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Rockwall County News



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County Readers in • Fate • Heath • McLendon-Chisholm • Rockwall • Rowlett • Royse City

City of Rockwall begins enforcement of new sign ordinance next week

The City of Rockwall will begin enforcing an amendment to the sign ordinance that will have a noticeable impact on the appearance of intersections. "It's been really hard the past few months to let people know we're looking for alternatives," said code enforcement supervisor Griffin. He reported they have notified all the nonprofit organizations that historically had the benefit of obtaining city permits to advertise events. In essence, the city's sign ordinance prohibits all "offsite advertising." The ordinance was presented at public hearings, continuing to voice objections from represented nonprofit organizations that fear losing their efforts if they lose the visibility their banners provide in the weeks leading up to fundraising events. Last weekend, only a couple of banners remained at the most affected by the ordinance — the grassy right-of-way

at I-30 and Ridge Road. One banner still standing as of this past weekend belonged to the City of Rockwall. Griffin said that this banner, too, would have to come down by Aug. 7. Citing state law, Griffin indicated that placing signage in a state right-of-way was prohibited already, but with the authority provided by the ordinance amendment, the city would now begin enforcing the ban on banners at areas like the Ridge Road corner. A spokesperson for the Texas Department of Transportation confirmed that statutes do, in fact, prohibit any type of advertising signage on its right-of-way areas. The amendment, which was approved by City Council on Feb. 2, was allowed a six-month delay before enforcement to allow time for public education on the change, as well as the implementation of alternatives for groups that have relied on such banners for events promotion. As the banners come down, Rockwall anticipates its website traffic to go up, due to the implementation of an events page designed to take the place of the outlawed banners. The Parks Department is preparing to place permanent city signs in areas

where the public is accustomed to seeing the banners. The signs will direct the community to the city's website (rockwall.com), to the Events page, where non-profit organizations will be allowed to post advertisements for free by completing an online form. As Code Enforcement begins taking action against all offsite advertising Aug. 7, efforts to educate the public about the sign ordinance will continue. The ordinance, for example, allows a regular business to obtain a 30-day permit to display one banner sign on its premises, attached to building or existing sign. Additional provisions exist for special events on the business premises, permitting banners for limited periods, no more than four times per year. Griffin said public response to all the notifications was dwindling, though some locals were still expressing regret over the change. At a June public hearing, a speaker noted that the variety of displays at the city's portal served as proof to passers-by that the community is active and involved. "I-30 at Ridge Road is the biggest" of such intersections, said Griffin. "We will be pulling up signs."

Royse City seeks state funds for Wal-Mart off-site sewer project

Downs City Council met on July 12. In attendance were Mayor Tom Janet Nichol, council members Clay Ellis, Bill Crowley, city manager Bill Shipp, city attorney Jason Day and Brenda Craft. Citizen Linda Pflug addressing the council regarding a large drainage hole approximately four feet wide in the hills with water during a rain. Many children at the

ballpark are drawn to the water hole and I fear a child may fall into the hole and drown," said Pflug. She explained her communication with the city regarding the hole starting in 2009, whereas the problem continues to exist. Upon follow-up, Shipp said, "The hole was fixed the next day." The council approved all consent agenda items with one vote. "We had 26 building permits in two months, bringing our total to 45. This is just five short of the annual total for last year," Crowley said. "I see many new homes built, which is impressive during this economy;

however, many homes are for sale," the mayor said. The council approved all consent agenda with one vote including previous meeting minutes of the City Council, Economic Development Corporation, Museum, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Planning and Zoning, and Heritage Board. Other approved consent agenda items included: authority for the Royse City Mayor to sign both the Texas Capital Fund Grant for the application for an offsite sewer for Wal-Mart and future developments and the letter to Texas Department of Agriculture citing the city's inability to fund the Wal-Mart sewer project; authority of the city manager to sign the contract for a full accrual accounting operating system and Capital Lease Agreement with Government Capital Corporation for \$39,335; amendment of the Code of Ordinances by removing Section 3.02.083 - Right of Entry and amending Section 3.02.081 - to administratively bring the city charter in line with the adopted international code; amendment of the Code of Ordinances by removing Section 5.01.001 (c) 1960 Code fee structure amendment of the Code of Ordinance Section 5.02.002, to bring Fire Chief under the City Manager as set forth under the Home Rule Charter; amendment of the Code of the Ordinances Section 5.02.003, bringing the Fire Chief under the City Manager as set forth under the Home Rule Charter; and amendment of the Code of Ordinances Section 5.02.006 (a), Fire Chief to set the number of volunteers.

Job crime trend surfaces in Rockwall

Police are investigating the theft of more than 120 sets of new vehicles at a car dealership on I-30 near FM 205. The thefts occurred sometime after closing time Saturday evening and when employees arrived to find 32 trucks and SUVs on the lot. Public information officer for the Rockwall PD, said the general manager, upon initial assessment, estimated the loss at \$100,000. In Texas, a theft of this magnitude is classified as a Class A Felony, punishable by two to 20 years in prison. There is no evidence of any prior attempts or tampering with security at the location. Several of the outdoor lights had been disabled by someone. The general manager has no knowledge of any other thefts of this nature in the area. "We've never had anything like this in our history," he said. Research conducted by Rockwall County News, similar to the thefts that have appeared with increasing frequency in the United States in 2011. In March, 32 wheels were stolen from a dealership near Baltimore, Md. In April, a dealership was robbed of 68 wheels from Escalades and

Cadillac CTs. The rash of thefts moved southward in June, when a similar incident occurred in Myrtle Beach, S.C., but that crime appeared to have been interrupted. Finally, on July 5, the crime wave hit Eastland and nearby Brownwood, both in Central Texas. In every case, the thefts occurred overnight, and it appears video surveillance tapes were not available from any of the locations. The general manager of the Rockwall dealership that was victimized was not available for comment following the initial surge of media coverage by several local television stations. Some physical evidence was collected from the scene, but with little else to go on police are depending on help from the public in solving this crime. Police believe more than one person must be involved in the crime, due to the scale of it. With all the media attention, Welch hopes the tips will "pay off." Anyone with information about the crime could potentially earn a cash reward by calling the crime stoppers hotline, anonymously, at 972-771-TIPS (8477). Callers are also welcome to contact Rockwall Police Criminal Investigation Division at 972-771-7716 to talk with a detective personally about information that may help solve the crime. "It will take a matter of time, and some good, old-fashioned police work," said Welch, "but somewhere out there, someone has to know something."

Public hearing and action items were presented by assistant city manager Janet McPherson including a re-zoning request of property located at 6723 E. I-30 from Agriculture to Commercial 2, Specific Use Permit for martial arts studio located at 142 E. Main St, and amending Section 6-7: Off-Street Parking and Loading. "All properties within this area zoned commercial or within the Heritage District are exempt from all parking regulations. Our staff recommends narrowing the area to east of Houston Street and west of Plum Street and facing Arch Street from the intersection of Main Street to the railroad tracts," said McPherson. All items were approved by the city council. Business items approved include the appointment of Bill Bell to the Rockwall County Transportation Consortium and an Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances regarding taxing leased vehicles.



Members of the music ministry of the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall, Texas, are seen in the early stages of production of the musical "The Music Man." The "Music Man" is a play about a con man who poses as a boys' band organizer and leader who proceeds to sell his instruments and uniforms to the trusting townspeople before skipping town with their cash. The show is being performed at the church.

town librarian/piano teacher sees through the con man when he comes to her town, but when he begins to help her brother overcome a social fear she begins to fall in love with the con man. Shows will be offered at 7 p.m. July 29 and 30 and a 2 p.m. matinee on July 31 at the church, which is located at 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. Admission will be free, but donations will be accepted. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News





Jacob Thomas, above, is building a life-sized train engine for use on the set of the upcoming musical production of "Oklahoma!" Performances of the Rogers and Hammerstein musical will be offered at 7 p.m. Aug. 5-6 and at 2 p.m. Aug. 7 in the Rockwall High Performing Arts Center on the Utley campus. Reserved seating is available at rockwallsummermusicals.org or by calling 1-888-71-TICKETS. General admission tickets will be available at the door.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Fate man dies after apparent suicide attempt

A 44-year-old unemployed electrician died late Friday following what the Rockwall County Sheriff's Office described as a suicide attempt at his home earlier in the day.

Deputies responded to a 4:45 p.m. call about a suicide attempt in a home on South Munson Road at about 4:52 p.m. Friday. There authorities found the injured man, who appeared to have shot himself with a handgun.

The man was airlifted to Parkland Hospital in Dallas. He died at 10 p.m.

The man's girlfriend and several other individuals were inside the home when they heard a gunshot reports. The man's girlfriend immediately called authorities.

"I cannot elaborate as to who was in the house... or if they had witnessed the act," said Lt. David Davis, sheriff's department.

Authorities still are investigating the incident, Davis said. An autopsy will be performed.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The name of the man involved in this incident was released by police; however, the policy of the Rockwall County News not to identify individuals believed to have committed suicide is followed.)

Audit shows City of Fate as one of the lowest in property tax

by Timothy Downs

The City Council met on July 18 to review and approve the city's financial reports. In attendance were Mayor Bill Broderick, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Sheri Garber, council members Kerry Wiemokly, John Stacy, and Tammy Ryan.

The council approved action item R-444 - Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2010. Neil Conway of Conway Company Accountants presented the audit findings and gave a financial overview to council members.

"Fate's property tax rate of 24.5 cents (per \$100 valuation) is the lowest I've seen, which is not a bad thing. The average rate in the surrounding area is 74 cents," Conway said. "Property tax rates are standard for a growing city as Fate."

According to the report, the city has end-of-year net assets of \$702,000 for 2009, Conway said. "The large increase in net assets is due to the fact that we have a higher tax rate than most cities. You can add debt as long as it is tax supported and unusual to increase staff based on your growth."

The report referenced recommendations made by the audit company at the time the audit started.

"Many of our recommendations have been implemented and we are well on our way in solving the problems," Conway said. "Changes in policy and new procedures to implementations and Fate is well on its way in solving the problems."

Council member John Stacy asked, "What is not being addressed regarding recommendations?"

"One item requires a staff CPA to prepare GASB #34 financial statements," Conway said.

City Manager Vicki Mikel added, "Cities with a staff accountant CPA for financial statements are better than Fate - it will be a while."

Conway thanked Fate finance department's Vivian Leverington and her staff for their work.

"Our staff was very positive about Vivian, her work and records. She's made friends among our staff," Mike Conway said.

"Kudos for Vivian and staff in grasping the details from last year to provide information for the audit. There was a tremendous amount of work in a short period of time and I want to thank her for the audit. I echo that," Mayor Bill Broderick said. "We received positive statements by members of the audit not only for her experience and abilities, but her help in aiding the whole process... thank you for the presentation."

Another approved action item was R-440 - Interlocal Agreement between Rockwall County and the City of Fate for Law Enforcement Services. According to Mikel, funding increases are due to the addition of the four quarters of the year vs. three in 2009.

"Does the City of Fate own law enforcement vehicles and equipment?" Broderick asked.

"The city makes the payments, but when the contract expires, the county owns it," Mikel said. "The vehicles are five years old, we will replace one per year."

Other approved action items were R-441 - Fiscal Year 2012 Budgets for Rockwall County Emergency Services, R-442 - participation and tuition funding in Leadership Rockwall Program Class by Kerry Wiemokly and R-445 - increasing the capital dollar threshold for depreciation of 5-45 years standards.

Broderick gave the mayor's report regarding Rockwall County Commissioner's Court public hearing 22 at the county courthouse. According to Broderick, the court will discuss and hear anyone having a concern regarding the redistribution of Rockwall County.

"The City of Fate is divided between two school districts, four ZIP codes and five voting precincts. We are taking a few hundred people that we've had here and diluting that to some degree; we really don't have a voice," said Broderick. He claimed his intention to make a pitch to the court asking that Fate is divided into the past and encouraged anyone interested to attend.

Headley to compete in fundraising marathon

Shannon Headley of Rockwall plans to participate in the Nike Women's Half Marathon in San Antonio, Texas, on October 2. As part of that effort, Headley plans to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Training program, according to a recent news release from the organization.

Headley hopes to raise \$3,200 during her preparations for the 13.1-mile event through her Team in Training page.

Team in Training is the premier fundraising campaign for LLS and the world's largest endurance fundraising program. It provides four to five months of certified coaching, instructive clinics and teammates supporting each other in marathons, half-marathons, hikes, triathlons and century rides.

"Team in Training helps participants take on seemingly impossible challenges while giving them the opportunity to make a difference in other people's lives," said Misty Aguero, TNT director. "It is an exciting program that has changed the lives of not only the recipients of LLS support, but also the participants who help fund it."

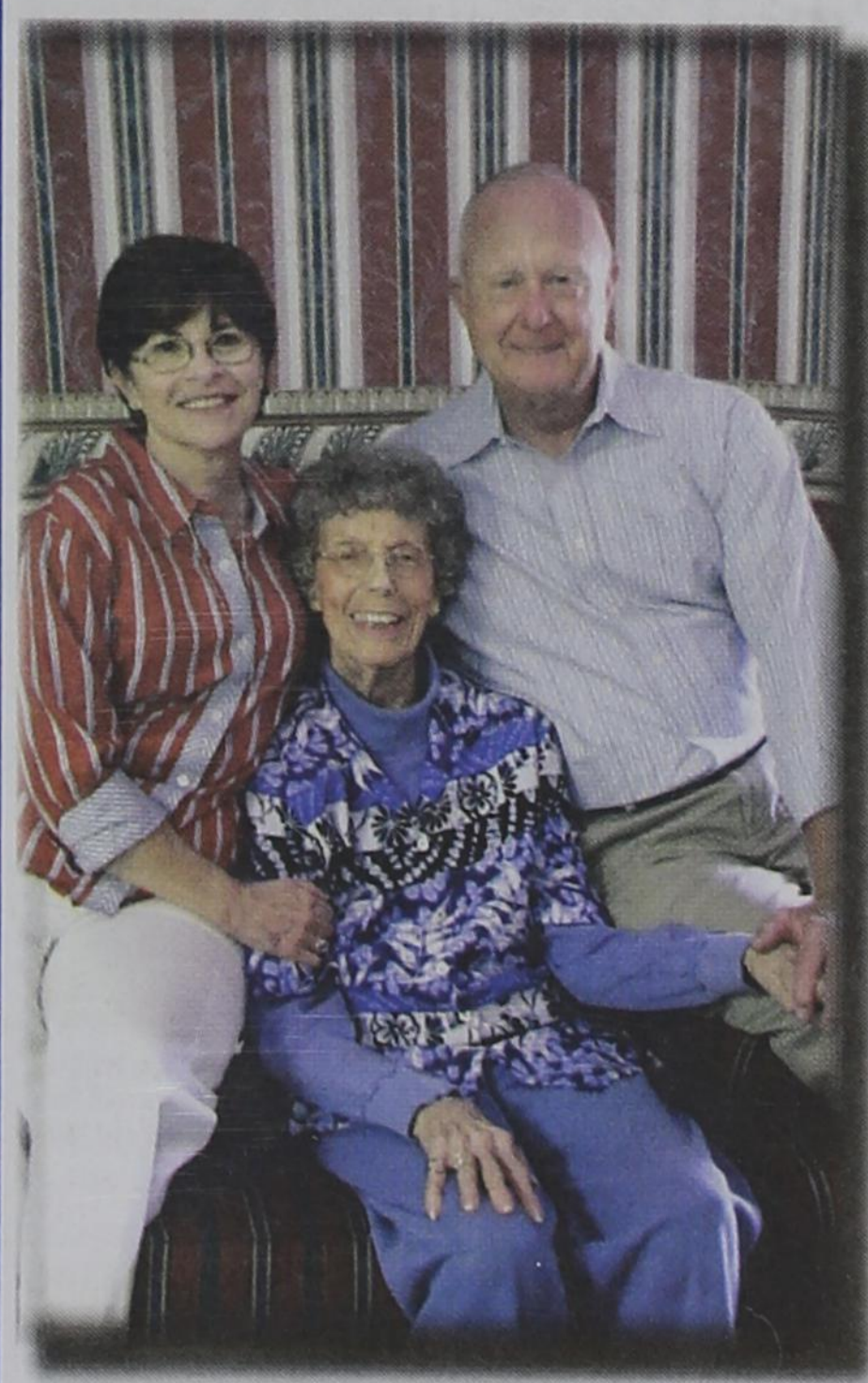
DARN is new volunteer resource network

DARN, or Downtown Area Resource Network, has been organized to serve as a secure database of volunteer resources according to the City of Fate's August e-newsletter.

DARN will keep up-to-date on volunteer members' donation needs and/or funds while identifying needs and opportunities in downtown Rockwall.

Members include the Downtown Rockwall Association, Downtown Rockwall Town Shoppes and the Main Street Program, along with individual volunteers.

To participate in DARN, contact Bethany Golden at 972-771-4515 or email bgolden@rockwalltexas.com. Applications also may be submitted online at mainstreet.rockwalltexas.com.



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

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Birth

Roman Jace Maldonado

Achelle Maldonado and Foster of Rockwall announce the birth of their son, Roman Jace Malik Maldonado, on July 8, 2011, at 2:07 p.m. at the Pointe Medical Center in Dallas.

The infant weighed 15 ounces at was 21 inches long at birth.



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Commissioners settle on redistricting plan

All of the proposed plans addressed the challenge of population shifts in Rockwall County, where the 2010 census reflected significant population growth, and an increase in minority populations. Among the plans rejected by the court was a lately developed proposal, designed in response to a previous public hearing. Commissioners agreed the plan was the most disruptive, with little impact on the benefit to efforts to equalize minority representation.

The plan that commissioners adopted will decrease the deviation from 7 percent to 3 percent.

"This plan," said Bass, "will give minority populations a chance to elect the candidates of their choice."

After the court's approval of the redistricting plan, Judge Jerry Hogan explained that the elections administrator would move the process forward, beginning analysis of the voting precincts to match the new precinct plan.

Next, the Citizens Advisory Committee will resume meetings, with the commissioners eventually rejoining the process in an advisory capacity.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The public hearing, in its entirety, is available by videography of Rockwall County News and can be viewed online at rockwalltexasonline.com.)

Witherspoon participates in Boys State at Austin

Senior Chance Witherspoon was among participants in the Texas American Legion Boys State event conducted June 5-10 as campus in Austin.

Boys State strives to "educate future leaders about patriotism in a learn-by-doing environment," according to a press release. Delegates are about to enter their second year and have been selected by teachers, counselors and from throughout the state.

At the event, delegates are evenly split into fictional political parties and the Federalists. Each party drafts a platform, nominates candidates through a primary and runs a campaign against the opposing party. Delegates run for offices at many

levels, including state, district, county and city. Highlighting the week is the election of the Texas American Legion Boys State House of Representatives and Senate, whose members were allowed to sit in the chambers of the Texas Capitol and craft, debate and vote on mock legislation.

This year's delegates heard from more than 50 speakers ranging from the presiding judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals to a former Vietnam POW.

The event concluded June 10 with a morning parade from the UT campus to the state capitol. Following the parade, delegates toured the capitol, visited the offices of their state senators and representatives and heard an address by Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson.



Witherspoon, pictured second from the left on the second row from camera, recently completed Texas American Legion Boys State at Austin. He is a senior at Rockwall High School and was handpicked for this year's event, which was conducted in June on the University of Texas campus.

Rockwall County News

Shelter needs foster homes for animals

Animal Services for the City of Rockwall is in need of temporary homes for some shelter pets, according to the city's August e-newsletter.

Foster homes are needed for young kittens and puppies to be raised until they are old enough to be adopted and for ill animals to be nursed back to health. When the shelter is overcrowded, these foster homes are vitally important, according to the e-newsletter report.

For more details on volunteering as a foster home for the shelter, visit rockwall.com/animalservices/foster.asp.

Hall seeks recognition for Korean veterans

Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) recently introduced H.R. 2563, a bill to permit the addition of a Wall of Remembrance at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

"The Wall of Remembrance will honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Korean War, those who were killed in action, are missing in action or were held as prisoners of war," said Hall. "The Korean War is sometimes the 'forgotten war,' a footnote between WWII and the Vietnam War. The sacrifice our young men paid in Korea to preserve our freedom should not be forgotten. This legislation will ensure that their deeds will be memorialized for all to remember."

"In 1995, the Korean War Veterans Memorial was dedicated. It is an extraordinary and moving memorial. The legislation I introduced today -- funded entirely through private sector contributions and at no cost to taxpayers -- will permit a glass Wall of Remembrance to encircle the outer edge of the existing Memorial Pool."

"I am proud of our veterans, and I think it is important to remember how much we depend on our troops for our way of life, and to honor their sacrifice in a fitting manner. I am honored to represent the Fourth District, which has one of the largest veterans' populations in the country, and I will continue to work to serve those whose sacrifice has helped keep America safe and strong."

Hungry Harry

A Rockwall County News Exclusive

Hungry Harry crosses the county line

When I visited a restaurant that is just on the other side of the county line in Rockwall County, but since it is right on the border, it's a bit of a personal touch with service. The garlic rolls could see some may think they have too much garlic (because the garlic is fresh). The menu is extensive, but everything that was ordered melts in your mouth.

When the owners take time to ensure that your dining experience is excellent. This is definitely a quality Italian restaurant. The only negative is space is limited and it can get crowded quickly. However, this is a restaurant deserving of its reputation.

Location: 6501 Rock Road #109, Rowlett
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Hungry Harry is a local resident who enjoys dining and receives no compensation or benefit from any advertisement.

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To apply and review complete job description and information, go to www.rockwallchamber.org and click on jobs on the top of the website. No telephone inquiries, please. Applications will be accepted thru August 31, 2011

Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

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

Email rcn.news@yahoo.com
Mail to P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087

Not asking for money

Let me get your attention - I am not asking for money, so please read on.

I have dusted off my pink gloves and have challenged Justin Holland (always my biggest competition for the individual fundraiser award) to go to the mat to see who gets the most people to the Rockwall Relay for Life Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser, Saturday, July 30, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. (at a local restaurant; call 972-772-5227). Cost is \$8 per person.

On the off chance that I should lose, I will have to do a fast lap at the Relay this spring in honor of Justin's dad, Lance Holland, which I would actually be honored to do anyway.

If, as predicted by the odds makers in Las Vegas, Justin will lose he will have to do a fast lap in my honor.

When you enter (the restaurant), you will be given the opportunity to pick Team Plagens or Team Holland.

Justin is a former RHS French student, community activist, newly elected member of the Heath City Council and exactly the kind of man I would hope my son (if I had one) would grow up to be... and he is probably re-

lated to half of the county. But all that means nothing. It is a matter of who first asked you to support her team.

I will be there the whole morning, but working the shift beginning at 9 a.m.

I do not know what my assignment is yet, but I have always heard that a wise diner does nothing to make the waitress or hot syrup pourer mad....

See you there, and no matter whose team you supported I will be proud to give you a hug on behalf of the Rockwall Relay For Life and cancer research.

Plus, I think I heard that any pancakes consumed in the name of charity were totally calorie-free.

Thanks so much.
Leigh Plagens

County jail receives certificate of compliance

Following a recent inspection of the Rockwall County jail, state officials found the facility to be in compliance with Texas Commission on Jail Standards mandates, according to documentation received by the county earlier this month.

In a letter to the sheriff, the county was notified that inspectors Fred Amant and Mark Wilson, during their June 23 inspection, found the local jail to be in compliance with Texas Minimum Jail Standards.

"The Texas Commission on Jail Standards wishes to acknowledge the excellent work of the Rockwall County Sheriff's Office," the letter states. "Your jail facility is responsible and accountable for over 600 standards of responsibility under Texas minimum jail standards, and the diligent work by your jail staff is highly recognized and acknowledged under your leadership...."

The letter also lauded the commissioners court for its oversight in the fiscal support of jail operations.

Rockwall County Entertainment

Country band to take stage Aug 4

King Buck's, a country band, will perform at the County event at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 4 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission is free.

Eagles tribute band scheduled Aug 11

The Eagles tribute band Fastland will perform at the County event at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 11 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission is free.

Cajun/Zydeco concert to end series Aug 18

Ponty Bone, a Cajun/Zydeco band, will give the final concert in the Concert by the Lake 2011 series at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

Habitat workday July 30

Rockwall Habitat for Humanity is planning a 6:30 a.m. workday at 801 Peter's Colony.

Roofing is continuing, the progress has been slowed by weather. Volunteers are urged to pre-hydrate and wear sunscreen early during the cooler hours and last only until lunch or according to a Habitat news release.

For up-to-the-minute details on late changes or in the weather, visit rockwallhabitat.blogspot.com.

Opinions

There's nothing easy about the county budget

by Jerry Hogan

Just as the debate in Washington intensifies, so does the debate in Rockwall.

State statutes require the County Judge to prepare the initial draft of the yearly budget for the County. Once this is done, it then goes to the Commissioners Court where it is examined in detail by each Commissioner and then the Court debates the differences between the budget submitted by the Judge and issues any Commissioner may have with any part of the budget. It takes three out of the five votes on the Court to actually pass the final budget.

Compare this with the similarities you see in what is happening in Washington with the debate over raising the debt ceiling. There the argument centers on an associated raise in new taxes to pay for the new debt limits, versus the argument on the other side of the political aisle that calls for a reduction in entitlements and no new taxes. It is the classic debate of one side saying don't raise taxes while the other side says don't take away entitlements.

We also saw about the same thing in Austin where the legislators were faced with the task of balancing the budget for the State when expenditures far exceeded revenues to support all the programs.

In both the State and the National solutions to this classic debate, some groups are not happy with the outcome. But the important point is that a solution is reached that meets the goals of the majority of the citizens. In the case of the issues in Washington, clearly the American people want a change in our economic direction. Rampant piling on of the debt, high unemployment, and an increasing cost of living is counter to what the citizens demand. In the State, we have a Balanced Budget requirement. By law, we cannot develop a budget that spends more than the generated revenue.

Unfortunately, just like at the National level, we do not have a balanced budget requirement at the County level.

When the initial budget for the County was prepared this year, the starting point was the projected revenue the County would receive over the next 12

months. Eighty-three percent of this revenue comes from the property taxes generated throughout the county. The remainder comes from fees, fines, and grants that may be received.

Our property tax revenue forecast comes from the Central Appraisal District office. The other information comes from historical data trends we maintain in the County. Our property tax forecast for 2012 is the same as this year; no growth. Our fees, fines, and grants show a declining amount being collected over the past several years. We are also seeing more evidence that State grants that we received in the past are being stopped as the State struggles with their balanced budget.

Our property tax forecast not only shows no growth this coming year, but it also shows no more than one percent growth for each of the following three years. There is no data that shows we will be growing our revenue over the next year even though some insist it will be better than forecast. In my opinion, this is simply wishful thinking not backed up by any hard data. We must prepare our budget based upon the realistic forecasts provided.

After the revenue is established, the next step in the preparation of the budget is determining the costs of operating the County. About \$5 million is required to pay our debt service. Of the remaining approximately \$25 million, 68.5% is used to pay employee salaries and benefits; the largest single category of expense. 73% of our total funds, excluding debt service, are used to pay for mandated judicial services in the county, e.g., Sheriff, Jail, District and Court of Laws, JP's, District Clerk, District Attorney. Other mandated requirements, such as the Tax Assessor and County Clerk offices, leave little room for discretionary spending on other projects or organizations within the County.

Discussions are held with each organization in the preparation of the initial budget. From these discussions come the anticipated needs of the county. Totals are then made of requested budgets versus affordable dollars. And, to no one's surprise, unfortunately requested budgets exceed affordable dollars UNLESS you pull funds from the County Reserve Fund to make up the differences and forget about a balanced budget.

This is a feasible alternative, however, in my view; it is not a prudent

alternative.

The Reserve Fund is a fund that has been built up over 50 years when the growth in the County was ranging from 10 to 15 percent per year. Our financial policy for the County calls for months of emergency funds that are available and can be used for unanticipated events, e.g., natural disasters, law suits, etc. The remainder of the fund can be used for special one-time expenditures such as buying furniture for a new county building.

It can also be used any way the Commissioners Court decides. My intention is not to supplement operating costs of the County. The forecast for revenue does not show appreciable growth over the years, continuing to supplement the operating budget with simply not prudent or accepted financial practice.

The budget prepared for next year and submitted to the Court is a balanced budget. To make it a balanced budget, we must reduce the budget of the library by \$250,000 versus going to a contractor who committed to operate the library providing services and hours for \$300,000 less than our current cost.

The Sheriff had asked for nine additional people, but we allowed two additional. We also went to outsourcing for maintenance of the County buildings, outsourced the health care for inmates, and eliminated five building facilities now being used by the department in the county also reduced their budget from \$1.5 million to \$1 million.

As in the debate in both Washington and Austin, there is lobbying and opposition to this balanced budget. I understand for this, but to me, the basic issue is very simple: do we want to spend with all of its corresponding advantages, or do we want to spend with all of its corresponding disadvantages? What is the alternative?

Please let your Commissioners know your thoughts. It is your duty to pass a budget and two of them come from the Commissioners. Jerry Hogan is the Rockwall County Judge. He can be reached at 972-204-6000 or 214-394-4033. His email address is jerryhogan@sbcglobal.net or rockwallcountytexas.com

Congressman Hall votes for CC&B

Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) invited 234 House Members in voting in support of the U.S. House of Representatives bill known as "Cut, Cap & Balance" and submitted the following statement during debate on the House floor: "We all know that America faces financial crossroads. The national debt is \$14.3 trillion, equaling more than 95 percent of our entire economy. The deficit crisis is a result of too much government spending, a weak economy, and high unemployment. One of the first steps we can take is simple: stop spending money we don't have."

"The President is asking for a \$2.4 trillion increase in the debt ceiling to meet our nation's obligations. The national debt has increased by \$3.7 trillion since President Obama took office, and many of us would like to vote 'no' on any debt ceiling increase because we do not want to give this President any more spending authority."

"At the same time, it is also important to consider what would happen down the road if Washington refuses to deal with the debt crisis. Without a

real, long-term debt reduction, America's credit rating could be jeopardized, resulting in increased borrowing costs for America, and increased consumer costs for Americans.

"That said, I cannot, in good conscience, vote for any debt ceiling increase unless significant cuts are made. The Cut, Cap and Balance Act of 2011 is a viable alternative which I support. This bill makes real spending cuts and reforms needed in order to get our debt under control."

The Cut, Cap and Balance Act will:

- Cut total spending by \$111 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2012 and around \$5.8 trillion over 10 years. These cuts will not affect Medicare, Social Security or veterans spending and will keep the Defense budget at the President's levels;

- Scale federal spending back, bringing spending back to 19.9 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to its average level over the past 30 years; and

- Require the passage of a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution before any debt ceiling increase can take place and that a super-majority to raise taxes and puts a limit on percentage of GDP.

"I have been a longtime supporter and co-sponsor of a budget and an amendment to the Constitution that would federal government to live within its means," Hall said. "The permanent mandate Congress to pass a budget every year forces the government to spend only what it takes in. America's 49 states balance their budgets every year, and it is crucial economic security that the federal government should do the same."

"I will continue to work with my colleagues to cut spending and reduce the federal budget. My constituents have made clear their expectations for a more frugal Washington, and I will continue to represent their work to achieve fiscal discipline in Washington."

Opposing 'Cut, Cap & Balance' bill

by Congressman Ron Paul

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak against HR 2560, the Cut, Cap, and Balance Act. This bill only serves to sanction the status quo by putting forth a \$1 trillion budget deficit and authorizing a \$2.4 trillion increase in the debt limit.

When I say this bill sanctions the status quo, I mean it quite literally.

First, it purports to eventually balance the budget without cutting military spending, Social Security, or Medicare. This is impossible. These three budget items already cost nearly \$1 trillion apiece annually. This means we can cut every other area of federal spending to zero and still have a \$3 trillion budget. Since annual federal tax revenues almost certainly will not exceed \$2.5 trillion for several years, this Act cannot balance the budget under any plausible scenario.

Second, it further entrenches the ludicrous beltway concept of discretionary vs. nondiscretionary spending. America faces a fiscal crisis, and we must seize the opportunity once and for all to slay Washington's sacred cows—including defense contractors and entitlements. All spending must be deemed discretionary and reexamined by Congress each year. To allow otherwise is pure cowardice.

Third, the Act applies the nonsensical narrative about a "Global War on Terror" to justify exceptions to its spending caps. Since this war is undeclared, has no definite enemies, no clear objectives, and no metric to determine victory, it is by definition endless. Congress will never balance the budget until we reject the concept of endless wars.

Finally, and most egregiously, this Act ignores the real issue: total spending by government. As Milton Friedman famously argued, what we really need is a constitutional amendment to limit taxes and spending, not simply to balance the budget. What we need is a dramatically smaller federal government; if we achieve this a balanced budget will take care of itself.

We do need to cut spending, and by a significant amount. Going back to 2008 levels of spending is not enough. We need to cut back at least to where spending was a decade ago. A recent news article stated that we pay 35 percent more for our military today than we did 10 years ago, for the exact same capabilities. The same could be said for the rest of the government. Why has our budget doubled in 10 years? This country doesn't have double the population, or double the land area, or double anything that would require the federal government to grow by such an obscene amount.

We need to cap spending, and then continue decreasing that cap so that the federal government grows smaller and smaller. Allowing government to spend up to a certain percentage of GDP is insufficient. It doesn't matter that the recent historical average of government outlays is 18 percent of GDP, because in recent history the government has way overstepped its constitutional mandates. All we need to know about spending caps is that they need to decrease year after year.

We need to balance the budget, but a balanced budget amendment by itself will not do the trick. A \$4 trillion balanced budget is most certainly

worse than a \$2 trillion unbalanced budget. Again, we should be concerned about the total size of the budget more than outlays vs. revenues.

What we have been asked to do here is support a budget that is relative to the President's proposed budget. It still maintains a budget deficit for FY 2012, and spends even more money over the years than the Paul Ryan budget which already passed the House.

By capping spending at a certain constant percentage of GDP for federal spending to continue to grow. Tying spending to GDP is an incentive to manipulate the GDP figure, especially since the calculation of this figure to the Office of Management and Enterprise Agency which is responsible to the President and not to Congress. In the worst case, it would even reward further inflation of the money supply, increases in nominal GDP through pure inflation would allow for larger federal budgets.

Finally, this bill authorizes a \$2.4 trillion rise in the debt ceiling. I have never voted for a debt ceiling increase and I never will. Increasing the debt ceiling is an endorsement of business as usual in Washington. It is inevitable, the day that one day will come when we cannot continue to pay our enormous deficits and will be forced to pay our bills.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, while I sympathize with the bill's sponsors, I must vote against HR 2560. It is my hope that the looming debt ceiling deadline and the discussion surrounding the budget will further motivate us to consider legislation in the near future that will make meaningful cuts and long-lasting reforms.

Royse City News

City Police Blotter

July 15-21

July 15: Burglary/Credit card abuse/Stealing checks arrest, 900 block W. I-30 SSR; Verbal disturbance, 500 block Rustic Grove Lane; Alarm, 600 block E. Lamar Street; Alarm, 2300 block I-30; Alarm, 400 block E. Church Street

July 16: Possession of controlled substance/Rockwall County 00 block W. I-30 SSR; Public intoxication arrest, I-30 at the We check, 300 block N. Houston Street; Alarm, 1400 block I-30; Possession of marijuana (2 pounds) arrest, I-30 at the

July 17: Driving while intoxicated arrest, I-30 at the 77-mile marker; Driving while license invalid arrest, I-30 at the 77-mile marker; Marijuana/Cherokee County warrant arrest, I-30 at the 73-mile marker; Driver, I-30 at the 76-mile marker; Alarm, 2400 block I-30; Disturbance, 900 block Stedham Street; Medical assistance, 400 block Rowdy Drive

Monday, 18 July: Online harassment, 2000 block Jessica Way; Driving while license invalid arrest, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Medical assistance, 900 block W. I-30; Alarm, 600 block E. Lamar Street; Alarm, 2300 block I-30

Tuesday, 19 July: Driving while license invalid arrest, I-30 at the 77-mile marker; Assault, 7000 block FM 35

Wednesday, 20 July: Assault on public servant/Deadly conduct/Resist arrest, 1000 block Lavon Court; Medical assistance, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Suspicious vehicle, 2600 block I-30 NSR

Thursday, 21 July: Burglary of habitation, 100 block Singleton Drive

This Week in Royse City

by Paula Baker

It's still so hot I'm sure my brain has sizzled. How 'bout yours? Order the day and if you have to wear a bit more than that to try. It's fortunate to have a second job as a mother's helper. It's not so love that. I sure would like to hear how you all know, you may know a way that could help another.

School Grants

Does Royse City have a foundation for RCISD education? Yep, the ISD Education Foundation provides grants to teachers with innovative ideas for learning. For example, one grant provided funding for a "Kindle a Passion for Reading." The goal of this program is to provide for the alternative, "at-risk" students. Teachers are given to students who discovered reading was fun.

Teachers are recognized for their achievements such as leadership, academic excellence, service in the Top Dog Spectacular. At this time the ISD recognizes their most influential teacher as well. Teachers are honored in many different ways. The gifts are tax deductible. Fun for students. Isn't that how it's supposed to be? Visit their website at rcisd.foundation.com.

Library News

Each year for the upcoming cemetery story was made easier with the help of the Royse City Library. She is new to the library and seemed to know her way around. She found books pertaining to Royse City history and history of the area. It's about folks resting there since the 1800s. This story is more than I thought and may take longer to research. As a wonderful library as we have, it's a great thing. Thanks to the Royse City Library.

Rotary Club

John E. LaRoche, the library's volunteer, says among his favorite things about volunteering is the feeling of making a difference in the community. He has been a member for a year now and has enjoyed science and math as his subjects. He wants to study engineering at Texas Tech. Way to go, John.

Maris Garcia and J.R. Arredondo were guests of the Rotary Club when they came to tell of their experience at the Rotary Youth Leadership Initiative camp sponsored by the Rotary Club for juniors and seniors. The three were there to develop leadership qualities. The purpose of the camp is to develop leadership qualities, emphasizing strengths, qualities and instill confidence through teamwork, emphasizing strengths, qualities and instill confidence through teamwork. One other student, who was unable to attend, but did participate. This year the camp was a success. Generally, one student is chosen per city, but this year there were many outstanding students, how could it be fewer? Remember to members of the Rotary Club: Bill and Mary Ellis will be social at their home Aug. 4. So, remember, there will be no meeting that day. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m., so bring your spouse.

Casino Night

Hosted, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, will be Aug. 22 at the Royal Golf Club. It should prove to be a fun and amazing night, you have never been to one of these events.

Check out our "2 Fer One" Subscription special Rockwall County News

Summer Musicals

Senior Night at the Rockwall Summer Musicals will start at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 4. Senior citizens will be treated to a free evening of musical fun. A favorite of everyone, "Oklahoma!" will be the play of the night at the Performing Arts Center in Rockwall. Any and all Royse City seniors are welcome. Please contact Casey Cunningham at 214-226-3233 for more information and tickets. You'll all go ahead and make plans for this outing. It certainly will be fun. This particular showing is for seniors only, no young'uns allowed.

Cup o' Tea

Have you had high tea lately? Well, Annie Cornelius, curator of the Zaner Robison Museum, located at 124 S Arch St., will host one for mothers and daughters only.

Tea will be served noon Aug. 17. Mothers and daughters will love it. Wear your Sunday best with a required hat. Gloves are optional. There are only 12 spaces available. Make your reservations soon as you can as the tea will surely fill up quickly.

Extra Thoughts

I forgot to mention the Fellowship of First Baptist Church had its Vacation Bible School last week. I know it was a time of great fun and learning. I apologize for the oversight.

Please remember to pray for Lisa Cook who is ill. You know, if we all pray and agree, the Lord will listen. I hope you all have a fun and safe weekend. Tell yourself next week will be a good one and it will be.

I will leave you with this quote from James Dent: "A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken."

Be careful as you go. Send your family and community news to rcn.paula@gmail.com

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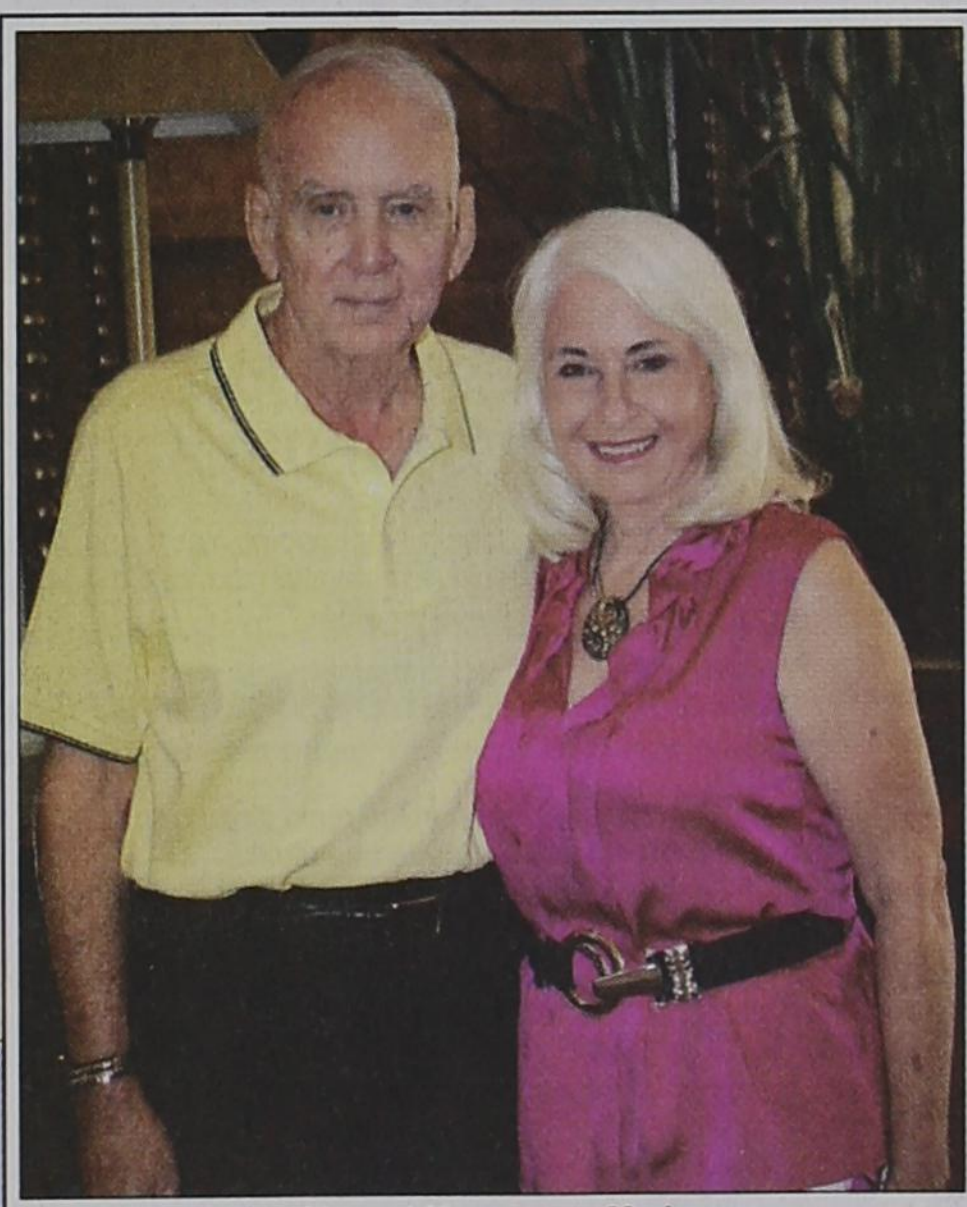


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Student's run for president nets \$750 in donations for CASA

The Fulton School in Heath raised \$750 for CASA earlier this year thanks to an idea developed by a third grade student and aspiring class president.

In March, 8-year-old Cadden Finnell's third grade class was preparing for student council elections. Finnell wrote his speech, which was presented to the teacher, headmaster and students, in hopes of being elected president of the third grade.

"If you elect me, Cadden, as your classroom president, I promise to make differences, if necessary," he wrote. "Have more time to sharpen our pencils. Getting extra bathroom breaks and water breaks.... Longer recess. Send out forms to the parents to make lemonade stands and try to raise money and... donate the money to a charity for kids."

With his speech, Cadden landed in the position of vice president. But his speech also prompted school administrators to take action.

Headmaster Matt Burgy and Cadden's third grade teacher, Josh Johnson, were supportive of the student's idea to implement a lemonade stand. During the months of April and May, weather permitting, third grade students Derrick Stowers, Jalen Webster, Julian Larkin, Akahil Patel, Remington Mitchell, Walter Brown and Cadden began selling lemonade for an hour after school two days a week.

The boys sold lemonade for \$1 per cup at two lemonade stands located conveniently on campus where parents drive through to pick up their children. Parents didn't even have to leave their vehicles to get lemonade, as the boys eagerly delivered the cold beverages on request. Many students, parents, teachers and neighbors from around the school were customers. Cadden even had one cup of lemonade sell for a \$100 donation.

In just a few weeks, the boys had collected \$750. In May, the school invited CASA representatives to their campus for a check presentation. Cadden and his lemonade stand teammates proudly presented their check to CASA representative Lucille Bell.

Cadden has issued a challenge to schools nationwide, particularly to those in the Rockwall County area, to take a month or two and undertake a similar endeavor. And be sure to be on the lookout for the Fulton fourth grade students who plan to resume the lemonade stand project in the coming school year.



Pictured above are The Fulton School students involved in the fundraising lemonade stand, their teacher and CASA's director Lucille Bell. From the left are Jalen Webster; Josh Johnson, teacher; Akhil Patel; Walter Brown; Cadden Finnell, whose campaign speech for class president prompted the lemonade effort; Derrick Stowers; Remington Mitchell; Julian Larkin; and Bell. On the presentation, the boys presented the Rockwall CASA Board of Directors with a welcome speech, their thoughts about the stand project and a check for the \$750 raised.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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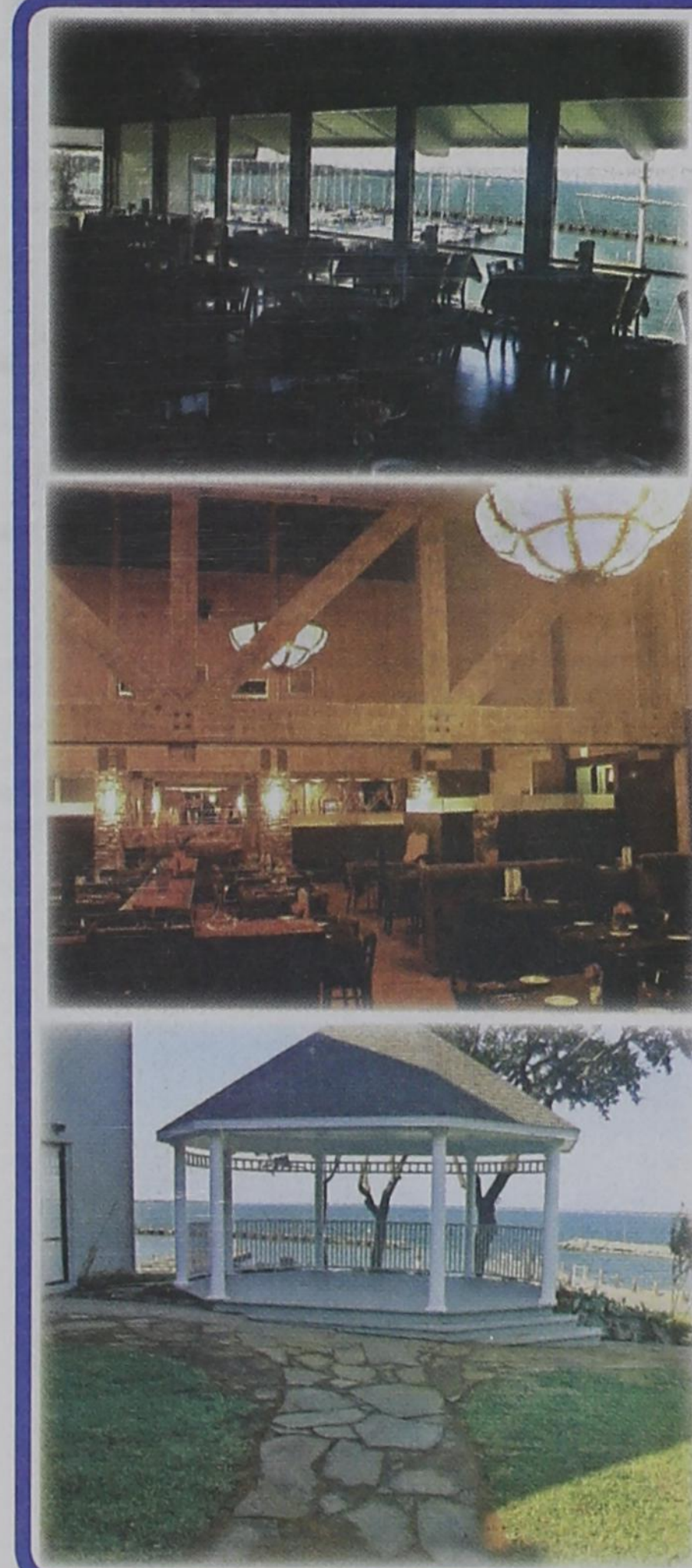


Rockwall Chamber of Commerce members celebrated the recent grand opening ceremony for Aqua Tots, located at 3001 Ridge Road Rockwall.



Rockwall Aquatics Center of Excellence (RACE) swimmers competing in the Long Course Age Group Swimming Championships on July 13-17 in Austin are (Back row left to right) Liz Kershaw, Coach Tom Applegate, Head Coach Neil Walker, William Rapp, (middle row) Ullom, David Johnston, Jessica Iggo, Carolyn Johnston, Raena Eldridge, Emily Manly, (front row) Johann Kuipers, Brooke Arnold, Ruth Huffman, Christian Weaver, Alex Rodriguez, and M. Eldridge. Not pictured is Jeremiah Kim and Nathaniel Wang. (See details of the meet on page 10.)

Photo by Barbara Tokuz/Rockwall County News



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Our hours of operation for our grill and bar - are from 11a - 11p Monday Thursday, and 11a - midnight - Friday and Saturday and Sunday 11a - 10p.

The main dining room will feature our dinner menu from 5p - 10p Mon through Thursday, 5p- 11p Friday and Saturday, and 9p on Sunday. Reservations accepted for the main dining room.

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Rockwall County Sports

CE's Eldridge swims to 2 silvers at TAGS Championships

Eldridge celebrated her 15th birthday early by winning two silver medals in a 3-14 competition, leading the Rockwall Aquatics Center of Excellence to a 25th place in last week's Long Course Texas Age Group Swimming Championships. Eldridge knocked 2 seconds off her previous best time in the 50 freestyle to qualify for the seventh seed in the finals. Then she improved by 1.13 seconds in 1 minute, 4.83 seconds. In keeping with her celebration, she had her medal autographed by three-time Olympian Ian Crocker. At the University of Texas' Jamail Texas Swimming Center in Austin, Eldridge's winning time in the 50 freestyle was 59 seconds to place second, 1.13 second behind champion Karling Hemstreet of Nitro. Eldridge placed 11th in the 200 individual medley, 12th in both the 100 and 200 freestyle and 20th in the 100 back. She joined three other RACE swimmers, 16-year-old Claire Walters, 14-year-old Emily Manly (12) as part of a select team representing North Carolina at the Southern Zone Championships in North Carolina. In, Kim improved his best time in the 200 breaststroke by 2 seconds to qualify for the finals. He finished fourth with a time of 2:38.86. Kim finished her medal with ninth place in the 100 breaststroke in 1:13.23. In the 200 IM and 19th in the 400 IM. In the 1-12 age group, she placed ninth in the 50 breaststroke, 13th in the 200 breaststroke, 17th in the 200 butterfly, 19th in both the 200 breast-

stroke and 400 free and 27th in the 100 fly. Manly also swam with 12-year-olds Carolyn Johnston and Brooke Arnold and 11-year-old Jessica Iggo in three relays. The RACE swimmers placed 12th in the 200 medley relay and 13th in the 400 medley, but were disqualified for an early takeoff in the 400 free relay. William Rapp (14) improved by half a second in the 50 free prelims, then took the sixth-place medal with an even better personal record of 26.06. He also dropped a second off his 100 free time to finish 10th in 57.31. He joined Kim, 13-year-old Alex Rodriguez, Nathaniel Wang and Mitchell Eldridge on three RACE relay teams. They were 10th in the 200 medley relay, 13th in the 400 medley and 18th in the 800 free. Rodriguez was 14th in the 100 breaststroke in 1:13.99 and 21st in the 200 breaststroke in 2:44.49. Nine-year-old David Johnston, the RACE team's newest member, won two medals. He placed fourth in the 400 freestyle in 5:07.18 and eighth in the 200 free in 2:30.13. He also placed 10th in the 10-and-under 100 free. Johnston swam in relays with 10-year-olds Johann Kuipers, Christian Weaver and Ryan Ullom. They took the sixth-place medal in the 200 medley relay and placed 10th in the 400 free relay. Kuipers also finished 20th in the 50 breaststroke and 22nd in the 100 breaststroke. Weaver placed 27th in the 50 butterfly. Among the 10-and-under girls, 10-year-old Ruth Huffman was 28th in the 50 fly. RACE will host TAGS' last meet this season, the A/BB Championships, from Aug. 4 to 7 at the Rockwall ISD Aquatic Center.



Raena Eldridge races to a second place finish and the silver medal in the 50M Freestyle during last week's Long Course Texas Age Group Swimming Championships in Austin. Photo by Barbara Tokuz/Rockwall County News

Rockwall athletes competing in Water Polo Junior Olympics

Rockwall Water Polo Club is competing during the next world's largest water polo event representing five age groups from clubs at the Junior Olympics in Orange County. Six will play Saturday

in the boys' competition, which runs through Tuesday. The area's five girls will compete from Thursday to Sunday, Aug. 7. Ten of them will compete with four teams from the Lightning Club, made up of players from Rockwall and North Texas. Nina Jaimes, Morgan Madrid, Breana Williams and Summer Scown are

on Lightning's 18-and-under girls' team. Madrid, one of five Rockwall players in the Junior Olympics for the first time, will be competing for the last time as a Rockwall Water Polo Club member. She said the tournament will mean a lot to her before she begins college at Colorado State University. "I am proud to be a part of the

Rockwall Water Polo program on its way to being an independent club. Hopefully, participating in big tournaments such as the Junior Olympics will attract more players to the sport and continue to grow Rockwall Water Polo to the amazing program I already know it to be." Lightning's 14-and-under boys include Rockwall's Marshall Garrett, Tyler Kreminski, Alex Rodriguez and Elisio Villarreal. In his first Junior Olympics, Garrett also is looking forward to his first trip to California and some time on the beach. His mother, Cindi Garrett, said she hopes Marshall comes back with a deeper appreciation of the game. "This will be his first out-of-state tournament so I am thrilled all of the pieces are coming together to allow him to make such a phenomenal trip." Luke Phillips will compete with the Lightning 18-and-under boys, and Evan Scown with its 16-and-under boys. The Lightning teams qualified by reaching the finals at the Southwest Zone Championships June 5. Rockwall's Jordan Hummingbird is playing with her 14-and-under Houston Water Polo Girls teammates, who qualified for the Junior Olympics from April's Western Regional Championships. The Rockwall Water Polo Club will track the results and offer them via Twitter at Follow RockwallWPC and by text with the message Follow RockwallWPC to 40404. More information on Rockwall Water Polo is available at www.RockwallWaterPolo.com.

Rockwall County Sports Notes

Free athletic physicals offered

Free athletic physicals will be available to RISD student athletes between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. July 30 at Williams Middle School, according to the district website. RISD physical forms are available online in the Links section of the RISD Athletics web page.

Sign-ups under way for girls volleyball

Registration is now under way for girls volleyball through the Rockwall County YMCA. Open to girls in grades 3-6, volleyball play will begin Sept. 10. Registration costs \$35 for YMCA Family members and \$95 for non-members. Registration runs through July 31, followed by an Aug. 11 coaches meeting. For more details contact the Rockwall YMCA at 972-772-YMCA.

Small Fry, Youth Soccer registrations open

Early registration for Small Fry Soccer (age 3) and Youth Soccer (ages 4-12) will run through July 31. Regular registration will be Aug. 1-10, and late registration will begin Aug. 11 and be open until teams are full. Cost to register is \$35 for YMCA Family members and \$75 for non-members. The coaches meeting is set for 11 a.m. Aug. 13 at the YMCA. For more details contact the Rockwall YMCA at 972-772-YMCA.

YMCA offers new football program

The Rockwall County YMCA is offering a new football program with two levels of competition to accommodate every player ages 5-12. Registration is open now and will continue through July 31. Cost is \$45 for YMCA Family members or \$100 for non-members. The season will begin Sept. 10. Visit rycafootball.com or hhcafootball.com for more football program details.

Hot Rocks bike event set Aug. 13

The Rockwall Noon Rotary Club will host its 25th annual Hot Rocks Bike Race and Ride Aug. 13. The race will start and finish at Wilkerson/Sanders Memorial Field 1201 T.L. Townsend Road, Rockwall. All levels of riders traditionally participate in the event, which will offer 13.5-, 43- and 57-mile courses. Top three finishers, both male and female, in the longest race will receive cash prizes; each participant will receive an event T-shirt and lunch. Registration and check-in on race day will begin at 6 a.m.; start time is 7:30 a.m. Pick up a registration packet after noon on the Friday prior to the event at Rockwall Cycling, 832 Steger Towne Road. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund college scholarships for local graduating seniors.

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time Rockwall Water Polo Junior Olympian Marshall Garrett passes the ball, during the RACE Natatorium in preparation for the USA Water Polo Junior Olympics event August 7 through July 31 in Orange County, California. Defending against the pass is Zach Anderson. Watching at back is Assistant Coach Jianhui Li. by J. Hummingbird/Rockwall County News

'Tuna' sail to victory in Chandler's Landing race

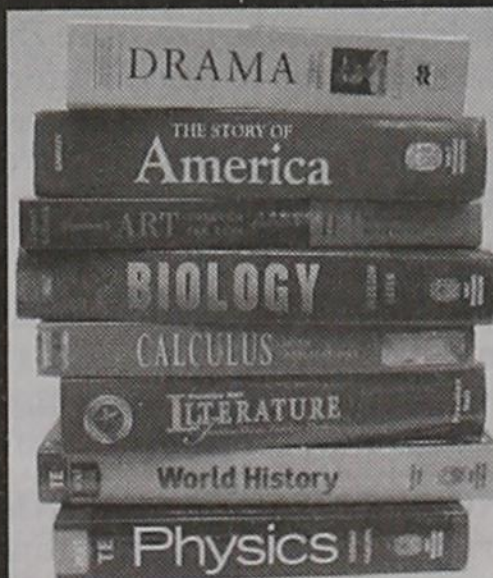
"Red Mule" sailed to victory on July 20, on Lake Tawakoni with Robert Williams at the helm. "Tuna" to victory. "Tuna" also placed fourth in the Wednesday Night regatta, (middle) in two fleets. Williams Race 4 of the regatta were Dan Malak and Chris Nelms in "Silver Wings" home in the fleet. Not far behind was David Lawson, second in the fleet, third in "Carpe Diem", fourth in "Joint Venture", fifth in



Finishing second in last Saturday's Race #4 of the Chandler's Landing Yacht Club Summer Series is Orion/Hunter31. Skipped by Dan Malak (steering at the helm), the Orion is shown after rounding the weather (upwind) mark at Sunnyvale, 1/2 way of an out and back course of 8.65nm. Orion and crew had just launched the spinnaker, and the crew can be seen making all the necessary line adjustments to set the sail for the exhilarating downwind run under the colorful spinnaker to the finish line off of Chandler's Landing in Rockwall. Richard Malak of Chandler's, (front with orange life jacket) holds the red spinnaker sheet used to trim the spinnaker sail shape properly to the wind. Mike Folz (green shirt) and Kelley Earnest of Arlington (blue shirt) are also adjusting lines. Mike Folz (green shirt) holds the spinnaker foreguy sheet (red line) in his right hand, and led to a winch to set the spinnaker pole angle to the wind for optimum sail performance. Kelley Earnest (blue shirt) is seen easing the main sheet to the main sail adjusting that sail's angle out to the wind as Orion's course is changing from upwind to downwind sailing. This series runs every Saturday evening through August.

Photo by Alicia Guadaramma/Rockwall County News

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Rockwall County Sports

Fulton places second in Crowley NCA Shootout

by Lary Bump

It appeared that The Fulton School's stay in the double-elimination NCA Shootout would be a short one at Crowley Nazarene Christian Academy Saturday, July 23.

Then the Falcons, who had posted a 3-1-1 record during Friday's round-robin qualifier to earn the 6 on 6 flag football tournament's second seed, could have spent most of the 100-degree day relaxing in air conditioning.

They drew a first-round bye, then took a 3-1 lead in touchdowns at halftime of their opening game against Arlington High Point. However, Fulton squandered that lead as the Eagles rallied to win 4-3.

Instead of making a quick exit after that, the Falcons came back to win their next three games and advance to the finals against Azle Christian.

That was Fulton's fifth game in less than 5 hours, and the better-rested Crusaders won 5-1 to take first place in the second annual tournament. The Falcons went home with the second-place trophy.

"If we had won just one game in the tournament, that would be fine," said Fulton head coach Josh Johnson. "We wanted to get the boys out and develop some chemistry and continuity."

"Every game, we got pushed. The boys had a lot of fun." And they won six games, with three losses and a tie.

Johnson said, "It was really good that we got here. It was really good competition. High Point is the TCAF state champion. Azle was state champion three years ago, and (Mansfield) Fellowship is a TAPPS Division I team."

"We also got a week ahead of everybody. We were the only team from our district that participated."

Saturday's loss to High Point sent the Falcons into the losers' bracket, where they eliminated Granbury Cornerstone Christian 6-1, Mansfield Fellowship 4-3 and High Point 3-1.

The biggest difference the second time around against the Eagles, who were 1-1-1 against Fulton, was the Falcons' pass defense.

In Saturday's first game, High Point scored second-half touchdowns on a long pass on fourth down and another on third and 10.

Later, three interceptions kept the Mansfield team from reaching the finals.

The last of those, by Terence Kennell, kept High Point from tying the score 2-2. Kennell then ran for the insurance TD that gave Fulton its 3-1 margin of victory.

Against Azle, Fulton was in the game early, trailing 2-1 after Tanner Treadway threw a 25-yard scoring pass to his brother, Todd Treadway. However, the Crusaders scored on their next three possessions while holding

the Falcons scoreless.

"It was 4-1 with two possessions left, so we could have come back. But our team wanted to keep playing," Johnson said.

In Friday's games, Fulton had won over Mansfield Fellowship 4-1, Granbury Cornerstone 3-2 and host Crowley Nazarene Christian 3-3. Azle Christian won 4-2 the first time it played

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Legal Notices

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY TPDES PERMIT RENEWAL FOR INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER

TPDES Permit No. WQ0003099000

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. The Whitmore Manufacturing Company, P.O. Box 9300, Rockwall, Texas 75087, which operates a facility that produces specialty lubricating oils, greases and coatings, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of TPDES Permit No. WQ0003099000, which authorizes the discharge of storm water and once through noncontact cooling water on an intermittent and flow variable basis via Outfall 001. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on March 9, 2011.

The facility is located at 930 Whitmore Drive in the City of Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas 75087. The effluent is discharged to a drainage ditch; thence to a tributary of Squabble Creek; thence to Squabble Creek; thence to Caruth Lake; thence to Squabble Creek; thence to Lake Ray Hubbard in Segment No. 0820 of the Trinity River Basin. The unclassified receiving waters have no significant aquatic life use for the drainage ditch. The designated uses for Segment No. 0820 are high aquatic life use, contact recreation, and public water supply.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 1101 Ridge Road, Rockwall, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name; address; phone number; applicant's name and permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are germane to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission will only grant a contested case hearing on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised in timely filed comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.TCEQ.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from The Whitmore Manufacturing Company at the address stated above or by calling Mr. John Barnes at (972) 771-1000.

Issued: July 7, 2011

Bright lights to welcome county's first contact practice

Within the next week, high school athletes will be playing football day and night throughout Rockwall County.

The Fulton School will make sure of that when they become the first school to begin contact workouts.

The Falcons' first workout will be their second annual Midnight Madness, beginning when the clock strikes 12 Wednesday night. Or is that Thursday morning?

Midnight Madness is an idea Fulton head coach Josh Johnson brought with him from Fort Worth Glenview, which began that practice in 2007 while he was an assistant coach there.

Under TAPPS rules, Thursday is the first day teams can hold contact workouts. The Falcons will be doing that in kind of a party atmosphere, with their unlighted practice field surrounded by headlights from cars and trucks while the team goes through a brief practice.

This week has been the calm before the storm that is Texas high school football.

Rockwall-Heath's strength and conditioning camp ended Thursday, with Rockwall's wrapping up a week earlier.

For Rockwall County's three TAPPS teams - Fulton, Rockwall Christian Academy and Heritage Christian Academy - it's the "dead week" when no kind of team activity is allowed.

Before opening official practices in the dark, the Falcons will go to Denton for a 3-day team camp Monday-Wednesday. Johnson said he expects about a dozen players for the six-man team's first practice.

RCA, with the county's only TAPPS 11-man team, will open with non-contact practices Tuesday. Head coach Caleb Palmer said he expected the Warriors' turnout to be in the low 20s.

Rockwall-Heath, Rockwall and Roysse City are under UIL rules, so they won't be allowed to practice until Monday, Aug. 8. The expected turnout for each of those 11-man teams is in three figures.

All of that will lead up to scrimmages, beginning on the Aug. 12 weekend for the TAPPS schools and the following weekend for the public schools.

The county's first high school game is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 25, when RHHS would meet West Mesquite in the first game of the second annual Heritage Honor Before Victory Classic at Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium.

YMCA still offering swimming lessons

The Rockwall County YMCA will offer one more series of weekday swimming lessons, as well as another session of Saturday lessons, this summer, according to information published on the Rockwall YMCA website.

Classes are offered for all ages groups ranging from six months to adults. Each class is 30 minutes in length, and classes take place between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The final weekday summer session will run Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays Aug. 1-12. The final set of Saturday sessions will run Aug. 6, 13, 20 and 27. Check the YMCA website - rockwallymca.org - for a full listing of class times.

For more information, visit the website or call 972-772-9622.

RHS, RHHS season ticket sales continue

Season ticket sales for Rockwall High and Rockwall-Heath High School will continue Aug. 1-4 at the Rockwall Independent School District Athletic Department, 1193 T.L. Townsend Drive.

Season tickets may be purchased from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost is \$86 for this year and \$36 the following two years, according to the district website.

VIP season parking passes for the upcoming season also will be available with season ticket purchases.

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Rockwall County Sports Notes

Triathlon set Oct. 2 at The Harbor

The Toyota U.S. Open Triathlon, the final event in the Race to the Toyota Cup series, will be hosted by the City of Rockwall Oct. 2 at The Harbor. The three-event race will feature a swim event, followed by a cycling and a running event. The swim event will begin at 7 a.m., and the last runner should finish at about 2 p.m. To avoid traffic problems experienced last year, a new bike route has been designed. More than 1,000 athletes competed last year.

Rockwall County Classified Advertising

Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

by given in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Buffalo Creek unincorporated association of persons, in accordance with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code for the renewal of Private Club Registration Beverage Cartage Permit located at 624 County Road 100 in the City of Rockwall, County of Rockwall, Texas 75087. Craig W. Kniffen, President; Dennis W. Kniffen, Secretary.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AAMAN 126, BEER & WINE HAS FILED A WRITTEN APPLICATION DATED THE 7TH DAY OF JUNE, 2011 TO OBTAIN A WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S OFFER PERMIT, AT 2305 HWY 276, ROCKWALL, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS. PRESIDENT/SECRETARY OF THE COMPANY IS SINGH H.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 61.38 OF THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE, SAID APPLICATION WILL BE HEARD BEFORE THE HONORABLE JERRY HOGAN, COUNTY JUDGE OF ROCKWALL COUNTY TEXAS, LOCATED AT 101 EAST STATE STREET, 3RD FLOOR, IN ROCKWALL, TEXAS ON THE 14TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2011 AT 9:00 O'CLOCK AM. BY ORDER OF THE COURT, YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO APPEAR IN PERSON AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS 14TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2011. SHELLI MILLER, COUNTY CLERK OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS.

LEGAL NOTICE

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A FOOD AND BEVERAGE CERTIFICATE (FB) AND A MIXED BEVERAGE RESTAURANT PERMIT WITH (FB). BY THE SHORES COUNTRY CLUB, LLC, DBA THE SHORES COUNTRY CLUB, TO BE LOCATED AT 2600 CHAMPIONS DRIVE, ROCKWALL, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS 75087. PARTNERS OF SAID COMPANY ARE AS FOLLOWS:
JOHN W. DUNN JR., 1210 GLENWOOD AVE., NICHOLS HILLS, OKLA. 73116 (MANAGER)
JAMES A. HAVENS, 6202 CORAL GABLES, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77069 (MANAGER)
MICHAEL H. JENKINS, 2850 WINTHROP RD., LINCOLN, NEB. 68502 (OWNER)
DAN K. TRAXLER, 1400 COASTAL DR., ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087 (OWNER)

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Business Opportunities

Heath Community Correspondent

Texas Media Enterprises, LLC (owner and operator of Rockwall County News and RockwallTexasOnline.com) is accepting independent contractor proposals for reporting and writing services for the community oriented weekly newspaper published in Rockwall, Texas. The contract is for a weekly Heath community news column. Send resume and proposals to rcn.news@yahoo.com

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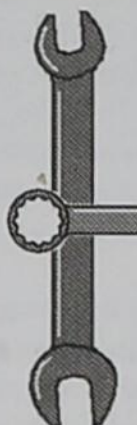
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE ESTATE OF KENNETH ANDREW MARTIN, DECEASED
 Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Kenneth Andrew Martin, Deceased, Case No. PR11-58, in the County Court at Law, Rockwall County, Texas, were granted to me, Phyllis Ann Martin, as Independent Executor on July 25, 2011. All persons having claims against said estate are must present the same to me within the time prescribed by law. My address is 2345 Shoal Creek Lane, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Rockwall County invites sealed bids on the following:
 Moving Services
 Bid specifications are on file in the Rockwall County Auditor's office, 101 East Rusk Street, Room 101, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

Bids must state a lump sum price for all services and be submitted in a sealed envelope marked on the outside 11-07-007 Moving Services, to Lisa Constant, Rockwall County Auditor, 101 East Rusk Street, Room 101, Rockwall, Texas 75087, on or before Friday, August 19, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. The bids will be opened on Friday, August 19, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom. Rockwall County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Upon acceptance of bid and award of a contract by Rockwall County Commissioners Court, remittance shall be made through invoicing at the lump sum price.
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
 Rockwall County
 Lisa Constant
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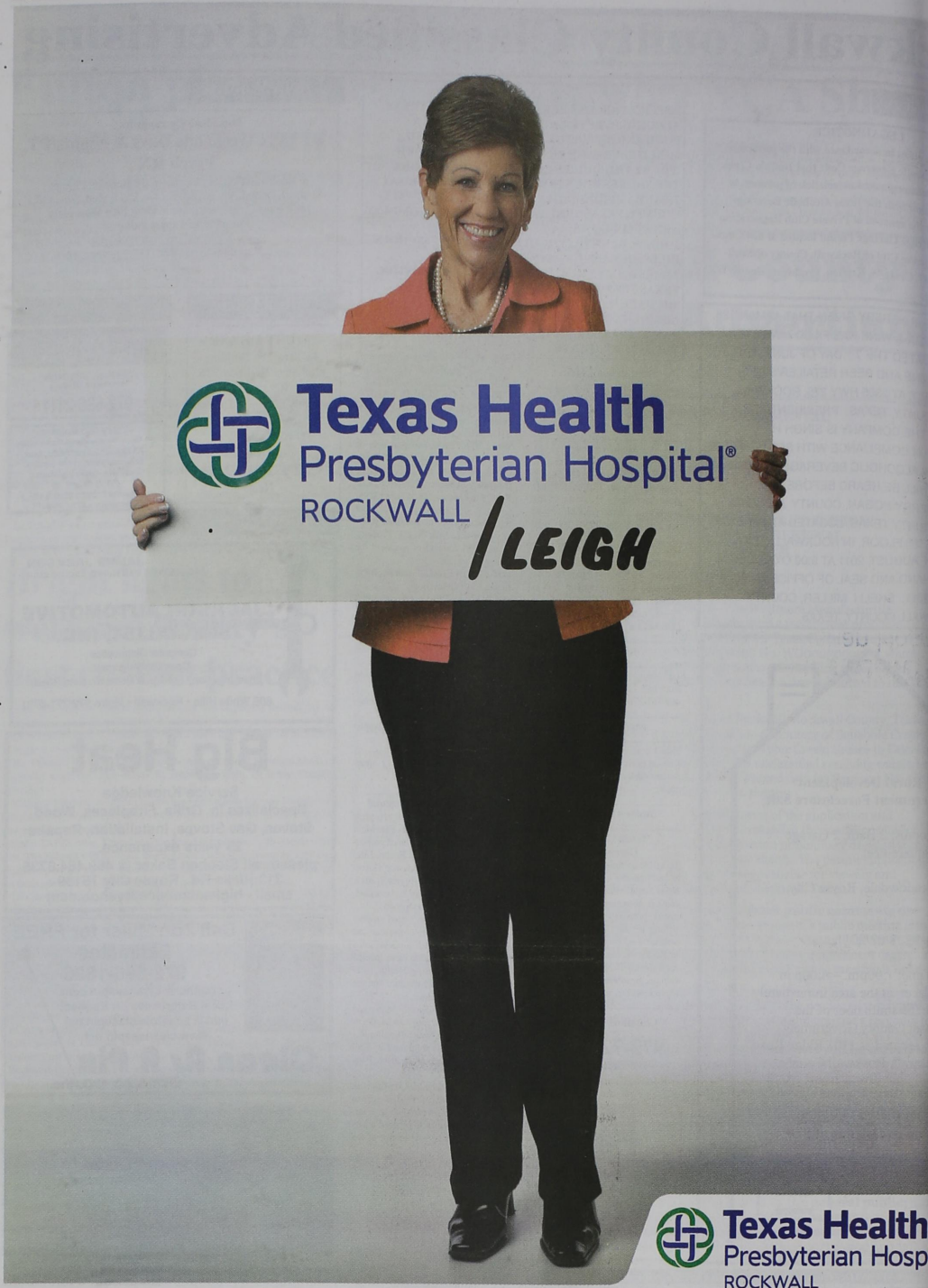
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