

Rockwall County News

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Cricket Spirit Never Dies!

Running onto the field before last Friday's Rockwall HS vs. Rowlett football game, the Yellowjackets were joined in the pre-game run by members of area youth football teams, the children of Jacket fans and boys who attended the team's summer football camp. The future Yellowjackets players ran onto the field before every home game. Also, any youngster who sports one of the team's

Talent Plus t-shirts is welcome to join them on the field. The \$10 shirts, available through RHS and at the games, are a reminder that talent alone isn't enough to be successful - success comes from hard work on the field, in the classroom, at home and in the community.

Photo by Roy Heath/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

Brown Bag Lecture opens new season

The first Brown Bag Lecture of the new year will begin at noon at the Historic Courthouse. Topic will be "Team Players." The event is free and open to any interested individual.

Farmers Market open Saturday

The Farmers Market in downtown Rockwall will be open from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, offering fresh produce, toffee, dressings, gourmet food mixes, roasted coffee, local honey and herbs. The market will be open each Saturday this month. For details call 972-772-6400.

Rockwall Rib Rub set Saturday

The Rockwall Rib Rub is set for Saturday on the downtown square, beginning with cooks firing up their grills at 6 a.m. There will be plenty of music and food vendors, as well as children's activities and a Poker Stroll. For cook-off applications visit rockwall.com; click on Happening Now. For details call Dawn Golden at 972-772-6400.

RHS seniors plan fundraiser

The Rockwall High Class of 2010 will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Saturday at Applebee's. Tickets may be purchased at the door at a cost of \$6 per person. Contact Dawn Debaugh at 972-722-6984 for details.

Babysitting Class offered

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will offer a Babysitting Class for future sitters ages 11 to 14 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday at The Center. Through video, activities, role-play and discussion, participants will learn the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to care for infants and school-age children. Training will include dealing with emergency situations, first aid, rescue breathing, making decisions under pressure, communication, safety and hygiene issues and CPR care. Cost will be \$80 for Rockwall residents, \$120 for non-residents.

NAMI Support Groups to meet

Two free NAMI Support Groups - one for individuals with mental illness in Room 121 and another for their families in Room 123, B Building - will run from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, 1200 E. Yellow Creek Lane. Call Hal or Dee Whitfield, 972-412-6030, for information.

Hawaiian Ballroom Dance Party set

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host a Hawaiian Summer Ballroom Dance Party from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday at The Center, 108 E. Washington. Costumes will be encouraged, but not required. Light refreshments will be served. Prizes will be given away and a mini-lesson offered. For details call 972-771-7740.

Relay For Life committees forming

Relay For Life, the signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, is now forming committees for the 2010 event.

More News Briefs on Page 3

Heath residents question City, Fulton School on proposed water tower move

by Jo Anna Matejka

Several residents of Heath's Hillview Drive took Mayor John Ratcliffe up on his offer to express their concerns on a proposed land swap between their neighbor, the Fulton School, and the city. The land in question will likely be the future site of a water tower.

The city currently owns property on the Fulton School grounds where a water storage tank is located.

According to city manager Ed Thatcher, for the past several years, the school has been talking to city officials about options for moving the proposed water tower site away from the middle of their property.

Tuesday night, council members were asked to consider a land swap for property on the edge of the campus but right behind the back yard of resident Tina Winnett. The move would make a difference of a couple hundred yards.

According to Thatcher, the city currently uses the school's driveway to access its storage facility, which is now too small.

"For a number of years the city has known that when we grew to a certain point, we would need a water tower just behind the Fulton School," Thatcher said.

Both the school and now the residents have expressed their desire to the council that the tower "be anywhere but here."

According to several Hillview Drive residents, the residents didn't find out about the idea to put a water tower in their neighborhood until last week.

"How is it that the Fulton School has been working on having the tower moved for several years when we didn't even know about it?" Winnett said.

After hearing about the plans for a water tower, the residents brought their concerns to Thatcher, who held an information meeting for them last Thursday.

City of Fate holds tax rate steady in new budget

by Jo Anna Matejka

Members of the City of Fate city council had no takers among the public for comments on its proposed property tax at its Monday night public hearing.

The tax rate will remain at 21 cents, the same as last year. Average property value in the city is \$176,252, an increase of a little more than \$500 from last year. The total taxable value of property in the city is about \$439 million.

"We're pleased to be able to hold our tax rate at .2144 due to the addition of \$42 million to our tax roll," Mikel said.

The additional value is from increased housing development, Mikel said.

The city council will hold a second public hearing on the tax rate along with a hearing on the proposed 2009-2010 budget on Tuesday.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Fate community center, 104 South W. E. Crawford.

Winnett and several of her neighbors challenged the city council on the perception of impropriety and on their feelings of mistrust of the city. Current council member Karen Lewis also serves on the Fulton School board.

"We've been kind of stepped on and shoved aside," Hillview resident Bill Canon said. "Our homes are not like most of the other homes in Heath. Our homes are maybe \$100,000 or \$150,000 homes right in the middle of a prime location near where the city and some developers have talked about a large retail development."

The residents are concerned that the nearness of the tower would reduce the value of their property and their quality of life as traffic on their cul-de-sac would increase and the presence of the water tower would cause other disruptions to their lives.

"We're talking about a low-orbit moon as bright as it will be," resident Mark Elam said. "I would hope the city would not allow a private entity to trump the welfare, property values and quality of life of an entire street full of residents."

The Hillview residents also expressed concerns about the conduct of the Fulton School, complaining that the school has purchased several properties on their street in the last year and that those properties have been poorly cared for.

Former Fulton School board member George Hargrave also expressed that the three properties the school purchased should never have been purchased and have either recently been sold or are in the process of being sold. He also commented that the school had been talking to the city about moving the water storage facility since about 2004 or 2005.

Ratcliffe defended both the council and the school.

"The Fulton Academy may have been your very best friend," Ratcliffe said. "If not for Fulton continually coming in and proposing that the tower be put anywhere else, the tower would probably be well under way."

Ratcliffe also assured residents that council members, "take their ethical obligations seriously," citing that "in small towns you're going to find the same people and families on school boards and on city councils and other positions."

"We follow the advice of the city attorney and recuse ourselves from discussions as appropriate."

According to Thatcher, the city needs about a 1.5 million-gallon capacity tower, similar in size to the City of Rockwall tower near farm-to-market roads 549 and 276. The current Heath water tower has a .5 million-gallon capacity.

For now, the conversation is theoretical, Ratcliffe said. There are no drawings and no plans for building a water tower and there will be no plans drawn until the city chooses a location.

According to Thatcher, city staffers have not given the council a recommendation on the land swap.

"Right now the city is listening to what all sides are saying," Thatcher said. "We know we need a water tower. We probably need to decide by the first of the year where we're going to put it. We don't have an option not to do it."

Discussion of the purchase or sale of property is held in executive session. After about a half-hour session, the council reconvened the public meeting and took no action on the proposed land swap.

News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Rockwall County raised more than \$100,000. For details contact Carla Brooks at 214-762-6851.

Food Pantry needs items

Helping Hands Food Pantry currently has a shortage of staple items: oil, flour, peanut butter, jelly, sugar and canned goods. Items may be dropped at Helping Hands' Building A on Williams Street at the Rockwall County Library food drive box in the lobby.

Church to host Sunday blood drive

BloodCare mobile unit will be in the First Christian Church Rockwall parking lot from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 13. Donations are encouraged, but drop-ins are welcome. To make an appointment, contact the church office at 972-771-5526 or visit www.bloodcare.org (click on Donate Blood, then Mobile Blood Drive - Rockwall for the ZIP code, SPON039110 for the sponsor number).

Rockwall ISD College Night scheduled

Rockwall ISD College Night will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rockwall High cafeteria, 901 Yellowjacket Lane. The event allows students and parents to gather information from 100 college representatives. Also, several major Texas universities will present optional sessions. All RISD students and their parents are urged to attend.

Rowlett book club to meet

Rowlett Reviews Book Club, which meets the third Tuesday of each month from September to May, will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, at the Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 7301 Miller Road. Coffee will be served from 9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Reservations are available.

Library to host Game Night

Rockwall County Library will host a Game Night for teens in the library from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. Free pizza will be served and prizes will round out the evening.

Seminar on knee pain to be offered

"About the Causes of Knee Pain" will be the subject of a seminar presented by Dr. Daniel J. Aldrich from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Parlor A, B & C of the Hilton Bella Harbor. Space is limited to the first 50 to RSVP will be able to attend. To register call 972-774-0501, ext. 129, or 800-444-4547. Complimentary valet parking will be available at the Conference Center Entrance.

Teen Writers meeting slated

Teen Writers Group will meet from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Rockwall County Library. The group serves teens ages 12-17. Participants are encouraged to bring writing samples.

Rockwall Republican women to meet

Rockwall County Republican Women will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 2951 Ridge Road, Suite 101 in the Shopping Center. State Rep. Jodie Laubenberg will be the guest. Admission will be free; donations to the scholarship fund accepted. Light refreshments will be served. For more details visit www.rwrc.org.

Z Museum hosts dinner, story-telling event

A story-telling event and barbecue dinner will begin at 7 p.m. at the Zaner Robtson Historical Museum, 124 S. Arch, in Rockwall. The event will cost \$8 for adults, \$6 for children. Door prizes will be given away, as will a prize for the individual who can identify the truths from the fiction delivered in the stories told. Spots are reserved by Sept. 15 by calling 972-816-9626 or 972-635-5555.

Texas Gypsies is featured band

Texas Gypsies will perform at the free City of Rockwall Lake Series event beginning at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Amphitheater, 2047 Summer Lee Drive. For details visit www.cityofrockwall.com/parks.

Rowlett Quilters plan anniversary event

Rowlett Quilters Guild will host a 10th anniversary celebration from 10 a.m. to noon on Sept. 19 at the First United Methodist Church, 4405 Main St., in Rowlett. Refreshments, photo albums, a quilt show-and-tell projects, Quilt Bingo and fellowship are planned. For information call Carol Miskin at 972-771-5195, Joanne at 972-270-3526 or Tina Cunningham, 972-475-0151.

RHS cheerleaders to host Cabaret Show

Rockwall High cheerleaders are planning their 23rd annual Cabaret Show, "YouTube," at Williams Middle School, 625 E. FM Street. Performances will include dances from "High School Musical," "Cyrus," the GoGos, "So You Think You Can Dance" and a Jackson tribute. Matinee shows are set for 1 p.m. Sept. 19 and 7 p.m. Sept. 20; tickets will cost \$8. A dinner show is planned for 7 p.m. Sept. 19; cost will be \$12. Funds raised to benefit the cheerleaders' national and spirit expenses.

Rowlett Ballet to host 'Nutcracker' auditions

Rowlett Ballet will conduct auditions for "The Nutcracker" at 1 p.m. Sept. 19 at the London School of Dance, 105 Oates Road, Suite 105, Rowlett (972-686-1966); at 2 p.m. on that date at Janie's School of Dance, 9090 Preston, Suite 299A, in Dallas (972-43-7472); and at Heather's School of Dance, 635 Campbell Road, Suite 224, Rockwall (972-235-0514). Applicants must have dance experience, be between the ages of 7 and 14 and wear dance attire. The ballet performance of "The Nutcracker" will be held at the Majestic Theater in November.

TEA meeting set Sept. 21

The first Rockwall Area Teachers Association meeting for the new year will be held at 1:15 p.m. on Sept. 21 at the RISD Ad Building, 800, District X legislative room. District X legislatorwoman Sue Passmore will be the guest speaker. The program, "Update on Legislative Issues," will be presented by Texas Retired Teachers Association. All retired school teachers are welcome. For de-



Brittany Whalin to wed Tory Mattson

Greg and Teri Whalin of Rockwall are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Brittany Brooks Whalin, to Tory Benjamin Mattson, son of Matt and Ann Mattson of Hendersonville, N.C. The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Rockwall High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in 2003 from Texas Tech University in Lubbock. The prospective bridegroom received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2008 from the University of Colorado at Boulder, Colo. The wedding is set for Oct. 24, 2009, in Colorado Springs, Colo.



Scarlett Grace Blackstone

Stacey and Philip Blackstone of Rockwall are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, Scarlett Grace Blackstone, at 8:11 a.m. Aug. 25, 2009, in the Lakepointe Medical Center in Rowlett.

The infant weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces at birth and was 18.5 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Jeff and Kay Gard of Rockwall. Jim and Barbara Blackstone of Heath are the infant's paternal grandparents.

Paternal great-grandparents are Marcene Martz of Bluffton, Ohio, and Pauline Blackstone of New Concord, Ohio.

Downtown Rockwall Rib Rub Saturday

Downtown Rockwall will be the site of the city's First Annual Rib Rub & Run tomorrow, Sept. 12.

Kicking off the day's activities will be a 5K Fun Run hosted by the Rockwall Running Center.

Live music will begin at 11 a.m. when the food and beer garden opens. Several downtown restaurants - AVA, Zanata's and Bin 303 - will offer barbecue fare while performances by Mr. X, the Paul Harrington Band, J.D. Cob and Bad Behavior, the King Bucks and Fat Dixie fill the air.

A daylong Poker Stroll is planned, and the best poker hand will win a gift basket loaded with great prizes from downtown merchants. Visit them to pick up cards.

Host for the day's activities is Rockwall Main Street in conjunction with the Old Town Shoppes on the Square.

For more details contact Bethany Golden, Main Street manager, at 972-772-6400.

1st Annual Rib Rub and Run Downtown Rockwall



SEPTEMBER 12, 2009 • 8AM TO 8PM

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Mr. X • Paul Harrington Band • J.D. Cobb & Bad Behavior • King Bucks • Fat Dixie

Food & Beer Garden

RIB RUB BBQ COMPETITION

APPLICATIONS @ WWW.ROCKWALL.COM "HAPPENING NOW" PAGE

5K Fun Run - Rockwall Running Center - 8AM

Register @ www.active.com

Poker Stroll through the "Old Town Shoppes on the Square" 10AM - 4PM

Sponsors: Zanata's, Restaurant AVA, Bin 303, Texas Traditions, Pool Stop, Awards & Creations, T&T Color Supply, Rockwall Cake Factory, Bella's House, Rockwall County Enterprise Success, Texas Quiltworks, Karen & Co. Jewelers, Groovy's, Candlelight & Lampos, Donald Sage, E.A., The Jersey Lillie Boutique, Friends of Downtown Rockwall

For More Information Call Bethany Golden, Main Street Manager at 972.772.6400 or email lgolden@rockwall.com

admission is free



Lucile Tate (right) with her son Garvin Tate

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Fundraiser to benefit Rockwall Animal Services

Inspired by the efforts of others to raise money for those in need, 11-year old Kyndal Hetmer of Rockwall will have a fundraising drive from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow, Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Harry Myers Water Spray Pavilion to benefit Rockwall Animal Services.

Hetmer will accept monetary donations as well as in-demand items, such as bleach, large trash bags, paper towels, Fabuloso floor cleaner, bath towels, wash cloths and hand towels, that the shelter needs on a daily basis.

Hetmer said she felt led to do a fundraiser for a Rockwall charity after hearing a talk at church camp this summer from a person who raised money to dig a water well in Africa. She had originally wanted to also raise money for a well, but her mother, Debra Hetmer, suggested a project closer to home. An animal lover, Kyndal had signed up to volunteer at the Rockwall animal shelter and decided to dedicate her fundraising efforts for their benefit.

She asked her friends and family to not give her presents for her recent birthday but to give any gifts to the shelter on her behalf. Her mother said before tomorrow's event, Kyndal will be given a small birthday party, with the fundraiser beginning at 2 p.m. In addition to accepting donations, they will sell hot dogs, cotton candy, drinks and more, all to benefit the shelter.

Kyndal is the daughter of Matt and Debra Hetmer of Rockwall.

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Rockwall ISD Education Foundation holds tea for Grandparent Century Club

In conjunction with National Grandparent Day, The Rockwall ISD Education Foundation, Inc. will host a Grandparent Century Club Tea at 3 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15, at the Administration/Education Center.

The Grandparent Century Club is an integral part of the Education Foundation, which provides funding for Innovative Teaching Grants that foster creativity, community involvement, and educational opportunities that are outside of the District's budget.

Grandparents whose grandchildren are or have been educated in

Rockwall ISD schools are invited to attend and make donations by investing \$100 per family unit in the Foundation.

In 2008, the Foundation received 52 grant applications. Individual grants were approved and 20 group grants were approved. More than \$38,000 in innovative Teaching Grants was awarded for the school year.

For more information about the Grandparent Century Club and membership, contact Cindy Benefield, 972-771-7529.



Members of the Rockwall ISD Grandparent Century Club include (Back row from left)

Martin Musser, Marvis Kisselburgh, Joanne Efency, Margaret Redden, Dalton Kennimer, Gene Cuny, Leigh Plagens, Dena Baird, Joe Loftis, (Seated from left) Joyce Musser, Mattie Mays, Doris Cullins, Laverne Kennimer, Charlotte Cuny, Mary Bingham, Ann Steger and JoAn Loftis.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

Constitution Week proclaimed in Rockwall

The week of Sept. 17-23 has been proclaimed Constitution Week by Bill Cecil, mayor of the City of Rockwall.

Sept. 17 begins the national celebration of the observance.

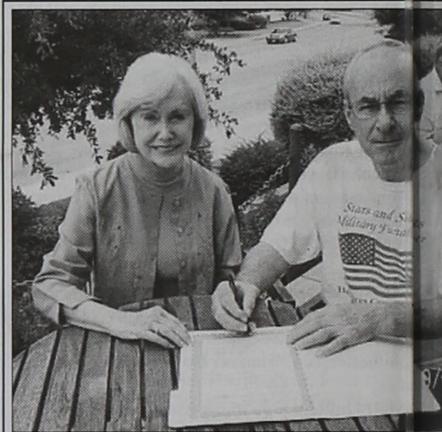
The tradition of celebrating the U.S. Constitution began many years ago thanks to the Daughters of the American Revolution. In 1955, the group petitioned Congress to set aside the week annually to be dedicated for the observance of Constitution Week. The resolution was eventually adopted and signed into law on Aug. 2, 1956, by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The focus of the observance is to emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution, preserving it for posterity; inform the people that the document is the basis of the nation's heritage and foundation for its way of life; and encourage the study of historical events leading to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787.

"Constitution Week is the perfect opportunity to read and study this great document, which is the safeguard of our American liberties," said DAR president Linda Gist Calvin. "We encourage all citizens across the country to take time this week to reflect on our heritage of freedom."

DAR has served the nation for 119 years. In 1928, the group began work on a building as a memorial to the Constitution. John Russell Pope, architect of the Jefferson Memorial, was commissioned to design the performing arts center, known as DAR Constitution Hall. Today, DAR Constitution Hall is the only structure erected in tribute to the Constitution of the United States of America.

DAR has more than 165,000 members with approximately 1,000 chapters in all 50 states and 11 foreign countries. For more information about the organization and its programs visit darr.org or Heil at 972-771-3033.



Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil, pictured above with Linda Gist Calvin, recently signed a proclamation declaring the week of Sept. 17-23 as Constitution Week. The national observance began 50 years ago at the prompting of the DAR.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Rockwall County Consolidated Municipal Utility District No. 1 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2009, on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, at 5:00 p.m., at LaQuinta Inn and Suites, 689 East I-30, Rockwall, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR: Bobby L. Jackson, Kevin W. McCrea, James Donald Parker, Randy C. Roland and Paul Wilson

AGAINST: None

PRESENT and not Voting: None

ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$0.75/\$100 Adopted	This Year \$0.72/\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)		
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.03/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		
Average appraised value	\$189,867	\$191,629
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizens or disabled persons exemptions)	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Average taxable value	\$189,867	\$191,629
Tax on average residence homestead	\$1,424.00	\$1,379.73
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		-\$44.27 - 3.11%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Aspasians Fall Art Fair comes to downtown Square Sept. 19

Despite the torn up roads and criss-crossing detours, the annual Aspasians Fall Art Fair will take place beginning at 9 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 19, at the historic downtown Rockwall Square.

All funds raised are used to provide scholarships to Rockwall college students. Shoppers from throughout North Texas will be drawn to Rockwall for the fair. A wide array of merchandise will be available.

Space is still available for merchandise booths and vendors. For more information to rent a booth or become a vendor, call 214-712-0212 or visit www.aspasians.com.

Rockwall High School Cheerleaders Cabaret show Sept. 19 & 20

The Rockwall High School Cheerleaders invite the public to their 23rd Annual Cabaret Show on Saturday, Sept. 19 and Sunday, Sept. 20. This year's theme is "YOU TUBE."

The show will take place at Williams Middle School, 625 E. 552 in Rockwall. Tickets are \$8 per person.

The first show of the day on Saturday Sept. 19 is a matinee, with a dinner show at 6:30 p.m. also on Saturday. The Sunday, Sept. 20 show will begin at 7 p.m.

The cheerleaders will perform dances to music from "High School Musical," Miley Cyrus, GoGos, So You Think You Can Dance, Jabawacki's and a tribute to Michael Jackson, among others.

The money raised will go towards the Rockwall High School Cheerleaders Nationals Team and spirit expenses.

Rockwall County's
Newspaper of Record

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Library's Reading for Adults...
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attended tutoring sessions...
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tutoring services made pos...
unteer tutors and the gener...
individuals, small businesses...
If you would like to enroll...
tr, contact program manage...
riab4@verizon.net.

Adults in Rockwall Library Program earn U.S. citizenship

Rockwall County Library's Reading for Adults program and U.S. Representative Ralph Hall recently joined together to offer congratulations to new U.S. citizens Nelida Martinez and David Srouiji. Srouiji attended tutoring sessions offered by Rockwall Library's Reading for Adults program to prepare for the U.S. citizenship exam.

Tutor, Jim Baird, and Srouiji's tutor, Jane Jordan, joined to offer congratulations and presented each new citizen with a U.S. flag flown over the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Srouiji and Srouiji have both traveled far in their respective journeys to become U.S. citizens and residents of Rockwall County. Ms. Srouiji is a native of Peru who came to the United States in 1990 to escape the oppressive government and terrorist environment in her home country. She is pleased now to make her home in Royse City, Texas, with her two children and three grandchildren.

David Srouiji is a native of Syria who came to the United States as a refugee in 1975. He has been a proud resident of Rockwall. In his home country, Srouiji earned a doctorate in history and political science and served his country as a military pilot. Today he is married, a grandfather, and the owner of two successful businesses including New York Pizza ("The best pizza in town!" he says).

The Reading for Adults program at Rockwall County Library is pleased to offer congratulations to Nelida Martinez and David Srouiji on becoming U.S. citizens. It invites other Rockwall County residents interested in preparing for the citizenship exam to register for the next semester class. Class meetings are held one time per week and are available on Friday morning, Tuesday evening and Wednesday evening.

The Reading for Adults program also offers free tutoring in GED preparation and in English as a Second Language (three levels) available each morning Monday through Saturday and on Wednesday and Thursday evening each week.

Rockwall County Library is a local non-profit adult and family literacy center with free tutoring services made possible by the dedicated volunteer tutors and the generous financial contributions of individuals, small businesses, corporations, and philanthropists. If you would like to enroll for a tutoring class or contact a tutor, contact program manager Gloria Bishop at 972-962-4444 or at gloriab4@verizon.net.



New U.S. citizen Nelida Martinez was joined by U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall and Jim Baird, who tutored Martinez as she studied for the citizenship exam through the Rockwall County Library. Hall presented Martinez a U.S. flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News



U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall presented a flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. to new citizen David Srouiji (center). Joining Srouiji and Hall was Jane Jordan, a tutor with the Rockwall County Library, who mentored Srouiji as he studied for the citizenship exam.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

Attention Rockwall Area Realtors...

Rockwall County Abstract and Title Co. is offering 2 MCE approved courses in our office on Tuesday, September 15th!

Legal Update MCE - 3 hrs - \$25
9:00 am to 12:00 am

and

What about the Earnest Money? - 2 hrs - \$15
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

- Lunch provided by Rockie & Sheri Martin @ Superior Lending Mortgage *

For more information or to reserve your spot call 972-771-5336 or email training@rockwalltitle.com.



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Lucas Aubrey, son of Bill Aubrey and Summer Ridge Activity Director Shelley Aubrey, recently visited with the residents of Summer Ridge to talk about his experience living and working with the Massai people of Kenya, Africa this summer. He also worked with children and led camp activities at Sky Ranch in Van, Texas. Lucas has returned to Texas A&M University, where he is a sophomore. He is a 2008 graduate of Rockwall-Heath High School.

Photo Courtesy of Shelley Aubrey/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County Sports Notes

Lady Hawk plans softball clinics

Shannon Burkett, a RHHS senior, will offer a pair of softball skills clinics to complete her Gold Scout Gold Award project on Sept. 19 and Sept. 26. Participants (females ages 10-12/grades 4-6) will improve skills, make new friends and meet coaches and players; \$3 will cover the cost of water and snacks (bring glove, bat and sack lunch; catchers should bring gear). Helmets and other equipment will be provided. Parents will be asked to fill out a permission form and are encouraged to stay and watch, although an appropriate adult/child ratio will be maintained at all times. Each clinic will run 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; check-in will be at 8:30 a.m. at the Heath city softball field behind Amy Parks Elementary. RSVP for either clinic by Sept. 16 at 214-695-6963 or sburkett@classienet.net.

Hot Shot contest set Sept. 26

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Recreation Department will host a Hot Shoot Basketball Shooting Contest beginning at 9 a.m. Sept. 26 in the Rockwall ISD Education Center gym. The contest tests participants shooting abilities from different locations on the floor in two 60-second rounds. The event will be open to individuals ages 8-13, with divisions organized by age and gender; cost will be \$3 for Rockwall residents, \$5 for non-residents. Prizes will be awarded to first and second places in each division. To pre-register, call 972-771-7740.

RHHS seniors to host golf tourney

The Class of 2010 of Rockwall-Heath High will host a Senior Pride Golf Tournament and Silent Auction/Dinner on Sept. 26 at Buffalo Creek Golf Club. The tourney will open with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., followed by the dinner and auction at the Buffalo Creek Pavilion. For more information or dinner reservations, contact Don Allen at dkaom@aol.com. Contact Dolly DeLaGarza at dollydylg@sbcglobal.net to donate an item for the silent auction.

Shores Golf Course plans public meeting

The Rockwall City Council will host a Shores Golf Course public forum at 6 p.m. Sept. 29 in the Myers Park Community Building, 815 E. Washington St. Council members will hear public input and residents are encouraged to attend and make suggestions about the golf course.

School plans Wacky Obstacle Challenge

Grace Hartman Elementary will host a Wild About Hartman Wacky Obstacle Challenge beginning at 8 a.m. Oct. 10 at Harry Myers Park. Participants ages 5 and older will slip, slide, crawl and bop their way through obstacles such as the '50s Slip and Slide, the Body Bopper and the Hot Dog Homerun. To sign up or donate, visit active.com and select 'Wild About Hartman Wacky Obstacle Challenge.' All proceeds will benefit the school.

Outdoor family campout planned

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host an outdoor family campout Oct. 10-11 at Harry Myers Park in cooperation with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. The "carefree camping" event will offer fishing, archery, disc golf, kayaking and other activities. Families should bring a sack lunch for Oct. 10; the evening meal will be provided. That night will conclude with a campfire and a cowboy singer/poet. Participants should bring tents and sleeping bags (tents provided for registrants who notify Parks & Rec in advance). Continental breakfast will be served on Oct. 11. Camping cost will be \$100 for each Rockwall-resident family, \$150 non a non-resident family. For more information or to register call 972-771-7740.

BlastBall season scheduled

BlastBall, an event designed to teach the fundamentals of baseball and softball to children ages 3-5, will be offered by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department beginning in October. Using a "blastbase," which makes a unique honking sound when the base runner stomps on it, children learn the importance of teamwork and exercise. Gloves are not required but can be used. Teams will be comprised of five children each; volunteer parent coaches are needed. Games (about 30 minutes each) will take place each Monday evening from Oct. 12 through Nov. 16. A parent meeting is planned prior to the beginning of play. For more information on the program or to register call 972-771-7740.

RHHS boosters plan golf tournament

The RHHS Hawks Football Booster Club will host its annual golf tournament beginning at 1 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Buffalo Creek Golf Course, Heath. Sponsors and players are needed. For more information call Jim Bookhout at 972-771-1740.

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Attention Parents/Adult Students Previously Enrolled in the Rockwall Special Education Department

According to Federal Regulations §300.573, "personally identifiable information collected, maintained, or used are no longer needed to provide educational services to student will be destroyed."

This notice pertains to students who were dismissed or graduated from the special education department in 2000. Records are held seven years from the last day of service. These special education records will be destroyed by

November 1, 2009

If you wish to have these records, please notify the special education department at 972-772-1175.

Notice of Sale

Notice is hereby given that an absolute Public Auction will be held Sept. 26th, 2009 at 12:30 PM at 4100 E. I-30 Rockwall, TX on behalf of American Mini Storage to satisfy landlord's liens under Sub Chapter 59 Lien Property Code for non-payment of rent. Auctioneer Ron Reed, License # 13895. This follows auction at 11:30 PM at E. I-30, Rockwall, TX for Royse City Mini Storage.

American Mini Storage - 972-772-7727
4100 E. I-30 Rockwall, Texas 75087

- A033 - Brian Nix
- A036 - Brannon Archer
- B005 - Atlin Otis
- B054 - Cynthia Parchman
- B055 - Cynthia Parchman
- C024 - Bruce Harmon
- C027 - Diana Young
- RV11 - Shane Kornhauser
- RV12 - Gloria & Mark Gomez
- RV33 & RV 34 - Joanne Wilson

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- Above ground pool ladder, computer
- File cabinet, office furniture
- Trunk, Oak roll top desk, office furniture
- Misc. household, toys, wheelbarrow
- Leather chair & ottoman, bookshelves
- Green Ford Escort LX
- 1968 Classic Blue Impala
- Semi trailers

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Kiwanis Angel League takes the field for new season Monday

Metcalf-Kelly familiar with the "A League of Their Own" will recognize its real counterpart in the Rockwall Kiwanis Angel League. In 1999, it seemed absurd or impossible for women to organize sports for special needs kids. Just as Madonna overcame skepticism and proved a place for women in the members of the Angel League, she proved there was a place for women in the league, which he created the Rockwall branch of the Kiwanis Club. Turner created the league in 1999, just a year after the Rockwall Kiwanis Club was established in Rockwall. There are 20 members on the league; one team for special-needs children 4-15, and one for 9-5 job as a Rockwall, heads up a committee. Only one member is parent to a child with special needs.

Through feedback from the mother of a child in the league, Turner found a tagline that concisely characterized the organization's mission. The parent told Turner, that after one practice on a regular tee ball team, where her son was constantly told, "don't do this, don't do that," the boy told his mother he didn't want to go back. Shortly after, the family found the Angel League. It was a perfect fit for the woman's son; he had found his niche, and his mother was refreshed that the league didn't force him to conform to certain expectations, instead focusing on ensuring kids were having fun. She praised the league, saying it "celebrate[d] each child for who they are, not what they aren't."

Although the Kiwanis spend several thousand dollars a year on the Angel League's uniforms and batting gear, the league also benefits from the contributions of Rockwall citizens and businesses. Gary Freeman, a well-known auctioneer and public voice in Rockwall, has donated his voice to announce and call every game, play by play, since the league's beginnings, making the playing fields seem "just like the Rangers Stadium," according to Turner. The games are co-sponsored by the Rockwall Parks Department, through which the leagues are able to play on lighted fields, free of charge. Parents of team members double up as coaches, and "team moms," mothers of the players, assist with games. Members of the Williams Middle School Band volunteer every year to play the national anthem at the beginning of games. The league also welcomes high-school volunteers, and benefits yearly from the help of Rockwall High School students who are members of school-sponsored organizations like the National Charity League. Since the league began, LSJ Gifts and Awards have donated trophies for the end of season award ceremony. The league also accepts \$125 scholarships, which fulfill the yearly cost for each child to play on the team.

Parents Kevin and Michelle Lawson and their six year-old son, Alec, have been involved in the Angel League since Alec was three years old. Alec has a less severe disability than most of the kids; he suffers from speech delay and sensory integration disorder, meaning that he has trouble modulating his brain's input of external stimuli. The Lawsons recalled that when Alec first played on a tee-ball team, his disorder made it difficult for him to follow directions and play well with the other children. Alec would often get overwhelmed and stressed by the pressure of competition, and his disorder would manifest itself in anger or tears.

"The worst thing was other parents not understanding why my child was not participating like the other kids," Michelle said. Kevin and Michelle initially heard about the Angel League through Alec's teacher in the Rockwall PPCD. Another parent in the PPCD were also involved in the Angel League and strongly recommended it. The Lawsons were hooked after the first practice.

"It was such a relief, not having to worry about making certain [Alec's] doing the right thing at the right time... There's no competition at all involved, which is exactly what he needed," Kevin said. "[Angel League] gave us the chance for our kid to have fun, for us to celebrate how our kid really is."

With the stress of competition lifted, Alec flourished. Kevin began coaching along with Turner, and reflected that the shift from being guided one-on-one to being coached as a member of a team helped to boost Alec's self-confidence and independence. Three years of playing on the Angel League has rendered Alec a different child than he was three years ago.

"He's vastly more socially mature," Kevin said. "It's not just age; it's a function of age and experience and development. That's been a huge part of his growth."

The Lawson's said Alec "has a great sensitivity for other kids," and now helps other children on the team, instructing them about where to stand when they bat and which bases to run to. Michelle said Alec has a real aptitude for helping others.

"He knows how they are feeling, because he has felt that way," Michelle said. Alec has reached a point where he may outgrow the Angel League soon; he is currently playing on a public soccer league, where he is doing well.

Games are played at the same time at Tuttle Field every Monday. "When we started this league, we were told—repeatedly—that special needs children couldn't play organized sports," Turner recalled. "[But] we realized that all children play... Sports are basically moving a ball around. We focused on the organized part." Turner said games operate on the principle that there are "no strikes, [and] no outs. Every hit [is] a homerun, every child [is] a winner."

For more information about the Kiwanis Angel League, go to www.Kiwanis.org. For more information about the Rockwall Angel League, go to www.rockwallkiwanis.org.

Photo Courtesy of Pat Turner/Rockwall County News



Cain Middle School coach David Gasewicz (left), also known as Coach G, looks on as his student, Burnett Rossum, takes his turn at bat during last year's Angel League baseball season. Coach G assisted Rossum at every game last year. The Angel League's fall season gets underway Monday at Tuttle Field in Rockwall.

'Calamity Jane' tickets available at Rockwall Community Playhouse

Tickets for the first production of the new season at Rockwall Community Playhouse, "Calamity Jane," are now on available. Many may remember the 1953 movie version of the story with Doris Day and Howard Keel. The rollicking musical is set in the wild-west outpost of Deadwood City in 1876, sharpshooting tomboy, "Calamity Jane" is surrounded by cowboys, townsfolk and the famous Wild Bill Hickok. After a mix-up in the talent pool at Deadwood's saloon-theater, Calamity goes to Chicago to import to Deadwood the glamorous actress, Adela Adams, but returns by mistake with her maid, Katie Brown, instead.

Back in Deadwood, Katie's inability to perform is overcome as she wins the heart of the young Lieutenant Danny Gilmartin, and when Calamity sheds her tomboy persona at a ball at the local Fort and becomes a true woman, she realizes that she loves Wild Bill Hickok. Shelley Aubrey directs the RCP production. Performances are set for Sept. 25, 26, 27 and Oct. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11. Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. and the Sunday matinee is at 2 p.m.

Tickets prices are \$18 for adults and \$15 for adults 62+, students and children. Tickets may be purchased online at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org or by calling 972-722-3399. The Rockwall Community Playhouse is located at 609 E. Rusk.

RISD College Night set Monday at RHS

The Rockwall Independent School District College Night will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday in the Rockwall High School cafeteria, 901 Yellowjacket Lane. College Night is designed to give students and their parents an opportunity to gather information from more than 100 colleges in a single setting. The event is open to all RISD students and their parents, according to a news release issued by the school district last week.

"With the growing number of students attending Rockwall ISD, we have enhanced our program to include presentations from numerous college representatives at College Night," said Teddi Cherry, RHS Guidance Department chairman. "Out goals for the event are to equip students with questions to ask, foster relationships between students and college representatives and, most importantly, to get facts directly from the colleges."

Additionally, representatives from several major Texas universities will present optional sessions. These sessions are scheduled for 6 p.m. to 6:25 p.m.; 6:35 p.m. to 7 p.m.; and 7:10 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. "College Night will allow students to interact with admission representatives from a wide range of post-secondary institutions to discuss course offerings, admissions and college life in general," said Bonnie Fry, Rockwall-Heath High School counselor.

Come test the waters at the RISD Aquatic Center

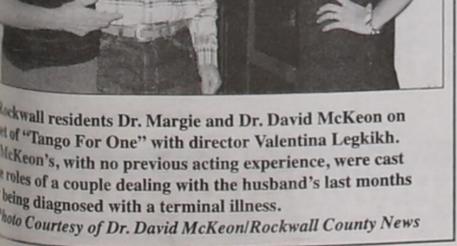
The Rockwall ISD Aquatic Center is offering public swims beginning on Monday, Sept. This two-week introductory period allows the community to use the facility free of charge from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and with limited lanes from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. In addition, the facility can be used from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Following the introductory period, memberships will be available for purchase. Members will have access to the facility during the hours listed above, as well as the weight room. Swimmers 14 years of age or under must be accompanied by an adult and swimmers eight years of age and under must be accompanied in the water by an adult. Membership prices are: \$240 annually, \$150 for six months, \$90 for three months, \$35 per month or \$5 per day. Rockwall ISD employees are eligible for a 20 percent discount.

Rockwall couple cast in movie

Long-time Rockwall residents, Dr. Margie and Dr. David McKeon, were recently chosen as the main characters in a film "Tango For One." The film follows the story of a cowboy, (David), and his wife, Jodi (Margie), as they cope with the long months of Garry's life after he is diagnosed with terminal cancer. The McKeon's are marriage therapists who have practiced in Rockwall since 1982. The McKeon's daughter, Laura Breen, is a actress who brought the idea of auditioning for the parts to them, even though they had no acting experience. David McKeon they just thought "why not," went to the auditions at Media Institute at Las Colinas and won the parts.

Acting was important to the film and local choreographer and dance teacher, Margaret Kochan, instructed the McKeon's through the intricacies of performing a graceful Tango. "It was something very different and just a lot of fun," he said. The film was written and directed by Valentina Legkikh. Filming took place over three days at the Lone Oak Retreat in Gainesville and at the La Pavarana Ranch in Pilot Point. The director plans to enter the film in the 16th Annual Austin International Film Festival in October. It is anticipated the film will be ready for general showing some time in December 2009.



Rockwall residents Dr. Margie and Dr. David McKeon on set of "Tango For One" with director Valentina Legkikh. The McKeon's, with no previous acting experience, were cast in the roles of a couple dealing with the husband's last months of life being diagnosed with a terminal illness. Photo Courtesy of Dr. David McKeon/Rockwall County News

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett
For archives of On God's Word visit

A tribute to Mary the Magdalene

The night after God raised Jesus from the dead must have been intense for Mary of Magdala and the other Mary. According to Matthew's account, they came to see the sepulchre during the time of sunset on the weekly sabbath as the first day of the week drew near (Matthew 28:1). They arrived in time to experience an earthquake, witness an angel descend from heaven, roll the stone from the opening of the grave and sit down on the stone. While on their way to the disciples, the women were confronted by our Lord Jesus for the first time after his resurrection.

John shared the story of how Mary the Magdalene returned to the sepulchre early that morning while it was still dark. She noticed that the stone was moved away and immediately dashed over to the disciples as she did the evening before. By this time Mary was convinced that somebody stole Jesus' body. Just the night before, she left the sepulchre with reverence and great joy. She embraced the feet of our Lord Jesus and even talked with him. We don't know exactly why she changed, but it is possible the disciples' unbelief influenced her through the night. Yet with a this, she still returned to the grave by herself (John 20:1-18).

What a sweet and believing heart she must have had. Yes...she was probably influenced to think that Jesus' body was stolen. But she still returned alone to the grave early in the morning. I could be wrong about this, but there is only one record in the Gospels of women traveling alone during the night hours. Also, God did not leave her confused. He gave her an opportunity to talk with Jesus again.

Later in the morning at sunrise, the same Mary returned to the sepulchre with the other women in order to prepare Jesus' body. The records of this event are in the Gospels of Mark and Luke. They may have been unsatisfied with the preparation work done by Joseph, while watching him work on Jesus' body, and decided to return for some follow-up prep work.

They arrived to find the stone rolled away and Jesus missing from the grave. After encountering the angels, they became afraid and perplexed. Based on what we've learned about Mary's night, we can safely conclude that she was not afraid in the same way as the others. But considering all her activity through the night, and the unbelieving influences from the others, it does make sense that she could have been quite startled with the other women.

It touched my heart to see that Mary of Magdala was listed first in all four Gospels (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1; Luke 24:10 and John 20:1). God exalted Mary in the scriptures as being a key figure and example of believing and trust among the women, and also among all the disciples. Although she may have wavered at times, and grew weary as the night time hours advanced, she did not give up.

Exclusively in the
Rockwall County News

Rockwall County Obituaries

Connie Eubank

Services for Connie Eubank, 73, of Rockwall were conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Aubrey Patterson officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. She died Monday, Sept. 7.

Born July 19, 1936, in Rockwall to Monnie James and Mildred Louise (Payne) Rodgers, she was artistic and enjoyed cross-stitching. She was strong-willed and enjoyed helping others. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Rockwall.

Survivors include her mother, Mildred Rodgers of Rockwall; one son, Timothy Cornelius and his wife, Christina, of Rockwall; one grandson, Christopher Cornelius of Rockwall; her sisters, Barbara Edge and her husband, Joe, of Wylie and Peggy Jones and her husband, E.O., of Rockwall; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father; her first husband, Lewis Edward Cornelius; her second husband, Jim Bob Eubank; her daughter, Terri Gayle Cornelius; and her sister, Gaye Garrett.

Mattie Lene Powell

Services for Mattie Lene Powell, 96, of Athens were conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009, in the First Baptist Church in Athens with Dr. Kyle Henderson officiating.

She died Sunday, Sept. 6, in Athens.

Born Nov. 17, 1912, in Turnersville to Fletcher Stokes and Virgie Frances McClensson Saffell, she moved to Athens in 1954 when her husband purchased the Ford tractor dealership. She served as bookkeeper for Powell Ford Tractor Co. for many years and was First Baptist Church secretary for 10 years. A member of the First Baptist Church for 45 years, she served as a Sunday school teacher, past WMU president and a member of the sanctuary choir and the joy choir. Formerly active in the Garden Club and the Quilting Club, she and her husband were active with Texas Baptist Men for 10 years, participating in the building of more than 100 churches.

Survivors include her daughters, Dellene Burgamy of Rockwall and Juliaann Foster and her husband, Stephen, of Athens; a daughter-in-law, Louise Merritt, and her husband, Paul, of Rockwall; her brother, Randall Saffell of Waco; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 70 years, Sam Odell Powell, in 2007; a son, Thomas Stokes Powell; a son-in-law, Gerald Burgamy; and a sister, Mary Houey.

Grandsons serving as pallbearers included Greg Burgamy, Brad

Burgamy, Jeffrey Powell, Jonathan Foster, Jason Foster and Burgamy.

Honorary pallbearers included her grandson-in-law, Dunahoe; Dr. Doug Curran; Texas Baptist Men; and members and residents of Oakwood Place.

The family has suggested memorials be directed to the Academy or Henderson County Food Pantry.

To sign the guest register or leave a message of condolence, family visit carrolllehr.com.

Lyle H. Schrock

Services for Lyle H. Schrock, 56, of Rockwall were held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Aubrey Patterson officiating. He died Saturday, Sept. 5.

Born Oct. 16, 1952, in Battle Creek, Mich., to Clyde (Rogers) Schrock, he was a Rockwall resident for 29 years as past scoutmaster to Boy Scout Troop 989. He was a member in Mikanakawa Lodge 101 and enjoyed spending time at Philmont Scout Ranch, Florida Sea Base and Canoe Base. He enjoyed restoring cars and homes, and his family, spoiling his dogs and building furniture. He was vice president of engineering at Curtain Wall Design, Inc. of Dallas where he worked for more than 20 years.

Survivors include his wife, Sue Schrock of Rockwall; Dean Schrock, and his wife, Nikki, of Stillwater, Okla.; Nicole Bartosh, and her husband, T.J., of Temple; and one sister.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a twin brother, and his stepmother, Geri.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the American Heart Association.

Ella Winston

Services for Ella Lurene Bussell Botner Winston, 82, were held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Burial followed in the Seymour Cemetery in Hopkins County.

She died Sunday, Sept. 6, in Dallas.

Born Aug. 23, 1927, to Alvo Bussell and Velma Thornhill Bussell in rural Wood County, she was employed with the Vought Corp. for 33 years. She attended the University of Commerce and the University of Texas at Arlington. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Rockwall.

Survivors include three brothers, of Lovington, N.M., Don Bussell of Yantis and Andrew Bussell of Yantis; Joyce, of Yantis; two sisters, Imogene Allmar of Rockwall and Joy Hrobak and her husband, Bob, of Austin; and many nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; an infant brother, William Bussell; her sisters, Patricia Johnson and Velma Johnson; and her husband, John Winston.



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Romans 10:9

"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."
Proverbs 10:13

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Rockwall County Sports

Undefeated Yellowjackets prepare to battle defending state champs at Allen

Rockwall Yellowjackets vs. Allen Eagles
Friday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Allen Eagle Stadium
RHS 2-0, Allen 1-1.

Rockwall lost junior kickoff returner and wide receiver Ben Smith last week's 31-28 home victory over Rowlett. Jackets head coach Adam Dingwell said tight end Kyle Crawford, who left that game because of a knee injury, would be a game-time decision. Outside linebacker Caleb Taylor, who was sidelined by a knee injury last week, is expected to play. Allen leads the all-time series 10-5. That includes wins the last two years when Rockwall played the Eagles tough. The margins of victory were 10-7 in 2006, to a 35-27 decision at Allen in '07 to Allen's 24-6 win when the Eagles pulled away from a 14-6 halftime lead.

Allen is the 5A Division I champion. "It's what they do, and they do it well," Smith said. "On defense they're returning from last year. Their down linemen are back. They're playing a cover-2 and don't give up anything deep."

Allen has the luxury of two senior quarterbacks. Matt Brown came of age as a sophomore two years ago. When he was injured for the playoffs, Taylor Carter guided the Eagles to the championship. Carter has been Allen's leading rusher, totaling 191 yards, and passer in the first two games. He ran for three touchdowns and Carter threw the other two in the Eagles' 35-21 victory last week over Prepa in Torrey, Mexico.

"I probably see both of them," Smith said. "I've taken the opposite approach from Rockwall in non-district games. The 4A Jackets are playing all 5A opponents, but Allen isn't playing 5A teams until district play begins."

Allen's loss came when four turnovers helped Longview turn a 17-0 deficit into a 28-25 upset.

Allen's defense dominated Rockwall. "It will be interesting to see

how much we've improved. Definitely, the experience for Adam Dingwell at quarterback can cause us to expect more. We've got three starters back on the offensive line."

In addition to protecting Dingwell, the line has opened holes for junior running back Josh Broach to score seven touchdowns, with more than 100 rushing yards in each game.



RHS cheerleaders, drill team and football team celebrate last Friday night's victory over Rowlett as the RHS band leads the after-game tradition with their fans. The Yellowjackets win was the team's first game in the newly renovated Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium. The Jackets travel to Allen tonight to face the defending state champions.
Photo by Renee Ramirez/Rockwall County News

RHS boys, girls win Plano cross country meet

Rockwall won both the boys' and girls' 4A divisions Saturday at the Plano-Marcus Invitational at Plano Jasper High School.

Thorne Pettigrew and Jacob Phillips finished 1-2 as the Yellowjackets placed five runners in the top 10 and totaled 29 points for first place.

Pettigrew finished in 16 minutes, 36 seconds - 2:41 faster than he had run in finishing 31st over the same course as a freshman last year. Phillips knocked almost a minute off his time to finish in 16:52.

Following them across the line were Sam Grinnin, seventh in 17:31; Nathaniel Robinson, ninth in 17:36, and Derrick Yuen, 10th in 17:49. Also finishing the varsity race were Bennett Farley, 19th in 19:31, and Zach Kuntz, 30th in 20:18.

Head coach Toby Howell said, "Nathaniel Robinson is a senior who didn't run last year, but he's been doing real well."

In the girls' race, Kelli Hardenbrook finished first in 12:52, a 21-second improvement over her fourth-place time at Plano as a freshman. Sophomore Hallie Elledge and freshman Sheely Taylor were fourth and fifth in 13:16 and 13:17. Also scoring for the Lady Jackets were freshmen Joanna Gibbs (13:23) and Angie Boyd (13:24). Randi Soldat (13:40) and Caitlin White (13:50) also ran with Rockwall's first varsity.

Both RHS teams advanced to the Region II meet last season. Howell noted what he called a "population explosion" in the sport this year. "We have some very good freshmen, especially on the girls' side. We had 34

boys and 48 girls come out. Hopefully, with all of them we'll be able to find seven to run."

Twenty-one boys and 22 girls competed for RHS at Jasper.

The Lady Jackets won even though they were missing injured sophomore Marisa Valenzuela, who placed 15th in the 2008 Plano race, and promising freshman Kyndall Pirkey.

Howell said, "Our freshmen got thrown in pretty quickly last year. We have better freshmen this year than last year."

One is a girl he noticed last year at Williams Middle School, where Howell teaches.

"She came in about last December from Wisconsin. I talked her into running last spring. I wouldn't be surprised if she does 11:30."

Ross didn't run as part of the varsity at Plano, but turned in a time of 12:47, which would have won the varsity competition.

The Jackets' next race will be Saturday's North Mesquite Stampede at Samuel Park.

Strong finish at Santa Fe tourney sends RHS into district volleyball play

Two strong tournament showings helped boost the Rockwall volleyball team back near .500 for the non-district portion of its schedule.

Next up is a tough start to the district schedule. On Friday at 6:30 p.m., the Lady Jackets will host Highland Park, which reached the Region 11-4A finals last season. The Lady Scots are off to a 15-7 start in 2009.

RHS won three of five matches in the Frisco Tournament Aug. 28 and 29. After losing at home to Mesquite Horn 25-22, 25-21, 25-13 on Monday, Aug. 31, the Lady Jackets had a busy weekend in South Texas. That trip included a surprisingly strong finish in the Santa Fe Tournament.

Said Rockwall head coach Damon Wilson, "We had a solid showing in the Frisco Tournament."

Last weekend, the Lady Jackets played without All-District performer Maggie Brindock, leaving them without any players from last year's team that finished third in District 10-4A.

"We were forced to play without Maggie Brindock, who is nursing an ailing shoulder. The team responded and finished fourth, one place higher than the team finished last year at the Santa Fe Tournament. This was a surprising result, and one we hope will serve as a springboard into district play."

In Brindock's absence, junior setter Loren Kelly stepped up. She was named to the All-Tournament team.

Say You Saw It In "The County News"

- ### Rockwall Yellowjackets' schedule
- Sept. 11 - Varsity tennis: vs. Lake Highlands, Chandlers Landing Tennis Club, 4 p.m.
 - Home vs. Highland Park, JV and freshman A 5:30 p.m. and freshman B 6:30 p.m.
 - Football: at Allen, Allen Eagle Stadium, 7:30 p.m.
 - Sept. 12 - Cross country: at North Mesquite Stampede, Samuel Park.
 - Football: at Birdville JV Tournament
 - Sept. 15 - Volleyball: home vs. Carrollton R.L. Turner, JV and varsity and freshman B 6:30 p.m.
 - Sept. 17 - JV White football: home vs. Mesquite Horn, Sanders Stadium, 5:30 p.m.
 - Football: home vs. Plano Jasper, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, 7:30 p.m.
 - Football: vs. Plano Jasper at Plano Clark, B 5 p.m. and A 7 p.m.
- ### Utley Wolves' schedule
- Sept. 15 - Football: home vs. Wylie McMillan, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, B 5:30 p.m. and A 7 p.m.
 - Sept. 17 - 8th grade volleyball: at Wylie McMillan, C 5:30 p.m. and A 7:30 p.m.
- ### Williams Wildcats' schedule
- Sept. 15 - 8th grade football: home vs. Lovejoy, B 6 p.m. and A 7:30 p.m.
 - Football: at Lovejoy, B 6 p.m. and A 7:30 p.m.
 - Sept. 17 - 7th grade volleyball: home vs. Allen Ford, C 5:30 p.m. and A 7:30 p.m.
 - Football: at Allen Ford, C 5:30 p.m., B 6:30 p.m. and A 7:30 p.m.

Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors ace Fort Worth Calvary Saturday

Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors vs. Fort Worth Calvary Conquerors
Saturday, Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m.
McNair Stadium, All-Saints Episcopal School, Fort Worth
RCA 0-2, Calvary Christian 0-1.

Rockwall Christian's all-state linebacker, Cody Wallace, has a chance to kick off during the first two games. Head coach Caleb Palmer said on defense this week. "Whether it's for two possessions or more, having Cody will help us," Palmer said. Calvary could be missing quarterback, who's recovering from sports-hernia surgery.

Last year Calvary Christian defeated the Warriors 41-18 in a game that ended in a wild fourth quarter when 38 points were scored.

Calvary Christian had plenty of opportunity to scout the Warriors last week. It had the week off because Watauga Harvest Christian was in a game against the Fort Worth school. In its only game, Calvary defeated the Woodlands Christian, 40-20.

"The scouts saw Rockwall Christian lose 35-20 at Muenster Sacred Heart and it was a Warriors team much improved over their 28-6 opening game at Harvest Christian.

"We were excited after a loss, but we made such strides from our first game to the second," Palmer said. "Muenster Sacred Heart will walk away with a stretch of 3 1/2 minutes before halftime, when Sacred Heart scored two touchdowns to wipe out a 14-0 deficit, RCA played the Muenster game."

Heritage Christian Eagles' schedule

- Sept. 12 - Varsity football: vs. Bulverde bracken Christian at 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 14 - Middle school volleyball: at Parish Episcopal, 4:30 p.m.
- Sept. 15 - Volleyball: at McKinney Christian, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
- Football: at Good Shepherd, 4:30 p.m.
- Sept. 16 - Middle school volleyball: at Shelton, 4:30 p.m.
- Sept. 17 - Volleyball: home vs. Rockwall Christian, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Rockwall Christian Warriors' schedule

- Sept. 12 - Varsity football: at Fort Worth Calvary Christian, McNair Stadium, All-Saints Episcopal School, 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 15 - Varsity volleyball: at Greenville Christian
- Sept. 17 - Volleyball: at Heritage Christian, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Stephan Turner led the Warriors' offense. Palmer said, "We planned on using him for 70-75 per cent of the snaps at quarterback. But when he played receiver, they had three guys bracket him. So he took about 90 per cent of the snaps."

The defense improved in part because RCA moved Sherman Peoples back to outside linebacker and Randy Castaneda from defensive end to middle linebacker. Castaneda also moved on offense from center to tackle, with Joey Rousset playing well at center.

The Conquerors literally run their offense. Against The Woodlands, they gained 260 rushing yards and just 55 passing. Calvary attempted five passes and completed only one, with freshman Sam Plotkowski throwing to Leon Baker for a touchdown.

Joe South carried 17 times for 198 yards, and scored a TD and a two-point conversion.

2009 Radio/Webcast Football Schedule

Date	Radio	Webcast
09/11	Hawks vs. Arlington Seguin	Jackets @ Allen
09/18	Hawks @ Hillcrest	Hawks @ Hillcrest
(Jackets Open)		
09/25	Jackets @ Royse City	Hawks vs Greenville
10/02	Hawks vs Jackets	Hawks vs Jackets
10/08	Jackets @ Turner	Jackets @ Turner
10/09	Hawks @ Newman-Smith	Hawks @ Newman-Smith
10/15	Jackets vs J.J. Pearce	Jackets vs J.J. Pearce
10/16	Hawks vs Royse City	Hawks vs Royse City
(Homecoming)		
10/23	Hawks @ J.J. Pearce	Hawks @ J.J. Pearce
10/24	Jackets @ Newman-Smith	Jackets @ Newman-Smith
10/29	Hawks vs Turner	Hawks vs Turner
10/30	Jackets vs Highland Park	Jackets vs Highland Park
(Homecoming)		
11/06	Hawks @ Highland Park	Jackets @ Greenville

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Rockwall County Sports

Rockwall-Heath Hawks will try to even record against winless Arlington Seguin

by Matt McGillen

It must be an usual feeling for the Rockwall-Heath Hawks. Having suffered defeat only once all last year, and that one coming after 13 straight wins, the Hawks have equaled last year's loss total in just one game, falling 40-31 at Sherman in their season opener. Heath will look to even its record when it plays its first game in the newly-renovated Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium tonight against 0-2 Arlington Seguin in another non-district game. The Hawks, who were unable to hold 14-0 and 31-24 leads against the Bearcats, should have an easier time with the Cougars, who lost to 5A Wylie 42-27 in their most recent game.

Seguin fell behind 35-0 before making the score respectable in the second half behind three touchdown passes from quarterback Dorsey Griffin, who ended the game 14-for-29 for 227 yards and one pick. The Cougars don't have much of running game, as Dorsey was also the leading rusher with a paltry 29 yards on 14 carries. For the Hawks, who beat Seguin last year 24-8 in a sloppy game that featured seven Heath fumbles and the two teams combining for 27 penalties for 282 yards, they will feature the one-two combo of Jesse Irokwe and Dorian Lawry. Irokwe had 95 yards on 13 carries with two scores, while Lawry added 63 yards on 10 carries and a rushing touchdown as well as a dazzling 99-yard kickoff return for a score against Sherman. At quarterback, Kevin Rogers had a decent debut, connecting on 15-of-35

passes for 216 yards, but was picked off late in the game on a 40-yard interception return for a touchdown. Who: Arlington Seguin vs. Rockwall-Heath Where: Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium When: Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m. Records: Seguin 0-2, coming off a 42-27 loss to Wylie 40-31 to Sherman When Heath has the ball: Jesse Irokwe had 95 yards on 13 carries and two scores. Dorian Lawry had 10 carries for 63 yards and a scoring kickoff return for a TD. Kevin Rogers was 15-for-35 for 216 yards and one interception. When Seguin has the ball: QB Dorsey Griffin is 20-for-29 for 227 yards and one interception. Injuries: none reported

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RC Bulldogs look to snap losing skid at home against Frisco Wakeland Wolverines

by Matt McGillen

Looking to avoid their third consecutive loss, going back to last year's first-round playoff defeat, the Roysie City Bulldogs entertain the Frisco Wakeland Wolverines tonight at Roysie City ISD Stadium. The Bulldogs (0-1) came up a couple feet short in their opener, falling to

Atlanta 27-26 when their two-point conversion was stopped inside of the one-yard line with less than two minutes to play. Wakeland (1-0), meanwhile, started its season with a 35-25 win over Saginaw. In last year's meeting, Wakeland escaped with a 31-24 win when a Roysie City pass fell incomplete in the end zone as time expired, ending a furious Bulldog rally from 14 points down late in the fourth quarter. Only a few key players return for either team from last year's contest, which saw both quarterbacks throw for over 300 yards. Back for Wakeland will be a pair of seniors, running back David Robason, who had 138 yards on 21 carries against Saginaw, and wide receiver Dallas Grier, who had five catches for 78 yards in the win. In 2008, Robason had 26 yards on 14 runs while Grier had five receptions for 100 yards against RC. For the Bulldogs, only Ryan Fedric remains from the major offensive players. Fedric, who had 86 yards rushing and 78 receiving and two scores in the loss to Atlanta, is the only returning backfield starter for the Bulldogs. He had three catches for 53 yards and seven rushes for 90 yards in the 2008 game with the Wolverines. Calling the signals for the Wakeland will be junior Tyler Kirkindoll, who completed 14 of 21 passes for 172 yards with two touchdowns and one interception against Saginaw. His counterpart for the Bulldogs will be Corbin Preston, who finished 12 for 20 for 134 yards and one interception, as well as a 31-yard scoring pass to Fedric against Atlanta.

Who: Frisco Wakeland vs. Roysie City Where: RC ISD Stadium When: 7:30 Sept 11 Records: Wakeland (1-0) beat Saginaw 35-25, RC (0-1) lost to Atlanta 27-26. When Wakeland has the ball: QB Tyler Kirkindoll was 14-for-21 for 172 yards and two TDs. RB David Robason had 138 yards on 21 rushes and five catches for 78 yards. When RC has the ball: Ryan Fedric had 86 yards rushing and two scores in loss to Atlanta. Injuries: None reported

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Lady Eagles start district play next week

Thursday's volleyball match at Episcopal School of Dallas was the Heritage Christian Academy varsity's last until the Lady Eagles begin TAPPS District 4-2A play. HCA will play two 10-4A rivals next week. The Lady Eagles will travel to McKinney Christian Tuesday and host Rockwall Christian Thursday. On both days, the junior varsity match is scheduled for 5 p.m. and the featured varsity match for 6 p.m. Heritage Christian's comeback fell short against Dallas First Baptist Thursday, Sept. 3. After losing 25-9 and 25-16 in the first two games, the Lady Eagles took First Baptist into overtime for a 26-24 third-game loss. That defeat left HCA's record at 4-11-2.



The Rockwall-Heath HS JV cheerleaders revved up the crowd at the JV Hawks game of the season against Sherman on Thursday, Sept. 3. Shown in the stunt are (Left to Right) Meagan Naegele, Bases Holley Noe, Savannah Smith and Kaylea Wisner, and (Right to Left) Alexis Roland, Bases Tara Woessner, Paige Richerson and Elliott Amick. The JV Hawks next play Hillcrest High School at 6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 17, at home. Photo Courtesy of Krissy Edwards/Rockwall County News

Fulton seeks first win against Weatherford Christian

Hurt by injuries and a lack of consistent offense the Fulton Bulldogs hope to break into the win column tonight when they travel to Weatherford Christian at 7:30 p.m. Fulton (0-2) played well in a 26-7 season opening loss to Tarrant County at Mineral Wells. The loss to Mineral Wells was painful in more ways than one, as the Bulldogs lost two of their starters to injury. Running back Milan Rabah pulled his hamstring and missed the game while quarterback Brett Steffen injured his thumb with a stat during the game. Who: Fulton vs. Weatherford Where: Weatherford Christian When: Sept. 11, 7:30 Record: Fulton 0-2, lost to Mineral Wells 47-0. Injuries: Fulton - Rabah (hamstring) will not play. Steffen (thumb) is questionable.

Swept away: CMS volleyball team all 12 games against Wylie Cooper

All six Cain Middle School seventh and eighth-grade volleyball swept their matches against Wylie Cooper Sept. 3. For the eighth grade, the A team won 25-9, 25-10, the B team and the C team 25-11, 25-6. Leading the A team were, Claire Carpenter who made 11 out of 14 serves and Lauren Parker, who made 10 out of 11 passes and Regina Tillis eight kills in eight attempts. For the B team, Savannah Calhoun made 14 out of 14 serves and Rose made 10 out of 11 serves. On the C team it was Madison Dyer making 13 out of 15 serves with Kaitlyn Jones making 14 serves. The seventh graders won by scores of: A team, 25-21, 25-13; B team, 25-12 and C team, 25-15, 25-10.

Heath/Cain schedule

Sept 11
RHHS Tennis @ Lake Highlands

HS 4:45 pm
RHHS Varsity Football vs. Arlington Seguin @ Sanders Stadium 7:30 p.m.
Volleyball @ R.I. Turner Sept. 12
RHHS Cross Country vs. Stallion Stampedo at Mesquite, Sept. 13
RHHS Freshman Volleyball vs. McKinney Christian Sept 15
CMS Football vs. Ford MS 6:30 p.m.
Rockwall-Heath vs. CMS 8th B/A at Ford MS 6:30 p.m.
RHHS Tennis vs. Newmarket Sept 17
RHHS Volleyball vs. Smith @ Rockwall-Heath 5:30/6:30, 9th at Rockwall-Heath

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chool Varsity Cheerleaders sta
by gathering for breakfast a
a group called Gameday God'
(Gameday God's Way was con
most residents Ken and Cheryl Moo
ness and, after completing the
4-21 hospitality and Ken, the gift o
VR Club having a weekly bible study
together.

Joan Te
ates ar
the Arts
run a school district that
Dr. Joan Terry, Assistant Su
School District, a very busy
ditional project, it has to b
the case recently when she vo
work for the Rockwall Cou
for the second year in a
Dr. Terry worked with Re
in watercolor technique. Th
stickies and bluebonnets, took
motivated to assist the Allian
ness of the role of the arts
Funding for arts, globally,
maintain the quality and quan
men," she said.
Dr. Terry's bluebonnet mas
needs from the sale have bee
helps for Rockwall ISD and
from the evening's event w
Rockwall Children's Chor
Playhouse, Rockwall Artist Le
and Lakeside Civic Chorus.
A gala is scheduled for Satur
For more information visit

Tues