



**SPORTS**

**Smokin' Ace**  
Heath pitcher leads Lady Hawks' climb up District 10-4A ladder

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No. 13

Thursday, March 27, 2008

50 Cents

**County seeks \$100 million in road bonds**

By KENT MILLER  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

It's become an all-too-common topic of conversation, be it in local political campaigns or the corner coffee shop - what to do about the road and traffic problems plaguing Rockwall County.

The Rockwall County Commissioners Court took a big first step toward addressing the problems March 25 in a regularly scheduled meeting, unanimously agreeing to seek voter approval to issue \$100 million in bonds for the expansion and improvement of the county's most highly traveled roadways.

Rockwall County Judge Chris Florance said estimates of booming growth dictated that

“The [commissioners] court voted to ensure that the roadway infrastructure will be sufficient to address that growth.”

Chris Florance  
County Judge



commissioners take decisive action as soon as possible.

“Rockwall County's population is currently at approximately 80,000. Within 15 years the county is projected to grow to approximately 300,000 residents,” Florance said. “The [commissioners] court voted to take a leadership role to ensure that the roadway infrastructure will be sufficient to address that growth.”

According to recent figures released by the U.S. Census Bureau, Rockwall County is the fifth-fastest growing county in the nation with a growth rate of 8.2 percent from July 2006 to July 2007 but the North Central Texas Council of Governments put the estimated growth at a more modest rate of 2.3 percent from January 2007 to January 2008.

The county's current population, according to the NCTCOG, is 76,450.

**Contacting the County News**

Submit stories, photos, and letters to the editor at rockwallcountynews.com, or e-mail to the following:

Contact publisher Bill Jordan, e-mail publisher@rockwallcountynews.com.

To contact managing editor Kent Miller, e-mail editor@rockwallcountynews.com.

To contact community reporter, e-mail rockwallcountynews.com. Contact sports editor Cliff e-mail sports@rockwallcountynews.com.

Contact the RCN by phone, (972) 722-3099. Send fax submissions to (972) 524-8083.

**Clarification**

March 20 RCN article, which attributed indirectly HOAs as having irregularities and irregularities including ... voting fraud - and said most HOAs experienced similar irregularities.

It maintains he did not use the words “voting fraud and irregularities.”

Following are Scott's remarks from the March 17 city meeting:

“You know the community probably going to do its vote the folks out, so that they're talking about which would also be a pretty close to a first - in the voting rights of who hasn't paid this assessment before our next election April 13. It gives them a built-in ability to keep lives on the board.”

**Roundtown**

**Lunch Bunch**

Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 2 at Italian Cafe. Cost is \$10 includes lunch, beverage, and tip. Open to all area Republicans. Leon Tuttle, (972) 771-6874.

**Volunteer Tutors**

Rockwall County Library's Reading for Adults program volunteers to help adults learn to read, prepare for citizenship exam, prepare for and to practice conversational skills in English. Training from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 12. Tutoring is Monday through Saturday mornings Tuesday and Thursday evenings. (972) 204-7705

**Men's Fellowship**

Water Community Church's men's fellowship will host a Super Bowl champion speaker from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Saturday, April 5. stillwatercommunitychurch.org.

**Get Organized!**

Rockwall Preschool Association will welcome speaker Elaine Brock of “Get Organized” at 9 a.m. Friday, April 4 from C200 of Lake Pointe Church. www.rockwallpreschoolassociation.com

**The Great Race**



Amy Parks-Heath Elementary student **Chandler Glidewell** races against Principal **Dan Crawford** earlier this month during a fifth-grade talent show at the school.

**Sumrow gets four years in prison**

Longtime county prosecutor appeals felony conviction

By TEREASA NIMS  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

DALLAS - Rockwall County District Attorney Ray Sumrow, 58, found himself on the other side of the law March 24 as he was led from a Dallas courtroom in handcuffs after he was convicted of stealing public money.

Although Sumrow was sentenced on March 25 to four years in prison, he has a reprieve during his pending appeal. Sumrow's defense attorney, James Wheeler, immediately filed it after his client's conviction. Sumrow also posted a \$10,000 appeal bond, which keeps him out of jail until his appeal is decided.

A jury convicted Sumrow of theft by a public servant and record tampering in connection with his purchasing computer equipment with county funds, reimbursing himself for trips he didn't take and buying airline tickets for his girlfriend via the fund.

Sumrow told the court last week that he kept the money from two trips he didn't take, but that he didn't



Ray Sumrow

**Week of early voting for runoffs set to start**

By MARCUS FUNK  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Early voting for the Precinct 3 county commissioner runoff election begins next week but will follow slightly different procedures than the regular Texas primary.

State law stipulates a five-day early voting period before runoff elections. This year, that period begins March 31 and lasts until April 4. In Rockwall County, early voting will take place at three locations - Heath City Hall at 200 Laurence St., the Royce City Police and Courts Building at 100 W. Main St. and the Rockwall County Elections Office at 107 E. Kaufman St. in Rockwall. Early voting will take place from 8



Bailey



Puckett

a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Both parties have a runoff election on the ballot. Republicans registered in Precinct 3 will decide between commissioner candidates Dennis Bailey and Randy Puckett, and Democrats

across Texas will decide between railroad commissioner candidates Dale Henry and Mark Thompson.

Eligibility to vote in a runoff election is more restrictive than a general primary, said Elections Administrator Glenda Denton. Party registration is still not required in Texas, but you may only vote in one party primary per election cycle - meaning anyone who voted in the Democratic primary on March 4 cannot vote in a Republican runoff, and vice versa.

Residents who did not vote at all in the primary election may vote in either runoff.

SEE RUNOFFS ON PAGE 2A

SEE SUMROW ON PAGE 2A

**IDOL UPDATE**

**Castro stays alive in 'Idol' top nine**

By BRITNEY TABOR  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

He may have been put under a little extra stress by ending up in the bottom three for the first time - a spot he said on the live telecast that he had predicted - but in the end, “American Idol” fans gave Rockwall resident Jason Castro a surprising yet belated birthday gift March 26 after submitting enough votes to keep him in the running

to become the 2008 winner of the show.

Castro, the second singer of the night, returned to the “Idol” stage with guitar in hand to perform Sting's 1987 song “Fragile” on March 25, his 21st birthday, amid not so rave reviews from judges. In a show themed with selections from the year contestants were born, Randy Jackson called the blue-eyed singer's performance “a very good choice of song” but nothing

different from what he's done week after week vocally. Jackson also indicated that he thought Castro added a nice touch singing a portion of the song in Spanish and found the performance “nice and pleasant” but was still looking for more.

“I'm still waiting to see that jump-out vocal performance, but it was nice,” Jackson said. Paula Abdul said that while

SEE IDOL ON PAGE 3A



Rockwall County News/COURTESY-AMERICANIDOL.COM

Rockwall resident **Jason Castro** found himself in the bottom three for the first time but advanced to the top 9 when results were announced March 26 on “American Idol.”



# Sumrow

From Page 1A

ask to be reimbursed for later trips.

When it came to the charges of forgery and record tampering, the jury deadlocked 11-1 in favor of convicting Sumrow. State District Judge John Nelms declared mistrials on both charges.

For the time being, Craig Stoddart, Rockwall County first assistant district attorney, will take the reins of the prosecutor's office.

Prior to sentencing, Sumrow pleaded for probation. During the sentencing, Nelms told Sumrow he didn't think he was a bad person and that sometimes good people do bad things. He also told the now suspended DA that he was sure Sumrow sent people to prison for far less than the charges against him.

Sumrow claimed his poor record keeping landed him in court. Still, Sumrow

said he didn't take anything from Rockwall County.

"The first assistant, at this point, is going to take over until there is some resolution, either the appeals process is exhausted or Ray officially resigns," said Rockwall County Judge Chris Florence. "Now, the presiding judge over the case could have appointed someone if he so chose to, but he can also allow the first assistant to continue, which he is doing."

Florence said that if Sumrow's case is resolved before the general election, the executive committee of the Republican and Democratic parties has the opportunity to put someone on that ballot. If it goes past the August date, then the governor would have to appoint someone to the position, which would last until 2010.

Stoddart was at the center of the investigation into Sumrow.

Sumrow allegedly forged Stoddart's signature on two checks. Stoddart testified he notified authorities of the

forgery, which started the investigation of Sumrow. During testimony, Stoddart said he didn't give anyone permission to sign his name. He also said he didn't want Sumrow prosecuted, but he should be if he committed the crime.

A second trial on an additional theft charge in Rockwall for diverting state money into a personal account that had been scheduled for April has been moved to June 2. That charge alleges that Sumrow used the DA's "fee fund" as a personal slush fund. Money in the fund is generated from fees collected from hot check writers. It is to be used for office employee salaries, office supplies and equipment.

Collin County Assistant District Attorney John Schomburger, who prosecuted the case, cannot speak because of pending cases.

Sumrow also faces abuse of official capacity charges in Travis County but a trial date has not been set.

# Commissioners rescind burn ban, proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month

By KENT MILLER  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Racing officials call it a false start. Tuesday at the Rockwall County Courthouse could be referred to as a Chinese fire drill after someone accidentally scheduled the bi-weekly commissioners court meeting at the same time as jury selection for a criminal trial in the same courtroom.

Once they were able to get down to business, commissioners worked quickly through the planned agenda, rescinding the outdoor burn ban that had been in effect since Jan. 15 and approving a pair of items dealing with child abuse.

Citing action already taken in the neighboring counties of Kaufman and Greenville, County Fire Marshal Wesley Roberts told commissioners that recent rains have improved conditions that might otherwise lead to the spread of outdoor grass fires in unincorporated areas of the county.

"Hopefully, citizens [of the county] will be mindful of the winds," Roberts said.

Commissioners also issued a proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and OK'd the placement of a temporary display recognizing the more

than 100 children who suffer abuse or neglect in Rockwall County each year.

Lone Star CASA representative Lucille Bell said the display would be located at the Government Center and consist of a pair of shoes representing each child in the

county's foster care program each year. She said which represents children Rockwall and Kaufman counties, would hold a candle vigil April 1 at the County Courthouse in conjunction of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

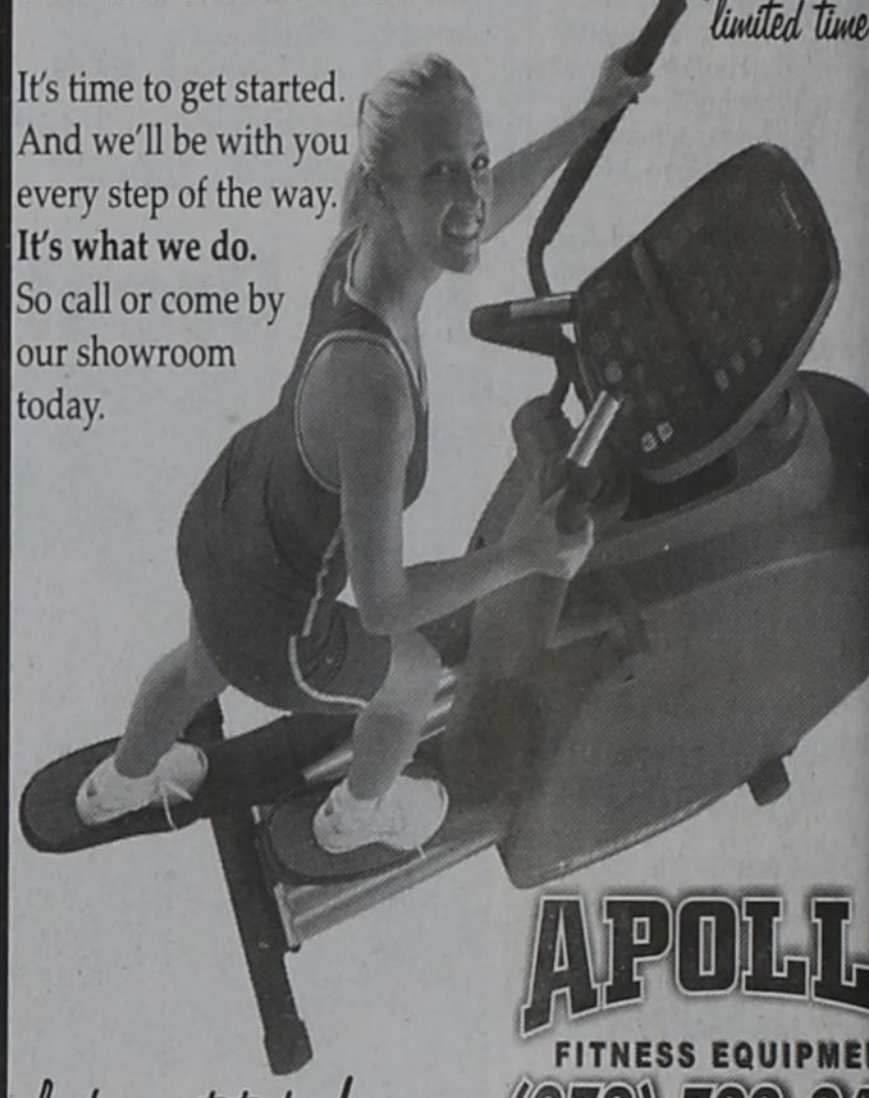
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# Runoffs

From Page 1A

Only residents of Precinct 3 will be allowed to vote in the commissioner runoff but they may vote in any of the three early voting precincts.

Puckett and Bailey said they are optimistic about the election and are encouraging supporters to return to the polls next week and during the April 8 runoff. Both said motivating turnout for a second election will be challenging, but both are confident they will succeed.

"Were getting our sup-

porters back engaged, and I feel optimistic that we'll be able to turn out the vote again," Bailey said. "It's difficult to get people back to the polls again but on the other hand, we feel like we can get our supporters back."

Bailey was first in the original primary with 809 votes and 46 percent of the total, followed by Puckett with 543 votes and 31 percent. Leon Tuttle placed third with 22 percent.

"I think the campaign has gone great," Puckett said. "I think it's going to be hard to get everybody back to vote since there's only one race on the ballot, but hopefully they'll come back

out to support me and we'll get it done."

A runoff was necessary because none of the candidates received a majority of the votes.

The incumbent, Bruce Beaty, is not seeking reelection and no Democrats have filed for the seat.

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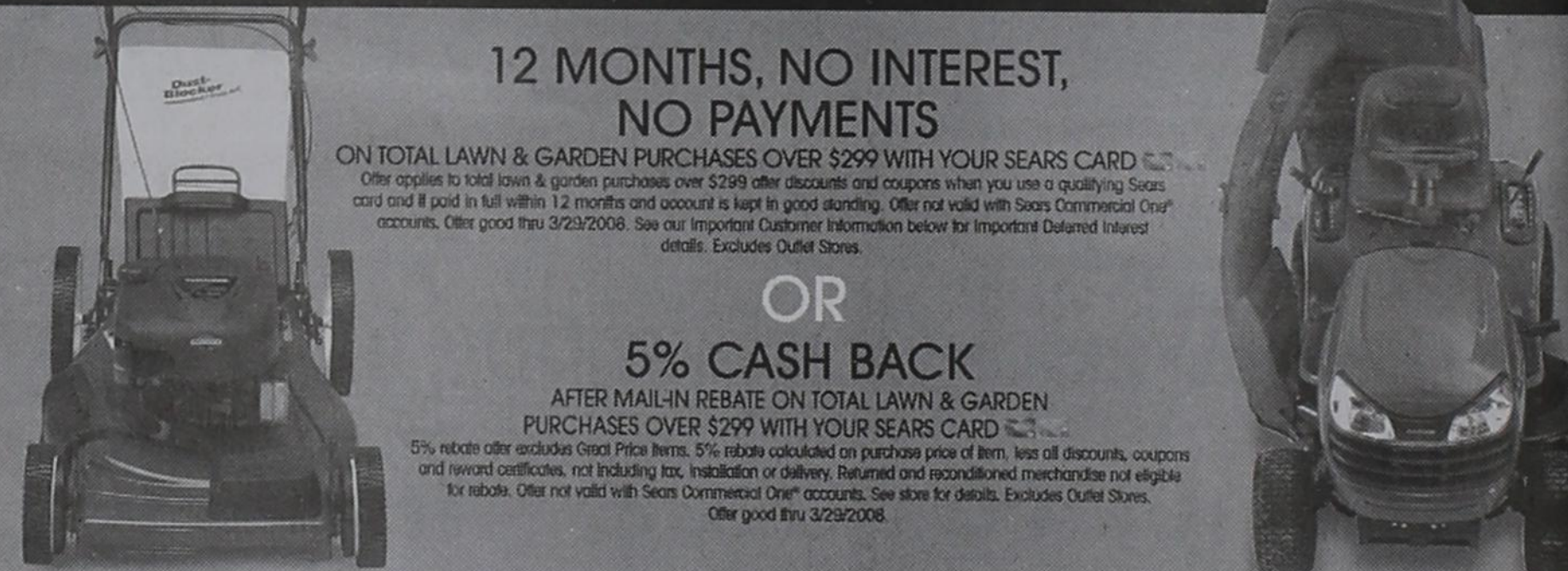
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This Page

# County growth rate depends on who you ask

MARCUS FUNK  
rockwallcountynews.com

Rockwall County is growing by leaps and bounds, according to estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau and the North Texas Council of Governments. Both agencies at Rockwall County Texas are growing at the speed of that up for debate.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Rockwall County is the fifth-fastest-growing county in the nation from July 2006 to July 2007. The local population grew 5,615 residents, from 73,810 to 79,425, for a rate of 7.6 percent.

The national census bureau measures populations in July. The distinction could be a reflection of an economic downturn that

gained momentum last fall. Another part of that distinction is methodical. The census bureau judges population based on calculated population trends such as birth rates, death rates and estimated migration patterns, according to information released with the statistics. The NCTCOG bases its estimates on building permit and construction data along with housing and occupancy rates.

"Overall, our total populations are higher than the census bureau figures, and that's mostly a methodology difference," Dankesreiter said. "We may actually show the economic slowdown more in our numbers than they do since we're measuring the building side."

The NCTCOG data also measured individual city populations. By their projections, about 41 percent of the county's population resides in Rockwall,

or 31,200 residents in 2007. Rockwall was the largest city and slowest grower by a significant amount - 21,450 residents separated it from Royse City while Fate's 9.1 percent growth rate dwarfed Rockwall's 1.1 percent.

Royse City was second in population and growth, with 14,550 residents in 2007 and a growth rate of 3.6 percent. Heath had 6,500 residents and 3.1 percent growth while McLendon-Chisholm had 1,600 residents and a 3.2 percent growth rate.

"The growth has not surprised us. This was coming and everybody has known it, so what we're trying to do is prepare for it," said Chris Florance, Rockwall County judge. "We just approved a new \$100 million bond offering in the next general election for area roadways, so we're doing all we can to keep up with it."

Castro is remaining true to himself, she shares the same sentiments as Jackson and believes Castro hasn't done anything new to makes judges go 'wow,' Jason did something different that we either love or we don't like," she said.

"You're kind of just playing it a little safe in your zone, but that's you know, that's who you are and I applaud," Abdul told Castro after his performance.

Simon Cowell concluded judging critiques indicating that for the past two weeks Castro has given bad performances. Cowell said Castro's performance of "Fragile" "was the equivalent of someone basking outside a subway station," and suggested that the singer start taking the contest more seriously.

"The way that you played the guitar on the track was clumsy. Everything about it

## Castro

From Page 1A

was too laid back, too much in your own world, and you are somebody Jason, as you proved when you sang 'Hallelujah,' who's potentially, even may be a winner, but you're not going to win if you keep doing that week after week," Cowell told Castro.

After judging critiques concluded Idol host Ryan Seacrest followed up with Castro asking him if he's taking the contest seriously, and the singer replied with a somewhat lackadaisical reply of "yeah." He followed that answer up agreeing with Cowell that his performance was "a little bit sloppy" but reassured Seacrest that he's "for sure" in the contest.

Castro will continue on to the next round of "Idol" on April 1, competing against the eight other remaining contestants at 7 p.m. followed by a one-hour results show April 2 on Dallas television station FOX 4, KDFW-TV. For more information on Castro, visit [www.americanidol.com](http://www.americanidol.com).

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The mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."  
Proverbs 18:7

Every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Bless ye the Lord."  
Psalm 150:6

## FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

### TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

**The Fall of Jericho**  
Joshua 6

The first city in the land of Canaan to be taken by the Israelites was Jericho.

The Lord instructed Joshua to march around Jericho with his armed men once a day for six days with seven priests carrying ram's horns in front of the Ark of the Covenant.

The Lord continued, "On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in."

The people did as instructed each day for six days and on the seventh day they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times. The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city."

The people shouted and when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.

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Psalm 38:15

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Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Former CERT class members in action. CERT is a two-day, hands-on training event taught by Rockwall firefighters and EMS personnel. Residents learn how to become a member of the Rockwall Emergency Response Team. Applications are being accepted for the next class on May 3 and May 10.

## CERT to take applications

Applications are being accepted for the Community Emergency Response Team training classes for Rockwall residents from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 3 and May 10.

The two-day, hands-on training event teaches residents how to become a member of the Rockwall Emergency Response Team. Classes are taught by Rockwall firefighters and EMS personnel.

CERT teams provide help to people up to 72 hours following a disaster until a federal response team can arrive. They assist local first responders for everything from major disasters and finding lost children to fundraisers and volunteer outings.

"This is a great way to get to know your neighbors while being trained to help your community in times of need," said Tony Santoro, the fire department's educator and inspector/firefighter.

CERT classes meet at Fire Station No. 2, 920 Rockwall Parkway.

For more information, call Santoro at (972) 771-7770.

## Open Door debut April

April 6 will mark the debut of Open Door, First United Methodist Church's new contemporary worship service to be held at Rockwall High School.

The come-as-you-are Open Door service will be shepherded by Pastor the Rev. Valerie Engle. The service will feature contemporary worship music and other elements that are woven into the service.

Open Door services will be held at RHS's theatre at 9 Jacket Lane until the second floor Elizabeth Cameron Christian Education Building is completed at the campus at 1200 E. Yellow Jacket.

Referring to the additional opportunity to worship at 11 a.m., Engle said, "We hope all who enter the door will find a warm and welcoming service find welcome opportunity to encounter God."

First United Methodist Church Rockwall, a 1,900-member church founded in 1856 and is now serving its members in its third location.

## May 2-3 date for ACS Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society is in the planning stages of Rockwall County's annual Relay For Life on May 2-3 at Cain Middle School in Heath. Relay For Life is both the ACS' signature fundraising event and a celebration of life and hope for those battling the disease.

Relay has spread to more than 4,700 communities in the United States and 22 foreign countries. There will be approximately 50 Relay events in North Texas alone in 2008. Through these fundraising efforts, this overnight event raises an average of \$1 million a day for research, education, advocacy and service to eradicate cancer and make life easier for those diagnosed.

As a part of the Relay's festivities, local cancer survivors are invited to attend and will

be honored in the initial stages of the event followed by a reception and dinner. Check-in for the event will be from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the track at Cain Middle School and, as survivors, will receive a purple Relay For Life T-shirt.

After the opening by John Ratcliffe, mayor of Heath at 7 p.m., all survivors will be honored and asked to make the first lap of the Relay around the track. They will be joined by their caregivers for the second lap. Survivors will have an opportunity to send a message to their caregivers by writing on the large poster that will be placed on the fence of the track. Pictures will be taken around 7:20 p.m. Past participants have found this to be a very meaningful event in their fight against cancer.

At 7:30 p.m., survivors and

their caregivers are invited to attend a barbecue dinner catered by Eddie Deens in the cafeteria of Cain Middle School that faces the track. A speaker is planned for the dinner, there will be prize drawings for gift certificates donated by area merchants and an opportunity to sign the Survivor Banner that is passed from year to year at every Rockwall Relay. Survivors can also send a message

to their caregiver(s) by purchasing a river rock for \$5 at the "You are My Rock" table that will be set up in the cafeteria. Following dinner, all attendees are invited to continue the celebration back on the track.

If you are a cancer survivor and wish to attend, e-mail Mike Manning, Survivor co-chairman, at [mkmanning@txairmail.net](mailto:mkmanning@txairmail.net) or call (972) 965-5408.

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DALE LOCKWOOD... Dale Lockwood, age 51, of Rockwall, Texas, passed away on March 23, 2008. He was born May 7, 1929, in Roscoe, Mich. to Roscoe and Della (Blagg) Lockwood. He was an army veteran and a member of the Masonic Lodge. He lived many years in Rockwall, Texas, and had retired from the military. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Eudora, and several children. Burial will be in the Rockwall Memorial Park.

CHUYLEE RENICK... Chuylee Renick, age 51, of Rockwall, Texas, passed away on March 25, 2008. He was born in Yuma, Ariz., in 1956. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Eudora, and several children. Burial will be in the Rockwall Memorial Park.

GLENA SMITH SR... Glenna Smith Sr., of Rockwall, Texas, passed away on March 24, 2008. He was born in Normal, Ill., in 1939. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Eudora, and several children. Burial will be in the Rockwall Memorial Park.

SANDKN... Sandkn... is pleased to announce the passing of a dear friend. Burial will be in the Rockwall Memorial Park.

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## today's deaths

**DALE LOCKWOOD** Dale Lockwood, age 75 of Malakoff, Texas, away March 23, 2008. Born May 7, 1929, in Mich., to Roscoe la (Blagg) Lockwood. He lived many years and, had retired to g. Gifted with laugh- ve of life and gener- all, Dale had a spe- ration and love for his

He survived by daugh- erri Sprouse and hus- anny of Malakoff and lowers of Pittsburg; e Lockwood and wife Richardson; grand- i: Heather Roth, Am- er, Kristopher Flow- Tina Jones; brother: ockwood of Corning, great-grandchildren umerous nieces and s. He was preceded in y his parents and his 0 years, Eudora.

Family will receive from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. ay, March 25, 2008, Haven Funeral Home- ll Chapel to celebrate ife. Entombment will ater time in Garden of ausoleum in Rest Ha- morial Park.

**GUY LEE RENICK** Lee Renick, age 51 of ll, Texas, passed away 21, 2008. He was born 1956, in Yuma, Ariz., Joe and Tommie Lou on) Renick. Guy was ated father, husband on-in-law, who loved hrist and enjoyed at- Bible studies. He was doorsman, who en- unting and fishing.

He loved his dogs and ecept soccer. He was ate about AM Talk especially "The Great ark Levin and Rush igh. Guy was a mas- mber and owned and ed Renick Plumbing. a member of the First oly of God Church of

He is survived by his wife: enick and son: Neil of Rockwall; in-laws: and Dolores Beggs of ; sister-in-laws: Kathi and Melissa Peel of nephews: Sean Harris life Shaunda, Timothy Cole Shaffer, Lucas nd Dave Shaffer; and ephew: Carson Harris. s preceded in death by ents.

Services were held 10 a.m., y, March 24, 2008, at ssembly of God Church, ain St. in Lavon with idney Brandon offic- Interment followed in nan Cemetery, DeKalb,

**LEN A. SMITH SR.** Len A. Smith Sr., of Rock- ll, Texas, passed away 20, 2008. He was born ay 4, 1939, in Normal, Ill., rs and Marybelle (Mil- ith.

Len was the owner of Auto Leasing in Dallas, ny years until his retire- n September, 2005. In ay, 2007, he opened Smit- adhouse Bar & Grill in wall, which he owned perated until his death. s a race car driver all of e, racing in the 24 hours ans in France and reg- g the 1986 Formula At-

lantic Indy Car Rookie of the Year Award. Glen was a member of the Rockwall Breakfast Rotary Club, and was also a City of Rockwall Planning & Zoning Commissioner. He enjoyed living life to the fullest. Glen attended Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas.

He is survived by his wife: Peggy (Pannell) Smith; children: Kimberli Geissler Smith of Ft. Worth, Glen Allen Smith Jr. of Dallas and Katy Chesshir of Sachse; stepchildren: Cristina Hoff of Forney, and Joel Rhorer of Prairie Home, Missouri; granddaughter: Ashley Chesshir; sister: Jeanne Pratt of Trophy Club, Tex.; and brothers: Dale Smith of Indianapolis, Ind., and Larry Smith of Oklahoma City. Glen was preceded in death by his parents, and brother Don Smith.

Funeral services were held 2 p.m., Monday, March 24, 2008, at First Baptist Church, 610 S. Goliad, Rockwall, Tex., with Dr. Bob Reeves officiating. Interment followed in Rest Haven Memorial Park. The family received friends Sunday evening at the funeral home from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, 9400 N. Central Expressway, Suite 1201, Dallas, TX, 75231.

**MARY ELIZABETH PLOWMAN HABERKAMP** It is with both sadness and joy that we announce the passing of our dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Mary Elizabeth Plowman Haberkamp was born Nov. 26, 1909 and went to be with our Lord on Good Friday, March 21, 2008. Born in Angeline, Missouri to James and Susan Plowman, she spent over 98 years touching the lives of those around her.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 55 years Emil Haberkamp, three brothers: John, Herb and Bill and three sisters: Ruth Barton, Nora Berndt and Martha Stevens. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Patricia and Rocky Stout, grandson Bradford Stout, granddaughter and grandson-in-law Wendy and Henk Tilleman and the joy of her life, her great-

granddaughter Emile Tilleman plus many nieces, nephews and friends.

Mary and Emil lived in Illinois during the first years of their marriage and, after WWII, bought a farm in Summersville, Missouri. Many nieces and nephews would spend their summers on the farm and the house was always full of visiting family and friends.

Mary's innate goodness and concern for others was apparent to all who knew her. Her dedication to her family was a beauty in itself and Mary's love for God and His principles shone throughout her life. She quietly helped others in need and amazed people with her generosity and concern for others.

Mary enjoyed quilting, craftwork - especially things representing angels - and the good fellowship of her family and friends. Her welcome mat was always out for anyone who wanted to drop in for a visit and/or to share a meal of her delicious cooking.

During her later years, Mary was a brave soul who trusted the Lord to help her accomplish impossible goals during years of serious illness. Moreover, regardless of the physical limitations she developed, her mind remained sharp and clever. She was an inspiration to all who knew her and was known as the 'remarkable miracle lady' by her doctors. Mary always trusted that God would give her the strength and endurance to win the battles over her health against almost impossible odds.

Mary will be deeply missed and forever loved. Our beloved Mary is now reunited with Emil and her loved ones, walking with the angels and beholding the face of God!

Her funeral will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, March 27, 2008 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Plains, Missouri. Interment to follow at Howell Memorial Park, Pomona, Missouri.

A Memorial Web site has been established at: www.allenfamilyfuneraloptions.com. Follow the links to access Mary's obituary, life video and to leave a message for Mary and her family.



Some of the gala committee members (from top left) Celia Woloss, Lori Watts, Allison Deen, Betty Sauer, Shelly Urban, Nikki Nynas, Tiffany Olson, Julie Hollowell and Jessica Grundleman.

Rockwall County News / COURTESY

## RPA to hold benefit gala April 5

The Rockwall Preschool Association is encouraging area residents to buy tickets now for its charity fundraising event.

RPA's annual spring benefit gala will begin at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 5 with a "Back to the 80s in '08" theme. The event will include 80s icon costume contests, casino games and dinner, dancing and auction items. The location will be at the Hickory Street Annex on Second Avenue and Hickory Street in Dallas. Catering will be provided by Eddie Deen's Catering.

For ticket information or those interested in being a sponsor, call Julie Hollowell at (972) 722-8811 or Tiffany Olson at (972) 722-8077.

Rockwall Preschool Association moms have served the Lake Ray Hubbard area since 1985. The primary objective of RPA is fellowship and educational opportunities for mothers and their preschoolers. Membership is open to all Rockwall area mothers with children ages birth through kindergarten.

In 2007, RPA completed its most successful fundrais-

ing year, exceeded \$26,000. Beneficiaries of RPA's efforts in 2006-2007 included The Rainbow Room, Help-

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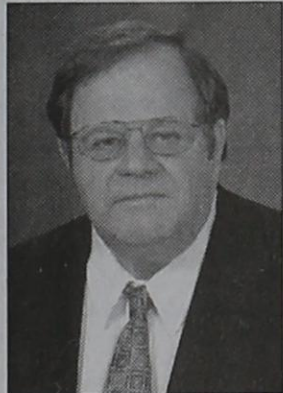
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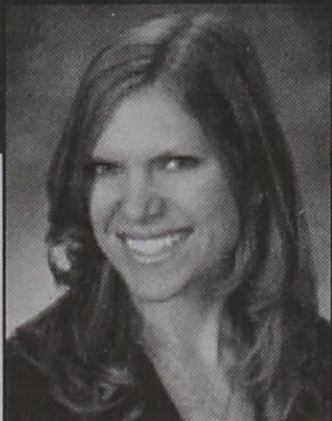
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Connelly was born in Hazel Crest, IL and raised in Sand Springs. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Oklahoma State University in 2004 where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology. She then moved to Dallas, TX where she earned her Master of Physician Assistant Studies from University of Southwestern Medical Center in 2007. While at UT-SW, Liesl was inducted into both the Physician Assistant honor society, Phi Kappa Phi, as well as the Allied Health honor society, Alpha Eta. She has a particular interest in pediatrics and Women's Health issues. Liesl will be accepting patients in our Rockwall office. Liesl enjoys spending time with her husband and two cats.



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 ...ROCKWALL COUNTY...  
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## Lake Pointe Medical Center to go smoke free

LETT - Lake Pointe Medical Center will be "Free" as of April 1. The center includes the Lake Pointe Medical Center campus, which borders the highway and the previously designated smoking locations. The smoke-free initiative is the first thing to do for our visitors, employees, physicians," said Caron, chief executive officer of Lake Pointe Medical Center. "As a provider of care, Lake Pointe feels obligated to provide a safe environment for its patients and to set an example for the health and wellness community. Although

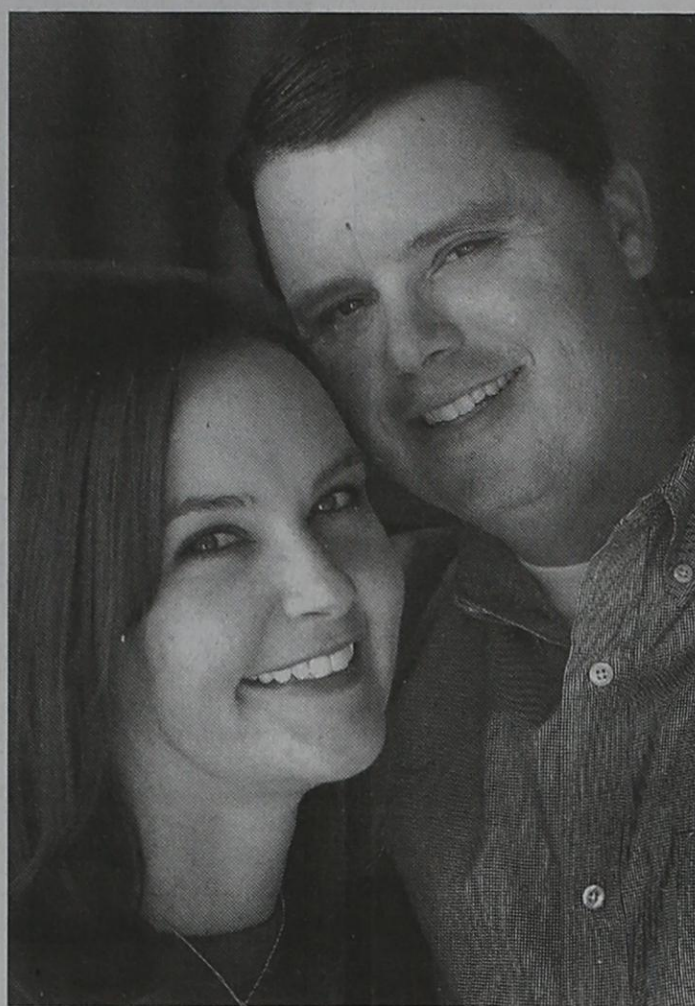
we feel it is in everyone's best interest for smokers to make a decision to quit their habit, we do respect the rights of smokers and are not requiring anyone to stop using tobacco. We are only saying that we cannot allow smoking on our property." The initiative will impact employees, physicians, patients, volunteers and visitors. Health-care providers plan to provide as much support as possible to everyone involved and hospital employees will be offered smoking cessation classes, quit lines staffed by master's-level counselors and other smoking cessation support.

## Fundraiser scheduled for local mission team

Turn Ministries is going to lead its first team to the continent of Africa. Local residents - Dionne and Cheryl Denton - are part of the mission team that will be traveling to Kampala, Uganda, on June 16-25. The team is raising money and prayerfully preparing to serve. The team has three simple goals: to reach the lost, to evangelize and to serve the community in the evangelism efforts realized via two avenues. The first will be a series of "crusades" that will reach 2,000-3,000 people at

a time. In addition, the team will be ministering on a daily nationwide radio broadcast that reaches up to 15 million listeners. The second goal will be accomplished by leading daily classes for men, women and children. One of the fundraising efforts by Stone and Dennis is a concert March 29 at First Baptist Church in Royse City from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The concert will be featuring two bands: THEOS and Overcast. There will also be many raffle items including signed sports memorabilia, Rock Band and many other prizes. Food and snacks will be available.

## Fant-Scott to Wed



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Mr. and Mrs. Creed Fant of Miles are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Kristi Kay Fant**, to **Max Bradley Scott**, son of Ms. **Cissi Scott** of Rockwall and Mr. **Louie Scott** of Spring. The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Miles High School. She graduated from Angelo State University with a bachelor of business administration in finance in 2006. Kristi is currently employed as an account manager for Fannie Mae in Dallas. The prospective groom is a 1994 graduate of Rockwall High School. He earned a bachelor of science degree in construction science in 1999 from Texas A&M University. Max is currently employed as a project manager for Hill-Wilkinson General Contractors in Plano. The wedding will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2008 at First United Methodist Church in Heath.

## Heath Department of Public Safety launches "STOP Thief!" program

HEATH - The Heath Department of Public Safety is equipping residents to help reduce the costly crime of car burglaries by launching the successful and nationally recognized "STOP Thief!" program. "This program has been implemented in other parts of the country, and more recently, in a few of our local jurisdictions," said Brian Burton, the city of Heath's community resource officer. "It has proven to be effective in reducing the incidence of car burglaries." STOP Thief! utilizes a bright gold hanging placard that is designed to be dis-

played from a vehicle's rearview mirror when the vehicle is parked. The hanger serves as a visual reminder to the owner to remove all valuables, including car keys and to secure the vehicle. Additionally, the hanger provides notice to would-be thieves that all items of value have been removed and breaking in to the vehicle is simply not worth the effort. The STOP Thief! hangers may be obtained at the Heath Department of Public Safety Station located at 200 Laurence Drive or at any location prominently displaying the STOP Thief! poster.

## Food safety tips offered by Heath officials

HEATH - Spring Break brought heavy rains, and another reminder to underestimate the power of Texas weather. In the next few minutes, the weather, the next, skies grow said Chief Terry Gargore of the city of Heath's Department of Public Safety. "Unfortunately, accidents can occur, as recently in Mesquite, a 4-year-old Shaun Heas playing in a culvert was swept away by rising

- Never drive through flooded roadways in case the roadbed is no longer intact.
- If your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Be cautious at night

when it's harder to recognize flood dangers. • Don't camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions. Residents are also wel-

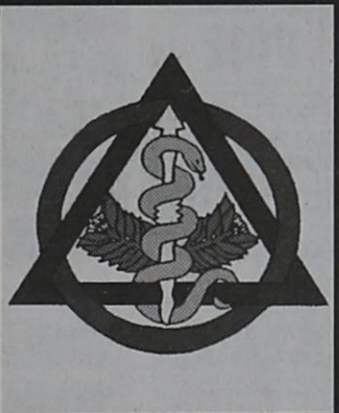
come to contact Burton and other Heath DPS officers at (469) 961-4900 with their safety questions and concerns.

Because the many creeks, rivers and spillways in the area are natural attractions for youngsters to play, Heath officials are urging parents to discuss safety tips with their children. Accidents such as this are preventable," said Britton, the city of Heath's community resource officer. "Identifying the hazards and warning your entire family about the areas where water rises at a very quick rate is critical."

According to Burton, who is a certified flood and water technician, more people die from flooding than from severe-weather-related hazards. It only takes 6 inches of fast-moving floodwater to knock over an adult and two feet to carry away vehicles, including pickup trucks and SUVs.

At the moment a flash-flood warning is issued for our area, follow this simple advice: turn around, don't drown," Burton said. "Children should not play or near a creek, spillway or culvert before, during or after a rain incident." Other important flood-related safety tips to share with family include: Get out of areas subject to flooding, like dips, low spots, basins, washes, etc. Avoid already flooded high-velocity flow areas - attempt to cross a flow-beam.

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Rockwall County,  
The support I received from the citizens of our great county during my third term re-election campaign for sheriff was greatly appreciated. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as your sheriff since January 2001. I look forward to the challenges we face and will continue to run the sheriff's office in a business-like manner. I have a great staff and we look forward to continuing to provide quality and professional law enforcement to all our citizens.

Thank You,  
**Sheriff Harold Eavenson**

Paid Pol. Adv., Robert L. Amick, Treas.

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# RHHS band students to perform in Carnegie Hall

By BRITNEY TABOR  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

More than 160 students from Rockwall-Heath High School loaded buses at about 3:30 a.m. Wednesday morning for a trip of a lifetime and a rare opportunity to perform in a famous New York concert hall.

The group is in New York City as one of six high school bands and orchestras that will perform in Carnegie Hall at the Choice Music Events National Youth Concert on March 27.

Kerry Bryant, trip liaison for the band, said that since the 165 students landed in the Big Apple on March 26, they have been filled with sheer amazement. None of that could have happened without the support of the community who helped by donating money in fundraisers for many of the students to attend the concert and make the trip.

"You should see their faces," Bryant said by phone March 26. "This is the first time a lot of them have been outside of Texas. They're like little kids in a candy store. It's so amazing."

RHHS band director Benny Davis, who was unavailable for comment and did not return messages to the Rockwall County News

this week, said in an earlier interview that the trip to New York for many of his students is "a once in a lifetime opportunity." He said that as a youngster, attending band trips around the country "broadened his horizons," and made him want to go and experience the real world and for some the trip just may very well do the same.

"I just think that this will be a life-changing experience," Davis said.

During the trip, the RHHS symphonic band and wind ensembles will perform at Carnegie Hall on Thursday afternoon. The trip will last through March 29 and students will also have the chance to view the Broadway musical "Wicked," attend a Friday morning taping of ABC's "Good Morning America" and also visit popular New York tourist spots such as Times Square, the Empire State Building and the World Trade Center site.

The band was invited to visit New York and perform in the Choice Music Events National Youth Concert after submitting a tape to the Director's Choice organization in 2006, Bryant said. The group received word that they were invited to perform in the concert at Carnegie Hall along with several other high school bands and orchestras in April 2007.

## Cheers



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Rockwall-Heath High School recently announced its freshman cheerleading squad for the 2008-2009 school year. In alphabetical order are Elleot Amick, Brittany Buchana, Peyton Garner, Sloan Johnson, Jordyn Leeuw, Cayley Lott, McKelvy Moore, Meag Naegele, Holley Noe, Paige Richerson, Alexis Roland, Savannah Smith, Shelby Streig, Lexi Swiercinsky, Kaylea Wisner and Tarah Woessner.

## aroundtown

### Leadership Class

The Leadership Rockwall Class of 2008 will hold a fundraiser for its canteen unit fund project from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, March 28 at Double Dave's Pizza.

### RCP Production

Rockwall Community Playhouse performance dates for "The Importance of Being Earnest" are Friday to Sunday, March 28-30. RCP Box Office, (972) 722-3399.

### Youth Fair

The 55th annual Rockwall Youth Fair is scheduled for Saturday, April 5. On Friday, April 4 Heritage Land Bank in conjunction with the Rockwall Youth Fair will host the second annual Heritage Land Bank School Day.

### Aspasian's Art Fair

Aspasian's Art Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 26 in downtown Rockwall. The fair features vendors for home decor, handmade jewelry, unique baby gifts, fun boutique clothing and more. All money raised from booth rentals goes to local high school students


for college scholarships.

### Volunteers Needed

Rockwall Helping Hands needs volunteers to work in the thrift store and the boutique. Patti Muggeo,

thrift store manager, (972) 722-0190, ext. 232. Helping Hands, located at 950 Williams St., is a nonprofit assistance agency that has served Rockwall County for more than 30 years.

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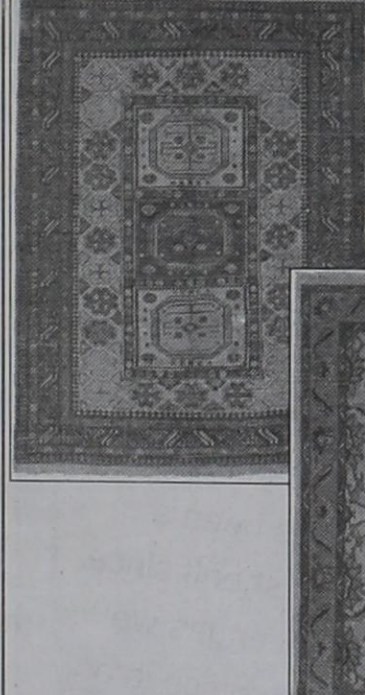
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06 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS. Fully loaded, extra clean, power windows, locks, cruise, tilt, power seat, CD player. Only 28K miles!	<b>\$15,151</b>	05 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR ULTIMATE. Of course, it is a one owner, Heritage trade in! Power sunroof, power folding 3rd row seat, power-deploying running boards, power liftgate, heated/cooled leather seats, 2nd row bucket seats, WOW! It's got it all!	<b>\$26,988</b>
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## Cheerleading Squad



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Heath High School recently announced its varsity cheerleading squad for the 09 school year. In alphabetical order are Raychel Clark, Stefanie Cotner, Cady Daisea Dwyer, Madison Edwards, Sarah Gerritsen, Jahmela Headley, Kaitlyn Howell, Johnson, Kaleigh Loeffler, Megan McKenna, Sarah McKimmey, Taylor McLoughlin, Moore, Sarah Moseley, Meredith Moreau, Raichel Patrick, Michaela Tomalin, Whitms and Emily Wood. The mascot is Johnathan Romo.

## National Day of Prayer to be observed

The mayors of Rockwall County invite the public to join them in recognizing the annual National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 1 with the second annual "Rockwall County Mayors Prayer Breakfast."

Mayors Bill Cecil (Rockwall), John Harper (Rowlett), John Ratcliffe (Heath), Jim Melody (Royse City), Michael Donegan (McLendon-Chisholm) and David Hill (Fate) will host the non-denominational event at The Center at City Place, 108 W. Washington St., which is adjacent to Rockwall City Hall. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. for the 8 a.m. event that includes

a free continental breakfast. Guest speaker will be Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper, founder, chairman and CEO of the Cooper Aerobics Center of Dallas and McKinney.

People of all theological and philosophical faiths are welcome to participate in accordance with their own beliefs, which is what Congress intended in establishing a National Day of Prayer. All who want to pray for the nation are encouraged to do so in any way, in any faith, as

each individual feels is appropriate.

The first Continental Congress called for a National Day of Prayer in 1775 as did Abraham Lincoln in 1863. Congress established National Day of Prayer as an annual event by joint resolution signed by President Truman in 1952. The law was amended and signed by President Reagan to officially designate the first Thursday in May as the official date.

## County Democratic Convention planned

Rockwall County Democratic Convention will be held at 10 a.m. March 27 at Rockwall High School, according to M. Taylor, party

secretary. The 7,741 who voted in the Republican primary, according to unofficial results reported by Rockwall County Elections Administrator Glenda Denton.

Prior to the convention, the Rockwall County Democratic Party will hold its monthly meeting at 9 a.m. March 15 in the Community Center at Harry Myers Park. This meeting will include speakers on how to participate in the county Democratic convention.

A continental breakfast will be available and attendees may contribute food for it or make a donation, Taylor said. More information is available at (972) 722-1735.



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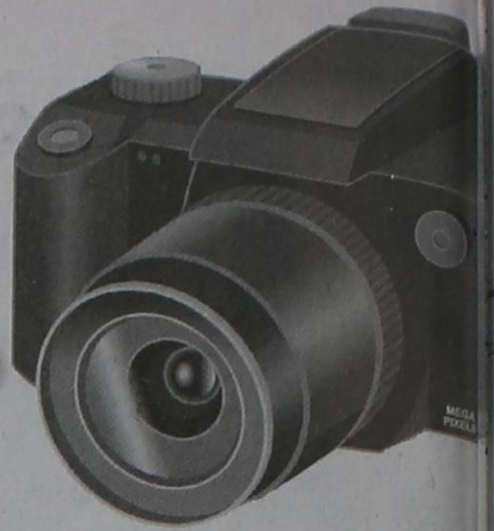
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# Community Snapshots



Third-graders, parents and teachers were treated to incredible performances such as Ashely Clark, Eryn Moniham, Kelsea Buis and Miki Varner doing a cheer medley at the Amy Parks Elementary School third-grade talent show on March 14.



ALGUR H. MEADOWS  
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Lakeland Academy students recently attended the Brown Bag Dance event at Southern Methodist University. The students enjoyed watching the dance students perform during this special event offered at Meadows School of the Arts on the SMU campus. Lakeland Academy is a school of arts and sciences located on a 70-acre equestrian campus in Union Valley for students from first years to seventh grade and the academy's field trips are geared to enrich students in the arts and sciences.



Macey Sterry, Peyton Renner and McKenzie Iles danced to "Rock Star" at the Amy Parks-Heath Elementary School third-grade talent show on March 14.



Kendal Howie performs a ballet dance during the Amy Parks-Heath fifth-grade talent show on March 13.



Ashlen, Ed and Britten Echols pose with winning eighth-grade players at the second annual Cameron Echols Memorial Basketball Tournament on March 1. The event, held in honor of Cameron Echols, raised \$3,500 for the YMCA's Partners With Youth program aimed at providing financial assistance for underprivileged children and doubled the funds raised in the first year with 306 players participating on 34 teams.

Nebbie Williams Elementary roped in Texas Public Schools week by kicking up their heels with a western rodeo March 14. As a part of celebrating Texas Public Schools week, not only were the halls and rooms decked out in western wear, but so were the students and teachers. There were 10-gallon hats, boots, jeans and even some horses to rustle up.



MATT MCGILLEN  
rockwallcountynews.com

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...BY LARY BUMP  
...s@rockwallcountynews.com

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# SPORTS

The best source for Rockwall County high school and community sports

## SMOKIN' ACE

### Heath pitcher leads Lady Hawks' climb up District 10-4A ladder

By MATT MCGILLEN  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

HEATH—Having disposed of Greenville, 15-0, in a three-inning game for their fifth District 10-4A win in a row, the Heath Lady Hawks will focus their full attention on Mesquite Poteet, a rival to Heath on a pivotal district

game which stands in place just ahead of Poteet, 6-1 in the district (overall), edged the Lady Hawks 4-0 on March 3 and 15 of their last 16, with only one loss coming to Poteet (15-3, 1-0). The Lady Hawks (12-10, 1-0) will play Poteet for a second time in a bigger game

Winners of eight of their last 10, the Lady Hawks had a big week last week, winning three district games while also going 3-2 in the Garland ISD tournament March 20-22.

Of course, the biggest part of the week was the much anticipated return of ace pitcher Chelsey Eddy, who has been recovering from January elbow surgery. Going 3-1 for the week, Eddy was nothing short of spectacular.

The junior struck out 39 batters in 19 1/3 innings while giving up just seven hits and not allowing a single earned run.

"She's not a hundred percent back," coach Kourtny

Huey said. "But she's close. It's not set in stone, but Chelsey will probably get the start (against Poteet)."

It's a tough call for Huey, because her other option is sophomore Victoria Combs who has pitched gallantly during Eddy's absence, putting together a 9-9 record that includes two run-rule shortened perfect games, including the win over Greenville. She tossed a four-hitter in the narrow loss to Poteet.

"We have a great combination on the mound with Chelsey and Victoria," Huey said.

The Lady Hawks also have some pretty good combinations at the plate, including

shortstop Sarah Long, who is hitting .631 for the season. Long did even better last week, going 15-for-21 (.714) with seven RBIs and three walks.

Sarah Deimling also had a good week, connecting for 12 hits in 22 at bats (.545) with two doubles, a triple and a home run and 12 RBIs. The sophomore third baseman is hitting .444 for the year.

"Our lineup has a balance of speed and power," Huey said. "It is becoming more evident as the season goes on."

Heath's offensive potential was quite evident in the brief game with Greenville, although the Lady Lions did themselves no favors by committing five errors in the first inning as the Lady Hawks bolted to 9-0 lead before the first out was recorded.

SEE HEATH ON PAGE 2B



Rockwall County News / CARL MCCLUNG

Rockwall-Heath pitcher **Victoria Combs** has played a big role during the Lady Hawks climb into playoff position, shutting down a number of opponents.

## Rockwall Lady Jackets lead in soccer playoffs, 4-0

By LARY BUMP  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

THE Rockwall girls' soccer team made it to the playoffs, but not a huge roadblock March 20-22 district round.

Because the Lady Jackets finished fourth in District 10-5A, they had to open the playoffs against 5A champion Allen.

The Lady Eagles entered the playoffs with a 21-3 record, having averaged 3.96 goals per game and a 0.38 per game.

It was just about what happened to RHS, which lost 4-0 to Rowlett. Kelsey DeCoursin and Marnie also scored.

"Allen is a great team," coach Steve Garcia said. "This is the first game I have seen them win in five years I have been at Rockwall. They are capable of doing great things in the play-

offs. The young Lady Jackets did some great things at times this season.

They qualified for the playoffs with a 10-0 victory over North Garland on March 4.

Micah Kelley, Rain Ramon and Allie Wentzel scored the goals, with freshman goalkeeper Kaitlyn recording a shut-

out. The highlight, however, came later in RHS' 1-0 shootout over Naaman Forest.

It was Senior Night, and the Lady Jackets honored seniors Melissa Shirley, Melody Kirsch and Graska.

Graska then shut out Naaman Forest, even making a game-winning top on a penalty kick with seconds remaining in regulation.

Because Naaman Forest keeper Taylor Emerson was also shut out at the Lady Jackets, the game went to a shootout.

Graska allowed just two goals in five shots, making two and forcing another shot to go left.

Teammates Alisa Ray, Rainon and Kelley put in three goals to win the game.

In the closing minutes, the Lady Jackets put a barrage of shots and corner kicks on Grasska's Rockwall defense.

Following the last corner kick with seconds remaining, play stopped dead with one second left.

Naaman Forest was awarded a penalty kick because of a hand in front of the goal, but Grasska blocked the attempt.

Graska's injury kept her out of the two following games, a 2-1 win over Mesquite and a 5-0 win over a warmup game against Mesquite.

The starting goalie returned for the playoff game.



Rockwall County News / J.D. BRYANT

Behind solid team play, the Rockwall Lady Jackets have moved into third place in the District 10-5A softball standings.

## Hawks string together wins, in position for playoff push



Rockwall County News / CARL MCCLUNG

Micah Headley and the Rockwall-Heath Hawks are back in the playoff race in a tough District 10-4A.

By MATT MCGILLEN  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

RICHARDSON—With their playoff hopes practically on life support after dropping their first three District 10-4A games, the Rockwall-Heath Hawks were faced with a couple of options.

They could either lose another game or two and play the rest of the season for pride or regroup, reload and remain in the hunt.

Looks like the Hawks picked option B. Riding Sean Grave's bat and the pitching of Drew Benefield, Heath downed Richardson Pearce, 13-9 on March 25 for its third district win in a row, and fourth overall.

The Hawks now sit in fourth place, just

a game out of the coveted third and final playoff spot.

The Hawks also beat West Mesquite, 9-1 and Terrell, 8-2 as well as Lake Highland, 4-1 in a non-district game last week to improve to 10-6 overall and 3-3 in the district, just behind Highland Park.

Graves, a senior outfielder, collected two doubles and a homerun to lead a 13-hit attack against Pearce (10-6, 2-3). Colton Court added a triple and a double while Charlie Martin, Connor Lewis and Zach Frazier all had two base hits.

Benefield also got the win against West Mesquite (2-12, 1-3), as the Hawks had 10 hits against poor-fielding West (six errors), including doubles by Court, Frazier and

SEE HAWKS ON PAGE 4B

## Team effort puts RHS girls past defending champion

By LARY BUMP  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

Some powerful hitting enabled Rockwall to reach the halfway point of the District 10-5A softball season in third place with a 5-2 record.

The Lady Jackets (13-9-2) trail Garland and Rowlett, which have given RHS its only district losses to date.

The Lady Jackets played six games last week, scoring at least 11 runs in each of their three wins, but ran into some very good pitching in their three losses.

The defeats all came in the Garland tournament March 20-22.

But that tournament also included a highlight, a 13-6 win over Garland, the Class 5A champion each of the last two seasons.

That makes twice this season that Rockwall has played the Lady Owls tough.

In the district opener at Rockwall, the teams were tied entering the seventh inning.

They'll meet against as

the second half of district play begins March 29 at 11:30 a.m. in Garland.

The Lady Jackets will play another district game April 1 at 4:30 p.m. at Lakeview Centennial.

Before last week's game against Garland, RHS lost to 4A power Denton Ryan, 8-2 and 7-0 to Flower Mound.

The Lady Jackets' final tournament game was their second loss this season to Rowlett, 6-1. The Lady Eagles held Rockwall to five hits, including a double by Haley Lemons.

Back in district play March 24, Rockwall routed Naaman Forest, 19-2. Winning pitcher Kat Brown held the Lady Rangers to three hits.

Regina Vehslage's double was the only extra base hit for RHS, which took advantage of the home team's mistakes.

Back home on March 25, Laycee Holcomb shut out Sachse on four hits in an 11-0 victory.

She also hit a double. Brown paced a 15-hit attack with a home run.

## Lady Bulldogs slip during meeting of ranked teams

### RC boys take 10-3A lead

STAFF REPORT

Five errors proved costly during a meeting of Class 3A state-ranked softball programs on March 25.

Wills Point—ranked No. 7 in Class 3A by the Texas girls Coaches Association—took advantage of defensive miscues by Royse City—ranked No. 22—on the way to a 7-0 win.

The Lady Bulldogs (15-3, 2-1) fell into second place while Wills Point took sole possession of first.

Dezy Arrendondo doubled for one of Royse City's six hits but the Lady Tigers rocked Alicia Pille for six extra-base hits, including a home run by Jana Deen and three doubles from Taylor Austin.

Austin also picked up the victory while Alex Smith and Brooke Jones helped her cause with doubles.

The loss came just days after a 14-0 drubbing of Commerce on March 20.

Backed by five extra-base hits, Kourtney Kelley cruised to the shutout win while allowing just three hits.

Sarah Stutts slapped a home run and a triple, Arrendondo tripled and doubles also came from Julia Zielinski and Ashley Heinaman.

The Lady Bulldogs will wrap up the first half of their District 10-3A schedule with a trip to Quinlan Ford on March 28 and a home game against Emory Rains on April 1.

The Royse City boys have cruised in district play so far and hold down the top spot with a 3-0 record after easy wins over Commerce and Wills Point last week.

The Bulldogs (10-5, 3-0) committed four errors March 25 against Wills Point but took advantage of six mistakes by the hosts in a 13-3 win.

Scot Lane picked up the mound win while getting support in the form of a triple by Richard Morrison and doubles by Cameron Nichols, Dylan Jones and T.J. Hardy.

Lane held Wills Point to just two hits in the game.

He also played a big part in Royse City's 8-2 win against Commerce on March 20.

Lane homered and doubled while Morrison doubled and tossed a two-hitter for the win.

Royse City will host Quinlan Ford on March 28 before playing at Emory Rains on April 1.

# Ballew's gem a sign of things to come for Jackets

By LARY BUMP  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

Rockwall's excellent pitching became even better - perfect, in fact - when Travis Ballew pitched his second no-hitter this season in a 14-0 victory over North Garland on March 25.

The first had come eight days earlier in a win at Dallas Christian - part of a stretch of four shutouts in five games for the Yellowjackets, during which they allowed just two runs.

Pitching at home against the Raiders, Ballew had way more help than he needed in his perfect game.

Michael Hatcher, Jonny Bertrand and Tim Parish hit home runs, and Bertrand added a double.

That caused the game to be called after four innings because of the 10-run rule.

In his five innings of

work, Ballew struck out 13 of the 15 batters he faced.

"He's throwing well," coach Jeff Payne said. "A lot of strikes and a very sharp breaking ball right now."

The victory over North gave RHS two wins in three games last week.

They improved to 9-6 overall, but dropped to second place in District 10-5A at 4-1 with an 8-1 loss Saturday at first place Rowlett (17-0-1, 4-0).

The Jackets' only run came on Jordan Hammontree's solo homer. Among their five hits was a double by Hatcher.

"Rowlett is as good as I've ever seen them and as good as anybody we'll play," Payne said. "Coach [Paul] Carmon does a great job with them and they look like it could be a special year for them."

The coach is not conceding the district title or anything else to the Eagles.

"My guys want it so badly that we usually press and do not execute well against them," Payne said. "We can play with them, and we'll give them a good game at Rockwall in round two." They'll finish the first



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## Heath

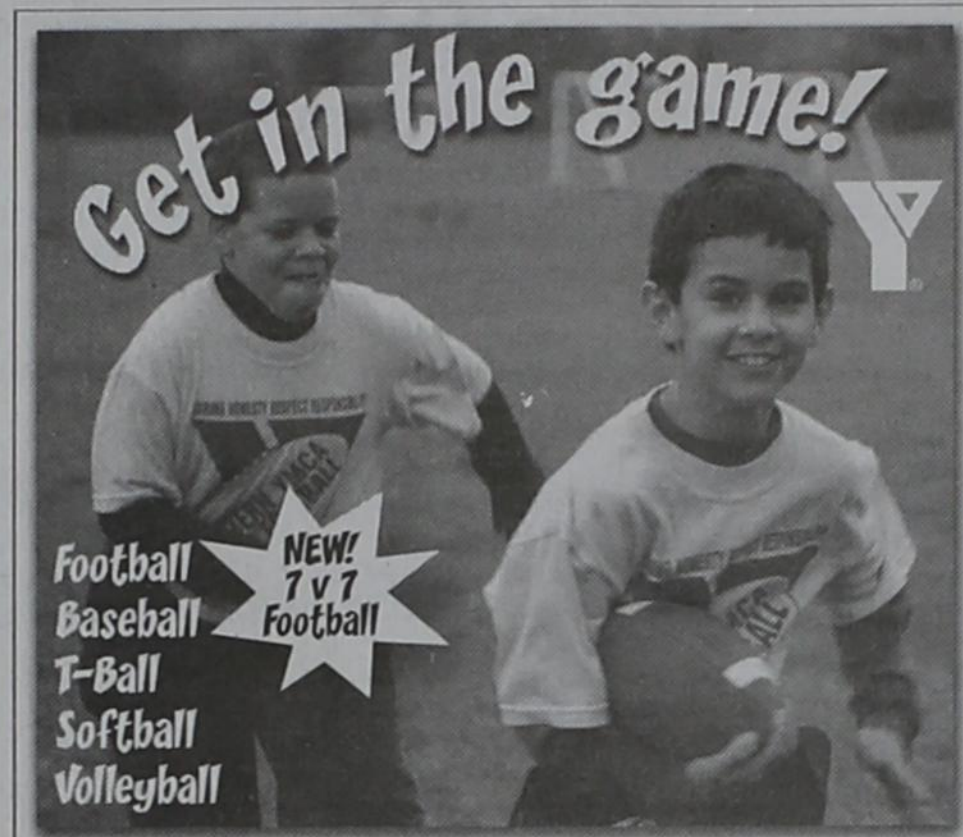
From Page 1B

Sending 19 batters to the plate, Heath banged out 11 hits - including two each by Long, Kirsten Embrey and Taylor Blair - as they jumped to a 14-0 lead after one inning.

Combs yielded what looked like a clean single in the top of the first, but the batter was listed incorrectly in the official scorebook, so the at bat was wiped out and the hard throwing right-hander went on to strikeout the remaining seven hitters she faced.

A string of five consecutive batters that were called looking at the third strike.

Heath finished with 13 hits for the game which was called after the top of the third inning by mutual agreement of the two coaches.



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## Tropical John's Garden Therapy

### All Natural Solutions for a Safer Yard

By Tropical John

There's no time like the present. This is a saying that we have all heard for years. I am here to tell you that it is more important now than ever. It is time to convert to **Organic Gardening!** It is not that hard - I promise. It's time to create a safe environment for our children, our pets, and ourselves. This time is NOW! So let's move through it one step at a time.

The number one rule is to stop using synthetic products like chemical fertilizers and insecticides. These products leach out of the soil and wash away easily. So, where do they go? They go down the drains and down the hill right into Lake Ray Hubbard. This concern began my quest for safer solutions some twenty years ago. You should make the decision to go Organic. This takes a basic mindset change, persistence, and patience. Your yard on synthetic products is like an athlete on steroids. They will perform great at first, but the long term effects can be devastating. So, put your yards and gardens into organic rehabilitation and get them back to a natural state.

Everything in the organic program starts in the soil. The chemical approach targets plants and problems that exist for the most part, above the soil line. Healthy, living soil is the key to good organic gardening. If your soil is loaded with organic materials (compost), earthworms, micro-organisms, beneficial bacteria and fungi, then you will have very few insect and disease problems. Insects and diseases do not attack healthy plants. They attack the weak plants as opposed to the healthy plants, thus the strong will survive. Mother Nature takes care of herself.

The soil amendments and flowerbed preparation is the key to a strong, healthy planting area. Clay and sandy soils both need lots of compost. Compost is decayed organic materials. You can make your own using leaves, trimmings, grass clippings, or just about anything that will breakdown and decay. Or, you can always buy compost. I do not recommend using peat moss or pine bark mulch. The best compost found in a bag is the cotton bur compost from west Texas. It is a good, safe local product. Next, you will want to use the rock minerals like lava sand, expanded shale, and green sand. Lava sand and expanded shale help improve drainage and increase the water and nutrient holding capacity of the soil. Now it's time to add dry molasses. This will feed and stimulate the micro-organisms in the soil, not to mention helps repel fire ants when applied to the surface of your flowerbeds and grass. Let's now add a good organic dry soil food (organically speaking, we call fertilizer - soil food) to our mix. Some brand names I like are Texas Tee, Medina, or Gardenville.

Last but not least, is the top dressing or mulch you use to cover your soil. Now, getting gardening the organic way means working with nature and not against her. Mother Nature never leaves bare clean soil. It is vital to add good shredded mulch to your flowerbeds and gardens. Native tree trimmings are best because they contain the biological makeup of your surrounding area. We want to use local products as much as possible because this helps cut down the fuel consumption from transporting products throughout the nation. If you have the need to use bagged products, shredded cedar or hardwood mulch is the best. The top dressing continues the circle of life in the garden by decaying and adding the all important compost back into the soil. Please do not use pine bark, decorative bark or weed barriers in this process.

You should always spend time preparing your planting bed. The time and effort you spend is the key to minimizing unwanted insects and diseases.

Organic gardening is the first step to a healthy, safe environment. We have covered some of the basics of organic gardening. But, we have more to learn. One of the things I am passionate about is that there is always something new to learn. So, keep your hands in the dirt until you make soil and always try to live "natural" first.

Tropical John owned and operated Tropical John's Garden Shop in Rockwall for 20 years. He now spreads the Organic word on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. on WBAP 820AM. He also runs Tropical John's Garden Therapy (landscaping, organic fertilization program, and water gardens) and sells organic products for Natural First Distribution. For more information, please go to [www.tropicaljohnsgardens.com](http://www.tropicaljohnsgardens.com) or [www.livingnaturalfirst.com](http://www.livingnaturalfirst.com)

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## Minter Mortgage Matters

### Internet Mortgages Deception.com?

An increasing number of seemingly astute borrowers are using the Internet to shop for the best mortgage rates. Unfortunately, it is easy to forget that the rates are on the "rate monitor" web sites are advertisements, specifically designed to generate leads for the companies who pay fortunes to have their names listed.

The other day, while the most competitive local mortgage companies were quoting 30 year fixed rates around 6.00% with no points, I received a call from a valued client who had just come to us for financing the third time. Although she had always been a very loyal client she expressed some concern that the "point" rates she found on the Internet went as low as 5.625%.

#### "What's the deal, Danny?!"

After all these years, and all the customers I've referred to you, why are you trying to rip me off?

Everyone has heard the old adage about things that "sound too good to be true" and Internet mortgage rates are no exception. Upon hearing the doubts created by the Internet mortgage advertisements I felt compelled to research the credibility of the rates quoted. I logged onto a mortgage rate monitor website and found a rate of **5.625% and zero points** listed by a number of Internet mortgage factories on May 17th. I proceeded to each lender's individual website as if I was going to apply for a mortgage and acquired quotes for rates and closing costs.

#### I fell out of my lending tree and almost broke my ditech!

The rates were a half to a full percent higher than advertised, the zero points did not pertain to the excess "lender fees" and there were more disclaimers than the fine print on a new prescription drug advertisement. So why are these companies flooded with business? Why are people willing to pay more and trade in personal service for technology? Would we rather deal with a dropdown click than an uplifting sit with a professional who can help us make the best choices. How did something called a mouse come to cost so much power?

#### I HAVE NO IDEA!

What I do know is this. Your home mortgage is one of the biggest decisions in your life and the smallest mistake can cost you and your family a fortune. Surfing is no way to navigate through the maze of mortgage products available today. There's nothing wrong with doing your best to get a great deal, but remember

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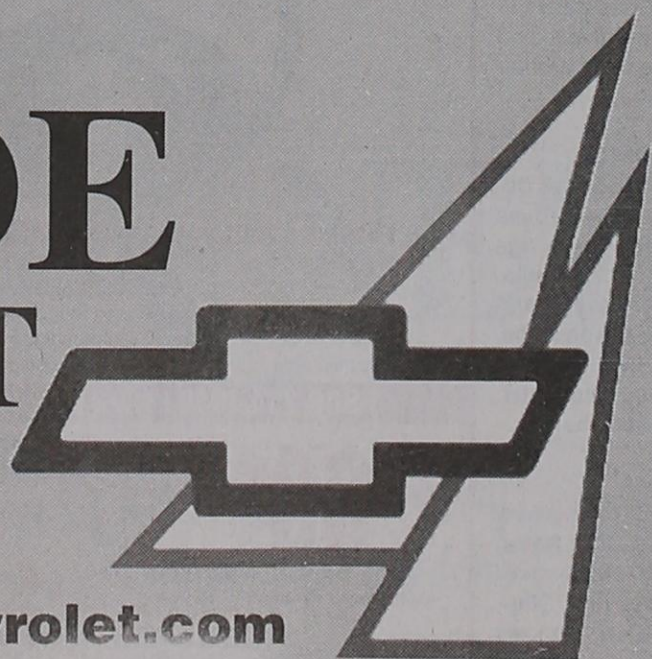


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Rockwall County News / CARL MCCLUNG

The scoreboard in Arlington welcomed fans to the second annual meeting between Rockwall-Heath and Lake Highlands at the home of the Texas Rangers.

## fishingreport

### Fishing Report for weekend of March 28-30

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department report also available on Web at [www.txfishing.com](http://www.txfishing.com)

#### CEDAR CREEK

Water lightly stained; 52-63 degrees; 0.46 ft. high. Black bass are fair on Rat-L-Traps, white spinnerbaits and Texas rigs. White bass are good on slabs and Humdingers. Hybrid striper are fair on live bait and slabs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs.

#### FORK

Water fairly clear; 52-62 degrees; 0.65 high. Black bass are fair to good on Senkos, red Rat-L-Traps and Carolina rigs. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair on cut and prepared baits.

#### GRAPEVINE

Water stained to murky; 52-62 degrees; 4.71 ft. high. Black bass are fair on shaky head jigs with a finesse worm, crankbaits, and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs, with more being caught in the marinas. White bass are fair to good on slabs and Humdingers. Catfish are fair on stink bait and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

#### LAVON

Water stained to murky; 52-62 degrees; 4.29 ft. high. Black bass are fair to good on finesse jigs, small shad pattern crankbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair to good on cut shad and prepared bait.

#### LEWISVILLE

Water off color; 52-63 degrees; 2.01' high. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits, drop shot rigs, Rat-L-Traps and shad pattern crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Hybrid striper are fair on slabs and Sassy Shad. Catfish are good on prepared bait and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

#### RAY HUBBARD

Water stained; 51-63 degrees; 1.25 ft. high. Black bass are fair to good on white/chartreuse spinnerbaits, Rat-L-Traps, Texas rigs and crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Hybrid striper are fair to good on slabs and live shad.

#### RICHLAND CHAMBERS

Water off color; 52-63 degrees; 0.23 ft. low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs, Rat-L-Traps and spinnerbaits. White bass are fair on slabs and live shad.

#### TAWAKONI

Water lightly stained; 52-62 degrees; 2.13 ft. high. Black bass are fair Rat-L-Traps, Texas rigs and shad pattern crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on slabs. Striped bass and hybrid striper are fair on live shad and slabs. Catfish are fair on stink bait.

#### TEXOMA

Water off color; 52-61 degrees; 0.84' high. Black bass are fair on crankbaits, finesse brown/chartreuse jigs and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Striped bass are fair on live shad and large Road Run-

ners. Catfish are fair on cut and live shad.

#### WHITNEY

Water stained; 6.57 ft. low. Black

bass are slow. Striped bass are fair on minnows and striper jigs. White bass are fair on minnows. Crappie are good on minnows and blue tube jigs.

## Attention All Athletes



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Special 8:30am Class for ages 9-11  
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## Hawks

From Page 1B

Ryan Lambert.

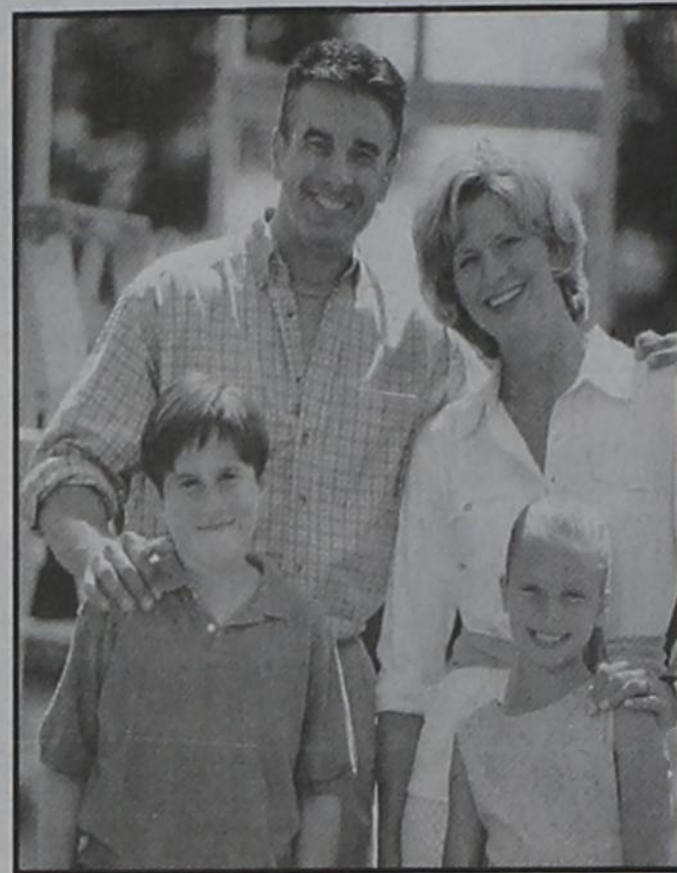
Benefield then switched from pitching back to his normal role as catcher against the Tigers, banging out a pair of doubles to support winning pitcher senior Drew VerHagen. Graves also doubled for the Hawks who had 11 hits off Terrell pitching.

Sophomore Cody Sargent got the victory

over Lake Highland, with sophomore Holland picking up the save. Micah had a triple and Drew Baxter a double for the Hawks' nine hits.

The Hawks close out the first half district slate by entertaining lowly ville (1-9, 0-5) on March 28 before the three teams that handed them the district losses - Mesquite Potteet, Fox Highland Park, which pummeled Hea to send them to the bottom of the sl and put their playoff chances in criti dition.

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## Super Bowl Champion

Baltimore Colts defeated the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowl V

# Men's Fellowship

## Sat. April 5th, 7-9am

For ages 12 & up

Free Event - Register online

# Still Water Community Church

[www.stillwatercommunitychurch.org](http://www.stillwatercommunitychurch.org)

# COLTS

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**Legal Notices**

**NOTICE TO VENDORS  
INVITATION TO BID**

CSP# 03272008-2

Construction Company will receive subcontract proposals for **Rockwall High School Additions and Additions for Rockwall ISD**. Pogue Construction is the Construction Manager at Risk for the Rockwall Independent School District and will receive proposals at 405 Inter-Street, McKinney, TX 75071 for all trades.

**March 27, 2008 @ 2:00 P.M.** Pogue Construction receive the proposals at their office and shall open proposals at **2:00 PM, March 27, 2008** - proposals will be confidential as required by the Texas Education Code. Drawings, specifications, and proposal forms may be obtained beginning February 27, 2008 from K&M Reprints (214-369-4333). A total deposit of \$100.00, to Rockwall ISD, will be required to obtain one set of drawings and one project manual. Deposit checks returned if the Proposal Documents are returned to construction manager's office in good condition, within five (5) days after the Proposal opening.

Ciner and Pogue Construction reserves the right to accept any or all proposals and to accept any proposal or combination of proposals deemed most advantageous to Rockwall Independent School District and to waive any provisions in bidding. Questions concerning the project should be directed to Pogue Construction at (972) 529-9401.

**Legal Notices**

**NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC  
TABULATING EQUIPMENT**

Notice is hereby given that the Automatic Tabulating Equipment that will be used in the Runoff Election held on April 8, 2008 will be tested on March 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at 107 E. Kaufman St., Rockwall, Texas to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and all measures.

Issued this the 24th day of March, 2008

Glenda Denton  
Elections Administrator  
Rockwall County

**AVISO DE LA PRUEBA DEL EQUIPO DE  
TABULACIÓN AUTOMÁTICO**

El aviso por este medio se da a eso el equipo de tabulación automático que será utilizado en la elección primaria decisiva celebrada el 8 de abril de 2008 será probado el 28 de marzo, 2008 en 10:00 a.m. en 107 E. Kaufman St., Rockwall, Tejas para comprobar que contará exactamente los votos echados para todas las oficinas y todas las medidas.

Publicó esto el 24th día del marzo, 2008

Glenda Denton  
Administrador de las elecciones  
Condado de Rockwall

**Legal Notices**

**CITY OF MCLENDON-CHISHOLM**

**INVITATION TO SUBMIT SEALED PROPOSAL FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL, AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS COLLECTIONS & PROCESSING.**

The City of McLendon-Chisholm will receive sealed PROPOSALS at City Hall, 1248 South Highway 205, Rockwall, Texas 75032, until April 15, 2008 at 4:00 pm. The responsibility for submitting a proposal to the City of McLendon-Chisholm's City Hall on or before the stated date and time is solely and strictly the responsibility of the Proposer. No Proposals will be accepted after that time. Request for Proposals may be obtained from McLendon-Chisholm City Hall, 1248 South Highway 205, Rockwall, Texas 75032. The selected Contractor will be awarded the Contract through a resolution of the city approving and adopting the Contract Documents, providing for its enforcement and penalties as provided by law. The defined terms appearing in the General Specifications apply to all Contract Documents. Proposals must be made upon forms furnished. Six (6) copies of proposals must be delivered on or before April 15, 2008 at 4:00 pm. The envelope containing the Proposal must be sealed and plainly marked "SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING". Each proposal must be accompanied by a bond or a certified check of the Contractor, drawn on a national bank, in an amount equal to five-thousand (\$5,000.00). A Performance Bond equal to two hundred-fifty thousand (\$250,000.00) and for a time period of five (5) years, shall be required to guarantee the performance of the contract. Participants are expected to inspect the site of work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions. All questions related to this Proposal information and specifications should be directed to Dave Butler, City Administrator, at 972-524-2077.

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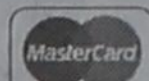
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**Legal Notices**

**- Public Notice -**

The City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, April 8, 2008** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, and the Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday April 21, 2008** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, to consider the following item:

**Z2008-005: SUP for Restaurant w/ Drive-Thru (Sonic)**  
Hold a public hearing and consider a request by David Reynolds of SRI Real Estate Properties, LLC, for approval of a Specific Use Permit (SUP) to allow for a "restaurant w/ drive-thru or drive-in" within the (GR) General Retail district, specifically for a Sonic Restaurant proposed to be located on Lot 3, Block A, Hillcrest Center Addition, being a 0.91-acre tract situated within the North SH 205 Corridor Overlay district and located at the north east corner of FM 552 and SH 205, and take any action necessary.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions.

**Legal Notices**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Nevada Water Supply Corporation announces the **Annual Membership Meeting and Election** on April 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.,

At 108 N. Warren (the business office location). Proxy election ballots may be returned by mail. P.O. Box 442, Nevada, Texas 75173 or ballots may be returned in Person to 108 N. Warren, between the hours of 8 am to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Ballots may also be delivered in person at the annual meeting. **All Proxy election Ballots must be signed by the member on file with the Corporation to be a valid vote and in order to be counted. All ballots not being delivered in person to the annual meeting, must be received by 12 Noon, Monday, April 14, 2008 at 108 N. Warren.**

**Public Notices**

**Found / Unclaimed Property**

These items are currently being held as "found property" in the Rockwall Police Department Property Room:

- Small bag
- Ladies gold colored tennis bracelet with clear stones
- Ladies gold colored ring with clear stones
- Ladies gold colored band ring with clear stones

These items were found in 2005 in the parking lot of a local shopping center. Anyone claiming ownership to this property must be able to verify ownership, give a detailed description of the items and contact the Rockwall Police Department within 14 days from publication of this notice. If the items are not claimed, a court order will be filed for these items to be auctioned. The owner must contact Rhonda Andrews with the Rockwall Police Department at 972-772-6464.

**Legal Notices**

**Missing Person**

Denise, m Elizabeth & ex-wife Robinson Robinson, 903-326-48

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**Mixed Beverage**

Permit with FB Application has been made for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant Permit with FB for Snuffer's Restaurants Incorporated Dba Snuffer's Restaurant & Bar At 2901 Village Drive, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas Said application made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code Patrick Daniel Snuffer, Pres/Dir Stephen Dean Cole, VP Michael Patrick Snuffer, Sec

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**Public Notices**

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Call or go to 1-866-901-9796 www.buyatimeshare.com</p> <p><b>CARS FOR SALE</b></p> <p>1942 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL Cabriolet, '52 Jaguar XK120 DHC, '63 Corvette fuel injection. Over 250 cars at Auction. Con-sign your car now! The Branson Auction, 1-800-335-3063, www.bransonauction.com</p>	<p><b>CDL-A DRIVERS: EXPANDING</b> Fleet offering Regional/OTR runs. Outstanding pay package. Excellent benefits. Generous overtime. Lease Purchase on '07 Peterbilts. National Carriers, 1-888-707-7729, www.nationalcarriers.com/letsfit</p> <p><b>DRIVER-MORE MONEY!</b> more miles! Solo, O/O &amp; teams welcome. Class A-CDL, 4 months OTR experience. Qualify by phone-1-888-446-5289, Company, 1-800-437-5907, O/O. www.knighttrans.com</p> <p><b>DRIVER: O/O'S: NEW</b> pay scale/plus fuel surcharge. Company drivers \$5000 signing bonus for minimum 1 year experience. Let's drop &amp; hook! www.aeal.com. Guy at 1-800-387-1011.</p> <p><b>DRIVERS: ASAP!</b> Sign-On Bonus 35-42 cpm. Earn over \$1000 weekly. 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Contact: rliether@laifi.org or 1-626-964-9588 ext. 113. www.happyjackinc.com</p> <p><b>HOMES FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>BRAND NEW MOBILE</b> manufactured homes with warranty. Buy at the factory for \$17,750. Photos/floor plans online: www.BuyAtTheFactory.com; Free color brochure! Call Factory Expo Home Center. 1-800-464-0062.</p> <p><b>LEGAL SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>WILL OR LIVING TRUST?</b> 14 years supporting affordable legal planning. Fees average: \$125 for Wills and \$750 for Living Trust. Call 1-972-985-0678 for details</p> <p><b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES</b></p> <p><b>SCOOTERS &amp; POWER WHEELCHAIRS.</b> Did you know in most cases Medicare, Medicaid and Insurance pay 100% of the cost? Call Melissa or Jon for details. 1-800-606-9860. www.medicaremedicalsupply.com</p> <p><b>MISCELLANEOUS</b></p> <p><b>AIRLINES ARE HIRING</b> - Train for high paying aviation maintenance career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance, 1-888-349-5387.</p> <p><b>ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE</b> from home. Medical, Business, Paralegal, Computers, Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial aid if qualified. Call 1-866-858-2121. www.OnlineTidewaterTech.com</p> <p><b>WOLFF TANNING BEDS</b> as low as \$28 a month! Free DVD player. Order by 3/29/08. Call ETS Tan today! 1-800-842-1305, www.np.etstan.com.</p>	<p><b>HAPPY JACK® NOVIATION®</b> protective ban: get patented release 8-month flea/tick control before heavy infestation. At Farm Feed &amp; Hardware stores.</p> <p><b>REAL ESTATE</b></p> <p><b>NEAR RUDOSO NEW MEXICO.</b> 140 acre ranch parcels from \$995/acre. Great views, excellent horse property. Power &amp; gravel roads. Borders national forest, may split. 1-877-289-6650. www.swproperties.com</p> <p><b>SOUTHERN COLORADO RANCH</b> Sale. 35 acres- \$29,900. Spectacular rocky mountain views, year round access, electricity/telephone included. 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**Help Wanted**

**Building Code Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer**  
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City of Heath's Building Code Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer has a significant role in assisting City leaders in maintaining Heath's premier residential community. With a customer-friendly approach, this position conducts the review of residential and commercial plans, issues permits, and performs inspections in accordance with the International Residential/Commercial Code, Unified Building Code and the International Fire Code.

Requirements for this position include: two to five years of experience in the profession and familiarity with the industry. The hiring salary is between \$18.00 and \$20.00 per hour depending upon qualifications. The City of Heath offers an excellent benefits package. This position will remain open until filled. Download an application at [heathtx.com](http://heathtx.com) or pick up at Heath City Hall, 200 Laurence Drive, Heath, Texas 75032. No phone calls please. Send completed application resumes to Human Resources, 200 Laurence Drive, Heath, Texas 75032; fax - 972-961-4935; email - [acumpton@heathtx.com](mailto:acumpton@heathtx.com).

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Ability to work in a cold environment (34°)  
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or email to: [dougpp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dougpp@sbcglobal.net)  
972-771-4500  
Inquiries call Mon.-Fri. 8-5 ONLY

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS



# 2008 READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

## ...and the Winners are....

Favorite Department Store - Kohl's  
 Favorite School - Williams Middle School  
 Favorite Donut Shop - Baker's Dozen  
 Favorite Wrecker Service - Chub's Towing  
 Favorite Photography Studio - Lake Pointe Photography  
 Favorite Veterinarian Clinic - Rockwall Veterinary Hospital  
 Favorite Dog Groomer - Dog Gone Pretty  
 Favorite Car Wash - Hacienda  
 Favorite Hair Salon - Davis Hair Designs  
 Favorite Nail Salon - (tie) Hollywood Nails, Sparkling Nails  
 Favorite Auto Repair Shop - Jackson Automotive  
 Favorite Day Care - Rainbow's End  
 Favorite Dry Cleaners - Park Avenue Cleaners  
 Favorite Florist - Sabrina's Flowers  
 Favorite Gas Station - Mike Shield's Exxon  
 Favorite Tire Store - Discount Tire  
 Favorite Heating & A/C Repair - Choice Heating & Air  
 Favorite Quick Oil Change - Kwik Kar  
 Favorite Place To Shop - Belk's  
 Favorite Convenience Store - 7-11  
 Favorite New Car Dealer - Lakeside Chevrolet  
 Favorite Used Car Dealer - Lakeside Chevrolet  
 Favorite Jewelry Store - Willis Jewelry  
 Favorite Supermarket - Kroger  
 Favorite Barber Shop - Lad Barber Shop  
 Favorite Place to Workout - 24 Hr. Fitness  
 Favorite Place to Tan - Solar Reflections  
 Favorite Restaurant - Luigi's  
 Favorite Bar - Dodie's Seafood Cafe  
 Favorite Hamburger - Boot's Burgers  
 Favorite Pizza - Pizza Getti  
 Favorite Barbecue - Soulman's  
 Favorite Seafood - Oar House  
 Favorite Mexican Food - On the Border  
 Favorite Chicken Fried Steak - Blackeyed Pea  
 Favorite Fried Chicken - KFC  
 Favorite Italian Food - Luigi's  
 Favorite Steak - Saltgrass  
 Favorite Desserts - Culver's  
 Favorite Breakfast - IHOP  
 Favorite Place to Get Coffee - Starbuck's  
 Favorite Margarita - On the Border  
 Favorite Place To Take A Date - Oar House  
 Favorite Waitress/Waiter - Paige Baesa  
 Favorite Accountant - Don Gage  
 Favorite Doctor - Les T. Sandknop  
 Favorite Painter - James Imburgia  
 Favorite Lawyer - Todd White  
 Favorite Optometrist - Dr. Weldon Wright  
 Favorite Chiropractor - John Weddle  
 Favorite Pharmacist - Chrissy, Brookshires  
 Favorite Dentist - Thomas Ryan  
 Favorite School Teacher - Sandy Bridges, Williams Middle School

Favorite Stockbroker - (tie) Mark McKinney, Fred Kalberer  
 Favorite Insurance Agent - Steve Baxter  
 Favorite Bank Teller - Donnie, Bank of America  
 Favorite Real Estate Agent - Jonna Morton  
 Favorite Police Officer - John Knight  
 Favorite Firefighter - Greg Givens, Heath  
 Favorite Car Salesman - Terry Cavett, Lakeside Chevrolet  
 Favorite Secretary - Linda Denny, Williams Middle School  
 Favorite Sales Clerk - Mark, Smoothie King  
 Favorite Preacher - Steve Stroope, Lake Pointe Baptist Church  
 Favorite Bible Class Teacher - Darren Lewis, First Baptist  
 Favorite Postal Carrier - Monty Norvell  
 Favorite Bus Driver - (tie) Bobby Hubbard, Mr. Rhome, Mr. Free  
 Favorite Electrician - Milestone Electric  
 Favorite Plumber - Bob Cruise  
 Favorite Carpenter - Matt Asbill  
 Favorite Barber - Howard Potter, Lad Barber Shop  
 Favorite Beautician - Lisa Davis  
 Favorite Massage Therapist - Shannon McCord, Knead

Write Ins:  
 Favorite Bank - American National Bank  
 Favorite Banker - Larry Parks, American National Bank  
 Favorite Cakes - Wendy, Audrey Jean's  
 Favorite Carpet Cleaner - Doigg's  
 Favorite Chinese Food - China Taste  
 Favorite Clown/Entertainer - Wanda Porter  
 Favorite County Employee - Lisa Constant, County Clerk (electoral)  
 Favorite County Employee - Doreen Miller, Children's Library (non-electoral)  
 Favorite Dental Hygentist - Teresa, Dr. Hill's office  
 Favorite Deputy Sheriff - Jason Stephauwitz  
 Favorite Feed Store - Chisholm Feed  
 Favorite Ice Cream - Cold Stone Creamery  
 Favorite Interior Designer - Ann Easterwood, Ethan Allen - Firewheel  
 Favorite Landscaper - Lucky Lawn  
 Favorite Sprinkler Repair - Lucky Lawn  
 Favorite Mortgage Company - Medallion Mortgage  
 Favorite Movie Theater - Cinemark  
 Favorite Music Teacher - Russ Porter, Rockwall School of Music  
 Favorite Nail Tech - Linda Jacobson  
 Favorite Onion Rings - Joe Willy's  
 Favorite Oral Surgeon - Dr. Kevin Pollock  
 Favorite Orthodontist - Dr. Andrew Hodges  
 Favorite Physcial Therapist - Mary C. Hodge, Rockwall Physical Therapy  
 Favorite Place to Meet Friends - Texas Roast  
 Favorite Plumbing Company - Sunbelt  
 Favorite Politician - Mayor John Ratcliffe, City of Heath  
 Favorite Postal Clerk - Betsy Buckley, Heath  
 Favorite Real Estate Company - Regal Realtors  
 Favorite Vietnamese Food - Rice Paper  
 Favorite Wedding Reception - Castle Douglas  
 Favorite Weed Control Treatment - Abracadabra  
 Favorite Window Treatment - Ultimate Window Décor

**BE SURE AND SEE OUR READER'S CHOICE EDITION IN TODAY'S PAPER!**

2008 Readers'

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS



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Did you  
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You Picked Us!





Rockwall's favorite hair stylist **Lisa Davis** enjoys her work with co-worker **Guy Kimbrell**.

— Favorite Stylist —

## Lisa Davis loves taking care of people

Lisa Davis is famous for her hair styles – and her personality.

The owner of Davis Hair Designs and Rockwall County's favorite hair stylist is a veteran of the trade, and has spent more than 20 years designing hair in Rockwall. Fifteen of those years have been spent in the same location, 402 S. Goliad St., across from City Hall.

Part of her secret is her love for hair and her career, which she described as “playing and getting paid for it.” Part of her secret is great support from coworker Guy Kimbrell, who describes her as “a legend.” But the biggest part is her reliable “family atmosphere.”

“I’ve been serving Rockwall for more than 20 years, and I love taking care of people,” Davis said. “Customers come in here because they know I’m here, and we’ve build friendships and bonds over time.”

Unlike dependable salons and generic barbers, Davis said her business is a reflection of individual service. Customers know they’ll get great service and an engaging conversation from Davis whenever they walk in the door.

And that’s why they chose her as their favorite stylist.

## Readers' Choice Favorites

Department Store - Kohl's  
 School - Williams Middle School  
 Donut Shop - Baker's Dozen  
 Wrecker Service - Chub's Towing  
 Photography Studio -  
 Lake Pointe Photography  
 Veterinarian Clinic -  
 Rockwall Veterinary Hospital  
 Dog Groomer - Dog Gone Pretty  
 Car Wash - Hacienda  
 Hair Salon - Davis Hair Designs  
 Nail Salon - (tie) Hollywood Nails,  
 Sparkling Nails  
 Auto Repair Shop -  
 Jackson Automotive  
 Day Care - Rainbow's End  
 Dry Cleaners -  
 Park Avenue Cleaners  
 Florist - Sabrina's Flowers  
 Gas Station - Mike Shield's Exxon  
 Tire Store - Discount Tire  
 Heating & A/C Repair -  
 Choice Heating & Air  
 Quick Oil Change - Kwik Kar

SEE FAVORITES ON PAGE 3

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DESIGNER SKIN



— Favorite Bible Teacher —

## Sincerity attracts students to Darren Lewis

Darren Lewis is a man of God – albeit an unlikely one, according to him.

During the day, the Readers' Choice favorite Bible teacher supervises construction and building inspections.

He spends his days ensuring that new structures such as the Rockwall County library meet the expectations of local governments, a task not unlike his weekend goal of ensuring parishioners do their best to live up to God's expectations.

"It's interesting because I never would have thought of chosen myself as a teacher, but I just feel like that's what God has called me to do with the group of people I'm with," Lewis said. "I try to make people comfortable in the class and let them know we're all sinners just trying to make our way through."

Lewis works with First Baptist Church in Rockwall and leads a group of adults in Bible study and worship every weekend.

Ranging from their early 30s to late 50s, the class is attracted to him for his sincerity.

He said after spending time preparing his lessons every week, he learns as much about faith as his class.

"It's like I always tell my class, I probably learn more than they do," Lewis said.

## Readers' Choice Favorites

(continued from page 10)

Massage Therapist -  
Shannon McCord, Knead

### Write Ins:

Bank - American National Bank  
Banker - Larry Parks,  
American National Bank  
Cakes - Wendy, Audrey Jean's  
Carpet Cleaner - Doigg's  
Chinese Food - China Taste  
Clown/Entertainer - Wanda Porter  
County Employee - Lisa Constant,  
County Clerk (electoral)  
County Employee - Doreen Miller,  
Children's Library (non-electoral)  
Dental Hygentist - Teresa,  
Dr. Hill's office  
Deputy Sheriff - Jason Stephauwitz  
Feed Store - Chisholm Feed  
Ice Cream - Cold Stone Creamery  
Interior Designer - Ann Easterwood,  
Ethan Allen - Firewheel  
Landscaper - Lucky Lawn

Sprinkler Repair - Lucky Lawn  
Mortgage Company -  
Medallion Mortgage  
Movie Theater - Cinemark  
Music Teacher - Russ Porter,  
Rockwall School of Music  
Nail Tech - Linda Jacobson  
Union Rings - Joe Willy's  
Oral Surgeon - Dr. Kevin Pollock  
Orthodontist - Dr. Andrew Hodges  
Physical Therapist - Mary C. Hodge,  
Rockwall Physical Therapy  
Place to Meet Friends - Texas Roast  
Plumbing Company - Sunbelt  
Politician - Mayor John Ratcliffe,  
City of Heath  
Postal Clerk - Betsy Buckley, Heath  
Real Estate Company - Regal Realtors  
Vietnamese Food - Rice Paper  
Wedding Reception - Castle Douglas  
Weed Control Treatment - Abracadabra  
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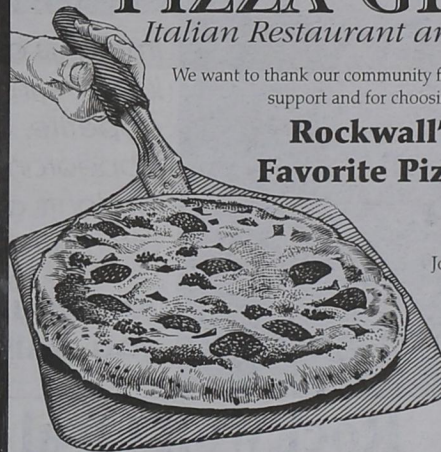
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Favorite school teacher **Sandy Bridges**, a middle school pre-advanced placement English instructor, has been making a difference in RISD students' lives for more than a dozen years.

— Favorite Music Teacher —

## Bridges' goal is to make every student a lifelong learner

Russ Porter is all about the music, and it shows.

Rockwall County's favorite music teacher is the local expert when it comes to voice and piano playing and instruction, mostly because he's been making music his entire life.

"Music is something that I have found personal fulfillment in as far back as I can remember," Porter said. "And it seems like that love of music kept coming back to singing and playing the piano."

Music shaped Porter's education when he earned a bachelors and master's degree in music. It helped shape his faith when he helped dozens of church choirs build programs from the ground, up, and it shaped his life when he met his wife - also a music major and teacher - and led him to take over at the Rockwall School of Music.

Much of music, Porter said, is very personal. Progress can be easily monitored and the sense of achievement

associated with music is unparalleled. It also brings a special sense of community to fellow musicians that share a noteworthy bond.

But it can also be very practical, too - especially for kids.

Music requires regular practicing, which requires discipline. It allows objectives to be completed and goals to be accomplished, and it teaches kids the merits of hard work and dedication - lessons which can be invaluable for today's youth.

The school caters to just about every musical taste. Piano and guitar are the most popular instruments, Porter said, but brass and vocal lessons are also common. A recent emphasis has even been placed on string instruments, particularly the violin and viola, now that local school districts have begun orchestral programs. The age groups are also diverse, with classes organized for everyone from kindergartners to adults.

### SANDKNOP FAMILY PRACTICE

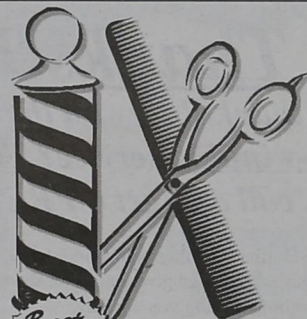


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**Favorite  
Physician**



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Voted Rockwall's Favorite

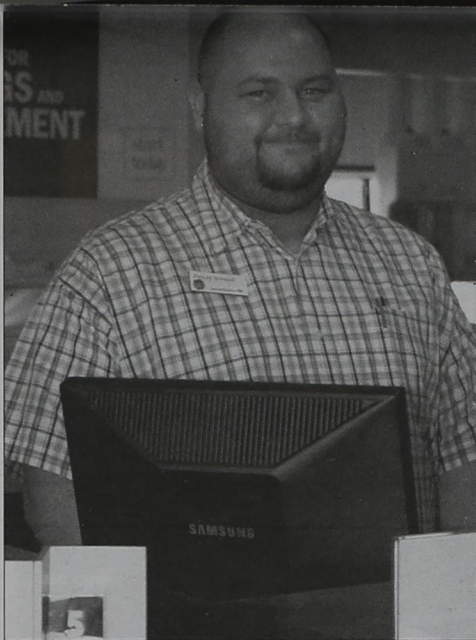
**Barber Shop** and  
**Barber - Howard Porter**



Dawn Fenske

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NEW  
OWNERSHIP**

**Lad Barber Shop**  
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**972-722-1300**



**Donny Noland** assumes his post behind the counter at Bank of America on Horizon Road..

— Favorite Bank Teller —

## Danny Noland loves his job because of the customers

For favorite bank teller Donny Noland, it's all about the customers.

The teller operations specialist at the Bank of America on Horizon Road said the folks in Rockwall are the friendliest customers he's ever worked with. None are confrontational or cranky, and no one comes in with a chip on their shoulder. He credits his friendliness to theirs – and it shows.

After spending 10 years with Bank of America, he says he's learned just about all the ins and outs of the teller trade. Now he's a supervisor, and is considered the neighborhood expert on friendly banking.

"Pretty much anything folks walk into the door with, I can help them. Or I'll point them to someone who can," Noland said. "But I'm surprised I won, because all the other tellers are really great."

At this point, Noland is a jack of all trades. He knows where everything in the office is, helps all the younger employees and spends more than 40 hours a week around the teller line. And after nine years in Rockwall, he said he's been offered positions at other banks, but keeps turning them down for the same reason.

"The customers."

## Readers' Choice Favorites

(continued from page 2)

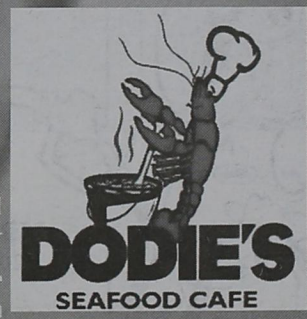
- Place To Shop - Belk's
- Convenience Store - 7-11
- New Car Dealer - Lakeside Chevrolet
- Used Car Dealer - Lakeside Chevrolet
- Jewelry Store - Willis Jewelry
- Supermarket - Kroger
- Barber Shop - Lad Barber Shop
- Place to Workout - 24 Hr. Fitness
- Place to Tan - Solar Reflections
- Restaurant - Luigi's
- Bar - Dodie's Seafood Cafe
- Hamburger - Boot's Burgers
- Pizza - Pizza Getti
- Barbecue - Soulman's
- Seafood - Oar House
- Mexican Food - On the Border
- Chicken Fried Steak - Blackeyed Pea
- Fried Chicken - KFC
- Italian Food - Luigi's
- Steak - Saltgrass
- Desserts - Culver's
- Breakfast - IHOP
- Place to Get Coffee - Starbuck's

SEE FAVORITES ON PAGE 7

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[www.dodiestexas.com](http://www.dodiestexas.com)





# Great customer service is reason Keith Stanley wins second award

An ability to relate to customers and the willingness to continually better himself are two traits that can easily describe Keith Stanley, an air conditioning and heating service technician for Choice Heating and Air Conditioning in Roysse City.

Both are prime examples of why Stanley was recently chosen as the 2008 Rockwall County News Readers' Choice winner for favorite repairman.

The award is Stanley's second. He won the same Readers' Choice category in 2005.

Now in his 15th year at Choice Heating and A/C, Stanley said the opportunity to work at the company is well worth the hour-long commute from his home in Seagoville.

"The boss must really like me to let me drive a company truck to and from work everyday," Stanley said.

His boss, Choice owner Jim Mathews, is actually quite fond of him.

"He's an outstanding employee, kind of a Cinderella story," Mathews said. He was hired as a helper and came up the ranks to be a field supervisor. Nobody works hard-

er."

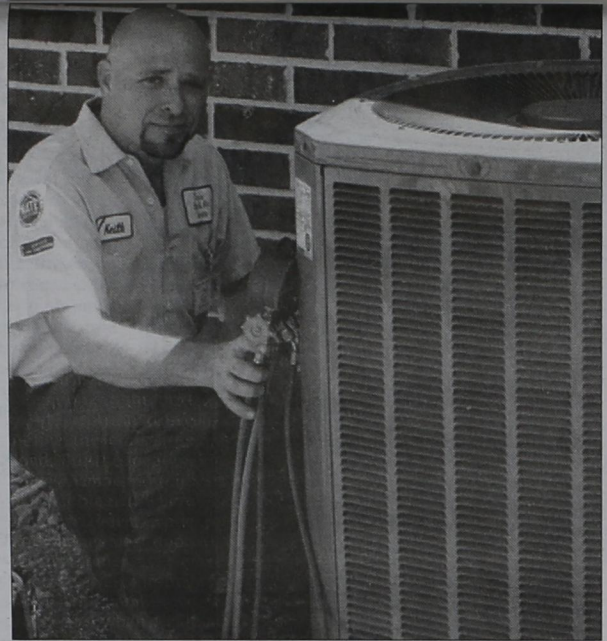
Stanley says he never takes shortcuts while on the job and does his best to relate to each and every customer, part of the reason why he sees so many repeat customers.

"I try to understand their needs and explain the process to each customer without all the technical speak," Stanley said. "I do my best to relate to each person and have gotten to know many on a personal basis. It's probably why we have so many repeat customers here."


Stanley said the job suits him and the opportunity to work at Choice has enabled him to be even better.

"I'm a fixer, it's what I do and I enjoy the whole process," he said. "Working here gives me the chance to continue my education, we do a lot of training to make us better."

"I appreciate everybody for the vote of confidence and I'll strive to keep doing what I do and serve everybody as best I can."



Keith Stanley has provided expert service and quality personal attention for 15 years at Choice Heating and Air Conditioning in Roysse City.



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— Favorite Dog Groomer —

## Dog Gone Pretty pampers its clients like a four-paw resort

The Springer terrier couldn't talk - but you could tell he'd be smiling later.

The young purebred was a customer at Dog Gone Pretty, and was being washed and pampered by none other than Monica Pena - the Readers' Choice for favorite dog groomer. Famed among pooches and customers, Dog Gone Pretty has become a local landmark for professional hair styling and care.

"I have wonderful groomers that I'm blessed to have work for me," Pena said. "They all have more than 15 years of experience."

Most dog groomers will settle for generic styles and mass treatment. Not Dog Gone Pretty. The professional groomers take only eight customers a day - compared to the industry standard of 13 - to focus on superior quality. And they've mastered the art of "custom grooming," which is designed

to tailor a dog's haircut to the owner's lifestyle.

They've given dogs mohawks and other unique trends, they've given long-haired dogs short styles and helped others let their hair hang down - way down. They'll groom any breed any day, and do it all out of love.

Their eclectic spirit is reflected in their choice of location. Right next door to a garage, the untrained eye may not even notice the elite store along Horizon Road. But the location has some advantages, Pena said - its one of the few places on earth where your dog can get a makeover while your car gets an oil change next door, bringing benefit to everyone.

"We've got a lot of awesome dog people," Pena said with a laugh. "We call the dogs family, and when I call and tell someone their pet is ready I usually tell them their kid can come home."



Monica Pena, dog groomer and owner of Dog Gone Pretty, finishes styling the short hair on one of Allen Travis' locally bred Springers.

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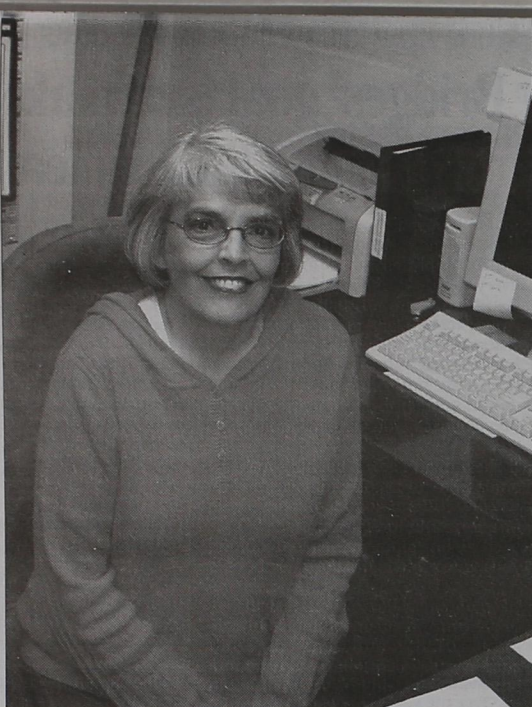
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Linda Denney, secretary at Williams Middle School, said she's being selected as Rockwall's favorite secretary was a selection that left her both "surprised and honored."



— Favorite Secretary —

## For Denney, it's all in a day's work at Williams Middle School

While others may view keeping up with the attendance of students overwhelming and sometimes an unpopular job, Linda Denney said it's all in a day's work.

Starting at 7:45 a.m. daily, the school secretary at Rockwall's Williams Middle School, starts her day "pretty busy with students," collecting reports of the students whom are present at school and those who are absent all while putting together a series of daily reports. Throughout the day, Denney said she's mostly surrounded by students who are either coming to her office to bring an attendance report, visit about an absence and by those who just like to come say, "hello." That interaction she has with students, she said, is what makes her job "a great place to work."

"I just love the kids," Denney said.

Denney has worked in the Rockwall school district more than 11 years. She

said her main priority is ensuring that all things are done properly. Most of her job is about making sure that reports are done and everything is in order, she said.

"I'm an A-type personality. I really want things done. I cannot rest until things are done right," Denney said. "I'm detail oriented [and] I'd rather stay late at night than to come in in the morning and see things not done."

She said doing her job is something that she loves, and being around the students and co-workers make it all worth coming to work everyday. She said while she has no idea why she may have been chosen as the Rockwall readers' favorite secretary, she is pleased that she was selected.

"I was just surprised and honored," Denney said. "I can't imagine why, but it's an honor."



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*Lisa Davis, owner*

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Monty Norvell's relationship with his customers is a big reason why he was chosen as Favorite Postal Worker by the RCN readers.

## Monty Norvell takes personal pride in what he does

During a 24-year career in the United States Air Force, Monty Norvell traveled to a lot of places and met many people.

Few have had the impact that his postal customers in Rockwall have during his 14 years as a mail carrier.

Norvell was recently chosen as the 2008 Rockwall County News Readers' Choice winner for favorite postal worker, an honor he has now earned three times.

"I love having a route I can walk, it gives me a chance to get to know some of the customers personally," Norvell said. "There are lots of children and grandparents on my route and we have a good relationship. They know they are taken care of."

The fact that Norvell went into postal work should come as no surprise to those who know him well. His father and brother are both 33-year veterans of the industry and his passion for the job came from a boyhood memory.

"Postal work is in my blood," Norvell said. "I remember growing up as a boy in Garland and I was always fond of the mailman in our neighborhood."

It's always been a big part of his life, so big in fact, Norvell met his current wife, Teresa, while working his route.

"She was a customer of mine and we'll be celebrating our fifth anniversary in the coming days."

Norvell said the Readers' Choice recognition is something he treasures.

"It's a high honor, especially to be nominated by the people I serve," he said. "Customer service has always been important to me. Some people do the job just to get a check but there is a sense of personal pride that goes with what I do."

"I may be the only person some of the elderly customer talk to all day and that's important to me. I appreciate all the support and the trust from the customers."

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— Favorite Party Clown —

## For Wanda Porter, clowning around brings happiness

While many people may spend most their days in serious mode, Wanda Porter likes clowning around and making others laugh.

Performing at everything from birthday parties and corporate events to wedding receptions, church programs and holiday events, Porter has amused crowds as a performance clown all with the mission to make someone's day, she said. Porter said just hearing someone smile or laugh by the service she provides is an reward in itself for her.

"If I can bring happiness to them, I feel like I've been a success," said Porter who has lived and performed shows in Rockwall for about two years. "You may never be able to tell the news a person has just heard or the pain they're feeling inside, but if I can come along, make a balloon for them or make them smile, then I call that a successful day."

Porter started her career as a clown in Arkansas, about 14 years ago. Around

that time, she said the death of she and parents an in-laws, whom she and her husband had both cared for, left her with a void. Porter said she started praying for God to allow her to do something that would make a difference in the lives of others, never thinking she would end up clowning. Soon after that prayer, while attending a church program featuring a clown, she introduced to her fate and the start of her career. Since then, she has accumulated over eight characters she performs — "Joy Belle" and "Gertie Mae" being her most requested. She has also participated in several clown camps across the country such as the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse and she's also received training from Barnum and Bailey Circus performers.

She is a member of the Clowns of America International, and was recognized with the organization's highest honor, "Excellence in Clowning," in



Party clown Wanda Porter holds portraits of two of her most requested characters, Joy Belle and Gertie Mae, in her Rockwall home. For more than 14 years Porter has performed at variation of eight circus character and performance characters at various birthdays, church programs and corporate events.

2004. Porter said every bit of her career in clowning has been "fantastic." She said even on days when she may feel "down in dumps," she can put on her costume, perform one of her customized shows and eventually feel good knowing she can provide a memorable moment, especially for children, that "they will remember the rest of their life."

"I've done a lot of things in my life, but I've never done anything as reward-

ing as clowning," Porter said. "When those little kids come up hugging me, I feel like the richest person in the world."

She said being named as Rockwall County's favorite party clown is both an honor and a surprise.

"I am just flabbergasted," Porter said. "I've just been here ... less than two years and to receive this honor is just awesome."

For more information on Porter, visit [www.clowning4alloccasions.com](http://www.clowning4alloccasions.com).

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★ **2008 READERS CHOICE AWARDS**

Favorite school teacher  
**Sandy Bridges**, a middle school pre-advanced placement English instructor, has been making a difference in RISD students' lives for more than a dozen years.



— Favorite School Teacher —

## Bridges' goal is to make every student a lifelong learner

Sandy Bridges, a Rockwall middle school pre-advanced placement English instructor, said she's out to ensure that every student who leaves her classroom is a lifelong learner.

For more than 12 years, Bridges, an instructor at Williams Middle School, has instilled in her students that when they leave her classroom on the final day of school, she wants them to be prepared for what's ahead of them. She said, for her, the fun part is seeing when her students come to the understanding that she's out to ensure they do they very best.

"I like to just teach the kids to learn because that's what they're here to do is be a lifelong learner, to be curious and always ask questions," Bridges said.

She said she teaches her students a rigor in which a strong education base is built so that they are prepared for the next level they face in their educational experience.

Over the years, that philosophy has

earned her two Inspirational Teacher Awards and a Lifetime Inspiration Award from the Rockwall Academic Booster Club.

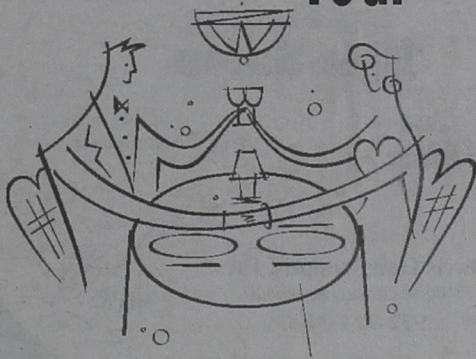
James Hoover, one of Bridges' eighth-grade students, wrote her in a letter that many of the lessons that he's learned in her class will stay with him forever. He said others in Rockwall share the same sentiment of the significance she makes by selecting her as an inspirational teacher. Hoover notes that Bridges is one of the teachers that encourages him to be "a better student."

"You [Bridges] are truly the most inspirational person in my whole world," Hoover wrote.

Knowing that her students have learned something that will help them throughout their life is something she said she can't help doing.

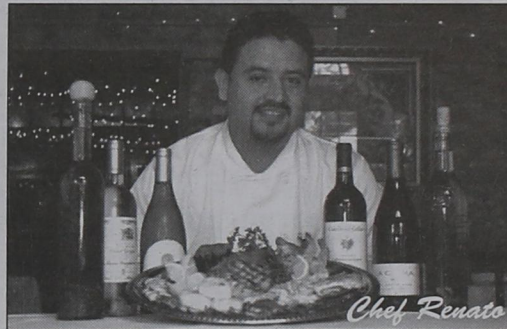
"You can't say how wonderful that feels to know that you've changed someone's life and made a difference," she said.

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## Readers' Choice Favorites

(continued from page 7)

Real Estate Agent -  
Jonna Morton  
Police Officer - John Knight  
Firefighter - Greg Givens, Heath  
Car Salesman - Terry Cavett,  
Lakeside Chevrolet  
Secretary - Linda Denny,  
Williams Middle School  
Sales Clerk - Mark,  
Smoothie King  
Preacher - Steve Stroope,  
Lake Pointe Baptist Church  
Bible Class Teacher -  
Darren Lewis, First Baptist  
Postal Carrier - Monty Norvell  
Bus Driver - (tie) Bobby  
Hubbard, Mr. Rhome,  
Mr. Free  
Electrician - Milestone Electric  
Plumber - Bob Cruise  
Carpenter - Matt Asbill  
Barber - Howard Potter,  
Lad Barber Shop  
Beautician - Lisa Davis

SEE FAVORITES ON PAGE 15

## — Favorite Oral Surgeon —

### Caring, compassion makes trip to dentist pleasant

Dr. Kevin Pollock is honored to have recently been named favorite oral surgeon by Rockwall County News readers.

Pollock, who started his Rockwall practice in June 2001 after relocating from Florida where he worked for the largest group practice in Fort Myers.

Pollock graduated from Baylor College of Dentistry in 1991 and a four-year oral and maxillo-facial surgery residency in Detroit, Mich. During his residency he did research on obstructive sleep apnea. Pollock trained in laser surgery for snoring treatment and also aesthetic facial procedures.

Pollock also does wisdom tooth extraction, jaw surgery, dental implant placement, biopsies and other procedures.

Pollock believes the success of his practice has as much to do with him as well as the staff.

"Our staff functions as a highly trained professional team that takes pride in its professional capability," Pollock said.

Pollock's staff said he genuinely cares about his patients and is very compassionate. They said each patient leaves his office with a care package and he calls them the following day to see how they are feeling.



Favorite oral surgeon Dr. Kevin Pollack has been helping make bright Rockwall area smiles since 2001.

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## Rapport earns John Knight recognition

John Knight loves being able to help people in the community he grew up in.

Knight, recently voted favorite police officer by Rockwall County News readers, has been in law enforcement for 20 years.

Knight believes it's the rapport he's established with residents that earned him the honor.

"I grew up in Rockwall and tried to maintain good relationships with people in the community," Knight said.

But Knight doesn't feel it's something he does alone.

"I think a lot of officers go the extra mile."

Knight said the Rockwall Police Department has a commitment to professionalism and he tries to maintain those standards.

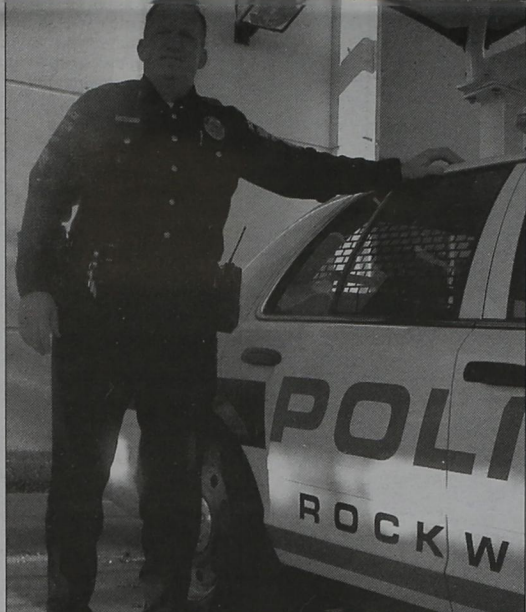
Knight's father was the Rockwall County Sheriff in the 1970s.

"That got me interested in [law enforcement]," Knight said.

Knight was a deputy with the Rockwall County Sheriff's Office for a short time before going to the RPD.

Knight said his favorite part of the job is "interacting with the community and being able to help out when I can."

"I appreciate the trust the chief and the citizens have placed in me," Knight said. "That means a lot to me."



Rockwall police officer **John Knight** has 20 years experience in law enforcement. He was born and raised in Rockwall County and loves the community.

(continued from page 3)

Margarita - On the Border

Place To Take A Date -

Oar House

Waitress/Waiter - Paige Baesa

Accountant - Don Gage

Doctor - Les T. Sandknop

Painter - James Imburgia

Lawyer - Todd White

Optometrist -

Dr. Weldon Wright

Chiropractor - John Weddle

Pharmacist -

Chrissy, Brookshires

Dentist - Thomas Ryan

School Teacher -

Sandy Bridges,

Williams Middle School

Stockbroker - (tie) Mark

McKinney,

Fred Kalberer

Insurance Agent - Steve Baxter

Bank Teller - Donnie,

Bank of America

SEE FAVORITES ON PAGE 10

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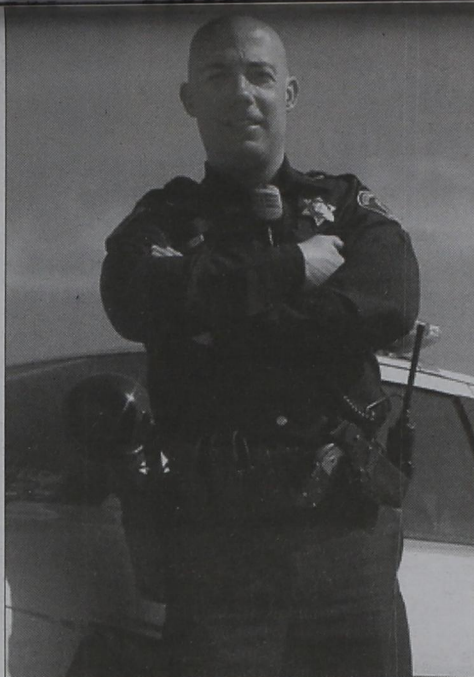
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Stefankiewicz** is  
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Fate area and  
hopes to be there  
for many years to  
come.



— Favorite Deputy —

## Stefankiewicz brings energetic personality to job

People describe Jason Stefankiewicz as funny, easy to talk to and someone who has an energetic personality, maybe that's why Rockwall County News readers named him the favorite deputy.

"I enjoy getting out there and talking to people, giving kids stickers and talking about crime watch," Stefankiewicz said.

Stefankiewicz works in the Fate area.

"I enjoy it out there," he said. "I hope to be out there for many years to come."

Stefankiewicz was born in Denver, Colo. then his parents moved to Texas. He grew up in Sachse.

"After graduating high school, I needed to see the world, so I joined the U.S. Air Force," Stefankiewicz said.

After four years he returned home, went into the police academy then

joined the Sachse Police Department. Then his best friend, who worked for the RCSO, suggested he come there. He's been there three years and five months.

In his off time, Stefankiewicz enjoys working out and riding his Chopper.

In October, Stefankiewicz's dad, Karl, was looking for a job change after many years in the car business. Now Stefankiewicz's dad is a detention officer with RCSO, allowing the father and son to see each other more.

Stefankiewicz said he's enjoyed working at the RCSO since day one and he hopes to continue for a long time. He said the favorite part of his job is interacting with the community.

"I've never met a stranger," Stefankiewicz said.

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*Dr. Joe Loftis in practice for almost 50 years*

