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Rockwall County News

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Commissioners reject changes to part time employee benefits

by Kathy Williams

The Rockwall County Commissioners on Tuesday voted down a motion to reduce benefits for part-time county employees, instead continuing to offer medical benefits as their full-time co-workers.

Introduced by Commissioner Lorie Grinnan and seconded by County Judge Jerry Hogan, the motion was met with resistance by Commissioners Dennis Wiley, Jerry Wimpee and David Magness.

Hogan said a recent review of the county's personnel handbook revealed that the county's 24 part-time employees receive the same benefits as full-time employees, including longevity pay, eight hours of personal time, holiday pay, retirement benefits and jury duty pay.

The total cost to the county for part-time benefits is \$43,334 per year.

Grinnan's motion would have amended the part-time benefit package to include only the mandatory retirement package and any federal benefits currently in place, such as social security, workman's comp, unemployment, etc. The proposed changes would have begun at the beginning of the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2011.

Hogan said Rockwall County staff sampled the benefit packages of 25 counties around the state with populations ranging from 3,000 to nearly 800,000. In those counties, only two, Brazoria and Bastrop Counties, pay minimal benefits to their part-time workers. Bastrop County, which is 20 miles from Rockwall County, is similar to Rockwall County in size, population and proximity to a large city, according to Hogan.

In supporting her motion, Grinnan said, "For me, it's not an issue what other counties do. It's more of an issue where we are creating a system where we provide benefits to our full time employees, such as holiday pay, or vacation benefits, or personal days, because they are working a full week and need that time to be able to take care of some personal business."

"It's not because of a lack of respect for our part-time employees," she said. "I know they do a very good job and they are valued, but these benefits need to be reserved to our full time employees."

Magness said he was concerned the proposed benefit reduction was driven by budget worries but, "I'm not sure I see that. The benefit reduction is a drastic. We do have a system that functions very well and goes back to the beginning, if it's not broke, don't fix it."

"This seems to be a move to change a lot of things in the county under the guise of saving money," Magness said, "and I reiterate, that we are in good financial shape and that changing directions in this county probably puts us in the wrong direction."

Grinnan said her motion wasn't about saving money but "more of a philosophy about how to run the county. It's not based on cost cutting but about providing an equitable system."

Bailey also expressed concern for the motion, saying the county made a commitment to its part-time employees when they were hired that those benefits would be in place for them.

Although Judge Hogan agreed with Grinnan, saying his philosophy is to provide a part-time employee the same benefits as a full-time employee, the motion failed on a 3-2 vote, with Wimpee, Magness and Bailey voting against the motion.



Finishing second in the B Fleet of Race 6 of the Chandler's Landing Founder Series, the above boat, Laree/MacGregor26, was skippered by Chris Gradisar of Dallas. This was the first race of the season in the boat. The crew included Gradisar's son, Justin, and Jeff Willis. The course was an out and back to Sunnyvale (the most distant shore on the right in the photo) for a total of 8.52nm. Gradisar helmed Laree up wind to the Sunnyvale mark, and called on Willis on the helm for the spinnaker run to the finish, helped by the brisk winds that day and Willis' experience.

Photo courtesy of Dan Malak/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' to play at RCP

Marking what would have been Tennessee Williams' 100th birthday, the Rockwall Community Playhouse will offer productions of the classic "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" March 25 through April 10. Performances are set for 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with Sunday matinees set for 2 p.m. Tickets to the show, which features adult themes, cost \$20 for adults and students, \$15 for minors. Visit the RCP Facebook page for a discount code. Purchase tickets online at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org or by calling 972-722-3399.

RISD plans Students Serving Others

The RISD's Students Serving Others Day is set for March 26. Elementary students will be at Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on projects, while secondary students will work with area nonprofits throughout the day. Additional community service project ideas are needed. Contact Donna Barnett at 972-771-0605.

'Cagebirds' set at Cain Middle School

Cain Middle School's UIL One-Act Play, "Cagebirds," will be performed at 8 p.m. on March 26 at the school. Cain's Theatre II students also will be performing their self-written and self-directed plays. Tickets at the door will cost \$5. For more details, contact Shayna Oden at sodden@rockwallisd.org.

Rockwall Youth Fair begins March 30

The 8th annual Rockwall Youth Fair will take place March 30 through April 1 at the Rockwall ISD Agriculture Complex. The Ag Mechanics Show will run from noon to 5 p.m. March 30, followed by the Livestock Judging Contest at 6 p.m. and Clothing and Textiles, 7 p.m. The Livestock Show will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 31, with a barbecue luncheon to wrap things up at noon April 2 followed by a 1 p.m. market auction.

Spaghetti dinner fundraiser set March 31

The First Christian Church, 3375 Ridge Road, will host a Relay For Life spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 31. Tickets cost \$10 per person. Food will be provided by Applebee's. To purchase tickets e-mail relayforlife@rockwallcounty@gmail.com.

Preschool Association meeting slated

The Rockwall Preschool Association will meet at 9 a.m. April 1 at the Free Methodist Church across from Nebbie Williams Elementary, 315 Dalton Rd., Rockwall. The program will be "Frugal Moms of Rockwall County: Local Savings Deals, Meal Plans & More." New members are welcome. For more information, visit rockwallpreschoolassociation.com.

(Continued on Page 6)

Royse City Middle School students bring Holocaust study to life with campus exhibit

by Kathy Williams

Students at Royse City Middle School created a unique and moving exhibit as part of their recent studies of the Holocaust and its effect on the world during the 20th century. After reading books on the subject and taking a field trip to the Dallas Holocaust Museum, the seventh grade Gifted and Talented class and the eighth grade Pre-AP class created their own mini-Holocaust museum at the school.

Funded by a grant from the Royse City Education Foundation, the exhibit featured more than two dozen educational displays, including posters, scrapbooks, copies of World War II-era newspapers from around the world, poems, original artwork, and dioramas of concentration camp bunkhouses and buildings.

The exhibit also included a replica boxcar built in the classroom, complete with a soundtrack of train horns and the sound of a train moving along the tracks, similar to the boxcars used to transport prisoners to the concentration camps.

Built by students Justin Jones, Robert Mueller and Jared Padgett, with help from their parents, Mueller said his fellow students have been interested in the boxcar and to learn how thousands of people were crammed on the trains sometimes for days shoulder-to-shoulder as they traveled to the camps.

"They (the students) squeezed all of their classes into the boxcar and pushed the button (on the soundtrack) to see what it was like to be so crowded," Mueller said. The boys included posters in the boxcar to explain the significance of the display and also wrote on the walls as prisoners did during transport.

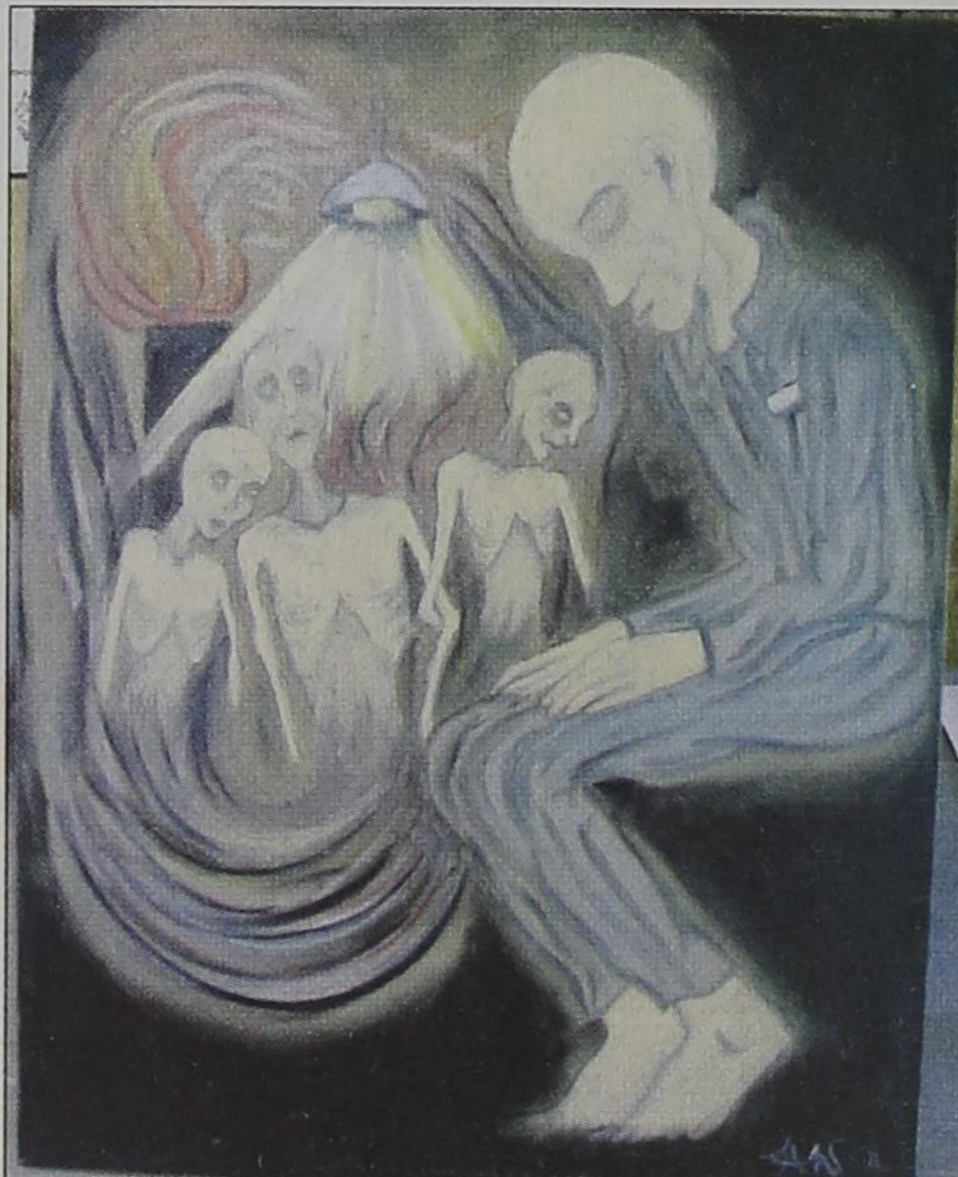
"The people on the train would write their names on the walls, where they were going or things like what they thought was happening," Mueller said.

All of the school's classes were invited to visit the museum. The exhibit was also open to the public before and after spring break last week.

Students at the middle school begin studying the Holocaust in sixth grade, according to seventh grade Gifted and Talented teacher Victoria Downs. Prior to their visit to the Dallas Holocaust Museum, Downs' students read the book, "The Devil's Arithmetic," by Jane Yolen. The eighth grade Pre-AP class, led by teacher Kelly Elliot, read, "Night," by Elie Wiesel. Both books are about experiences during the Holocaust.

Downs said the students created their museum based on their reading, the field trip and other research they conducted on the subject.

"The kids did all the work," she said, "but the whole population benefited from their work. They tried to make it real. It helps having 'things' to see, not just words to read. They really paid attention."



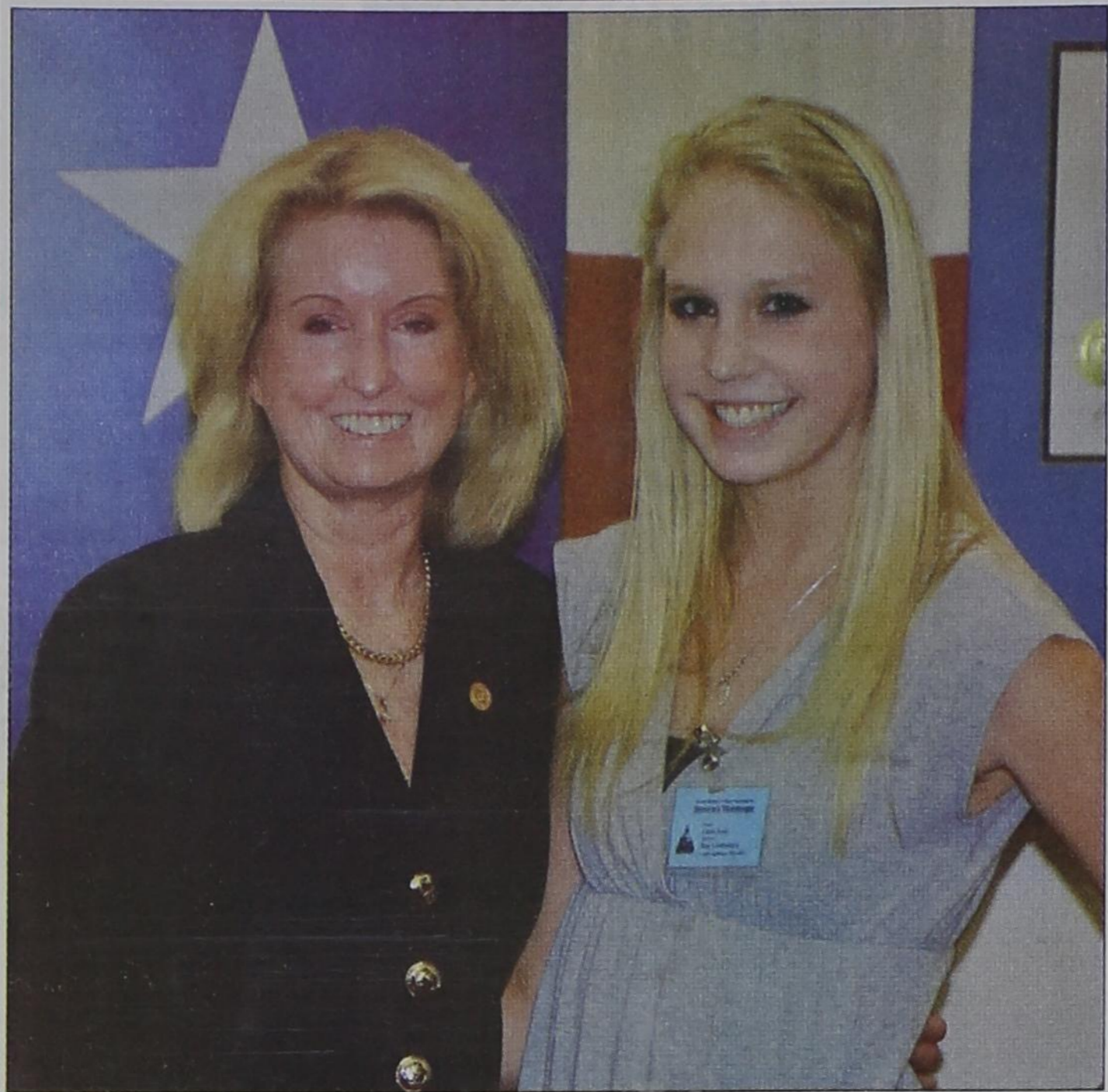
An original painting by Royse City Middle School eighth grader Hannah Webb, a student in Kelly Elliot's Gifted and Talented class, was on display at the school's Holocaust exhibit in March. The students read books on the Holocaust, visited the Dallas Holocaust Museum, and conducted research in order to build their own museum at the school. The exhibit was funded by a grant from the Royse City Education Foundation.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

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Cassie Ross, an eighth grade Utley Middle School student and the daughter of Brad and Tracy Ross, recently completed a day of work as an honorary page in the State House of Representatives. Ross worked with House Representative Jodi Laubenberg as the 150-member House passed legislation and mapped out pending business regarding eight bills. After signing in at the sergeant-of-arms office, Ross ran errands and provided assistance where needed. At the close of the day, Laubenberg asked Ross what she thought of the experience. Ross said the entire process had been much more interesting than what she had read about and the experience has given her an interest in pursuing a career in public service.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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.

"I'm fine now," she says, "I can do most things. I can't walk very far, but every day is a little bit better. It's just going to take some time."

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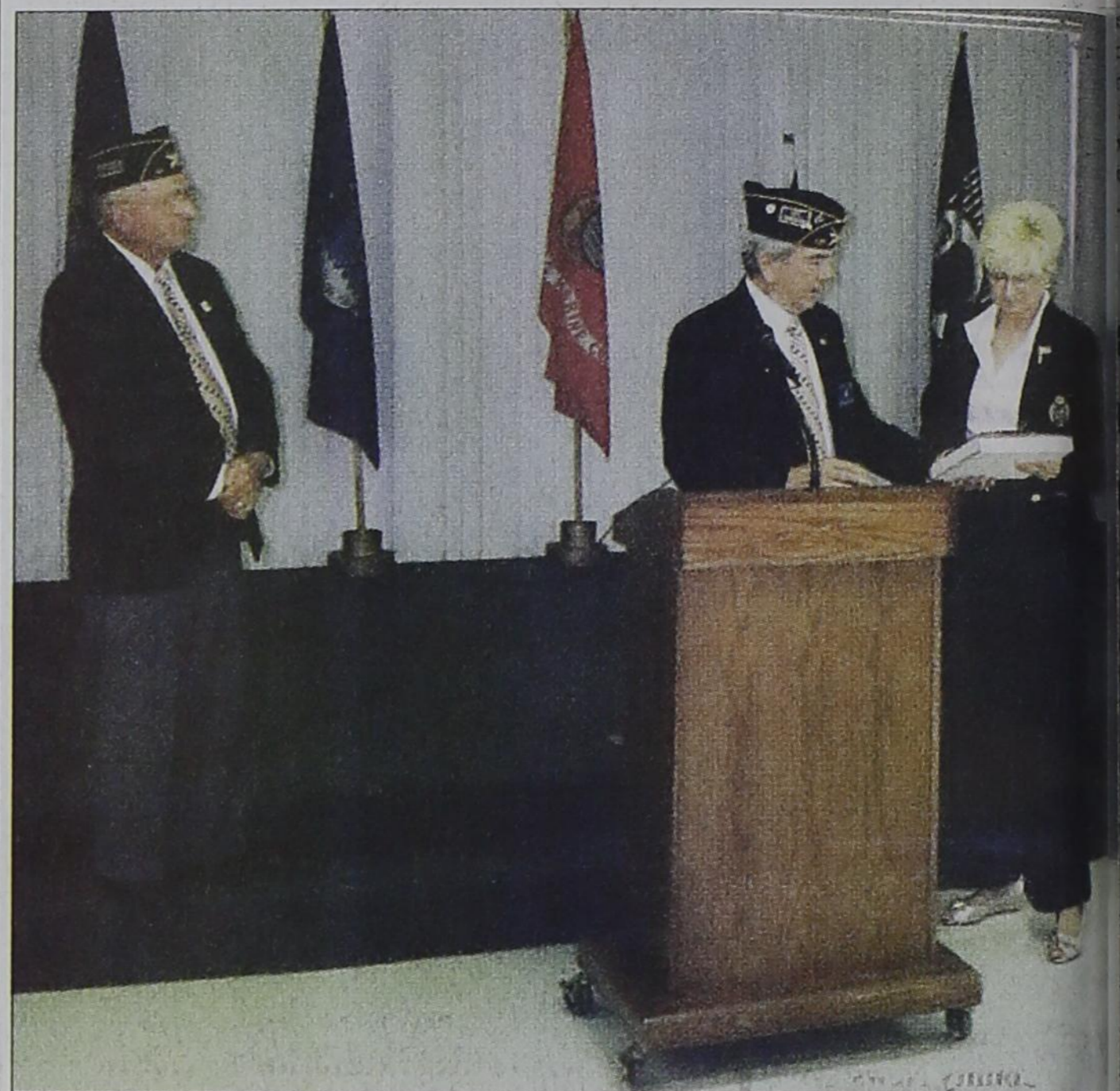
Private Rooms available for Short-Term, Post-Hospital patients transitioning back to the community

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Pictured are the newly announced 2011-2012 delegates to Boy's and Girl's State Conference, including (left to right) Jacob Glastad, Chase LaRosa, U. S. Congressman Ralph Hall, Wes Davis, Kristen Beck and Colleen McNeir. Not pictured is Shelby Soldat. These students will attend camp this summer at the University of Texas at Austin and Texas Lutheran University in Sequin to learn more about government works, meet other students and lawmakers from around the state, and participate in a mock congress.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



American Legion former commander, Ray Walker, presented Clara Laing with a plaque honoring her late husband, former commander Robert Laing. Pictured are (left to right) Milt Wittig, Ray Walker and Clara Laing.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

RockwallTexasOnline
@ Facebook.com

American Legion Post 117 celebrates 92 years at annual banquet

The American Legion Post 117 celebrated its 92nd birthday at its annual banquet Sunday, March 20.

Congressman Ralph Hall, the featured speaker, spoke about honoring the nation's service men and women.

Rockwall County Commissioner Lorie Grinnan also spoke about the Veteran's Memorial, which will be built at the new county courthouse. Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil presented the Great American Service Awards to friends of the American Legion, John Homesley and Bob Quimby.

The American Legion also honored the outgoing Boy's and Girl's State participants and announced the 2011-2012 delegates to Boy's and Girl's State. The Boy's and Girl's State conferences will take place in June. Students are nominated by their schools and chosen to participate after meeting a rigorous list of requirements.

The Post's next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 21, at Myers Park.



Rockwall Junior FFA member Ryan Ullom is shown finishing up his agriculture mechanics project for the 58th Annual Rockwall Youth Fair set for March 30 through April 2 at the Rockwall ISD Agriculture Facility on Riding Club Road. The fair will showcase yearlong projects from local FFA, 4-H and other youth organizations. This year's activities will include an ag mechanics show, clothing and textile show, livestock judging contest and livestock show. Highlighting the fair will be the annual market auction set for 1 p.m. April 2.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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It In "The County News"

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Resident Pat Mills with her granddaughter Jennifer Wright (standing) and great-granddaughter Shelby Wright.



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South of the Presbyterian Hospital

Rockwall PD earns 'recognized' status

The Rockwall Police Department was awarded 'recognized' status by the Texas Police Chiefs Association, according to a news release from the department. The RPD is the 42nd police agency in the state to earn such recognition. The RPD earned the status following a review of its policies, an on-site

music "meet or exceed all of the 164 identified best practices" that cover various aspects of law enforcement, including use of force, pursuits, protection of citizen rights, evidence and property management and other patrol and investigative operations.

The RPD earned the status following a review of its policies, an on-site

visit to inspect equipment and facilities and interviews of staff members. The process took more than a year and culminated March 3.

At the last Rockwall City Council meeting, Police Chief Mark Moeller was presented with a certificate of recognition by TPCA representatives.

Tennis Village at Buffalo Creek Construction begins on 5 new homes!



11 Wimbledon - This custom home in Buffalo Creek Golf Club is priced at \$331,000 to attract a quick sale.

It is becoming more and more obvious that the recession is losing its hold on new home construction, at least in Buffalo Creek Golf Club. 5 new homes have been approved for construction during the last month.

The appeal of Buffalo Creek to homeowners has been consistent since the golf course opened 18 years ago. It has remained as one of the premiere addresses in the North Texas area. Even though the homes in Buffalo Creek are expensive by most standards, the community has averaged 36 new homes per year since 1992.

Rob Whittle is chairman of the Architectural Review Committee that must approve all the construction plans and major remodels. Whittle said, "Buffalo Creek always had 8 or 10 new spec homes available for sale until about 2008. Many professionals, physicians and corporate relocation executives could easily find a new home in Buffalo Creek with that many professionally designed homes ready for immediate move in.

However, most builders were unable to obtain financing when the lending environment tightened several years ago. New home sales practically disappeared in Buffalo Creek because there simply was not any new inventory. The last new home to sell was a beautiful \$800,000 house on the golf course a couple of years ago other than our patio home area.

Then an unusual thing started happening. Since there were not any homes available, people started snapping up pre owned homes that had been built 10 or 15 years ago. The new owner would then submit plans to our committee for major remodels. The remodeling costs alone were ranging from \$80,000 to \$150,000. The fact of the matter was that the consumer demand to live in Buffalo Creek was the same as it had always been. Without new homes to choose from customers simply adapted. There is no question that remodeling a home is more of a challenge than just driving up and finding the perfect new home with a new home warranty and all of the current designer styles. But like I said previously, it was about the only way during the last couple of years to get into Buffalo Creek. Thankfully, the lending environment is changing and new homes are becoming available again in Buffalo Creek".

Caruth Builders has recently completed a new home at 11 Wimbledon Ct. in the area near the Buffalo Creek Swim and Tennis Club. The home has 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. It has two living areas and a large game room. The kitchen has beautiful custom cabinets and granite counter tops. It has a huge dining room. The open floor plan has a stunning fireplace and crown molding. The master bedroom includes a sitting area. The home has 2,904 square feet and feels even larger than that.

The stone and brick exterior gives the home the spectacular drive up appeal of custom homes that cost much more. The yard is fully landscaped with sod, trees, shrubs and an automatic sprinkler system.

The home is priced at \$331,000 to encourage a quick sale and closing. There are only a limited number of lots remaining in Buffalo Creek so the opportunity to own a new home is limited in this sought after neighborhood. Mortgage interest rates are still near historic lows and it would be hard to find a better time to buy a custom home in a neighborhood like Buffalo Creek.

The home is located within a very short walking distance to Pullen Elementary and Cain Middle School. There is a wide sidewalk and bicycle trail from the home to the schools which allows students to get to school in just a few minutes without taking the school bus or having parents drive them. The Lighthouse Academy Private School for nursery thru elementary is also just a few yards away offering both daily full time care and after school care for students.

The junior olympic Buffalo Creek pool is adjacent to the home. It features swim lessons, summer swimming and more. The family who purchases this home receives the benefit of a pool without all of the expense and maintenance of owning a pool. The kids just walk next door and join their friends at the pool. It's so much more fun. It's not a lot of hassle for the parents. Kids enjoy joining their friends at the pool without parents having to arrange 'play dates'.

Also, next door is the fabulous Buffalo Creek Tennis Club offering 5 lighted courts. The resident Tennis Pro offers tennis lessons for all ages, tennis leagues, team play and clinics. Summer programs are also offered for children. See website at www.BuffaloCreekTennis.com

Whittle, said "it is difficult to find a new home in Buffalo Creek below \$400,000. This home at 11 Wimbledon Ct. has a large yard for children, children can easily walk and bike to school, and it's literally next door to the swim and tennis complex. The lot is a large cul d sac lot that many homebuyers prefer. It is the perfect home for families with young children and middle school teenagers. And it is at a price that is rare in Buffalo Creek".

Jinksie Patton, the representative for Caruth Builders, said "I work with families all of the time that want to live in Buffalo Creek, but are just priced out with so many of our homes that are in the \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 plus range. Those families love the amenities and lifestyle that Buffalo Creek offers. They are aware of the strong resale value. They know that there are families with kids everywhere, with moms who volunteer daily at Pullen Elementary and Cain Middle School. The question for so many of those families is "how do I get into Buffalo Creek, without breaking the family budget?" The answer is this large family home with its reduced price and today's low mortgage rates. With 10% down, the principal and interest payment is only \$1,600 per month. It is less than many families pay to rent a home in Rockwall. For self employed professionals with a good credit score and 20% down payment, the builder's construction lender will consider an in-house mortgage loan that does not require all of the typical mortgage underwriting. The loan is amortized over a 30 year period, but has an 8 year balloon. The interest rate is fixed and is ideal for the self employed professional or business owner who does not met today's typical mortgage underwriting criteria.

The community features a wonderful park and playground. There is a magnificent nature area along the creek.



The magnificent Buffalo Creek Golf Course has been rated as one of the state's best

The Buffalo Creek Golf Course is rated as one of the top courses in North Texas. It was designed by PGA legend, Tom Weiskopf and Jay Morrish. The course has been host to several major tournaments including the final qualifying site of the US Open. Throughout the years, many of the golfers on the Rockwall High School Golf Team and on the Heath High School Golf Team have lived in Buffalo Creek. Many of these student athletes actually started playing at Buffalo Creek in their grade school and middle school years. Whittle said, "I can't tell you the number of times that I have seen young people walking from their home to the course and driving range. Sometimes, it looked like the golf bag was bigger than they were. But sure enough, those kids would spend time out on the course instead of being inside glued in front of a video game after school. I guaranty that they had more fun than kids stuck in front of a TV set and they learned a sport and skill that they will be able to enjoy for a lifetime. And for parents, it doesn't require them to run the children somewhere in a car. They can simply walk down the street to the clubhouse and the driving range. The golf lessons, the Nike School of Golf, and the fun of being outdoors on a beautiful 200 acre golf course is simply a 10 minute walk from this stunning family home. Whittle laughed, "to not have the kids in front of a video game everyday would itself be worth the \$1,600 monthly house payment to a lot of families".

Whittle Development also has a limited number of golf course lots available priced from \$130,000 to \$290,000.

To visit the home, call Jinksie Patton at 214-477-5217 or at 972-771-5253. The home will be open this weekend from 1:00pm till 5:00pm www.whittledevelopmentinc.com

Travel Channel Filming at Southern Junction

The Travel Channel will be at Southern Junction from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on March 25 to film an episode of its new program, "American Pit

Sidekick". The filming will be a benefit for the Chamber of Commerce and a charity drive party. Southern Junction will have a dinner special two-for-one longnecks all available to Royses City members and their guests. Members who join during the event will have their one-time enrollment fee waived or donated to the Women in Need (new member's only). Any member who brings a new member will have his or her name go into a drawing for a prize and ad space on the chamber's website.

Refreshment lessons also will be offered. For more details, call 972-636-0000.

Habitat work planned for Saturday

Annual Rockwall Area Habitat for Humanity workday will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at 801 Peter's Colony. Framing work is progressing quickly on the new structure, according to the release issued this week.

Additionally, final touches are being finished up on the previous build at 801 Peter's Colony. This week's work may include sodding the yard and landscape work.

For a up-to-the-minute overview of last minute changes or in the event of inclement weather, visit rockwall-bits.blogspot.com.

Say You Saw It In The County News"

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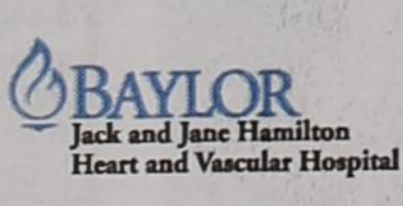
"Healthy enough for a heart attack."

When she first had her heart attack at age 38, she had no signs. Becky Drake had little reason to suspect she was having a heart attack. She was active, was not overweight and worked out.

Heart disease is a silent killer. Being active and healthy might not be enough. Individuals can become more prone to develop heart disease based on their family history.

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Rockwall County Obituaries

Dorothy Alberta (Bert) Bargiames

Funeral services for Dorothy Alberta (Bert) Bargiames were conducted March 20 at the Hillcrest Memorial Park.

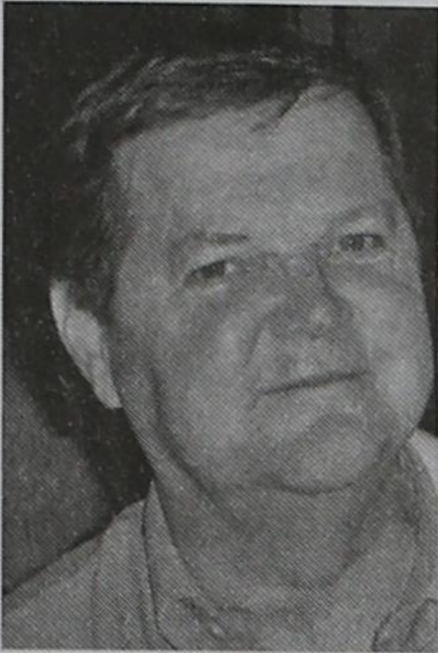
She was employed for many years by Great American Reserve Life Insurance. She was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church, Rockwall. Survivors include her daughters Kay Hancock (Bob) of Rockwall and Patsy (Roy Gene) of Dallas; her sister, Leeta Fae Michaels; her brother, Travis (Annabelle); her sister-in-law, Lucille Davis; seven grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

She is preceded in death by her husband, James; five sisters; and four brothers, including her twin, Albert.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church, Rockwall or the charity of the donor's choice.

David Michael Burnett

Funeral services for David Michael Burnett, Rockwall, formerly of Tulsa, Okla., were conducted at 11 a.m. March 21, in the Ridgeview Church in Rockwall with the Rev. Matt Geisinger officiating. Burial was at 2:30 p.m. in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel in charge of arrangements.



He was born July 23, 1951, in Shawnee, Okla., to Ralph and Patricia (Hawk) Burnett. He was a 1970 graduate of Putnam County West High School and was a champion sprinter. He served in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1972 in Vietnam as a crew chief door gunner in the 1st Helicopter Unit under the rank of SP4. He enjoyed fishing and was a member of the Ridgeview Church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Cathy (Porter) Burnett of Rockwall; his daughter, Lacey Devoll and her husband, Cary, of Amarillo; his grandchildren, Stormi and Chet Devoll; his brothers, Dan Burnett and his wife, Kyna, of Canon City, Colo., and Don Burnett and his wife, Kyna, of Lawton, Okla.; his nephews, Derek Burnett and his wife, Becca, of Lawton, Okla., and Darin Burnett of Canon City, Todd Porter of Oklahoma City, and Shane Benaar of Oklahoma City; and his sisters, Candace Riley and her husband, Aaron, of El Reno, Okla., and Sasha Benaar of Oklahoma City and Briane Benaar of Oklahoma City.

Michael Lacy

Funeral services for Michael Lacy, 43, of Royse City, formerly of Lubbock, were conducted at 2 p.m. March 24, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Del Cotrell, Pastor Emmons and Pastor Charlie Coffey officiating. Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. March 26 in the Hart Memorial Park.



He was born Sept. 15, 1967, in Hale Center, Okla., to Roy Lacy and Patsy (Cory) Lacy. He graduated from Putnam County High School in Lubbock in 1985 and Texas Tech University where he received a bachelor's degree in human resources in 1996. He received a master's degree from Southwestern Theological Seminary in 2005 and was ordained as

a minister on July 8, 2007.

He was active in youth leadership throughout his life, was a Sunday school teacher and recently served as the youth minister of Trinity Baptist Church in Royse City. He had worked in customer service for Cardinal Health Care and Verizon. A member of the Fellowship of Christian Magicians, he enjoyed sharing magic with children.

Survivors include his mother, Patsy Lacy of Lubbock; his brother, Randy Lacy of Lubbock; his uncles, Darrell Lacy and his wife, Joanne, of Hart and Bob Lacy and his wife, Margaret, of Clovis, N.M.; his aunt, Joann DeZonia and Dennis Lambert of Collinsville; several cousins; and the youth of Trinity Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his father, grandparents and uncles, Wayne Curry and Bill Lacy.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Baptist Church, 300 N. Erby Campbell, Royse City, TX 75189.

Phillip Nolan Laramore

Services for Phillip Nolan Laramore, 48, of Rowlett were conducted at 2 p.m. March 21, 2011, at the Lake Pointe Church Chapel with Pastor Jerry Minx officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rowlett Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He died March 16.

Born Jan. 13, 1963, in Wichita Falls to George D. and Evelyn (Kramer) Laramore, he was an active member of Lake Pointe Church. He earned his BSEE from Texas A&M University in 1986 and was employed as manager with EF Johnson Technologies. He enjoyed flying, riding motorcycles, photography, SCUBA diving and being a father to his sons.

Survivors include his mother, Evelyn Laramore of Dallas; his father, George Laramore of Royse City; his sons, Noland and Devon Laramore of Rowlett; his sisters, Sherry Radar and Kathy Smithson, both of Garland; and one brother, Stephen Laramore of Rowlett.

Pat Montana McConnell

Services for Pat Montana McConnell, 70, of Lavon were conducted at 11 a.m. March 21, 2011, in the First Assembly of God in Plano with the Rev. Leonard Allgood officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He died March 17.

Born Jan. 6, 1941, in Los Angeles, Calif., to Marcel and Beatrice (Hamman) McConnell, he married Eunice Brandon on Aug. 20, 1965, in Dallas. He worked as a mechanical engineer and was a member of the First Assembly of God.

Survivors include his wife, Eunice McConnell of Lavon; one son, Curtis McConnell and his wife, D'Ann, of Wylie; one granddaughter, Alex McConnell of Wylie; and many nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister and a brother.

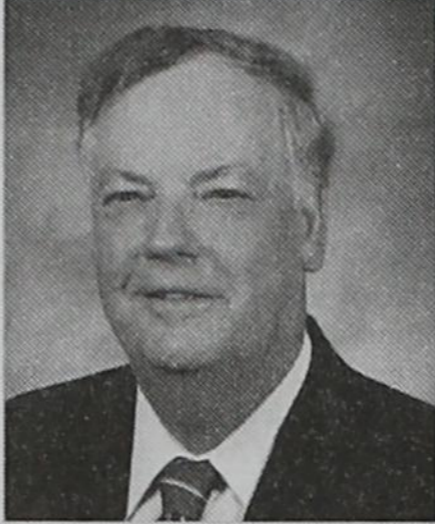
Elsie Pearl Brines Setzer

Elsie was born October 9, 1922 in Bridgeport, NE to Pearl and Edward Brines, one of eight children. She died March 21, 2011.

At an early age she moved with her family to Shoshoni, Wyoming where they lived on a farmstead. Through the years she shared many happy memories of the farm and of her brothers and sisters. After graduating from Shoshoni High School she and her sister, Goldie, found work in CA. Both girls met their future husbands in Modesto.

Elsie married Basel H. Setzer on July 1, 1945 in Reno, NV. They eventually made their home in the San Diego area. After the death of her husband in 1978, she moved to Rockwall in order to be near family.

She spent much of her life doing what she loved best- helping to raise generations of children. She was also an avid gardener and loved all animals, but especially birds.



She is survived by her daughters, Maureen (Mickey) Green and Bobbie (Kenneth) Gustafson, siblings Goldie (Bob) Shafer, Frank Brines, Shirley Brines and 7 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren with 1 more special grandchild joining the family soon.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to Elsie's church: Lakeshore Church, 5575 S. Hwy 205, Rockwall, Texas, 75032.

Richard Allen Timmons

A memorial service for Richard Allen Timmons, 44, of Plano will be at 1 p.m. March 26, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

He died March 19 following a lengthy illness.

Born May 17, 1966, in Everett, Wash., to Robert and Grace Timmons, he spent most of his career in the area of industrial sales and customer service.

Survivors include his wife, Yvonne (McDonald) Timmons of Plano; his daughters, Amber and Ashlee Timmons of Plano; his parents, Robert and Grace Timmons of Wylie; and his brother, Robert Wayne Timmons of Rio Vista.

The family has suggested memorial may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.



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News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

RISD Art Show set April 1, 2

Artwork created by Rockwall ISD students will be featured at a District Art Show set for 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. April 1 and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. April 2 at the RHHS Performing Arts Center, 801 Laurence Drive, Heath. Artwork will include drawings, paintings, mixed media, photography, 3-D sculpture, ceramics and more. All RISD schools will be represented. Pieces will be judged and awards presented April 1. The event will be open to the public; admission will be free.

Barbecue to benefit Relay For Life

A barbecue fundraiser to benefit the Rockwall County Relay For Life will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 2 in the parking lot behind Horizon Car Wash and American National Bank (intersection of Horizon and Ridge roads). Cost will be \$5 for barbecue sandwich and chips. The event will feature live jazz music.

Republican Women plan New Member Tea

The Rockwall County Republican Women will host a New Member Tea on April 2. Anyone interested in joining should visit rcrw.org or call Jane Buie at 072-722-0416. The group's next meeting is set for April 21.

Computer Council to meet April 6

The Rockwall Computer Council will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 6 at The Center, Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington St. Bill Hair will speak on new computer technologies, software, virus controls and more. A Q&A session also is planned. The RCC is open to anyone interested in computer use in homes or offices, regardless of computer types or degree of expertise. For more information call Bob Alston, 214-770-1140, or Jim Baird, 972-771-8529.

Diabetes classes begin April 7

A nine-lesson diabetes education program, "Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes," will be offered beginning April 7 at the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Rockwall County. Participants will learn about diabetes from educational profes-

sionals, meet others with similar concerns and receive recipes and references about the disease. Registration will be limited; \$15 prepayment is required. To register or for more details call 972-204-7660.

Brown Bag Lecture to focus on baseball

The Rockwall County Historical Foundation's Brown Bag Lecture will be conducted at noon at the Historic Courthouse on April 8. Old-time Rockwall Baseball lore will be the subject of discussion as the group prepares for the Vintage Baseball Game on May 1 at the RHS Campbell Complex.

April Lunch Basket set at Rotary Hall

The Friends of the Library will host the April Lunch Basket at 11 a.m. April 12 at the Rotary Hall. Sheri Fowler, author of the new book "Rockwall: Then and Now," will be the featured speaker. Lunch reservations are required and should be made by April 8 by calling 972-771-8976 or e-mailing cplang65@aol.com.

Pancake event to benefit reading program

An all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast is set for 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. April 9 at Applebee's in Rockwall. Proceeds will benefit the Rockwall County Library Reading for Adults program, which provides free educational services to adults. Tickets cost \$6 for adults, \$4 for children and are available at the library, from volunteers or tutors or at the door.

Auditions for summer musicals planned

Rockwall Summer Musical will begin its premier season June 24-26 with "The Sound of Music," followed by "Music Man" July 29-31. Auditions for "Sound" will run April 9-10 in the Utley Middle School cafeteria (9:30 a.m. to noon April 9, children only; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., adults only; and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. April 10, adults only). For more details visit rockwallsummermusicals.com or call 214-202-9673.

Benefit poker tournament slated

A Texas Hold'em tournament benefiting Lost Orphans International will begin at 6 p.m. April 9 in the Rockwall Rotary Building, 408 S. Goliad, in Rockwall. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. Buy-in will be \$50, \$20 unlimited re-buys, \$20 add-on; includes food, snacks and drinks (BYOB). Cash prizes will be awarded for final table. RSVP by calling Henry Young Hm at 214-771-3545 or e-mailing hjyret@att.net.

Mi Familia es Primero event slated

The first Mi Familia es Primero conference will run from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 30 at Lake Pointe Church. Sponsored by the Texas-based Asociación Mision, the Spanish-language event will feature national marriage and family experts Francisco and Viviana Robledo of the PAIRS Foundation; Guille Sastre, founder and director of Creciendo Unidos; and Enid Reyes, founder and director of Asociación Mision Latina. The event will include workshops on how to equip religious ministers, counselors, couples and families with the tools and strategies needed to strengthen families and unions. Registration will cost \$40 for individuals, \$65 for couples. Call 213-215-1736 or 939-579-4866 or visit mifamiliaprimero.com by April 15 to register.

Aspansians Spring Art Fair scheduled

The Aspansians Spring Arts and Craft Fair will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 16 on the Historic Downtown Rockwall Square. The event will include gifts, jewelry, handbags, food, candles, apparel, handmade creations, pottery and decorative accents. Children's activities also are planned. For vendor application or information call 214-712-0212 or visit aspansians.com.

Easter egg hunt set April 16

The 9th Annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department will begin at 10 a.m. April 16 at the Tuttle Athletic Complex. Candy and "special eggs" with prizes will be offered, and activities will include a bounce house, face painting and a visit from the Easter bunny. Activities will begin at 9 a.m. For more details call 972-771-7740.

Car show planned for RC

The Roys City Main Street program will host the 2011 Main Event Car Show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 16. Sponsorships and registrations still are being accepted. For more details about the show contact Kari at 972-636-2184 or khollfield@roysecity.com.

Push-ups for Charity event set

A Push-ups for Charity Challenge is set for April 16, with three teams competing: Regular Joes and Janes (open to all Rockwall-area residents); Rockwall County police department members; and Rockwall County fire department members. The event has been organized in support of the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization whose mission is to honor and empower severely injured service men and women. For more information visit push-upsforcharityrockwall.com.

Low-cost spay/neuter shuttle slated

The low-cost spay/neuter shuttle sponsored by Rockwall PAWS and KCAAP will depart at 7:30 a.m. April 21 from the southeast corner of the I-30 Walmart parking lot. The shuttle will return at 6:30 p.m. For an appointment call 1-972-472-3500 (hablamos Español). Prices can be viewed at spayneuternet.org. For more details call 972-310-1354.

Republican Women to meet

The Rockwall County Republican Woman will have its regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. April 21 at the Historic Courthouse in downtown Rockwall. For more information visit rcrw.org or call Jane Buie at 972-772-0415.

Blood drive set April 22

A blood drive will begin at 2:30 p.m. April 22 in the Native Outdoors parking lot at the southeast corner of Hwy. 276 and Hwy. 548.

Fun Run Rally to benefit ACS

The Rockwall Fun Run Rally, an American Cancer Society fundraiser, is set for April 23. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. at East Texas Choppers in Terrell. Cost will be \$25 per hand. First group out at 11

Three tapped for OCU Dean's List

Three Rockwall students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester at Oklahoma City University, according to a recent news release.

Mary E. Bander, Lindi B. Jones and John O. Villapando each were named to the Dean's List.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours and maintain a grade-point average of 3.5.

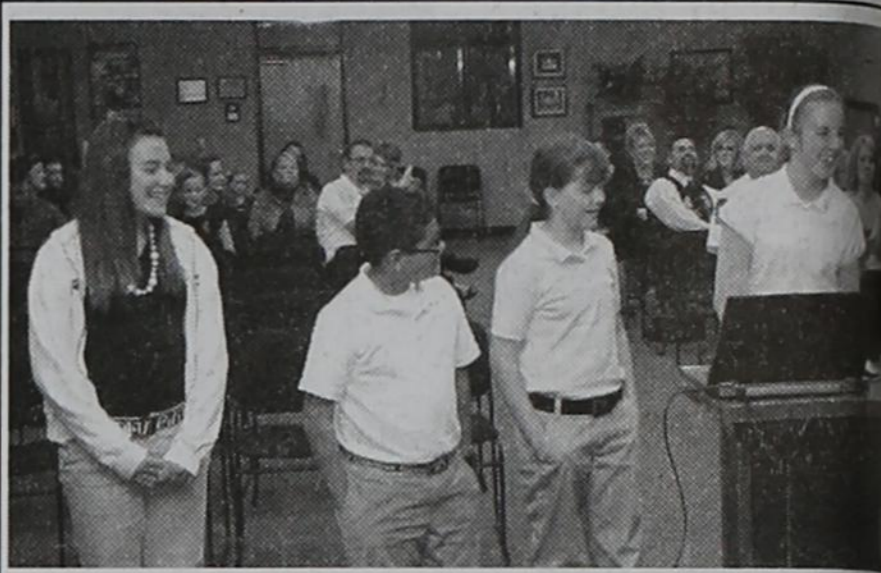
Correction ...

In the March 18, 2011 issue of the Rockwall County News, an article titled, "Candidates file for city council, ISD seats," mistakenly stated that Rockwall City Council members Glen Farris and David Sweet had resigned their council seats in their bids to run for the Rockwall mayor post in the May 2011 elections. That information was incorrect. Farris and Sweet are both still on the city council. The Rockwall County News regrets the error.



Members of the Friday Study Club had their March meeting in the home of Darlene Bealmeier, shown standing at center. Hostesses were Peg Smith and Charlene Norris, standing, and Carolyn Duckworth. Providing the program for the meeting was Kristin Martin-Cook, clinical research coordinator of the Memory Disorders Research Clinic at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Her program, "Memory And Aging A to Z," talked about recognizing and distinguishing between Alzheimer's disease and changes normally thought of as a normal part of aging. She also discussed treatments for Alzheimer's disease.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Harry H. Herndon Intermediate School students recently visited with members of the board of trustees for the Roys City Independent School District, talking about their experiences at Camp Spruce Science Camp. Pictured from the left are Lydia Stutts, Robert Estrada, Lauren Freeman and Jocelyn Bellomy.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

a.m., with event ending at starting location at 3 p.m. All motorcycles, bikes, classics and custom cars welcome. Raffles, a live auction, live music and games are planned. Register online at relayforlife.org/rockwall. For more details e-mail dtrarrant@gmail.com.

Taste of Rockwall, Business Expo set

The 18th Annual Taste of Rockwall and Business Expo, co-hosted by Rockwall Noon Rotary Club and the Rockwall Area Chamber, will run from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. April 28 at Rockwall High. Restaurants interested in participating should call Barbara Jackson at 469-402-1300. Expo booth space is limited; call the chamber at 972-771-5733.

Rockwall plans Hazardous Waste Day

Rockwall residents will have the opportunity to dispose of household chemicals and other hazardous waste items from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 30 at 1600 Airport Road. To participate, local residents must bring a copy of utility bill or driver's license to verify residency.

Fulton School to host Gala April 30

The Fulton School will host its Gala fundraiser, Escape to Margaritaville from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. April 30 at the Hella Shriner Grand Ballroom. The event will feature a bar, hula dancers and a limbo contest. It will open with an hors d'oeuvres reception. A seated dinner will follow featuring live music and a live/silent auction. Visit fultonschoolgala.org for more details.

Elvis tribute set May 5

The Rockwall Parks & Rec's Concert by the Lake Series will offer an Elvis tribute show featuring David Allen at 7:30 p.m. May 5 at the Harbor Amphitheatre behind the Hilton. Admission will be free, and participants are urged to bring blankets or lawn chairs.

Preschool Association to meet

The Rockwall Preschool Association will meet at 9 a.m. May 6 at the Methodist Church across from Nebbie Williams Elementary, 315 Dallas Rd., Rockwall. The program will be "Summer Boredom Busters & Tackle Sibling Rivalry." New members are welcome any time. For more information on the group, visit rockwallpreschoolassociation.com.

Party Crashers to perform

The Party Crashers, a variety band, will be the featured performers at the Concert by the Lake event beginning at 7:30 p.m. May 12 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

Low-cost spay/neuter shuttle set

The low-cost spay/neuter shuttle sponsored by Rockwall PAWS and KCAAP will depart at 7:30 a.m. May 19 from the southeast corner of the I-30 Walmart parking lot. The shuttle will return at 6:30 p.m. after the spay/neuter. For an appointment call 1-972-472-3500 (hablamos Español). Prices can be viewed at spayneuternet.org. For more details call 972-310-1354. Dogs must be on leashes, cats in carriers.

Vocal Trash is featured band

Vocal Trash, a variety band, will be the featured performers at the Concert by the Lake event beginning at 7:30 p.m. May 19 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

Founders Day Festival set May 21

The City of Rockwall's historic downtown square will play host to the annual Founders Day Festival May 21 beginning at 10 a.m. Vendor booths, children's activities, food, entertainment and a sunset concert are planned. Entertainment will include the Dallas Puppet Theatre, Concho Grass (bluegrass), Django Walker (country), Ponty Bone (Cajun/Zydeco) and Asleep at the Wheel (country/Texas swing). For more details visit rockwallfoundersday.com.

Auditions for 'Music Man' planned

Rockwall Summer Musical will begin its premier season June 24-26 with "The Sound of Music," followed by "Music Man" July 29-31. Auditions for "Music Man" will run May 20 and 22 at the First United Methodist Church, Rockwall (5 p.m. to 9 p.m. May 20, adults, teens and children; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., May 22, adults, teens and children, plus dance auditions from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.). For more details visit rockwallsummermusicals.com or call 214-202-9673.

Me & My Monkey to perform

Me & My Monkey, a Beatles tribute band, will be the featured performers at the Concert by the Lake event beginning at 7:30 p.m. May 26 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

Museum plans tea, fashion show

The Zane Robison Historical Museum in Roys City will host its annual Keep the Cup Tea and Fashion Show on May 28. The event will include a full tea, as well as a fashion show organized by Helping Hands. Cost is \$10 per ticket, and seating will be limited to 32. Purchase tickets at the Hardware Store or at the museum. For details, call 972-635-7438.

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Royse City Police Blotter

March 17
March 1: Suspicious person, 700 block Preston Drive; Noise, 1200 block Sandow Court
March 12: Public intoxication arrest, 600 block Preston Drive; Burglary, 800 block Mackenzi Drive
March 13: Possession of Marijuana/Mesquite Police Department arrest, I-30 at the 78 mile marker; No driver's license, Corner of Rustic Meadows Drive and Sorrells Road; Resisting arrest/Driving while intoxicated

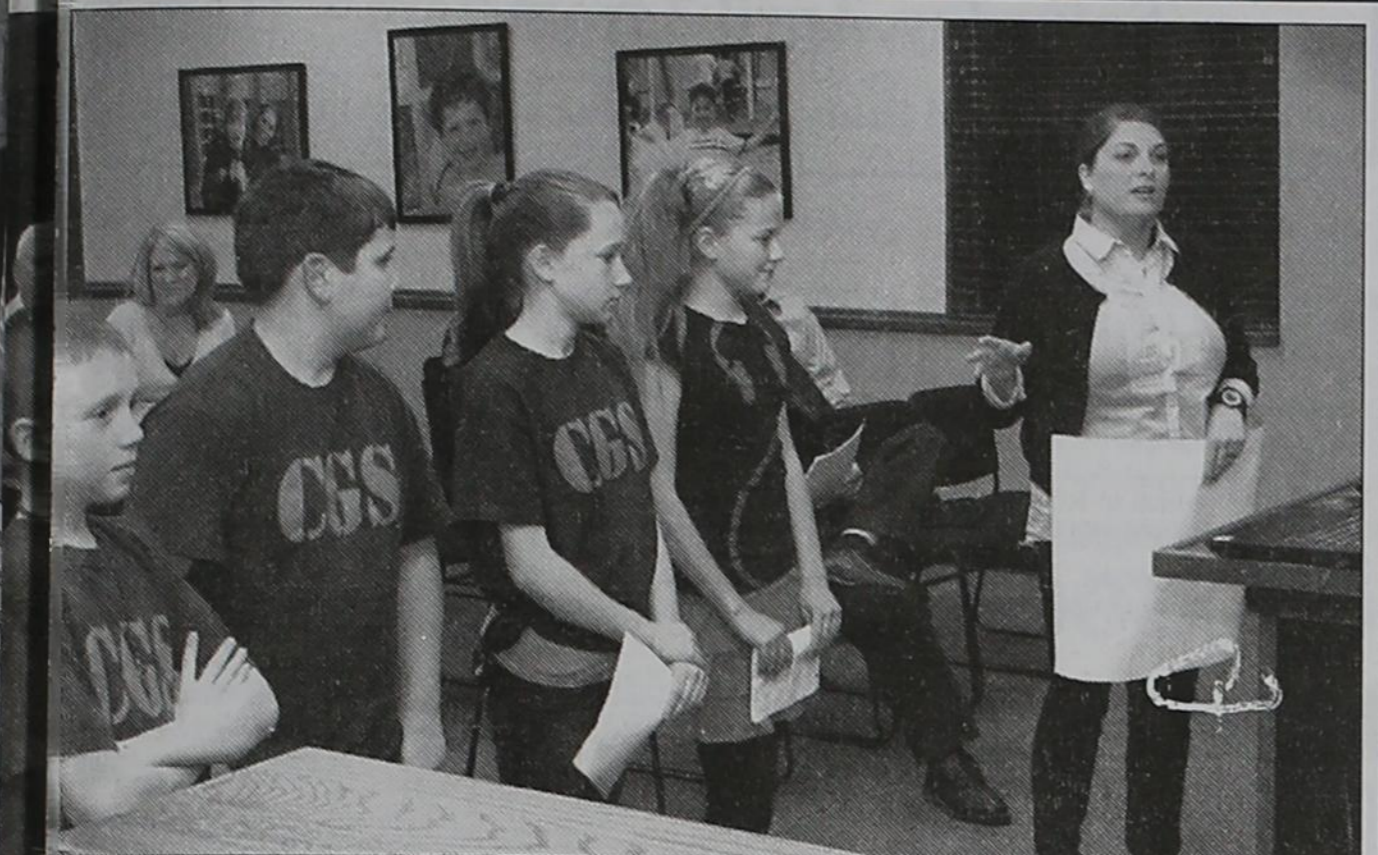
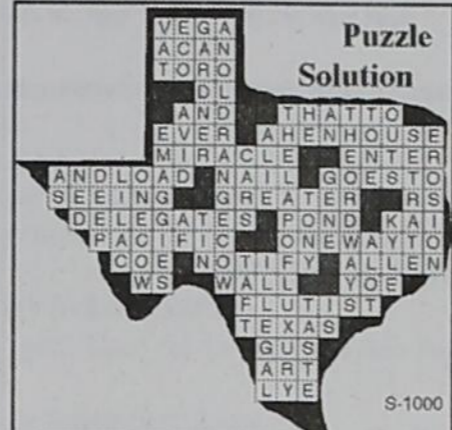
March 14: Suspicious activity, 800 block Oak Grove Lane; Domestic disturbance, 200 Sandy Lane; Accident, 200 block W. I-30 SSR

Monday, 14 March: Display/Possess fictitious license plate arrest, 100 block W. Main Street; Possession of Marijuana, 8100 block W. Main Street; Theft, 900 block E. I-30; Suspicious person, 200 block I-30; Medical assistance, 500 block Cookston Lane; Alarm, 2300 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious activity, 800 block Rowdy Drive; Suspicious activity, Corner Welch Road and Jessica Way; Accident, 100 block S. Elm Street; Accident, 2300 block E. I-30; Welfare check, 800 block I-30

Tuesday, 15 March: Theft, 1000 block Pullen Street; Suspicious vehicle, Corner Anna Lee and Jones Road; Welfare check, 1400 block Eagle Point; Suspicious person, Corner of Rustic Meadows Drive and Rustic Grove Lane

Wednesday, 16 March: Theft/Public intoxication arrest, 100 block S. I-30; Suspicious person, 200 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard

Thursday, 17 March: Criminal mischief, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Suspicious person, 400 block Dyann Drive; Alarm, 1400 block Hunters Glen; Reckless driver; Highway 66 and Rustic Meadows Drive



Students from Ruth Cherry Intermediate recently addressed members of the Royse City Independent School Board of Trustees. The students - Patrick Gailley, Garrett Watts, Makaya Brown and Kennedy Sisk - shared their experiences at Camp Grady Spruce Science Camp.

Opinions

Muslim radicals stike at U.S. foreign policy

Sheldon Richman
Sen. Peter King's recent hearing on the domestic radicalization of Islam as an act of misdirection. While King, a New York Republican, exaggerates this phenomenon, he might as well have held a hearing on the violence that the government inflicts on the Muslim world. It is the source of hostility to it's true of people in the Middle East and North Africa, why it is also true of Muslim Americans?

also have achieved the opposite of what they intended. "American direct intervention in the Muslim World has paradoxically elevated the stature of and support for radical Islamists, while diminishing support for the United States to single-digits in some Arab societies. "Muslims do not 'hate our freedom,' but rather, they hate our policies. The overwhelming majority voice their objections to what they see as one-sided support in favor of Israel and against Palestinian rights, and the longstanding, even increasing support for what Muslims collectively see as tyrannies, most notably Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Pakistan, and the Gulf states....

his violent disagreement with U.S. foreign policy favoring Israel," a policy that supports the subjugation of Palestinians. Mohamed Atta, one of the 9/11 suicide hijackers, committed himself to martyrdom on April 11, 1996, the day Israel attacked Lebanon in Operation Grapes of Wrath, writes Lawrence Wright in *The Looming Tower*. Ramzi Yousef, a planner of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing lashed out at U.S. foreign policy during his sentencing: "[You] are more than terrorists; you are the one who invented terrorism and using it every day."

King take a critical look at U.S. foreign policy? No, he didn't. It is sacrosanct. Thus when witness Zuhdi Jasser, president of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy, told King's Homeland Security committee, "The U.S. has a significant problem with Muslim radicalization," without mentioning the death, injury, and mayhem inflicted by the U.S. government on Arab countries, no member of the committee

confirm this claim. We have further evidence that it is U.S. policy that radicalizes Muslims. From whom? From the radicalized Muslims themselves. Osama bin Laden issued his 1996 fatwa against the United States, "Declaration of War against the Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Places," after the U.S. government stationed troops in Saudi Arabia, regularly bombed southern Iraq (long after Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait was reversed), and enforced an embargo that would kill hundreds of thousands of Iraqi children. "Terrorising you, while you are carrying arms on our land, is a legitimate and morally demanded duty," he wrote.

Richard Reid, the would-be shoe-bomber, told his sentencing judge, "Your government has killed two million children in Iraq.... Your government has sponsored the rape and torture of Muslims in the prisons of Egypt and Turkey and Syria and Jordan with their money and with their weapons." And Faisal Shahzad, who tried to ignite a car bomb in Times Square said in court, "[Until] the hour the U.S. pulls its forces from Iraq and Afghanistan, and stops the drone strikes in Somalia and Yemen and in Pakistan, and stops the occupation of Muslim lands, and stops killing the Muslims, and stops reporting the Muslims to its government, we will be attacking U.S."

More funny money, rising prices

Wesley W. Burnett
The subcommittee which I chair held a hearing on monetary policy and rising prices. Whether we consider food, gasoline, or clothing, living is increasing significantly. True inflation is defined as an increase in the money supply. All other things being equal, an increase in money supply leads to a rise in prices. Inflation's destructive effects on societies from the Roman Empire to Weimar Germany to Zimbabwe.

of whom already live paycheck to paycheck, increasingly will be forced by these rising prices into unwilling tradeoffs: purchasing ground beef rather than steak, drinking water rather than milk, and choosing canned vegetables over fresh in order to keep food on the table and pay the heating bill. Frugality can be a good thing, but only when it is by choice and not forced upon the citizenry by the Fed's ruinous monetary policy. While the Fed takes credit for the increase in the stock markets, it claims no responsibility for the increases in food and commodity prices. Most economists fail to understand that inflation is at its root a monetary phenomenon. There may be other factors that contribute to price increases, such as famine, flooding, or global unrest, but those effects are transient. Consistently citing only these factors, while never acknowledging the effects of monetary policy, is a cop-out.

see any wage increases. By continually reducing the purchasing power of the dollar, the Fed's monetary policy also punishes savings and thrift. After all, why save rapidly depreciating dollars? Unfortunately, those policymakers who exercise the most power over the economy are also the least likely to understand the effects of their policies. Chairman Bernanke and other members of the Federal Open Market Committee were convinced in mid-2008 that the economy would rebound and continue to grow through 2009, even though it was clear to many observers that we were in the midst of a severe economic crisis. Even Greenspan was known for downplaying the importance of the growing housing bubble just as it was reaching its zenith. It remains impossible for even the brilliant minds at the Fed to achieve both the depth and breadth of knowledge necessary to enact central economic planning without eventually bringing the country to economic ruin. Our witnesses delved deeply into these issues and explained this phenomenon in very logical, simple terms. The American people increasingly understand what is going on with our money. I only hope the Fed is listening.

Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

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

The U.S. Emperor has spoken

By Wesley W. Burnett
The Emperor has spoken, and the slaves are to be silent. His majesty doesn't need the simpletons in congress to call the shots, even if they do claim to "represent" the slaves. That about sums up what is left of what was once a great and mighty republic. Now that the U.S. congress has shown its inability to defend the constitution, the history of what once was may now begin to be written. "Once upon a time ..." historians will recant, "there was a strong willed electorate who took great pride in their constitution and its limits on the power of government." And then the unraveling of those limits on executive, judicial and legislative power will be itemized, reviewed and debated for years to come. All of course, under the heavy hand of the king, or emperor or whatever else title the U.S. dictator decides is appropriate. The slaves will be silenced, either by force, manipulation or indoctrination. Oh, there will be a few loudmouths shouting out about liberty and the rights of individuals ... all in vain, as they are silenced one-by-one and vast majority shrink in fear, unable to defend the rights they gave up without a whimper. There is a sliver of hope for reclaiming the republic we once enjoyed, but it is slipping away very quickly. The dictator and his boot shiners have made it clear ... the constitution is a worthless piece of paper in their eyes. Without an aggressive defense of that document by our elected representatives, the end of what was is surely upon us.

Of all the people in these United States, Texans are in the best political position for escaping the inevitable collapse of the U.S. government. Texans have the authority to reclaim their republican form of government through the ballot box. All it takes is for the Texas legislature to place a referendum on the next ballot: "Do you favor Texas Independence? Yes or No." As we have reported several times over the years, Texas has the authority to separate peacefully from the other states, defined in the not-so-well-known but infamous U.S. Supreme Court 1868 ruling "Texas vs. White."

Will the legislature bring this question to Texas voters?
The Constitution of most of our states (and of the United States) assert that all power is inherent in the people; that they may exercise it by themselves; that is their right and duty to be at all times armed and that they are entitled to freedom of person, freedom of religion, freedom of property and freedom of press.
Thomas Jefferson

Candidate resumes need to be available to voters
Candidates for public office should submit their resumes so voters know their history -- where they have worked, for how long and why they held those positions. Voters are the prospective employer of these candidates and it is essential to know the basic professional background of all candidates to be elected (hired) to run county or city business. As a service to the community, local media sources should post these resumes so the voters can make their decisions based upon more than the claims made by candidates or self-serving statements made in the pages of local newspapers. Rockwall has many new residents who don't know a lot about local history and this would be a great way to give them the information they need to be involved in upcoming local elections. Turnout for local elections can be enhanced if citizens feel their vote is more informed. A candidate who is proud of their professional past will jump at the opportunity to show their "future employer" their resume. And the ones who don't? That will say a lot, too. Lauren Brosie, Rockwall County

Exclusively in your hometown newspaper
Rockwall County News

Rockwall County Sports

Long district foes stifle Yellowjackets' hitting, pitching

It's much more difficult for the Rockwall baseball team. The Yellowjackets are eighth among the Metroplex's 4A teams in the Dallas Morning News, yet they're just 1-3 in the beefed-up District 10-4A. The team's district schedule with a loss against Highland Park, ranked first in the area, sixth in the state — downed Rockwall 8-2. "The top two teams in the district," RHS head coach Jeff Payne said. "The top two teams in the district, and the other six teams are all taking turns beating each other. A dogfight. We've gotta play it all the way out to the end and see where we finish." The Yellowjackets trailed just 5-2 after five innings. The Lions struck for 10 runs in the sixth against starting pitcher Brewer

Money and three relievers. RHS' bullpen allowed the first five Hawks reach base in the seventh inning to put the game away with three runs. Payne took responsibility for the relief pitching's problems. "All teams relax a little and get confident when they get past the starter," he said. "I haven't made many right moves lately with the pen. We're still working on that." Besides, he indicated that it's more important for the Jackets to step up their offensive production. He said, "We need to hit to win. We're a good hitting club. Need to get back to scoring more runs." The Jackets had struck for 11 hits in a 7-6 non-district victory at Royse City Thursday, March 17. They had just six hits against McKinney's pitchers, including Hunter Wade's two-out solo home run in the seventh inning. RHS' five hits against the Hawks included a single and a double, and a run batted in, by Steve Bean. Skyler

Bean also had a double and scored a run. On the positive side, Rockwall isn't short of players. "No injuries," Payne said. "Some frustration with losing, but the guys know what's expected and what they're capable of."

Hummingbird headed to water polo selection camp

Water polo is catching hold in Rockwall. One local player has been invited to a training camp for a national team. Two whole groups of them will be competing against each other for the first time while representing either Rockwall or Rockwall-Heath high schools. Jordan Hummingbird of Rockwall has been selected to compete in the USA Women's Water Polo Cadet National Team Training and Selection Camp in May. The 14-year-old impressed the National Team staff by scoring seven goals in three games Sunday at the Olympic Development Western Regional Water Polo Championships.

Luke Phillips totaled 18 saves in the two contests. Said head coach Andres Rodriguez, "Luke's 18 saves in two games was simply impressive. This type of goalkeeping will help keep us in these close games and allow us the opportunity to win."

Rockwall-Heath (0-4) lost to Denton 9-5 and to Flower Mound 12-6. Chase Nelson put in three goals against Flower Mound and two vs. Denton. Nick Eskalis also scored three times against Flower Mound.

The combined Rockwall/Rockwall-Heath girls' team scored a 6-3 victory over Southlake, which qualified for last

(Continued on Page 11)

Rockwall County Sports Schedules

Heritage Christian Academy Eagles

March 28 — Softball: home vs. DeSoto Canterbury Episcopal, RISE, 4:30 p.m.
at Henderson Full Armor Christian, 4:30 p.m.
March 29 — Middle school track: at Brookhill Relays, Bullard, 3 p.m.
March 31 — Baseball: home vs. Dallas The Covenant School, 4:30 p.m.
at Waco Vanguard, 4:30 p.m.
April 2 — Varsity track: at Princeton Panther Relays

Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors

March 28 — Baseball: home vs. DeSoto Canterbury Episcopal, Chiesl complex, 4:30 p.m.
home vs. Waco Vanguard, 4:30 p.m.
March 29 — Softball: home vs. Trinity Christian Academy-Cedar Hill, 4:30 p.m.
March 31 — Baseball: at Tyler East Texas Christian, 4:30 p.m.
at Greenville Christian School, 4:30 p.m.

Rockwall High School Yellowjackets

March 25 — Varsity 1 and 2 boys' golf: home for Jacket/Hawk Ben Parks Invitational, Buffalo Creek Golf Club, 8 a.m.
at Wylie East, JV Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
at McKinney North, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
Varsity girls' golf: at Midlothian Invitational, Tangle Ridge Golf Club
Tennis: at Galveston Varsity Tournament
March 26 — Varsity 1 and 2 boys' golf: home for Jacket/Hawk Ben Parks Invitational, Buffalo Creek Golf Club, 8 a.m.
baseball: home vs. Dallas Jesuit Preparatory School, 1 p.m.
Varsity girls' golf: at Midlothian Invitational, Tangle Ridge Golf Club, 2 p.m.
Tennis: at Galveston Varsity Tournament
March 28 — JV boys' golf: at Rowlett JV Invitational, Firewheel Lakes Country Club, 8:30 a.m.
March 29 — Varsity 2 girls' golf: at Pearce Girls' Invitational, Canyon Country Club, 8:30 a.m.
Varsity gymnastics: home for Regional Championships, Compulsory, noon
home vs. McKinney North, JV Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
baseball: at McKinney North, 4:30 p.m.
at Richardson Pearce, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
Monday, March 30 — Varsity gymnastics: home for Regional Championships, 11:30 a.m.
April 1 — Varsity and JV1 tennis: home vs. Lake Highlands, Rockwall High School, 4 p.m.
at Richardson Pearce, JV Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

JV White baseball: at Royse City, 4:30 p.m.

Varsity softball: home vs. Highland Park, 5 p.m.
Track: home for Rockin' R Relays, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium
Saturday, April 2 — Baseball: home vs. Mesquite Horn, JV Orange noon and varsity 3 p.m.

Rockwall-Heath High School Hawks

Friday, March 25 — Black and Red boys' golf: home for Jacket/Hawk Ben Parks Invitational, Buffalo Creek Golf Club, 8 a.m.
Tennis: at Crowley ISD Spring Fling Tennis Tournament, 8 a.m.
Varsity girls' golf: at Grand Prairie, Tangle Ridge Golf Club, 9 a.m.
Varsity softball: at Highland Park, 4 p.m.
Baseball: home vs. Wylie, JV Black 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
Girls' soccer: at Bi-District playoff vs. Dallas Hillcrest, Homer B. Johnson Stadium, Garland, 6 p.m.
Boys' soccer: at Bi-District playoff vs. Dallas Molina, Homer B. Johnson Stadium, Garland, 8 p.m.
Boys' track: at Wylie East Invitational, Pirate Stadium
Saturday, March 26 — Black and Red boys' golf: home for Jacket/Hawk Ben Parks Invitational, Buffalo Creek Golf Club, 8 a.m.
Varsity girls' golf: at Grand Prairie, Tangle Ridge Golf Club, 2 p.m.
Girls' track: at MISD Relays, Hanby Stadium, Mesquite
Monday, March 28 — Red boys' golf: at Keller Fossil Ridge, Robson Ranch Country Club, Denton, 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, March 29 — JV tennis: at Arlington Martin JV Tournament, 6 a.m.
Varsity gymnastics: at Regional Championships, Compulsory, Rockwall High School, noon
JV Red baseball: home vs. Highland Park, 4:30 p.m.
Baseball: at Highland Park, JV Black 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
Softball: home vs. Wylie East, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
Wednesday, March 30 — Varsity gymnastics: at Regional Championships, Optional, Rockwall High School, noon
Thursday, March 31 — JV softball: at Ennis Tournament
Friday, April 1 — Tennis: at Mansfield Legacy Kowbell Classic, 6 a.m.
Baseball: home vs. Wylie East, JV Black 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
Varsity track: at Rockin' R Relays, Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium
Saturday, April 2 — JV Red baseball: home vs. Plano Clark, 2 games, noon
JV Black baseball: at Frisco Wakeland, noon
JV softball: at Ennis JV Tournament

Royse City Bulldogs

Friday, March 25 — Baseball: at Sherman, JV1 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
Softball: at Sherman, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 6:30 p.m.
JV2 baseball: home vs. Sherman, 6 p.m.
Varsity girls' tennis: home for Royse City Tournament
Track: at Pirate Relays
Saturday, March 26 — JV2 softball: home vs. Honey Grove, 10 a.m.
Monday, March 28 — JV girls' golf: at JV District Tournament
Middle school boys' track: at Metro East District Meet
Middle school girls' track: at District Meet, Forney
Tuesday, March 29 — Baseball: home vs. Greenville, JV1 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
JV2 softball: at Cooper, 4:30 p.m.
Softball: home vs. Greenville, JV1 5 p.m. and varsity 6:30 p.m.
JV2 baseball: at Greenville, 6 p.m.
Varsity boys' golf: away
Varsity tennis: at Prosper Tournament
Middle school boys' track: at Metro East District Meet
Thursday, March 31 — JV track: at Fox Relays, 4:30 p.m.
JV tennis: at North Forney Tournament
Friday, April 1 — Baseball: at Mount Pleasant, JV1 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
JV2 baseball: at Rockwall, 4:30 p.m.
Softball: at Mount Pleasant, JV1 5 p.m. and varsity 6:30 p.m.
Varsity track: at Rockin' R Relays, Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium
Saturday, April 2 — JV2 baseball: home vs. Mount Pleasant, noon
Cain Middle School Mustangs
Thursday, March 31 — Tennis: at Utey, Rockwall Tennis Facility, 4 p.m.
Track: at District Meet, Wylie, 4 p.m.
Utey Middle School Wolves
Tuesday, March 22 — Tennis: home vs. Cain, Rockwall Tennis Facility, 4 p.m.
Thursday, March 24 — Track: at District Meet, Wylie, 4 p.m.
Williams Middle School Wildcats
Thursday, March 24 — Track: at District Meet, Wylie, 4 p.m.

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- 30 Pasadena is part of ___ Houston"
- 32 NFL QB Roger who played only in Dallas (init.)
- 33 TX sends about 140 of 'em to the RNC
- 36 TX Dabney '81 film: "On Golden ___"
- 37 TX Claire Chennault was an adviser to Chiang ___ shek
- 38 TX-born Joshua Logan directed '49 "South ___"
- 39 TXism: "more than ___ skin a cat"
- 41 this TX Jack was one of the first faith healers
- 42 officially inform
- 45 this George was a hated Redskins coach
- 46 this TX Shoemaker won four Kentucky Derbies (init.)
- 47 in Tom Green Co. on 87
- 48 Cameron h.s. "___ men"
- 49 a performer at UNT's Annual Texas Flute Festival
- 52 best state in U.S.A. astronaut Grissom, lived often in TX
- 54 this Howe managed Astros ('89-'93)
- 55 soap ingredient in early TX
- 10 TX Mandrell '82 gospel album: "___ Set My Life to Music"
- 11 TXism: "fits like ugly on ___ ape"
- 12 TX William Humphrey 2nd novel (2 wds.)
- 13 ___ deaf
- 14 Rangers & Astros get 27 of 'em in a game
- 15 A&M yell: "Gig ___"
- 16 TXisms "whizzer" or "windy" (2 wds.)
- 17 fixed price (2 wds.)
- 18 TX coastline malady
- 20 this '06 film featured the voice of TX Owen Wilson as "McQueen"
- 22 TXism: "likely ___ not"
- 23 "Jim ___ Creek" was dammed to form Lake Coleman
- 24 ___ in the heart of TX"
- 25 pale violet color
- 26 single unit of a herd (2 wds.)
- 28 TX-born "Star Trek" guy, Roddenberry
- 31 ex-Cowboy Dorsett
- 34 "Spindletop" driller: ___ Lucas
- 35 early TX sheriff wore a "___ star"
- 37 in Hays Co. on I-35
- 40 TXism for "many" (2 wds.)
- 43 in San Patricio Co. on hwy. 181
- 44 unlawfully in TX: ___ aliens"
- 50 "left a bad ___"
- 51 TXism: "turn about ___ fair play"

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Rockwall County Sports

Hawks survive busy schedule, still perfect in district

by Lary Bump
 What spring break? For the Rockwall-Heath baseball team, the days away from classes meant a professional-style schedule of 10 games in 10 games through Saturday. The Hawks came through that stretch, when they even played two games in professional stadiums, with eight victories. After taking two days off, RHHS won again Tuesday 8-2 at Rockwall to improve its record to 18-3-1 overall and 4-0 in District 10-4A. That unbeaten district record will be tested Tuesday when they visit Highland Park (18-2, 4-0). The Scots are ranked first in the THSBCA 4A rankings, a position RHHS occupied much of last season. The Hawks were sixth in the most recent poll. Before that showdown, RHHS

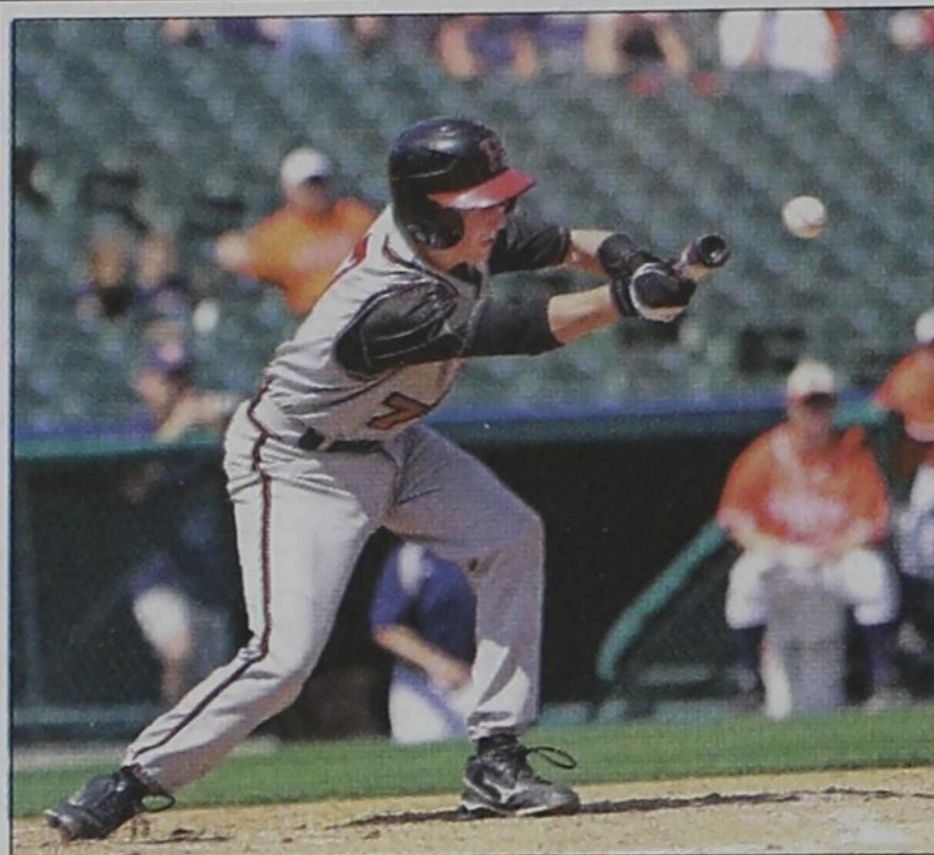
is scheduled to play Friday against Wylie, currently consigned to the lower end of the district standings. That doesn't mean a lot to Hawks head coach Greg Harvey. He said, "Wylie is traditionally a good team, and we know that everybody will play their best game against us." After taking five of six games to win the I-30 Classic March 10-12, Rockwall-Heath had all it could handle last week. The Hawks edged McKinney 4-2 Tuesday, March 15, edged Lake Highlands 6-5 at Rangers Ballpark the next week, needed nine innings to win at McKinney North 9-3 Friday and fell 6-5 to Frisco Wakeland Saturday at Dr. Pepper Ballpark. Those games were the equivalent of a professional six-game home stand followed by a four-game road trip that

took RHHS to McKinney twice and Arlington and Frisco once each. Wakeland pounded 12 hits in a replay of its two-game sweep of the Hawks in last year's Region II finals, but at least the Wolverines didn't reach double figures in runs, as they did in 2010.

"It was not a district game," Harvey said. "We wanted to win, of course, but I don't think we played very well. We had an emotional game Friday night, and I think we were a little bit tired." McKinney North had tied Friday's game with two runs in the sixth inning. The score remained even until

the Hawks put together five hits to score six runs in the top of the ninth. Against Wakeland, Rockwall-Heath took a first-inning lead on Jake Bledsoe's two-run double, and went ahead again in the third 3-2 when Jake Thompson tripled and scored on a wild pitch. Nick Petersen singled to drive in Thompson, who had doubled, to tie the game again in the fifth, but the Wolverines (17-4) took a lead they didn't lose by scoring single runs in the fifth and sixth. Two fly balls over a one-inning stretch illustrated how close the margin of victory was. With the score 4-4, Wakeland's Joey Swanner led off the bottom of the fifth with a fly ball that the wind blew over left fielder Austin Stewart's head. One out later, Swanner scored on Justin Swanner's double. In the top of the sixth, RHHS' Grayson Lewis was on second base as the potential tying run with two out. Jovan Hernandez hit a shot deep to left-center field that the Wolverines' left fielder lunged to catch for the final out. That was it for the Hawks. Their only other baserunner in the game was Thompson, briefly, as he toured the bases after hitting a home run to left field. Thompson picked up where he left

off Tuesday at Rockwall, in picking up his third district win in eight days as a pitcher, he struck out three batters in a 1-0 shutout. A streak of consecutive extra-base hits, including a home run, a double, a triple and a home run shot also was two home runs at-bats. Thompson finished 2-for-2, including a single in the three-run seventh inning, while Hernandez hit two home runs batted in and three scored. Hernandez hit two shots in the drive at Frisco, but that was good for a double and a triple. Three RBIs against the Yellowjackets. The night belonged to Thompson. He pulled within 3-2 in the fifth, but Hernandez's double increased that lead to 5-2. He had just two baserunners when Thompson allowed five hits and runs while striking out 14. Harvey said, "Jake's a bulldog there. He feels like when he's on the mound, it's his game. As good as he is, he's that good a pitcher." With catcher Bledsoe starting the game, Hernandez was behind home plate, with Lewis moving in from the outfield to play first base. More important, the restructured lineup had Bret Thompson and Hernandez batting 4. They combined to score six runs and drive in six.



Hawks' Blake Brown (7) bunts for hit against Frisco Wakeland. Photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News

Tie inspires Lady Jackets to get back on winning track

The Rockwall softball team hasn't lost in nine games, so the one game it didn't win during that streak has caused a re-dedication for the team. "We're just working hard every day," head coach Shadie Acosta said of the team's recent success. "We want to pay attention to little things. We set little goals for every game." For Tuesday's game against Wylie East, Acosta said the little goal was "Have quality at-bats. Not just be satisfied with a base hit, but go for an extra-base hit." So how did that go? The Lady Jackets accumulated seven extra-base hits and defeated Wylie East 21-0. That improved Rockwall's record to 14-7-1 overall and 5-0 to lead District 10-4A by one game over Wylie. When those teams met head to head, the Lady Jackets won 16-6 in the third of their seven consecutive wins. That streak ran through Thursday, when RHS won two games in the Garland ISD - over Rowlett, 13-2, and Garland. The Lady Jackets started that tournament hot with junior Maddy Taylor hitting a bases-loaded home run in the first inning against Rowlett. Rockwall's attempt to win all three games against 5A opponents in the Garland tournament seemed on track when RHS led 6-2 over Sachse. But then, Acosta said, "They got into a

little hitting rhythm." The Lady Mustangs came back to tie the game 6-6, and it ended after six innings because of a time limit. RHS' next game will be Friday at 7

p.m. at the Campbell Complex against McKinney North. The Lady Bulldogs are tied for third in their first year in 10-4A. Acosta smiled when she said, "We've had a nice rivalry against them

in the last few years." In each of the last two seasons North was in District 9-4A. The Jackets have won hard-fought series against the McKinney



Lady Jackets' Madeline Taylor hits a grand slam home run over the centerfield fence in the third inning against Rowlett High School. Taylor's home run drove in Bailey Frierson, Sharon Maguire (courtesy runner for Laycee Holcomb), and Audrey Farfan. Photo courtesy of Kent Taylor/Rockwall County News

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Pille score 4th consecutive district shutout

Rockwall go through its softball season without a shutout.

The most difficult test could come Friday, when Roysie City visits Sherman for a 6:30 p.m. game. In the current TGCA state 4A poll, Sherman is No. 13 and RC is No. 14. High school softball, however, is more about No. 1, as in "Who is your

No. 1 starter?" For the Lady Bulldogs, the answer is easy: Alicia Pille. She has pitched all four district games. Other pitchers have struggled to adjust to a pitching distance three feet longer than last year at 43 feet. Pille has thrived, though she may be slipping slightly. After pitching perfect games against the first two District 13-4A opponents, she allowed a hit at Texarkana Texas, and two hits by Denison (13-12 overall, 1-4 in the district).

She and the Lady Jackets' Kelsey Langford battled through two scoreless innings before Roysie City broke through with a five-run third inning. Preslei Morrow, who later hit a double, drove in the first run with a double. Pille sent the second home with a short sacrifice fly. Kourtney Kelley then blasted a pitch over the left field fence for a three-run homer. Denison tried to battle back in the top of the fourth. Mariaha Scally led off with a ground-ball single into center field, stole second base and went to third on a passed ball. Pille didn't allow a run there because she struck out the second, third and fourth batters in the Lady Jackets' lineup. The story was the same when Alex Eichler led off the fifth with a single, but couldn't score. It was an emotional game for Denison's players, who welcomed back head coach Ashli Wigington, in her first game since being diagnosed with a brain tumor.



Lady Bulldogs' pitcher Alicia Pille unleashes the ball for another strike against Denison during last night's game at Roysie City. Ready for Pille's pitch is catcher Kyla Simmons. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Rockwall-Heath teams in soccer playoffs Friday

Rockwall-Heath girls' and boys' soccer teams will begin postseason play with Bi-District playoff games against District 22-4A (Dallas ISD) at Homer B. Johnson Stadium in Garland. The boys' Hawks (13-6-2 overall) would meet Dallas Hillcrest at 6 p.m. The girls' Hawks finished second in District 21-4A, would follow against Dallas Hillcrest. "We had some key injuries, and I felt recovery time for those kids

Rockwall High to host regional gymnastics

Two of the state's three top high school girls' gymnastics team from last year will visit Rockwall Tuesday and Wednesday. In addition, five strong boys' teams will be among those trying to squeeze into three possible qualifying berths for next month's state meet.

In all, 12 schools, including Rockwall and Rockwall-Heath, will be competing in the regional meet at RHS. Compulsory events will be Tuesday and Optionals Wednesday, beginning at noon both days.

RHHS placed third in the team competition last year, and could move up ahead of defending champion Lake Highlands, which isn't fielding a full team this season.

Rockwall's district individual all-around champion, Kenzie Hedges, leads a strong team that also could qualify for the state meet Aug. 14-16 in Arlington. The Lady Jackets' Kailea Coles placed second on the balance beam at last year's state meet.

The two RISD schools placed 1-2 in the boys' district meet, with the Yellowjackets winning their first district championship in five years. Despite not winning its district in 2010, Rockwall is the defending regional boys' champion. The Hawks' and Jackets' toughest competition is expected to come from Garland Lakeview Centennial, Highland Park and Garland.

The district's top four individuals all-around this year were from RHS. Bradley Meyer won with a 110.30 score, with Craig Brannon second, Zach Bennett third and Michael Weidman fourth. Brannon was last year's state champion on the rings.

Rockwall's district champions in individual events were Brannon on the rings (19.00), Meyer in the parallel bars (19.20), pommel horse (19.00), vault (18.30) and high bar (17.70), and tied for first in the floor exercise with Weidman at 18.80.

Said RHS boys' head coach Cameron Sweny, "We had a solid showing at District, and are preparing for Regionals. We are looking into raising the difficulty in some routines, while watering down others for a cleaner result."

The three top teams for both boys and girls will qualify for the state meet, provided that they reach a minimum qualifying score. The top 10 finishers in each individual event and the top eight all-around gymnasts also would go if they meet the qualifying scores.

Other regional qualifiers are Richardson Berkner, Richardson, Richardson Pearce, Irving, Irving MacArthur and South Garland.

Yellowjackets JV Orange win Duncanville tennis

The Rockwall junior varsity Orange team won three events to take the first-place team trophy Tuesday at the Duncanville Spring Smash.

RHS head coach Lana Fulkerson had thought it was windy at the Richardson Pearce Stampede March 9, but she called the weather at Duncanville "the windiest conditions ever."

Despite the weather, Sarah Hall won the girls' singles title, with teammates Jessica Lowery and Sarah Byrom placing second and third. Jessica Perkins and Brittany Songer were first in the girls' doubles, defeating teammates Karly Mathews and Christine Sullivan in the finals. The result was similar in the mixed doubles, where Juli Hughes and Chance Norris placed first by defeating fellow Jackets Kevin Shell and Stephanie Shell.

Among the Yellowjackets' other top finishers were Nathan Hogan second and clay Higginbotham third in the boys' singles. The teams of Jake Wright and Collin Sevier, Cooper Hayley and Nolt Lamela and Tanner Olson and Jacob Feste were second, third and fourth in the boys' doubles.

In addition, Doug Yancy finished first in the consolation boys' singles. At Richardson, Brandon Hogland placed second in the boys' A singles, losing only in the finals to Plano West's Sam Loudon 6-1, 7-6.

Hailee Housewright won the girls' B singles consolation title by defeating Kellar's Nikki Bailey 3-6, 7-5, 10-3.

Two RHS doubles teams finished second in the consolation bracket in matches that went to a tiebreaker set. In the girls' doubles, Madi Milner and Tijana Nescovik were the consolation runners-up. In mixed doubles, Conner Latus and Alyssa Gaertner were second in the consolation competition. Fulkerson said, "The kids played awesome. I was really proud of everyone's efforts."

Davis makes 2nd-team All-District

Junior Wesley Davis was the only Rockwall player named to the District 10-4A All-District boys' basketball team. He achieved second-team status.

The 6-foot-6 Davis led the Yellowjackets with 10.3 points and 6.0 rebounds per game in his second varsity season.

District leaders overcome Lady Hawks

Last week, the Rockwall-Heath softball team lost to District 10-4A's team in drastically different circumstances. On Friday, March 16, the Lady Hawks (1-4 in the district) held first-place Rockwall to four hits but lost 4-1. Six nights later, Wylie (4-1) had three hits on its 16 hits on the way to a 27-6 victory. A common thread in the games was that RHHS had defensive problems. The Hawks squandered Lauren Archuleta's good pitching performance by committing 11 errors. Against Wylie, RHHS will visit Richardson Pearce, also 1-4 in the district.



Lady Hawks' Ashley Reese dashes to third base, as Lady Jackets' Cyndi Bertrand responds to a hit, during last week's game against Rockwall High. In right field is Taylor Lemons. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Jackets defeat Red Oak in playoff warmup

Rockwall boys' soccer team defeated Thursday's Bi-District opponent against Dallas Thomas on Tuesday night in a practice game.

After that, each team had two excellent chances to score. Trei Rodriguez converted the Yellowjackets' two opportunities into goals, and Rockwall goalie Taylor Baker thwarted Red Oak with what RHS head coach Troy Williams called "two enormous one-on-one saves."

The Jackets (13-8-1) finished third in District 21-4A. Red Oak, the District 28-4A champion, will take a 20-3-2 overall record into the playoffs.

Lady Jackets warm up with 1-0 win

After winning the first district soccer playoff in Rockwall history, the Lady Jackets stepped toward the playoffs by defeating Waxahachie 2-1 in a practice game Tuesday at RHS.

The game was scheduled to play at Cedar, the fourth-place team in District 22-4A in a Bi-District playoff game Thursday.

Girls' polo selection camp

(Continued from Page 9) Rockwall (2-2) lost to another regional qualifier, Denton Guyer, by an 8-0 margin. Morgan Madrid had goals against Southlake, and one goal by Guyer.

Other schools also fielded combined junior varsity teams, which defeated Dallas Hillcrest but lost to Irving 11-3. Rockwall Tridents were undefeated in the sixth-grade-and-under playoffs. But after a 13-7 victory over Denton, they lost 7-4 to Southlake. Katelyn Kienki led the Tridents with goals in the two games. Scoring goals were Julen Zurutuza and Ali Villarreal.

The sixth-grade-and-under team played two games, defeating Waxahachie 14 but losing 20-15 to St. Anthony. Evan Scown poured in 15 goals. Leo Villarreal scored seven goals. Rodriguez added four. The girls' next competition will be on Friday at the RISD Aquatic Center.

Rockwall, Denison sting Roysie City

Roysie City took two tough baseball losses on its own diamond during the last week, losing 7-6 to Rockwall Thursday and 9-7 in a District 13-4A game against Denison Tuesday.

Against Rockwall's Yellowjackets, RC's eight hits included doubles by J.R. Arredondo, Taylor Hearn and losing pitcher Dylan Funderburk. The Bulldogs just weren't able to push across the tying run.

Against the Denison Yellow Jackets, Roysie City trailed just 2-0 going into the sixth inning, when Denison scored seven runs to take a 9-0 lead. Undaunted, the Dawgs scored seven of their own to make it a two-run game again. RC (0-2 in the district) had the tying run at bat in the bottom of the seventh, but again couldn't catch up.

Funderburk again was the losing pitcher, despite his own home run. Mitchell Venhaus also homered for the Bulldogs on a breezy night. Jacob Owen doubled for RC, which committed five errors.

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Maxine Harber with her son Les and his wife Karylle Harber.

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March 30th

National Doctors' Day

Every day in the life of a physician ... is worthy of recognition.
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Happy Doctors' Day!



(Back row left to right) Henrik Mike-Mayer, MD; Ari Fleishman, MD; Weldon Johnson, DO; Craig Duhon, MD; Dan Aldrich, MD; Gary Bonacquisti, MD; Matthew Davis, MD; Shahin Chowdhury, DO; Harry Sarles, MD; Jeff Stephens, MD; Pamela Weiland, MD; (Front row left to right) On-Anong Trisarnsri, MD; Moushira Ebrahim, MD; Maureen Ribail, DO; David Lensch, MD; Louis Coates, DO; Kenneth Bryce, MD; Richard Suhler, MD; Sam Crowley, MD; Tulika Jain, MD.



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