webb 972-948-5900
For more information on this home or any real estate need you have, call the Rockwall office at (972)771-8163 or visit the web site at www.ebby.com. Remember Ebby Halliday Realtors, the First Name in Real Estate for 60 years.



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Rockwall County Classified Advertising

(g) the Court's judgment in this lawsuit shall constitute a permanent injunction against the institution or prosecution by any person or entity of any new or existing action or proceeding contesting the validity of the Bonds; the authorization of the Bonds; the expenditure of money relating to the Bonds; the provisions made for the payment of the Bonds or of interest thereon; the funds authorized to pay for the Bonds; any matter adjudicated by the Court's judgment in this action; and any matter that could have been raised in these proceedings.

WHEREAS, a full description of the lawsuit and the relief sought is contained in the Petition, Ex Parte Texas Municipal Power Agency, Cause No. D 1 GN 08 003693, filed in the 21st Judicial District Court of the Travis County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, this proceeding is filed as a class action against all taxpayers, bond holders, property owners, and residents of each of the Cities, and of the counties in which all such Cities are located, and against all nonresidents, if any, owning property therein, and/or all others having or claiming any right, title, or interest in any property or funds to be affected by the proceedings, and furthermore said action is filed against the Attorney General of the State of Texas who is, by the terms of said statute, a mandatory defendant in these proceedings; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT SHALL BE AND IS HEREBY ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL taxpayers, bond holders, property owners, and residents, if any, of the cities of Bryan, Denton, Garland and Greenville, Texas, and all nonresidents of such Cities, if any, owning property therein, and all others having or claiming any right, title, or interest in any property or funds to be affected by these proceedings and all persons interested or affected in any way by these proceedings, and to the Attorney General of the State of Texas. All of the above said persons are ordered to appear for hearing and trial at 10:00 a.m. on November 10th, 2008, and to show cause why the prayers in the Original Petition for Declaratory Judgment filed by TMPA should not be granted as prayed for therein. Said hearing is to be held in the courtroom of the District Court of Travis County, Texas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND DECREED that all such parties are placed on notice that at such time, place, and date as above set forth, the Court will proceed upon full and final hearing upon the merits of all matters and prayers within the Original Petition of TMPA then pending, and all other relevant matters as to the validity of the procedures and other actions taken then before the Court by way of consolidation, intervention, or otherwise, if any.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court is hereby directed to cause a copy of this order to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Brazos, Collin, Dallas, Denton, Grimes, Hunt and Rockwall Counties, Texas where the principal offices of each City and TMPA are located, and also in a newspaper of general circulation in Travis County, Texas. This notice shall be published in such newspapers of general circulation prior to the date set for the hearing and trial above, once in each of two (2) consecutive calendar weeks, with the date of the first publication in each newspaper of general circulation being not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the above set date for the hearing and trial.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court, unless notified of a waiver of service by the Attorney General of Texas, further deliver a copy of the Petition together with any exhibits attached to the Attorney General of the State of Texas, giving him at least twenty (20) days notice of the hearing set above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties described above in this order in general terms without naming them and the Attorney General of the State of Texas shall be considered as and are hereby made parties defendant to these proceedings upon completion of the publication and citation requirements set forth above, and this Court shall have jurisdiction of those parties to the same extent as if individually named as in the Original Petition and personally served with process in this cause.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED by this Court that all parties are hereby notified that at the date, time, and place set above for the hearing and trial of this matter, the Court may in open court announce without further published notice such additional dates and times as may to the Court appear necessary or appropriate to allow full hearing and trial as to the issues relevant to this proceeding and from time to time thereafter may further continue and extend such dates and times of hearing by announcements in open court or by subsequent written order as provided by the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure or the rules of this Court without further publication. All parties shall be present at such originally published or subsequent announced adjourned or continued hearing and trial dates to insure notice thereof.

SO ORDERED
SIGNED this 17 day of October, 2008.
Gisela Triana-Doyle
JUDGE PRESIDING

FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. NOTICE OF PROCEEDING TO CONSIDER PURPA EISA 2007 STANDARDS AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS IN PROJECT NO. 2008-TX067-0001

On Sept. 23, 2008, Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc. (co-op) adopted a resolution initiating a rulemaking project to consider and determine whether to implement federal ratemaking standards under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA), as amended by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA), Public Law No. 110-140, 121 Stat. 1492 (2007) to: 1) integrate energy efficiency into the co-op's integrated resource plans and establish cost-effective energy efficiency as a priority resource; 2) establish electric rates to align utility incentives with the delivery of cost effective energy efficiency and to promote energy efficiency investments; 3) consider smart grid investments; and 4) give co-op members direct written or electronic access and other interested persons limited access to information on time-based electricity prices at wholesale and retail, prices and usage on at least a daily basis, and sources of power provided by the co-op. The proceeding has been designated Project No. 2008-TX067-0001, Proceeding to Consider and Determine Whether to Implement the Federal Ratemaking Standards for Integrated Resource Planning, Rate Design Modifications to Promote Energy Efficiency Investments, Consideration of Smart Grid Investments, and Smart Grid Information pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(16), (17), (16) and (17) as amended by Pub. L. No. 110-140, 121 Stat. 1492 (2007).

Persons interested in the proceeding are invited to notify the co-op of their intent to participate in the project and to submit comments, data, views, arguments, and other evidence on the standards being considered. Responses and any comments, data, views, arguments, and other evidence must include the person's name, contact information, and relationship to the co-op, reference Project No. 2008-TX067-0001, and be submitted in writing to the cooperative at P.O. Box 6037, Greenville, TX 75403 to the attention of Denise Deel no later than December 5, 2008.

A public hearing on this project will be convened to give interested participants an opportunity to comment and ask questions about whether the co-op should implement the PURPA EISA Standards. Questions about this notice or project may be directed to Jay Pratz at (903) 455-1715. All further information about this project, including the resolution, all comments received, and the date, time, and location of the hearing will be posted on the co-op's web site at www.farmerselectric.coop.

Notice of Public Sale

Notice of Public Sale of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Public sale 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. November 5 - November 8, 2008 at 2740 St. Hwy 276, Rockwall, TX, 972-772-5162. Property will be sold as priced per item for cash. Seller reserves right to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: Desra Adams and Adetunji Adesanya, misc. boxes. Stacey Binnion; Matthew Brown; Randy Carson; Lucho Giron; Catricia Miles and B. Lachelle Scott, household items. Bryan Petersen, paint equip. Christopher Wolfe, motorcycles.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: 1-08-384
TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS
AT LAW OF ROGER SHINDLER IN RE: 415 STAGE COACHROAD, ROYSE CITY, TEXAS 75189

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after you were served this, before the honorable 382nd District Court of Rockwall County, Texas, at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road, Suite 209, Rockwall, Texas, a default judgment may be taken against you.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition, at or before ten o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the date of issuance of the Citation, on MONDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. before the Honorable 382nd District Court of Rockwall County, Texas at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road of said County in Rockwall, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition, was filed in said Court on APRIL 18, 2008, A.D., in this case numbered 1-08-384 on the docket of said court, and styled, CHASE HOME FINANCE, LLC SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CHASSER MANHATTAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION vs. SANDRA M. SHINDLER, DANIEL A. SHINDLER, AARON G. SHINDLER, TAWNIA KING, AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF ROGER SHINDLER, DECEDENT, IN RE: 415

STAGECOACH ROAD, ROYSE CITY, TEXAS 75189.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: FORECLOSURE- Plaintiff's suit seeks to enforce its vendor's lien and statutory probate lien against the real property and improvements commonly known as: 415 Stagecoach Road, Royse City, Texas 75189 and more particularly described as:

BEING A TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN THE FRANKLIN BAUGUSSURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 7, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS, AND BEING PART OF THE 386.972 ACRE TRACT DESCRIBED IN A DEED FROM FOLSOM INVESTMENTS TO CHISHOLM TRAILS DEVELOPMENT CO., DATED MARCH 3, 1982, FILED MARCH 8, 1982, AND RECORDED IN VOLUME 163, PAGE 720, DEED RECORDS, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE MOST SOUTHEASTERLY CORNER OF TRACT 37 OF CHISHOLM TRAILS 1 AS FILED ON MAY 10, 1982, AND RECORDED IN CABINET B, SLIDE 9, PLAT RECORDS OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS, SAID POINT ALSO BEING IN THE NORTHEAST RIGHT-OF-WAY OF F.M. 548, AN IRON ROD FOUND;

THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY OF F.M. 548 AS FOLLOWS:

SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT, HAVING A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 42 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 34 SECONDS, A RADIUS OF 1228.26 FEET AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 903.42 FEET TO A POINT;

SOUTH 09 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 176.49 FEET TO A POINT BEING IN THE CENTERLINE OF STAGECOACH ROAD, A 50 FOOT WIDE ROAD EASEMENT AS DEDICATED TO THE PUBLIC BY INSTRUMENT FILED JUNE 8, 1983, AND RECORDED IN VOLUME 175, PAGE 107, OF THE REAL ESTATE RECORDS OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS;

THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF SAID STAGECOACH ROAD AS FOLLOWS:

SOUTH 73 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 500.49 FEET TO A POINT;

SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 10 DEGREES 41 MINUTES 04 SECONDS, A RADIUS OF 357.29 FEET AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 66.63 FEET TO A POINT;

SOUTH 63 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 29.79 FEET TO A POINT;

SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 09 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 54 SECONDS, A RADIUS OF 527.57 FEET AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 85.77 FEET TO A POINT;

SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 63 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 00 SECONDS, A RADIUS OF 478.26 FEET AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 528.66 FEET TO A POINT;

NORTH 62 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 298.38 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE NORTH 62 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST, CONTINUING ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF STAGECOACH ROAD, A DISTANCE OF 181.43 FEET TO A POINT FOR CORNER;

THENCE SOUTH 27 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 31 SECONDS EAST, LEAVING THE CENTERLINE OF SAID STAGECOACH ROAD, A DISTANCE OF 280.70 FEET TO A POINT FOR CORNER;

THENCE SOUTH 45 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 16 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 170.00 FEET TO A POINT FOR CORNER;

THENCE NORTH 30 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 10 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 332.90 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING AND CONTAINING 1.22 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT AT Office, this 24th day of September, 2008.
KAY MCDANIEL, District Clerk
Rockwall County, Texas
1101 Ridge Road, Ste. 209
Rockwall, Texas 75087

Legal Notice REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Request for Sealed Competitive Proposals CIRCULATING WATER SYSTEM CHEMICAL TREATMENT RFP 09-11.06-87 PEST CONTROL SERVICES RFP 09-11.06-88

Proposals received until 2:00 PM November 6, 2008

The Rockwall Independent School District is receiving sealed competitive proposals for the above mentioned services. Proposal packages may be requested by email to jharris@rockwallisd.org or request by phone to Jody Harris - 469-698-7019. The District anticipates award at the December 15th board meeting. Proposal forms should be in a sealed envelope to the attention of the Director of Purchasing and marked with the proposal number and name. Proposals will be received until 2:00 PM on November 6, 2008 at the Administration Center located at 1050 Williams Street, Rockwall TX 75087 at which time said proposals will be publicly opened but not read.

A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for Monday October 27, 2008, 2:00 PM in the maintenance building conference room located at 1191 Townsend, Rockwall TX 75087. Site visits and program expectations will be covered.

The Board of Trustees for the Rockwall Independent School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids/proposals and to waive any irregularities,

technicalities or informalities in any bids or the bid process.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: STEPHEN JOSEPH RIVERS ADDRESS UNKNOWN CAUSE NO. 1-07-1074 GREETINGS:

"You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation, a default judgment may be taken against you. The ORIGINAL PETITION FOR PROTECTION OF A CHILD, FOR CONSERVATORSHIP AND FOR TERMINATION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, was filed in the 382nd District Court

of Rockwall County October 19, 2008 STEPHEN JOSEPH RIVERS A CHILD, PLACE OF BIRTH OF THE CHILD WHO IS (ARE) THE SUIT: JORDAN RIVER DECEMBER 31, 2008.

The Court has the suit to render an child's (children's) will be binding on you the termination of the relationship, and the of a conservator with consent to the child adoption.

Issued and given under seal of the Court of Texas, this 24th day 2008.

KAY MCDANIEL, District Clerk
Rockwall County Center
1101 Ridge Rd., Ste. 209
Rockwall, Texas 75087

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STATE OF TEXAS

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

County Court At Law (district) OF

CAUSE NO: 1-08-741

ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: RAMIRO MENDOZA ADDRESS UNKNOWN

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two (42) days after you were served this, before the Honorable County Court At Law (district) of Rockwall County, Texas, at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road, Suite 209, Rockwall, Texas, a default judgment may be taken against you.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition before ten o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the issuance of this Citation, on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008 at 10:00 AM before the Honorable County Court At Law (district) of Rockwall County, Texas at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road of said County in Rockwall, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition, was filed in said Court on AUGUST 20, 2008, A.D., in this case numbered 1-08-741 on the docket of said court, and styled, THE AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF TEXAS vs. RAMIRO MENDOZA AND SERGIO HERRERA.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: FRAUD

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT AT Office, this 30th day of September, 2008.

SERVED
DATE 10-14-08
TIME 3:40 PM
BY [Signature] 523
DEPUTY SHERIFF

KAY MCDANIEL, District Clerk
Rockwall County, Texas
1101 Ridge Road, Ste. 209
Rockwall, Texas 75087
By: [Signature] Deputy
AMANDA WEBB

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS (Newspaper)
107 E. BOURN AVENUE
ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087
Issued at the request of:
David L. Renshaw
2900 LEE STREET, SUITE 102
P.O. BOX 21
GREENVILLE, TX 75403
903-454-6050

DEFENDANT

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DRIVERS: ACT NOW! Sign-On bonus 35¢-41¢ cpm. Earn over \$1000 weekly. Excellent benefits. Need CDL-A & 3 months recent OTR. Melton Truck Lines, 1-877-216-1293	COLORADO BANK FORECLOSURE 60+ Acres just \$39,900! Gorgeous views, year-round roads. Access to 6,000+ acre BLM land. Easy access to 1-25 300 days per week. Excellent benefits. Need CDL-A & 3 months recent OTR. Melton Truck Lines, 1-877-216-1293	EVERY BUILDING factory Direct at "Rock" 32x60x18, \$11,995.35. 40x80x16, \$20,999. \$27,495. 60x120x18 others! Pioneer Steel.

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The Curse of Visionary Politicians

by George C. Leef

Much nonsense has been written about the great financial debacle of 2008, much of it deliberately crafted to confuse and mislead people into believing that it was caused by free-market capitalism. The truth is that this is the latest manifestation of our national curse — the curse of visionary politicians.

That curse stems from our proclivity for electing politicians who have grand ideas for improving the nation (or even the world) by trying to make things more equal, more righteous, more fair, more something. The trouble is that their plans always backfire, doing damage to taxpayers and other innocent bystanders.

In this case, the grand vision was that home ownership is good and the government should promote it. Bill Clinton initiated it and George Bush was glad to take credit for the increasing percentage of Americans who own their homes. In 1994 Congress beefed up the Community Reinvestment Act to put strong pressure on banks to lend in "underserved areas." The government-sponsored enterprise Fannie Mae gobbled up vast numbers of these new loans, bundling them for resale and earning astounding windfalls for its executives.

And the Federal Reserve did its part by keeping interest rates artificially low for years, driving a housing market boom that made people giddy.

Naturally, home ownership increased. Both Clinton and Bush treated that as a wonderful accomplishment. Americans cheered their political vision.

But you can't blow up a bubble forever. The housing bubble was bound to collapse and now that it has, the price tag for this vision is evident. Losses are staggering and most politicians are looking for ways to spread them to the public.

Political meddling

None of it could have happened without political meddling intended to "improve" the nation, but there are almost no mea culpas. On the contrary, the guilty parties are resorting to the Big Lie technique. They're desperate to keep alive the myth that government only does good things that serve "the public interest."

Surveying our history, this episode has the same roots as many other crises. Visionary politicians have given us needless wars, moralistic crusades such as Prohibition, and a host of programs meant to end poverty, inequality, and all kinds of social injustice. Examine any of them closely and you see that they've been costly failures.

There is nothing wrong with having visions of a better world, but when they are pursued through government power, they always go astray. That is true for two main reasons.

First, politicians don't directly bear the costs of mistakes because they're always using other people's money. When individuals want to accomplish something, they pay close attention to the costs and benefits; they quickly change what they're doing if costs start to exceed benefits. Public officials rarely see, much less correct, their mistakes.

Second, special-interest groups almost always find ways to turn government projects into gains for themselves. Money and power attract the unscrupulous like a light attracts moths. They skim off as much as they can and use their influence to keep the good times rolling.

Limited government powers?

Under the Constitution, the government was not supposed to have powers that visionaries could employ for their ideas. Unfortunately, those limitations were long ago shredded by Supreme Court justices sympathetic to the idea that the country needed a much more powerful government.

Also, many voters are easily taken in by grandiose political rhetoric. Candidates know that speeches filled with sweeping plans will excite more voters than ones unadorned with lofty goals and promises.

Visionary politicians have saddled us with a host of boondoggles: public education, public housing, Social Security, the Postal Service, Amtrak, just to name a few. They cost taxpayers a lot while delivering little benefit. Without political visions, they would never have gotten started and couldn't survive if cut loose from public revenues.

Hooray for Calvin Coolidge

Arguably the best president of the twentieth century was the non-visionary Calvin Coolidge. The great writer H.L. Mencken once praised him by saying, "He had no ideas and was not a nuisance." That is, Coolidge had no vision for changing and improving America. He was content to do just what his Oath of Office required — uphold the Constitution and faithfully enforce the laws.

Political visions necessarily get in the way of our ability to pursue our individual visions. The more we're taxed and controlled, the less we can run our lives and accomplish whatever we think is important.

But political visionaries don't care; whatever they deem to be for "the public good," requires that the individuals who comprise the public must be compelled to serve their projects and goals.

Perhaps the current financial crisis is what educators call a "teachable moment." The conditions for imparting a lesson are ideal. There are a number of small lessons here (get rid of government sponsored enterprises and repeal meddlesome laws like the Community Reinvestment Act), but the big lesson is this: don't elect any more visionary politicians.

George C. Leef is the director of the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy in Raleigh, North Carolina, and book review editor of The Freeman.

Voting is not a right, it's a privilege

by Wesley W. Burnett

I get so irritated, especially near election time, when I hear politicians and so-called news announcers urge Americans to "exercise your God-given right to vote."

Hog wash. God did not give anyone the "right to vote." Furthermore, the "right to vote" does not exist in any lawful document. Our state and national constitutions (which have been basically ignored for the past 60 years or more) do not use the popular language, "right to vote."

When this nation was founded, it was based on the strong belief that a democracy is dangerous and destructive. The constitution places the responsibility for voting rules upon the individual states.

It was not until American socialists took control that a republic form of government began to fall apart. It started innocently enough by altering the constitution to allow for the popular vote to select the two U.S. senators from each state.

The next step came with the two major political parties holding "primary elections" to select candidates. Then came the abolition of restrictions on the privilege to vote.

Sadly, almost anyone can vote in today's democracy. And that is what has done the most damage in the destruction of our American republic form of government.

The basic definition of a republic is the placing of limits on the franchise to vote. Without restrictions, voting becomes more of a mob rule. And the mob can be very easily swayed with slick propaganda machines. People can be stirred up with emotional zeal to go after the "bad guys" ... and scream for the "government to do something!"

No matter that the "do something" is unconstitutional ... the mob disdains the constitution, for its principles stand in opposition to majority rule. Literally millions of voters have no idea what the constitution says, and could care less. Voter ignorance of our constitution guarantees the collapse of our republic.

It's sad indeed to see our republic form of government trashed in favor of a socialist democracy. Sad indeed.

Remember, God gives us the right of free will, among many other blessings, but the "right to vote" is a man-made concept, not from God. There is absolutely no security with man-made laws ... what's okay with the mob today, can very swiftly be a criminal act tomorrow.

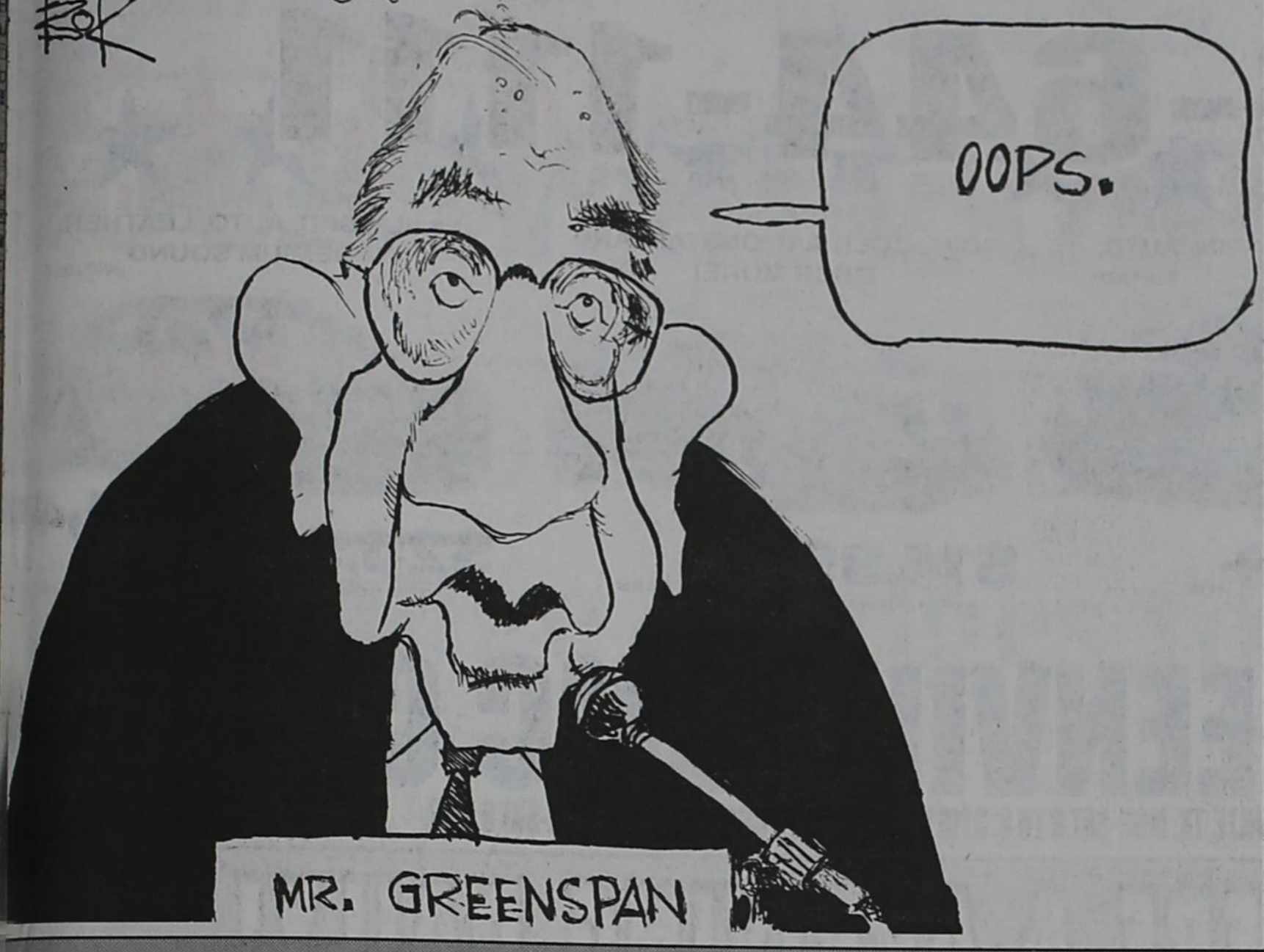
Democracy always destroys liberty and the courts all too often enforce the restrictions on individual rights in the name of "security."

Government gets its marching orders from the mob, it is no wonder this nation is in economic turmoil, because the vast majority have found the way to steal from each other and the treasury.

It was a great republic. Can we revive it?

Opinions

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL © 08



Affordable health care?

W. Williams

A campaign theme this election cycle is "affordable" health care. We ask ourselves whether we want the politicians who brought us "affordable" housing, that created the current financial debacle, to now afford health care? Shouldn't we also ask how things turned out where there is socialized medicine?

Power, British Columbia-based Fraser Institute's annual publication, "Our Turn," reports that Canada's median waiting times from a referral by a general practitioner to treatment by a specialist, on the procedure, averages from five to 40 weeks. The wait for such as MRI or CT, ranges between four and 28 weeks.

According to Michael Tanner's "The Grass Is Not Always Greener," in Cato Policy Analysis (March 18, 2008), the Mayo Clinic treats more than 18-week maximum wait from general practitioner to treatment, all diagnostic tests, by the end of 2008. The delay in health care not only inconvenient, it's deadly. Both in Britain and Canada, many diseases that are curable at the time of diagnosis become incurable of treatment or patients become too weak for the surgical procedure.

The Minister Gordon Brown plans to introduce a "constitution" of the rights and responsibilities of its health care system. According to the Telegraph (02/01/2008), "What this (Gordon Brown's) plan amount to in practice are the Government's rights to refuse treatment, patient's responsibilities to live up to what the state decides are model

That means people who have unhealthy habits such as smoking,

heart sufferers who are obese or those who fall ill because of failure to take regular exercise might be refused medical care, even though they pay taxes to support government health care.

Government health care can become ghoulish as reported in a Human Events (1/17/08) article "Gordon Brown Wants Your Organs" written by Susan Easton. As in the U.S., many Brits die while on the waiting list for organ donations. The prime minister has a solution called a "Presumed Consent Scheme." Mrs. Easton says, "If you don't specifically carry a card saying 'leave my corpse alone' — known as the 'opt out option', or unless one's family is on hand to object, one's remains are considered fair game for an organ harvest festival." Supporters of the scheme argue that what is done with people's organs after their death should not be up to the next of kin. Such a vision differs little from one that holds that after one's death he becomes the property of the state.

Of course, if socialized medicine becomes a reality here, Americans can do as many Brits do. Mrs. Easton says, "more than 70,000 Britons — known as 'health tourists' — have gone as far as India, Malaysia and South Africa for major operations. This figure is expected to rise to almost 200,000 by the end of the decade."

We have health care problems in the U.S. but it's not because ours is a free market system of health care delivery. Well over 50 percent of all health care expenditures are made by government. Where government spends, government regulates. It's truly amazing that Americans who are dissatisfied with the current level of socialized medicine in the U.S. are asking for more of what created the problem in the first place. Anyone thinking that an American version of socialized health care will differ from that found in Canada, Britain, Sweden, France and elsewhere are whistling Dixie.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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The Powell endorsement

O'Reilly

When Colin Powell endorsed Barack Obama last week, I got to thinking well, who is kind of a mystery to me. Of course he's a patriot. He has served his country well in the military and also as Secretary of State under Bush. No question, Powell loves America and has contributed greatly

to our country. He has no problem with his support of Sen. Obama. Powell is simply exercising his voting freedom, so more power to him. The problem is the explanation for defecting from his party.

In his "Meet the Press," Powell said he was angry that some extreme bloggers have called Obama a Muslim, and that he feels the Republican endorsement has been disrespectful toward the senator. OK, there have been some things said about Obama, but John McCain has challenged them and has even rejected bringing up the Rev. Wright as a campaign issue, so too divisive.

It seems to me that McCain is rejecting ugly politics and is the guy running the show, not some nut shouting invective at a rally.

Obama is also dubious is Powell's lack of fair play. Obama recently appeared on NBC's "Countdown with Keith Olbermann," whose host has called Obama a "fraud" and accused him of "tactically inciting lunatics to violence." Olbermann's assertion is absurd and grossly irresponsible. So why would Obama defend the program like that? Shouldn't Powell be concerned about it?

Then there is the Daily Kos. As readers of this column may remember, Obama was the democratic presidential contender last summer for attending a convention in Washington. Obama, Hillary Clinton and others lent their support to a website that routinely revels in hatred.

For example, the Kos posted a disgusting picture of Sen. Joseph Lieberman about to engage in a sex act with President Bush and displayed it for more than a year.

When Tony Snow's fatal cancer returned, the website allowed a posting that said the world "would be better off without him."

And most recently, the Daily Kos put forth that Sarah Palin's teenage daughter, not the governor herself, gave birth to the Down syndrome baby. It doesn't get any worse than that.

Again, Obama visited the Kos convention and mingled with these vicious character assassins. I respectfully submit to Gen. Powell: That visit is as troubling as anything that has happened in the Republican precincts.

I know Powell only slightly, but I believe his endorsement of Obama really stems from two things he did not say.

First, Obama has cultivated Powell, treating him with respect, asking for his advice.

Secondly, Powell remains bitter over the way he was treated by the Bush administration and some rank-and-file Republican stalwarts. The friction between Powell and the so-called "neo-cons" has been widely reported.

I think that's the true story behind Powell's shift to the Democrats. The Muslim factor has nothing to do with it.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com.

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