

Rockwall County News

Volume Number 27 • Issue Number 30 • USPS 002-495 • Thursday, July 25, 2013 • Single Copy Price 75 Cents • Copyright 2013 Rockwall County News

and Subscribers in North Texas Counties of Collin, Dallas, Hunt, Kaufman and Rockwall ook to begin this month on downtown Rockwall improvements

is expected to begin this month on the \$8.6 million, voter-approved improvement project in downtown Rockwall, according to a news release.

When completed, the project will provide accessible sidewalks, additional parking spaces, enhanced areas where visitors can gather, and landscaping.

A portion of the project will include the realignment of Washington Street and the addition of new parking lots south of Washington Street, which will provide 60 new parking spaces. Construction work also will include a new parking area on the west side of the 100 block of Washington Street, providing 18 new parking spaces to accommodate employees and visitors. Signs will be installed to direct visitors to the new parking areas once they are completed.

Other portions of the project will include new street paving, sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, a pedestrian mall and a courthouse plaza, according to the news release.

Work on the project generally will be limited to the streets that directly border the square, although there will be some work on the streets

surrounding the square.

"We are very excited to begin construction on the downtown renovations," said Brad Griggs, assistant city manager. "We want to encourage everyone to continue to support the many businesses in downtown as the project progresses."

As work on the project unfolds, there may be some lane restrictions and intermittent road closures; however, pedestrian access will be maintained to all businesses. The city will provide temporary directional signage on the roads surrounding the square to direct visitors to the various satellite parking lots, according to the news release.



Pictured above is an artist's depiction of a portion of the capital improvement project slated to get underway this month in downtown Rockwall. The \$8.6 million, voter-approved project will provide sidewalks, added parking and improved landscaping in the area. Courtesy image/Rockwall County News

Royse City Council OKs permit for fast food restaurant

by Millie Jean Coppedge

On the agenda for the City Council of Royse City meeting of July 9 was the option to consider and act concerning an Ordinance for a Specific Use Permit for a Taco Bell drive-through restaurant to be built at Tract 14-01 of the J. McCasland Survey, Abstract No 150.

The property is at 115 E. I-30 in Royse City. The Taco Bell will be built where the previous Royse City Independent School District Administration building stands.

Mike Stansberry, attorney for Southern Multifoods Inc., spoke briefly to the council and answered questions concerning the Taco Bell. Southern Multifoods Inc. was established in 1976 in Jacksonville, Texas, and became a franchisee of Taco Bell Corporation in 1984.

The new eatery is expected to open by the end of the year. The restaurant will seat 54 patrons.

Stansberry told the council that he has been in business for 35 years and owns 85 stores in Texas.

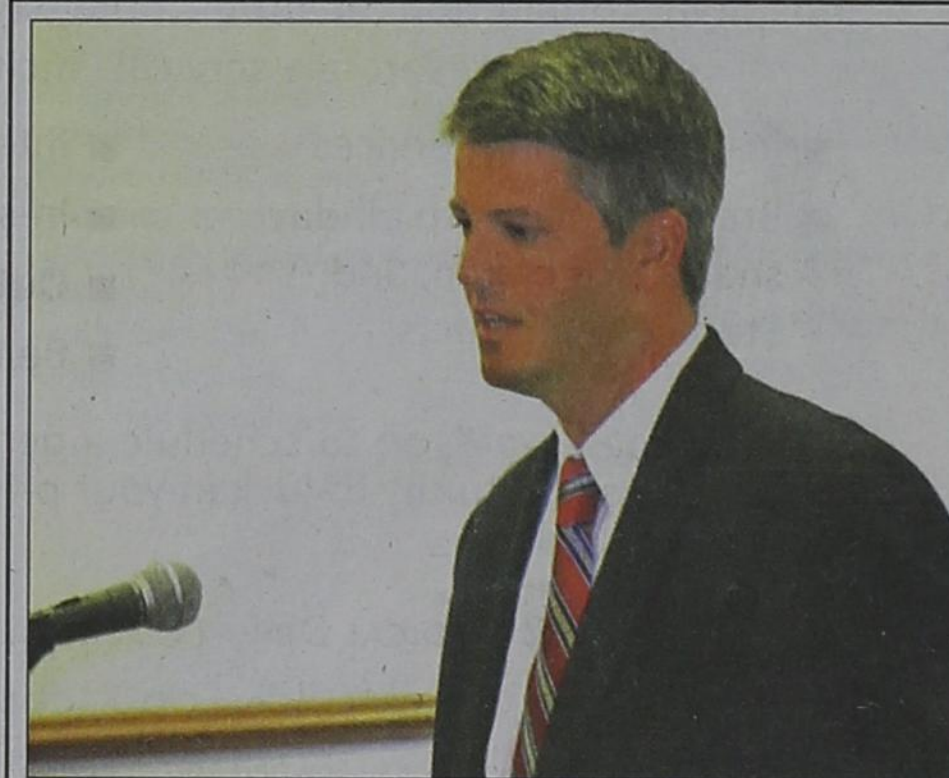
The ordinance for the Specific Use Permit passed.

During the meeting's executive session, a private consultation with Jason Day, the city attorney, was scheduled concerning the proposed electronic billboard sign at the southeast corner of FM 548 and I-30,

where the Wing Dinger Restaurant was located before it burned down on Sept. 2, 2010. No decision was made regarding the sign.

Also on the agenda was to discuss a new evaluation process for the city manager, city attorney, city secretary and municipal judge. The mayor said he "will appoint individual council people to those four and they will be the liaison between them and the council." No final decision was made on the matter.

City council members Mayor Jerrell Baley, Mayor Pro Tem Janet Nichol, Clay Elis, Bill Bell, James Branch and Tom Crowley, as well as staff members Carl Alsbrook, Jason Day and Brenda Craft, were in attendance.



Mike Stansberry, general counsel for Southern Multifoods Inc., spoke to the City Council of Royse City on July 9 and answered questions concerning the a new restaurant planning to open in the city. Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News



Butler named pageant state finalist

Millie Butler, daughter of Karl and Michelle Butler of Fate, Texas, has been named a state finalist in the National American Miss pageant to be conducted this weekend at the Hotel Intercontinental in Dallas. The pageant, open to girls ages 7-9, will award a \$1,000 cash award, crown, banner and roses. The state winner will be eligible to compete at the national pageant in Long Beach, California.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Hot Rocks Bike Ride set Aug. 10 in Rockwall

The Hot Rocks Bike Ride, organized by the Rockwall Noon Cycling Club, will begin at 7:30 a.m. Aug. 10 at the Wilkerson-Sanders home, 111 T.L. Townsend, in Rockwall.

The event, the 27th to be conducted, will feature an extreme triathlon giving families one more reason to come out and enjoy the outdoors. Bounce houses, children's games and performances by BMX freestyle riders are planned.

Over 1,000 participants, ranging from competitive racers and families with young children, are expected this year.

The routes include a 63 miles (100k), 43 miles, 13.5 miles and a 7-mile loop — something for participants of all ages and abilities. The 100k will begin at 7:30 a.m., with staggered starts for the different routes. The 7-mile loop will begin after all racers have started.

This year, the shorter routes had to be eliminated due to road construction, so we're really excited about the new, family friendly route. Terry Brooks, chairman of this year's event. "There will be a 7-mile halfway point. Families can ride the loop multiple times at a length that best suits them."

The event is supported by community volunteers, local law enforcement and area businesses. They dedicate time and resources to ensure the success of the Hot Rocks Bike Ride. This year, lunch will be provided to all participants, and ice cream will be served as well. Fully-stocked rest stops, mechanics and support vehicles also will patrol each route. Prizes will be presented to the first-, second- and third-place winners in the male and female divisions of the 100k event.

The event is a precursor to the 2013 Hot Rocks Hundred Endurance Race, the largest single-day 100-mile triathlon in the nation, which starts in Wichita Falls on Aug. 24.

Proceeds from Hot Rocks benefit the Rockwall Rotary Foundation's scholarship fund, which awards \$20,000 in scholarships to graduates of Rockwall-Heath high schools. This year's event also will include the donation of 100 bicycles to be given away by Rockwall County during the holiday season.

"The atmosphere is contagiously fun and it's for a good cause," said Brooks. "We encourage everyone, young and old, to join us for a beautiful day in Rockwall. Volunteers are needed and sponsorships are available, so even if you don't ride there are many ways to get involved."

For a full list of sponsors, to inquire about available sponsorships or to register, visit hotrocksbikerace.com.



The annual Hot Rocks Bike Ride typically draws large numbers of participants of all ages. This year's event, set for Aug. 10, is expected to have about 1,000 participants. Sideline this year's bike rides will be an extreme BMX show, bounce houses, children's games and other activities. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Texas Health Presbyterian earns Aetna recognition

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall has been designated a Center of Quality Orthopedic Care Facility for total joint and spine surgery.

This information about the quality and cost of health care is available to its members to help them make informed decisions about their health care needs. In line with this goal, Aetna has selected Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall as one of the hospitals and facilities in its network that offer specialized care for certain health conditions. Facilities are selected for their ability to deliver evidence-based, safe care.

"It is gratifying, once again, by a major insurer is recognizing this hospital," said Cindy Paris, RN, hospital president. "This recognition is a testament to the quality of care we provide as it means to our physicians, nurses and entire staff, the

information this provides consumers is most beneficial in helping them make the best care decisions for themselves and their families. As has been our mission from the beginning, Texas Health Rockwall intends to continue to provide the finest quality care possible; living up to the expectations of our community and surrounding areas."

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall, recognized with the Gold Seal of Approval by the Joint Commission Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, is the first full-service community hospital in Rockwall. THPHR offers 50 inpatient beds for acute medical and surgical needs, advanced medical technology and comprehensive services focused on quality patient care and safety close to home.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Low-cost spay/neuter shuttle scheduled

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

CASA plans info sessions for potential volunteers

Lone Star CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) is seeking volunteers interested in helping area children who are involved in the courts as a result of abuse or neglect. As a CASA volunteer, individuals speak up in the best interests of the child and help ensure a safe, permanent home for them. Info sessions, all of which will begin at 6:30 p.m., will be conducted as follows: July 25, St. Martin Church, 9470 CR 213 (at I-20), Forney; July 29, Terrell Library, 301 N. Rockwall, in Terrell; and July 30, CASA Rockwall office, 108 Kenway St., in Rockwall. For details call 972-772-5858 or email vickie@lonestarcasa.org.

Auditions set at RCP for 'Mockingbird'

Auditions for the Rockwall Community Playhouse's rendition of "To Kill a Mockingbird," which will be performed Sept. 20-22, 27-29 and Oct. 4-6, will take place at 1 p.m. Aug. 10 and 7 p.m. Aug. 12 at the playhouse, which is located at 609 E. Rusk. For more details visit rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

(Continued on Page 3)



Church's food pantry needs contributions

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Our Daily Bread Food Pantry, under the direction of Rick Ostroski, is located at the First United Methodist Church in Royse City.

To realize that a bag of pinto beans, a sack of whole wheat rice or a dozen eggs could mean so much to someone who has very little or nothing to eat is thought-provoking. Even a bar of soap or a tube of toothpaste, when someone doesn't have any, can mean so much.

The food pantry is open from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursdays. Those needing food items, toiletries, etc., are eligible to come every other Thursday to select the items they need. The pantry is open every Thursday, but only allows patrons to come every other week to ensure there will be enough food to serve those in need.

Eligibility depends upon the number of people applying, such as an individual or a family, and income. Ostroski said food is available to those living in surrounding school districts such as Josephine, Fate, Royse City, Caddo Mills, etc.

Our Daily Bread Food Pantry gets its supplies from many sources. Local canned food drives conducted throughout the year also includes various schools from the district, the Boys and Girls Scouts Clubs, the Lions Club, the Rotary Club of Royse City, various other groups and individuals donate to help those in need.

The North Texas Food Bank brings deliveries about twice a month.

With the current economy, some people, especially families, cannot provide all their needs on the income they are coming in.

"Some time back, a lady drove up in front of the building in a pick-up truck," Ostroski said. "She had the bed of her truck filled with all it would hold and about half of the inside of the cab was filled with food and supplies that she wanted to donate to the pantry. It took us over half an hour to unload the truck."

Sometimes the pantry's shelves get low and someone like this woman will just show up. Ostroski said he is often simply amazed at how God provides.

For more information or to make a donation contact the church office at 972-636-2291.



Rick Ostroski, director of the Our Daily Bread Food Pantry at the First United Methodist Church in Royse City, explains how food pantry donations are collected and disbursed.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News



Andrew Hudson and Peyton Adamson

Adamson, Hudson set Aug. 17 wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Adamson of Rockwall are proud to announce the engagement and approaching wedding of their daughter, Peyton Lynn Adamson, to Andrew Dewayne Hudson, son of Drs. Curtis and Arlene of Amarillo.

The bride-elect, a 2010 graduate of Rockwall High School, is a senior at Tarleton State University majoring in elementary education. She is a two-year letter winner for the TSU women's basketball. The prospective bridegroom, a 2009 graduate of Bushland High School, is a senior at Abilene University where he is majoring in pre-med and competing on the men's track and field team. The couple plans an Aug. 17, 2013, wedding in Dallas.

FUMC Community Garden boosts food banks, local residents

The First United Methodist Church of Rockwall Community Garden, 1200 E. Yellow Jacket, started to allow members of the congregation a means to give back to the community and the congregation members.

By using their existing gardening skills and/or by learning new gardening methods, the members of the congregation are devoting their time to growing vegetables for use by food banks and for members of the congregation.

After the produce has been set aside for the food banks, it is distributed to the congregation on Sunday after each service. Following the Sunday distribution, any remaining produce is added to the food bank produce. By the commissioning agreement, at least one half of all produce must be donated to a food bank.

The FUMC's Community Garden consists of a half-acre of land located north of the Elizabeth Cameron Education Building. Approximately 2,000 square feet of the half-acre is devoted to a staging area and 20,000 square feet are used to grow fruits and vegetables. The garden is watered by a newly installed drip irrigation system.

In keeping with the social principles of the Methodist church, organic means are incorporated in gardening whenever practical.

In the garden, there are three types of tomatoes, okra, jalapeno peppers, bell peppers, banana squashes, asparagus, pumpkins, acorn squash, yellow squash, butternut squash, spaghetti squash, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cantaloupe, banana melon and watermelons. In the fall, broccoli, cauliflower, turnips and beets are grown.



Pictured above are some of the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall Community Garden volunteers with tomatoes harvested on a single day. Shown at front are Bar Darrow and Linda Brooks and, at back, are Charles Miller, Darryl Bruemmer, Jerry Rubush and Leo Dagley. In the garden season, the church's garden donated more than 100 pounds of produce to Helping Hands. This season's goal is 200 pounds.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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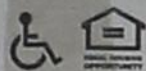
Broadmoor Medical Lodge, now open, is Rockwall's premier destination for post-hospital recovery and skilled nursing, as well as long-term care. For those who are not ready for home healthcare and no longer require a hospital stay, Broadmoor offers a level of comfort and care unmatched in the area. Conveniently situated on Medical Drive, minutes from area hospitals, Broadmoor features hotel-style recovery suites and resort-like services, including:

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Ava Nelson (right) with her son Jim

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broccoli, cauliflower, turnips and beets are grown.

In the last garden FUMC donated more than 100 pounds of produce to Helping Hands. This year the goal is 200 pounds.

To learn more about the Community Garden or to borrow any equipment or to contact the FUMC Office, call 972-771-5500 or email Jerry Rubush, garden chairman, at rubush@att.net. Feel free to visit the garden.

Applications for Rockwall board commissions sought

The City of Rockwall is seeking interested individuals to apply for positions on the city's boards and commissions. Members of the City Council review applications and make appointments on a needed basis. The council will consider several vacancies in August. Applications for these positions should be submitted before July 26. Applicants must be residents of the City of Rockwall, be 18 or older and be a registered voter. Applications are accepted for two years. Applications are available year-round at www.cityofrockwall.com/boards/index.asp. For details contact Kristy Anderson, city secretary, at 972-772-8700.

Rockwall County Obituaries

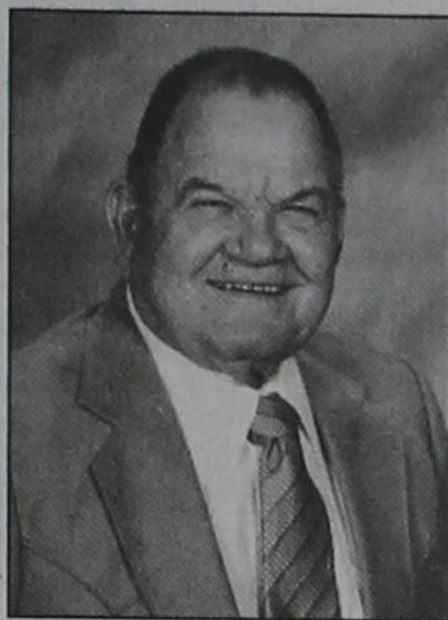
Michael Lynn Griffey

Michael Lynn Griffey, 52, a 12-year resident of Rockwall, died at 10 a.m. July 25, 2013, in the First Baptist Church, M.L. 10 S. Goliad, in Rockwall with Pastor Steve Swofford. Burial will follow in the Rest Haven Memorial Park under the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. (July 25, 1960, in Oklahoma City, Okla., he was a retired U.S. officer. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in

He was preceded in death by his wife, Martha Griffey; his daughter, Marlena Griffey; and her husband, Jason; his son, Micah Griffey; his daughter, Heather; his sister, and her husband, Tom; an aunt, Mina Hill; and several other family members.

Dennis Boyd Lindsey

Dennis Boyd Lindsey, 82, a resident of Heath, died at 10 a.m. July 24, 2013, in the First Baptist Church in Heath with Pastor Jack officiating. Burial will follow in the Rest Haven Memorial Park under the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. (July 1, 1928, in Rockwall, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He married Theresa Ann Lindsey in 1948, in Rockwall. He worked as a superintendent for Stone Inc. and a member of the First Baptist Church of Heath. He served as a deacon for 58 years.



He was preceded in death by his wife, Theresa Lindsey of Heath; his daughters, and her husband, Mark, of Roysse City and Denise Hendley of Roysse City; his sister, Bobby Stovall of Henderson; his children, Dennis and Bubba Morrow, Michael, Timmy and Michael, and Elechia Turner; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Wayne Elvin Lowrance

Wayne Elvin Lowrance, 56, of Roysse City died at 10 p.m. July 18, 2013, in the Grapeland Cemetery in Grapeland. Burial will follow in the Rest Haven Memorial Park under the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. (July 2, 1956, in Dallas to Elvin Lowrance and Bernice Lowrance, he worked as a driver for R+L Carriers. He was a Baptist.



He was preceded in death by his father. He was preceded in death by his father. He was preceded in death by his father.

Algal bloom may impact water taste, odor

City of Rockwall residents may have noticed a change in the taste or odor of their water because of a seasonal algal bloom, according to a city news release.

This seasonal occurrence does not change the water's quality, but is strictly "a taste issue," according to the city's water supplier, the North Texas Municipal Water District.

The NTMWD treats the odor changes related to the algal bloom by adding potassium permanganate, an oxidizing agent, to the water. To reduce the unpleasant taste, activated carbon is used as an absorbing agent. These chemicals are removed during the treatment process prior to the delivery of the water, according to the city's news release.

Chlorine, which is used as the disinfectant in the treatment phase, also aids in odor reduction.

The city's water remains safe for use and meets all state drinking water standards. There are no health hazards resulting from the algal bloom, according to the news release.

For more details, call 972-771-7730.

NTMWD urges ongoing water conservation

Recent light, intermittent summer rain showers were a welcome, temporary relief for the drought conditions North Texans have experienced, but the showers did not produce enough rainfall to raise the two primary North Texas Municipal Water District lakes to normal conservation levels.

While the showers should provide adequate water for most North Texas lawns and gardens this week, experts at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service released weather-based data, provided by AgriLife's "Texas ET Network," indicating no additional watering using sprinkler or automatic irrigation systems will be needed for a few days.

"The light but steady rains we've received ... across North Texas should be sufficient for the outdoor watering most lawns would need under NTMWD's Stage 3, once-per-week watering restrictions," said Jim Parks, executive director of NTMWD. "If you don't have a rain sensor cutoff on your automatic irrigation system, you can conserve water by manually turning off your system until next week."

NTMWD officials, working in cooperation with AgriLife along with NTMWD member cities and customers, are offering a new tool that computes landscape water needs based on local weather conditions. The website, watermyyard.org, was developed to assist property owners in the NTMWD service area to determine an adequate amount of supplemental water that is needed to maintain a healthy landscape.

For more information on efficient use of irrigation systems and other water conservation measures visit wateriq.org.

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Women of Influence Tea set Aug. 17

The 2013 Women of Influence Tea sponsored by the Rockwall County Republican Women will be conducted Aug. 17. The doors of Occasions at Stone River will open at 10 a.m. to allow everyone to mingle and place bids on silent auction items. Lunch will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with Kim Watson of GOPbuzz serving as keynote speaker. The event will include entertainment and recognition of the Woman of Influence. Tickets cost \$30 each; a reserved table for 10 costs \$300 (will receive special recognition). Space is limited; reservations should be made soon. For more details call Marcia Gilbert at 972-771-1780. For tickets contact Donna Kirby at donna@fcc1.com.

Roysse City site of Aug. 23 Back-2-School Bash

Main Street and the HOTRC will host a Back-2-School Bash from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Aug. 23 on Main Street in Roysse City. Businesses or organizations that would like to participate or those who would like to volunteer should contact Paula Morris at 972-524-4846 or paula.morris@roysecity.com.

Duck Dash to sideline Rubber Duck Regatta

This year's Rockwall Rubber Duck Regatta will include a 5K race, the Duck Dash, which will raise funds for the Rockwall Boys & Girls Club and Meals on Wheels Senior Services of Rockwall. The Duck Dash will begin at 8 a.m. Sept. 21, followed by the Family Walk and Waddle at 8:30 a.m. Registration costs \$35 for the 5K and \$20 for the walk. Duck Dash T-shirts will be distributed; racing caps will be given to the first 600 registrants. The best dressed male and female duck costumes will each win a pair of Newton running shoes. The race will be managed by Event Southwest, using ChronoTrack timing technology. More than 1,000 runners are expected. To register, visit <https://register.bazumedia.com/reg/form?eventID=3087>.

Auditions set at RCP for 'Foreigner'

Auditions for the Rockwall Community Playhouse's rendition of "The Foreigner," which will be performed Feb. 7-9, 14-16 and 21-23, will take place at 1 p.m. Dec. 14 at the playhouse, which is located at 609 E. Rusk. For more details visit rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

Burke receives Baylor scholarship

Anabel Burke of Rockwall, a Heritage Christian Academy graduate, has been selected to receive the President's Gold merit scholarship from Baylor University, according to a university news release.

The scholarship is awarded based on class rank and/or SAT/ACT scores.

Gilbert graduates from Radford

Kelli Larkin Gilbert of San Antonio graduated from Radford University at the close of the spring semester, according to a university news release.

Gilbert, the daughter of Karen Gilbert, earned a bachelor's degree in design.

Smith earns degree from John Brown

London Smith of Rockwall received a bachelor's degree recently from John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark., according to a university news release.

Smith received a Bachelor of Science degree with a concentration in biology.

Dose earns degree from Georgia Tech

Michelle Dose of Rockwall received a bachelor's degree in chemical and bio engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, according to a news release issued by the educational institution.

Dose was one of approximately 2,700 undergraduate and graduate students to receive a degree during Georgia Tech's 245th commencement exercises.

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Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

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

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Warning of Cons for Constitutional Convention

Two years ago the American people were protesting and demanding the politicians in Congress not pass the Obama health care bill -- but they did it anyway; both Democrats and Republicans.

Now once again those politicians who have no regard for the United States Constitution are just waiting for misguided Republican state legislators to make the fatal mistake of voting for a Con Con.

Three years ago the Ohio state legislature was stopped from passing the first resolution in support of a Con Con. "After that defeat the pro Con Con forces had to regroup and come up with this new, more powerful effort ... bringing other groups into the battle ... They are mailing millions of letters to conservative supporters to make it seem as if the whole conservative movement is behind this effort."

"The new plan for a Con Con making rounds in state capitals is more ambitious than ever before, promising a total package of 10 Amendments for Freedom with a controlled agenda."

However, "Article V of the Constitution just says once 2/3rds of the states call for a Con Con, Congress must act to make it happen. It says absolutely nothing about the rules. History proves that the delegates to a Con Con are under no obligation to follow any rules. They can make them us as they go."

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jacqueline F. Strickland
Rockwall

A case for anti-abortion

The following is a response to "Letters to the Editor" the July 11 issue of the Rockwall County News that Judith Matherne, county chair, Rockwall Democratic Party.

I respectfully disagree with many if not most of the statements you, Judith Matherne, Democratic chairman, made in the issue of the Rockwall County News. To cut to the chase, Senate Bill 1 were passed to save lives of living unborn humans. At one time, we were all living, viable humans. This spark of life is all but holy and comes only through Conception, the creation of life, produces a living child, the most wonderful blessing anyone can receive. Nurturing and raising a child to maturity is the greatest, most fulfilling life. If you do not believe this, ask an elderly person with grandchildren if they would live their life differently if they had a child. I would say that not having children was the worst mistake ever made.

For almost 50 years, since Roe vs. Wade, over 55 million babies have been aborted, and so many people have lost their morality. Sexual sin is rampant. Sex before marriage is normal and many if not most young couples live together before marriage. As a result, inconvenient pregnancies happen regularly. This forces young, irresponsible people to make a decision to get married, have and raise a child, or abort and kill the unborn child. That is definitely getting worse.

The proper sequence would be to find and select someone you loved and wanted to have children with, get married and have children. For 50 years we have been doing it wrong and it is just getting worse. The definition of insanity is to keep doing the same thing over and over, expecting different results.

Abortion is not the answer. Sexual morality is.

Mike Kennedy

Just Say You Saw It In the "County News"

Opinions

Right-to-Work laws and the modern classical-liberal tradition

by Sheldon Richman
Future Freedom Foundation (fff.org)

It's not widely known, but an earlier generation of libertarians condemned so-called right-to-work laws as anti-market. For example, Milton Friedman, in *Capitalism and Freedom*, compared right-to-work to anti-discrimination laws. Ayn Rand also opposed right-to-work laws. The Spring 1966 issue of the libertarian student-run journal *New Individualist Review* carried Prof. Hirschel Kasper's article "What's Wrong with Right-to-Work Laws." NIR was edited by University of Chicago libertarians Ralph Raico, Joe Cobb, and Jim Powell. Among its editorial advisers were Friedman, F.A. Hayek, and Ben Rogge, a classical liberal long associated with the Foundation for Economic Education. (Of course that does not mean that any of those men necessarily agreed with Kasper, although with one exception that may not be an unreasonable inference, considering that NIR never published a pro-right-to-work article. The exception is Hayek, who wrote, curiously, in *The Constitution of Liberty* that "closed- and union-shop contracts ... must be treated as contracts in restraint of trade and denied the protection of the law.")

Percy L. Greaves Jr., a student and friend of Ludwig von Mises and a close associate of FEE founder Leonard E. Read, also made the libertarian and Austrian-economics case against right-to-work laws. His essay was published in a festschrift to Mises, *On Freedom and Free Enterprise*, which was assembled in 1956 to honor the 50th anniversary of Mises's doctorate. One may draw one's own conclusion about how Mises saw the issue, given Greaves's choice of topic in that context.

In light of the controversy surrounding the passage of a right-to-work law in Michigan, Greaves's lengthy argument is worth examining. For the record, no one was more fully devoted to laissez faire than Percy Greaves, a dedicated promoter of Mises's work. (See his *Mises Made Easier*.) And he was no union sympathizer — or, to be precise, he had no sympathy for compulsory unions under the legal regime created by the National Labor Relations Act of 1935 (the Wagner Act).

But Greaves was consistent, and when he saw businesspeople asking states to pass right-to-work laws, which forbid employers from agreeing to make union membership a condition of employment, he objected. Let's first be clear about what these laws do. The 1947 Taft-Hartley Act, which amended the Wagner Act, contains provision 14(b), stating that Taft-Hartley should not "be construed as authorizing the execution or application of agreements requiring membership in a labor organization as a condition of employment in any State or Territory in which such execution or application is prohibited by State or Territorial law." (Emphasis added.)

Thus states may forbid a particular kind of contract between an employer and a union. (Under Wagner a majority of employees can authorize a union to represent them regardless of an employer's wishes, and employees who do not want to join must still pay fees — not "dues" — to the union for representation services, since any conditions negotiated must by law apply to all employees, members and nonmembers alike, unless the union declares otherwise.)

Support for banning a voluntary agreement did not sit well with Greaves even if the ban was intended to counter an earlier government

action. "The mass myopia of our age has been a reactionary force for government intervention," he wrote in "Is Further Intervention Cure for Prior Intervention?" "When anything goes wrong, the train wreck to a change in stock market prices, the crowd always clamor for just one more law."

He found "most astonishing" that businesspeople "seldom" for a repeal of the laws which are so often the root of their problems that, in accordance with the religion of the day, they ask for restrictions which they think will protect them from the ills by the interventional laws already on the statute books." Invoked Mises's "critique of interventionism": Intervention problems that, unless the original intervention is repeated further intervention, and so on.)

Greaves knew well that those "who advocate the so-called work laws [believe] these laws will remedy some of the federal labor laws that now grant special privileges to labor. He had no sympathy for the Wagner Act, but he wasn't making an excuse: "Two wrongs never make a right. The economic solution to repeal the bad intervention and not try to counterbalance another bad intervention. Such moves only provide the with greater power over the entire economy." In other words, doesn't justify the means.

Greaves continued, "Those who advocate a legal ban shops seldom realize that they are sealing their own doom at their future fate in the hands of legislators who are only to assume control of all economic activity."

(To be continued)

Texas Workforce Commission fails basic test, loses authority to exist

by Timothy W. Burnett

In the July 11, 2013 edition of Rockwall County News (page 6) we closely examined the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act and concluded that the narrow scope of the Act was limited to certain Instrumentalities of the United States required by the District of Columbia, Common Wealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands law to make a payment into an unemployment compensation fund.

The conclusion was based upon a study of the related Texas and Federal unemployment insurance statutes.

Anyone can visit the state and federal statutes online. Use search terms Texas statutes and US code. For Texas statutes, click on Statutes and scroll to the Labor Code. For the Texas Constitution, click "Texas Constitution" Article 1 and scroll to Section 16, which forbids the impairment of contract. An essential element of business contracts includes decisions such as whether to offer certain insurance plans for others who are paid for services rendered.

Insurance plans may include health insurance, medical insurance and/or unemployment insurance.

In the Federal statutes, type "26" in the Title box, "3306" in the Section box, submit and scroll to the related subsections.

In the year 2015, the Texas legislative Sunset Advisory Committee will assess the Texas Workforce Commission to determine whether it should continue to exist.

The Committee will advise the legislature about whether the Texas Workforce Commission should be abolished.

An important part of determining whether the agency should exist is an assessment of the agency's actual procedures as compared to the controlling statutes that regulate the agency and the Texas Constitution, which limits the agencies authority.

The TWC openly admits it has enforcement power over all people and businesses.

In other words, it presumes that all people and businesses have an underlying existence of liability to pay an unemployment insurance contribution so long as their business activity involves paying others for services rendered.

The TWC starts with an examination of "employment" activity in order to determine whether liability exists. If they do not find statutory "employment" activity, then the targeted person is not liable to pay.

This procedural practice is in direct conflict with the controlling statutes and constitution.

By applying the controlling statutes and constitution, the TWC must first look at the business structure and determine whether it is a "person" required by the District of Columbia, Common Wealth

of Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands to make payment into an unemployment fund (see Texas Unemployment Compensation Act Section 201.101 Federal Conformity, and 26 USC 3306(g)&(j)).

In essence, if the business entities are Instrumentalities of the United States, then the TWC is authorized to investigate and force them to send payroll reports and make payments into the unemployment fund. All other people and business entities are at liberty to engage in contractual activity without impairment of right of contract (See Texas Constitution Article 1, Section 16).

The 2015 Sunset Advisory Committee will have the power to collect all information and documents necessary to assess whether the Texas Workforce Commission should continue to exist.

If the information and documentation shows that the agency stayed within the narrow scope of the Federal Act and limited its enforcement power to Instrumentalities of the United States, then the agency may be allowed to continue to exist.

But in reality, the TWC has demonstrated itself to be a rebellious force against the free people of Texas and their businesses in violation of the controlling statutes and the constitution.


Hundreds, if not thousands of natural people and businesses have been unlawfully forced by the TWC to send payroll reports and make payments into the unemployment insurance fund.

The Texas Legislature, Governor and Comptroller should be inundated with letters, calls and messages about the Texas Workforce Commission's repeated violations of the controlling statutes and Texas constitution.

All people and businesses, unlawfully forced to participate in an unemployment insurance plan, are free to compile their records and documents for submission to the 2015 Sunset Advisory Committee.

The Committee is authorized to ask a simple question: has the Workforce Commission successfully followed the basic test set forth in the form of the Texas Constitution and the controlling statutes? The people may not be surprised to learn the agency failed the basic test and has lost its authority to continue to exist.

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orban
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ACROSS

- 1 TX Eric Dickerson began NFL career with this team
- 5 this Baldwin was in "The Aviator" about TX Howard Hughes
- 6 this TX Brown won '55 Pulitzer for journalism
- 7 Waco TV station
- 8 TX B.J. Thomas' "The _____ Woman"
- 17 _____ Rio, TX
- 20 TXism: "_____ unsaddled horse"
- 21 "_____ Sam" Rayburn
- 22 TXism: "a real _____ winder" (exciting)
- 23 TX's westernmost big city
- 24 LBJ was _____-sixth U.S. president
- 29 TX Al Freeman, Jr. was "_____ Hall" on "One Life to Live"
- 30 "Isle du _____ Creek"
- 31 trucker radio
- 32 ex-Ranger first baseman (1982-88)
- 34 correct, accurate
- 35 airport transport in Houston or Dallas
- 36 TX Jay Johnson played _____ of Chuck & Bob on TV's "Soap"
- 37 TXism: "_____ chaps my hide"
- 38 TXism: "the ol' _____ and chain" (spouse)
- 39 prosecution ender (2 wds.)
- 41 use swear words
- 42 this TX Brickett is a singer-songwriter
- 43 annoys
- 44 Tyler Spanish radio
- 45 Reid is the _____ of TX legend Nolan Ryan
- 46 born as
- 47 Six Flags Over Texas comprises 212 _____
- 48 risk takers
- 50 scowl or glower

DOWN

- 1 TXism for "thought hard" (3 wds.)
- 2 TXism: "run it by _____" (finalize)
- 3 west of Abilene, off I-20
- 4 these immigrants came to TX as early as 1825
- 9 TXism: "many a time"
- 10 this TX Gibson wrote "Old Yeller"
- 11 point a gun
- 12 TX George H.'s "Stormin' Norman" general (init.)
- 13 "_____ a living" (scrape by)
- 14 SW of Abilene on 89
- 15 small dog barks
- 16 a cyberspace savings acct. (abbr.)
- 17 TX McFarland was "Spanky" on "The Little _____"
- 18 to wobble on your knees?
- 22 TXism: "got as much chance as a _____ chance as a packing plant"
- 24 this Petty was a "Traveling Wilbury" with TX Orbison (init.)
- 25 TXism: "_____ argue with a fence post"
- 26 TXism: "cough _____" (pay me)
- 27 TX "caminos _____" (King's Highways)
- 28 "_____ Bend Reservoir" on TX-LA border
- 29 country singer, McCann
- 30 rich in dietary fiber
- 33 judge _____
- 34 TXism: "_____ about _____ can start _____"
- 35 fondle _____
- 37 TXism: "_____ off _____"
- 38 purchased _____
- 40 Longview _____ of this county
- 41 center of _____
- 44 Metroplex _____ county area
- 47 wear away _____
- 49 this Ramon _____ with the Ramon _____ on 7/3/2011

Baseball coaches honor Boswell, 6th-ranked Jackets

Head coach Bret Boswell and the Region II-5A-finalist Rockwall have received recognition from the Texas High School Association for their outstanding 2013 seasons. Boswell was named a first-team shortstop on the THSBCA's 5A All-Star team. The runner-up to RHHS in District 12-5A, went into the state but was ranked number 6 in THSBCA's final 5A All-Star team. The Jackets received All-State mention. It's pretty cool to look at. The guys definitely earned that

Rockwall's Warren included in Top Gun national camp

Junior running back Chris Warren was one of just four players to be named to the Metroplex invited University Top Gun all-star camp in Dublin, Ohio, Sunday, July 18-21. Warren was one of just four players to be named to the Metroplex invited University Top Gun all-star camp in Dublin, Ohio, Sunday, July 18-21. Warren was one of just four players to be named to the Metroplex invited University Top Gun all-star camp in Dublin, Ohio, Sunday, July 18-21.

Don Hardin Bowl, RCA represented

Both head coaches represented The Fulton School basketball, and a football player from Rockwall Academy took part July 13 and 14 in the first Don Hardin Texas Bowl in Zephyr. The game for girls' and boys' basketball Friday and for six-man football Saturday honored the late Mr. Don Hardin and ambassador for the Texas six-man game died this year. Chrissa Bradford was co-coach of the East all-star girls and Falcons head coach Josh Johnson and Dewey Hargraves and Matt Henderson led the Private School all-stars against UIL schools in the football game. Cleveland, a 2013 Fulton graduate headed for Oklahoma Wesleyan University, led the Private team. Falcons senior Brenden Williams added 13. Coach (Jerry) Burkhart of Richland Springs asked me to coach," Johnson said. "He said I'd like to have my own coaches or ask coaches from other schools. Then he asked me if I knew any coaches for the game and I told him Coach Bradford had been successful in 5A. It was a good event with good exposure. I'd say there were 500 or 600 people there Friday night. We were at Howard Payne (University). Their head coach showed interest in Brenden Williams and in Philip M. Carroe Lifestyle." Further vs. Private all-star game Saturday, Evan Pettit represented HCA for the private schools' game. The UIL schools outscored Private 78-62, rallying from a 24-14 first-half deficit. In the basketball game, Private led Public 57-50 with 3 minutes, 49 seconds to play, but the UIL players won the game's final 14 points to win 64-57.

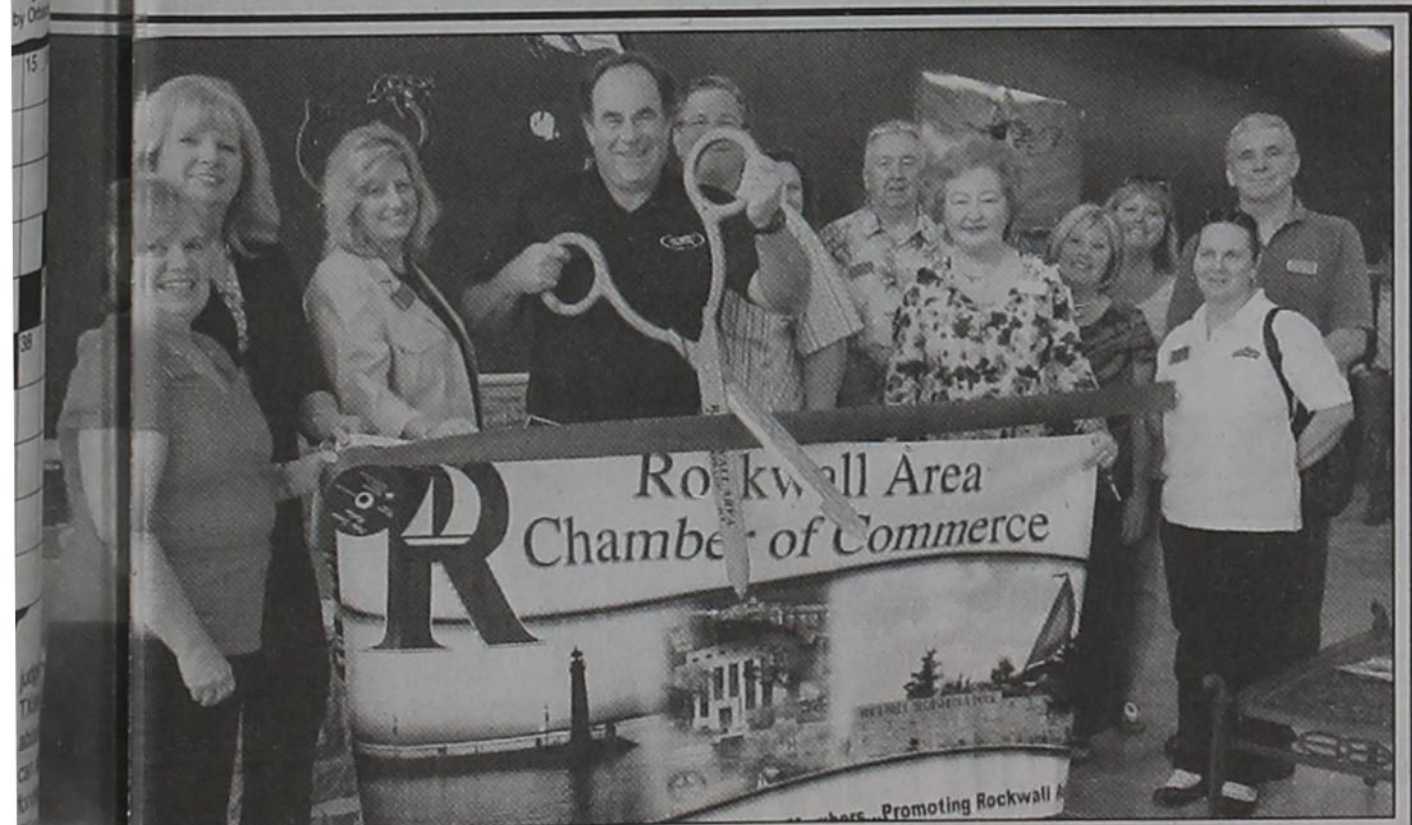
Rockwall taste success during Dallas Race Week

Eight boats sailed on Lake Ray Hubbard during Dallas Race Week, and 18 of those won at least one race in all six evenings of racing during week. The best performances were by four skippers who won first places and one second. The biggest fleet, the 12 boats of Aux B Fleet for boats with Performance Handicap ratings of 120 to 200. Robert Cummings of Corinthian Sailing Club brought "Fastlane" home with four firsts and a second, good for a 6-point total score, were Bay View Yacht Club's "Wings," Aux C (PHRF greater than 200); Rush Creek Yacht Club's Larry Seals aboard "Dog" Aux Main Jib, and Bay View's Bryan Taylor in "Rented Mule," A Kite. Only sailors' five top races counted in the scoring. In the other three fleets were Bay View's Marshall MacKenzie and "Superman's Cape" in Aux B (120) and Rush Creek's David McDonald aboard "Prep J" in IC 24, both with three firsts and 7 points, and Rush Creek's David Hoye in "Rocket Science" with three firsts, a second, a third and 12 points. Behind McDonald were club mates Virginia "Cybeard," second with two firsts and three seconds for 8 points, and Tom Bieger, "Reflection," third and a fourth for 15 points. Skutch Mason, also from Rush Creek, sailed "Deep 6" home with 16 points. In Melges 24, Hoye defeated runner-up Jeffrey Progelhof (Rush Creek), who won by the tiebreaker of just two firsts (and three seconds) for Progelhof. RYC's James Erik also won a race, and placed third with 11. Runner-up Greg Howard from Texoma Sailing Club placed second aboard "Hoop Opera" with two firsts, a second and two thirds for 10 points. Rush Creek's Dari Esfahani placed first in one race and finished third with 11. Two skippers took the top three places in Aux C, with Keelan Manuel and "Joint Venture" second with two firsts, two seconds and a third) and Christopher Gradisar's "Laree" third with 12 (three seconds, two firsts, two seconds and a third). Cummings in Aux B were three Chandlers Landing skippers - Dan Malak, second with two firsts, two seconds and 8 points in "Orion"; Kathy Kuipers, whose best finish was second in one race, third with 21 points in "Ik," and Roy Kuipers, fourth with two fourths as his best finishes and 21 points. The tight race had Rush Creek's Jay Spalding and "Alibi" with three thirds fifth with 22 points, and Bay View's "Burne" sixth with two third places and 22. Mainboard, Rush Creek's David Christensen and "No Filter" were second with 9 points (one first, four thirds).

(Continued on Page 8)

Hot Rocks Bike Ride set Aug. 10

The 7th Annual Hot Rocks Bike Ride will begin at 7:30 a.m. Aug. 10 at the Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium in Rockwall. The year's event will include an extreme BMX stunt show, bounce houses, children's games and activities. The event will be presented by the Rockwall Noon Rotary Club and will include routes of 63 miles, 13.5 miles and a 3-mile loop - something for individuals of all ages and abilities. For more information visit hotrocksbikerace.com.



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recognition," said head coach Jeff Payne. "We'd hoped for a little more but it's time to turn our attention to trying to get back there again in 2014."

RHS will have a new junior varsity coach, J.E. Lancaster, next season.

Payne said, "He brings 32 years of experience, and recently, some good head coach experience from South Garland. He's fired up to be here, and I think the guys will enjoy him."

During the 2013 playoffs, Rockwall was the only team to defeat top-ranked state champion The Woodlands before losing the decisive third game of the Regional finals. The Jackets also defeated No. 7 Southlake Carroll, No. 8 Jersey Village and No. 12 Klein Collins during the season. Ranked ahead of RHS at season's end were Fort Bend Dulles second, San Antonio O'Connor third, Arlington Martin fourth and Cypress Ranch fifth.

Rockwall-Heath, the 2012 4A state champion, was eliminated in this year's Area round by No. 22 Allen.

Six players from Rockwall and three from RHHS are currently on minor league. Payne noted that RHS graduates Kendall Coleman and Steve Bean are returning after missing about a month because of injuries.

Payne said, "Kendall had a leg injury and was supposed to be out 2 weeks. He should be playing again any day now. Steve had a broken finger, and is back from a long layoff."

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Fate's Breakfast event draws handful of participants

by Millie Jean Coppedge
 Citizens were waiting at the door of the Fate Community Center July 17 when Mayor Bill Broderick arrived for his monthly Breakfast with the Mayor event.
 This was the second scheduled event and Broderick beamed as citizens asked their questions, gave suggestions and showed interest in the future of Fate.
 "I am so happy regarding the growth of both our residential and commercial properties," Broderick said.
 Mark Figura, a resident of the Spring Meadows Housing Addition said, "A lot of residents in Fate would really have enjoyed this meeting this morning and would have learned so much if they had of been here today. We have to find ways of letting the people know about these meeting and the great things that are going on in Fate."
 The mayor and several others spoke at the same time, saying that a flier about the event went out in the water bill. Two or three others chimed in saying that a lot of people don't look at the paperwork that comes with the statements.
 Sandy Anthony of the Woodcreek Addition suggested ways of letting citizens know about the event such as walking door to door to place fliers on front doors. Several other suggestions followed and were discussed.
 As the meeting progressed, Figura said it is also critical that Fate maintain the history of the town when considering all the construction and changes possibly to be going on in the downtown area in the future.
 Broderick was asked many questions about the upcoming city hall, the 551 Interchange Overpass Project, various uses of the community center and many other happenings in Fate.

"The opening of the Bush Turnpike has really spurred the housing growth of Fate and other small towns in the area. Families can enjoy the bedroom community lifestyle yet get to work quicker and with less stress," the mayor said.
 Although some arrived early for the meeting, most stayed past the closing time to discuss and contribute their thoughts about the environment, beautification and growth of their town.
 The mayor has scheduled the event from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on the Wednesday of every month at the Community Center, William E. Crawford Ave. in downtown Fate. Breakfast served. The next meeting will be Aug. 21. For more details call at 972-771-4601.



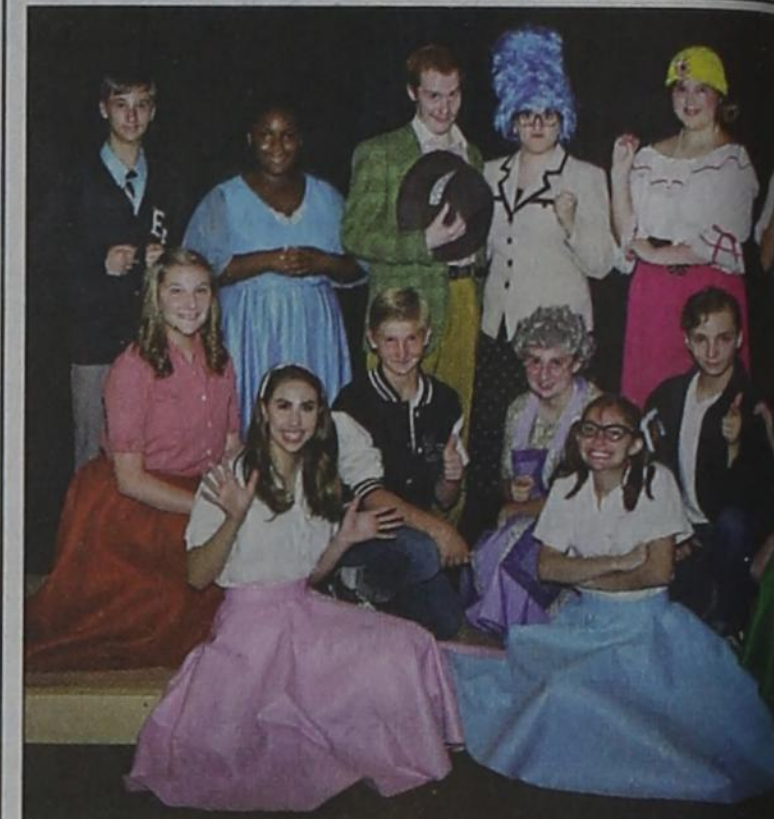
Mayor Bill Broderick, pictured at the far right, explained the expectations for the future growth for the City of Fate during the Breakfast with the Mayor event on July 17. The mayor hopes to make Fate a town where people want to raise their families and...
 Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News



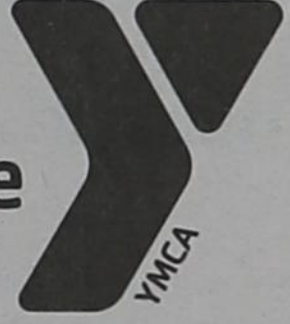
Raylene Myers of Heath, a kindergarten teacher at Rhea Elementary School in Forney, was recognized as the school's Teacher of the Year earlier this year. Myers was lauded for her ability to engage students in learning and the "positive rapport and strong connections" she makes with both her students and their parents. Myers is pictured above with the school's principal, Scott Fisher.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

'Zombie Prom' to open on RCP stage this weekend

The teen musical "Zombie Prom" will open on the Rockwall Community Playhouse stage this weekend.
 Set in the 1950s in the hallways and classrooms of Enrico Fermi High School, the musical centers on pretty senior Toffee, who has fallen for a bad boy, Jonny. Her family forces her to end their romance, and Jonny respond by racing off to a nearby nuclear plant on his motorcycle. He returning glowing, but determined to take Toffee to the prom.
 The light-hearted show, suitable for the entire family, features 1950's-style music.
 Jonny is played by Camryn Golin, a 17-year-old Rowlett High School student. This is his third time to be involved in a RCP show, having played David in "God's Favorite" and Dodger in "Oliver."
 Anne-Marie Thacker, a ninth grade student at Rockwall-Heath High, will play Toffee. Her previous RCP roles include Bet in "Oliver," Amber in "Hairspray" and Amy in "Little Women."
 Supporting cast members include Rachel James, Savannah Burrus and Shannon White. White and Burrus were asked to change their hair color to better fit their roles, so Burrus became a redhead for the summer, while White is now a platinum blond.
 Chad Pflieger, Jacob Turner and Bryce Brewer play Jonny's pals.
 Providing comedic relief are Jacob Valle and Alex Naranjo, who play ex-flames and adversaries. Rounding out the cast are Samantha Masucci, Jasmine Durham and Tara Phipps.
 Director Dane Hoffman returns to the RCP where he last was seen onstage in "Oliver."
 Performances of "Zombie Prom" are set for July 26-28 and Aug. 2-4 and 9-11. More information and tickets are available at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org or by calling 972-722-3399.



The Rockwall Community Playhouse's "Zombie Prom" will open this weekend. Pictured above are cast members. At front are Rachel James and Savannah Burrus. At back are Jacob Turner, Shannon White, Chad Pflieger, Tara Phipps, Camryn Golin and Anne-Marie Thacker. At back are Jacob Turner, Jasmine Durham, Jacob Valle, Alex Naranjo, Samantha Masucci and Bryce Brewer. Performances are set July 28 and Aug. 2-4 and 9-11. To purchase tickets, call 972-3399 or visit rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



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Sailing update ...

(Continued from Page 7)
 seconds). Bay View's Stephan Schrenkeisen sailed "Rock" to third place with finishes of 1-2-3-4 and three fourths for 17.
 The A Kite runner-up was Rush Creek's Scott Wiley, with two firsts and three seconds for 8 points.
 On June 16, the day Dallas Race Week began, Rush Creek's MC Scow Cowboy Regatta ended. The host club's Kenny Wolfe, who won Sunday's two races after finishing second and fourth, finish with 8 points.
 Finishing second and third were Saturday's race winners. Rush Creek's Greg Gust and Drew Windcrest Sailing Club in Sand Springs, Okla., each had 14 points, but Gust finished second in to win a tiebreaker. Ziegler and Wolfe had been tied for the lead with 7 points each before Sunday's race.
 Other top finishers in a field of 24 boats were Rush Creek's Gavin Rudolph, fourth with 18; John Johnston with 24 and top three finishes of 3-4-6 to break a tie; RCYC's Jeff Grinnan, sixth with 24 (3-4-8); Rob Johnston, seventh with 34 and a fifth-place tiebreaker; Rush Creek's Jack Kern, eighth with 40; finish of sixth place; club mate Pete O'Connell, ninth with 40, and Marshall Woodson of Austin Yacht Club's Per Huffeldt, tied for 10th with 46.
 After the major race events, the lake's regular summer race series began.
 MacKenzie had the most success during the first month of summer sailing, bringing "Superman" in first place in two of the first four A Fleet races in the Summer Wednesday Night Series and winning first three in the Summer Saturday Night Series.
 Jones and "Wings" finished first in the B Fleet for three of the first four Wednesday races, and took second behind Malak and "Orion" in Saturday Night Race 3 July 13.
 In the Wednesday A Fleet, Taylor won aboard "Rented Mule" in both Race 1 and in July 17's Race 2. Malak and "Orion" were a different runner-up in Race 1 and Race 2. Jeff Willis in "Chaos" and "Full Moon" were in "Chaos" and "Full Moon" in Race 3. Carter in "Geronimo" and "Swale" were in "Geronimo" and "Swale" in Race 4. Manuel guided "Just" to first place in the B Fleet in Saturday Race 1, skipping "Full Moon" to second place the next day.
 The Wednesday races were about a dozen boats with about half as many on Saturday nights.

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FAMILY FUN!

2013 HOT ROCKS BIKE RIDE

ROCKWALL ROTARY CLUB

Sports physicals to RISD students
 Rockwall-Heath High School is offering complete sports physicals to all Rockwall ISD students from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a \$5 donation to the Health and Wellness Medicine Program at the time of the physical. RHHS is located at 801 Laurence Drive, Rockwall. For more details email marlene@rockwallisd.org or kristina@rockwallisd.org.