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# Rockwall County News

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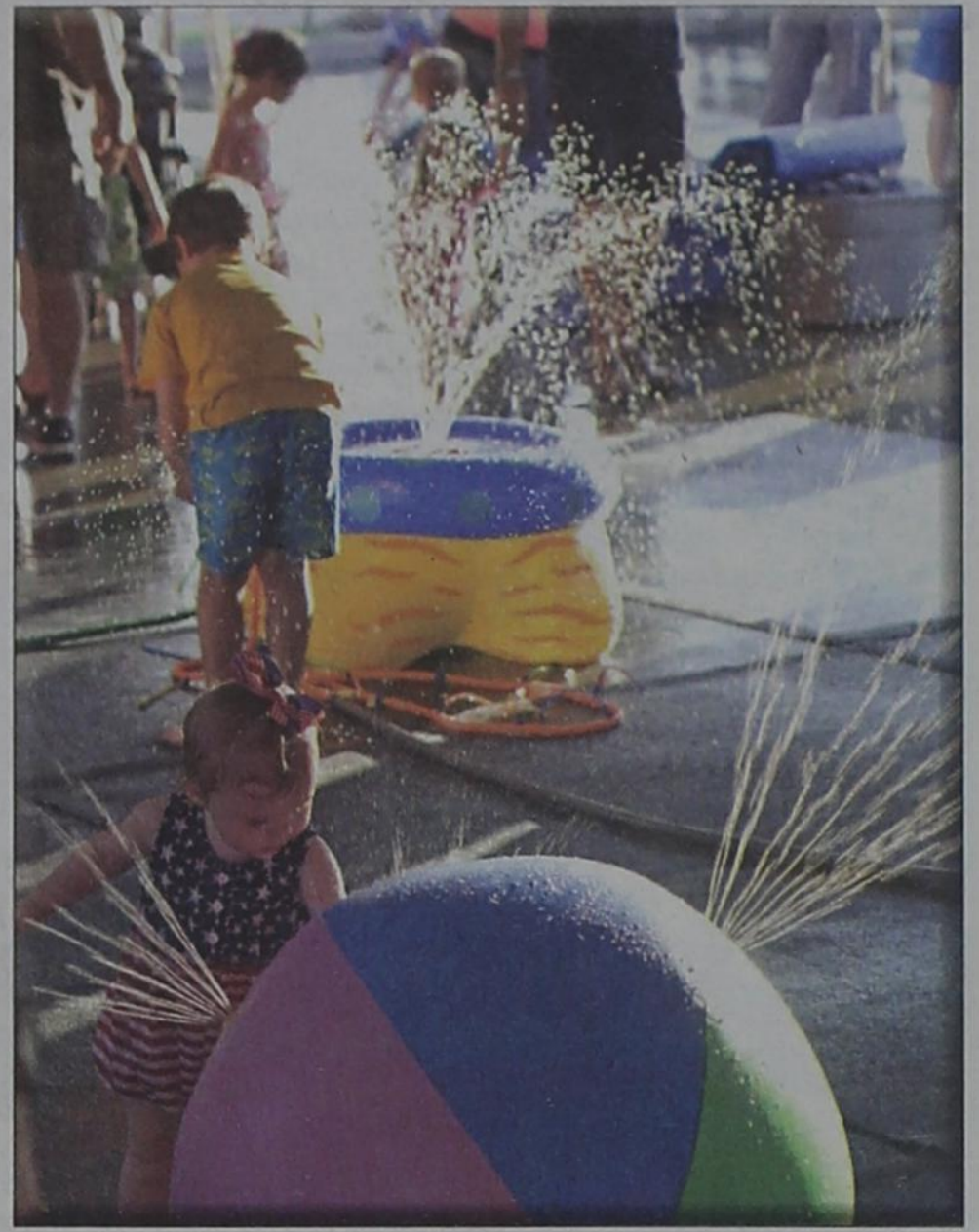
and Subscribers in North Texas Counties of Collin, Dallas, Hunt, Kaufman and Rockwall

## Independence Day Festivities include spectacular fireworks and fun for people of all ages



The fireworks show at the Harbor dazzled the large crowd of spectators with a musically explosive synchronization of light and sound June 30 over Ray Hubbard Reservoir.

Photo by Timothy W. Burnett/Rockwall County News



Children stay cool with water games, Sunday June 30, during the Independence Day Festival at Lake Shore Church in Rockwall. The event concluded with a dynamic fireworks show.

Photo by Timothy W. Burnett/Rockwall County News

## Water usage, West Nile testing discussed at Royse City Council meeting

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Darwin Whiteside and Jim Melody, board members representing Royse City with the North Texas Municipal Water District, spoke to the Royse City Council June 25 regarding the contract the city has with the district. They addressed the issue of water usage reduction for Royse City, the policies for buying water, government regulations and the concern for the invasive zebra mussels in the lakes from where the city gets its water.

Mosquito spraying for the West Nile virus is a topic still on citizens' minds considering the illnesses and deaths that occurred from last year's outbreak of the virus. Brent Stowers, Parks, Recreation and Facility Maintenance superintendent for Royse City, said city officials are in the process of trapping the mosquitoes for testing. The mosquitoes will be sent to the Department of State Health Service in Austin.

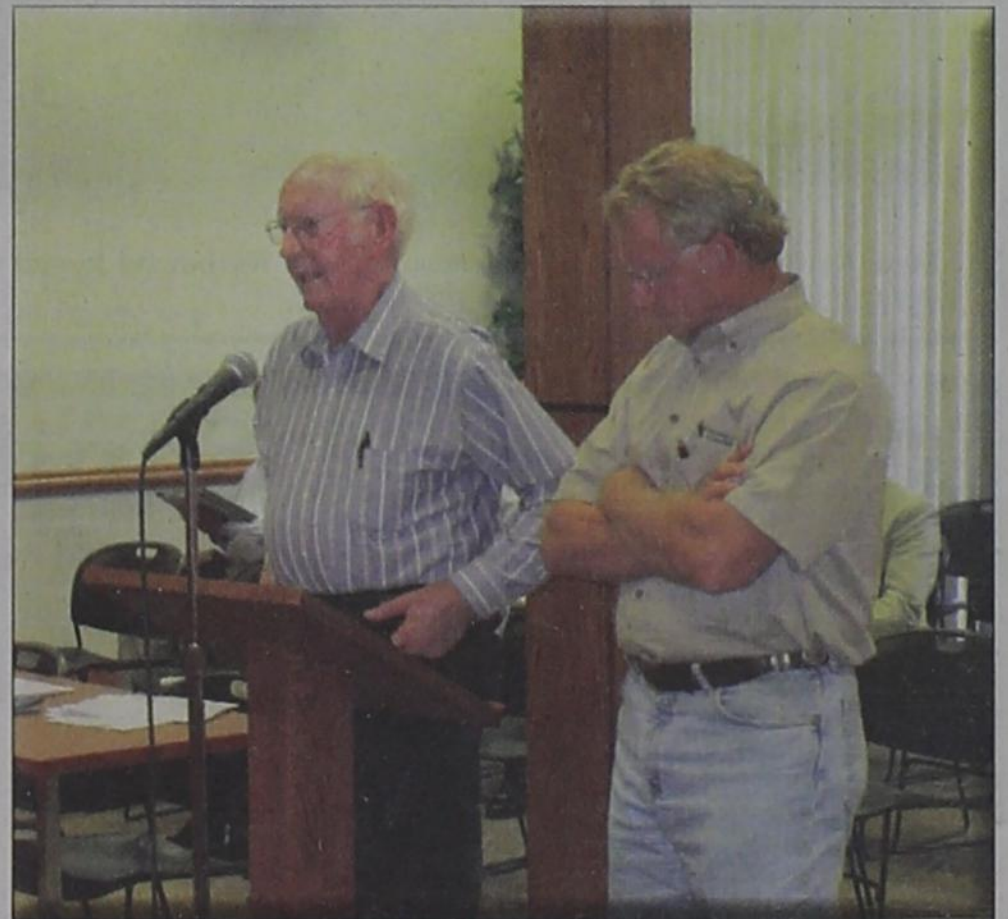
Stowers said his goal is to send at least one sample every week and the results should be back from Austin in three to four days. Should a positive test be returned, his department will spray within a 1-1/2 mile radius of the site.

Also on the agenda was the Shaw Drive dedication set for 10 a.m. July 12. The dedication is to name the unpaved road at Collin County Road 2515, which runs between the Royse City High School and the land owned by Imperium, Shaw Drive in honor of 97-year-old Runelle Shaw, a resident at the Royse City Health and Rehabilitation Center.

The motion to rename the unpaved road was addressed and passed unanimously in the May 14 Royse City Council meeting. Joan Shaw Cantrell, her sister and two brothers were instrumental in getting the council to make the move while their mother was still alive and could possibly attend or even speak at the event. Cantrell's family farmed that section of land year ago, even where the high school now sets.

An update by City Manager Carl Alsbrook confirmed that the Erby Campbell Overpass project is going well. He also noted that the house owned by the city at 107 N. Houston, built in 1882 and was the home of Byrd Royse, the namesake of the town, will soon have a fence around the house. This house is a part of the historical preservation of downtown Royse City. Alsbrook is working with an Eagle Scout to install and paint the fence as part of his service project.

Royse City Council members present at the meeting were Mayor Jerrell Baley, Mayor Pro Tem Janet Nichol, Bill Bell, Matt Wheatley and Tom Crowley. Meetings take place in the Police and Courts Building, 100 W. Main Street on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 9.



Darwin Whiteside, left, and Jim Melody spoke to the City Council of Royse City June 25 regarding the contract with the North Texas Municipal Water District. Whiteside and Melody are members of the NTMWD Board of Directors representing Royse City and spoke concerning water usage reduction in Royse City and other areas.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News



## Member cast set for 'King & I'

Summer Musicals has completed casting for the August Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic "The King and I." RSM's 2013 series, the play will run from Aug. 15-18 at the High School Performing Arts Center at Utley.

one of the largest casts we've ever assembled with full

orchestra and a stunning set," said The King and I Director Barbara Doudt. "The audience will see a wonderful representation of talent from all over the Metroplex perform a story for the ages."

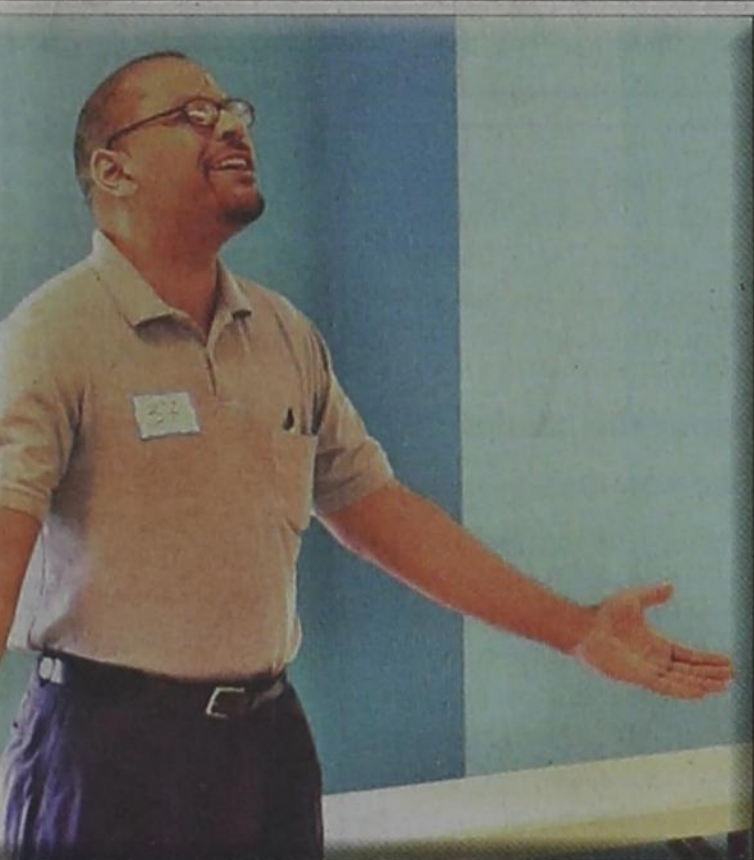
The original production opened on Broadway in 1951 and has become one of the most popular musicals ever produced. The story is set in 1862 in Siam when an English widow, Anna Leonowens, and her young son arrive at the Royal Palace in Bangkok, having been summoned by the King to serve as tutor to his many children and wives. The King is largely considered to be a barbarian by those in the West, and he seeks Anna's assistance in changing his image, if not his ways. With both keeping a firm grip on their respective traditions and values, Anna and the King grow to understand and, eventually, respect one another in a unique love story.

Principal characters cast for the production include August Gabriel, the king; Keeli James, Anna; Ashley Watkins, Lady Chiang; Emily Ragsdale, Tuptim; A.J. Vinson, Chulalongkorn; Liam Taylor, Louis; Augustine Jalomo, Lun Tha; Monte Monkress, Kralahome; Ken Bender, Capt. Orton; David Bower, Sir Edward Ramsay; Magdiel Carmona, Phra Alack; Regent Cornell, the interpreter; Sarah Berglund, royal dancer/Eliza; and Tori St. John-Gilbert, dancer/Little Eva.

Rounding out the cast are Katy Becker, Meredith Bennett, Gwenlyn Boley, Jodi Chaffin, Aaron Davies, Gracie Delaney, Gillian Douglas, Sarah Frame, Savannah Gear, Jesus Gerdel, Tom Hogan, Hailey Hutcheson, Martha Johnson, Kyle Killion, Tyler Kirwan, Richard Krecek, Eden Krenek, Kate Larman, Ella Lee, Erica Lyle and Katie Lyle.

Also, Sarah McCulley, Caroline Meek, Grace Moore, Brenna Mulligan, Kharis Murphy, Zoe Murphy, Jason Orgies, Kenzie Osborn, Chad Fliieger, Sarah Phillips, Blake Pyatt, Darci Ramirez, Rylan Ramirez, Jamie Rubush, Zoe Settle, Shannon Souddress, Emmeline Sundrud, Ashley Watkins, Max Watson, Deb Weigant and Kayla Wilson Scott.

Tickets are available online at rockwallsummermusicals.org or at the door. The Performing Arts Center is located in Rockwall at 1201 T.L. Townsend Drive.



August Gabriel's audition performance, pictured above, won the role as the king of Siam in the Rockwall Summer "The King and I." The play will run Aug. 15-18 at the High School Performing Arts Center on the Utley

Photo by Rockwall County News

## Rotarians award scholarships to seniors

Rockwall Noon Rotary Club recently recognized this year's high school and Rockwall-Heath High School scholarship winners. The RHS scholarship went to Alexis Catinchi, who plans to attend Louisiana State University. The RHHS honoree was Andrea

Since 2005, the Rockwall Noon Rotary Club has distributed more than \$130,000 in scholarships. However, the service organization has awarded college scholarships since 1975. Jim Pennington, who recently joined the Noon Rotarians in mentoring Rockwall Independent School District students, was the club's first beneficiary. He was in attendance at the recent event "to witness the evidence of the club's enduring benevolent spirit."

Proceeds from the club's popular Hot Rocks Bike Ride, which has been conducted for 24 years, are used to fund the scholarships. This year's cycling event is set for Aug. 10. For more details visit hotrocksbikerace.com.

The Rockwall Rotary Foundation also manages the Robert and Cis Hawk Scholarships. Since 2005, a total of \$702,000 has been awarded, including \$546,000 to students and \$156,000 to the teachers whom each student cites as the one who had the most impact on their lives. This year's honorees included:

- RHHS (student & teacher): Keith Allen and Linda Rogers; Austin James and Kimberly Blain; McKenna Perez and Laura Beene; Caroline McCallum and Linda Rogers; Rebekah Gerritsen and Kimberly Card; and Lindsay Archuleta and Cathryn Albrecht.

- RHS (student & teacher): Sawyer Knight and Michelle Pauken; Gaines Kinsey and Toby Howell; Brennan Bassett and Liz White; Morgan Reynolds and Melinda Lewis; Ivette Colunga and Anna Campbell; and Julia Sealock and Liz White.



Above are the RHS and RHHS students recently awarded by the Rockwall Noon Rotary Club. Each of these students received a scholarship from the Rotarians. Honorees include student and teacher combinations Keith Allen and Linda Rogers; Austin James and Kimberly Blain; McKenna Perez and Laura Beene; Caroline McCallum and Linda Rogers; Rebekah Gerritsen and Kimberly Card; Lindsay Archuleta and Cathryn Albrecht; Sawyer Knight and Michelle Pauken; Gaines Kinsey and Toby Howell; Brennan Bassett and Liz White; Morgan Reynolds and Melinda Lewis; Ivette Colunga and Anna Campbell; and Julia Sealock and Liz White.

Photo by Rockwall County News

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Texas Crossword and Opinions: Page 6  
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# Farmers Helping Each Other Early to Mid 1900s



**MILLIE JEAN COPPEDGE**  
Reminiscing  
Royse City

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Farming has changed dramatically over the last century. Today the farming is done with high powered machinery and very few actual farm laborers.

During the early 1900s, farmers plowed, planted, weeded, and harvested crops during the growing season, the warmer months.

The planting and harvesting of the crops was done by a hand-guided plow pulled by a horse or mule, and by the manual laborer with a hoe or rake. This was not just a man's job. Women and children also planted, weeded, and harvested the crops.

Farms were so large and such a demanding chore that children from the youngest age were put into the fields to help out. Farmers often helped each other by plowing and planting one farmer's crop, then moving on to the next farm to do the same. Cotton and corn were the main cash crops.

When harvest season came, families would all pitch in and help each other. If illness or death struck a family, neighbors would go to help run the farm, until the family was back on their feet.

The women would gather at each other's homes to help with the canning process as the men brought in the crops, of fruits and vegetables. As is told the book Images of America-Royse City written by Sheri Stodghill Fowler and related by Deloris Ballard of the Royse City Zaner Robison Historical Museum, the women would also go to each other's homes for quilting parties, and to make lye soap and candles.

Quilting parties could be held at any time during the year, but the making of lye soap and candles was done during the coldest months, usually January and February, as that is when the hogs were slaughtered. Soap and candles were made from rendering the fat of the hog.

"Hog killing time", as it was referred to, also was a time when families came together to help each other as it was a strenuous job. The hogs needed to be prepared, butchered, cut into the types of "cut" desired, then wrapped, and most often taken to an ice house for storage. People would pay to store their meat such as pork, beef, and chickens. If not, they would smoke the meats in a smokehouse.

I remember that as children, we loved this day. Everyone had a job, and it seemed like so much fun, yet very important. The best part was the end of the day, usually way after dark, as hog killing was a long process. Mother would fry up some fresh pork, make a big skillet of cream gravy from the meat drippings, and a big pan of fluffy, homemade biscuits. Now that was good eating! Those of you who experienced this special meal know what I am talking about.

Royse City resident Teddy Baley, brother of Royse City's Mayor Jerrell Baley, tells the story of his family during the 1940s. He said that they rented a farm from Dudley Miller. They grew mainly cotton and corn. He said they worked 6 days a week from daylight until dark in the fields, and brought in helpers to help out when the work got demanding, especially during harvest time. He was 6 years old when they started farming Dudley's place in Union Valley. Over time, they

rented 3 different farms from Dudley who was a business man. He says he knows all about planting and harvesting, and can help families worked to help each other.

On a personal note, although it was in the late 1950s, I can remember my Daddy putting me on the very end of the cotton sack and pulling me through the hot cotton field. My little brother 4 years younger than me, rode on the end of Mother's cotton sack as she pulled us because the sandy loam dirt was extremely hot. The summer the only shoes we had were our Sunday-go-to-work shoes referred to as dress shoes.

Yes things have changed so much during our lifetime. It is special to sit with old-timers and just reminisce about work ethics, fashions, beliefs, dreams, school adventures, and the dedication of families to one another.



Mr. and Mrs. Josh Cuevas

## Watson, Cuevas in Dallas ceremony

Stephanie Watson and Josh Cuevas were married May 18 in a ceremony set at the Maple Manor in the uptown area of Dallas. The bride, a 2005 graduate of Rockwall High School and a graduate of the University of Texas at Dallas, is the daughter of Susan Watson of Rockwall.

The groom is the son of Randy and Bev Cuevas of Dallas. He graduated from Winston High School in 2001 and Sam Houston State in 2009.

Surrounded by family and friends, the couple was afterwards enjoyed an evening of dining and dancing with family.

The newlyweds were whisked away in a horse-drawn carriage and will reside in Dallas.

## Harvey tapped for Dean's List

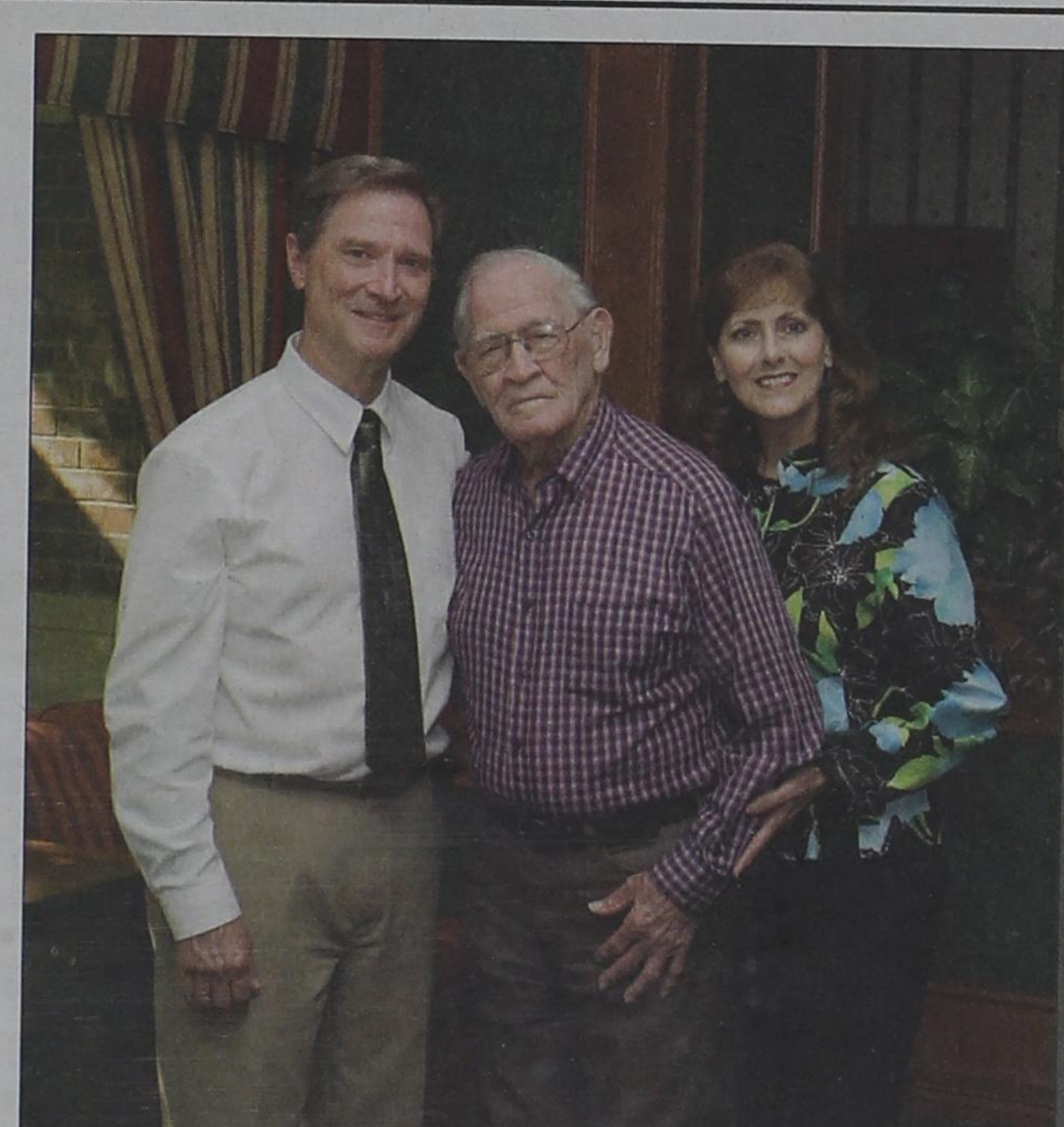
Alexandria N. Harvey of Rockwall was among the more than 100 Iowa State University undergraduates named to the Dean's List for the 2013 spring semester, according to a university news release.

Students named to the Dean's List must have earned a grade average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum credit hours of graded course work.



During the early 1900s as is depicted in this photo dated 1910-1920, families worked together to plant, weed, and harvest the crops. The man to the far right holding a hoe or rake and wearing a dark colored vest is S.T. Jones of Royse City. The blond little girl sitting in the lap of the farmer with the older child leaning against him, is Nell Jones. No other information is known about those in the picture. Notice the wagon and mules in the picture and that most of the men were wearing white shirts and hats.

Photo Courtesy of Images of America-Royse City written by Sheri Stodghill Fowler and information related by Doris Ballard of Royse City Zaner Robison Historical Museum.



Steve Karbowski (center) with his son, Dr. Steve Karbowski Jr. and wife Barbara Karbowski.

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### Two named to Dean's List

Two local residents were named to the Dean's List for the spring quarter, according to a university news release.

Dimitri Gamulkevic and Michelle Kelley of Rockwall were named to the Dean's List.

Full-time undergraduates who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or more for the spring quarter are recognized on the Dean's List.

### Strebeck laureate at Howard

Hannah Marie Strebeck of Royse City recently was named the laureate for the spring semester at Payne University in Bowling Green, Ohio, according to a university news release.

Students must earn a grade point average to be named to the President's List.

*Be devoted to one another with love, showing eagerness in honoring one another.*  
Romans 12:10

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Velma Lee (Parks) White



Services for Velma Lee (Parks) White, 85, of Roysse City were conducted at 10 a.m. June 29, 2013, in the First Baptist Church in Roysse City with Pastor Les Joslin officiating.

She died June 26. Born June 28, 1927, in Roysse City to Flona and Lee Parks, she was a member of the First Baptist Church of Roysse City and the Order of Eastern Star.

Survivors include her daughters, Jennifer Hill, Johnnie Masters and her husband, Andy, and Valerie Ferguson and her husband, Jerry, all of Roysse City; her sisters, Betty Royal of Seagoville and Margaret Parton of California; her grandchildren, Eric Hill and his wife, Melissa, of Prosper and Joshua, Mollee and Drew Masters; her great-grandchildren, Kaitlyn Hill and Holton Masters; and numerous nieces, nephews and other members of her extended family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John White; her parents; her sisters, Maxine Robinson and Muriel Donaghey; her brothers, Earl, Bobby and Donald Parks; and a grandson, Joshua Ferguson.

Rockwall County Entertainment

Family Fun Night to feature 'Dolphin Tale'

The movie 'Dolphin Tale' will be featured at the Family Fun Night at Hickory Ridge on July 5. Activities and games will begin at 6 p.m., with the film set to start at dusk.

Special Effects 101 offered at library

The Rockwall County Library, as part of its Teen Read program, will offer Special Effects 101, a hands-on workshop, on July 9. Artist Shelly Pinder will teach participants how to simulate cuts, bruises and more.

Chinatown to play pop concert

Chinatown will perform pop music beginning at 7:30 p.m. July 11 at The Harbor as part of the Concert by the Lake Series organized by the City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department.

Final Family Fun Night set

The movie 'The Pirates Band of Misfits' will be featured at the final Family Fun Night of the year set for July 12 at Myers Park. Activities and games will begin at 6 p.m., with the film set to start at dusk.

Teen Movie Matinee offered at library

The Rockwall County Library, as part of its Teen Read program, will offer a Teen Movie Matinee beginning at 2 p.m. July 16. The movie will be 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part II.'

Texas beach music show set

Hanna's Reef will offer Texas beach-type music beginning at 7:30 p.m. July 18 at The Harbor as part of the Concert by the Lake Series organized by the City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department.

Mosaic Art workshop planned for teens

The Rockwall County Library, as part of its Teen Read program, will offer an All About Me Mosaic Art workshop July 23. In-person registration is required and may be completed at the Teen SRC table; registration begins July 9.

Rock variety performance slated

Big Mouth will perform a variety of rock tunes beginning at 7:30 p.m. July 25 at The Harbor as part of the Concert by the Lake Series organized by the City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department.

'Zombie Prom' auditions slated

The Rockwall Community Playhouse will offer performances of 'Zombie Prom,' a 'campy, rollicking musical with a visit to the atomic age of America and the golden age of sci-fi horror,' July 26, 27 and 28 and Aug. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11.

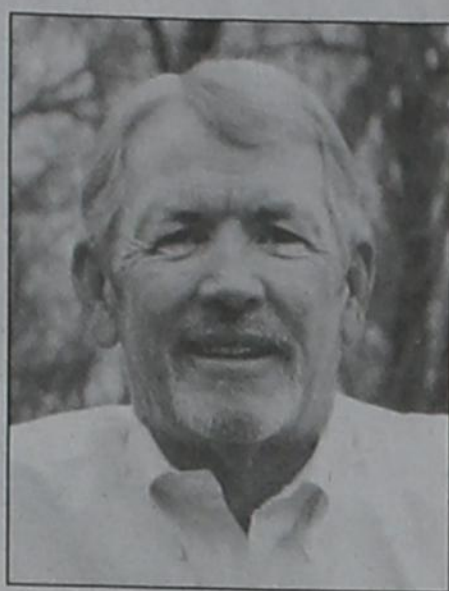
'ParaNorman' screening set at library

A screening of the film 'ParaNorman' will be offered as part of the Rockwall County Library's Teen Read program beginning at 2 p.m. July 30.

Blaze of Glory to give Bon Jovi tribute

Blaze of Glory, a Bon Jovi tribute band, will perform beginning at

Charles Richard 'Rick' Allen



Funeral services for Charles Richard "Rick" Allen, 62, will be conducted at 11 a.m. July 29 at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Roysse City Chapel.

He was born June 29, 1950, in Dallas to Doris (McCall) Allen. He was married for 19 years and was a member of the First Baptist Church. He was a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School and the University of Texas at Dallas. He served in Vietnam and won several trophies. He was a member of Bass

and won several trophies. He was a member of Bass and won several trophies. He was a member of Bass and won several trophies.

Charlotte Ann Wadsworth Hassman



Funeral services for Charlotte Ann Wadsworth Hassman, 77, will be conducted at 1 p.m. July 20 at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Roysse City Chapel with Pastor Rick Wadsworth officiating.

She was born Feb. 6, 1936, in Spencer, Ind. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her daughter, Ann Hawkins, and her son, Alan Wadsworth, of Roysse City; her brother, Leroy Parsons, and his wife, Seane, Wash.; her grandchildren, Janis, James, Frank, Coy, Annie, Jackie, Chrisy, Brandy, Charlie, John and Alex; and her great-grandchildren, Jonathan, Travis, Jeffery, Mary, Elisabeth, Cassidy, Preston, Chase, Christian, Forest, Lexi, Analise, Keynon, Johnny, Kim, Jessica and Jaque.

She was preceded in death by her son, Donald; her parents; and her husband, Marie, George and Vick Cooper, David and Mary Lou

Michael E. 'Snake' Nelson



Funeral services for Michael E. "Snake" Nelson, 63, of Rockwall were held at 2 p.m. June 28, 2013, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Roysse City Chapel with Pastor Rick Wadsworth officiating.

He was born Feb. 19, 1950, in McKinney to John and Julia (Watkins) Nelson. He was a Texas State Trooper and a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Survivors include his wife of 12 years, Sharon Henton of Rockwall; his daughter, Shauna Pinkstaff; his sons, Brian, of Frisco and Memory Nelson of McKinney; his daughters, Krista Nelson, Brianna, Lauren and Jacob Pinkstaff; his wife, Penny, of Wylie; and his mother, Mary Nelson of Richardson.

He was preceded in death by his father and a grandson, James

Rockwall County News Briefs

Rockwall city offices closed for the holiday. The City of Rockwall will be closed on July 4 for the Independence Day holiday. All offices will open at 8 a.m. on July 5.

Heath city offices to close for July 4. Heath city offices will be closed July 4 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Normal business hours will be resumed July 5.

Plans underway for Fourth festivities. Heath is making plans for its Independence Day Parade, which will take place in the Park, on July 4. Staging will begin at 8 a.m. and awards at 8:30 a.m. The parade will begin at 9 a.m. Awards for "best parade float" will be given in float, bicycle, wagon/stroller, golf cart, off-road vehicle, kiddie car and antique car.

(Continued on Page 5)

Ask Dr. Danette



Antibiotics for joint-replacement patients? The interest of erring on the side of caution, dentists have advised that patients who had had joint-replacement surgery should take antibiotics prior to undergoing dental procedures. The reason for this recommendation has been that bacteria in the mouth could enter the blood stream during a dental procedure (including a routine cleaning) and travel to the site of an artificial joint, and cause a prosthetic joint infection.

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Congressman Ralph Hall (R-TX CD-4) and Rockwall County GOP chairman Tony Fisk welcomed and officially recognized the Rockwall County Hispanic Republic Club at a June 21 event. Present for the event were leaders of GOP clubs, city council representatives from Rockwall, Roysie City and McLendon-Chisholm, County Judge Jerry Hogan and Precinct 1 County Commissioner Cliff Sevier. State Sen. Bob Deuell (SD-2) was represented by Trey Bahm. Officers and founders of the newly formed club are Adan Tovar, Ernesto Castro, Anna Campbell and Oscar Quincy. Several students also were present. County Court-at-Law Judge Brian Williams and District Judge Brett Hall hosted the event at the new Rockwall County Courthouse.

*Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News*



At the McLendon-Chisholm City Council meeting June 25, Mayor Gary Moody presented a check to Chief J.T. Williams on behalf of the Spring Fest Committee. Funds totaling \$9,622 were raised through the efforts of committee, which included Terrell Miller, chairman; Mayor Rhonda Davis; and Debbie Smotherman. Moody thanked not only the committee, but all of the sponsors and vendors who participated in the June 1 event.

*Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News*

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Train up a child in the way he should go,  
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.  
Proverbs 22:6 KJV

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"A fool's mouth is his destruction,  
and his lips are the snare of his soul."  
Proverbs 18:7

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"That if you will confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."  
Romans 10: 9-10

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CENTRAL BAPTIST  
Hwy. 66, Rockwall  
CHISHOLM BAPTIST CHURCH  
1388 Hwy. 205 S., Rockwall  
CHRIST CHURCH BAPTIST COMMUNITY  
749 Justin Rd., Rockwall  
ChristChurchRockwall.org  
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
Hwy. 276, Roysie City  
DAY SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH  
8602 Lakeview Pkwy., Rockwall  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FATE  
813 Holiday Dr. (Hwy. 66)  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HEATH  
HEATH • 224 Smirl Drive  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKWALL • 610 Goliad St.  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROYSIE CITY • 900 Pullen Street  
IGLESIA BAUTISTA INUEVA ESPERANZA  
149 Blackland, Roysie City  
GRACE FELLOWSHIP  
1408 Damascus Dr., Rockwall  
LAKE POINTE BAPTIST CHURCH  
701 E. I-30, Rockwall  
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH  
850 Blackland Road, Fate  
NEW CALDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH  
301 Bourn, Rockwall  
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH  
400 Old Greenville Rd., Roysie City  
TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
360 Hickory Hill Rd., Roysie City  
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FAITH TEMPLE BAPTIST  
11214 FM 1565, Terrell, Tx 75160
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OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH  
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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Independent)  
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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) of Rockwall  
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EASTRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
670 Stodghill Rd., Rockwall  
UNION VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST  
9424 FM 35, Roysie City
- EPISCOPAL**  
HOLY TRINITY BY THE LAKE  
1524 Smirl Dr., Heath
- LUTHERAN**  
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN  
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302 N. Goliad St., Rockwall
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**Mission Statement**  
It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. The sole purpose of government is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

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## Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous, 24 hour help line, 800-503-8602.

#### AA Meetings

Rockwall, 7 days a week. Big Book Group, 213 Rusk St., 972-722-6366.

#### Al-Anon Meetings

Call for information and locations in Dallas area, 214-363-0461.

#### Al-Anon Garland

Meetings Monday & Friday, 8 p.m. at 2206 South Jupiter St., Suite 130, Garland.

#### Rockwall County Kiwanis Club

Meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, and we recently added an evening meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., also at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, 203 S. Fannin. For more information call 972-772-6001

#### Senior Services

If you are interested in delivering weekday meals to homebound seniors in Rockwall County, we will be holding volunteer training sessions the second Wednesday each month at 1 p.m. Please call 972-771-9514 for location.

24 Hour Help Line for substance & mental health counseling. 800-662-4357.

NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) meets second Saturday monthly. We offer support and education for families and individuals affected by mental disabilities. For more information call Bea & Mel at 972-563-3003 or the Dallas office at 214-341-7133.

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Trees. Pruning - Felling. 214-478-9269.

Carroll Foundation Repair. House leveling since 1971. Slabs, Pier-n-Beams, Member BBB. Call 972-722-0222.

## Lots for Sale

Plots for Sale. Cemetery Plot in the "Love" section at Rest Haven for sale by owner. 214-538-0869.

Heath corner lot for sale. Lakeview. Asking \$129,000. 214-251-7186.

## Help Wanted

Bank Teller. Community Bank has a full-time Teller position available. Please apply in person at 3060 Ridge Rd, Rockwall. EOE

## Pets & More

Pets. Adopt a pet today. Rockwall Animal Rescue. 469-698-8898. Rockwall Animal Adoption Center. 972-771-7750.

## For Sale

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## Legal Notices

#### Notice To Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dorothy Ebersole Gould Deceased, were issued on June 19, 2013, in Cause No PR13-53, pending in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, to: James Franklin Gould. 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 James Franklin Gould 353 Mariah Bay Rockwall, Texas 75032 DATED the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June,

## Legal Notices

2013. Keith P. Wheeler Attorney for Estate State Bar No.: 21257525 965 W. Ralph Hall Pkwy., Suite 101 Rockwall, Texas 75032 Telephone: (972) 771-8515 Facsimile: (972) 771-4815

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Patrice Helley Neiman, Deceased, were issued on April 10, 2013, in Cause No. PR13-38, pending in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, to: David Douglas Neiman. 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: Representative, Estate of Patrice Helley Neiman 4 Key Drive Heath, Texas 75032 Dated the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013.

## Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 3)

#### Rockwall 4th of July Parade set

The 2013 Rockwall 4th of July Parade will begin at 11 a.m. July 4 at a new location: beginning at the Wilkerson-Sanders football stadium and ending at Dobbs Elementary. More than 50 entries are expected for this year's event. Entry fee is \$40 per business, \$20 for nonprofits, organizations, families and "everyone else." Line-up will be on the road between the RISD Natatorium and Utley Middle School, turning right onto T.L. Townsend and beginning in front of Utley. The parade then will head north for about a half-mile past the county jail to East Boydston, turn left one block and turn right on South Clark before traveling six blocks to the Dobbs parking lot.

#### Fireworks, music to celebrate July 4 in R'wall

Fireworks and live music are planned as part of the City of Rockwall's Parks & Recreation Department July 4 event at Harry Myers Park, 815 E. Washington. Treeside will perform from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., followed by Random Axis at 7 p.m. and Amber Carrington at 8:45 p.m. The old-fashioned Independence Day fireworks display will begin at 9:30 p.m. Park-and-view areas include Harry Myers Park, Dobbs Elementary, Tuttle Athletic Complex and the RISD Education Center.

#### Zombie Glow Run fundraiser slated

The online registration deadline for the Zombie Glow Run, a July 19 fundraiser for the Rockwall Community Playhouse, is July 12. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Harry Myers Park, 827 Washington St., in Rockwall. Early registration costs \$25 for 5K, \$15 for the one-mile walk; race-day registration will be \$30 and \$20. Participants should dress as zombies; prizes will be awarded for best costumes. Proceeds will be used toward a new RCP facility. For more details visit [rockwallcommunity-playhouse.org](http://rockwallcommunity-playhouse.org).

#### Vacation Bible school set at FCC

The First Christian Church Rockwall will host its vacation Bible school from 9 a.m. to noon July 22-26. Children ages 4 through fifth grade are invited to attend. This year's theme is Athens-Paul's Dangerous Journey to Share the Truth. Register online at [fcrrockwall.com](http://fcrrockwall.com) or for more details call the church office at 972-771-5526.

#### Blood drive set July 11

A Rockwall Community Blood Drive, hosted by the Rest Haven Funeral Home, will run from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. July 11 at the Red Cross Bloodmobile, which will be parked at 2500 SH 66. To schedule an appointment, call the funeral home at 972-771-8641 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) (use keyword: resthaven). Walk-ins are welcome.

#### Low-cost spay/neuter shuttle scheduled

The monthly Spay Neuter Network Shuttle will pick up pets at 7:30 a.m. July 25 in the southeast corner of the I-30 Wal-Mart parking lot; pets will be returned at 6:30 p.m. Dogs must have no-slip collars; cats must be in secure carriers (no cardboard boxes). To make an appointment call 972-472-3500 (hablamos Español) or email [info@spayneuternet.org](mailto:info@spayneuternet.org). Financial assistance is available. Call Rockwall PAWS at 972-310-1354. Upcoming shuttle dates are Aug. 15 and Sept. 19.

#### Applications for Rockwall board, commissions sought

The City of Rockwall is seeking interested individuals to apply for positions on the city's board and commissions. Members of the City Council review applications and make appointments on an as-needed basis. The council plans to consider several vacancies in August. Applications for these positions should be turned in before July 26. Applicants must be residents of the City of Rockwall, be 18 or older and be a qualified voter. Applications are kept on file for two years. Applications are available year-round at [rockwall.com/boards/index.asp](http://rockwall.com/boards/index.asp). For more details contact Kristy Ashberry, city secretary, at 972-772-6406.

#### Duck Dash to sideline Rubber Duck Regatta

This year's Rockwall Rubber Duck Regatta will include a 5K race, the Duck Dash, which will raise funds for the Rockwall Boys & Girls Club and Meals on Wheels Senior Services of Rockwall. The Duck Dash will begin at 8 a.m. Sept. 21, followed by the Family Walk and Waddle at 8:30 a.m. Registration costs \$35 for the 5K and \$20 for the walk. Duck Dash T-shirts will be distributed; racing caps will be (Continued on Page 6)

## Legal Notices

#### Public Notice

Application has been made for a Private Club Permit and Private Club Late Hours Club Permit for Southern Junction, Inc. DBA Southern Junction, at 5574 Highway 276, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas. Said application has been made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code. Pres/Sec Richard Paul Morelan; VP/Pres/Treas Charles Thomas Houk.

#### Royse City ISD Child Find Policy

In accordance with Federal Regulations, Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act, Child Find Identification (34CFR section 300.125, 300.451), this is notification that Royse City Independent School District, Located at 810 E. Old Greenville Road, Royse City, TX has a child find system for indentifying, locating and evaluating all children with disabilities, from birth through 21 years of age, residing in the district, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, and who are in need of special education and related services.

If you have any questions please call the Special Services office at 972-636-9514.

#### CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS ORDINANCE #13-18

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 4, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ARTICLE II. PERMITS, SEC. 4-23 AND SEC. 4-25 TO PROVIDE FOR AN UPDATED FEE SCHEDULE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT FEES PRESCRIBED BY THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION AND TO PROVIDE FOR LOCAL/CITY PERMITS TO BE ISSUED ON A BIENNIAL (EVERY TWO YEARS) BASIS IN CONJUNCTION WITH STATE ISSUED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE PERMITS; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OR FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

#### CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS ORDINANCE NO. 13-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN CHAPTER 26 - MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE VII - STOPPING, STANDING OR PARKING, SECTION 26-505 - PROHIBITED IN SPECIFIED PLACES, TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL PROVISION RESTRICTING PARKING ALONG THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE OF SUMMER LEE DRIVE FROM FM 740 TO BOURBON STREET CIRCLE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED (\$200.00) DOLLARS FOR EACH OFFENSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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# Forest Service urges caution over the July 4 holiday

More wildfires are reported on July 4 than on any other day of the year, a statistic that stresses the need for folks to be extra careful during Independence Day celebrations.

Whether you're shooting off fireworks, grilling hotdogs and hamburgers or just hanging out around the campfire, residents should remember to use caution when doing anything outdoors that could potentially cause a spark.

"Keeping your home safe from wildfire is always important whether you've had rain or not," Texas A&M Forest Service Fire Prevention Specialist Jan Amen said. "If you plan to cook outdoors, do so away from any sort of vegetation and do not leave your grill unattended."

Texas A&M Forest Service Predictive Services Department Head Tom Spencer said the wildfire risk over the Independence Day holiday is elevated in West Texas where the vegetation is dry and gusty winds are commonplace — perfect conditions for a potentially devastating wildfire.

Though parts of Texas have seen recent rains, more than half of the state remains mired in drought. Specific areas of concern include the Panhandle down through Midland and the Trans-Pecos Region.

"Safety should always be your No. 1 concern," Spencer said. "The safest wildfire is always the one that never ignites."

- Fireworks safety tips:
  - Before you celebrate, always check with local government officials to ensure fireworks and outdoor burning are allowed in your county. Be sure to comply with all restrictions.

- Read and follow all warnings and instructions labels on fireworks.
- Keep fireworks away from homes and structures, which can accidentally ignite.
- Use fireworks only under close adult supervision and in safe areas away from dry grass and brush.
- Keep a hose, bucket of water and wet towels nearby in case of a malfunction or fire.
- Dispose of used fireworks in a bucket of water.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially a glass or metal container.

## Burack graduates in Bow, New Hampshire

Cole Burack, who attended Rockwall High School for the years prior to completing his senior year at Bow High School, graduated June 8 in Bow, N.H. Burack was the starting goalie for the New Hampshire Junior Monarchs, who won the Empire Junior Hockey League championship and earned them a chance to play for a national title. He was selected to play for the New Hampshire Junior Monarch's Easter Hockey League, which is comprised of 18 top-level junior hockey organizations on the East Coast, this fall. The EHL is "committed to developing and producing student-athletes with aspirations of advancing to collegiate and/or professional hockey."



## Rockwall County Sheriff Report

The Rockwall County Sheriff's Department reported that during the month of June 2013, there were 826 calls for service, 1 residence burglary, 2 building burglaries and 71 arrests.

The information was provided by Lt. David Davis.

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- ★ Physical Fitness



## Rockwall PAWS receives \$1,000 community grant

Rockwall PAWS was the recipient of a \$1,000 community grant from the Rockwall Women's League. Sandra Solomon, president, is shown accepting the check June 10 at a reception conducted in the home of Kendra Jones, RWL president for 2012-2013. Pictured are Jones, Sharon Lewis, Solomon, Christy Kirk and Cathy Bedsole, RWL president-elect. The RWL is a nonprofit organization dedicated to making a difference in the community. Since 1973 the organization has raised and donated more than \$2 million to Rockwall nonprofits and college scholarships for Rockwall County high school seniors. For more details visit [rockwallwomensleague.org](http://rockwallwomensleague.org) or [rockwallpaws.org](http://rockwallpaws.org).

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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## Residents of Lake Rockwall Estates attended a recent meeting to learn about the dangers of teen drug use.

Panelists included Kenda Culpepper, district attorney; Angie Scalf, juvenile services director; and Debbie Lewis, director of juvenile counseling services, all pictured above, and Rockwall Police Department school resource officer M. Hardman. Enid Reyes from Lake Pointe Church served as moderator and translator for the exclusively Hispanic audience. The presentation came in the wake of two area teen overdoses from the prescription drug Xanax in the last couple of weeks. Panelists discussed how to recognize the more commonly abused illegal and prescription drugs and what the consequences of teen drug abuse can be.

Courtesy photo/  
Rockwall County News

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## Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

We encourage the submission of Letters to the Editor. The publishing of letters is at the sole discretion of the editor. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and accuracy. Letters which are considered libelous or an attack on an individual character will be rejected. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number or address for verification.

Email [rcn.news@yahoo.com](mailto:rcn.news@yahoo.com)  
Mail to P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087

## CITIZENS ANGER SURFACE AT HEATH COUNCIL MEETING

It was Standing Room Only at the Heath City Council Meeting.

The Agenda for the meeting, posted at 4:45 pm on Friday at the City of Heath's web-site, indicated that a Council vote would place on June 25 that would establish a city Public Improvement District (PID), and more, with the private developers of Heath Golf Club.

Citizens, many of whom were angry, asked the Mayor and members the following questions:

WHY HASN'T A FEASIBILITY STUDY RE: THE 600-782-ACRE HEATH GOLF & YACHT CLUB PROJECT BEEN BY OUR CITY BEFORE TAKING ACTION ON SERIOUS COMMITMENTS THAT AFFECT ALL ITS CITIZENS FOR YEARS TO COME?

WHY IS OUR CITY EVEN CONSIDERING SELLING AND "PARTNERING" WITH PRIVATE, PROFIT-SEEKING DEVELOPERS?

WHY IS CITIBANK LINKING APPROVAL OF LOANS TO THE DEVELOPERS CONTINGENT UPON OUR CITY ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (PID)?

WHY HAS THE CREDIT-WORTHINESS/FINANCIAL DATA DEVELOPERS NOT BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC? WHY ARE SO MANY UNKNOWNNS, i.e., APPROVALS BY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (FOR CANALS) AND CITY OF DALLAS (FOR WATER FROM ITS RESERVOIR) NOT BEING ADDRESSED?

WHY ARE WE BEING TOLD THE HEATH GOLF & YACHT CLUB WILL BE A RAPID MONEY-MAKER FOR THEM WHEN IT COULD TAKE YEARS FOR IT TO BECOME A VIABLE ENTERPRISE?

And last, but certainly not least: WHY HAS THE PROGRESSION OF THE HEATH GOLF & YACHT CLUB INFORMATION NOT BEEN DISSEMINATED TO OUR CITIZENS WHEN THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BY OUR MAYOR & COUNCIL AND BEING DISCUSSED FOR YEARS?

Many citizens were outraged at the June 25 Council meeting and appeared to be disregard for transparency of dealings between the city and the developers. Many were shocked to learn that the Heath & Yacht Club discussions have been going on for years and that plans were available. Several people mentioned to me that they got wind of this huge project was when the Rockwall County published a "map" a few weeks ago.

Many of you know that I have been attending Heath City Council meetings for a very long time. I continue to be contacted by you with words of encouragement. I have done my best to get information out to you per the Freedom of Information Act in the form of Letters to the Editor,.....which are printed by selective editing.

Only the Rockwall County News, our Legal Paper of Record, endeavored to print them. I have also sent out e-mails and made calls to alert our citizens about important City Council meetings. In point is the June 25 City Council Meeting which was NOT given an announcement in our city's Newsletter, nor appropriate press in our local papers. This includes the significant change of time from usual 6:30 pm to 5:00 pm on June 25.....which caused outrage among many citizens.

I believe that after the citizens' outcry at the June 25 City Council meeting for more transparency and greater public information, the Mayor and Council have been given notice that We The People must be informed.

Approval to establish the Public Improvement District (PID) is tabled for now. Please stay tuned.....snore and all of us love JOAN REAM

Heath Citizen/Taxpayer

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Wishing everyone a safe and happy 4th of July!!!

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**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
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**ACROSS**

- 1 Mommy
- 5 owner of WFAA-TV & KHOU-TV
- 6 "... for the Bible tells..."
- 7 Cowboy Hall of Fame RB Tony (init.)
- 8 TXism: "adios"
- 9 this Bob was chair of TX Democratic party in '80s
- 15 birth state of former Ranger mgr. Bobby Valentine (abbr)
- 16 looked with contempt (2 wds.)
- 19 TXns drink a mess of this (2 wds.)
- 21 "American speaks English"
- 22 if the job's big, just do \_\_\_\_\_ time
- 27 this Estrada was in "CHIPS" with TX-born Michael Dorn
- 28 "fall \_\_\_\_\_ ears"
- 29 nauseous
- 30 in Falls Co. on 77
- 32 Goodrich tires
- 33 TXn who wrote "The Boyfriend School"
- 36 Rockport is "Where the fun never \_\_\_\_\_"
- 37 "born as"
- 38 TX Bush & U.N. recaptured \_\_\_\_\_ land in '91
- 39 most excellent TX story? (2 wds.)
- 41 animal fur or hair
- 42 "Comanche \_\_\_\_\_" newspaper
- 45 TX Dale Evans wrote "\_\_\_\_\_ San Antonio"
- 46 this Tom was Cowboy's first coach (init.)
- 47 Kennedy-Karnes City AM
- 48 this nuclear agcy. has a regional office in TX
- 49 confined to bed (3 wds.)
- 52 \_\_\_\_\_ City, TX
- 53 barbecued delight
- 54 bird found at Bentsen Rio Grande Valley Park
- 55 fall behind

**DOWN**

- 1 TX Ross Perot was an \_\_\_\_\_ salesman
- 2 TXism: "take a look \_\_\_\_\_"
- 3 Van \_\_\_\_\_, TX
- 4 Kermit has the last \_\_\_\_\_ used in U.S.
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Chica State Park
- 9 TXism: "lower than a \_\_\_\_\_ wheel rut"
- 10 Chris \_\_\_\_\_ Doux first rodeo was in TX
- 11 not a TXn, but right smart anyway (init.)
- 12 seating area at Lone Star Park
- 13 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ a hand" (assist)
- 14 TX Gene Tierney '46 film: "The Razor's \_\_\_\_\_"
- 15 I.M. Pei designed Dallas \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 "Fiesta Diez y \_\_\_\_\_ de Septiembre"
- 17 source of nutritional information on food cans (2 wds.)
- 18 hard candy that can be chewed \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 walked
- 22 Dallas to Haggard Clothing (abbr.)
- 23 IATA designation for Austin airport
- 24 plumbing problem
- 25 "how \_\_\_\_\_ will gas prices go?"
- 26 TXism: "mad \_\_\_\_\_ hen"
- 28 Ranger Yu Darvish objectives
- 31 provided by TX ranchers
- 34 TXism: "chompin' at the \_\_\_\_\_"
- 35 flag at the \_\_\_\_\_ and Take \_\_\_\_\_
- 37 African-American civil rights leader
- 40 informal appellation of "through"
- 43 TXism: "trigger \_\_\_\_\_ (quick tempo)"
- 44 TXism: "you'll \_\_\_\_\_ morals of \_\_\_\_\_ cat"
- 50 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ (kind)"
- 51 "that is" \_\_\_\_\_



High School alumnus, David Scott (left) directs the 531st Air Force Band as guest conductor Sunday June 30, during the Lake Shore Church Independence Day Festival in Rockwall. Scott currently serves as Head of the Department of Music at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Photo by Timothy W. Burnett/Rockwall County News



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## Celebrating America's Independence

**IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776**

### The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right essential to them and formidable to tyrants only. He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within. He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers. He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance. He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures. He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power. He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: For obstructing them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: For imposing taxes on us without our Consent: For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury: For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: For abolishing the free System of British Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands. He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which has obliged us to declare our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

- John Hancock
- New Hampshire: Josiah Bartlett, William Whipple, Matthew Thornton  
Massachusetts: John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, Elbridge Gerry  
Rhode Island: Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery  
Connecticut: Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott  
New York: William Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris  
New Jersey: Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkinson, John Hart, Abraham Clark  
Pennsylvania: Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross  
Delaware: Caesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas McKean  
Maryland: Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll of Carrollton  
Virginia: George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton
- North Carolina: William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn  
South Carolina: Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton  
Georgia: Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton

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