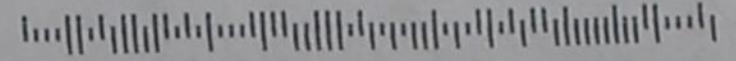


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Rockwall County News

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Honoring the 2015 Rockwall County Valedictorians and Salutatorians



Caroline Esther Hochstein
Heritage Christian Academy
2015 Valedictorian



Thomas Keith Tannehill
Heritage Christian Academy
2015 Salutatorian

Valedictorian for Heritage Christian Academy's 2015 graduating class is Caroline Hochstein, daughter of Dr. An and Anika Hochstein. A year HCA student, she was involved in art, choir, musical productions, yearbook and athletics, including swimming track, during high school. A member of the National Honor Society, she will graduate with honors and plans to attend Hendrix College where she will participate in soccer and track.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Salutatorian of the 2015 graduating class of Heritage Christian Academy is Thomas Tannehill, son of Gary and Michelle Tannehill. A student of HCA for the past 13 years, he was involved in drama, film media and athletics, including football and track, while in high school. A member of the National Honor Society, he will graduate with honors. He plans to attend Dallas Baptist University where he will run track.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



The recent rainfall drove Rockwall residents from their homes after Wallace Lake flooded homes in Rockwall Estates, which included homes at the intersection of Renee Street and County Line Road (above). Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Rockwall addresses recent Lake Rockwall Estates flooding

The City of Rockwall is working to address issues relating to flooding that occurred last month when rains filled Wallace Lake, according to a city news release.

The homes of several Rockwall families were flooded in this area, which is part of the Lake Rockwall Estates subdivision developed in the 1960s prior to its 2009 annexation into the city and before the neighborhood was regulated by the municipality's development standards.

"While these homes are located in the 100-year flood plain, the flooding is no less tragic for affected families," the news release states. "Much of the area is still covered with water."

The Rockwall Fire Department responded to the flooding by asking that Oncor disconnect electric utilities to the flooded homes, according to the news release. The fire department also contacted the Rockwall County Emergency Management coordinator, who arranged for assistance through Rockwall County Helping Hands to secure local temporary housing.

The Kaufman-Van Zandt-Rockwall Soil & Water Conservation District, which operates Wallace Lake for the state, also facilitated the increased release of water from the lake; however, reducing the water level will take additional time, according to the news release.

Additional steps taken to assist affected families included:

- The Rockwall Fire Department and Street Department have informed residents, installed barricades and kept motorists off the street;
- City staff and Rockwall County Emergency Management officials worked with Helping Hands to temporarily relocate affected families to local hotels. Some families initially declined this assistance, but have since indicated that they may need temporary housing assistance;

Because losses and damages in the county do not meet the federally established levels to qualify for federal assistance for affected residents, the Rockwall city manager's office is working with local leaders to raise private funds to help replenish emergency funds at Helping Hands to help families displaced by flooding and others that may have current and future needs;

- Rockwall Fire Chief Mark Poindexter and city engineer Tim Tumulty met last week with Soil & Water Conservation District officials. The district has approved additional measures to increase the flow of water out of Wallace Lake;
- The city's building official visited the site to make a preliminary assessment of the damage and will return once the water recedes so building inspectors can better evaluate structural damage;
- The Rockwall Police Department, at the request of several of the affected residents, has increased its patrol of the affected area;
- The city, in cooperation and coordination with the Rockwall County Commissioners Court, Emergency Management coordinator, Soil & Water Conservation District, director of Helping Hands and the area director of the American Red Cross to determine the best ways to lend assistance and plan for projected needs that may occur after the floodwater recede;
- Representatives of several of the affected families met with the fire chief, who is heading the city's efforts to assist in recovery;
- A meeting has been scheduled, which will be open to affected residents, to provide additional updated information. The meeting will be attended by representatives of the city (fire, police, engineering and building inspection) and other agencies (Red Cross and Rockwall County Emergency Management). Affected property owners who need additional information about the meeting should contact Joey Boyd at 972-772-6408 or at jboyd@rockwall.com.

Families displaced by flooding also may contact Helping Hands at 972-771-4357 for assistance.

To make a contribution to assist affected families, send checks (marked FLOOD ASSISTANCE) to Rockwall County Helping Hands, 950 Williams St., Rockwall, TX 75087.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Mobile animal spay/neuter event set

The Spay/Neuter Network (spayneuternetwork.org) will have its 45-foot hospital bus in Rockwall on Friday, June 12, at the I-30 Wal-Mart parking lot. Surgeries will be performed on site. Low-cost packages are available, and walk-up vaccines will be offered from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 972-472-3500 for an appointment; spaces are limited. Be sure that dogs cannot slip their collars; cats must be in secure carriers. The event will be sponsored by Rockwall PAWS (rockwallpaws.com), a nonprofit that funds the treatment of heartworm-positive dogs.

Junk Prom set June 13 at Centsible

Junk Prom, a sales event that will offer a unique day of shopping and crazy outfits, will take place at Centsible Thrift Store, 950 Williams St., Rockwall, on June 13. Staff will be dressed in their "craziest junk prom attire" and shoppers are invited to join in the fun and wear "their junkiest outfit ever." Live talent and refreshments are planned.

Camp Discovery set at Our Savior Lutheran

Our Savior Lutheran Church will host a wilderness journey at Camp Discovery with children ages 3 through entering sixth grade invited to participate from 9 a.m. to noon June 15-19. The church is located at 3003 Horizon Rd., Rockwall. To register, visit oslrockwall.org.
(Continued on Page 2)

Public meeting to address I-30 update, TxDOT projects

A June 17 public meeting hosted by Rockwall County Commissioner Ed Magness, TxDOT area engineer Jeff Bush and other project officials will address the I-30 update, FM 551 interchange and other transportation projects, according to a county news release.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at the Billie Stevenson Elementary cafeteria, 636 Stevenson Drive, Fate. For more details contact Magness at 972-204-6040.

Lane closures on I-30 planned

Various lanes will be closed on I-30 in Roysse City between FM 548 and FM 551 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. through June 13, weather permitting, according to a Texas Department of Transportation news release.

The closures will affect one lane at a time, according to the release. Drivers should expect delays and seek alternate routes if possible.



Fifth grade teachers Rebekah Hawkins, David Leichty, Christina Lee and Susie Kinney at Springer Elementary recently received a grant titled Go West, Young Man. The grant will include a Westward expansion study unit involving interactive stations that will take place outside, such as writing and telling "tall tales" by a fabricated campfire, utilize Lincoln logs to build structures relating to architecture, science "gold mine" digging and a pony express relay.

Fifth grade teachers Christina Lee and Susie Kinney received a grant titled Super Sleuths as students will act as detectives to create, solve and simulate mysteries for others to solve while using authentic crime scene investigative tools. Fifth grade teacher David Leichty and SAGE teacher Jenny Kaup received a grant titled Living Large in Small Spaces. Students will address overpopulation issues by creating, designing and building innovative living spaces for the future conducive to largely populated areas.



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Rockwall County Obituaries

Margie Hooker

Mass for Margie Hooker, 81, of Rockwall will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2015, at the Sacred Heart Mausoleum Chapel, 3900 Rowlett Rd., Rowlett with the Rev. George Monaghan officiating. Burial will follow in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

She died June 5.
Born July 25, 1933, in Iowa to Faye and Blanche (Bigger) Beddow. A member of the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, she retired from Rockwall County after 20 years of service.

Survivors include her daughters, Linda Tucker and her husband, David, of Rockwall and Lisa Cravens and her husband, Vance, of Roysse City; her sisters, Darlene Rummell of Fort Dodge, Iowa, Shirley O'Tool of Pella, Iowa, and Bonnie Siefken of Loveland, Colorado; a sister-in-law, Janice Beddow of Little Rock, Arkansas; her grandchildren, Kristen and Joshua Stevens, Jared Tucker and Zachary, Lauren, Ryan and Jacob Huddin; and a great-grandson, Wesson Huddin.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Larry Hooker; a son, David Hooker; and three brothers.

The family has suggested memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org/greaterdallas.

Kenneth 'KP' Houser

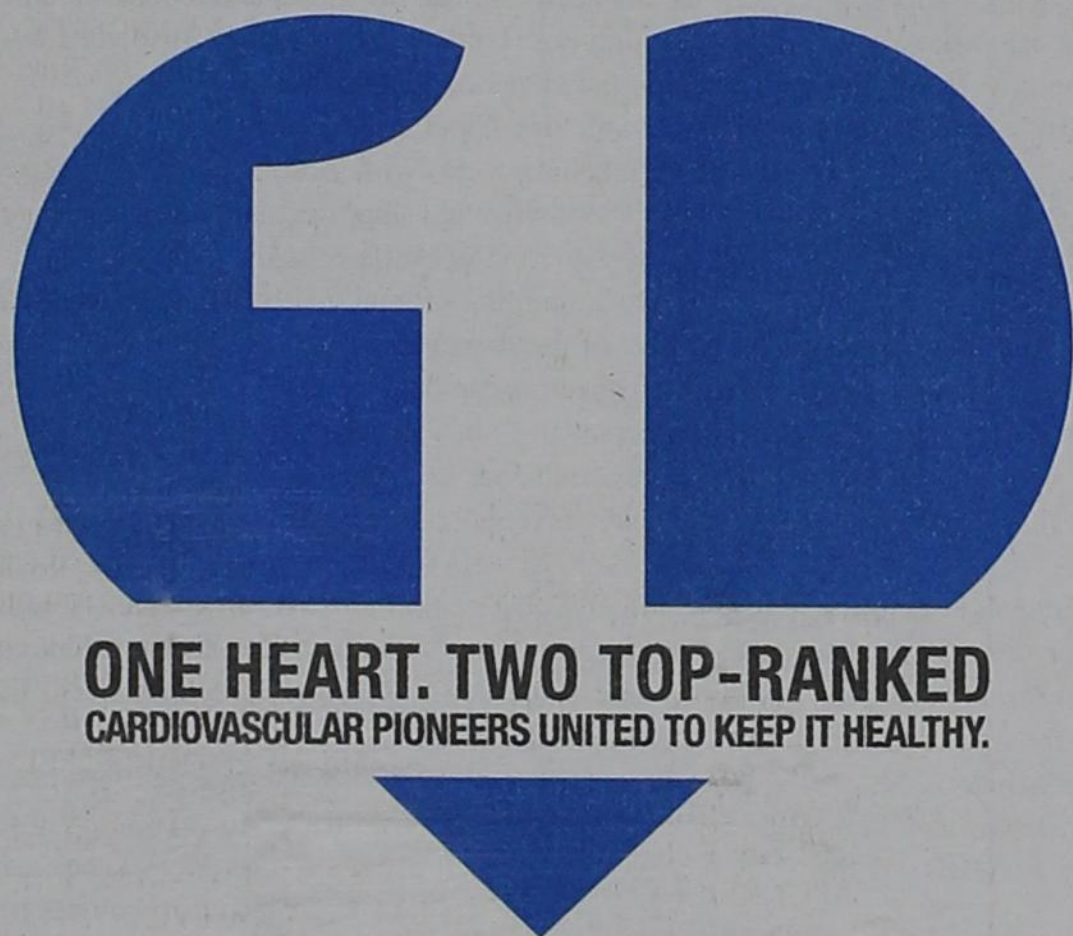
Services for Kenneth "KP" Houser, 87, of Roysse City were conducted at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 4, 2015, in the First Christian Church in Roysse City with Pastor Rick Donaho officiating. Burial followed in the Roysse City Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Roysse City Chapel.

He died May 31.
Born Jan. 2, 1928, in Roysse City to Dudd and Alma (Morgan) Houser, he was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He worked for the El Chico Company as a supply purchaser. He was an elder at the First Christian Church of Roysse City.

Survivors include his son, Gary Houser; his grandsons, Reggie Houser and his wife, Sheila, Tyler Houser and Tracy Houser; his granddaughters, Stephanie Hampton and her husband, Heath, and Brittany Houser; seven great-grandchildren; his sisters, Patsy Walton and Doris Cantrell and her husband, Orville; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Bonnie Patterson Houser; and one son, Terry Houser.

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Billy Jack 'Bill' Lewis

A memorial service for Billy Jack "Bill" Lewis, 73, of Rockwall will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2015, at the Mt. Vernon Methodist Church in Pert. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.
He died June 6.

Born April 6, 1942, in Palestine, Texas, to Luther J. and Billie Frances (Carter) Lewis, he had been a resident of Rockwall for 29 years. He was a member of the Lake Pointe Church and retired from Buckner Baptist Benevolences, where he was chief operating officer.

He was married in Houston on Aug. 9, 1963, to Jeanne Dennis. The couple shared 51 years together.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanne Dennis Lewis of Rockwall; a son, William Lance Lewis of Dallas; a daughter, Lisa Lewis O'Neill of Rockwall; his grandchildren, Harper and Will Lewis of Dallas and Ellie and Aidan O'Neill of Rockwall; a brother, Luther Lewis of Pocahontas, Arkansas; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Patricia Ann Lewis Ferguson.

Patricia Lewis

A memorial service for Patricia Lewis, 75, of Rockwall will be conducted at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2015, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Rick Donaho officiating.

She died June 6.

Born Dec. 13, 1939, in Wichita, Kansas, to Ralph O. and Pat (O'Connor) Duguid, she was owner/operator of Your Place home interior stores in the Dallas Design District and near The Galleria. She was past president of the Garland Jaycee-etts and was active in tennis programs at Chandlers Landing and in the Bridge Club at the Rockwall Community Center.

She was a devoted homemaker and a loving wife, mother, grandmother and sister.

Survivors include her husband, John Lewis of Rockwall; her sons, Danny Lewis of Fort Worth and Brad Lewis of Carrollton; a brother, Rod Duguid of Quinlan; and a granddaughter, Lillie Lewis.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister.

Walker retires after 32 years as RCISD educator

For more than three decades, Paula Walker has enjoyed the sound of it.

"Miss Walker?"

"The best sound is when I'm somewhere and I hear 'Miss Walker,'" Walker said. "It's an adult voice and they've got that tone in their voice. When I turn, I know it's going to be a former student. Sometimes they have children to show off, but there's that tone in their voice. There's nothing better than that."

Walker, who recently retired after a 32-year career as a Roysse City Independent School District teacher and principal, said she knows the name of those adult ex-students "about 50 percent of the time."

She will ask for the ex-student's name and the names of several other students in the class. Then, she said, it usually "starts clicking," allowing her to recall the student and the class.

Walker, who grew up in the Grayson County community of Howe, taught for three years prior to coming to Roysse City — two years in Amarillo and a year at Greenville Middle School.

"I was not happy with education at that time," she said. "I was looking for a smaller school district, hopefully to get back more to my roots of a small town and a smaller school district. That's what I found in Roysse City."

Be kind one to another
with tenderhearted,
forgiving one another,
even as God for
Christ's sake has
forgiven you.
Ephesians 4:23



Paula Walker, who recently retired after serving 32 years as a Roysse City ISD teacher and principal, is shown surrounded by first grade students at Miss May Vernon Elementary. Walker taught for two years in Amarillo and a year at Greenville Middle School before relocating to Roysse City. She taught for six years locally, starting as a Title I reading teacher, before earning a promotion to principal. Retirement plans include travelling, doing some volunteer work and enjoying her hobby of quilting.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Bertha Wright

A memorial service for Bertha Wright, 77, of Dallas was conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 6, 2015, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Russell Rogers officiating. Burial followed in the Highland Cemetery in Deport.

She died May 29.

Born Nov. 30, 1937, in Nicholville, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, to Edgar C. and Eleanor (Legge) Nichols, she was a loving homemaker who was devoted to her family.

Survivors include her children, Benny Wright and his wife, Kathy, of Roysse City, Robin Wright and fiancée, Lori House, of Little Elm and Bart Wright and his wife, of Allen; her siblings, Amy Simms of Nicholville, Effie Rowse Sheet Harbour, Nova Scotia, Jessie Coish of Nicholville, Ivy H. of Nicholville, Daisy Westwood of Cambridge, Ontario, Ray Nichols of Nicholville, Hilda Washington of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and Hodder of Nicholville; and her grandchildren, Ashton and Lee Rock of Rockwall, Maddie Wright of Plano and Chase Wright of Roysse City.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Vernon Wright on Jan. 4, 2012; her brother, Russell Nichols; and her sisters, Bertha Wiseman, Harriet Oake, Violet Oake, Lyra Doyle and Emma Simms.

The family suggested that memorial contributions may be made to the Highland Cemetery Association.

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Comic Book Camp planned

Rockwall Parks & Rec will offer two Comic Book Camp sessions for youngsters ages 8-12 June 15-19 and June 22-26 at The Center. The first session will focus on drawing the superhero; the second emphasize drawing panels and scenes. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to noon daily. Fee for week one is \$135 (\$99 for Rockwall residents); week two cost is \$225 (\$149 for Rockwall residents). Fee includes supplies. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

(Continued on Page 4)

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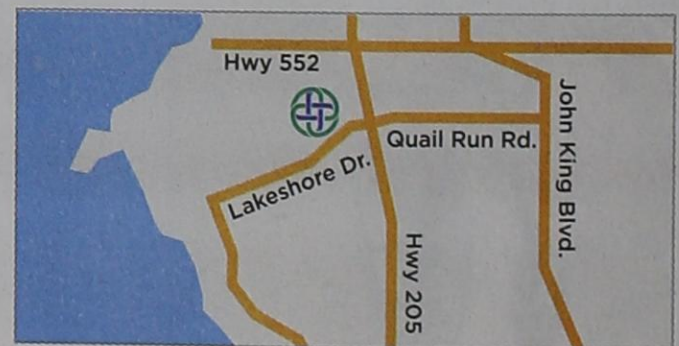


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