



**SPORTS**  
**Committed To Excellence**  
RHHS Lady Hawks begin 2008 softball season with hunger.....Page 18

22 • No. 5

Thursday, January 31, 2008

50 Cents

**Contacting the County News**

To submit stories, photos, letters and letters to the editor to Rockwall County News, direct your e-mails to the following addresses.  
To contact publisher Bill Jordan, e-mail publisher@rockwallcountynews.com.  
To contact managing editor Kent Miller, e-mail editor@rockwallcountynews.com.  
To contact a staff community porter, e-mail news@rockwallcountynews.com.  
To contact sports editor Cliff Gibson, e-mail sports@rockwallcountynews.com.  
To contact the RCN by phone, call (972) 722-3099. Send fax submissions to (972) 524-8083.

**Around Town**

**'Grease' Auditions**

Rockwall Community Playhouse hold auditions for the musical, "Grease," at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2. Performances begin in May. (972) 722-3399 or www.rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

**Class of 2008**

Students from the Rockwall High School Class of 2008 are offering flats of petunias and geraniums for \$16 each in a variety of colors. Proceeds benefit the prom and after-prom celebrations. Order forms are due by Friday, Jan. 29 and flowers will be available for pickup in time for your spring planting. Donna Patrick, (214) 697-1026.

**Spring Show**

Rockwall High School Stingerettes' spring show is at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 8-9. Advance tickets are \$12 and at the door \$15.

**Community Band**

Rockwall Community Band is seeking musicians for the spring/summer concert season. Any woodwind, brass or percussion players, 15 and older are welcome. No audition necessary. Rehearsals are each Monday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Rockwall High School band hall, 100 Yellow Jacket Lane. Gary Sorenson, (972) 961-4693 or www.rockwallcommunityband.org on the Web.

**Helping Hands**

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

**Library Closing**

Rockwall County Library will be closed Monday, Feb. 18th for Presidents Day and will reopen Tuesday at the regular time.

**Lunch Bunch**

Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Luigi's Italian Cafe. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip. Pay at the door. Reservations are not required. Leon Tuttle, (972) 771-6874.

**Blue Canyon opens in mood to give back**

By MARCUS FUNK  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

The air of sophistication mingled with the "new building smell" as bartenders poured exotic wines and mixed drinks. Rockwall's finest mingled between leather seats and marble countertops as waiters clipped by with shrimp cocktails and

Oriental barbecue. A large mural graced the wall above the open kitchen while in the corner, a jazz flute played the lead of Carlos Santana's version of "Oye Como Va."

And it wasn't difficult at all for Margo Nielsen to, as Santana sang, "hear how it goes" - the executive director of Helping

Hands was delighted.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Nielsen said. "I've been in Helping Hands for 19 years and this is the first charity drive we've seen on this scale."

The event was a charity drive for the Helping Hands and a

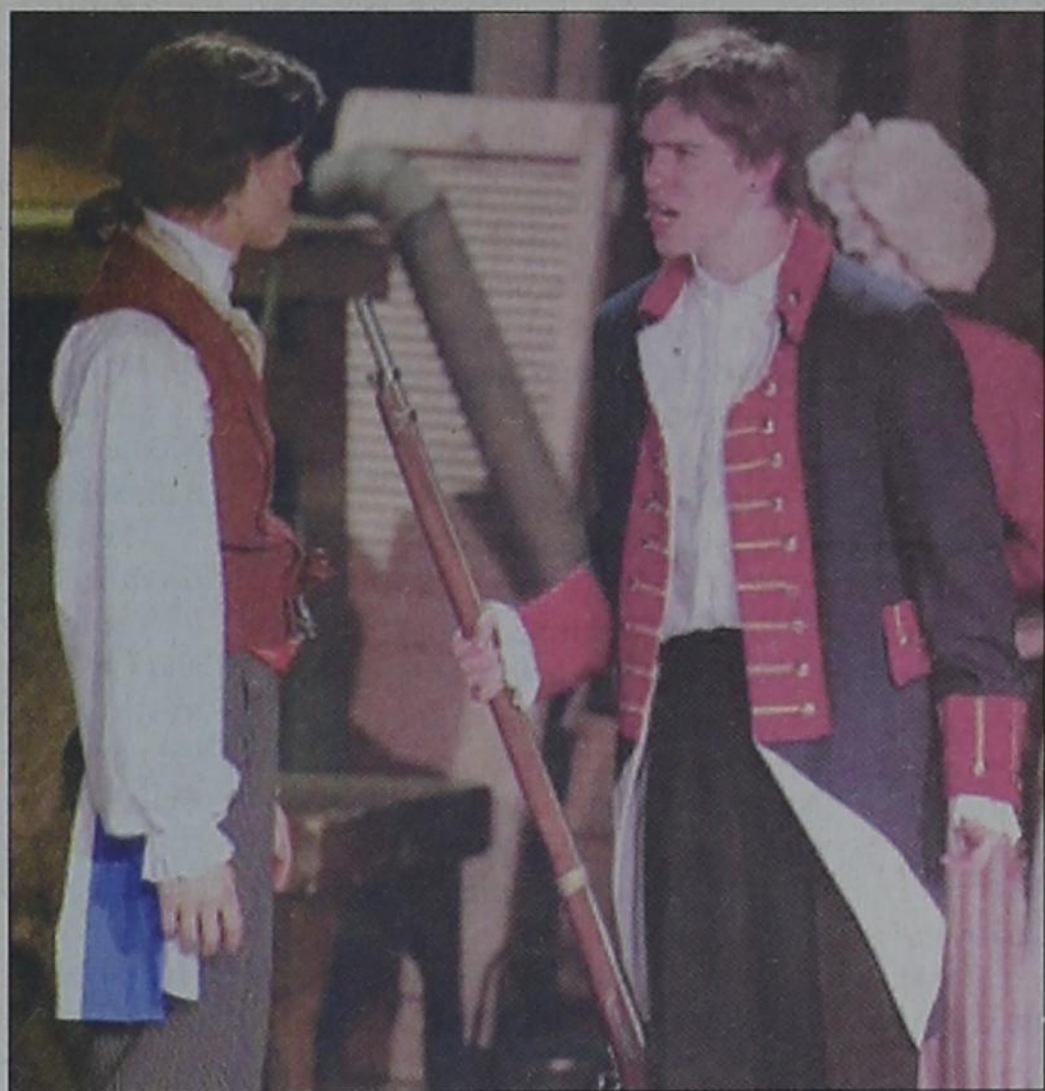
SEE BLUE ON PAGE 3A



Rockwall County News / MARCUS FUNK

Rockwall City Council members Cliff Sevier, Glen Farris and Matt Scott with guests at a charity function at the Blue Canyon Kitchen and Tavern on Monday for Helping Hands.

**It's Showtime**



Rockwall County News / STEPHEN MCCLUNG

TOP: The cast of "Les Miserables" goes through a dress rehearsal in preparation for the show's Jan. 31 opening. LEFT: Trevor St. John-Gilbert (left) plays Enjolras and Jason Bias is cast as Valjean. ABOVE: Marius is played by Travis McClung with Emily Willet in the role of Cosette.

**RHS theater, choral students presenting 'Les Miserables'**

STAFF REPORT

Tickets are going fast for Rockwall High School's production of "Les Miserables," which opens Jan. 31.

Performances are Jan. 31, Feb. 1-2 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 2-3 at 2 p.m. in the Rockwall High School Theater. Tickets are reserved seats only for \$10 and can be purchased from Margaret Mayo in the counselors' office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

or by contacting her at mmayo@rockwallisd.org.

"Les Miserables" is being presented by the RHS theater and choral departments. Auditions were held last September and the cast includes 60 high school students along with several elementary and middle school students who have been rehearsing since November.

The cast includes Mary Bander, Piper Bardwell, Chris Bell, Blair

Belt, Jason Bias, Rachel Bryson, JuAune Burgess, Becca Byrne, Kelli Burkhardt, Alex Calderon, Brian Campbell, Miles Carrington, Trey Clanton, Melissa Cotner, Victoria Daley, Jolease Darrington, Nicki Dearick, Jack Eidson, Lizzy Eidson, Arielle Engle, Lizzy Farish, Ryan Garrett, Bobby Gaylor, Emily Green, Travis Griswold, Chelsea Hill, Lauren

SEE SHOWTIME ON PAGE 3A

**RCPD, RCSO: Communication system needed**

By TEREASA NIMS  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Computers in Roysse City and Rockwall County Sheriff's Office patrol cars are expected to help lessen the burden on dispatchers while increasing officers' efficiency.

"I'm all for it," said Roysse City Police Chief Tom Shelton of the mobile digital terminals. "It's certainly something we need."

Rockwall County Sheriff's Office Lt. David Davis worked tirelessly on a grant from Homeland Security to equip the county with antennas, repeaters, infrastructure, a server and computers. But cutbacks in Homeland Security meant the \$300,000 Davis requested in 2006 was distributed in phases.

"A one-phase project has turned into a three-phase project," Davis said.

Davis negotiated use of four water towers for

SEE SYSTEM ON PAGE 3A

**Rockwall ISD leads nation with kindness program**

STAFF REPORT

On Dec. 19, Rachel's Challenge, a nationwide program designed to teach secondary students about kindness and compassion, formed a partnership with the Rockwall Independent School District to be the model district for a Rachel's Challenge elementary level program.

Rachel's Challenge is a school assembly and training program that was formed in response to the Columbine High School tragedy in 1999. Columbine junior Rachel Scott's life was the first taken in one of the worst school shootings in American history. In an essay written one month before her death, Rachel challenged her readers to, "Start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion." RISD has developed the first elementary Rachel's Challenge program in the nation, completing a one-of-a-kind comprehensive K-12 kindness and compassion initiative.

"We are very pleased to be working with Rockwall ISD on this project," said Darrell Scott, Rachel's father

SEE KINDNESS ON PAGE 3A

**Official calls electronic vote machines reliable**

By MARCUS FUNK  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Rockwall County is preparing several electronic voting machines for the upcoming Texas primary but local Democratic leadership is concerned about their reliability.

State and federal law mandates the use of ES&S iVotronic electronic voting machines in all varieties of elections. Glenda Denton, elections administrator for Rockwall County, said local officials are preparing 50 of the machines for use

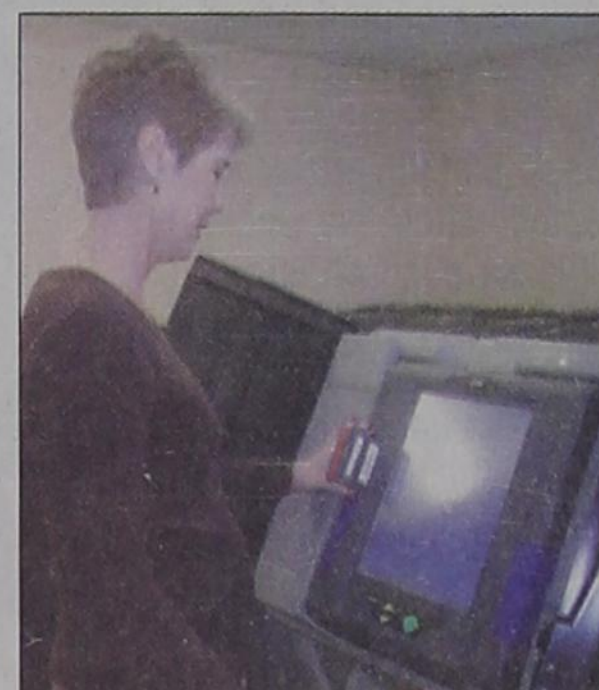
during the 2008 primary season - eight for early voting, two for staff training and the remaining 40 for Election Day. The touch-screen machines are designed for use by hearing and visually impaired voters, although any registered voter can choose to use the machines.

Conventional paper ballots will also be available and Denton said many residents prefer voting with a tangible record. But many others are becoming increasingly willing to use the voting machines. This is the eighth election

since 2006 that the machines have been used and Denton said the number of electronic voters has grown with each cycle - due, in part, to the machine's accountability.

"At first, everyone requested paper ballots, but as time goes by more and more people try and like the electronic voting machines," Denton said. "I feel very comfortable, I think they're very reliable."

SEE VOTE ON PAGE 4A



Rockwall County News / MARCUS FUNK

Rockwall County Elections Administrator Glenda Denton demonstrates one of 50 ES&S iVotronic voting machines. In her hand is a personal electronic ballot.





# VIEWPOINTS

Where our opinions and your opinions come together to give the community a voice.



## Quotable

**“When we come into a community like this, we think it’s very important to give back.”**

— Brandt Evans  
Corporate Executive Chef  
Blue Canyon Kitchen and Tavern

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## DEADLINES

Editorial and advertising deadlines are Friday at 5 p.m.

## LETTER POLICY

The Rockwall County News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local interest. Letters should be typewritten and contain no more than 300 words.

All letters must be signed in the usual signature of the writer and carry the phone number and address of the writer for verification purposes.

Letters will not be accepted which are written as “cards of thanks” to commercial concerns for cash or like-kind contributions. No candidate letters will be accepted within two weeks of an election. Please send all letters to:

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They may also be e-mailed to:  
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## Editorially Speaking

### Rebates will run up the deficit but won't bring economic stabilization

In a policy statement drafted last week for the Cato Institute, William Niskanen has pointed out that there is little chance an economic stimulus package approved by Congress this past week will really bring much relief for our troubled financial picture across the country.

In fact, as Niskanen explains, the measure will only serve to increase the federal government's deficit and in the long run lead to higher taxes.

Niskanen call the measure a “backward” economic package.

Among other things, the plan includes a tax rebate or credit of up to \$1,200 for each family with an annual income under \$150,000, and a temporary cut in taxes on business investment.

Most of this makes no economic sense, claims Niskanen, who serves as chairman of the Washington based libertarian think tank. The rationale for extending tax rebates and credits to middle class families is to increase their demand for goods and services, but it would all be financed by an equivalent increase in the federal deficit. Worse, it would have no significant effect.

As has been characteristic of almost all prior examples of temporary fiscal stimulus, any effects on the behavior of the recipients will be delayed until after the economy has already started to recover. The IRS recently announced that the volume of 2007 tax returns

would prevent it from mailing checks out any earlier than June, by which time the economy will probably be righting itself.

The temporary reduction of taxes on business investment would probably increase such investment by a small amount, but mostly by pulling forward investments that would otherwise be made later.

We agree with Niskanen that fiscal policy should not be used in the futile attempt to stabilize the economy. The Federal Reserve's monetary policy is far more effective at this task, and the large recent reduction in the Fed funds rate illustrates that it can respond more quickly and more forcefully than any change in fiscal policy.

Many believe the Federal Reserve will make another reduction in their base lending rate in the next few days, so why is Congress rushing to provide relief in such dramatic fashion?

In general, government policy should be judged by its effects on the incentives to work, save, invest, and increase productivity and output. This fiscal stimulus package would do almost none of the above.

Politicians, in election years especially, feel compelled to be seen as doing something in response to the general concerns of their favored constituencies. In this current case, it might look good in the media blitz, but it's still an economic mistake.

### Even kids' diapers are into going green

They'll never nominate me for any Tree Hugger Of The Year awards, but I will confess that I'm more inclined to pay attention to environmental issues these days.

I find myself concerned about pollution of the air and land, about conservation of natural resources, and I pitch in with recycling projects more often than I've ever done before.

I can't really point to any one thing, or event, that made me start “thinking green” more often. It certainly wasn't anything Al Gore said. But at the same time I'm tired of too many politicians pretending we can go on forever, living like we've been living, and always enjoy clean air and clear water.

Basically, my position is we all need to reverse several trends in a hurry or the landscape is going to be a smelly shade of brown, not a sweet shade of green.

The other day I found myself in deep thought over “other” environmental “issues.” I was reading an article about diapers and learned that 27.4 billion disposable diapers are used each year in the U.S. That's a “ton” of diapers. In reality, it's more like 3.4 million tons, according to the EPA.

The really bad part of this story is that those 27.4 billion diapers require huge holes in the ground to bury each year, causing long-term problems for cities that already have very limited landfill space.

OK, small confession here: The reason I was deep in thought about diapers is because there is a grandkid on the way. So forgive me if you are shocked that I've drug you into a conversation about infant under-



Bill Jordan

pants. One kid's reduced waste may not be able to impact the growing mound of disposable diapers we are tossing in the dumps every day, but like everything else involved in “thinking green,” it has to start with one person. Somebody has to help reverse the trend.

If we are going to scale back on that 3.4 million tons of plastic waste, we have to take on the monster one happy baby bottom at a time.

Back in the old days the only alternative to disposable diapers was the good old-fashioned cotton diaper that had to be washed, dried, folded and stored. And in all fairness to the disposable diaper industry, that takes a ton of water and energy (both electric energy and mom energy).

But there's good news out there in diaper land, especially if you are concerned about the impact on the environment and also concerned about cute little baby bottoms. Now there are hybrid diapers that can not only keep little rug rats more comfortable, but also help scale back

on landfill space. But I may not be totally sold on this hybrid stuff, even if it is a good “thinking green” idea.

The new cloth diapers are different from the ones moms of old once struggled to get around their baby's bottom. While approximately half of cloth users still rely on fold-and-pin diapers, new designs with names like Fuzzi Bunz and Happy Heinies are made to be more “customer” friendly.

Velcro, buttons and snaps have replaced pins, and the diapers are fitted with elastic around the openings to hold tight around flailing legs. In place of old-fashioned rubber panties, the new cloths use water-resistant covers made of merino wool, nylon or polyurethane laminate.

Polyurethane laminate? Merino wool?

I'm pretty pumped about holding a grandbaby in a few months, but there's just something wrong with the idea of patting said grandkid on their polyurethane laminated butt. And I start feeling a little itchy when I think about a tiry bum wrapped in merino wool.

I realize I don't get a vote in this, but I hope mom and dad will consider good ol' cotton diapers. They're soft, they're less expensive (less than \$300, whereas disposables may run up to \$3,000) and they're good for the environment.

And if there has to be a compromise, let's at least stay away from that hybrid with the wool liners. I don't want a grandkid running around scratching their ... well, you know.

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Bill Jordan is the publisher of the Rockwall County News and can be reached via e-mail at [publisher@rockwallcountynews.com](mailto:publisher@rockwallcountynews.com).



Jeff Jordan

### Dressing for success may not always please fashion czars

I don't take many fashion tips from *Elle* Style Magazine and you'll never catch me in a pair of \$200 blue jeans. But I think I dress myself pretty well. I'm not the fashion czars in New York, London and Paris would disagree, but, at the least, when I get ready for work in the morning I try to look nice.

Of course, my personal style has evolved over time.

In my earliest years I simply preferred to wear my birthday suit. It mattered little how my mother chose to dress me. As soon as the opportunity presented itself, I would shed my duds and proceed in the buff. My nude escapades, however, were quickly interrupted the moment my mother caught a glance of my bare rear end.

Eventually, I learned such attire — or, the lack thereof — was socially unacceptable no matter how comfortable it may have been.

Some time later I began to make the transition from being dressed by Mom to dressing myself. It was a struggle. I often pulled resources from the clothes closet as well as the toy chest when dressing myself.

Mother and I just had differing opinions on what came to the subject of style. For instance, a perfectly acceptable outfit, in my mind, might consist of the following attire: a red cape, Scooby Doo “big boys,” a yellow belt, Dad's cowboy boots, Mr. Potato Head's eyeglasses and a fireman's hat. To further accessorize the ensemble, I might occasionally top it off with a plastic sword stuck through the belt and a nice pair of dog tags around my neck.

“You are NOT wearing that to church,” Mother would say as I strutted down the stairs in a model on the runway.

“What?” I would reply. “Is the sword just over the top?”

Ultimately, Mother won the fashion dispute and I soon came to the point where I could be trusted to prepare myself each day. Throughout the next several years, I managed on my own well.

I was even able to avoid most major fashion fads that made their way to Kaufman County until I had to have a pair of Air Jordans in Jr. High. I begged my way into that pair of sneakers despite my father's famous penny loafer story.

“Boy, when I was your age,” he would say, “I wanted a pair of penny loafers more than anything in the world. Every boy in school had a pair of them. I begged my parents for a pair of penny loafers until I was blue in the face. Finally, they gave in and bought me a pair. I was thrilled. I found two shiny pennies and stuck them in the slots. I could hardly wait to go to school and show off my new shoes. And you know what happened? My penny loafers went out of style the very next day.”

Air Jordans didn't go out of style the next day as my father might have suggested they would. Their appeal did eventually fade.

My crowning (and only) achievement in the world of fashion came when I was elected “Most Best Dressed” by my high school graduating class. Some individuals suggested the election was rigged. Nevertheless, I carry the honor proudly to this day.

In college I digressed to a degree when it came to my appearance. A typical day's attire from the ground up was a worn-out pair of boots, khaki pants and my cleanest, dirtiest shirt. I simply didn't have the motivation to look sharp for an 8 a.m. algebra class.

Today, I try to stick to the basics — nothing too fancy or du jour. A neatly pressed shirt and a conservative pair of slacks accompanied by a shined pair of shoes is all I need.

Only my wife knows if I still prefer the Scooby Doo underpants. Hey, some things never go out of style.

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Jeffrey Jordan is the advertising director of the Rockwall County News and can be reached via e-mail at [jhjordan12@yahoo.com](mailto:jhjordan12@yahoo.com).

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From Page 1  
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# lue

From Page 1A

d opening celebration for the Canyon Kitchen and Tavern at the Harbor along Lake Raybourn. The high-class new restaurant wanted to commemorate the opening by giving back to the community and donated all profits from the \$35 entrance fee to Rockwall's largest social service organization.

# ystem

From Page 1A

ennas in the county. Three have been approved and use of the tower is expected to be approved by Rockwall County Commissioners on Feb. 12. "The closer the computer to the antenna, the faster it works," Davis said. Laptops will go into the patrol cars first because the older ones are slated for replacement, Davis said. Each laptop needed accessories will cost approximately \$8,000. However, he is looking at getting them at a lower cost. He anticipates getting 26-30 of them. Six are marked for Royse City and remainder for RCSO. Shelton is excited about the computers. Shelton used the MDTs while he worked at the Dallas Police Department. "It was like coming into the modern world," Shelton recalls. While with DPD, Shelton was

Rockwall residents turned out in droves to mark the occasion and donate to the charity, as well as sample the new restaurant's fare. Corporate executive chef and brand owner Brandt Evans said the restaurant specializes in "creative American cooking," and combines an upscale sense of style with an approachable attitude and a kid-friendly menu. Everything from cheeseburgers to pasta and shrimp and steak are available at one of six dining

areas in the restaurant and Evans said a pair of wine bars provide a sophisticated selection.

The restaurant is also providing between 75 and 80 new jobs to Rockwall, according to Evans.

"When we come into a community like this, we think it's very important to give back," Evans said. "We're not here just to take the money and run, we're here to give back. And if I can help put a smile on someone's face by cooking, then I'm happy, too."

working a presidential detail and had to get parked cars cleared from an area. From his computer, he and a lieutenant were able to run the vehicles' license plates and find out who owned the respective cars - all without having to go through dispatch and taking up airtime.

"With the MDTs officers can check so many more things," Shelton said.

Currently, officers have to radio to dispatch to check a person's license, the registration on a vehicle, a person's driving record and various other things.

"With the MDTs they will be able to do it for themselves," Davis said. "And it cuts down on the amount of time it takes them to do it and it takes some of the burden off dispatchers."

Davis said that in addition to checking on information for officers, dispatchers take administrative calls, 911 calls and information calls.

For example if a deputy goes out for a report of a stolen tractor, they have to take the report and come back to the RCSO to

write it. With the MDTs they will write the report from their patrol car while in the field.

"It's going to keep our officers available for emergency calls," Davis said.

Because they will operate on a secure wireless network instead of a radio frequency that's open to all, deputies will be able to tap into databases that were previously off limits to them.

Davis said that because it's secure, they can now get information from databases about certain people, like if they are on a terrorist watch list or are tied to that group in a way.

Davis said these aren't necessarily people who are directly tied to terrorism, but people who federal authorities are gathering more information about. Deputies may add information about where they are living, where they are going, what they are doing and so on.

"These are people that we wouldn't have known anything about before," Davis said.

Townsend, Caleb Webb, Hannah West, Lillian Wiley, Emily Willet, McKenna Woodlan and Shea Ziemer.

The crew includes Sara Means, Christian Salinas, Haley Cox, Jim Crowell, Lauren Williamson, Dakota Bower, Hannah Walker, Flo Munoz and Emily Ragsdale.

Other members of the cast are: Ragsdale, Mason Rettig, Leman Roughton, Michelle Ter, Landon Roseberry, Peter Neale, Samuel Scheele, Sam With, Trevor St. John-Gilbert, Michael Teague, Emily Tolle, Cole Tompkins, Carolyn

Heath Jones. The production staff is: Becky Henderson, director; Karen Thomas, music director; Stacia Woodlan, choreographer; Matt Mitchell, fight choreographer; and Sarah Cotner, production assistant.

# Kindness

From Page 1A

and founder of Rachel's Challenge. "RISD serves as a model district for Rachel's Challenge program and we are excited to extend its reach into the elementary schools with the help of their counseling staff. RISD has created a learning experience and process that encourages, recognizes and reinforces acts of kindness to shape the culture and change the behavior of students."

RISD counselors created an elementary program tailored to a younger age group that continually challenges students to act with compassion towards their peers and families. The initiative shown by the counseling staff compelled several leaders in the Rachel's Challenge Organization to visit Rockwall to see the elementary program in action. As a result of the presentation, a team of RISD administrators and counselors were invited to the Rachel's Challenge headquarters in Colorado in mid-December. A partnership was formed between RISD and Rachel's Challenge in hopes of extending the elementary program to school districts across the nation.

"The success of the Rachel's Challenge presentations at the secondary level proved inspirational for the counseling staff," said RISD Superintendent Gene Burton. "The partnership that we have formed is a direct result of the initiative and hard work of our counselors. We are looking forward to joining Rachel's Challenge in support of this effort."

Initially, Rockwall High School and Rockwall-Heath High School counselors presented the Rachel's Challenge Program to their students in April of 2007 and formed the Friends of Rachel Program where students continue to meet the challenge of kindness

and compassion. The success of the program at the high school level prompted school counselors to extend Rachel's Challenge to middle school students. In September 2007, the RISD middle school campuses viewed the Rachel's Challenge presentation. The counselors, staff and administration agreed that the foundation of social, emotional and academic skills begins at the elementary level. Implementation of the Rachel's Challenge Program into elementary classrooms helps RISD primary schools become a safe place to learn and grow.

As part of the Rachel's Challenge Program, elementary students continually keep kindness and compassion on their minds. Each time a student commits or witnesses an act of kindness another link is added to the chains which adorn the halls of the RISD elementary schools. Nancy Boyd,

RISD coordinator of counseling and guidance, originally ordered 73,000 multi-colored cardstock strips of paper to create the chains of compassion and kindness. The success of the program became evident when Boyd recently ordered 50,000 additional links.

On May 8, each elementary school will link their chains together at Rachel's Rally. This community-wide event will serve as a reminder and measurement of how far acting with kindness can reach. The rally will involve students from every RISD school. Scott and other dignitaries will attend the celebration.


Over the years, Rachel's Challenge has received support from several well-known celebrities and figures including President and Mrs. George W. Bush, former President Bill Clinton, Elton John and Chuck Norris.

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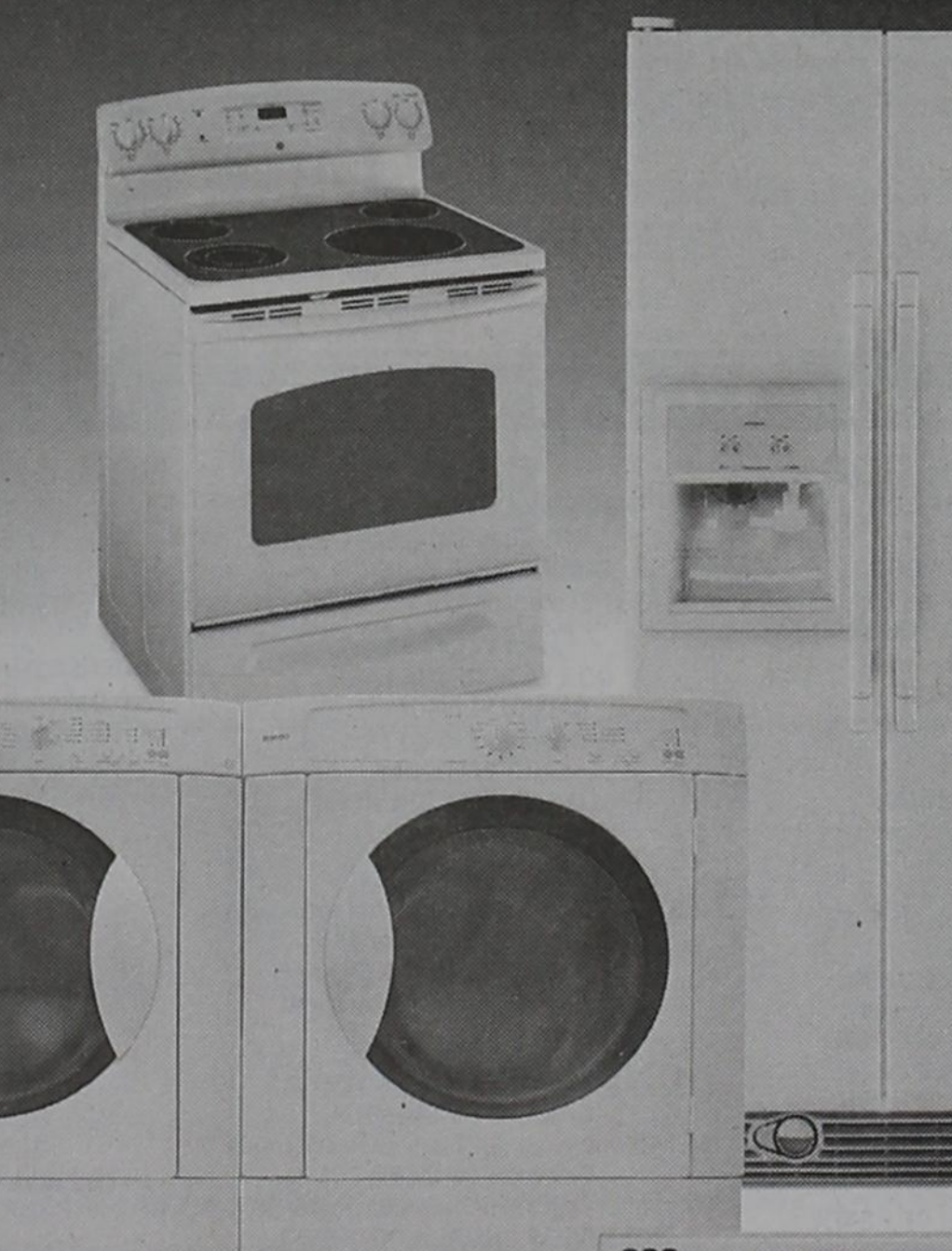
From Page 1A

igan, Alex Johnson, Lindi es, Kali Katzmann, Craig un, Shannon Krikorian, sica MacCormack, Travis lung, Drew Mitchell, Katy ore, Caroline Munden, rick Newman, Ashley ales, Cole Ragsdale and ily Ragsdale.

Other members of the cast are: Ragsdale, Mason Rettig, Leman Roughton, Michelle ter, Landon Roseberry, Peter Neale, Samuel Scheele, Sam With, Trevor St. John-Gilbert, Michael Teague, Emily Tolle, Cole Tompkins, Carolyn

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SEARS DEALER ROP JAWB01C005



# Vote

From Page 1A

There have been no major problems with the machines during previous elections. Denton said, which included a variety of school board elections, the 2006 Congressional election and last year's contentious alcoholic beverage referendum. The testing process is intricate and specifically outlined by state law, and Denton said any problems with the machines are caught long before voting begins.

The machines store data on three devices - two of them removable - and each is tested before election data is loaded. Denton said ballots are programmed and customized for individual precincts and once the data is loaded onto the machines, between five and 10 are randomly screened to ensure a simulation vote is properly counted. The hardware is supervised by trained precinct judges who control access to the machines with personal electronic ballots, or PEBs. Voting data can be accessed using any of the three storage devices, and the state

requires sampling from three state-selected precincts be printed and counted by hand after the election to ensure accuracy.

Voters can also review and revise their choices before pressing a "vote" button at the top of the machine and sealing their choices.

Denton said many of the popular misgivings about electronic voting machines are based upon suspicion and poor information, and the machines work quite well in practice. Rockwall County Democratic Chairman Stephen Taylor, though, is not convinced.

"I'm insecure about these machines. They're just not reliable," Taylor said. "I'd be very nervous about them if I were a candidate in a close election. Even if only one machine has a problem, if it's in a crowded precinct, it could have a big impact on the election."

Taylor said those suspicions are both bipartisan and well-documented. He pointed to a 375-page study by the University of Pennsylvania on electronic voting machines that identified accidental human error and machine malfunction in a variety of elections nationwide. He also referenced a

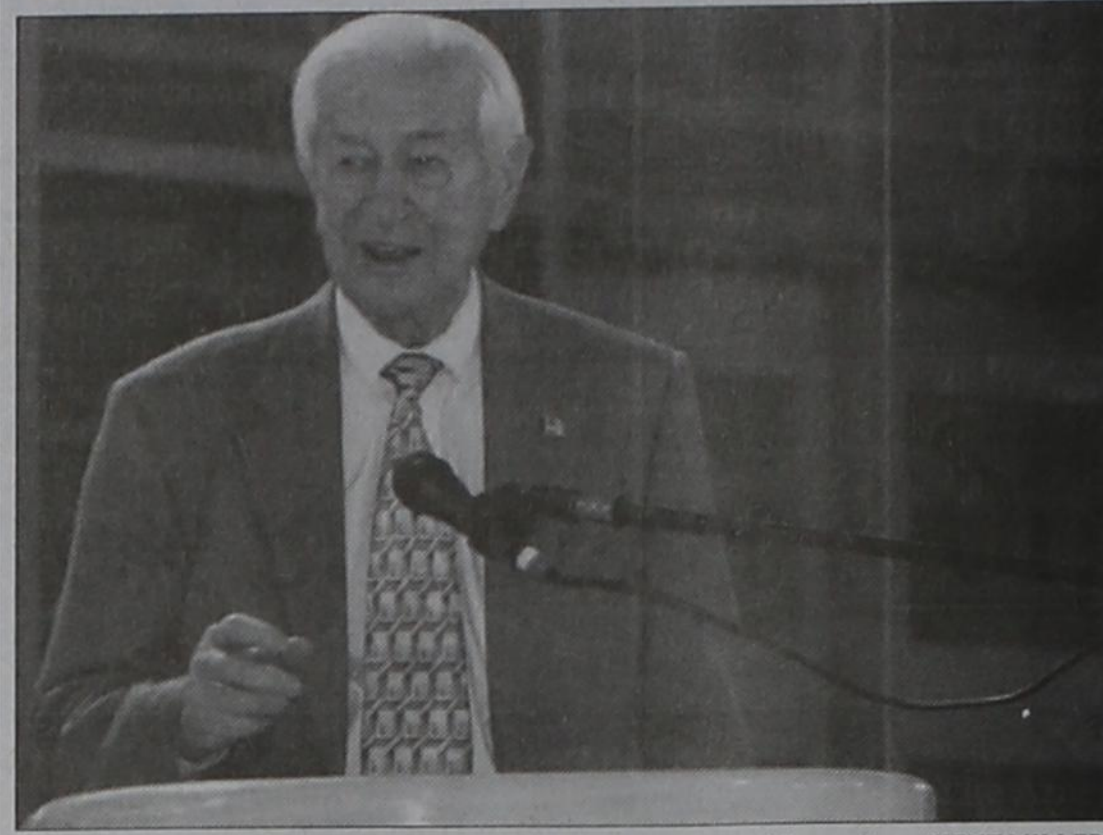
New York Times article from Jan. 6 documenting significant voting machine errors in a Cleveland suburb in 2007, as well as information from blackbox.com, a consumer protection Web site that opposes the machines. Each document also outlined instances of "vote flipping," which occurs when a machine changes a voter's submission between the voting and review stages.

Taylor said he understood the state law requiring the county to provide the machines, and said he did not feel the machines would deliberately disenfranchise voters based on party affiliation or selected candidates. However, he said the number of contentious races in this year's Republican primary - or any close election, for that matter - increases the importance of physical records.

"We all want the same thing, and that's for more people to vote," Taylor said. "But I'm encouraging every voter in Rockwall County to vote with a paper ballot to make sure their vote is counted with certainty."

Early voting for the March 4 primaries begins Feb. 19.

# GOP Forum



Rockwall County News/KENT MILLER

U.S. Rep. Ralph Hall, R-Rockwall, was on hand Jan. 26 for a Republican candidate forum at Rockwall High School presented by the Rockwall County Young Republicans. GOP candidates for county commissioner and sheriff were among the speakers. Early voting begins Feb. 19 and runs through Feb. 28. Regular voting for the primary election is March 4.

# Lakeside Civic Chorus holds auditions for spring concert

The Lakeside Civic Chorus, Rockwall's premier choral group, is holding auditions for the spring concert throughout the month of February.

To schedule an audition, contact chorus director David Bushnell at bushdl@swbell.net or at 679-4227 or (972) 772-0823.

The chorus invites both men and women to join this talented group of committed singers. Rehearsals are held on consecutive Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Rockwall High School Chorus room.

For more information, visit [www.lakesidecivicchorus.org](http://www.lakesidecivicchorus.org).

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Psalm 150:6

## FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

### TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Balak, Balaam, a Talking Donkey and An Angel of the Lord Numbers 22

Balak was a king of Moab and feared the approaching Israelites. He sent for the prophet, Balaam, asking him to put a curse on the Israelites so that he would be able to defeat them in battle and drive them out of the country.

God warned Balaam not to go with Balak's men to meet Balak and not to curse the Israelites because they were a blessed people. Balaam obeyed God. A second group of Balak's men came and insisted that Balaam go with them to meet Balak. God permitted Balaam to go but warned him to, "do only what I tell you."

Balaam went with the Moabite princes, riding his donkey. But the Lord was angry with him for choosing to go with them. God's choice was that Balaam not go but He did not keep him from going. (Continued next week: The Donkey Talks).

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Romans 10: 9

For in thee, O Lord, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord My God.  
Psalm 38

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Student meet Jay  
By BRITNEY TABOR  
ROYSE CITY - Broadcast  
ROYSE CITY High Sch  
appearance on "The  
Show with Jay Leno"  
attending a convention  
Calif.  
Students were invited  
for the late-night  
segment  
journalism teacher and ad  
Steven Vaughn, e-mailed a n  
representative at Universal Stud  
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waiting about his stud  
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Tyler Quiet, 18, who atten  
convention Jan. 16-20, s  
covering geography-based qu  
from Leno was not only i  
"amazing." The RCHS sen  
one of five students w  
eared on the show.  
"It was really cool getting  
By TEREASA NIMS  
@rockwallcountynews.com  
Computers in Royse City's  
Rockwall County Sheriff's Off  
cars are expected to h  
the burden on dispat  
while increasing officers' e  
ency.  
"I'm all for it," said Royse  
Chief Tom Shelton of  
the digital terminals. "It's  
something we need."  
Rockwall County Sher  
Lt. David Davis wo  
reviously on a grant f  
mand Security to equip  
with antennas, repea  
structure, a server and  
en. But cutbacks in Home  
security meant the \$300,  
was requested in 2006 w  
in phases.  
"A one-phase project  
ended into a three-phase pr  
Davis negotiated use of  
towers for antennas in  
county. Three have been app  
use of a Fate tower is exp  
to be approved by Rock  
county commissioners on Feb  
"The closer the computer  
said.  
Laptops will go into the ne  
first because the older  
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Each laptop with new ne  
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getting at them at a lower  
anticipates getting 26-3  
Six are earmarked for R  
and the remainder for RC

FROM  
AND  
-CRIMINAL DEFENSE



# Student journalists meet Jay Leno

By BRITNEY TABOR  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

ROYSE CITY —Broadcasting students at Royse City High School are excited about an appearance on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" Jan. 27 while attending a convention in Anaheim, Calif.

The students were invited to be interviewed for the late-night TV show's JayWalking segment after attending a convention for second-ary broadcasting students where they went to workshops and entered contests in music video, public-service announcements and anchoring. Of the RCHS students who attended the convention, one, Lindzi Shanks, won second place in a live-on camera reporting segment. In a release provided by RCHS, the high school senior said she was surprised to receive the honor.

"I never thought I'd win anything," she said. "It was surreal to do so well among broadcasters who have been doing this for years."

Vaughn said that overall, the trip was a learning experience for his students.

"It helps them to expand their knowledge of broadcasting and job possibilities," he said. "It [also] helps them to compare what they're doing here at Royse City with other high schools around the nation ... and hopefully do a better job."

Along with the award and

meet a superstar like that. He was such a great guy and I'm glad I got to meet him," he said. "It's something I can tell my grandkids about some day."

The trip followed with controversy after a student-produced PSA done by Royse City students where two girls were almost kissing was banned from the school's television network, RCTV.

The 30-second announcement was created for entry in a contest held during the Anaheim convention in which judges asked student broadcasters to produce a 30-second segment about honesty. Vaughn said the video was about a girl who preferred females over males. He said before airing the video as part of a RCTV segment, which is shown to RCHS students and faculty on a 10-minute news show, he questioned "whether it [the video] was appropriate or not." He said he took his concerns to the school principal, Tony Gauntt, who ultimately decided the public-service announcement

would not be shown during the school's weekly news show.

"There was just one part of it that we felt was inappropriate and we asked [the students] to remove that one section of the video, and they refused so we chose not to air it," Vaughn said. "The principal said [that] if they would remove that one section we would air the video and they refused to do that."

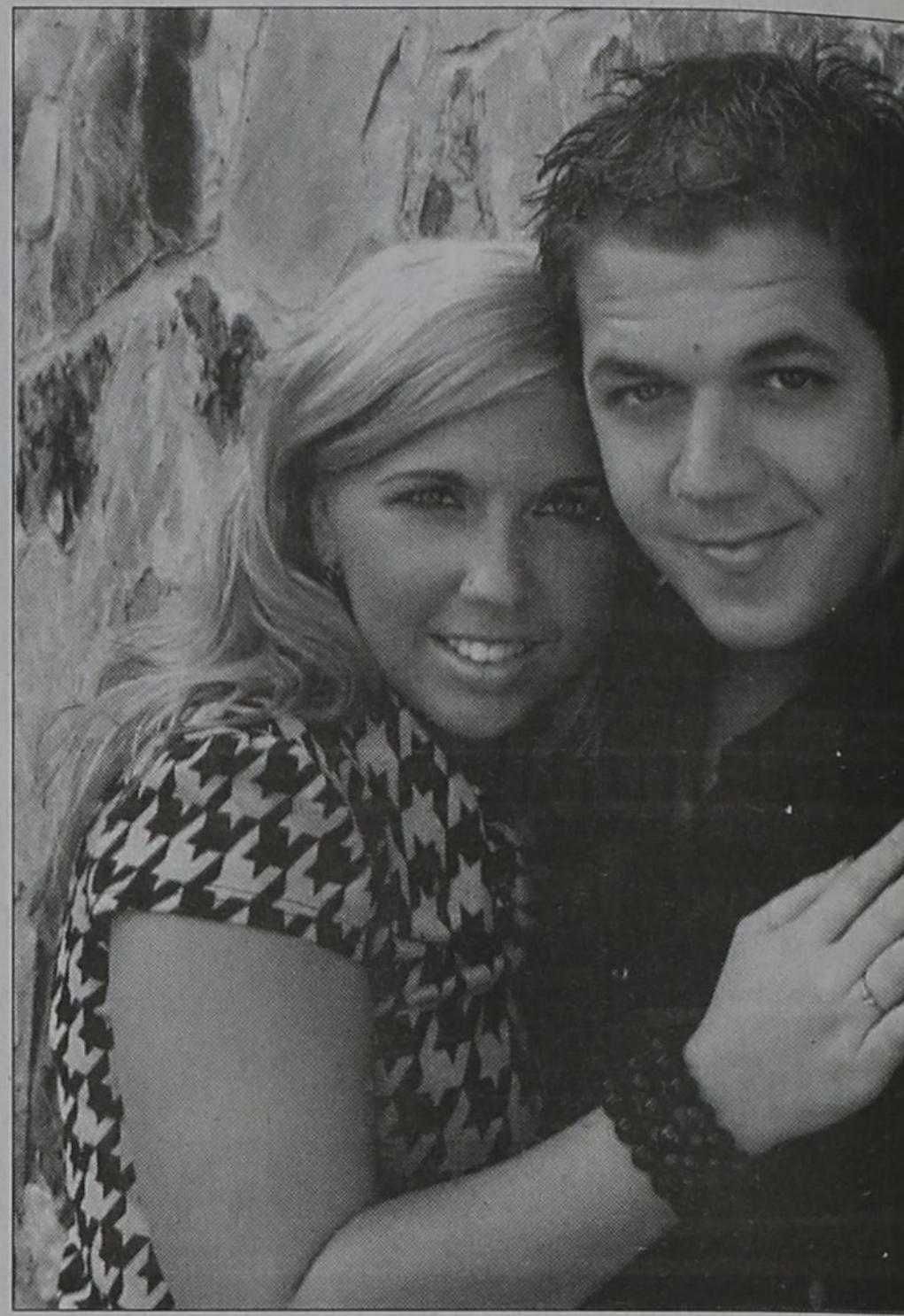
Jo Nell Melody, spokeswoman for RCISD, said the video included content that both Vaughn and Gauntt deemed as "inappropriate to be shown to all students." She refused further comment about the situation.

According to Dallas news reports, one of the students who produced the video received inspiration for the PSA from a parent who had struggles about being honest about their sexual orientation.



Royse City High School Aisha Edebarh tries to answer some of Jay Leno's tough questions during the late-night TV host's segment JayWalking earlier this month.

# Rogers-Woodard to wed



Jimmy and Denise Rogers would like to announce the approaching marriage of their daughter, Nicole to James William Woodard. The groom's parents are, Jimmy Woodard of Statesboro, Ga. and Patty and Kevin Short of Rockwall, Tex. The couple plans a February wedding with a honeymoon Caribbean cruise.

# Local law enforcement receives tech grant

By TEREASA NIMS  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Computers in Royse City and Rockwall County Sheriff's Office patrol cars are expected to help ease the burden on dispatchers while increasing officers' efficiency.

"I'm all for it," said Royse City Police Chief Tom Shelton of the file digital terminals. "It's really something we need."

Rockwall County Sheriff's Office Lt. David Davis worked tirelessly on a grant from Homeland Security to equip the county with antennas, repeaters, infrastructure, a server and computers. But cutbacks in Homeland Security meant the \$300,000 was requested in 2006 was dispersed in phases.

"A one-phase project has been turned into a three-phase project," Davis said.

Davis negotiated use of four towers for antennas in the county. Three have been approved. Use of a Fate tower is expected to be approved by Rockwall County commissioners on Feb. 12.

"The closer the computer is to the antenna, the faster it works," Davis said.

Laptops will go into the newer patrol cars first because the older ones slated for replacement, Davis said. Each laptop with needed accessories will cost approximately \$8,000. However, Davis is looking at getting them at a lower cost. He anticipates getting 26-30 of them. Six are earmarked for Royse City and the remainder for RCHS.

Shelton is excited about the computers. He used the MDTs while working at the Dallas Police Department.

"It was like coming into the modern world," Shelton recalls.

While with DPD, Shelton was working a presidential detail and had to get parked cars cleared from an area. From his computer, he and a lieutenant were able to run the vehicles' license plates and find out who owned the respective cars - all without having to go through dispatch and taking up airtime.

"With the MDTs officers can check so many more things," Shelton said.

Currently, officers have to radio to dispatch to check a person's license, the registration on a vehicle, a person's driving record and various other things.

"With the MDTs they will be able to do it for themselves," Davis said. "And it cuts down on the amount of time it takes them to do it and it takes some of the burden off dispatchers."

Davis said that in addition to checking on information for officers, dispatchers take administrative calls, 911 calls and information calls.

Davis said the MDTs will increase officers' efficiency. For example if a deputy goes out for a report of a stolen tractor, they have to take the report and come back to the RCHS to write it. With the MDTs they will write the report from their patrol car while in the field.

"It's going to keep our officers available for emergency calls.

Because they will operate on a secure wireless network instead of a radio frequency that's open to all, deputies will be able to tap into databases that were previously off limits to them.

Davis said that because it's secure, they can now get information from databases about certain people, like if they are on a terrorist watch list or are tied to

that group in a way. Davis said these aren't necessarily people who are directly tied to terrorism, but people who federal authorities are gathering more information about. Deputies may add information about where they are living, where they are going, what they are doing and so on.

"These are people that we wouldn't have known anything about before," Davis said.

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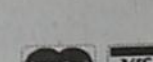
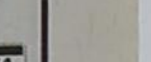
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### Shriners to kick off campaign during Burn Awareness Week

The Rockwall Volunteer Fire Department reminds area residents that Feb. 3-9 is Burn Awareness Week and Shriners Hospitals for Children is using the week to kick off a yearlong campaign designed to help prevent gasoline burn injuries.

The Shriners Hospitals for Children, which specializes in burns, has treated more than 800 children since 2002 for acute burn injuries resulting from ignition of highly flammable materials such as gasoline. Kids 13 and older are in the highest at risk group for gasoline and other flammable substances.

Most gasoline injuries are avoidable through proper use and storage of gasoline. Visit [www.burnawarenessweek.org](http://www.burnawarenessweek.org) to learn about preventing gasoline burns. You will find facts for "Twens and Teens" and Facts for Parents.



Some of the RPA second annual golf tournament committee members and volunteers enjoy a great time for a good cause. Shown are Elizabeth Skelton, Adrian Branch, Tiffany Olson, Jessica Grundelman, Betty Sauer, Patty Pinsonault, Kim Douglas, Raina McIlwain, Julie Hollowell, Lori Watts, Kelli Paul, Cynthia Crowell and Shelly Urban.

### RPA annual fundraiser to benefit local charities

The Rockwall Preschool Association has announced its next charity fundraising event, the annual spring benefit gala in Dallas on April 5. This year's theme will be "Back to the 80s" in '08 and will include 80s icon costume contests, casino games and dinner, dancing and auction items.

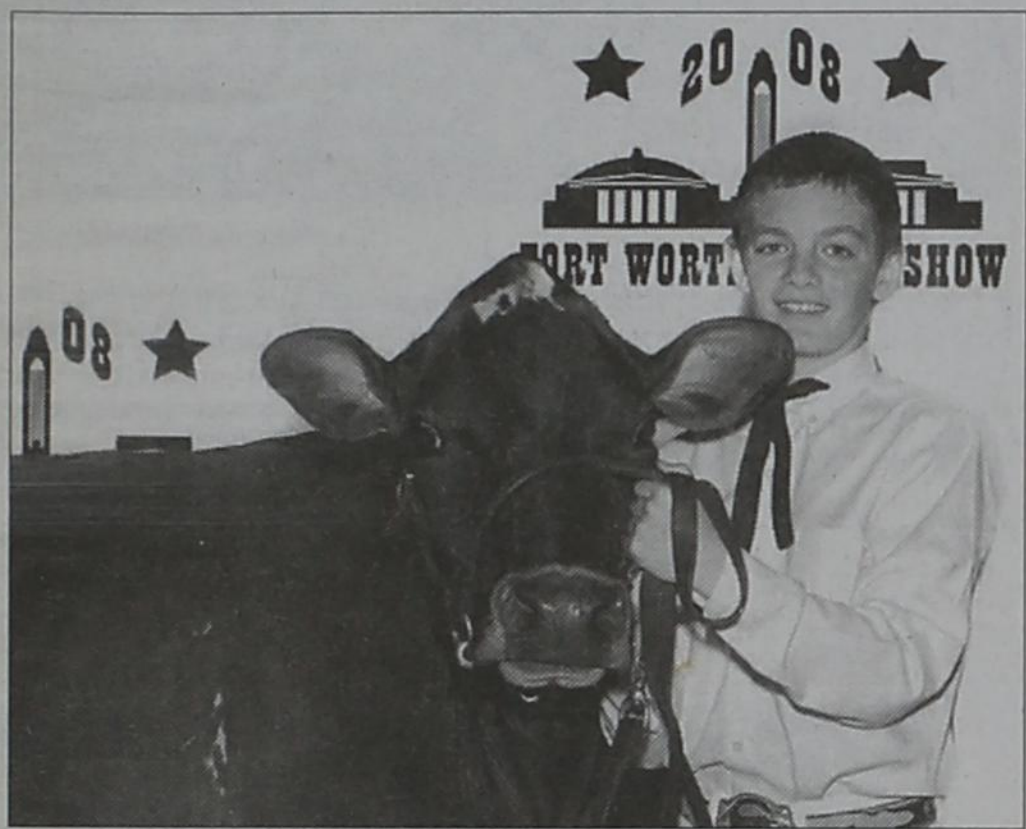
The event will be held at 7 p.m. at Eddie Deen's newest Dallas location at Cockrell Avenue and Alexander Street. For ticket information or those interested in being a sponsor, call Julie Hollowell at (972) 722-8811 or Tiffany Olson at (972) 722-8077.

RPA 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 moth-

ers with children through kindergarten. The RPA calendar runs from September through May and new members are welcome at any time. Currently, general meetings are held the first Friday of the month at 7 p.m. For more information about membership or the group and to meet other members, contact the Web site, [www.rockwallpreschoolassociation.com](http://www.rockwallpreschoolassociation.com).

In 2006 RPA completed its most successful fundraising year, exceeding \$26,000. Beneficiaries of RPA's efforts in 2006 included The Room, Helping Hands, Beginnings, the Rockwall Area and Girls Club, and Rockwall County Library. The remaining funds were dispersed between the Rockwall YMCA, Susan Komen and the Shoes for

### Some Cow



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Ricky Harrison, an FFA member from Royse City, exhibited a Reserve Champion Jersey cow, a first-place Jersey heifer and won the Junior Fitting and Showmanship class in the Junior Dairy Cattle Show at the 2008 Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show on Jan. 15.

### Heath establishes household hazardous waste helpline

HEATH – The city of Heath kicked off the new year with a new service to help residents be good stewards of the environment.

Residents may now call the new household hazardous waste helpline at (972) 961-4883 for information about properly disposing of the many waste items that can be harmful to our health, such as automotive products, batteries, cooking oil, electronic

devices, fluorescent tubes and bulbs, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paint products and pesticides.

The city will join with Rockwall County to conduct the annual spring household hazardous waste collection event April 19. Complete details will be available at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) in late February.

### Deadline to pay county taxes is Friday

County taxpayers who haven't paid their taxes by Feb. 1 risk being turned over to attorneys for collection earlier than in previous years.

Tax bills were sent out by the county in October with a big change – those who don't pay

up by the Feb. 1 deadline will be turned over to attorneys April 1 instead of July 1, which had been the county's practice before deciding in late December to move up the collection date.

Delinquent taxpayers could face a 20 percent penalty.

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Holy Trinity Players produce Kindergarten...  
 Holy Trinity's theater group is in rehearsal for a new musical, "All I Really Want to Know I Learned in Kindergarten," which opens Feb. 28 for a three-night run. Based on the book by Robert Munsch, the play is a series of vignettes that point to the beauty of love and friendship with the profundity of childhood's love. It's inspiration makes it a must-see production for Lent. The church's Parish Hall was transformed for the cabaret-style event, the fourth annual "All About Love series." All About Love series is a full-length musical theater production that has been performed at various venues, past productions have mixed spiritual with gut-wrenching pathos. The show is a collage of vignettes. Because the show is a full-length musical theater production, it is expected to be an assortment of carols and beverages for purchase during the show and between acts. Holy Trinity Players' first production was in 2002 with an ambitious production.

Chase ends...  
 By TERESA NIMS  
 ROYSE CITY - A 43-year-old man remains in the Rockwall County Jail after trying to outrun police through four counties Saturday Jan. 26 who reportedly throwing drugs out the window during the excursion. Sammy Rowe is being held on a \$30,000 bond. He is charged with evading arrest, evading a police officer, and possession of a vehicle and handgun on him for a federal warrant. The federal warrant is for a press time it's unknown if the federal warrant is for Rowe was on his way to the morning of the incident. When he was stopped by Royse City Police Officer Tom Shelton. "When the officer got out of the car, [the suspect] took the car," Shelton said. "We're running, that is usual."

Fire academy registration under way  
 Registration is ongoing at the Rockwall Fire Department Fire Academy, which begins Feb. 7 and runs through Feb. 17. Classes are held from 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday night with the exception of spring break week March 17) at the Fire Academy, 920 Rockwall No. 2 at 920 Rockwall. Applications are available from the Fire Department at Rockwall City Hall, 3800 Rockwall St. The academy is a great opportunity to learn more about the Rockwall Fire Department. Topics include emergency apparatus, fire equipment, fire operations, special rescue operations, search and rescue operations, demonstrations and fire investigations. The academy is open to anyone living or working in Rockwall County. Applicants must have a clear criminal history and must be at least 18d. The fee for more information, contact the Fire Department at (972) 771-7700.

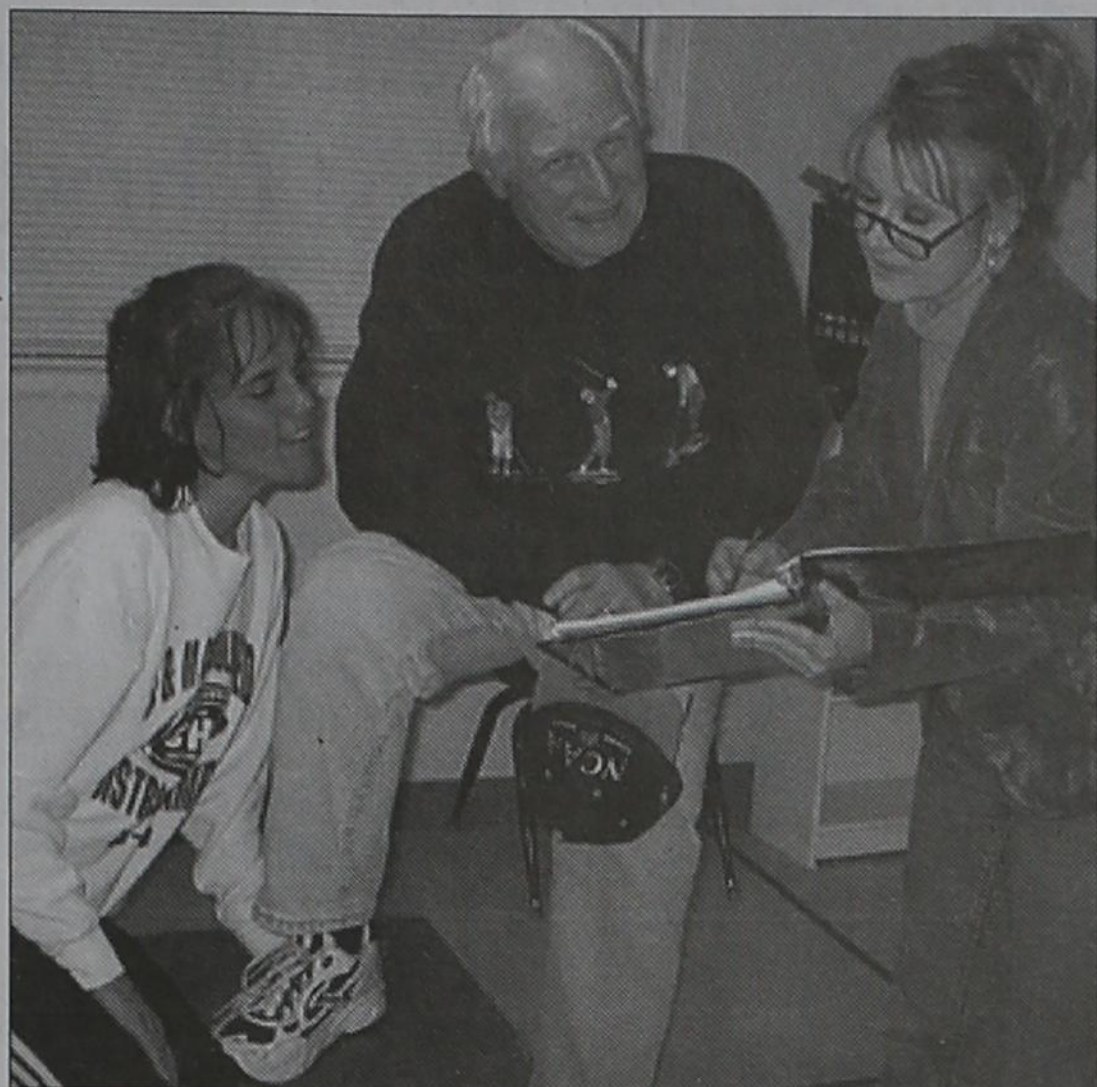
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The church's Parish Hall will  
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Holy Trinity Players' first  
duction was in 2002 with  
ambitious production of



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

"Kindergarten" actors Julie Anne Anderson and Herb Moltzan get some tips from director Marilyn Ford.

"Godspell." Since then, the troupe has performed numerous one-acts, sermon plays, and a variety of musical productions. This year's cast will involve nearly 30 members comprised mostly of parishioners with a few veteran add-ons from the community.

experience a unique bonding with their fellow actors. Also, we are able to introduce many newcomers to our productions through the audiences we attract."

Tickets are \$15 and will be available through the church office by calling (972) 771-8242 or online at www.holytrinity-bythelake.org. Funds raised will go to the group's outreach projects and capital acquisitions.

## chase ends in arrest of Austin man

By TERESA NIMS  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

ROYSE CITY - A 43-year-old Austin man remains in the Rains County Jail after trying to outrun Royse City police through four counties Saturday Jan. 26 while frantically throwing drugs out the window during the excursion.

Sammy Rowe is being held on \$30,000 bond. He is charged with evading arrest, evading arrest with a vehicle and has a warrant on him for a federal warrant. At press time it's unknown if the federal warrant is for.

because of more than a traffic violation."

Rowe's older Toyota Camry reached speeds of more than 100 mph, Shelton said.

Police followed Rowe through the fog as he sped east on I-30 to Farm-to-Market Road 19 to County Road 4235 in Rains County. Going through Rockwall, Hunt, Hopkins and Rains counties. During the chase, other departments joined in. Then Rowe lost control of his car on County Road 4235, rolled it several times and totaling it before fleeing on foot.

"We were surprised he was able to get up," Shelton said.

Officers from four departments looked for him for about four hours in the thick brush and fog before a Department of Public Safety helicopter arrived on scene and using a thermal camera spotted Rowe in the woods.

Shelton said officers confiscated different pills, pill bottles and a small amount of marijuana from Rowe. They also had to backtrack the chase route and pick up what Rowe allegedly threw out during the jaunt.

## RISD announces new executive director of facilities, planning, construction

RISD Superintendent Gene Burton has announced that Gregory Carver has been named as executive director of facilities, planning and construction. Carver is filling the position left vacant with the death of former executive director Jack Rambo. Carver is expected to assume his duties with RISD in early March.

Carver attended Kearney State Teachers College in Kearney, Neb.; the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and Central Nebraska Technical College in Hastings. He also served in the U.S. Navy as an aviation electronic technician.

Carver has an extensive background in construction and maintenance services including management positions with Kansas Farmers Insurance, ServiceMaster/ARAMARK and Neiman Marcus. He has served both the Irving ISD and McKinney ISD in the areas of maintenance and operations, and most recently served as executive director of maintenance and operations for the Katy ISD.

"We are excited to announce that Mr. Carver will be joining the RISD team," Burton said. "Mr. Carver's extensive experience will be extremely beneficial as our student population continues to grow and our facility needs expand."

Carver said he is looking forward to serving the students and community by continuing the on-going construction program recently spearheaded by Rambo.

"The RISD construction program is one that provides efficient, safe, cost effective, and simple yet effective design," said Carver. "The use of repeat design saves taxpayers money. Your designs are energy efficient, environmentally and maintenance friendly, clean, aesthetically pleasing and accessible to the community. Much thought has



Gregory Carver

been put into your program. I was fortunate to have been mentored by Dr. Jack Rambo earlier in my career. Since that time our friend-

ship has grown, as did our professional relationship. I was honored to have had the opportunity to communicate with him as late as last November about the construction position in Rockwall. It will be difficult to follow such a respected professional as Dr. Rambo. I am equally honored to work with Dr. Burton. I have great respect for the RISD leadership team and am proud to serve the school and community."

Carver's duties will include the oversight of the construction projects included in the 2006 and 2007 bond elections. In addition, he will oversee future capital improvement projects as the district plans to meet the needs necessitated by continued growth.

### Super Bowl Weekend

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## Fire academy registration under way

Registration is ongoing for Rockwall Fire Department's Fire Academy, which runs Feb. 7 and runs through April 17.

Classes are held from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday nights with the exception of spring break week March 17) at Fire Station No. 2 at 920 Rockwall Highway. Applications are available from the Fire Department at Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Gladiolus St.

The academy is a great opportunity to learn more about the Rockwall department. Topics covered include emergency apparatus, fire equipment, fire operations, fire safety, special rescue operations, trench and rescue and extrication demonstrations and fire and on investigations.

The academy is open to anyone living or working in Rockwall County. Applicants must have a clear criminal history and must be at least 18. There is no charge.

For more information, contact Sandy Santoro at (972) 771-7700.

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To serve as a sponsor or auction item donor for this year's ball, A Crown Affair, to be held March 8, 2008 at the Anatole Hotel, please contact Vicki Alexander at 972-772-8337.

Go to [www.rockwallwomensleague.org](http://www.rockwallwomensleague.org) to purchase tickets.

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## RPA to welcome guest speaker

Rockwall Preschool Association will welcome guest speaker Rick Burge at its general meeting at 11 a.m. Feb. 1 at Lake Pointe Church in Room C200.

The focus of Burge's discussion will be succeeding in marriage with children.

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

The RPA calendar year runs from September to May and new members are welcome at any time. Currently, RPA general meetings are held on the first Friday of the month with varying dates on holiday weeks. For more information, visit the Web site [www.rockwallpreschoolassociation.com](http://www.rockwallpreschoolassociation.com).

## Students raise money for shelter

Six Rockwall-Heath High School apparel students were chosen to display their handy work at Groovy's in downtown Rockwall. The fashionable skirts are hanging in the storefront windows of the shop and everyone is encouraged to go vote for "The Grooviest Skirt" by donating money to raise awareness and support the Women in Need Shelter in Greenville. The last day to vote is Feb. 9.

All proceeds will go directly to the shelter and the winning student will receive a prize from Groovy's owner Christi Foster. The six finalists are Tiler Bates, Jennifer Hibbard, Trang Pham, Lindsey Sorrenson, Gabriela Pena and Katelyn Winsler.



Hubbard Chamber Ensemble members Peter Steffens, Michele McDonald, Delmar Pettys, Dawn Stahler and Tom Demer will perform at the group's final concert, which will end a 23-year run.

## Hubbard series to finish 23-year run

Feb. 2 will be the grand finale of the Hubbard Chamber Music Series concerts and events. Following the 12th annual Young Artist Solo and Chamber Music Competition that day, the Hubbard Chamber Ensemble will perform their final concert.

The concert will be held at 5 p.m. The Hubbard Chamber Ensemble, whose members are also members of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and HCMS artistic director Michele McDonald will perform works for strings and

piano. Winners of the afternoon competition will be announced and the two \$1,000 Lindy Barton Grand Prize recipients will also perform. The event will be held at Heath United Methodist Church, 140 Smirl Drive. Single tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$8 for students and may be purchased at the door.

For more information, see the Web site at [www.hubbardchambermusic.com](http://www.hubbardchambermusic.com) or call Michele McDonald at (972) 772-7692.

## Kids honor WWII memories

By BRITNEY TABOR  
[news@rockwallcountynews.com](mailto:news@rockwallcountynews.com)

Members of the Amy Parks-Heath Elementary Starlight Singers plan to recreate World War II this weekend as they present their eighth annual USO dance and show.

Through a series of songs reminiscent of the war era, the students plan to entertain their audience and show them the true meaning of patriotism, said Stacy Rose, publicity chairwoman. Throughout the school year the students who are a part of the

choir have studied the era, done projects and listened to lectures on World War II in preparation for this weekend's show, she said. Rose said the show focuses on the cost paid so Americans can enjoy the freedoms they have.

"What we have in our country was not handed to us on a silver platter, people ... lost their lives for our freedom," she said.

This weekend's dance and show, which starts at 7 p.m., will be held both Feb. 1 and 2 at Cain Middle School. Admission is \$12 and dinner will be catered by Johnny Carino's Italian restaur-

ant. In addition to covering the costs of the program, a percentage of the money raised will help fund a performance the Starlight Singers will present later this spring in San Marcos.

Rose said the group expects more than 400 people to attend the event, including veterans from each branch of the U.S. military.

"Overall, it's a tribute to them [veterans,] and we hope they feel appreciated for their sacrifice," she said.

For information on purchasing tickets, contact Mindy Buchanan at (972) 772-9643.

## Lenten season begins at First Christian Church

On Feb. 6, First Christian Church Rockwall begins the Lenten season with a beautiful and meaningful Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m., preceded by a light soup supper (no charge) at 6 p.m.

Participants in the service will be asked to assume a discipline of self-examination, confession and penitence. After receiving the sign of the ashes on their hand or forehead, worshippers will be offered the opportunity to give up an undesirable habit and replace it with something more desirable.

There will be beautiful music

by the choir, readings and by congregation members sermon by Rev. Mark W. Irwin.

At the end of the service church will offer an option of cleansing, where worshippers may have the ashes removed, receiving a statement of Confession, forgiveness and recognition through him, they have received clean heart.

First Christian Church is located at 3375 Ridge Road, 10 miles south of Interstate 30. Call (972) 771-5526 for more information.

## Patriot PAWS, TDCJ join forces in training dogs for disabled veterans

Something good is happening between Patriot PAWS and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice who recently entered into partnership to have prisoners train service dogs for disabled veterans.

Patriot PAWS, a nonprofit organization has been working with the TDCJ to develop a partnership that provides an opportunity for prisoners to volunteer to assist in training service dogs over the course of 12-18 months.

The program will kick off when Lori Stevens, founder and CEO of Patriot PAWS, will go to the prison with six puppies and partner them with an inmate trainer.

"This is a win for everyone," Stevens said. "This partnership affords prisoners the opportunity to be a part of something bigger

than their situation and provides Patriot PAWS a much-needed volunteer base to train quality service dogs.

After the training period, service dogs are partnered with disabled veterans and help to improve many of the physical and emotional freedoms, which have been compromised due to their physical disabilities.

The cost of the care and training for one service dog is approximately \$20,000. Patriot PAWS depends on volunteers to accomplish that end.

For more information about the Patriot PAWS and the positive impact of service dogs for disabled veterans, visit [www.PatriotPAWS.org](http://www.PatriotPAWS.org) or call (972) 772-3282.

Subscribe today!

972-722-3099



## Library News

### Winter Storytimes

Toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years): Wednesday and Thursdays from 10:15 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.; Preschoolers (ages 3 to 6 years): Tuesday, Wednesday and Mondays from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### English Classes

Reading for Adults now has the following classes available for people who want to learn to read and speak English, pass the GED or pass the citizenship test.

Monday/Wednesday 10 a.m. to noon. ESL Beginners, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4.

### New Library Update

The new library is beginning to take shape. The rooms have been framed in and during January the roof will be put in place. Did you

## HCMS to hold competition

A Young Artist Solo and Chamber Music competition Feb. 2 will be the highlight of the Hubbard Chamber Music Series season.

HCMS will hold the 12th annual competition all day at Heath United Methodist Church. The competition is open to the public and single tickets are \$5 at the door. Audience participants may come and go as they please throughout the day to hear some of Texas' finest young musicians. Audience members will be admitted to the seating area in between contestants to ease any commotion. Subscribers need only present their subscription tickets for admittance.

Exact competition times and schedule are available online at [www.hubbardchambermusic.com](http://www.hubbardchambermusic.com).

know that the children's area in the new building will be the same size as the current library? Drive by and look for yourself. It is located at 1215 E. Yellow Jacket Lane.

### New Online Services

The Rockwall County Library is offering two new online services. You may use your library card number to access these services

over the Internet through [www.rocklib.com](http://www.rocklib.com). Select the "research" button and you are all set.

Reference USA is a business and residential information database that is useful for marketing and investing research.

MyLibrary DV offers a variety of downloadable videos, movies, travel and cooking programs and much more.

Ask at the front desk for information on how to access this at home.

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Hodan, Casey Han ...  
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# SPORTS

The best source for Rockwall County high school and community sports

## SIDE ORDER OF REVENGE

RHS girls get even with Naaman Forest, now tied for first

By LARY BUMP  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

Playing their best basketball this season, Rockwall's Lady Jackets zoned out Naaman Forest on Jan. 29 to move into a tie with the Lady Rangers for first place in District 10-5A.

If the teams remain tied a 13-1 in 10-5A after this week's final two regular-season games, a coin flip would decide who would receive the district's first seed and a slightly easier road through the playoffs.

There was a time during the 53-35 victory when it appeared RHS would be doomed to the No. 2 seed.

Naaman shook off Rockwall's early 9-point lead with an 8-2 run in the second quarter to go ahead 23-19. All eight points came on the inside, with six by Jasmine Godbolt. The Lady Rangers' Tiffany Halliway hit a 3-point shot for a 26-21 lead. Those were Naaman's last points for more than six minutes. From that point, Rockwall outscored the visitors, 32-9.

Brittany Coleman started driving for the basket. That caused Naaman to foul her. Coleman made three of four foul shots and a

rebound basket that put the Lady Jackets ahead 27-26 at halftime. What's more, Godbolt picked up her third foul before halftime, and her fourth early in the third quarter. That effectively removed her aggressiveness inside and allowed Coleman to grab 10 rebounds.

That also opened up the lane for Shelby Adamson to drive. She scored just two points in the first half, but added seven in the third quarter to help RHS go ahead 39-31.

Peyton Adamson, with Naaman denying the shot that has brought her a record 123 3-pointers, also began to drive and get out front in the fast break. She scored six of her game-high 16 points in the fourth quarter.

The Lady Jackets' aggressive zone surrounded the player with the ball, bringing about steals and easy baskets at the other end. Sunny Satery had four of her five steals in the fourth quarter. Furthermore, she con-

trolled the offensive tempo and the ball, allowing Rockwall to keep it away from the Lady Raiders for the last two minutes of the first half and most of the final period.

Satery said, "I'm the point guard. Coach McDill has a lot of faith in me to run the offense. On defense, I'm just always watching the ball. Sometimes I'm lucky. I just go for it. This game just shows everyone else that when we play our best, we're unstoppable."

She knows about unstoppable. Satery was a key component of last year's 40-0 state championship team. During the four years that she and Shelby Adamson have played, the Lady Jackets have not lost in 45 home games. The total home winning streak is 46 games, going back to a loss to Plano on Feb. 10, 2004.

On Senior Night before a nearly full house, the Lady Jackets weren't willing to lose.

McDill said, "Our defense was great. I told them to be peaking at the right time is key heading into the playoffs, and we're playing some of the best basketball we can play."



Rockwall County News / J.D. BRYANT  
Rockwall's Peyton Adamson (right) drives past a North Garland player during a recent victory.

## COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

### Lady Hawks begin season with hunger

By MATT MCGILLEN  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

HEATH – Before every practice and every game the members of the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks softball team perform a very simple act.

"We have a sign in our locker room that says 'Commitment to Excellence', and these girls live that," said coach Kourtny Westerfeld Huey. "Each girl asks herself if she is committed to giving 100 percent that day to achieve our goal of excellence. If the answer is yes, then she touches the sign on the way out the door. It's a symbol to her and to her teammates of the level of commitment to achieving the goals we have set as a team."

It definitely seems to be working.

Despite a starting lineup that featured six sophomores and three freshmen in their first

year of varsity competition, the Lady Hawks not only turned in an overall winning record (19-16) last season, but rolled out to a surprising 10-4 district record, good enough to capture the third and final District 10-4A playoff berth.

Although they lost in the first round of bi-district play, they gave perennial softball power Frisco a huge scare before falling 1-0 to the sixth-ranked Lady Raccoons in nine innings. With virtually their entire team returning, Heath seems poised to do even better this season.

"It was a tough loss, but a great experience for the girls," Westerfeld Huey said. "It gave them a small taste of what playoff softball is like and made them want more."

Like all successful fastpitch teams, it all starts on the mound, and the Lady Hawks



Rockwall County News / CLIFF GIBSON  
Rockwall-Heath coach Kourtny Westerfeld Huey (right) will have everybody back from a squad that went 19-16 and made the Class 4A playoffs.

may have arguably the best pitcher in the district in junior Chelsey Eddy. The flame-throwing Eddy whiffed an amazing 241 hitters on her way to a 15-8 record that included

four no-hitters, four one-hitters and two two-hitters. Her earned run average was a minuscule 1.45.

SEE HUNGER ON PAGE 2B

### Jackets fall farther back in 10-5A

By LARY BUMP  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

The look on the players' faces said it all.

Walking back Jan. 29 from the locker room to the home court where they'd lost a 54-53, triple-overtime decision to Naaman Forest, the Rockwall boys' basketball team wore expressions of equal parts disappointment, frustration and shock.

The loss to the Rangers, who entered the night in seventh place in District 10-5A, had undone all the Yellowjackets' hard work that had brought a 60-56 upset victory Jan. 25 over second-place North Garland.

"We're right where we were before that North Garland game," said coach Alan Simmons.

Where the Jackets were then, and are now, is two games out of fourth place and the district's last playoff berth. However, instead of having six

SEE JACKETS ON PAGE 2B

## SPORTS SKEDS

### Rockwall HS

- 1 .....VG hoops @ Sachse
- 1 .....VB hoops @ Sachse
- 1 .....VB soccer @ Lakeview
- 1 .....VG soccer vs Lakeview
- 2 .....Softball vs Heath
- 5 .....VG hoops @ Garland
- 5 .....VB hoops @ Garland
- 5 .....Baseball @ Plano
- 5 .....VB soccer vs Rowlett
- 5 .....VG soccer @ Rowlett

### Rockwall-Heath HS

- 1 .....VG hoops @ Terrell
- 1 .....VB hoops vs Terrell
- 1 .....VB soccer vs Lovejoy
- 1 .....VG soccer @ Lovejoy
- 2 .....Softball @ Rockwall
- 5 .....VG hoops vs West Mesquite
- 5 .....VB hoops @ West Mesquite
- 5 .....Baseball vs Coppell
- 5 .....VB soccer vs McKinney North
- 5 .....VG soccer @ McKinney North

### Royse City HS

- 1 .....VG hoops @ Quinlan Ford
- 1 .....VB hoops @ Quinlan Ford
- 4 .....VG soccer @ Boyd
- 4 .....VB soccer @ Boyd
- 5 .....VG hoops vs Emory Rains
- 5 .....VB hoops vs Emory Rains

### HHS takes third District 10-4A swim championship

STAFF REPORT

HIGHLAND PARK – The Rockwall-Heath swim team finished third overall in both divisions at the District 10-4A swim championships in Highland Park.

A total of nine Heath swimmers earned spots in regional competition, including Morgan Madrid, tie Langdon, Coral Davenport, Jey Hodan, Casey Hamilton, Tyler Fassett, Mitchell Foster, Zach Crumpley and Sean Wong. The regional meet will be held Feb. 8-9 at the Southlake ISD Aquatics Center.

Freshman Jacey Hodan took home a gold medal and a new team record in the 100-yard breaststroke. The girls captured three more gold medals, including sophomore Coral Davenport, Jey Hodan and the 200-yard medley relay team of Madrid, Hodan, Davenport and Langdon.

The girls also brought home three bronze medals, won by Davenport, Madrid and the 200-yard freestyle relay team of Davenport, Langdon, Madrid, Jey Hodan.

Sophomore Mitchell Foster won bronze in the 100-yard butterfly while two men's relay teams also won bronze.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Crumpley, Hamilton, Wong, Jey Hodan and the 400-yard freestyle relay team (Crumpley, Fassett, Wong, Foster) each finished third.

### RHS girls counting on quality over quantity during new year

By LARY BUMP  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

There aren't a lot of players returning to the Rockwall softball team, but what they lack in quantity they make up for in quality.

That's the impression of new head coach Shadie Acosta, who joins Rockwall after seven years as Mesquite Horn's first softball coach.

Said Acosta, who played at Baylor, "Rockwall has a great program with great facilities. They bring in quite a bit of talent and they get a lot of support."

She is most excited about the hitters returning.

"Offensively, we're pretty diverse," Acosta said. "We have good balance – power, plus speed and the short game. It's exciting to come here and see that, especially after graduating such a large class."

The power primarily rests with first baseman Haley Lemons.

The speed and high-average hitting should begin at the top of the lineup with shortstop Shelby Frierson and infielder/outfielder Kelsey Harmon.

Acosta said, "It's great to have Haley. She's just solid all around. Kelsey Harmon had great numbers last year. She bats from the left side. Shelby Frierson is our other lefty slapper, but she can do it all. She can drive the ball to the outfield if we need a run."

If anything, the pitching could be even better this year than in 2007.

Injuries forced Kat Brown and Kiely

Harrison into the varsity rotation last season.

Now they're being joined by freshman pitcher Lacey Holcomb.

When she isn't pitching, Holcomb probably will be playing other positions, according to her coach.

She's one of two freshmen on this year's varsity, with catcher/third baseman Audrey Farfin.

"She has a great arm," Acosta said of Farfin.

RHS took the field Jan. 29 for scrimmages against Mesquite and Mesquite Potet.

The Lady Jackets are scheduled to take on Rockwall-Heath, Sulphur Springs and Wylie at Rockwall on Feb. 2, beginning at 11:15 a.m.

Will the Lady Jackets be strong enough to return to the playoffs from District 10-5A?

"We're expecting to make the playoffs," Acosta said, "but we have a lot to work on during our pre-district play. I think we'll definitely be in the top three."

She is actually more aware of Rockwall, whom she played against while the Lady Jackets were in District 12-5A with Mesquite Horn.

But she knows her new district opponents, at least by reputation.

"Garland always has a stacked team. Rowlett didn't graduate many, and they defeated Garland in one game. Sachse may not always be a powerhouse, but they have talent."

So does Rockwall. Just ask the coach.



Rockwall County News / JEFF JORDAN  
Kat Brown is one of the hurlers Rockwall will rely heavily upon during the 2007-2008 season.

### Lady Hawks still chasing district title

By MATT MCGILLEN  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

HEATH – Even though they had assured themselves of a playoff berth by thumping lowly Highland Park, 63-39 on Jan. 25, the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks had pretty much resigned themselves to being able to finish no better than second in District 10-4A.

With two district losses, Heath (27-4, 10-2) needed a minor miracle to have their regular season-ending game at home against district unbeaten West Mesquite on Feb. 5 be anything other than a chance to avenge an earlier 63-52 loss to the Lady Wranglers.

Well, that miracle came in the form of the Forney Lady Jackrabbits (13-12, 7-5), who stunned West Mesquite, 54-53 at Forney.

If the Lady Hawks beat likewise lowly Terrell (7-16, 3-9) Feb. 1, and the Lady Wranglers (20-10, 11-1) get by middle of the pack Mesquite Potet (7-18, 4-8) the same night, the two will square off next Tuesday in a game of huge importance.

Should Heath manage to win

SEE HEATH ON PAGE 2B



# RC girls headed to postseason

STAFF REPORT

It took a low-scoring and sometimes ugly victory to do it, but Roysse City's Lady Bulldogs clinched a playoff berth Jan. 29 with a 38-28 victory over Wills Point.

Roysse City (11-17, 5-3) has a 2-game lead over Wills Point with two contests remaining but has the tiebreaker after winning both meetings this season.

Sam Mullin pumped in a game-high 13 points and Kelli Wyrick added 10 as the Lady Bulldogs erased an early deficit, pulled out to a 19-12 halftime lead and never looked back.

Just three days earlier, Roysse City had handed Commerce a 64-50 defeat on the road, on the strength of 20 points from Taylor Howard.

Wyrick had 11 points in the game as the Lady Bulldogs opened up the contest with a 23-8 advantage in the second period.

The girls will close out the regular season this week with games at Quinlan Ford on Feb. 1 and at home against Emory Rains on Feb. 5.

Rains has wrapped up a playoff spot at 7-1 while Nevada Community (8-0) has clinched another. Roysse City could still earn the No. 2 seed but needs to win out and get help.

While the girls make preparations for the playoffs, it appears as if the boys will be doing the same.

First, they want to seal up a district title and at 5-1, they are in the drivers seat to do just that.

Roysse City (17-13, 5-1) is in sole possession of first place following a pair of victories over Commerce and Wills Point.

The Bulldogs had no trouble with Wills Point on Jan. 29, building a 13-point halftime lead before waltzing to a 66-48 victory.

Dustin Peterson had 14 points and J.T. Thompson tossed in 11 for the Bulldogs.

They went into that game fresh off a 75-65 win at Commerce on Jan. 25.

The Bulldogs gave up 25 points to Anthony Henry but took a 44-28 halftime lead before coasting in the second half.

Peterson had a team-high 15 points, Justin Crutchfield pumped in 13 and Wynn Posey added 12.

The Bulldogs will face Quinlan Ford (2-4) on the road Feb. 1 before hosting Rains (1-5) on Feb. 5.

# RTU leagues now accepting registration

Rockwall Tennis Unlimited (RTU) is currently registering players for a number of leagues, which begin the week of Feb. 4.

The leagues that are available include ladies doubles (level 2.5-3.0), mixed doubles, ladies doubles (level 3.0-3.5), ladies doubles (level 3.5-4.0), men's singles and men's doubles.

Flex leagues are also forming for men's and women's singles. There is no charge for flex league but you must be an RTU member.

Leagues are played at Rockwall-Heath High School and run for eight weeks.

The cost is \$20 per league. All entrants must be members of RTU, which costs \$40 per year for individuals and \$60 per year for families.

Regular players and substitutes are needed. If interested, call Sue Peterson (972) 772-1938 or send e-mail to rtleagues@charter.net.

# Rockwall boys repeat as district swim champions

STAFF REPORT

For the second year in a row, Rockwall's boy's swim team captured the District 10-5A championship.

The Orange Wave finished with 194 points while Garland finished second with 166. North Garland was third with 47 and South Garland came in fourth with 19 points.

The Rockwall girls went back and forth with Garland all day but ended up in second with 171 points, 10 points back from Garland.

Rockwall coach Brad Quintd received Coach of the Year honors for the second year in a row and Samson Lau snagged the Boy's Swimmer of the Year award.

The top six finishes in each event advance to the regional competition Feb. 8-9 at Loos Natatorium in Addison.

The girls' regional qualifiers

include Amy Rogers, Thiel Hite, Kim Heuer, Katie Seeley, Becca Yount, Dominique Cordova, Avery Due, Joy Turner and Aly Heuer.

The boy's regional qualifiers include P.J. Rock, Ryan Lang, Kyle Killion, Dustin Fontenot, Trent Warrick, John Michael Baker, Jonathan Walters, Jared Tokuz, Sterling Lockhart, Matt Lang and Quenton Palma.

Freshman Nathan Oakes fell short of a regional bid but in his first year of varsity competition, finished eighth in the 100-yard breaststroke and ninth in the 50-yard freestyle.

All three relay teams from each division also qualified for regional competition. Both 400-yard freestyle relay teams won gold medals.

The boy's team consists of Lau, Fontenot, Walters and Lang while Hite, Due, Yount and Heuer swam for the girls.

# Troubled Hawks fall twice during district road contests

By MATT MCGILLEN  
sports@rockwallcountynews.com

DALLAS - Their ranks depleted by defections, transfers and discipline issues, the Rockwall-Heath Hawks dropped a pair of District 10-4A road games, losing 62-31 to Highland Park on Jan. 29 and to Forney, 62-57 on Jan. 25.

Already down three players after one transferred to another school and two more left the team, several others did not make the trip when Heath traveled to Highland Park.

The Hawks, now 8-18 and 2-8, fell behind the surging Scots 25-4 after one quarter and were never in the game. Kyle Whittle, in his first varsity action, led Heath with 10 points while point guard Dustin Morett added eight for the reeling Hawks, losers of nine of their

last 11 games.

Art Barnes and Troy Alexander led Highland Park, (23-4, 9-1) with 10 points each. It was the Scots seventh win in a row and ninth victory in their last 10 games.

In the loss to the Jackrabbits (16-10, 5-5), senior Chris Buttermore had a game-high 24 points as well as a team-high 11 rebounds and three assists. Logan Callier and Chase Nielsen had 10 points each for the Hawks while Morett had nine points and five assists.

Heath used a 24-point third quarter to overcome an eight-point halftime deficit to pull even with Forney, 42-42, after three periods, but was outscored 20-15 in the final eight minutes.

Rollo Lawrence led Forney with 18 points while Desmond Rollins chipped in 15 for the Jackrabbits.

# Hunger

From Page 1B

At the plate the Lady Hawks will feature a lineup that combines speed and power, according to Westerfeld Huey, who played her college ball at Baylor University, a perennial national power.

Junior shortstop Sarah Long, who bats second, had Heath's top average, hitting at a .565 clip while Hailey Galloway (.452), Kirsten Embrey (.406), second baseman and leadoff hitter Taylor McLoughlin (.405) and Kaeleigh Lutz (.402) also provide plenty of offensive support.

Freshman utility player Dakota Whittern is expected to have an impact as well.

"We utilize every aspect of the short game; bunting, slapping for base hits, moving runners, creating situations to manufacture runs," Westerfeld Huey said. "Every player in the lineup can be expected to bunt throughout the course of the game. However, defenses can't play to defend only the short game because the same players that can drop a bunt and beat it out for a base hit, can also hit for power."

Westerfeld, who earned District 17-3A co-coach of the year honors in her initial year of coaching at Connally High School in Waco before coming

to Heath when the school opened in 2005, has set the pretty high for the Lady Hawks.

"We have very high expectations for this year as a team," she said. "We hope to better our year's season by winning the district title and fighting our way deep into the playoffs. We are blessed to be able to work with this amazing group of players. They have a passion for the game and push themselves to practice to new limits to accomplish their goals for this season. We leave everything on the field each time they step between the lines."

Heath opens the season Feb. 14-16 at the Brenham Classic tournament.

# Jackets

From Page 1B

games to catch up, they now have just four.

Simmons said, "I told them flat-out that as coaches we weren't prepared for that situation. If we ever get in that situation again, we'll do it right."

In all three overtime periods, RHS had the ball with 8 to 10 seconds remaining and a chance to win the game. The Jackets

didn't score on any of those chances. When Kyle Sandlin's final shot in the third overtime hit the rim, the Rangers were there to grab a rebound as the game ended.

Throughout, it was a close-to-the-vest, defensive struggle. The game's biggest lead was five points, at 28-23 just over two minutes into the second half. The Jackets had scored the game's first four points, but took their last lead with 1:35 remaining in regulation play when Braden Smith's two foul shots

made it 47-45.

The Jackets scored just two points in the 12 minutes of overtime, but it lasted that long because they held Naaman Williams to seven.

The Rangers had a 3-0 lead in the third overtime. Jordan Hammonree hit a 3-point shot to tie the score at 53 with 1:47 to play. Naaman Williams hit a 3-point shot. Josh Lewis made one of two foul shots 21 seconds later.

Though Rockwall held a 14-12 lead for most of the remainder of the game, it didn't score again

# Heath

From Page 1B

that game, it would force a one-game playoff for the district championship. And the reward for winning the district is a first-round bye in the bi-district playoffs.

"That should get the girls fired up," said coach Donna Walker, who picked up career win number 371.

The Lady Hawks, who dumped those same Lady Jackrabbits, 50-33 on Jan. 25, played only as well as they really needed to against the Lady Scots.

"We were a little flat," Walker said. "It's hard to keep them motivated (against a weak-

er team), keep them running. And it gave us a chance to get some of the other kids in the game. I thought it was a pretty good overall team effort."

As usual it was the combo of junior Sequeena Thomas and sophomore Shanae Lowrance who provided the bulk of Heath's scoring and rebounds. Thomas had 23 points, four blocks and a game-high 14 boards while Lowrance added 14 points and 12 rebounds. Senior Adrienne Boswell also reached double figures with 11 points.

Highland Park's Hartley Hobson was the lone bright spot for the Lady Scots, taking game scoring honors with 24 points by hitting 9-of-14 field goals, including four three-pointers.

Against Forney, Thomas had

16 points and eight rebounds while Lowrance and Boswell had 10 points each, Lowrance adding a game-high 11 rebounds. Heath's relentless defensive pressure allowed Jackrabbits just six field goals for the entire game.

Walker, who coached several district champions and led teams to numerous playoff appearances during her 16 years at Atlanta High School, called this one with the Lady Hawks special.

"This is going to be great with this being the first time with seniors and making playoffs for the first time," Walker said. "They are making history. They're setting the bar for the teams that come after them."

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**Red Cross**  
The Red Cross is seeking 20 new volunteers for its disaster relief team. Must be at least 18 years old and able to read and write. Team members are expected to be available for week nights or weekends, as needed, when disaster occurs. Training is provided. (972) 563-1030

**Burn Ban**  
Rockwall County continues its 90-day burn ban approved by county commissioners on Jan. 22. Violation of the ban is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$500.

**Starlight Singers**  
Park-Heath Elementary School Starlight Singers will host their annual USO Dinner, Dance and Social at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 1-2 at Cain Middle School in Heath. Dinner is catered by Johnny Carinos.

**Newcomers Meeting**  
Newcomers monthly meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 7 at the Shores Country Club, 3116 Carol East, (972) 722-3116 or Delores Morgan, (972) 722-4208 by Monday, Feb. 11 before 6 p.m. for reservations.

**Preschool Association**  
Rockwall Preschool Association membership is open to all Rockwall area mothers with children through kindergarten. The RPAC calendar year runs from September through May. General meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7 p.m. www.rockwallpreschoolassociation.com

**Open House**  
Fulton School will hold an open house from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 12 to tour the school and receive information about enrollment for 2008-2009. (972) 772-4445.

**Les Miserables**  
Rockwall High School's theater and choral departments are presenting the musical, "Les Miserables" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31 and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2-3 in the Fulton Theatre. Tickets are reserved only for \$10 and can be purchased from Margaret Mays, the counselors' office between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. or by e-mail: mmays@rockwallisd.org.

**American Legion**  
American Legion Post 117 Rockwall meets at 7 p.m. on Thursday of each month at the Rockwall American Legion. (469) 698-0117

**CASA Volunteer**  
New volunteer orientation will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Rockwall County Courthouse.

**Rockwall Republican**  
Host first annual Reagan Day dinner at the Rockwall County Republican Party. Chairman Bill Brodhead announced plans to hold a Reagan Day Dinner on Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Rockwall County Courthouse. U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison as keynote speaker. The event will be announced on the Rockwall Republican website. For more information, contact Bill Brodhead at (972) 772-4445.

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## Around Town

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Newcomers monthly meeting will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 14 at the Shores Country Club. Cost \$16. Carol East, (972) 722-1774, or Delores Morgan, (972) 722-4208 by Monday, Feb. 11 before 6 p.m. for reservations.

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### American Legion

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### CASA Volunteers

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### Rockwall Republicans

host first annual Reagan Day dinner

Rockwall County Republican Party Chairman Bill Broderick announced plans to hold the Reagan Day Dinner on Feb. 1 with Republican U.S. Sen. Dan Claitor as keynote speaker.

The event will be among the largest held at the new Hilton Bellaire located on Lake Ray Hubbard.

"We are very excited about the speaker's attendance and we are working diligently to ensure that several members of the top tier of Texas elected officials will be in attendance," Broderick said.

The Reagan Day Dinner will commemorate America's 40th president, Ronald Reagan.

the Lone Star CASA Office, 950 Williams St., Building C in Rockwall. (972) 772-5858 or director@lonestarcasa.org.

### RARTA

The Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association's next meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11 at the RISD Educational Complex.

### Volunteers

Rockwall County Committee on Aging office needs volunteers interested in serving the elder/disabled community. (972) 771-9514.

### Ministerial Alliance

Rockwall Ministerial Alliance sponsors a short prayer service at noon on the fourth Wednesday of each month. (972) 771-5526.

### Helping Hands

Rockwall County Helping Hands needs help stocking its food pantry. Visit [www.rockwallhelpinghands.com](http://www.rockwallhelpinghands.com) for a full list of needed items. Drop off donations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at 950 Williams St. (972) 771-4357.

### Toastmasters

Metro-Tex Toastmasters meets at 11 a.m. Thursdays at Lake Pointe Church, 701 E. Interstate 30. (214) 704-4582. Toastmasters of Rockwall meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays at Rockwall Dodge, 970 E. Interstate 30. (972) 722-3696 or [rockwall.freetoasthost.org](http://rockwall.freetoasthost.org).

### PARD Activities

Registrations are currently being taken for youth and adult programs offered by the Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department. (972) 771-7740 or register for a program by stopping by The Center at 108 E. Washington

or mailing the registration form in the Fun Guide to 108 E. Washington, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

### Meals On Wheels

Meals on Wheels needs volunteers. They have added a new route and due to the rapid population growth, have more seniors to serve. The programs have never had a waiting list and they hope to be able to help the elder community with the assistance of volunteers. (972) 771-9514.

### Preschool Moms

Mothers of Preschoolers at First Baptist Church in Rockwall meets twice a month Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Membership is open to all mothers with children through kindergarten. Membership based on child-care availability. (972) 771-8459 or visit [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org).

### Community Prayer

True Worshipers Christian Ministries will meet for a community prayer and bible study Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at 2830 Tangleleg Drive. (972) 722-2634.

### DAR

DAR meets on the first Saturday of every month from October through May. If interested in membership, please call Laverne Ketcherside, Royse City (972) 635-6626; Faye Heil, Rockwall (972) 771-3033; or Pat Brown, Terrell (972) 563-5559.

### Gold Cards

Gold Cards are available to Royse City ISD residents who are 65 or older. The cards allow free admission to all home athletic events. Call or visit the Royse City ISD administration Office to pick up your card. (972) 636-2413.



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Bluebonnet readers at Dobbs receive Bluebonnet breakfast as part of their balloting for the Texas Bluebonnet Award.

## Dobbs students choose favorite book

Students at Dobbs Elementary recently cast their votes. No, not for the presidential primary but for something just as important to the students at Dobbs.

The students cast their votes Jan. 25 for their favorite book on the Texas Bluebonnet Award list of nominated books for 2007-2008. Third-through sixth-graders kept reading logs and needed to read at least five of the 20 nominated

titles to qualify to vote.

Winning books this year were "The Ghost's Grave" by Peg Kehret, "Roxie and the Hooligans" by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor and "Double Identity" by Margaret Peterson Haddix. These votes have been sent to Austin to be added to the Texas Library Association's State Bluebonnet voting. A state winner will soon be announced.

## RCC monthly meeting scheduled for Feb. 6

The Rockwall Computer Council will conduct its next monthly meeting Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. at The Center, Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington St. Kaaren Mahoney, senior tax adviser at H&R Block, will present a program that will cover recent Federal tax law changes,

including sales tax extension, deductible PMI premiums and the AMT patch.

Other topics will include qualified dividends, capital gains, itemized deductions, especially medical, Social Security benefits and changes for 2008 as well as filing via computer. Questions

will also be welcome.

The RCC is for anyone interested in the use of computers for home and/or business and the total community is invited to attend the meetings. For more information, call program chairman Joe Conrad at (972) 771-8712.

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS  
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--	--

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# Texas Supreme Court backs Rockwall annexation plan

By Marcus Funk  
news@rockwallcountynews.com

The Texas Supreme Court upheld a fast-tracked Rockwall annexation plan from 2004 with a 5-4 vote Jan. 25.

The ruling reinforces Rockwall's practice of rapidly annexing sparsely populated areas, which has been a controversial topic at recent city council meetings.

Most annexations require a three-year plan but a 1997 Texas law makes areas with fewer than 100 residences eligible for "fast-track" annexation, meaning they could be incorporated by a city in a matter of months.

The law allows homeowners to petition for inclusion in a three-year plan, but the court's majority opinion stated cities are not obligated to grant or honor those requests. Cities may legally hear and deny those petitions before continuing with fast tracked

annexation.

Rockwall City Manager Julie Couch said the ruling supports cities and annexation rights, which are a major consideration for many municipalities.

"In essence, cities generally have been in the position that annexation of vacant land was something a city could do," Couch said. "If the court had found in homeowners' favor, it would have had significant impact on a city's ability to annex underpopulated land."

The ruling specifically pertained to an arbitration request from W.W. Caruth, whose land was scheduled for fast-tracked annexation by the Rockwall City Council in 2004. Plans for that property have since been settled and development is underway.

Rockwall City Attorney Pete Eckert said the ruling is significant, although it has not effectively simplified the annexation pro-

cess. Further legislation passed in 2007, during the court's two-year deliberation, requires cities to offer other possible exemptions before finalizing an annexation.

One such exception, according to Eckert, relates to agriculturally zoned land. Cities are now allowed to ignore pertinent petitions, but a 2007 law requires cities to offer 2-12 "non-development" agreements to homeowners residing on agricultural land. The new law is currently in use by city staff, who are negotiating such an agreement with disgruntled homeowners in and around the Wallace family farm near Farm-to-Market Road 549, another proposed annexation zone.

"The law still paves the way for cities to annex sparsely populated tracks of land without a three-year plan," Eckert said. "But if you're dealing with agricultural property now, the law has changed."

## Sweet Serenade



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

Rockwall Children's Chorus is selling singing telegrams that will be delivered Feb. 8 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Feb. 9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For just \$25, a group of singers will serenade the person of your dreams and deliver freshly baked cookies, too. This is an ideal gift for grandparents, your significant other or your co-workers. Deadline to order is Feb. 4. For more information, contact Sherri Chuang by fax at (972) 772-0171 or by e-mail at schuang@sbcglobal.net.

## Filing for upcoming election to begin Feb. 11

Three council positions will be on the city of Rockwall General Election ballot May 10 - Place 2 (incumbent Stephen Straughan), Place 4 (incumbent Cliff Sevier) and Place 6 (incumbent Margo Nielsen).

All three incumbents have announced their intent seek another two-year term.

The first day to file for a place on the ballot is Feb. 11 and the last day to file is March 10. Applications are available from and must be filed with the City Secretary's office at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad St., or the form can be found online at www.rockwall.com under the City Secretary's page.

Early voting in the May 10

election begins April 28 and ends May 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (except on May 5-6 when voting is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.) at the county courthouse on the downtown square, 101 E. Rusk St. Early voting will also be held May 3 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The election will be administered by the Rockwall County Elections Administrator.

Applications for ballots by mail must be requested from and mailed to the Rockwall County Elections Administrators Office, Attn: Glenda Denton, 101 E. Rusk, Rockwall TX 75087. Applications must be received no later than the close of business on May 2.

## 'Driving Miss Daisy' starts Feb. 1 at RCP

Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Driving Miss Daisy," a warm-hearted, humorous and affecting study of the unlikely relationship between an aging, crotchety white southern lady, and a proud, soft-spoken black man opens Feb. 1 at Rockwall Community Playhouse.

Tickets are available now, call (972) 722-3399 or go to www.rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org to purchase tickets online.

Every show at RCP chooses a cause or charity to promote and support during its run. The cast of "Miss Daisy" will be supporting The Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Performances are Feb. 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for children, students and senior citizens.

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## Baylor University

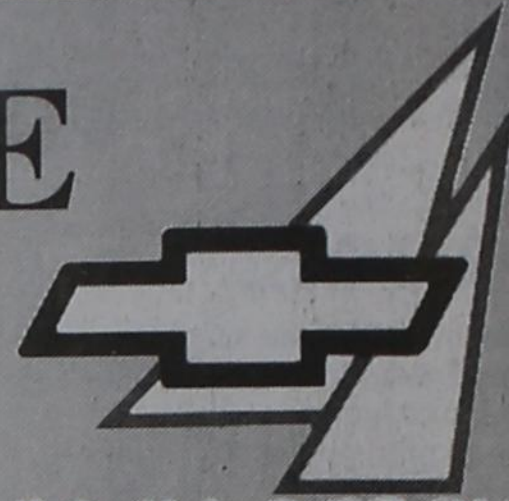
Baylor University conferred degrees on more than 700 graduates during fall commencement exercises Dec. 15 in the Ferrell Center.

The graduation ceremony honored students who completed their degree requirements in the College of Arts and Sciences; the Schools of Business, Education, Engineering and Computer Science, Music, Nursing and Social

Work; Honors College; and the Graduate School arts and sciences and professional programs.

Rockwall graduates were Kent Cullins, BBA in real estate and marketing; Jacobe Hefferman, BS in economics; Joel Sanders, BSME in mechanical engineering mathematics; Lindsey Spillman, BS in economics and chemistry; and Emily Steed, BA in nutrition sciences and business administration.

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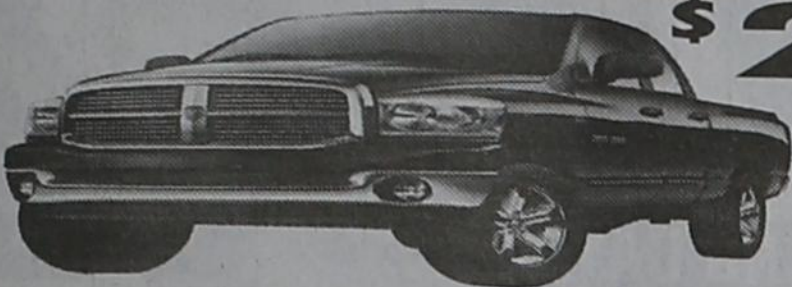
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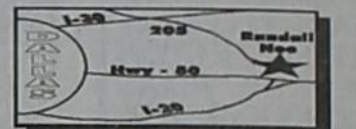
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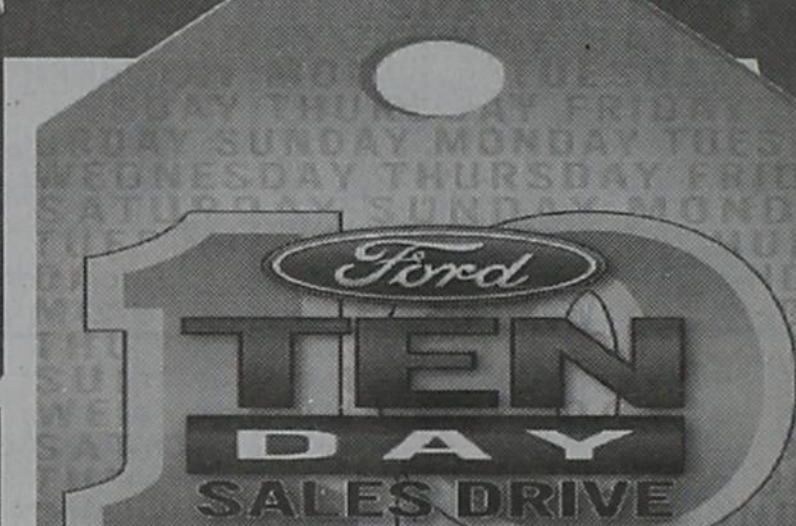
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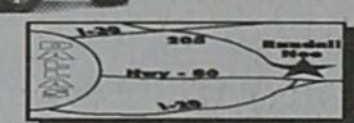


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# ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS

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#### Legal Notices

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT LEGANTZ, LLC DB/A LEGANTZ HAS FILED A WRITTEN APPLICATION DATED THE 18TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2008 TO BE ISSUED A WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT AT 2091 SUMMER LEE DRIVE, SUITE 107, ROCKWALL, TEXAS. OFFICERS OF LEGANTZ, LLC INCLUDE: LYNN RUPE DAVIS, OWNER/PRESIDENT/SECRETARY, IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 61.38 OF THE "TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE", SAID APPLICATION WILL BE HEARD BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHRIS FLORANCE, COUNTY JUDGE OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS, LOCATED AT 101 EAST RUSK STREET, 3RD FLOOR, IN ROCKWALL, TEXAS ON THE 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2008 AT 8:30 O'CLOCK AM. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2008. LISA CONSTANT, COUNTY CLERK, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS.**

#### Legal Notices

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT RJDK CORPORATION D/B/A ROCKWALL ONE STOP HAS FILED A WRITTEN APPLICATION DATED THE 23RD DAY OF JANUARY, 2008 TO BE ISSUED A WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT AT 715 W. RUSK STREET, ROCKWALL, TEXAS. OFFICERS OF RJDK CORPORATION INCLUDE: DIPAK KANTIL PATIL, PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR AND KOKILA DIPAK PATIL, VICE PRESIDENT/SECRETARY, IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 61.38 OF THE "TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE", SAID APPLICATION WILL BE HEARD BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHRIS FLORANCE, COUNTY JUDGE OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS, LOCATED AT 101 EAST RUSK STREET, 3RD FLOOR, IN ROCKWALL, TEXAS ON THE 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2008 AT 8:30 O'CLOCK AM. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 2008. LISA CONSTANT, COUNTY CLERK, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS.**

#### Personals

**MARK.**  
The righteous man shall fall seven times and shall rise again, but the wicked shall fall down and never rise. Prov. 24:16

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Seeking individual or couple to assist with maintenance of 32 acre property and house cleaning. Inside/Outside work. Call 972-567-9396. Email: phannan@cmatex.com

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In home care for your loved ones. We offer 24 hr care for the elderly. House Keeping, laundry & meals prepared, etc.

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**ROOM FOR RENT**  
1BD w/private bath \$600/month. Seeking professional female. Must love pets. 800-315-5899

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\$1250/mo or \$124,900.  
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red/white and tri-color females. 7 wks. s/w. 972-771-9222

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**972-636-2111**

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1 acre lot, \$129,900  
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email hcandler@aol.com

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Must be a honest, dependable and energetic individual w/excellent computer skills & reliable transportation. Duties include sorting mail, running errands, handling personal and business phone calls, scheduling appointments, financial and travel arrangements. Fax resume to 972-722-5636 or email bonnie@cmarronconcrete.com

www.rockwallcountynews.com

#### Legal Notices

**CITY OF ROCKWALL ORDINANCE NO. 08-05**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE (ORD. NO. 04-38) OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED, BY AMENDING ARTICLE IV, PERMISSIBLE USES; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
/s/ William R. Cecil, Mayor  
/s/ Dorothy Brooks, TRMC, CMC, City Secretary  
1st Reading: 01-07-08  
2nd Reading: 01-22-08

#### Legal Notices

**CITY OF ROCKWALL ORDINANCE NO. 08-03**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL IN CHAPTER 6 BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) AND A SEPARATE OFFENSE SHALL BE DEEMED COMMITTED ON EACH DAY DURING OR ON WHICH A VIOLATION OCCURS; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
/s/ William R. Cecil, Mayor  
/s/ Dorothy Brooks, TRMC, CMC, City Secretary  
1st Reading: 01-07-08  
2nd Reading: 01-22-08

#### Legal Notices

**CITY OF ROCKWALL ORDINANCE NO. 08-04**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN CHAPTER 10 FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE 2006 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AND THE ROCKWALL FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM INSTALLATION STANDARDS; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) AND A SEPARATE OFFENSE SHALL BE DEEMED COMMITTED ON EACH DAY DURING OR ON WHICH A VIOLATION OCCURS; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
/s/ William R. Cecil, Mayor  
/s/ Dorothy Brooks, TRMC, CMC, City Secretary  
1st Reading: 01-07-08  
2nd Reading: 01-22-08

#### Legal Notices

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Request for Proposals**  
**COMPUTER HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND SERVICES**  
RFP 08-02.21-78  
Proposals received until 2:00 PM February 21, 2008

The Rockwall Independent School District is receiving proposals for the above mentioned products/services. Proposal packages may be requested by email to jharris@rockwallisd.org or downloaded at DemandStar.com. The District anticipates award at the March board meeting. Proposal forms should be in a sealed envelope to the attention of the Director of Purchasing and marked with the proposal number and name. Proposals will be received until 2:00 PM on February 21, 2008 at the Administration Center located at 1050 Williams Street, Rockwall TX 75087 at which time said proposals will be publicly opened but not read.

The Board of Trustees for the Rockwall Independent School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids/proposals and to waive any irregularities, technicalities or informalities in any bids or the bid process.

#### Legal Notices

**CAUSE NO. PR 08-04**  
IN RE: ESTATE OF CAROLYN B. SWAFFORD, DECEASED  
IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS  
**PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the estate of Carolyn B. Swafford, Deceased, were issued on the 15th day of January, 2008 in Docket Number PR 08-04, pending in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas to Dianne Watkins, Independent Executrix.  
The address of record for Dianne Watkins is 633 Harlan Glen, Richardson, Texas 75081.  
All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
DATED on this 25th day of January, 2008.  
Signed by: Dianne Watkins, Independent Executrix

Attorney for the Estate:  
Susan Satterwhite  
Law Office of Don R. Stodghill  
1509 Summer Lee Drive  
Rockwall, Texas 75032  
phone (972) 771-1162  
fax (972) 771-1286

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**Legal Notices**  
**NOTICE PUBLIC ON-LINE AUCTION ROCKWALL ISD**  
District surplus property will be listed with Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. for sale to the highest bidder. Most items will be offered in lots of 5 - 25 pieces.  
www.renebates.com  
Auction will run for two weeks - February 14 - 27, 2008  
Lots must be picked up the week of March 3 - 7, 2008 by appointment at  
Utley Freshman Center  
1201 Townsend  
Rockwall, TX 75087

#### Legal Notices

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Request for Proposals**  
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#### Legal Notices

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**ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Request for Proposals**  
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The Board of Trustees for the Rockwall Independent School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids/proposals and to waive any irregularities, technicalities or informalities in any bids or the bid process.

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to Mr. Chuck Todd, P.E., City Engineer, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 385 S. Goliad, City Hall, 1st Floor, until the hour of **2:30 PM, Thursday, February 14, 2008**, for the following project:  
**205 By-pass, IH-30 to SH-276, Phase 2**  
The project includes: the installation of approximately: 1563 CY Excavation, 2822 CY Embankment, 13,530 SY Lime Treated Subgrade, 284.1 Tons Lime, 11,300 SY 10-inch 5000 psi Concrete Pavement (including 6-inch mono. Curb), 861 SY 6-inch Type D HMAC, Roadway Markings, 351 LF 18" RCP, 49 LF 21" RCP, 5 EA 10' Recessed Inlet, 1 EA 15' Recessed Inlet, 2 Project Signs, and Miscellaneous Items.  
Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope externally marked **205 By-pass, IH-30 to SH-276, Phase 2**.  
Bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chambers at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad. No bids will be open or considered if received after the specified time.  
Prequalification is not required. Completion time is **120 Calendar Days**. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or to accept the bid or bids deemed best for the City.  
A 5% Bid Bond is due with the bids. A Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bond (2-year) is required for this project.  
Contractors must conform to the Prevailing Wage Rates as established by the City of Rockwall.  
Plans and specifications may be examined at the Rockwall Engineering Office located in the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, 1st Floor, Rockwall, Texas (phone numbers- 972-771-7746/fax 972-771-7748), and procured at the office of the Engineer, Wier & Associates, Inc., 4300 Beltway Place, Suite 130, Arlington, Texas (phone numbers- 817-467-7700/fax 817-467-7713), at a non-refundable cost of \$50.00, beginning January 31, 2008.

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to Mr. Chuck Todd, P.E., City Engineer, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 385 S. Goliad, City Hall, 1st Floor, **February 7, 2008**, until the hour of **4:30 PM**, for the following project:  
**700 and 780 Service Areas- Water Line Improvements**  
The project includes approximately: 4011 LF 8-inch PVC Water Line, 13,732 LF 12-inch PVC Water Line, 275 LF 16-inch PVC Water Line, 27- 8-inch Gate Valves, 30- 12-inch Gate Valves, 1- 16-inch Butterfly Valve, 37- Fire Hydrant Assemblies, 20,000 Pounds D.I. Fittings, and other miscellaneous items.  
Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope externally marked **700 and 780 Service Areas- Water Line Improvements**.  
Bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chambers at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad. No bids will be open or considered if received after the specified time.  
Prequalification is not required. Completion time is **180 Calendar Days**. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or to accept the bid or bids deemed best for the City.  
A 5% Bid Bond is due with the bids. A Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bond (2-year) is required for this project.  
Contractors must conform to the Prevailing Wage Rates as established by the City of Rockwall.  
Plans and specifications may be examined at the Rockwall Engineering Office located in the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, 1st Floor, Rockwall, Texas (phone numbers- 972-771-7746/fax 972-771-7748), and procured at the office of the Engineer, Birkhoff, Hendricks & Conway, LLP, 7502 Greenville Ave., Suite 220, Dallas, Texas (phone numbers- 214-361-7900/fax 214-361-0204), at a non-refundable cost of \$40.00, beginning January 24, 2008.

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to Mr. Chuck Todd, P.E., City Engineer, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 385 S. Goliad, City Hall, 1st Floor, **February 7, 2008**, until the hour of **4:00 PM** for the following project:  
**Shores North Drainage Improvements**  
The project includes approximately: 550 L.F. of 54-inch RCP Storm Sewer, 135 L.F. of 48-inch RCP Storm Sewer, One- Two Pipe Concrete Headwall, approximately 4,000 C.Y. of Earth Fill, a small dewatering (with dewatering), and other miscellaneous items.  
Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope externally marked **Shores North Drainage Improvements**.  
Bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chambers at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad. No bids will be open or considered if received after the specified time.  
Prequalification is not required. Completion time is **75 Calendar Days**. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or to accept the bid or bids deemed best for the City.  
A 5% Bid Bond is due with the bids. A Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bond (2-year) is required for this project.  
Contractors must conform to the Prevailing Wage Rates as established by the City of Rockwall.  
Plans and specifications may be examined at the Rockwall Engineering Office located in the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, 1st Floor, Rockwall, Texas (phone numbers- 972-771-7746/fax 972-771-7748), and procured at the office of the Engineer, Birkhoff, Hendricks & Conway, LLP, 7502 Greenville Ave., Suite 220, Dallas, Texas (phone numbers- 214-361-7900/fax 214-361-0204), at a non-refundable cost of \$25.00, beginning January 24, 2008.

Carrier... ONE ISS... different loca... Must have reliable tran... Apply in person at or call 972... MUELLER METAL... Mueller, Inc. is a highly re... of pre-engineered steel components. We now seek Sales R... Cad... Serve as an inside sales rep... of metal building systems manager" to assist the cust... knowledge & experience w... environment & Bachelor's... Desire "people" persons wi... We offer competitive pay... dependent health insurance... sick leave, life insurance, et... \$37,500... SIGNIFICAN... Online application require... West, Caddo Mills, TX, (... www.muellerinc.com... \$35,000 base salary + sign... non-Bachelor's Degree... Employment contingent up... and extensive background... www... - PUBL... The City of Rockwall Plann... public hearing on Tuesda... Council Chambers at R... Rockwall, Texas, and the R... Monday, Febru... Chambers at Rockwall C... to consider the follow... 22008-001: Indepe... Hold a public hearing... Hudson of Hudson's... amendment to (PD-... District (Ord. No. 09... property known as... Pass Addition, situa... (Ridge Rd) and at... Place, and take any... 22008-002: Jacket... Hold a public hearing... Phillips for approval... allow for a "Genera... Development No. 50... embroidery and gra... Block A, Misty Addi... at 909 N. Goliad, ar... H2007-010: 902 N... Hold a public hearing... request for a Histor... Spafford House loca... zoned (PD-50) Plan... located outside of t... District... H2007-011: 908 N... Hold a public hearing... request for a Histor... Reese-Jones Hous... is zoned (PD-50) P... located outside of t... District... Interested parties are... City of Rockwall Pla... with any questions... Rockw...



ROCKWALL COUNTY

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**ONE ISSUE PER WEEK:**  
roll, bag and throw Rockwall County News paper at different locations as instructed.

**Must have reliable transportation and be able to lift.**

**Apply in person at 150 Ninth Street, Terrell or call 972-722-3099 x. 117**

**Help Wanted**

### CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

CITY OF HEATH, TEXAS

Under general supervision, performs highly responsible accounting work in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This is a supervisory position. Work involves ensuring City's financial position is accurately reflected in the CAFR and other such duties as but not limited to preparing and/or processing various records and reports such as audit schedules, grant financial status reports, and CIP report for Council; refers to GASB, internet, local newspapers, policy and procedure manuals, computer manuals, codes/laws/regulations, publications and reference texts, etc., supervises year-end audit; compiles year-end schedules; reviews and books needed entries; manages fixed assets system for the City; handles the responsibility for updating fixed assets system with the City's infrastructure to comply with GASB 34; manages accounting function for City's grants; manages accounting function for CIP projects.

Requires: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Business Management, Finance or a related field with coursework equivalent to a major concentration in accounting plus five years of accounting experience, including three years of municipal accounting experience. Certified Public Accountant designation is desirable or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. Valid Texas driver's license required. Salary \$70K + benefits. Position closes Friday, February 8, 2008. Please complete an application [www.healthtx.com](http://www.healthtx.com) and forward resumes to Human Resources, 200 Laurence Drive, Heath, TX 75032 or fax 972-961-4935 or email [acumpton@healthtx.com](mailto:acumpton@healthtx.com)

**Houses for Sale**

**ROCKWALL COUNTY-PRIVATE ESTATE-EIGHT ACRES ANIMAL AND OUTDOOR LOVERS DREAM**  
Magnificently Inspired Gated Estate Luxurious four thousand foot(appx) masterful home with freshly updated exquisite features. Sprawling one story rock and brick with mature trees and three barns. Space for tennis court. Pool pond and gorgeous breath taking view. Four bedrooms, two living areas, cathedral ceiling, two fireplaces, spacious media and office suite, and three car garage. Closets and storage space galore. Plus all the amenities you would expect in this price range of \$750,000. Rockwall ISD. Call 972-722-2283 or n(c)214-794-8762 for appt. Will entertain a 4 or 10 acre division if desired, maybe "THE BEST VALUE IN ROCKWALL COUNTY" Realtors and developers welcome.

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**KENWAY PLAZA**  
Kenway @ Goliad  
2800sqft - Retail/office,  
2000sqft - Office  
469-261-9770 or  
469-261-9773

**Houses for Sale**

\$0dn \$0 MOVE-IN  
New Brick 4-2-2 \$900  
nh2d Ag  
972-325-4141

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ASE MASTER CERTIFIED TECHNICIAN



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Computer Diagnostics • Computer Alignment  
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**Help Wanted**


**Hilton**  
Bella Harbor on Lake Ray Hubbard Rockwall  
Opening Mid-March, 2008  
**JOB FAIR**

- HOUSEKEEPING
- FRONT OFFICE
- CONCIERGE
- RESTAURANT STAFF - FRONT AND BACK OF THE HOUSE
- BARTENDERS
- BANQUET STAFF
- ENGINEERING
- SECURITY
- ACCOUNTING

Former location of the boutique **Baby Grace** at the Harbor Shops on Summer Lee Drive and Lakewood Trl.  
Thursday 2/7 - 2pm-7pm  
Friday 2/8 - 2pm-7pm  
Saturday 2/9 - 10am-4pm

214-771-3700

**Help Wanted**



**MUELLER, INC.**  
METAL BUILDINGS, ROOFING & COMPONENTS

Mueller, Inc. is a highly respected, well-established manufacturer of pre-engineered steel building systems, metal roofing & components. We now seek a:

**Sales Representative**  
Caddo Mills, TX

Serve as an inside sales representative to customers, generate sales of metal building systems & components, serve as a "project manager" to assist the customer & service the account. Working knowledge & experience with metal buildings, agricultural related environment & Bachelor's degree preferred, but not required. Desire "people" persons with general PC & software skills.

We offer competitive pay/benefits, with 100% paid employee & dependent health insurance, long-term disability, 401(k), vacation, sick leave, life insurance, employee assistance program, etc.

**\$37,500 base salary + SIGNIFICANT commission potential.**

Online application required, may complete on-site at 4840 I-30 West, Caddo Mills, TX, (903) 527-4060 or by visiting [www.muellerinc.com](http://www.muellerinc.com)

\$35,000 base salary + significant commission potential for non-Bachelor's Degree

Employment contingent upon completion of successful drug screen and extensive background check. EOE

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Work 3 to 4 Evenings per Week  
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5pm-8pm

- Requires an enthusiastic attitude.
- Must have transportation.

Apply in person at 150 Ninth Street, Terrell  
**NO PHONE CALLS**




**Legal Notices**

**- PUBLIC NOTICE -**

The City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold public hearing on **Tuesday, February 12, 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 February 18, 2008** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, to consider the following items:

**Z2008-001: Independence Pass (PD-8 Amendment)**  
Hold a public hearing and consider a request by Chad Hudson of Hudson Properties for approval of an amendment to (PD-8) Planned Development No. 8 District (Ord. No. 05-30), specifically for the 1.41-acre property known as Lots 1-3, Block A, Independence Pass Addition, situated along the west side of FM 740 (Ridge Rd) and at the south terminus of Independence Place, and take any action necessary.

**Z2008-002: Jacket Grafix (Misty Phillips)**  
Hold a public hearing and consider a request by Misty Phillips for approval of a Specific Use Permit (SUP) to allow for a "General Retail Store" within (PD-50) Planned Development No. 50 district, specifically for an embroidery and graphics business located on Lot 1, Block A, Misty Addition, being 0.141-acre and located at 909 N. Goliad, and take any action necessary.


**H2007-010: 902 N Goliad Landmark Designation**  
Hold a public hearing to consider a City initiated request for a Historic Landmark designation for the Spafford House located at 902 N. Goliad. The tract is zoned (PD-50) Planned Development No. 50 and is located outside of the Old Town Rockwall Historic District.

**H2007-011: 908 N Goliad Landmark Designation**  
Hold a public hearing to consider a City initiated request for a Historic Landmark designation for the Reese-Jones House located at 908 N. Goliad. The tract is zoned (PD-50) Planned Development No. 50 and is located outside of the Old Town Rockwall Historic District.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-745 with any questions.

**Public Notices**

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



**TexSCAN Week of January 27, 2008 AUCTIONS**

**FOR SALE AT Auction:** 1963 Austin Healey 3000-1957 Bel-Air convertible, 1952 Jaguar XK120, The Branson Auction, April 18-19. Call now to bid/consign. 1-800-335-3063 [www.bransonauction.com](http://www.bransonauction.com)

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**DRIVER-BYNUM TRANS-PORT**-Qualified drivers needed for regional & OTR positions. Food grade tanker, no hazmat or pumps, great benefits, competitive pay, new equipment. 1-866-GO-BYNUM. Need 2 years experience.

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**POST OFFICE NOW Hiring.** Avg. Pay \$20/hour or \$57K/yr. Including Federal Benefits, OT/offer placed by Exam Services, not affiliated with USPS which does hiring. 1-866-918-1182

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**DRIVER- O/O'S.** NEW pay scale, plus fuel surcharge. Company drivers. \$5000 signing bonus. Minimum 1yr. experience. Lots drop & hook! American Eagle Lines, [www.aeal.com](http://www.aeal.com). 1-800-357-1011

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**DRIVERS- IMMEDIATE OPENING** for regional & OTR drivers! CDL-A with tanker required. Premium pay & benefits. Call 1-877-810-1041, or visit [www.oakleytransport.com](http://www.oakleytransport.com)

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**BUY FORECLOSURES!** 3BR/2BA \$11,869 OR \$199/mo! 4BR/2BA \$25,300 or \$215/mo! 5% down, 20 years @ 8%. Must see for listings. 1-800-544-6258 x 1303

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**3.14 ACRES NORTH** of Brady, electricity, central water. Level, oaks, mesquite Retirement, investment, county living. \$24,500, own financing. 1-800-876-9720 [www.hillcountryranches.com](http://www.hillcountryranches.com)

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**Help Wanted**

**Maintenance Worker - Utilities**  
Department of Public Works  
City of Heath, Texas

This position performs skilled, manual maintenance work related to city streets, water sewer and drainage operations; cleans and maintains street right-of-ways; assists in collection of trash and trimming trees; performs preventive maintenance on city equipment.

The hiring salary range is \$13.00 - \$15.00 per hour. Valid Class "C" commercial Texas driver's license is required along with Maintaining C Water and Level II TCEQ operation of certificate or be able to obtain one within 12-24 months from the date of employment.

The city of Heath offers excellent and progressive benefit packages. The City of Heath is considered a preferred employer of choice with competitive salaries and committed to E.O.E. You may download an application at [www.healthtx.com](http://www.healthtx.com) or pick up a copy at Health City Hall, 200 Laurence Drive, Heath, Texas 75032. The City of Heath is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Help Wanted**

**American Home Care**

### Schedule Coordinator

#### Mesquite Office

Searching for a highly organized individual with medical experience to schedule patient visits for our interdisciplinary home care team. LVN with home care experience preferred.


We offer competitive salaries and a great benefit package including health/vision/dental insurance, matching retirement plan, paid holidays, and PTO.

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Apply in person at:  
or 2944 Motley, Ste. 410, Mesquite  
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Inquiries call Mon.-Fri. 8-5 ONLY

**Help Wanted**

**At Home Healthcare**



**Community Educator**  
Will be responsible for marketing our Pediatric Services to potential referral sources in around the Dallas and surrounding areas. Requires previous marketing or public relations experience in the medical field.

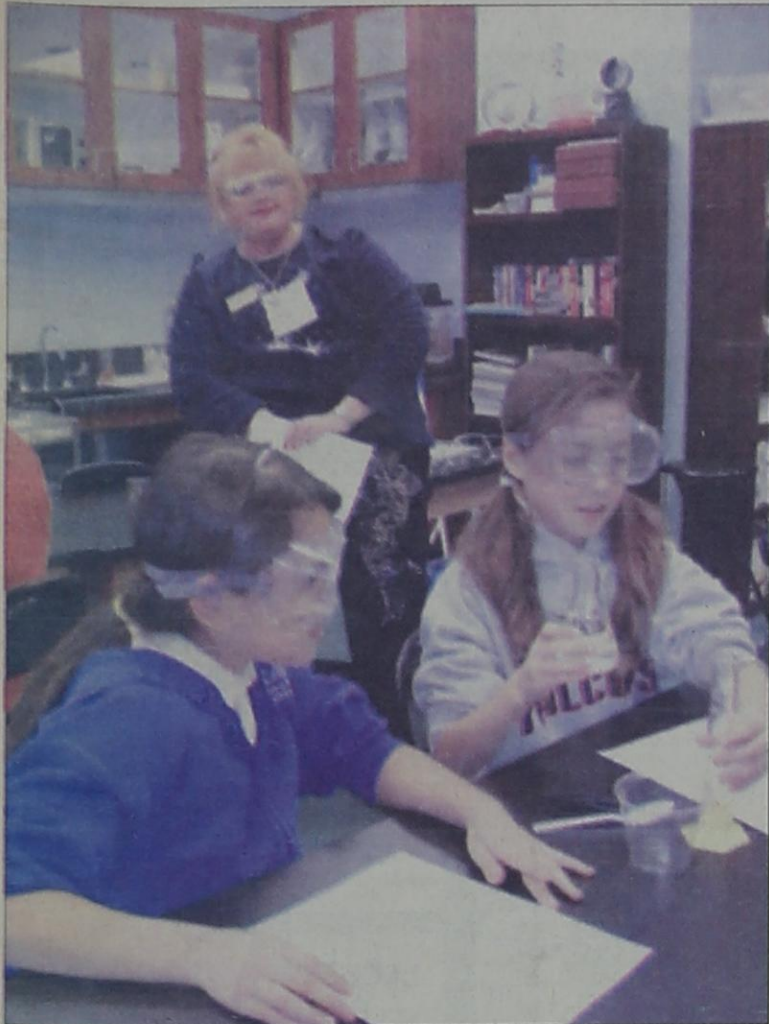
**Field Supervisor**  
Now accepting resumes/applications for our HOME SUPPORT SERVICES department in Rockwall. Candidate must either be a LVN/RN or have minimum of 2 years degree. Home Health experience is preferred.

**RN Case Manager**  
Our Rockwall Pediatric office is accepting applications for a RN who has the desire to help Pediatric patients with Pediatric background experience.

Call for more information:  
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[www.athomehealth.org](http://www.athomehealth.org)  
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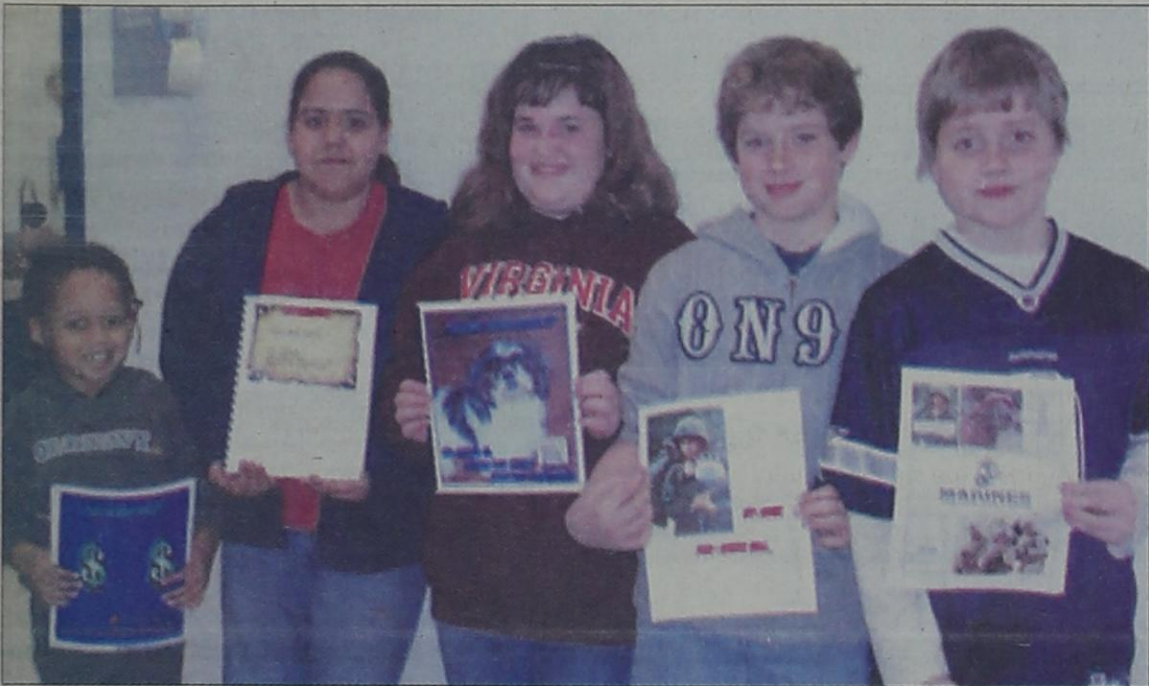
# Community Snapshots



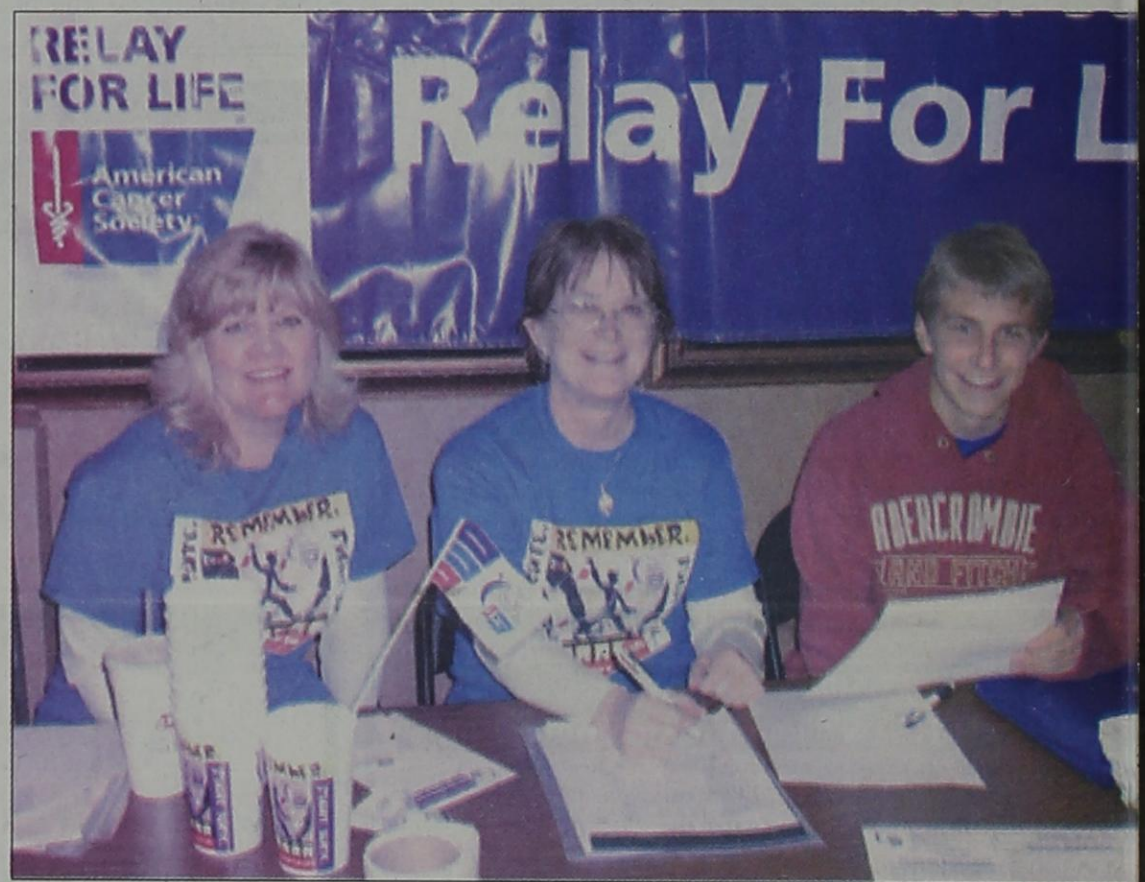
Middle school students **Isabella Cerritos** and **Morgan Froehlich** enjoy a lesson in chemical reactions taught by new Fulton science teacher, **Cheryl Farrens**. Students measured an exact volume of acetic acid (vinegar) and then reacted a tarnished penny with the acid. By putting a steel nail in the acid, they were able to watch the copper from the penny plate onto the nail. Students wore protective goggles, as is standard practice in chemistry experiments.



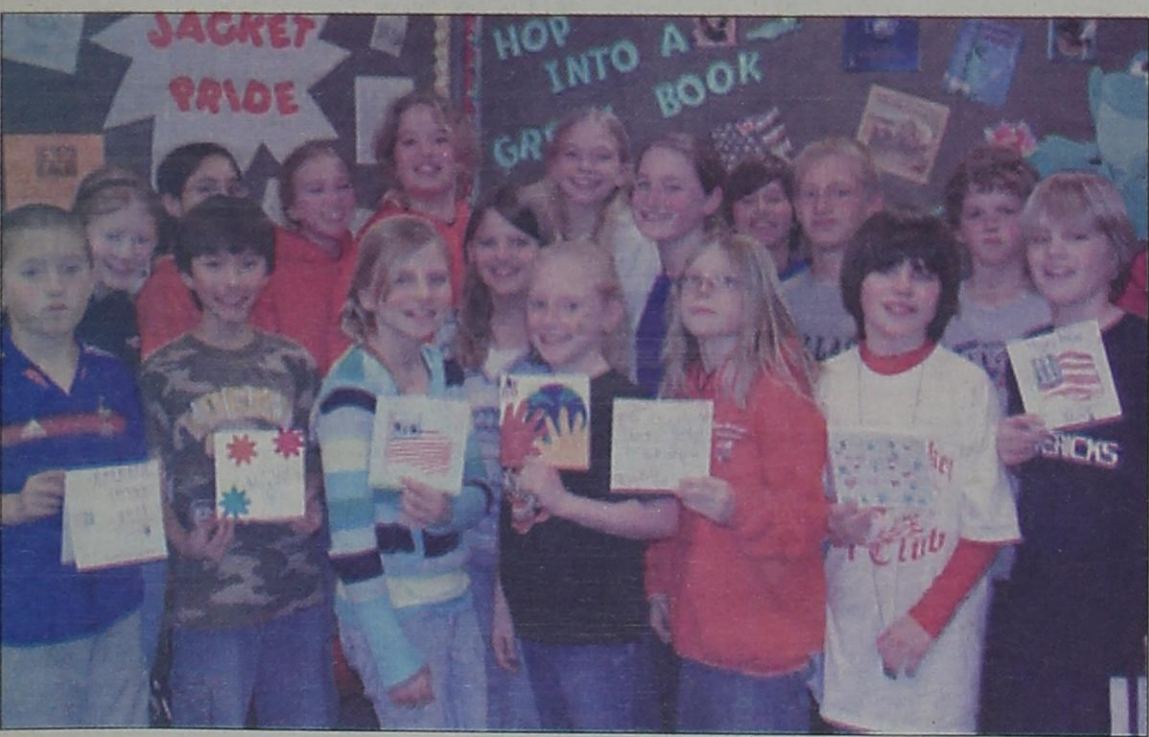
The Rockwall-Heath High School Highsteppers hosted the second annual Highstepper dance clinic on Jan. 19 at RHHS, complete with a Lil' Stepper Showoffs.



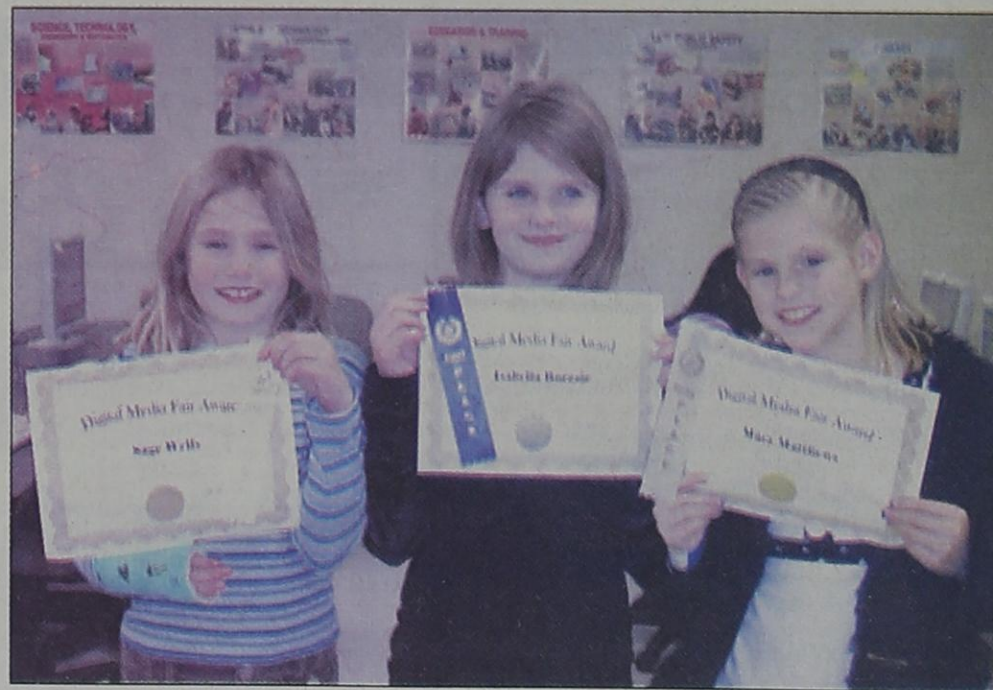
Students of Denise Hammond of Dobbs Elementary are currently corresponding with Marine recruits of Platoon 1009, Alpha Company, who will soon graduate from the Marine Academy in San Diego on Feb. 8. Correspondence has included personal letters, congratulatory cards for graduation, student-created comic books as well as energy bars. Many of the Marine recruits are responding with personal letters. Shown (from left) with their comic books are **Brandon Hayes**, **Isela Trevizo**, **Sarah Miller**, **Gage Caldwell** and **Ben Howell**.



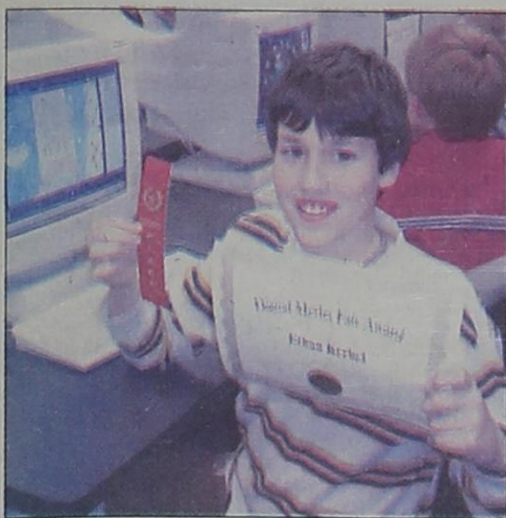
Even though it was a cold and windy night, Relay For Life participants turned out in droves at Rockwall kickoff party held at Cinemark Theatres at The Harbor. In just a few short hours, 20 teams registered. Team registration will continue up to the day of the event May 2-3 at Cain Middle School. Contact **Mary Thacker** at (972) 722-1215 to register your team or to register to walk the Survivor Lap. Shown are **Kimberly Perez**, **Ginger Stephens** and **Michael Gerritsen**.



The Kindness and Compassion Club at Nebbie Williams Elementary sponsored its first project, asking the fifth-grade students to make Happy New Year cards to be sent to Veterans Hospital in Dallas. Club members are sixth-grade students who are involved with the Rachel's Challenge program that emphasizes that kindness and compassion can be a chain reaction with one person being powerful enough to change another person's life.



Pullen fourth graders (from left) **Sage Wells**, **Isabella Burzair** and **Macy Mathews** show off their winning ribbon at the second annual Rockwall ISD Digital Media Fair Awards night held at Rockwall Heath High School on Jan. 24.



Pullen sixth-grader **Ethan Kerbel** received an honorable mention and a second-place ribbon for two projects he worked on for the Rockwall ISD Digital Media Fair Awards.



The Rockwall High School Stingerettes will present their 2008 spring show on the third Thursday of each month. The February meeting will be Feb. 21 at the Community Center at Harry Myers Park with guest speaker **Joe Delaney**, Rockwall County Emergency Management coordinator. Churns **Beathair**, (469) 698-0114. Advance tickets are \$12 and tickets at the door are \$15.

22 • No. 7

## Contacting the County News

To submit stories, photos, letters and letters to the editor to the Rockwall County News, direct your e-mails to the following addresses:  
 To contact publisher Bill Miller, e-mail publisher@rockwallcountynews.com.  
 To contact managing editor Cliff Miller, e-mail editor@rockwallcountynews.com.  
 To contact a staff community reporter, e-mail news@rockwallcountynews.com.  
 To contact sports editor Cliff Miller, e-mail sports@rockwallcountynews.com.  
 To contact the RCN by phone, call (972) 722-3099. Send fax submissions to (972) 524-8083.

## Around Town

### Young Republicans

Rockwall County Young Republicans will host guest speaker District Judge **Mary Murphy** at their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the Historic Downtown Rockwall Courthouse.

### Obama Supporters

Rockwall Obama supporters are invited to meet at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 17 at Country Cafe, 3045 N. Ste. 111 in Rockwall. (469) 348-6993.

### Relay For Life

Team captains for Rockwall County's Relay For Life meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the American Hospital on Horizon. Relay For Life will be held at Cain Middle School. Contact **Mary Thacker**, (972) 722-1215.

### Republican Women

Rockwall County Republican Women will hold a candidate forum beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21 in the courtroom at the Historic Downtown Rockwall Courthouse. **Billie Tuttle**, (972) 771-6874.

### Business Expo

Rockwall City Chamber of Commerce Business Expo will be held at Southern Junction Steakhouse on SH 276 in Rockwall beginning at 6 p.m. In advance tickets \$17. Booth space available. (972) 636-5000.

### Legal Aid

Rockwall Legal Aid clinic begins at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Helping Hands, 950 Williams Street. No criminal law, no traffic tickets and no auto accidents.

### American Legion

American Legion Post 117 in Rockwall meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. The February meeting will be Feb. 21 at the Community Center at Harry Myers Park with guest speaker **Joe Delaney**, Rockwall County Emergency Management coordinator. Churns **Beathair**, (469) 698-0114. Advance tickets are \$12 and tickets at the door are \$15.

### Grease' Auditions

Rockwall Community Playhouse will hold auditions for the musical "Grease" at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2. Performances begin in May. (972) 722-3399 or www.rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

