

Rockwall County News

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Honoring the 2015 Rockwall County Valedictorians and Salutatorians



Caroline Esther
Heritage Christian
Academy
2015 Valedictorian

Valedictorian for Heritage Christian Academy's 2015 graduating class is Caroline Hochstein, daughter of Brian and Anika Hochstein. A 2-year HCA student, she was involved in art, choir, musical productions, yearbook and athletics, including swimming track, during high school. A member of the National Honor Society, she will graduate with honors and plans to attend Dixie College where she will participate in soccer and track.

Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News



Keith Tannehill
Heritage Christian
Academy
2015 Salutatorian

Salutatorian of the 2015 graduating class of Heritage Christian Academy is Keith Tannehill, son of Gary and Michelle Tannehill. A student of HCA for the past 13 years, he was involved in drama, film media and athletics, including football and track, while in high school. A member of the National Honor Society, he will graduate with honors. He plans to attend Dallas Baptist University where he will run track.

Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News



Elizabeth Huddleston
Poetry Community
Christian School
2015 Valedictorian

Elizabeth Huddleston, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Kason Huddleston, is the Poetry Community Christian School valedictorian for the 2015 graduating class. While at PCCS she was a member of the varsity volleyball team, which was the TCAL state champion for three consecutive years, and the varsity softball team. She served on the Student Council and was president her senior year. She is on her church's children's ministry and worship team and plans to attend Southwestern Assemblies of God University where she will major in education.

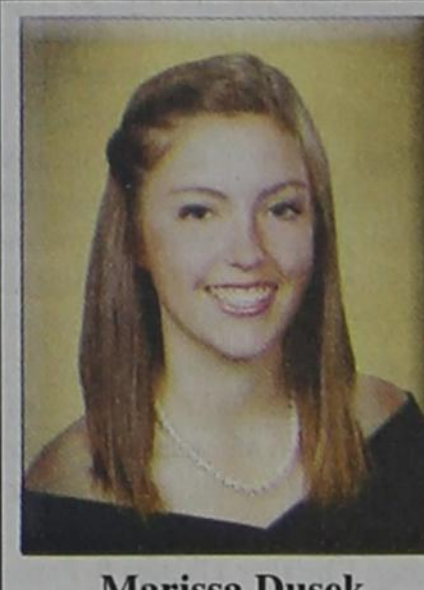
Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News



Michael Harrell
Poetry Community
Christian School
2015 Salutatorian

Michael Joseph Harrell, son of Stephen and Lisa Harrell, is salutatorian for the Poetry Community Christian School 2015 class. During high school he placed twice in the TCAL Advanced Math and Science academic contests. He was selected to the school's inaugural chapter of the National Honor Society and was part of the Poetry Technical Team, serving as an IT assistant and sound technician for all major events. He plans to study computer science at the University of North Texas where he has been accepted into the Honors College.

Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News



Marissa Dusek
Royse City High School
2015 Valedictorian

Marissa Dusek, daughter of Ken and Michelle Dusek, is valedictorian for Royse City High School's 2015 graduating class.

Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News



Jeffery Moseley
Royse City High School
2015 Salutatorian

Jeffery Moseley is salutatorian for the 2015 graduating class of Royse City High School. He is the son of Brent and Sarah Moseley.

Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News

Top Dog Spectacular lauds students, teachers

by Millie Jean Coppedge
One of the most anticipated events at the end of each Royse City High school year is The Top Dog Spectacular.

The RCHS cafeteria was the setting for the Top Dog Spectacular 2015 conducted on May 14. Three \$1,000 scholarships were presented to chosen students.

Robert Mueller was awarded the Allison Cherry Memorial Scholarship, Victor Rodriguez received the Cam Murray Memorial Scholarship and Derek Haumpy and Ashton Youngblood were recipients of the scholarships from the City of Royse City in partnership with Sanitations Solutions.

The final portion of the program was the recognition of distinguished scholars and their influential educators.

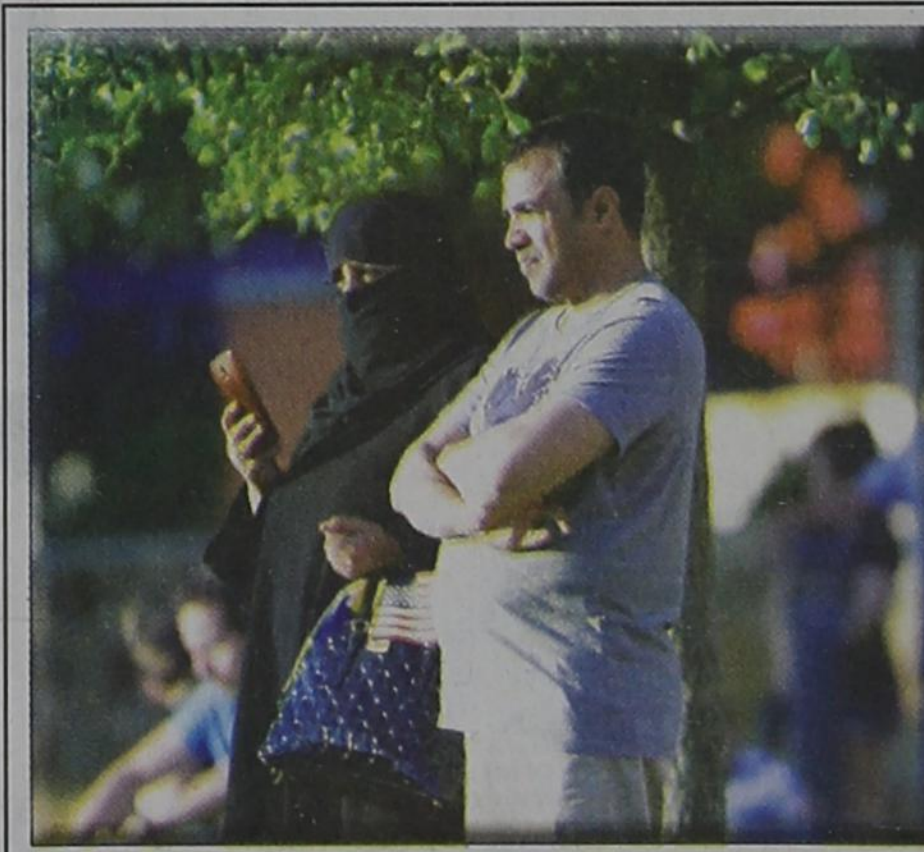
The selection of high school seniors as Top Dog winners according to the Royse City ISD website must meet four criteria to be selected:

- Grade point average
- Participation in clubs, organizations, community service
- Leadership positions
- Participation in academic and athletic extracurricular activities.

(Continued on Page 2)



The Rockwall High School Show Choir performs with the Rockwall Community Band during the Memorial Day Concert, Sunday May 24, 2015, at the Harbor District Amphitheater. The show featured music representing different wars starting with the American Revolution. Also performing in the show was the Rockwall Children's Chorus.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News



Rockwall resident Abdullah AlAmri (right) and his wife, Najala AlAmri (left), natives of Saudi Arabia, were among those attending the Sunday evening Memorial Day presentation at the Harbor District Amphitheater. Pictured above, his wife has tucked her U.S. flag against her bag in order to capture a portion of the program, which featured the Rockwall Community Band, the Rockwall Children's Chorus and the Rockwall High School Show Choir. The AlAmris said they enjoy living in Rockwall.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

Vendors for Country Fair sought
The Rockwall Soroptimists are accepting applications for booth and food vendors for the organization's second annual Country Fair set to run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 30, on land bordered by the I-30 Service Road and T.L. Townsend Drive. Admission to the fair will be free and open to the public. Tickets will be sold for vintage game play, rides and beverage purchases. Music and dancing, kid zone fun rides and other activities are planned, as are vendors and food booths. Sponsorships also are available. For more details, visit rockwallcountryfair.com.

'Once Upon a Mattress' teen auditions slated
Auditions for the Rockwall Community Playhouse's teen musical, "Once Upon a Mattress," will take place at 1 p.m. May 30 and 31 at 609 E. Rusk, Rockwall. The play is the retelling of the "Princess and the Pea" fairy tale. Those planning to audition should bring a karaoke-version of a Broadway song on CD or sheet music with which to perform and a current headshot and be prepared to read from the script.

(Continued on Page 2)



One dead, several injured in multi-vehicle accident

One person was killed and several others were injured Saturday morning in a multi-vehicle accident that occurred on Interstate 30 near Zion Road.
According to a Rockwall Police news release, officers responded to the major accident involving several 18-wheelers and passenger vehicles about 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 23. The accident unfolded in the bound lanes, but one of the 18-wheelers crossed through the concrete

divider into eastbound lanes, causing further collisions.
The eastbound lanes were shut down at Dalrock Road, according to the release. Westbound lanes initially were reduced to one lane.
The identities of the drivers involved had not been released at the time of the news release.
The police department's Traffic Division is investigating the incident.

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• Classifieds, Crosswords and Legal notices: Page 4 • Sports: Page 5

Rockwall County Obituaries

Michele Winifred Farner

Services for Michele Winifred Farner, 44, of Royse City will be conducted at 11 a.m. Friday, May 29, 2015, in the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 1305 Damascus Rd., in Rockwall with the Rev. George Monaghan officiating. Burial will be conducted at a later date in St. Patrick's Cemetery in North Middleton Township, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.



The family will receive friends at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with a rosary beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 28, and visitation following until 8:30 p.m.

She died May 25.

Born Sept. 7, 1970, in Carlisle to Charles Farner Jr. and Janet (Boyer) Farner, she was a member of the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Rockwall, where she was involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, serving as past president, and was a Eucharist minister. An active member of the Young Serrans of Dallas and A Dance to Remember in Rockwall, she played the baritone in the Rockwall Community Band.

She graduated from Boiling Springs High School in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania, in 1989, and from Mansfield State University in Mansfield, Pennsylvania, in 1993. She then joined the Peace Corps and served in Costa Rica for two years. She enjoyed her work as a bilingual pre-kindergarten teacher for both the Rockwall and Royse City school districts. She had been a resident of Royse City for 18 years.

Survivors include her father, Charles (Ed) Farner Jr.; a sister, Louise A. Prince, and her husband, David; and her nieces and nephews, Anna, Daniel, Patrick, Regina and Olivia Prince and Andrew, Luke, Kayley and McKenna Farner.

She was preceded in death by her mother; a brother, Charles E. Farner III; and her grandparents, Regina Farner, Charles E. Farner Sr., Henry Boyer and Winifred Boyer.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 1305 Damascus Rd., Rockwall, TX 75087.

Robert Brandon Jacobs

Services for Robert Brandon Jacobs, 90, of Rockwall will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 28, 2015, in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 3905 Hickox, in Rowlett. Graveside services will follow at 2 p.m. in the Dallas/Fort Worth National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas.



The family will receive friends Wednesday, May 27, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel, followed by a rosary.

He died May 23.

Born March 23, 1925, in Middletown, Ohio, to Gathyle D. Jacobs, he was a Catholic and Eucharist minister who played an active role in his community and church. His happy hour sign was always on, and he enjoyed sitting on his front porch, welcoming friends and visitors alike.

He had been a Rockwall resident for more than 15 years.

Survivors include his daughters, Tina "Ralph" Joyner and her husband, Wayland, Tracy "Moose" Cerny and her husband, John, Patrice "Patrick Michael" Campbell and her husband, John, and Tara "Maureen" Armstrong and her husband, Steven; and his grandchildren, Austin and Harmon Joyner, Hunter and Danielle Cerny, Harley and Lacy Campbell, Dawson and Parker Smith and Ashton, Jonah, Caleb and Morgan Armstrong.

He was preceded in death by his mother.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers donations may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Rockwall.



The Friday Study Club held its May 15, 2015 meeting in the Rockwall County Library with Peg Pannell Smith presiding.

Kathy Melston led the meeting, while Pat Calhoun and Margie Noel served as cohostesses.

At top, Peg Smith (left) and Kathy Melston (right) presented a check to Lindsey Snelling (center), Youth Services Librarian, who accepted the check on behalf of the library.

Ginny Progelhof installed the officers for 2015-2016.

Officers at left are (from left) Ginny Progelhof, Melston (President), Pannell (First Vice President), Becky Cecil (Second Vice President), Billye Wood (Recording Secretary), Sharon Shannon (Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer), Ruth Willis (Reporter) and Nancy Hill (Assistant Reporter).

The next meeting will be in Sept. 2015.

Friday Study Club holds May meeting



Royse City High School Awards Banquet ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Current teachers nominated students they felt would meet the criteria for the Top Dog honor. Between about 35-40 were nominated. Each student was required to write an essay giving the courses they were presently taking, their plans after high school, the volunteer experiences in which they had participated in and why they thought they would be a good candidate for the Top Dog award.

The Royse City IDS Education Foundation Board of Directors made the final selections. Twenty-seven seniors were chosen, plus the Honorary Top Dog.

Presenting the awards were Shirley Magness, Bobby Gladu and Rhonda Phillips-Black of the Royse City Independent School District Education Foundation Board of Directors. Each student's name and their teacher were called to come forward to receive their award.

As each student and teacher made his or her way to the front, a prerecorded presentation was played. Each student, along with their special teacher, appeared on the screen together as the student shared why they had chosen this particular teacher in regards to how the teacher influenced their education and made a positive impact on their life.

The influential educators included teachers all the way from kindergarten through 12th grade, with a wide variety of subjects.

The program opened with a welcome by Bobby Montgomery, president of the Education Foundation Board of Directors. Superintendent Kevin Worthy gave the invocation.

The evening meal was catered by Royse City ISD Chef Cindy Clark and her culinary arts students.



The Top Dog Spectacular 2015, conducted at the Royse City High School cafeteria May 14, honored 27 "distinguished scholars" and an Honorary Top Dog. Featured in the back row, left to right, are James Andrew Watts, Isaiah Moss, Aston Youngblood, Hannah Webb, Danielle Allen, district superintendent Kevin Worthy, Eilish Poe, Shealee Faith Owen, Jasmine Polley, Sara Gray, Ethan Homan and Jeffrey Moseley. Shown on the second row are Noea Pizana, Marissa Dusek, Logan Pior, Faith Culpepper, Marissa Patterson, Lauren Mickle Bell, Daisy Ibarra, Abby Meador, Samuel Alford, Ryan Stone and Christopher Velo. Seated are Itzell Limas DeLeon, Brianna Waterhouse, Stephanie Vaughn, Victor Balderas (honorary Top Dog), Isabell Villegas and Skyler Danelle Guzman.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Get Healthy Rockwall plans potluck dinner

The public is invited to the Get Healthy Rockwall potluck dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 3, at the Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington St., Rockwall. Each participating household is asked to bring a plant-based dish and copies of their recipe to share.

Fate to offer Citizens DPS Academy

The Fate Department of Public Safety will host its inaugural Citizens DPS Academy on Thursday evenings June 4-July 30. Two additional daytime meetings also will be conducted for field-training activities. Participants must be 18 or older, have a valid Texas driver's license, complete a background check and reside in or work for the City of Fate. The training will share information about how the department is organized and the services it provides; how the community is served and how citizens can partner with the department to accomplish public safety. For more details contact Lt. J. Taylor at 972-772-7994 or drop by the FDPS at 128 E. Fate Main Place and talk with an officer.

Mobile animal spay/neuter event set

The Spay/Neuter Network (spayneuternetwork.org) will have its 43-foot hospital bus in Rockwall on Friday, June 12, at the 1-30 Wal-Mart parking lot. Surgeries will be performed on site. Low-cost packages are available, and walk-up vaccines will be offered from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 972-472-3500 for an appointment; spaces are limited. Be sure the dogs cannot slip their collars; cats must be in secure carriers. The event will be sponsored by Rockwall PAWS (rockwallpaws.com), a nonprofit that funds the treatment of heartworm-positive dogs.

Comic Book Camp set

Rockwall Parks & Rec will offer two Comic Book Camp sessions for youngsters ages 8-12 June 15-19 and June 22-26 at The Center. The first session will focus on drawing the superhero; the second will emphasize drawing panels and scenes. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to noon daily. Fee for week one is \$135 (\$99 for Rockwall residents); week two cost is \$225 (\$149 for Rockwall residents). Fee includes supplies. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

Royse City students intern at Virgin Islands TV station

Ten students and two teachers from Royse City High School traveled more than 2,000 miles to the island of St. Croix in late April with the purpose of producing videos about the people, places and history of the island.

"We had a chance to intern at the local ABC affiliate television station and they allowed us to produce several news stories which they aired on their local evening news," said Steve Vaughn, RCHS video production teacher.

The group is part of an advanced video production class at RCHS called RCTV. According to Vaughn, the purpose of the trip is for students to use their video skills in a beautiful setting and learn about a different place and culture.

Among the stories they produced for the TV station was one over the annual Ironman Triathlon conducted in St. Croix for the past 27 years.

"We interviewed the director of the race and numerous athletes from around the world," said Kendal Hall, senior. The students and teachers were also featured in a story on the evening news. "They interviewed several students and myself about why we were in St. Croix and what we planned to produce."

"All the students were assigned stories to complete during the week," said Vaughn. One group did a story over a church that is over 250 years old.

"We interviewed the priest who gave us details on the rich history of the church," said junior Laurissa Huffstetler.

Another group interviewed a park ranger to learn the history of the Salt River Bay, Fort Christened and Bug Island.

"It was interesting to learn that Christopher Columbus landed in Salt River Bay," said senior Chase Wright.

Later in the week, the high school group got a chance to experience the Jump Up carnival in downtown Christened. This special celebration is the kickoff event for the Ironman competition and featured vendors, artists and musical groups.

"Several of us decided to go and do a story about this event. We interviewed vendors, elementary students who play the steel drums, and even a Senator," junior Kolton Rogers said.

The students also produced a commercial for one of the condo owners where they stayed.

"The owner gave us \$400 off our rent for producing the commercial," said Rogers.

In the commercial, the students filmed interior shots of the condo as well as exterior shots of all the amenities at the condo complex.

"We even used our aerial drone to get some great shots of the beach and ocean," said Rogers.

One group of students decided to use the island backdrop to produce a music video. They filmed for more than six hours during the week to finish it.

"We wanted to do an awesome video with the palm trees and beach as a background," senior Stephanie Vaughn commented. Vaughn is one of the lead actresses in the music video.

While out filming one day, the students came across a video crew from the Discovery Channel filming an episode of "Airplane Repo."

"We met the director and he gave me his contact information. We are hopeful we can come back and do an intern with him in the future," said Vaughn.

Getting to the island was the biggest challenge for the group.

"We had to raise over \$10,000 for the trip," said Kendal Rogers.

The students raised the funds by videotaping weddings on the weekends and working at the football stadium, among several fundraisers.

"It takes a lot of planning and work to raise the funds for this kind of trip," said Vaughn who added that he brought a group to St. Croix three years ago for the same type of experience. "It's not something we can do every year but it is a worthwhile trip."

RCTV is a national award-winning program that has won numerous Student Television Network contest trophies. The students in the program produce a bi-weekly news show. They also produce the content for the video scoreboard at RCISD Stadium.

To view any of the videos from the trip or other RCTV work, visit youtube.com/rctvteennews.

Rockwall County News Briefs
 Alvarado...
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 Photo by Millie J...

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Speaking in tongues ... wonderful works of God

During Sunday morning church, most of us were probably reminded of something very special. Memorial Day was also the birthday of the church of God.

There's no doubt that many people remembered this important fact. But some of us were so caught up in the Memorial Day activities and the abundant blessings of rain, that we forgot about the birthday of the church.

This series of articles have been addressing the significance of what occurred on that day of Pentecost, as recorded in Acts 2:1-4, with a focus on speaking in tongues.

Let's learn more about what is happening while speaking in tongues. After the first people started speaking in tongues, they realized that something miraculous occurred -- everyone else in the Temple heard them speaking in their own languages. God allowed for this special miracle to occur so that it would get everyone's attention on that special birth day of the church. God sure knew how to jump start the Administration of Grace! At the same it's important to understand that this was a one-time occurrence and was not promised to happen every time.

We can learn from what the other people said afterward, "we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God."



Rockwall County Republican Women recently presented scholarships to three young women. Pictured are the honorees and members of the organization's scholarship committee, from the left: Alexi Greenhill, Pricilla Bento (previous scholarship recipient), Mea Jeffus, Jennifer Jeffus, Rachel Farrow, Parnian Salehi, Anna Campbell and Jerry Fisher. The honorees also received certificates of recognition from State Sen. Bob Hall and State Rep. Scott Turner.

Alvarado graduates from Champlain

Justin Alvarado of Rockwall graduated from Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont, on May 9, according to a news release from the college. Commencement exercises were conducted at Edmunds Field. A total of 503 undergraduates received associate and bachelor's degrees during the ceremony.

Fitzpatrick earns bachelor's degree

Jenna Fitzpatrick of Rockwall participated in commencement exercises at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, on May 16. Fitzpatrick received a bachelor's degree in management and physical education, according to a university news release. Damon Moore, vice president of baseball operations and general manager of the American League champion Kansas City Royals served as commencement speaker.



Attendance was between 200 and 300 people for the free ribeque lunch at the Memorial Day Celebration at the Military Heritage Museum Collection in Nevada, Texas, on Saturday, May 23. World War II veteran Pete Leggett, 90, of Roys City is shown congratulating Lt. Col. Mitchell "Taco" Bell, USMC (right), upon his retirement from the U.S. Marines. As a surprise for Bell, museum owner Mark Witham (center) arranged for Leggett to award Bell with a Ka-Bar knife, used as a combat weapon by the 1st Marine Corps since November 1942, in a presentation case. Witham chose Leggett to make the presentation as he served in the 1st Marine Corps from Nov. 10, 1942, until Nov. 10, 1946. Leggett and other WW II veterans, now in their 90s, were acknowledged for their service -- Gomer L. Lewis (who also served in Korea and Vietnam) and Darwin Whiteside. The Memorial Day celebration at the museum is an annual event with free admission.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

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

"Have I not commanded you; be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."
Psalm 150:6

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

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding;"
Proverbs 3:5

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path;"
Proverbs 3:6

ANGLICAN
TRANSFORMATION ANGLICAN CHURCH
Meets 10 a.m. Sunday at Heritage Christian Academy
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
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880 S. Erby Campbell, Roys City
LAKESHORE CHURCH
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THE RIVER CHURCH
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BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
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CENTRAL BAPTIST
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ChristChurchRockwall.org
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
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CHURCH OF CHRIST
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EASTRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
670 Stodghill Rd., Rockwall
UNION VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST
9424 FM 35, Roys City

First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall
Feel the love. Be the love.
"God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them."
1 John 4:16
Looking for a warm, welcoming family of faith that is dedicated to embodying God's love in Rockwall and beyond? Then join us this Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, located at 602 White Hills Dr., under the water tower and across from the entrance to Walmart.
Sunday School starts at 9:45 a.m., with worship led by Pastor Cheryl Taylor at 11 a.m. For more information, call 972-771-5702, or check out our website at www.firstpresrockwall.org

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1200 E. Yellow Jacket
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CHURCH OF PRAYER
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Sabine Creek Ranch, Roys City
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McLendon-Chisolm 75032

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GREAT FAITH CHURCH
6492 Horizon Road, Rockwall
At Pullen Elementary
LAKES COMMUNITY CHURCH
3025 I-30, Fate
LIFE CHURCH ROCKWALL
FM 3097

LIFE SPRING CHURCH
350 S. Dalton Road (Nebbie Williams)
MILLWOOD CHURCH
3023 E I-30 i Fate
NEW HORIZONS FELLOWSHIP
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OASIS OF GRACE
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TEXAS LIFE CHANGERS MINISTRIES
2455 Ridge Rd., Rockwall

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CALVARY CHAPEL OF FATE
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THE WALL
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TABERNACLE CHURCH
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PEOPLE OF THE NAME PENTECOSTAL
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UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
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Landmark Fellowship Church
www.landmarkfellowship.org

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

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

Al-Anon Meetings

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

Al-Anon Garland

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

Sons of the American Revolution East Fork-Trinity Chapter meets 6:00 p.m., second Thursday each month. 4881 Bass Pro Dr. Garland, Texas. Guests & family welcome. <http://www.txssar.org/> EastForkTrinity.

Rockwall County Kiwanis Club

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

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

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

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

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Rockwall Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30PM, June 15, 2015 in Room 600, Administration/Education Center, 1050 Williams Street Rockwall, Texas 75087. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$ 1.04 / \$100	(Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ 0.40 / \$100	(proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	3.65	% increase	or		% (decrease)
Debt service		% increase	or	0.48	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	2.88	% increase	or		% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 7,767,692,302	\$ 8,336,427,852
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 307,224,410	\$ 283,573,470
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 6,834,250,946	\$ 7,379,425,090
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 304,199,308	\$ 277,594,655

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 326,241,461

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.04000	\$ 0.40000 *	\$ 1.44000	\$ 6,816	\$ 2,375
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.10014	\$ 0.40271 *	\$ 1.50286	\$ 7,122	\$ 2,124
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.04000	\$ 0.40000 *	\$ 1.44000	\$ 7,083	\$ 2,065

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 237,444	\$ 249,812
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 221,752	\$ 232,963
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.44
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 3,193	\$ 3,355
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 162

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.44. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.44.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 43,225,923
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 8,261,991

Rockwall County Entertainment

Journey tribute band set at Concert by the Lake
A Journey tribute band, Escape, will be featured at the May 28 Concert by the Lake at The Harbor, 2059 Summer Lee. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. Admission will be free. For more details visit rockwall.com parks.

'Wizard of Oz' continues at RCP
Performances of the "Wizard of Oz" will continue at the Rockwall Community Playhouse, 609 E. Rusk. Rockwall. Performances will be at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 2 p.m. on Sundays. Dates are May 28, 29, 30 and 31. Tickets may be purchased at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org or by calling 972-722-3399 or at the box office 30 minutes prior to show time. Tickets should be reserved now, because seats are going fast.

'Willy Wonka' set at Williams Middle School
Williams Middle School will offer performances of its student production of "Willy Wonka" at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 28, and Friday, May 29, and at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 30, in the school cafeteria. Ticket cost will be \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and children; those who bring two canned food items can receive \$1 off admission (\$1 maximum discount per ticket). All food donations will benefit the local food bank.

Rockwall Country Fair set May 30
The second annual Rockwall Country Fair, hosted by the Rockwall Soroptimists, will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. May 30 on the land behind the new county courthouse. The event will include live music, dancing vendors, foods and beverages, a kid zone with rides (including a zip line and a super slide), vintage games sponsored by nonprofit agencies, a car, truck and cycle show, and other activities. Tickets will be sold for vintage game play, rides and beverages; admission to the fair will be free. Visit rockwallcountryfair.com for more details. Proceeds will fund projects benefiting women and children.

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- Aid shows (5)
- most north TXns for the (5)
- Cowboys (5)
- TXism: "salt some" (save) (5)
- TXism: "be unarmed in a battle of wits" (5)
- Gulf shrimping device (5)
- TXism: "big as the side of" (5)
- Jimmy Johnson's state of residence (5)
- lawyer, e.g. (5)
- Tex-Mex restaurant in the Metroplex (5)
- Barbary sheep (5)
- sarcastic laughter: "hardy" (5)
- TXism: "loose and fancy free" (5)
- TX Ray Price's "My Shoes" Walking Back to You (5)
- start of a flightless bird (2 wds.) (5)
- El Paso explorer: Juan de (5)
- TX Willie sang "What Was ___ Wanted" (5)
- Wilson Co. seat (5)
- FBI files about persons or subjects (5)
- rustles up some grub (5)
- TXism: "changes his mind" (5)
- he does socks" (5)
- ___ in concrete (couldn't be changed) (5)
- hankering (5)
- fully satisfy (5)
- TXism: "___ that like a duck needs an umbrella" (5)
- cable network (5)
- Lone ___ State (5)
- this Cabell was Dallas mayor at time of JFK assassination (5)
- Astro president, Ryan (5)
- predecessor of Verizon (5)
- S-shaped (5)
- a TX financial advisor was photographed in 1992 with this Duchess "Fergie" (5)
- home of the Foard County News (5)
- TXism: "take ___" (sit down) (5)
- annual top award (abbr.) (5)
- "boy" south of the border (5)
- editors who are not full-time with a publication (5)
- TXism: "___ Losing You" (5)
- TXism: "lower than a snake's belly in a wheel" (5)
- TXism: "so ___ pay attention" (5)
- TX wildflower "mountain pink" was used to treat this (5)
- ill-mannered (5)
- a Gulf tide (5)
- Bryan Hitt is drummer for "Speedwagon" (5)
- farm-to-market route (abbr.) (5)
- TXism: "___ sits tall in the saddle" (5)
- TX Jim Reeves' "___ Losing You" (5)
- TXism: "lower than a snake's belly in a wheel" (5)
- period of great success (5)
- TXism: "loose as ___" (5)
- dir. to Fort Worth from Hico (5)
- TXism: "brave ___ a rodeo clown" (5)
- "boob tube" (5)
- TXism: "she threw a hissey ___" (5)
- brand of blue jeans (5)
- elaborately decorated (5)
- TX Freddy Fender sang "You'll Good Thing" (5)
- defeated team (5)
- ___ out a living" (5)
- this Sally was in film "Back Roads" with TX Tommy Lee (init.) (5)
- ___ Jo, TX (5)
- private affairs (5)
- ___ up" (finally became aware of) (5)
- TX-based 1992 ABC docudrama: "Bed of ___" (5)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison Copyright 2015 by Orbison Bros.

Freshman pitcher helps Jackets reach Regional Semifinals

Brook Helmer had worked plenty of Wednesdays for the moment he found himself on Saturday. The Rockwall freshman went in to pitch with the bases loaded and the Jackets already trailing 2-1 with the bases loaded in the first inning of the first game in a best-of-three Region II-6A quarterfinal series. Helmer struck out the Irving Nimitz batter to end that threat. While teammates were putting together three three-run innings, he allowed only one run over the rest of the game.

"My thinking was for Helmer just to settle things down, give us two or three innings, give me time to figure out who could go next," Rockwall coach Jeff Payne said. "He got more comfortable every inning, and he's the whole thing himself. That was neat to watch."

RHS on 10-3 to remain in position for a second consecutive trip to Regional Finals. The Jackets (24-7) are scheduled to play Conroe Oak Ridge (1-1) in this weekend's Regional Semifinals at Baylor University Waco. The games are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and if necessary 2 p.m. Saturday.

Oak Ridge has swept all six games in its three playoff series. Rockwall's had to go three games in each of the last two series.

They've been able to win those deciding games because of pitching depth, all because the pitchers have been prepared.

Payne said, "Guys like Helmer and (Charlie) Hatcher have been overworked simulated bullpens every Wednesday in preparation for these Thursday Game 3s. Pitching depth has definitely won the last two series for us."

Hatcher was the winning pitcher when the Jackets defeated Dallas W.T. White in Game 3 of the Area-round series.

But against Nimitz, he couldn't get out of the first inning. He gave up two runs while retiring just two batters.

Hatcher remained in the game, and helped in other ways.

"My favorite part of Game 3 was Hatcher going 3 for 3 after struggling on the mound," Payne said. "He more than made up for the two runs he gave up. He played a great left field as well. There are many different ways to contribute. Very happy for him in how it all turned out."

The most surprising part of the series might have been that the teams were able to get in all three games.

Originally scheduled for Grapevine, the series was moved to the artificial-turf Wright Field at Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas to combat inclement weather.

Shayne Nance pitched a two-hit, 5-0 shutout on Friday night. The Vikings helped RHS with five errors.

Saturday's game followed another 6A quarterfinal between Highland Park and Jesuit. Rain delays pushed the Rockwall-Nimitz start back to 10:20 p.m. The Vikings saved their ace, Braden Williams, for Game 2. He held the Jackets hitless for 3 2/3 innings, and went on to win 4-2.

Because rain was supposed to return Saturday afternoon, Game 3 was moved ahead to noon, less than 12 hours after Game 2 ended.

Nance, who wasn't likely to pitch again in the series, came through at the plate Saturday. His two-out single in the fourth inning gave RHS a 3-2 lead it wouldn't lose.

That lead was just 4-2 in the sixth, and who knew how much longer Helmer could go? But Nick Colavecchi drew a two-out walk, and Nance followed with a two-run home run, his first this season.

"Nance's bat has been due to break out," Payne said. "His timing has been off, and he's been a little too aggressive. He barreled up two balls Saturday at the right time for sure."

The coach had advised the right-handed batter to try pulling the ball instead of hitting to right field.

Hatcher's two-run single highlighted a three-run top of the seventh. Nimitz finally scored against Helmer (4-0) on Andrew Torres' solo homer in the bottom of the inning. The freshman used his fastball and split-finger pitch to finish the game with three hits and three walks allowed and six strikeouts in 6 1/3 innings.

The next series is against Oak Ridge, ranked fourth in the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association's final 6A poll.

The War Eagles' leader is right-hander/first baseman Luken Baker, who is projected to be taken during the first two rounds of next month's Major League Baseball draft.

Payne said, "They have big arms on the mound and a great coach (Mike Pirtle) who has won over 500 games in his career."

"Nothing but (16) big-time teams left at this point. I'm proud to say that we are one of those. I expect us to give them all they can handle. It should be another great series."



The Rockwall Yellowjackets baseball team celebrate following the Regional Quarterfinals win over Irving Nimitz, Sat. May 23, 2015, at the Jesuit College Preparatory School baseball field in Dallas. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Hawks' Ivey selected for all-star game

Rockwall-Heath senior Tyler Ivey has been chosen to play in next month's Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star Game.

The game is scheduled for June 21 at Dell Diamond, the home of the Texas Rangers' top farm team – the Round Rock Express of the Triple-A Pacific Coast League.

The right-handed pitcher led the Hawks to the District 12-5A championship and the No. 1 ranking among the state's 5A teams by the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association during the regular season.

Ivey struck out more than 100 batters in 65 innings, during which he allowed just three earned runs for an 42 earned run average. He had a 9-1 record, with the only loss in a 1-0 game against Frisco Wakeland that limited RHHS in the playoffs' Area round.

The foot-4, 200-pound Ivey has signed a letter of intent to play next season for Texas A&M. He also is a candidate to be selected in next month's Major League Baseball draft.

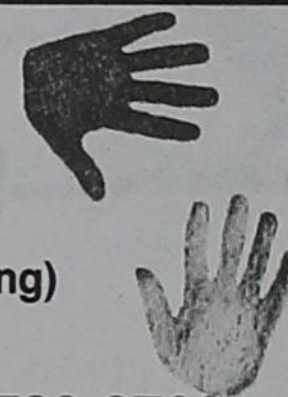
Little Athletes Camp set June 1-4

A Little Athletes Camp, open to children ages 3-5, will be offered from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. June 1-4 at Harry Myers Park. To register or for more details on the Rockwall Parks & Rec-sponsored activity, visit rockwall.com/athletics.

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Sign-ups for youth sports close Saturday

Sign-ups for the J.E.R. Chilton YMCA's summer flag football, summer baseball, summer cheer and fall cheerleading will run through Saturday, May 30.

Summer Flag Football

This year's football program is a departure from the 2014 season, when tackle football was also offered.

"This year, we're putting all of our focus on flag football, giving 110 percent of our effort and attention to kids in kindergarten through sixth grade who want to play recreational football in safe and positive environments," said Bill Cadman, sports director at the J.E.R. Chilton YMCA. "Our staff and coaches are committed to teaching the first time player, as well as helping to further develop skills for the more advanced player. Whether our child is in kindergarten or 6th grade, a first time player or in their sixth year, the goal of the YMCA is to have children play football with integrity and true sportsmanship while always putting safety first."

From education for concussion awareness, proper equipment fittings and staying healthy in the heat, J.E.R. Chilton YMCA coaches are trained in all aspects of football. They teach kids safe tackling techniques to decrease long-term injuries.

Summer, Fall Cheerleading

Regardless of skill or practice attendance, kindergarten through sixth grade youth are guaranteed 100 percent cheering time for each game. All youth will have the opportunity to cheer at a high school half time show, every Saturday YMCA fall football game and the YMCA Super Bowl.

There will also be a one week-long summer clinic led by the Rockwall High cheerleaders, teaching various stunts and stunts (date to be determined). The cost for the summer clinic is \$65 and includes a camp shirt and shorts.

The fall cheerleading season runs Aug. 6 through Nov. 15. Practices start the week of Aug. 11. Games are played on Saturdays, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. The cost is \$50/members or \$75/program participants. The total cost is \$92 plus tax and includes game day outfit, pom poms, bloomers, practice shirt and shorts.

Summer Baseball

Children are guaranteed playing time in each baseball game, regardless of skill, practice attendance, etc. Practices will be chosen by the coach regarding day, time and location at the coaches meeting. Practices are held once per week Monday-Friday. Times and locations are selected by coaches.

Games will begin June 6 and be played on Saturdays and occasional days during the week on J.E.R. Chilton YMCA fields throughout the eight-game season. Registration fee is \$75/members; \$115/program participants.

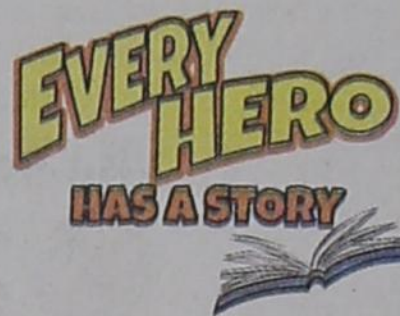
General Information

Families need not be members of the YMCA to participate; however, there is a discounted rate for members.

Register online at jrchiltonymca.org, call 972-772-9622 or email Cadman at bcadman@ymcadallas.org.

Summer Reading Club Activities

- June 1: Start the Summer Reading Club
- June 6: Kickoff Party @ 11 am
- June 13: Show @ 3pm
- June 18: Show @ 6pm
- June 20: Teen Day
- June 27: Show @ 3pm
- July 25: Teen Day
- Aug 1: Grand Prize Drawing @ 1 pm



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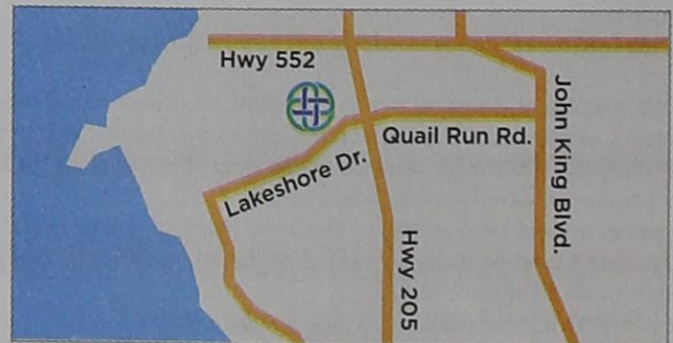


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