

County Football Players Brave the Heat in Preseason Practice ... see Page 10



Rockwall County News

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Heath welcomes home Marine
 Mayor John Ratcliffe, left, is shown presenting Lance Cpl. Mark McKenna of the United States Marine Corps with a proclamation welcoming him home from deployments to Iraq, Guam and aboard USS Blue Ridge. Heath DPS Chief Terry Garrett presented McKenna with a Survivor Cord Warrior Band Welcome Home Challenge Coin. During his tour of duty, McKenna received several recognitions, including Purple Heart, Presidential Award, Expert Rifleman Badge and Jump Wings pin. McKenna is son of Bob and Marsha McKenna of Heath. The City of Heath regularly recognizes Heath residents who have returned from active duty. For more details contact the city manager at kdobbs@heathtx.

Photos courtesy City of Heath/Rockwall County News

Homicide confirmed in death of Royse City woman

Hunt County sheriff's deputies executed a search warrant on Tuesday, Aug. 10, as part of their continuing investigation into the murder of Heather Leann Pope, 29, of Royse City.

Pope was found dead last week in the front yard of a vacant house in the Duck Cove area near Lake Tawakoni. She had been missing for two weeks.

Hunt County Sheriff Randy Meeks said deputies collected items during the search that may be used as evidence in the case but until it is processed, he could not say where the search was conducted, what the items were or if they were actual evidence of a crime.

The last confirmed contact between Pope and a family member was on July 23, according to Sheriff Meeks.

An autopsy conducted last week confirmed that Pope was



Heather Leann Pope

the victim of a homicide due to blunt force trauma to the head.

Sheriff Meeks said his office does not have any suspects but has identified a person of interest.

Pope's body was found by her father, Randall Pope, and another man who had gone to the area looking for her, Sheriff Meeks said. After inquiring about her at

a convenience store near the lake, they were told several men had been hanging around the back of the store. When her father and his friend went to the area indicated, they found Pope's body at the vacant house.

Pope had been seen in the convenience store and in the vicinity of the store in the time just prior to her murder.

"We are conducting a round-the-clock investigation to solve this murder," Sheriff Meeks said. "We are committed to finding who did this."

Pope is survived by her father and mother, Carla Beheler Pope; Sister, Christi Pope; special cousin, Kendall Beheler; maternal grandparents, Wayne and Frances Beheler; aunt, Paula Edge and husband, Gary, all of Royse City, and numerous other relatives.

Rockwall Council hears plan for Harbor District expansion

Nolan Butts
 During the Aug. 2 meeting, Rockwall's zoning director presented the city's concept plan for expansion of the Harbor District. The plan is a landmark development at the intersection of Interstate 30 and Ridge Road. The project has been under review for more than a year, according to director Nolan Butts. The city's previously conducted neighborhood meetings to answer questions from property owners and the rezoning phase of the project. This was the first public hearing on the plan. The code was comprehensive standards for development in the area east of the Harbor. The city officials have allowed individual property owners to provide a cohesive plan calls for high-end office and retail as well as open spaces "to complete the Harbor project and attract regional area and create a tax base for us," LaCroix said. The plan includes studies and market analysis to guide the plan. The city's regulatory, including, the overall street

grid and building heights in individual subdistricts. Other elements, such as architectural style and signage, make suggestions for a cohesive look to the area, while leaving room for creativity by developers.

The city envisions a "walkable and pedestrian-friendly area for both living and working -- an '18-hour' atmosphere," LaCroix said. There is space planned for residences, high quality restaurants and specialized retail, LaCroix told those at the public hearing. There is mandatory open space land as a buffer from the Lago Vista neighborhood as well as a flex area that may include an age-restricted resort community or possibly patio homes.

Zoning changes will apply to property in adjacent areas to create an entry point on Ridge Road. Proper drainage and preservation of existing mature trees is a priority of the plan, as is improved access to an existing cemetery.

Another part of the plan calls for possible relocation of the I-30 eastbound off ramp, LaCroix said, as well as more controlled access points into the Harbor district. The city is working with the Texas Department of Transportation to plan strategies to alleviate stacked traffic on I-30 at the Horizon exit.

"It looks like the improvements we're working on will relieve congestion and not adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods," LaCroix responded to public hearing questions about Harbor traffic.

In other business, the council

authorized city staff to develop a lease agreement with Landscapes Golf Group for the Rockwall city property section of The Shores Golf Course. Landscapes Golf Group takes ownership from IRI Golf Group, which filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy in July and closed the golf course.

The council voted unanimously to award a bid for construction of the new athletic complex to MHS Architects and Landscapes Unlimited. But the council tabled until the Aug. 16 meeting a decision on contractors for the law enforcement center and downtown improvements. Having received only one bid for construction of the Dalton Road Lift Station improvements, the council rejected the bid, which was about \$25,000 higher than estimates, and moved to reopen bids for the project.

Other council action included a first hearing on new annexation by the city of four areas totaling approximately 825 acres including present city limits. Area 1 consists of 538.8 acres west of SH 205 south of FM 549 and northeast of Hanby Lane. Area 2 is 111.8 acres north of FM 1139 and east of FM 549. Area 3 is 81.96 acres located along the west side of Rochell Road south of SH 276. Area 4 is 92.25 acres along the southeast side of FM 550 south of SH 276.

After P&Z director LaCroix specified the city services to be made available to these areas when annexed, property owners including Christi Huddleston, Ed Coolhorse, Allen Travis, Brett Wilson and Rusty Wylie, voiced their opposition to the proposed

Heath Council eyes possible staff raises

by Jo Anna Matejka
 At their Aug. 3 meeting, members of the Heath City Council discussed whether the city should dip into its fund balance for \$130,000 to give staff an across-the-board 5 percent raise.

According to city manager Ed Thatcher, the city might want to institute the raises to keep salaries for public safety staff in the same range as rates paid in Rockwall and create a gap so that new hires are not paid the same as current long-serving staff.

The city is maintaining a fund balance of \$1.5 million, which is more than a quarter of its operating budget. The current proposed budget would dip into the fund for \$248,650 including the pay raise.

Overall, members of the council are not in favor of the 5 percent raise, but not against increasing compensation, asking to be presented with "something in between."

"After seeing these numbers, I'm a little bit jealous," Councilman Rich Krause said. "I don't mean to put any of our staff down, but there's a handful of people who make more than I do and I've had a long career."

Thatcher offered that if an increase was given to everyone beneath the director level, the executive staff would understand.

"I've had no raises and have had to pay an increase for benefits. That's a net negative," Krause said. "I could see something revenue neutral for staff. We could absorb that increase in benefit cost."

Councilman Steve McKimmey said that in the private sector, with revenue down their not giving any increases.

"We have an obligation and a duty to be stewards and we're talking about a substantial reduction in fund balance," McKimmey said. "I don't want to do it if we don't have to. I

don't know if we're going into a double-dip recession."

Other council members also pointed to conditions in their own businesses.

"In our business, we've had two years of freezes and some people have taken a pay cut," Councilman Lorne Liechty said.

But, with it being two years since staff has seen a pay increase, Councilwoman Karen Lewis said she would like to see the city do something.

The council also directed staff to look for sources of additional revenue such as charging boat launch fees to non-residents at Terry Park.

With a decrease in the city's effective tax rate due to a decrease in taxable values, requirements for public hearing and notifications differ from those observed in the past.

The council expects to vote on the tax rate and the budget on Sept. 21.



annexation. Under state law, all four properties are eligible for what is known as a "212 agricultural exemption" from annexation for

three years. A second hearing on the annexation is set for Aug. 16.

Rockwall residents Joanne and Chris Nash questioned the council

about city action on sewer problems resulting in objectionable smells in their cul-de-sac and their home at 1947 Random

(Continued on Page 3)

Doggie Splash Day set Saturday at park

Doggie Splash Day is set for 10 a.m. Saturday at the Harry Myers Park pool. Hosted by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, the event is scheduled following the city's closure of the pool for the season. Costume and agility contests are planned. Cost will be \$5 per dog; proof of rabies vaccination will be required for each animal. For more details call 972-771-7740 or visit rockwall.com/parks.

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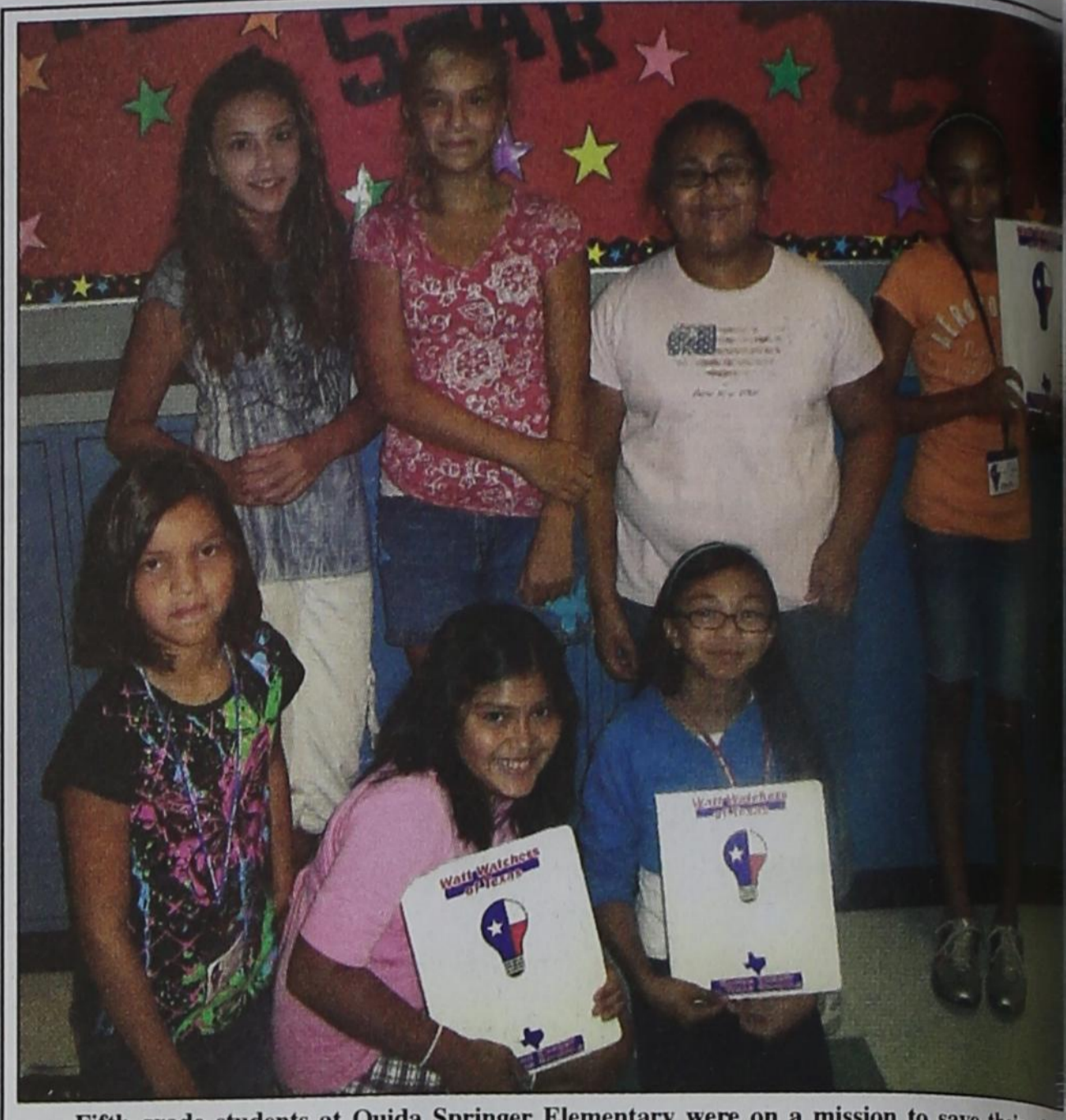
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Fifth grade students at Ouida Springer Elementary were on a mission to save their school Rockwall ISD money earlier this year. Students monitored classrooms and even administrative offices to ensure that lights and computers were turned off when not in use. Pictured are some of the participants including, at the back, Hannah Warner, Vivianna Perez, Francine Herreros and Alexa Hoy. At the front, Abigail Perez, Adriana Sanchez and Alyssa Ochotorena.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

RHHS Band preparing for football season, March-a-Thon

by Mary Thacker
 Talk to any of the 200 Rockwall-Heath High students attending summer band camp and you might be surprised to hear what a great time they're having spending the remainder of their summer in 100-plus degree heat.
 "I have a bias," said Jessica Lynn, assistant drum major, "because I'm the ultimate band nerd and I'm proud of it. The kids here are so focused on what needs to be done. They're like my extended family - my home away from home. Yeah, it's hot, but I wouldn't be anywhere else."
 The day begins at 8 a.m. with two hours of marching fundamentals in the school parking lot. Next the band moves inside for two-and-a-half hours of concentrated sessions within each instrumental section. Finally the entire band plays together in the band hall.
 "It's exhausting, but it's fun to see friends I haven't seen all summer," said Audrey Nelson,

a ninth grade percussion player. "We have water balloon fights, and next Friday a fire truck is coming to cool us off."
 Summer camp culminates on Aug. 20 in the Blowout, which consists of a cookout and a performance for parents. The following day the band students will take to the streets in the second annual fundraising March-a-Thon, where they will parade through neighborhoods and several retail outlets, finishing with a performance at The Harbor amphitheater.
 Lynn said she remembers last year's March-a-Thon. "Six miles - that was pure fun," she said. "I wish I could say that. It was long, but it was for a good cause. I'm more than happy to do it again."
 This year each student is being asked to find one corporate sponsor. All corporate sponsorship money goes to the Band

Booster Club, which provides private lessons and the purchase and upkeep of uniform equipment.
 In addition, each student gets individual pledges. The money they raise is applied toward the student trip fees.
 "We want to raise our awareness of our extra-curricular program," said Sandra March-a-Thon organizer. She placed fliers on all the mail along the route so everyone knows we're coming. The younger kids with the RHHS band come through their neighborhood will support the band when they're in school age."
 Donations may be made to the band using the following address: RHHS Band, 801 L Drive, Heath, TX 75032. For March-a-Thon route information, visit marchathon.org.

Royse City Health & Rehabilitation Center



Using a cane, Dorothy Pryor left the center in just five weeks -- three weeks earlier than expected. Today she is fully mobile and enjoys a full life.
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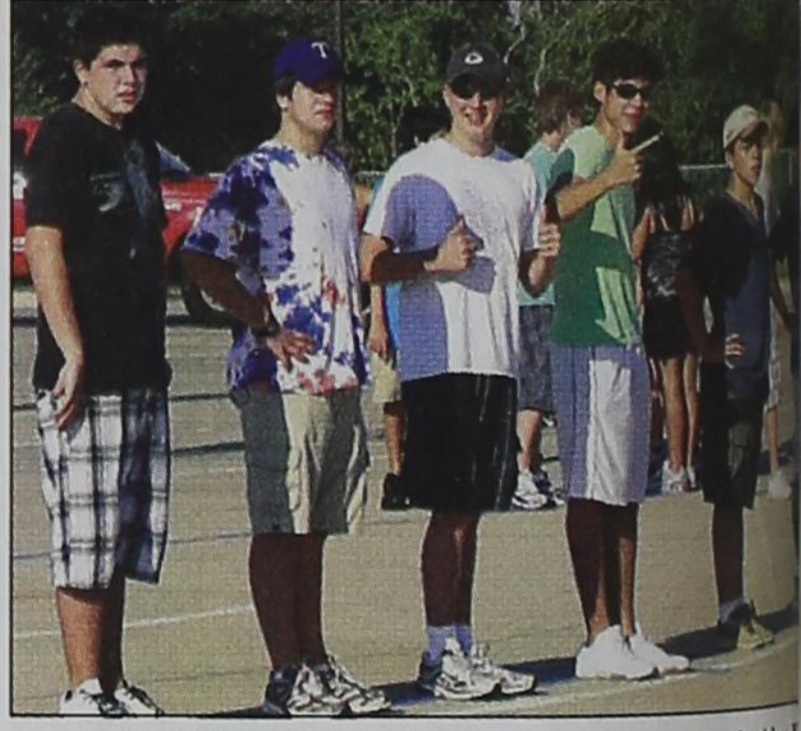
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Greg Shields, Chris Di Giovanni, Austin Griesback, Alex Julio Colon-Gonzales and Yared Hale are shown during a practice session conducted as part of the Rockwall-Heath School summer camp program. The band will kick off its season a.m. Aug. 21 with the second annual March-a-Thon event, which will see the group winding its way through several Heath and Rockwall neighborhoods and making performance stops at Home Depot, Kroger, Costco and The Harbor amphitheater.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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 It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of citizens as 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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RISD: Student meals getting fresher, greener

Breakfasts and lunches served to Rockwall Independent School District students in the coming year will be a little different than in previous years, according to a district news release.

Students should expect to see new food items, including more fruits and vegetables.

"We have always met or exceeded state and federal regulations for meals and have always worked to provide the best nutritional options within our budgetary constraints," said Julie Farris, child nutrition director. "This year we worked to find more ways to improve the quality of our meals, and I believe the students will enjoy the changes."

For example, fresh spinach will be added to all chef salads and side salads. Brown rice will replace white rice in most recipes, increasing the number of whole grains available for students to select. Vegetables also will show up in the new Confetti Cheese Bread offered at all elementary schools, and there will be a new side dish of green beans

and carrots, steamed from frozen.

New entrees will include beef and chicken sliders or mini burgers. Rotisserie chicken will be featured on all menus, and a new low-fat tamale pie and beef chalupas will be offered.

All hamburger patties will be 100 percent beef with no fillers, according to the release. Other student favorites, such as chicken-fried steak and steak fingers, will be made with new recipes that feature lower sodium and better taste.

New breakfast options will include yogurt with graham crackers and a whole grain oatmeal breakfast bar.

Middle and high school students also will be able to try a new southwest veggie roll, a spicy non-meat option, as well as sweet and sour shrimp and chicken chop suey.

For more information on the menu changes, visit rockwallisd.com/departments/childnutrition.aspx.



MusicFest members Ruth Peck, Alex Tayem and John Williams are pictured putting up the banner for the Greater Rockwall Philharmonic's gala concert at The Harbor Saturday. The event will feature scores from "Star Wars," "Schindler's List," and "The Barber of Seville." The concert begins at 8 p.m., followed by a fireworks display. Photo/Rockwall County News



Ryan-Todd, daughter of Brittany and Mike Ryan, was selected Outstanding Student Leader during the Youth Leadership Conference at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth. Her selection was made by other student leaders at the conference, and she was honored during a ceremony at the conference's end by conference director David Virsig, pictured above with the honoree. Ryan-Todd is a member of the varsity volleyball team and the National Honor Society. Photo/Rockwall County News

Living' Outloud Arts Meeting set Aug. 21

Individuals interested in Living' Outloud Arts will meet at 7 p.m. Aug. 21 at the Rockwall Cake Factory, 102 E. Rusk St., in Rockwall. The mission of Living' Outloud Arts is to deliver positive after-school programs to disadvantaged youths, provide in-school workshops for at-risk students and help develop an online curriculum to be used in partnership with school districts nationwide. Participants can serve on the LOA executive board, make donations, join a committee (fundraising, financial, design team or curriculum development) and hear stories of inspiration. Refreshments will be served. There is no charge for the event; however, donations will be appreciated. For more information, visit meetup.com/Livin-Outloud-Arts/calendar. The meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Rockwall Education Arts partner.

Chorus auditions open for upcoming season

Interested chorus singers are invited to audition for the Lakeside Chorus for the upcoming concert season. Auditions are available in all sections. Auditions are scheduled by appointment only. Contact David Bush at 972-679-4777 or e-mail bushdl@swbell.net. The place is from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays in the Rockwall Choral rehearsal Room beginning Sept. 14.

Harbor District expansion...

(Continued from Page 1)

The council has been working over a two-year period to identify the correct address at the address. After a lengthy question-and-answer session with the council, city staff, city engineer Chuck Todd and city attorney, a couple was assured that problems would be resolved to their satisfaction. The council also addressed concerns from Terri Nevitt of 201 Becky Street on potential increased cut-through traffic on her street from the construction of the Eagle Point Estates subdivision west of Harbor between segments of South Alamo Road. Mayor Bill Johnson responded that the council does not have authority to require a construction road connecting directly to Ridge Road. The council expressed confidence that developers of the 13-lot subdivision, F.C. Corp., would consider a construction road and urged the council to meet with Chris Cuny with her request. The hearing continued from July, Jason Dubose received a public hearing for a residential replat to extend fill material over a portion of the property to increase play area in his yard at 751 Monterey Dr. Dubose appeared before City Council to issue an invitation to the Harbor at 8 p.m. on Aug. 14. The Greater Rockwall Philharmonic Orchestra will perform, and the evening will conclude with fireworks.

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- Over 1 Year** • Christopher Channell, Dietary Aide

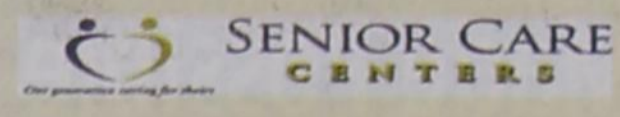


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Rockwall County Obituaries

Yolanda Guevara

Services for Yolanda Guevara, 42, of Rockwall were conducted at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 12, 2010, at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Rockwall with the Rev. Romulo Mazariegos officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

She died Sunday, Aug. 8.

She was born April 8, 1968, in Brownsville.

Survivors include her daughter, Margarita Guevara, her son, Antonio Guevara, her parents, Fermin Perez and Leonor S. Perez, and her sisters, Norma A. Guevara and Leticia Perez, all of Rockwall; her brothers, Fermin Perez Jr. of Bonita Springs, Fla., and Jaime Perez of Brownsville and Gilbert Perez, both of Rockwall; and her grandmother, Maria del Socorro Gamez of Brownsville.

Marie R. 'Mary' Jimenez

Funeral Mass for Marie R. "Mary" Jimenez, 92, of Rockwall will be conducted at a later date at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Long Beach Island, N.J. Burial will follow at St. Mary's Mausoleum in Manahawkin, N.J.

The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Rosary will be at 3 p.m.

She died Aug. 2.



Born May 28, 1918, in Manhattan, N.Y., to Salvatore and Carmella (Lo-Presti) Ambrogio, she lived on Long Beach Island prior to moving to Rockwall. She had been employed as a bookkeeper by the Long Beach Island Township school system. Following retirement, she was active in the St. Francis of Assisi Church Community Center, serving as the Woman's Guild treasurer and president for many years. She was previously employed in New York City with Louis Harris, Essex Belts and the Citizens Budget Commission of New York City.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Janet M. Richmond and Thomas R. Richmond of Rockwall; one granddaughter, Melissa J. Fox of Rockwall; one grandson, Brandon D. Fox, and his wife, Vanessa, and son, Hayden, of San Diego, Calif.; her step-grandchildren, Kay Judge, and her husband, Dr. John Judge, and their children, Erin and Logan, of Middlefield, Mass.; Thomas R. Richmond III who is serving in Iraq, his wife, Kathleen, and their children, Michaela, Morgan and Maeve, of Rockwall, Dr. Victoria Smithers and her husband, David, and their children, Ryan and Rachel, of Rockwall and Jeff Richmond of Palm Coast, Fla.; her sisters, Lydia Fish of Port Jervis, N.Y., and Theresa O'Neil of Las Vegas, Nev.; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, grandnieces and grandnephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Felipe I. Jimenez; her parents; her sisters, Millie, Josephine and Sally; and her brother, John, Francesco and Salvatore.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the Camp Rising Sun Charitable Foundation, which serves children with cancer, at P.O. Box 310611, Newington, CT 06131-0611 or online at camp-risingsun.com.

Dean Anthony Marcy

Services for Dean Anthony Marcy, 67, of Dallas will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, 2010, in the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church with Father George Monaghan officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel will be in charge of arrangements.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, Friday, at the funeral home.

He died Aug. 6.

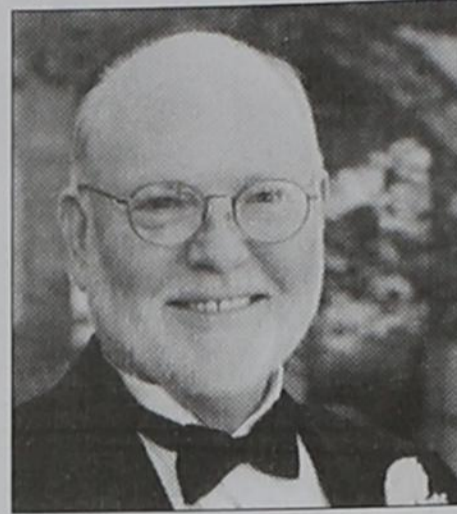
Born July 28, 1943, in Seymour to William R. and Ruby Halford Burks, he graduated from high school in Lubbock and attended South Plains Junior College on a music scholarship. He earned a BBA in accounting in 1968 from Texas Tech University and his CPA certification in 1969. He was a member of the AICPA and the Texas Association of CPAs. Some of the companies for which he worked included Lybrand, Ross Bros., Montgomery CPAs, Mayrath Industries, Whitehall Corp., where he served as treasurer, and TIC Industries Inc., where he was senior vice president and CFO before becoming disabled in 1996.

He was a self-taught expert in computer programming. He enjoyed playing tennis, guitar and piano, as well as singing and cooking. He was a Catholic and attended Holy Trinity Catholic Church and St. Patrick's Catholic Church before becoming disabled.

Survivors include his daughter, Indira Marcy Eaton, and her husband, Nicholas, of Rockwall; his granddaughter, Rachel Eaton; his grandsons, Mark and Thor Eaton; his former wife, Caroline Dunn Marcy; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother; father; stepfather; sister, Dorothy Balemon Clark; and brother, William "Billy Ray" Burks-Cavanaugh.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, Northern Regional Office, 12770 Merit Drive, Suite 115-A, Lockbox 113, Dallas, TX 75251 or the American Kid-



ney Fund, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 1010, Rockville, MD

Heather Pope

Services for Heather Pope, 29, of Roysie City were conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, Aug. 9, 2010, in the First Baptist Church in Roysie City with Pastor Chad Hays officiating. Burial followed in the Roysie City Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Roysie City Chapel.

She died Aug. 4.

Born Jan. 31, 1981, in Dallas, she was a member of the First Baptist Church. She never met a stranger and liked everyone for who they were. She lit up any room she always had something to say to make everyone laugh.

Survivors include her father, Randall Pope, her mother, Christi Pope, and her sister, Christi Pope, all of Roysie City; a special dall Beheler of Roysie City; her maternal grandparents, Wayne Beheler of Roysie City; her aunts, Paula Edge, and her husband, Roysie City, Pam Geer and her husband, Jamie, of Burleson and her husband, David, of Plano; her uncles, Richard Pope, Annette, of Princeton, Dale Hanks of Garland and Hugh Benilton; her cousins, Jill DeLeon, Lindsey and Chris Page, Ja and Brittney Geer, Jimmy and Jerry Hanks and Leslie and a special friend, Larry Wright.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to Tims Compensation, P.O. Box 12198, Austin, TX 78711-2198

Mary Jones Price

Services for Mary Jones Price, 93, of Rockwall were conducted at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 7, 2010, in the First Baptist Church, M.L. Jones Chapel, in Rockwall with Pastor Joe Robbins officiating. Burial followed in the Rockwall Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

She died at her home July 30.

Born Dec. 10, 1916, in Lindale to Alex and Lena (Davis) Jones, she worked as a vocational nurse and enjoyed cooking. She was a member of St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Rockwall, as well as the Missionary Society and the Herons of

Survivors include her children, Roger Price, Dorothy Ne Dixon, Barbara Hicks and Gail Shaw, all of Rockwall; 27 great-grandchildren; 25 great-great-grandchildren; her sisters; her sister-in-law, Margarine Jones; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Al; five children; one granddaughter; three brothers; and six sisters.

More Obituaries on Page 5
News When It Happens
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First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall is located at 602 White Hills Drive, just north of the intersection of I-30 and Ridge Road. The congregation, which is dedicated to local and global mission work, is led by Pastor Cheryl Taylor. Visitors are invited to attend Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and Worship at 11 a.m. For more information call 972-771-5702.

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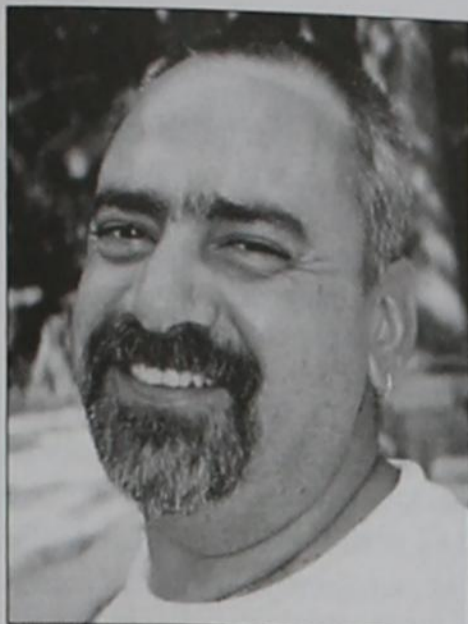
"A fool's mouth is his destruction, lips are the snare of his soul."
 Proverbs 10:13
 "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."
 Matthew 5:8

Rockwall County Obituaries

(Continued from Page 4)

Sam Siciliano

Services for Sam Siciliano will be conducted on Friday, Aug. 14, 2010, in the Methodist Church. Graveside services will follow in Kelleys Island at Kelleys Island, in the direction of the Rest Home-Rockwall.



He was born on August 23, 1958, in Akron, Ohio, and was a member of the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife of 10 years, Rachael Siciliano of Rockwall; his daughter, Brynn Siciliano of Rockwall; his son, Nicholas Siciliano of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; his daughter, Cathy Coffman of Kelleys Island; his brother, Tony Siciliano of Sandusky, Ohio; and his brother, James Bugel; and one sister, Connie Ferder, in death.

Ann 'Owi' Theken

Services for Ann 'Owi' Theken will be conducted on Friday, Aug. 13, 2010, in the Haven Funeral Home with the Rev. Lyn Cypert officiating.



She was born on August 15, 1938, in Germany and was a loving wife and best friend to her husband, Royce City; her sons, Bill and Eddie Fincher; her daughter, Deanna Posig; her sisters, Gert and Irene McBride; her grandchildren, Jillian, Devin and Kyle Fincher and Rebecca.

She preceded her in death. Memorial contributions may be made to the Food Bank, 4500 S. Cockrell Hill Road., Dallas, TX 75236-2600. Call at info@ntfb.org.

Cody Williams

Services for Cody Williams, 28, were conducted on Friday, Aug. 6, 2010, in the Rest Home-Rockwall with the Rev. Lyn Cypert officiating.



He was born on August 30, 1981, in Dallas, Texas, and was employed as a welder at United Metals Inc. He is survived by his wife, Shana Williams of Sachse; his daughter, Melissa, of Royse City; his sister, Joyce, and her husband, John, of Killeen; and his stepdaughters, Dan, of Midland and Stefanie Turrentine, of Amarillo. He preceded in death by his mother.

Movies in the Park Scheduled for September

All Parks & Recreation will host Movies in the Park on Friday evening in September.

Sept. 17, The Park at Hickory Ridge, 1910 Walnut Ridge Road; and Sept. 24, Northshore Park, 609 Highland Drive.

The program will open with competitions, including homerun derby, freestyle, relay races, raffles, bounce houses and other activities beginning at dusk.

Viewing locations have been set for Sept. 3, The Shores at Lakes Blvd.; Sept. 10, Fox Chase, 4475 Tubbs.

Kindermusik under Wee School

Kindermusik is now under way at the Wee School. It features a Mother's program on Tuesdays and the program is open to children 18 months to 5 years.

The director is Melody Miller. The school is located in the First Baptist Church of Heath, 224 Smirl.

For details call 214-460-771-8275.

Kindermusik class is designed to introduce children to the program curriculum, which includes moving, dancing and singing in an age-appropriate manner.

For more information about Kindermusik, visit www.rockwallymca.com. To register for the preview class, call 972-772-6874.

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Receive holy spirit...Acts 1, 8 & 10

In this series we continue with our discussion on what it means to receive the holy spirit. The word "receive" as used in John 20:22 comes from the earlier known Greek word "lambano", which meant to lay-hold of, or seize onto something. It carried with it a sense of permanent ownership. See Acts 2:33, "Therefore being by the right hand of God, exalted and having received [lambano] of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost [holy spirit], he has shed forth this [holy spirit] which you now see and hear." When we track back to Acts 2:6-11, we learn that they saw and heard them speak in tongues. We will now look at other scripture that uses the word "receive" [lambano] in the context of receiving holy spirit.

Acts 1:8, "But you shall receive [lambano] power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you..." When the word "power" is used in the context of God's power, it always refers to holy spirit. What does it mean in this verse to "receive power"? It doesn't say. But as noted above from Acts 2:33, we understand it to refer to when they started speaking in tongues. Lets go to other verses that refer to receiving holy spirit.

Acts 8:14-18, "Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John...that they might receive [lambano] the Holy Ghost...Then laid they their hands on them, and they received [lambano] the Holy Ghost." In verse 14, the words "had received" are translated from the Greek word "dechomai", which meant to mentally receive information favorably. It is distinctly different from the word "lambano." This scripture does not specifically reveal what condition they met to receive holy spirit. But verse 18 provides a hint, "And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered money..." Simon saw them receive [lambano] holy spirit. What he saw was the same as what the people saw as recorded in Acts 2:4 & 33.

Acts 10:43-47, "...through his name whosoever believes in him shall receive [lambano] remission of sins. While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word...For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, 'Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received [lambano] the Holy Ghost as well as we?'" What did Peter and his companions see that indicated the Gentiles laid-hold of holy spirit? They saw them speak in tongues.

Verse 43 teaches us that whoever believes in him must receive [lambano] remission of sins. According to Romans 10:9-10, anyone who believes with the heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, will be made righteous. This related to the remission of sins. According to Acts 10:43, they were instructed to receive or lay-hold of (lambano) remission of sins. Verse 47 reveals they met the same conditions as the first twelve did in Acts 2:4. First they were filled with holy spirit, which is remission of sin, then they laid-hold of holy spirit when they spoke in tongues.

By rightly dividing God's word and allowing it to interpret itself we can start to see a very simple, yet dynamic truth. Speaking in tongues is a much more important part of the Christians' spiritual lives than previously believed. It was so important to God, that He gave the first disciples a miraculous vision of burning cloven tongues as a cue to start speaking in tongues (See Acts 2:1-4). Even though they were filled with holy spirit, it was God's will that they receive or lay-hold of holy spirit by speaking in tongues.

It would be reasonable to ask why it was important to receive holy spirit, when they were already filled with it. Wasn't it enough to be filled? God knows the precise answer. Based on the scriptures, to be filled with something would not denote permanent ownership or control. A glass that is filled with tea can also become empty again. God provides an example of this in the above mentioned man named Simon (Acts 8:14-18). Simon heard the words spoken by Philip. He received the words favorably in his mind. Yet we find in the same record that Peter and John perceives that Simon was not capable of speaking in tongues. What happened? When Simon heard Philip's words and believed with his heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, he was immediately filled with holy spirit.

Being filled with holy spirit was a good place for Simon to be. Yet we find that later he offers to pay Peter and John for the ability to "receive" the Holy Ghost so he could walk with the same power. The apostles basically told Simon that his heart was full of evil and that he could have nothing to do with it. The best that I can tell, Simon must not have held on to what he believed earlier and was no longer filled with holy spirit during the time that he spoke with the apostles. Without being filled with holy spirit, it would have been impossible for him to lay-hold of the Holy Ghost by speaking in tongues.

Another possible explanation could be that Simon was still filled with holy spirit, but that he could have nothing to do with receiving the Holy Ghost because he thought he could pay money for it.

I tend to lean toward the former explanation because other scriptures show that God is not a respecter of persons, and that anyone who is filled with holy spirit would be have the capacity to speak in tongues.

It is interesting to note that after the apostles reproved Simon, he asked them to pray for him. The record does not show what happened after that. But one possible result could be that Simon changed his thinking again so that he could receive the Holy Ghost by speaking in tongues.

Thank God in heaven for His faithful and everlasting power and mercy!

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August 21, 2010 • Occasions at Stone River
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Program 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$25.00 each and may be purchased at
www.rcrw.org or by calling (469) 698-7788.

Our Silent Auction items will feature the talents of our Members and local residents.
Our special guest speakers are Ralph M. Hall, U.S. Congressman, CD4 and Leslee Gilbert, Republican Staff Director U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science and Technology

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A group of Rockwall residents riding the bike trails in Garland Saturday unexpectedly met up with former President George W. Bush, who now resides in Dallas. Pictured with Bush are Rockwall residents Jason Ross, Rhonda Mishler, Tim Troup, Carrie Varner and Belle Kipping, as well as Janie Simpson of Heath. Bush encouraged the group's members to continue their pursuit of learning to ride, as this was the maiden bike ride for everyone except Ross, who is an experienced rider.

Photo courtesy of Rhonda Mishler/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

RHHS cheerleaders skills camp today

The Rockwall-Heath cheerleaders will host a general skills camp from 9 a.m. to noon today, Aug. 13, at Cain Middle School. Open to participants ages 5 to 13, the event will cost \$30 (cash or check) and provide instruction on general skills such as jumps, cheers and tumbling. To pre-register or for more details contact Lisa Ward at wtlaw@suddenlink.net.

RC Chamber plans Casino Night

The Roysse City Chamber of Commerce Casino Night & Silent Auction is set today, Aug. 13, at Occasions at Stone River. The event will provide funding for economic development efforts, scholarships and other chamber and community events. Tickets cost \$35. For more details call Julia Bryant at 972-636-5000.

Library to train volunteer tutors

The Rockwall County Library will provide training for new volunteer tutors for the Reading for Adults

program from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 14. Tutors help English as a Second Language learners improve reading and speaking skills in classes. Potential tutors should visit with Gloria at the library for more details. To pre-register call 972-204-7705 or e-mail gbishop@rockwallcounty-texas.com.

Mental illness support groups to meet

Two free NAMI support groups will meet from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 14 at the First United Methodist Church, 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. One group is for individuals with mental illness (Room 121) and the other is for members of their families (Room 123), B Building. Call Hal or Dee Whitfield, 972-412-6030 for more details.

Rockwall MusicFest plans event

Rockwall MusicFest will present An Evening of John Williams at The Harbor beginning at 8 p.m. Aug. 14. The event will include the music of "Star Wars," "The Patriot," "Superman" and other works performed by the Greater Rockwall Philharmonic Orchestra. The show

will end with a fireworks display.

RCHS Band Boosters need volunteers

The Roysse City Mighty Bulldog Band Boosters will conduct a Hot Dog Night at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 19 at the RCHS football stadium. Parents are needed to help set up beginning at 5:30 p.m. For more information visit royssecityband.org or e-mail amibrandow@sbcglobal.net.

Final concert to feature Texas country

The Concert by the Lake series concludes Aug. 19 at The Harbor Amphitheater. This week's performer is Tommy Alverson, who specializes in Texas country. Admission to the 7:30 performance is free. Participants are urged to bring blankets or lawn chairs to the amphitheater, which is located behind the Hilton.

Tri-County Choral auditions slated

The Tri-County Choral Society is inviting singers ages 18 and older to join the group for its fall concert. Auditions will run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Aug. 24 at City Hall in Roysse City. The concert is set for Dec. 10. For more details visit tri-county-choralsociety.art.officelive.com or e-mail tricountychoral@gmail.com.

Computer Council to reconvene

Following its summer break, the Rockwall Computer Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 1 at The Center, Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington St. Speaker will be Bob Alston, whose presentation will focus on viruses, spam and other related topics. A Q&A will follow. The RCC is open to anyone interested in computer use in the home or office. For more details call Jim Baird at 972-771-8529.

Library closing for Labor Day

The Rockwall County Library will be closed Sept. 4-6 in observance of Labor Day. The library will open at 10 a.m. Sept. 7.

'Tall Tales or True' set in RC

"Tall Tales or True" is set for 7 p.m. Sept. 10 in the tiled room at City Hall in Roysse City. Cost for dinner is \$8, and a prize will be awarded for the most correct answers during the historical guessing game. Call the Zaner Robison Historical Museum at 972-635-7438 for more details. Tickets are available at the Hardware Store, museum or City Hall.

Rockwall officials disclose projections for FY 2011

City of Rockwall Finance Director Mary Smith is projecting a flat sales tax, a slight increase in property revenues and a reduction in new building revenues for fiscal 2011, according to a news release issued Tuesday by the municipality.

With strong support from the Rockwall City Council, Smith has recommended the property tax remain at its current level of 50.31 cents per \$100 valuation for the new fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

The proposed budget City Manager Julie Couch will present to council members Aug. 13 also rec-

ommends no increase in customer rates for water and sewer services.

Following budget hearings, the council is expected to approve a final spending plan for 2010-2011.

The proposed fiscal 2011 budget totaling \$23.8 million does not include employee raises or the hiring of new employees, and there are few programming changes, according to the news release.

Assessed property value estimated by Ray Helm of the Rockwall Central Appraisal District shows a 2.62 percent increase, which Smith

said is attributable to an increase in land, including Industrial Estates (48 percent) and other uses such as Costco expansion of Rockwall Center.

Helm's report shows 8,921 owner-occupied homes in the city with an average value of \$192,206.

Regarding sales tax, Smith said impact of the Thumb grocery store projected yet, but it is being monitored throughout the year.

Plans unveiled for annual RCAA Gala on Sept. 11

This year's Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts Gala, set for Sept. 11, will feature a patriotic theme.

Local celebrities participating in the annual Dancing with the Stars competition will include Lowell and Betty Moon, Jack Ogilvie, Rob and Sara Whittle, Rob Vaughn and Dave and Carole Cutcomb, who are training with dance instructor Margaret Kochan of A Dance to Remember studio to perfect their routines.

Audience members will vote for their favorite dancers with tax-deductible donations. The dancer with the highest total will win the contest.

To make the competition more fun, Chief Justice Carolyn Wright, former mayor Alma Williams Howard, Mayor Bill Cecil and Craig Zurek will serve as judges and provide critiques.

Other stars of the evening include the celebrity artists who have been mentored by local craftsmen Doug Agee, Joetta Currie, and Suerrera Todd to create paintings, sculptures and photographs that will be auctioned off to fund arts-related scholarships for the youngsters of

Rockwall, Heath and Roysse City.

This year's celebrity artists include Dr. Joan Terry, the Rev. Steve Stroope, Tom Maglisceau and Lee Gilbert.

Veterans will be honored during the event. Sponsors are donating tickets for veterans so they can enjoy the evening, which will include food provided by the chefs of the Hilton Bella Harbor and music provided by Nobles of Note.

The 15-piece band, led by conductor Gary Zervas, donates its performance fees to Shriners Burn Hospital on Galveston. Two hours of open-floor dancing to Big Band music will be available at the end of the evening.

Shelly Bennett and Julie Pfiieger are organizing the event. They have secured the services of TV news anchor Heather Hayes, who will act as emcee.

In addition to a meal accompanied by music from the Rockwall-Heath High School Strings, the Dancing with the Stars competition and silent auction of artwork, there will be entertainment provided by the Lakeside Civic Chorus and the A Dance to Remember dance troupe.

The live auction will include works of the Celebrity Artists as well as the three winners of the Art League's People's Choice Award competition earlier in the evening.

The Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts is a non-profit organization dedicated to the arts of Rockwall County. It provides Open Door Grants to organizations such as the Community Playhouse, La Civic Chorus, Rockwall Chorus, Rockwall Foundation, Music Foundation, Art League and Heard Symphony.

The RCAA also provides scholarships to local students for drama, art and music. Their Youth ArtReach program has awarded more than \$100,000 in funding since its inception.

The RCAA Gala will run from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Bella Harbor in Roysse City. Tickets cost \$100 per person or \$150 per couple; corporate tickets are \$800 and may be purchased by calling Kathleen Moore at 972-771-1111.

Reduced-cost animal show, microchip clinic set Sept. 11

A reduced-cost shot and microchip clinic will be offered by Rockwall Animal Services from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 11 at the Rockwall Animal Adoption Center, 1825 Airport Rd.

Veterinarians from the Rockwall County Veterinarian Clinic will administer the shots.

All dogs will be required to be on leashes and all cats in carriers.

All dogs and cats residing within the Rockwall city limits are required to be vaccinated against rabies at either one-year or three-year intervals, depending on the type of vaccine used. Rabies shots will be offered as one-year, \$8, or three-year, \$24.

Cats may also receive a FVRCP and FELV combined shot for \$24.

Dogs may receive a DHLPP plus Parvo shot (two shots in one) at a cost of \$16 and a Bordetella SQ only shot (no nasal vaccines) for \$10.

Also offered while supplies last will be microchipping for cats and dogs.

Microchipping provides advanced pet identification and retrieval. A microchip with a unique identification code is implanted under the skin between the shoulder blades of the pet, then the pet owner enrolls the animal with a pet recovery service that maintains a national database. When a lost pet is found, the animal can be scanned at a shelter or clinic and the animal's identification number can be called in to the pet recovery service, allowing the pet owner to be notified immediately.

Fee for microchipping is \$20, which includes the procedure to administer the microchip.

City of Rockwall Animal Services also will be a table at the clinic.

For each spayed or neutered cat registration cost is \$5 per year or \$15 for a one-year registration. For non-spayed or neutered animals the cost is \$30 per year or \$30 for a three-year registration.

Pet owners from outside Rockwall city limits are welcome to request shots for their animals.

For more details, call Rockwall Animal Services at 972-771-

Local Republicans make change in leadership

Tony Fisk was elected chairman of the Republican Party of Rockwall County Tuesday following the resignation of Paul Wilson.

Fisk was tapped by the Executive Committee to fill the unexpired term left vacant July 30 after Wilson resigned to spend more time with his family.

Fisk serves as president of the Rockwall County Republican Men's Club. He has indicated he will step down as club president after calling the Executive Committee of the Men's Club to order next week.

The club's presidency will be assumed by Brian Williams, current vice president of the group.

Both men are notable leaders in Rockwall County, with long records of service to the community, according to a news release from the local Republican group.

"The Republican Party of Rockwall County is a conservative group of people who are concerned about the expansion of the federal government, the constant intrusion of government into our daily lives and the loss of basic rights of individuals which have been the cornerstone of our American system," Williams said in a press release. "We are fortunate to have outstanding leaders like Tony Fisk and Brian Williams in our community."

Mighty Hawk Band plan Aug. 21 March-a-Thon

The award-winning Rockwall-Heath High School Mighty Hawk Band will kick off the upcoming school year with its second annual March-a-Thon on Aug. 21.

Beginning at 9 a.m. the band will march through Heath and Rockwall neighborhoods, including Loftland Farms, Meadowcreek Estates and others. Special performance stops will be made at Home Depot, Kroger and Costco, and the event will wrap up with a fundraising concert at The

Harbor amphitheater.

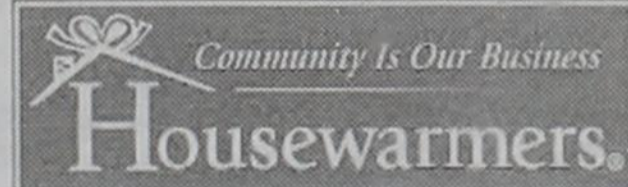
The goal for the event is to raise money for the band's yearly expenses, including the provision of new instruments, repairs to older instruments, repair and replacement of band uniforms, private lessons for band members, covering contest expenses and providing scholarships to students who excel in music education.

The RHHS Band, also known as The Pride of Heath, is comprised of

approximately 200 students.

Donations to the band should be directed to RHHS, 10000 Laurence Drive, Heath, TX 75130 (checks should be made payable to RHHS HBO). Interested individuals should contact Chandra, president of fundraising, at 972-771-524-9976.

For more details about the March-a-Thon or other related activities, visit the website at mightyhawkband.org.



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LOCAL BUSINESSES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Opinions

What Handouts Cut

Walter E. Williams
 ...of failure to heed the limitations of the U.S. Constitution, ... produced runaway federal spending, our nation sits on the ... of disaster. Former Senator Alan Simpson of Wyoming and ... Bowles, White House chief of staff under President Bill Clinton, ... men of President Obama's debt and deficit commission, in a ... gton Post article "Obama's Debt Commission Warns of Fiscal ... (July 12, 2010) said that "(A)t present, federal revenue is ... consumed by three programs: Social Security, Medicare and ... d. The rest of the federal government, including fighting two ... meland security, education, art, culture, you name it, veterans ... hole rest of the discretionary budget is being financed by China ... er countries."

... commission added the current budget trend is a disaster "that ... troy the country from within" unless checked by tough action ... ington. The tough action required is spending cuts in programs, ... ng the so-called nondiscretionary, eating most of the federal ... es.

... rding to the Census, around 80 percent of Americans 65 and ... wn their own homes compared to 43 percent under 35. Twenty- ... illion households, or 37 percent of all homeowners, own their ... free and clear, and most of these are seniors aged 65 and older. ... ing to the Federal Reserve Board's 2007 "Survey of Consumer ... es," the median net worth of people 65 and over is \$232,000, ... nder 35 years have a net worth of \$12,000 and for those 35-44, ... 7,000.

... ood reason, older people have accumulated more wealth than ... er people; the primary reason is that they've had more time to do ... re is no logical case that can be made for using the tax system to ... Americans with less wealth to subsidize those with more wealth. ... is not clear who is subsidizing whom. Consider an elderly widow, ... years old, with a modest retirement income of \$18,000 living in ... 0,000 house that's fully paid for. She might receive local property ... giveness, medical and prescription drug subsidies and other ... ll, state and local subsidies based upon her age and income.

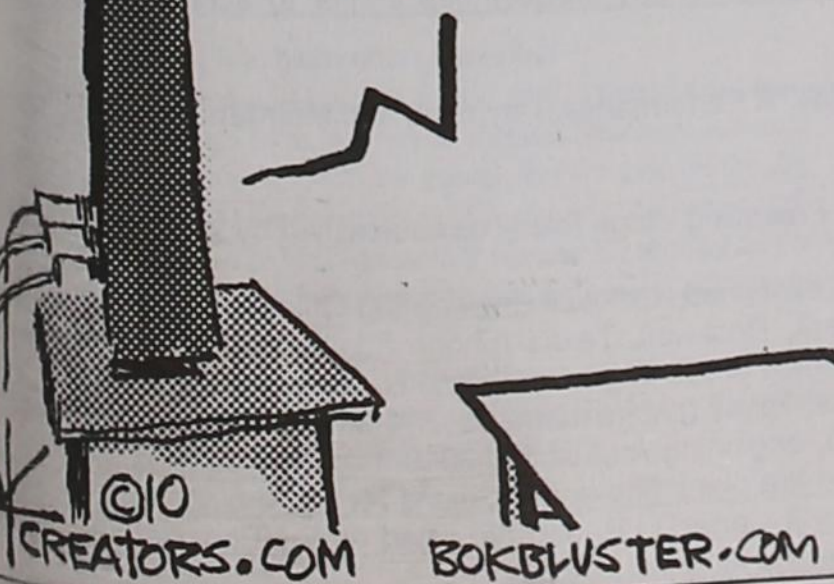
... en subsidies are provided for this lady, whom are we truly ... ing? It's not the lady but her heirs. Conceivably, the lady could ... deal with a financial institution to pay her property taxes, allow ... ve in the house for the rest of her life and give her a lump sum ... tlement so that she can live without the handouts. Upon her ... e, the house becomes the property of the financial institution, not ... s. Giving the widow handouts allows her to bequeath to her ... er assets, a \$300,000 house. If her children want to inherit the ... e, they, rather than taxpayers, ought to take care of their mother. ... can start getting the federal spending under control by ending ... dies to people with high net worth that can be ready turned ... ash such as a home or business. While seniors might say that ... support reduced government spending, they, like other handout ... ents, believe they have a right, through government, to live at the ... e of others. What's more, they have considerable clout -- they ... in large numbers. Only 50 percent of young people vote, but up to ... ercent of seniors vote.

... ical guts have always been in short supply and politicians fear ... or retaliation at the polls. Moreover, it's a practical matter for seniors ... politicians. The true economic calamity won't hit the country until ... or 2040. By that time, both today's politicians and seniors will be ... d so why should they make sacrifices now to prevent an economic ... unity decades off into the future? Seniors might protest my cynicism ... they can easily prove me wrong by waging an effective campaign to ... handouts based on superannuation.

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

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 WHY CAN'T WE HAVE VACATION?!



Panic on the Left

by Bill O'Reilly
 David Letterman is a liberal kind of guy, and like many on the left, old Dave is kind of frustrated these days. A new Gallup poll has President Obama's job approval rating at just 41 percent, with 53 percent disapproving. Those are the lowest numbers Gallup has posted since Obama was inaugurated more than a year and a half ago.

So Dave is seeking answers to the president's diminishing popularity, and that kind of conversation usually involves the Fox News Channel, which is considered by the left to be all anti-Obama, all the time. Since I work at FNC, I dispute that perception. But there is no doubt that Fox News is the most skeptical TV news organization when it comes to analyzing the president.

Consider this: If Obama was being worked over the way President Bush was by the establishment media, his job approval rating would probably be in the 20 percent range. Remember the brutal media beating Bush took? Today, the mainstream press is largely neutral or positive on Obama, even as many Americans are having doubts about him.

But let's get back to Letterman. Speaking with far-left MSNBC News commentator Rachel Maddow on his program, Dave listened as she put forth the preposterous theory that Fox News wants to frighten white Americans by reporting negatively about black Americans. "Scaring white people is good politics on the conservative side of the spectrum, and it always has been. The idea is that you sort of rile up the white base to be afraid of an other, to be afraid of scary immigrants or scary black people..."

In the past, paranoid, dishonest rants like that would have been dismissed as fringe speak. But not anymore. Without a shred of evidence,

Next federal takeover ... Education?

by Andrew Leonie
 Did you know that President Obama's \$787 Trillion failed stimulus also included \$4.3 Billion designated for the federal Department of Education's "Race to the Top" plan? In this plan, States that conform their State education system to the federal plan can get up to \$750 Million in stimulus money. Did you know that Governor Perry announced that Texas would be the first state not to participate in this creation of national education standards? We have since been joined by Alaska, Virginia and Minnesota. But at least 27 other states are feeling so pinched by their budgetary extravagances that they are prepared to adopt the new standards and get the Obama administration funds.

a guest on Letterman's "Late Show" (which by the way gets trounced in the ratings by FNC every night) defines an entire news organization as a racist enterprise. And Letterman goes along with the program, adding: "These people are continuing to fan this flame and ... that is cancer."

The only people Fox News is scaring are far-left loons who see their shining city on the hill on fire. For 18 months, the United States has been governed from the left, and things are not going well. I'm sorry if this analysis frightens some folks, but when you spend a half-trillion dollars trying to stimulate the economy and you create just 600,000 jobs, well, people are going to notice.

When the war in Afghanistan turns chaotic, Americans are not going to be pleased. When the nation's debt is increased by more than a trillion dollars a year because of record spending, folks are going to get a bit nervous. So, in order to counter those realities, the far left must divert attention from them. Thus, the scary black people deal.

In reply, here's a Top 1 list for Letterman and his uber-liberal guest: The American people don't need to be "riled" up by phony race baiting. They are already riled up by reality. And the polls prove 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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These new national education standards are a massive change in our education system, which has historically been a state and local issue. The idea of national standards appears to be a push for higher and better standards of education, but the track-record of national standards does not support that assumption. Lindsey Burke of The Heritage Foundation has also noted that "Centralized standard-setting would force parents and other taxpayers to relinquish one of their most powerful tools for school improvement: control of the academic content, standards and testing through their state and local policymakers".

We all desire a good if not the best education possible for our children. But the fundamental first question to be answered is whether national standards produce strong educational outcomes. On international tests, countries that have national standards outperform the United States, but so do those who score below us. Notably, Canada, which routinely outscores us has no national standards at all. Additionally, any presumed connection between different state standards within the US and academic performance is also weak and inconsistent. Also it is well known that increased spending does not necessarily succeed in raising student achievement.

Nationalization of education will lead to mediocrity. The federal government does not have a good track record when it comes to improving educational achievement. What exactly can the Department of Education point to as a positive accomplishment in the 30 years since it came into existence? It is far better for states such as Texas to empower and support local school boards as they work to strengthen accountability and provide school performance information to taxpayers and parents. In that way better decisions and choices can be made by people most invested and closest to the issues.

Lately, we've been taking too many risks with nationalization in America. We've seen the nationalization efforts of the Obama administration in the auto industry, health care, banking, attempts in the oil and gas industries and now in education. The power of the federal government has been increasing in the area of education for over 40 years without improvement in outcomes. Does anyone really believe this new expansion of federal power would be any different?

Andrew Leonie is a lawyer who has lived with his family in Rockwall County for over 20 years. The opinions expressed are his own.

A Dissenting Opinion

"Before placing its hand in the taxpayer's pocket, the Government must place its finger first on the law authorizing its action."

Justice Thomas, with whom Justice Scalia joins, dissenting.
 United Dominion Industries, Inc. v. United States, 532 U.S. 822, 839, 150 L. Ed. 2d 45, 121 S. Ct. 1934(2001)



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Help Wanted

Spanish Teacher Needed
Private Christian School, 2 minutes from Rockwall. Begins August 23. Email: info@poetrychristian.org or call 972-563-7227.

Help Wanted: must be able to work day or evening shifts and have own transportation. Need people to do dishes, prep food and wait tables. Apply at Pizza Ghetto Restaurant between 2-5 p.m.

Garage Sales

Garage Sale
301 James, Heath, 8 to 5, Fri. Aug. 13

and Sat. Aug. 14. Household items, hand tools, barware, furniture.

Huge Moving Sale

Furniture, baby furniture, household items, 7 a.m. to noon Friday Aug. 13 & 14. 3314 Anna Cade Circle, Rockwall.

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'95 Chevy Suburban, 3/4 ton, 4 W.D., trailer pkg. \$2,500. 214-533-5761.

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Available soon - New 1,000 to 8,000 sq. ft. - in Rockwall County, ideal for church, meeting hall or offices, will build out to suit tenant. Ample parking. 214-554-2232.

Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT 7-eleven beverage company, inc. dba 7-eleven convenience store #34353 has filed a written application dated the 28th day of July, 2010 to be issued a WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT, at 3520 horizon road, rockwall, rockwall county, texas. officers OF

7-eleven beverage company inc. INCLUDE: arthur e. rubinett-president. In Compliance with Section 61.38 of the "Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code", said application will be heard before the Honorable Chris Florance, County Judge of Rockwall County Texas, located at 101 East Rusk Street, 3rd floor, in Rockwall, Texas on the 19th day of August, 2010 at 8:30 o'clock am. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE this Wednesday, July 28, 2010. LEA CARLSON, CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY clerk, rockwall county, texas.

August 20, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. Commissioners Court Rockwall County rese to accept or reject any bid. Upon acceptance of bid a contract by Rockwall County Commissioners Court shall be made through the awarded per month. BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
Rockwall County
Lisa Constant
Rockwall County Auditor

Legal Notices

- Public Notice -

The City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 31, 2010** 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 **Tuesday, September 7, 2010** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, to consider the following items:

Z2010-011: Proposed Solar Panels at 4 Soapberry (SUP)

Hold a public hearing and consider a request by Eric Cotney of Axiom Solar for approval of a Specific Use Permit (SUP) to allow for a "Utility Installation, Other Than Listed," specifically the installation of solar panels on the roof of a home located at 4 Soapberry, being Grady Rash Subdivision, Block A, Lot 5 and zoned Single Family Residential (SF-10) district, and take any action necessary.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions. Additional information can be found on all current Zoning cases on the City's website: <http://www.rockwall.com/Planning/ZoningChanges.asp>

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ROCKWALL - Draft #2 Budget

In compliance with Chapters 111.006, 111.007 and 111.0075 of the Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court of Rockwall County, Texas does hereby give notice that a public hearing on the proposed FY2011 County Budget will be held on the 24th day of August 2010 in the Commissioners Courtroom on the third floor of the Historic Courthouse, 101 E. Rusk St., Rockwall, Texas at 9:00 a.m.

In compliance with Chapter 152.013 of the Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court hereby gives notice that the following salary / compensation increases are proposed for Elected Officials of Rockwall County. The proposed increases in salaries and / or allowances shown below, if approved, will become effective October 1, 2010.

Elected Officials	FY2010	FY2011 (Proposed)	Proposed Incr / (Decr)
County Commissioner #1 Longevity	2,160	2,340	180
County Commissioner #4 Longevity	720	840	120
County Sheriff Longevity	960	1,080	120
County Sheriff Education Incentive	-	1,500	1,500
County Clerk Longevity - vacant	1,080	-	(1,080)
County Tax Assessor / Collector Longevity	2,340	2,520	180
Justice of Peace #1 & #4 Longevity	2,340	2,520	180
Justice of Peace #2 & #3 Longevity	1,800	1,980	180
Constable #1 & #4 Longevity	1,080	1,800	720
Constable #2 & #3 Longevity Pay	840	960	120
District Clerk Longevity	3,060	3,240	180

Explanatory Notes:

1. Compensation increases for FY2011 are result of service longevity.
2. The Sheriff and Constables are each provided a County vehicle.

I-35 CORRIDOR SEGMENT COMMITTEE 1 NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS LONG-TERM PLANNING FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE I-35 CORRIDOR IN NORTH TEXAS

During the month of September 2010, the I-35 Corridor Segment Committee 1 (CSC 1) will host a series of public planning workshops in North Texas. The purpose of the workshops is to present to and gather feedback from the public on the Committee's proposed long-range transportation solutions for the I-35 Corridor.

CSC 1 is one of four committees established by the Texas Transportation Commission in March 2009 to develop a needs-based citizens-directed plan for the I-35 Corridor. These committees are comprised of representatives from local cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and community organizations. Over the last year, the committees have identified goals, needs, and potential solutions in their respective segments, and have reviewed traffic modeling analyses to determine the effectiveness of each proposed solution. They have used this information to develop draft I-35 Corridor Segment Plans that reflect the unique transportation needs and planning approaches within their respective areas.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend a public workshop to discuss the draft plan, ask questions, and express their views to the CSC 1 members. The draft plan for Segment 1 proposes roadway and rail solutions within the geographic area including and north of I-30 in the D/FW area to the Texas/Oklahoma border in Cooke and Grayson counties. Because of the overlapping transportation networks and issues in the D/FW area, the draft plan for Segment 2, which covers the area including and south of I-30 to the Bell/Williamson county line, will also be available for public review at the Segment 1 workshops.

Surveys and comment forms will be available and accepted at the public workshops, as well as through the MY 35 website (www.MY35.org). Written comments and surveys may also be mailed to Mr. Ed Pensock, Texas Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 14707, Austin, Texas, 78761. Website and/or mailed comments must be submitted by October 6, 2010, 2010.

In Segment 1, workshops will be held from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the following locations:

September 9, 2010	Addison	Addison Conference Center Acacia Room 15650 Addison Road
September 13, 2010	Denton	University of North Texas Gateway Center Ballroom 801 North Texas Boulevard
September 14, 2010	Gainesville	Gainesville Civic Center 311 S. Weaver
September 15, 2010	Dallas	Hilton Garden Inn Dallas Market Center 2325 N. Stemmons Freeway
September 20, 2010	Fort Worth	Education Service Center Region XI, Conference Rooms A116-A122 3001 North Freeway

These workshops will utilize a come-and-go format that will allow members of the public to review the materials at their convenience and speak individually to CSC members and staff. Information regarding other workshops to be held in Central and South Texas is available at www.MY35.org.

Persons who plan to attend a workshop and have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to call (866) 614-1086 at least two business days prior to the workshop to request assistance. Because the workshop will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters should also be made at least two days prior to the workshop. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Legal Notice REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Request for Qualifications FINANCIAL ADVISOR RFQ 11-08.25-116

Proposals received until 2:00 PM August 25, 2010

The Rockwall Independent School District is receiving qualification statements for a financial advisor. RFQ documents may be requested by email to dmacdonald@rockwallisd.org or by Debra MacDonald - 469-698-7022. The District anticipates award at the September board meeting. Qualification statements should be received in a sealed envelope to the attention of the Director of Purchasing and marked with the RFQ number and name. RFQ's will be received until 2:00 PM August 25, 2010 at the Administration Center located at 1050 Williams Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

The Board of Trustees for the Rockwall Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and all bids/proposals and to waive any irregularities, technicalities or informalities in any bid process.

Legal Notice REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Request for Qualifications ARCHITECT SERVICES RFQ 11-08.30-117

Proposals received until 2:00 PM August 30, 2010

The Rockwall Independent School District is receiving qualification statements for an architect. RFQ documents may be requested by email to dmacdonald@rockwallisd.org. The District anticipates award at the September or October board meeting. Qualification statements should be received in a sealed envelope to the attention of the Director of Purchasing and marked with the RFQ number and name. RFQ's will be received until 2:00 PM August 30, 2010 at the Administration Center located at 1050 Williams Street, Rockwall TX 75087.

The Board of Trustees for the Rockwall Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and all bids/proposals and to waive any irregularities, technicalities or informalities in any bid process.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 AND PUBLIC HEARING Pursuant to TEX. LOCAL GOV'T CODE ANN. § 102.006(a) CITY OF McLendon-Chisholm, TEXAS 1248 STATE HIGHWAY 205 ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75032 (972) 524-2077

The City Council of the City of McLendon-Chisholm will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 24th day of August, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chamber, 1248 State Highway 205, Rockwall, Texas 75032, for consideration of the Proposed Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. A copy of the Proposed Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 will be available for review prior to the hearing in the office of the City Secretary.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to Mr. Chuck Todd, P.E., City Engineer, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 385 S. Goliad, City Hall, 1st Floor, August 27, 2010, until the hour of 2:30 PM, for the following project:

Dalton Road Lift Station Improvements: Re-bid

The project includes bypass pumping, cleaning the existing wet well, removing and disposing of existing base elbows, discharge piping and guide rails, rehabilitating the wet well, and furnishing and installing new ductile iron discharge piping, base elbows, guide rails, steel hardware and other miscellaneous items. All work shall meet OSHA guidelines for confined space entry.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope externally marked: Dalton Road Lift Station Improvements: Re-bid.

Bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chambers at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad. No bids will be open or considered if received after the specified time.

Prequalification is not required. Completion time is 60 Calendar Days. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or to accept the bid deemed best for the City.

A 5% Bid Bond is due with the bids. A Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bond is required for this project.

Contractors must conform to the Prevailing Wage Rates as established by the City of Rockwall.

Plans and specifications may be examined at the Rockwall Engineering Office located at the City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, 1st Floor, Rockwall, Texas (phone numbers 972-771-7746/771-7748), and procured at the office of the Engineer, Birkhoff, Hendricks & Carter, L.L.P., 1910 Greenville Ave., Suite 600, Dallas, Texas (phone numbers- 214-361-7900/fax 214-461-8100). Only those Bids received from Contractors who have purchased the plans and specifications for this project from the Engineer, Birkhoff, Hendricks & Carter, L.L.P., and are listed on the Engineer's plan list, will be opened at the Bid Opening for consideration.

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ROYSE CITY, TX
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 stamped concrete floors, high
 quality granite countertops, state of
 the art appliances, curved staircase,
 glass living areas and two covered
 patios. 3.03ac lot.
 10:30am, Wed Aug 18th

CHASE, TX
 611 Valley View Ln
 2,384 sq. ft. One story home
 in garage apartment, kitchen with
 granite countertops, open family room
 with fireplace, great property with
 pond, fenced and cross
 fenced. Approx 18.96ac lot.
 10:30am, Wed Aug 18th

WEN HOUSES: 1-4pm Sat Aug 7th,
 Sun and 2 hours before sale.

10000 MONTE W. LOWDERMAN, RE LIC
 10000 CLAY LARKIN, JR. RE LIC 0425937
 WILLIAMS & WILLIAMS REALTY SRVCS, INC.
 ALL SALES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE
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 4BR 3.5BA 3,845+/- sf. Approx .08ac lot.

COMMERCE, TX • 1313 Tiffany Ln
 3BR 2BA 1,837+/- sf. Approx .31ac lot.

JOSEPHINE, TX • 409 W Hubbard
 3BR 2BA 1,191+/- sf. Approx .3ac lot.

BONHAM, TX • 601 County Rd 2515
 3BR 2BA 1,271+/- sf. Approx 5.67ac lot.

CANTON, TX • 292 VZCR 2427
 2BR 2BA 2,034+/- sf.

GRAND PRAIRIE, TX • 536 E Ave J #A
 2BR 2BA 1,568+/- sf. Pool.

DALLAS, TX • 7710 Royal Ln
 2BR 1.28A condo. Pool.



800.801.8003

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(Continued from Page 8)

Product Name, to Lisa Constant, Rockwall County Auditor, 101 East Rusk Street, Room 101, Rockwall, Texas 75087, on or before Friday, August 20, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. The bids will be opened on Friday, August 20, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Rockwall County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Upon acceptance of bid and award of a contract by Rockwall County Commissioners Court, remittance shall be made through invoicing at

the awarded unit price.
 BY ORDER OF THE COMMIS-
 SIONERS COURT
 Rockwall County
 Lisa Constant
 Rockwall County Auditor

Public Notice

Application has been made for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant Permit with FB for Luna de Noche-Harbor Ltd. Dbu Luna de Noche At 2095 Summer Lee Drive, Suite 105, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas. Said appli-

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

Night Moon-Harbor LLC, General Partner
 David J. Kimichik, Pres/Sec
 Diane L. Johnson, Treas

Public Notice

With the selection of the No Action Alternative, a study area for the TTC-35 project will not be chosen and the TTC-35 project is concluded. No further action will be taken by TxDOT to develop TTC-35.

A Record of Decision (ROD) has been issued for the Trans-Texas Corridor-35 (TTC-35) Oklahoma-Mexico/Gulf Coast Element Tier One Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The ROD documents the selection of the No Action Alternative and the conclusion of all efforts to advance the TTC-35 project. The ROD can be viewed at ftp://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/ttc_35/ttc35_rod.pdf. A copy can also be obtained by contacting the Texas Turnpike Authority Division

of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), located at 125 E. 11th Street, Austin, TX, 78701. The Turnpike Authority Division can also be reached by telephone at (512) 936-0980.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Kay Carlene Mitchell, Deceased, were issued on August 5, 2010, in Cause No. PR10-81, pending in the County Court of Rockwall County, Texas.

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 to:
 Jean Ann Brown
 5311 Dixie Circle
 Sachse, Texas 75048
 DATED this 5th day of August, 2010.

"Notice to Bidders - Sealed bid for Warehouse Supplies - Re-Bid", CSP No. 09-10-04, addressed to Angel Stevens, Royse City ISD, 810 Old Greenville Rd, Royse City, TX 75189 will be received at the above address until 2 p.m., Thursday, August 24, 2010, at which time they will be publicly opened and names only read aloud. Bid forms and specification may be obtained by calling (972)636-2413 or at www.rcisd.org/purchasing"

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Rockwall County Sports Schedule

Heritage Christian Academy Eagles
 Monday, Aug. 13 - Varsity volleyball: at Dallas Lutheran Tournament
 Tuesday, Aug. 14 - Varsity football: home scrimmage vs. Waxahachie Heritage Academy and Crowley Nazarene, RISE, 10 a.m.
 Varsity volleyball: at Dallas Lutheran Tournament
 Friday, Aug. 17 - Varsity volleyball: home vs. Dallas Lakehill Prep, 7:4 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 19 - Volleyball: at Bethesda Christian, middle school 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 Friday, Aug. 20 - Varsity volleyball: at Boles, 6 p.m.
Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors
 Thursday, Aug. 19 - Football: home scrimmage vs. Fort Worth Calvary Christian, Dobbs Field, 5:30 p.m.

Rockwall High School Yellowjackets
 Friday, Aug. 13 - Varsity tennis: at Quad Meet, Duncanville, 8 a.m.
 Varsity volleyball: at Garland Varsity Tournament, Sachse
 Saturday, Aug. 14 - Varsity volleyball: at Garland Varsity Tournament, Sachse
 Freshman volleyball - at Crandall Tournament
 Thursday, Aug. 19 - JV volleyball: at Crandall JV Tournament.
 Friday, Aug. 20 - Football: home scrimmage vs. Denison, Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium, freshman 4:30 p.m., JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
 Volleyball: home vs. Nevada Community, JV and Freshman A, 5 p.m., and varsity and Freshman B, 6 p.m.

Rockwall County Sports Notes

BTS physicals, immunizations offered
 The Health Center of Helping Hands, located at 102 S. First St., Suite B, offering back-to-school and sports physicals and immunizations. Cost \$25 for physicals, while fees range from \$14 for a single shot to \$35 for five shots (only available for uninsured and underinsured children). Immunizations are preferred. Call 972-772-8194.

Late registration under way for Y football
 Registration for the Rockwall County YMCA's Flag Football program, including children ages 5 and 6, and Tackle Football, ages 7-12 and not on a school team, currently is under way. Late registration is under way and will end when all teams are full. Fees are posted at rockwallymca.org or quickscores.com/rockwall. Every child is a starter, either on offense or defense. Practices will be limited to two per week in a game week or three in a non-game week. A football/cheerleading coaches meeting is set for 11 a.m. Aug. 14. For more details call 972-772-YMCA.

Register now for YMCA Soccer
 Registration for the Rockwall County YMCA's Small Fry Soccer program, serving children ages 3 and 4, and Youth Soccer, ages 4-12, currently is under way. Late registration is under way and will end when all teams are full. Fees are posted at rockwallymca.org or quickscores.com/rockwall. A coaches meeting is set for 11 a.m. Aug. 14. For more details call 972-772-YMCA.

Triples tournament set Saturday
 Rockwall Tennis Unlimited will host its annual triples tournament from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Aug. 14 at Wilkerson Sanders Stadium. Advance registration for members costs \$15, \$20 for guests. Registration on the day of the tournament will be \$20 for members, \$25 for guests. All levels welcome. Prizes will be awarded to each division's winner. To register or for more details visit rockwalltennisunlimited.usta.com or e-mail rahmanza@sbeglobal.net.

Ambassadors Golf Tourney slated
 The Ambassadors Golf Tournament benefiting Rockwall County Helping Hands is set for Aug. 16 at the Buffalo Creek Golf Club. To register contact Kay Dutta at 972-771-4357, ext. 222, or e-mail kaydutta@rockwallhelpinghands.com.

RBA registration scheduled
 The fall season of the Rockwall Baseball Association begins Sept. 10, and registration for the program will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 21 and 28 at the Leon Tuttle Baseball Fields concession stand. The program provides youth baseball leagues for children ages 5 to 14 living in the Rockwall area. Teams typically play eight games. Cost to register is \$35 for T-ball, \$65 for all other age groups (7U and above). Registration forms and more details may be found at rockwallbaseballassociation.com.

RACE swim tryouts set
 RACE swim tryouts will run from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 25-26 at the Rockwall Independent School District Aquatics Center on T.L. Townsend Drive next to the football stadium. Those trying out should be able to swim across a 25-yard pool with backstroke, then return with freestyle and be age 5 or older. No advance registration is required; there is no cost unless a team is joined. This is a competitive, learn-to-swim program. Participants should bring swimsuits, towels and goggles.

Little Kickers scheduled
 The Little Kickers soccer program, open to youths ages 3 1/2 to 5 years, will run Mondays from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Aug. 30 through Oct. 4 at Harry Myers Park. Skill-building, age-appropriate drills and exercises are taught. The first four classes are non-competitive; the final two will include games. Each participant will receive a T-shirt. Cost is \$30 for Rockwall residents, \$45 for non-residents. For more information, visit rockwall.com/parks.

Little Sluggers T-ball dates set
 The Little Sluggers T-ball program, open to youths ages 3 1/2 to 5 years, will run Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. Aug. 31 through Oct. 5 at Harry Myers Park. Children will learn fundamental skills - throwing, fielding, hitting and base running - and the final two weeks will include "games." Each participant will receive a T-shirt. Parent participation is encouraged. For more information, visit rockwall.com/parks.

George Griffith Regatta planned
 The George Griffith Regatta will take place Sept. 24, sailing from Rush Creek on Lake Ray Hubbard. The event will benefit the Rockwall County Helping Hands. To register contact Kay Dutta at 972-771-4357, ext. 222, or e-mail kaydutta@rockwallhelpinghands.com.

Submit your news and videos to rcn.news@yahoo.com or at rockwalltexasonline.com

Rockwall County Sports

County football teams start out hot

The identified flying objects soaring through the air in Rockwall County these days are footballs. The county's six high school football teams are preparing for their opening game during the last weekend in August.

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Heritage Christian Academy, Rockwall Christian Academy and The Fulton School already began schedules Monday, Aug. 2. The three public schools – Rockwall, Rockwall-Heath and Royle City – begin Monday, Aug. 9.

One word dominated the coaches' early reports. "It's hot," said Heritage Christian head coach Robert Huckabee. "So far, it has been hot," echoed Falcons head coach Matthew Burgy.

Temperatures approached or surpassed 100 degrees each day during the past two weeks. The predicted temperatures for Rockwall at weather.com remained above 100 through today, with a slight break for Friday, Aug. 20. However, the expected highs are in the mid-to-upper 90s through Friday, Aug. 20.

Coaches are doing their best to minimize players' discomfort. For example, Fulton has foregone the traditional two-a-day practices for one longer session from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. "Where our practice field is, it's shaded at that time of day," Burgy said.

Royle City head coach Greg Strahm said athletic trainers were monitoring practices to avoid heat-related ailments, targeting certain players. "We've got to get our kids in a little better shape. There are a few we have to nurse along," Strahm said.

Both RISD high schools also will try to practice during cooler hours. The RHS varsity's two-a-day practices are from 6 to 8 a.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Rockwall-Heath's varsity practices will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Like RHHS, Royle City is stacking its traditional two-a-day practices together, with a break between sessions. The Bulldogs have practiced some days from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on others between 4 and 9 p.m.

Fulton and Rockwall Christian have gone to one extended practice. RCA head coach Caleb Palmer said the team has more water breaks. "It's working well. Sometimes when we'd send them in and then have them come back for a second practice, they'd be kind of sluggish."

From next week until the Aug. 20 scrimmages, all six teams, including Rockwall Christian Academy, will be practicing.

Lady Jackets rally, win first two matches

Rockwall's new volleyball season opened Tuesday with a new look and a new result. It appeared that the Lady Jackets again would begin the season with a tough loss to North Mesquite. They lost two of the first three games to the 5A Lady Stallions. Katherine Bell, North Mesquite's 6-foot-2 center, was dominating, and RHS no longer had the graduated Maggie Brindock to counter Bell.

Instead of losing in four games – or even five, as they had to open the last two seasons – the Lady Jackets rallied to win the fourth game 26-24 and took the fifth 15-12 to win the match at Forney High School.

"When you take Brindock away, that changes the dynamic," said RHS head coach Damon Wilson. "We have a lot of people contributing for us to win, and that's what we had. We were very well balanced. It was really a hard-fought win, and we're really excited. This was the first time we've been able to win against Wilson, in his third year as the Lady Jackets' coach."

"It was a good start for us. Ashlynn Broussard had a solid all-around night, and Allie Cecil did a great job of setting the ball."

That good start continued. There was no letdown in Rockwall's second match, a 25-12, 25-16, 25-12 victory over Forney.

Up next for the Lady Jackets is the 32-team Garland Tournament Friday and Saturday at Rowlett and Rockwall schools. That figures to be tough competition. Among the teams in Rockwall's pool for the tournament is North Mesquite.

Lady Hawks sweep Crandall

Rockwall-Heath fans had a lot of fun as the Lady Hawks began their volleyball season at home Tuesday. After the Freshman A and junior varsity teams (25-15, 25-18) each dispatched visiting Crandall, the RHHS' varsity completed the sweep by winning the first three games of its best-of-five match against Crandall.

"We're fun to watch," said Rockwall-Heath head coach Maggie Younger, whose smile said a lot about the team. "Our offense is going to be strong. We're moving it well but we've got a lot of development to do. Expectations are high for the Lady Hawks, coming off a 24-15 season that included a third-place finish in the 10-4A and a playoff berth."

Most of last year's team has returned, with two freshmen supplementing the existing talent. Younger admitted, "We have big hopes. We have a lot of seniors coming back who were starters. Our freshmen we're anticipating will do well. We're pretty deep at every position, and we haven't had any injuries."

The depth showed up against Crandall. With injured starting setter Devanne Parent expected to miss the first month, junior Aubree Baune and freshman Claire Carpenter made what appeared to be a seamless transition in Parent's absence.

After a 25-17 victory in the first game, RHHS raced to a 9-0 lead in the second. The Lady Hawks dominated. Caley Carpenter, Claire's older sister, had five kills in the eventual 25-9 romp.

The third game started sluggishly for Rockwall-Heath. The Lady Hawks three times trailed by a point, but they rallied to win 25-20. The third game started sluggishly for Rockwall-Heath. The Lady Hawks three times trailed by a point at 10-10 and had just a 17-15 lead when Claire Carpenter took over the serve. She ran off eight consecutive kills, including four when Crandall couldn't return the ball over the net, to finish a 25-15 victory.

"I'd like to see a little more," Younger said, "but we're fresh."

Little Elm hands Lady Bulldogs heartbreaking loss

Royle City started well in its season-opening volleyball match at home against Little Elm. The Lady Bulldogs won the first game 25-20. The next two games were hard-fought, but disappointing losses by scores of 27-25 and 25-20. The Lady Lobos then won game four 25-20 for a 3-1 victory in the match.

Superman's Cape, Flying Scott sail to victory

Sometimes a name conjures up an image that proves to be true. That was the case in the Summer Wednesday Night Series on Aug. 4 on Lake Ray Hubbard.

The winners were Superman's Cape in the A Fleet and Flying Scott in the B Fleet.

Marshall MacKenzie skippered the A Fleet winner. Finishing second but unable to cut on Superman's Cape were Heil Proprius Munia, second; Chris Hunke in Swale, third; Jeff W. Up, fourth, and Scott Self in Soap Opera, fifth.

In the B Fleet on a 4-nautical-mile course, Robert Cunningham sailed Flying Scott to first place ahead of Keelan Manuel in Joint Venture.

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Gazawie represents Royse City at state leadership academy

tion of outstanding students from across the state of Texas, the School's Lulu Gazawie spent the week of July 12-16 in Houston participating in Education in Action's Lone Star Leadership Academy.

lected for the conference based on her outstanding academic demonstrated leadership ability, involvement in school and activities and her successful completion of previous Academy programs.

Members spend their week developing leadership skills while in the state of Texas and its leaders. They are able to visit historical sites in the south Texas area, including NASA's Johnson Space Center, the Battleground Monument, Battleship "Texas," the Port of Houston Museum of Natural Science, and the Education in Action's Lone Star Trailblazer design of this summer's conference. The designation is given to students who completed all three Leadership Academy programs, one in Austin, and the recently completed Houston/Galveston Academy must be in the 7th or 8th grade with an 85 or higher grade average, demonstrate academic and

leadership ability, receive an educator recommendation and be involved in community or school activities.

Gazawie said part of her success is due to the support of her friends, family, teachers and community. She would like to thank Dr. G's Auto Service, Santana's Salon in Rockwall, Uncle Freddie Saaman from Gold Star Jeweler's in Passaic, N.J. and Sito Gazawie Paterson for their continued support. She also credits and thanks the teachers of Rockwall ISD and Royse City ISD for her success.

Gazawie is the daughter of Tony Gazawie and Holly Rabah of Royse City.

Pansy sale to benefit Rockwall-Heath Highsteppers

The Rockwall-Heath High School Highsteppers drill team has kicked off its annual Pansy Sale.

The team is selling flats of the flowers for \$20. Color choices include Blotch Mix, White Blotch, Purple Blotch, Yellow Blotch, Red Blotch, Yellow, White, Clear Mix, Orange, Blue, Kale Red and Kale White.

The sale runs through Wednesday, Sept. 22. Flowers will be delivered on Saturday, Oct. 23.

For more information or to place an order, contact Chandra DeAlessandro at 214-276-2696 or Theresa Lindemann 214-551-1257.

Four locals tapped for SMU honors

Four area residents were among students named to the Southern Methodist University undergraduate honor roll for the 2009-2010 school year, according to a news release from the Dallas university.

Patrick Anderson of Rockwall, a senior, was included on the honor roll with distinction, which requires a student to be in the top 10 percent of his or her school of record.

Brooke Dilling of Rockwall, a sophomore, was included with on the honor roll with high distinction, which requires a student be in the top 5 percent of his or her school of record.

Joshua Arnold of Heath and Weston Richter, both first-year students, were included on the honor roll, which requires a student be in the top 15 percent of his or her school of record.

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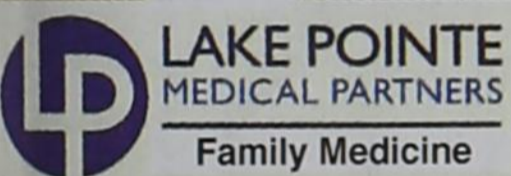
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Dr. Drewry's professional interests include preventative medicine, asthma, and chronic management of diabetes, osteoporosis, and thyroid disorders. He is a current member of the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Drewry and his wife have three young children and are excited to raise them in such a wonderful community. In his spare time, Dr. Drewry enjoys spending quality time with his family, golfing, and attending sporting events.

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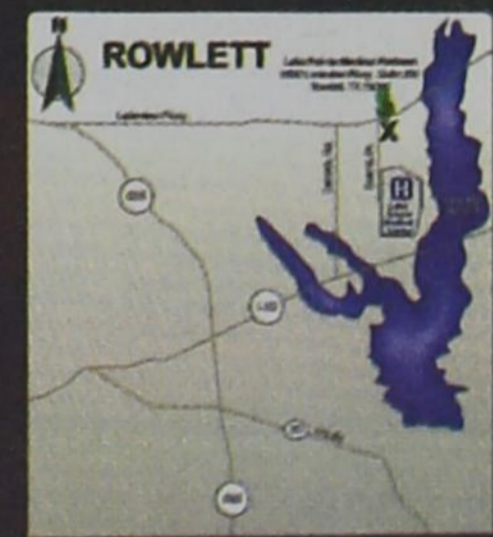
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Local author Mary DeMuth sets latest book in hometown

by Patricia Nolan Butts

A young woman from the Pacific Northwest contemplates her recent marriage proposal. She wants to say yes, but she can't—until she can return to her hometown of Rockwall and discover why there is a hole in her memory about her years growing up in that Texas town.

Rockwall author Mary DeMuth's newest novel takes place in present-day Rockwall and is set in an actual Rockwall house. The home, now moved out on Highway 205, was once nearer downtown and served as a local funeral home. And what of the woman who (in the story, anyway) grew up in that funeral home? Well, readers will have to snatch up "The Muir House" when it is released in 2011 by Zondervan and find out for themselves.

DeMuth (pronounced DeMewth) adds this latest work to her already impressive list of fiction and nonfiction titles. Her most recent release, "Thin Places, A Memoir," traces her difficult childhood that included sexual abuse and the journey to healing she is experiencing. She is a two-time Christy Awards nominee for her fiction, and her first two novels, "Watching the Tree Limbs" and "Wishing on Dandelions," were each American Christian Fiction Writers Book of the Year finalists.

She recently concluded her "Defiance, Texas" trilogy that began with "Daisy Chain," the story of a young teen girl's disappearance from a small

Texas town. That story continued in "Slow Burn" (2009) and concluded this year with "Life in Defiance."

A parent of two teens and a tween, DeMuth drew on her own struggles as a parent to write "Ordinary Mom, Extraordinary God," published in 2005, and "Authentic Parenting in a Postmodern Culture" in 2007 (soon to be re-released as "You Can Raise Courageous, Confident Kids"). In "Building the Christian Family You Never Had," she sends hope to "pioneer parents"—those who did not have Christian role-modeling in their homes while growing up, but now want to provide it for their own children.

To parents who get shrugs, silence or rolled eyes to questions they pose to their children, DeMuth has offered "150 Quick Questions to Get Your Kids Talking" (due February 2011). She and husband, Patrick, have opportunity to practice communication skills with their children—Sophie, Aidan and Julia—while at the dinner table every night. This was already a family tradition, but was certainly reinforced during the family's time in France doing church planting from 2004 to 2006. The French, she said, always gather and linger around a meal.

"I didn't realize how rare family meals are now," she said. "But our children's friends come to dinner sometimes and say, 'This is weird! You sit around the table and you talk and you have dinner and your mom makes it?' It's our way to reconnect and find out how one another's day was. And I love to cook, so it's an easy thing for me to do."

How the author finds time to cook (and oh, yes, garden and train for a women's triathlon) is a puzzle. Those who think authors have a pretty sweet gig, that is, getting paid for sitting down to the computer in their pajamas once in a while, have not followed Mary DeMuth around.

"I work ALL the time. I write—a lot. I work probably eight to 12 hours a day on writing, marketing, web copy and all of those things that writers have to do," DeMuth said.

Since the release of "Thin Places," just answering e-mail could be an all-day task. The resonance her story has found with readers has been "incredible," she said. Thin places, according to the author, are "snatches of time... when we sense God intersecting our world in tangible, unmistakable ways."

"We all have our thin places, and that's the beauty of being able to tell this story—people can identify with the feelings whether they share my story of sexual abuse or not," DeMuth said.

"I hope 'Thin Places' sells well," she said. "Not for my sake, but for the sake of those who need to read it. You know, how you feel in junior high? What do you do with fatherlessness? How do you respond to the devastation in your life?"

She said she couldn't have written the memoir any sooner than she did. "I had to heal much more profoundly before I could write those stories without being indulgent," she said. "I've read memoirs that were just a kind of vomiting on the page, and although it's cathartic for the author, it's not helpful for the reader."

"You need to get to a place where you are healed enough that you have perspective looking back. Then you can offer light: yes, this was my experience, and here's what I've learned and what you can learn from your experience."

Not that the book was easy to write. She feared her family of origin would be angry with her. To try to avoid that, she asked her editor and manuscript readers to closely check her words and her tone.

"I tried to write it as if I were placing readers inside me, allowing them to make judgments for themselves instead of saying, 'Look at those people who hurt me. They're really bad,'" she said.

As DeMuth has increasingly focused on helping others find healing from their past, she's made decisions to let some things go, like her recipe blog and her wannabepublished blog. But she still does speaking and she puts some recipes on her marydemuth.com website.

And since she knows aspiring authors still want help getting published, she's compiled what she's learned as a published author into a forthcoming book. She also continues mentoring writers through thewritingspa.com, a writer's consulting service, with two Rockwall friends, novelist D'Ann Mateer and nonfiction writer Leslie Wilson.

Spa? Sounds like therapy. And it is. Ever since DeMuth's second teacher sent home a note saying Mary had a gift for writing— "Writing has been therapy for me, my way of dealing with the way of processing what has happened, what will happen and what happen. I just have to write."

DeMuth's fan base would agree.



Mary DeMuth



Cynthia Wylie and Doris Cullins will be among participants at the Rockwall ISD Education Foundation's third annual Grandparents Century Club Tea set for 3 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Administration/Education Center. The Grandparent Century Club is an integral part of the Education Foundation, which provides funding for Innovative Teaching Grants that foster creativity, community involvement and educational opportunities outside of the school district's budget. Grandparents whose grandchildren are or have been students in the RISD are invited to attend; membership requires an investment in the foundation of \$100 per family unit. For more information about the tea or club membership, contact Cindy Benefield at 972-771-0605, ext. 7094.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Royse City ISD refunding effort should save \$4.4 million

The Royse City Independent School District should save more than \$4.4 million after it sold its Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds on July 15. The school district's outstanding Unlimited Tax School Bond Refunding Bonds at a lower interest rate, according to an August news release.

The RCISD administration and trustees have been working with Gumbert, managing director with BOSC Inc., a bonding company, to help the district reduce its bond debt.

As a result of the effort, a portion of the school district's bond debt was refinanced at a lower interest rate. The rate was 5.10 percent, but the new program dropped the rate to 3.56 percent.

District taxpayers should see a savings of more than \$4.4 million over the next 20 years, with the majority of the savings realized in the next five years, according to the news release. The refunding program also allows the district to keep its bonded indebtedness, or I&S tax rate, at a level that is sustainable.

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