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# Rockwall County News

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

## County department heads defend budget line items

Edward's regular Commissioners Court meeting kicked off a series of items related to the Rockwall County budget for Fiscal Year 2012. Department heads presented their arguments to keep line items on the chopping block in last week's draft proposal presented by Henry.

Sheriff Harold Eavenson brought a statistics-heavy presentation on the Rockwall County Jail's activities, indicating the strain on staff supported by staffing that is already over-extended according to state requirements. "We process 8,000 inmates per year," Eavenson said, adding that "the optimum number [of corrections officers] is 73, and we are now doing it with 60." With regard to patrol units, he reported that the department is "slightly below accepted standards for our size population." Other departments reported similar circumstances, emphasizing that any further reductions would certainly result in reduced services and, in some

cases, failure to meet regulatory standards. The court agreed the goal was "to minimize impact on services provided to community as little as possible." Meetings and workshops were scheduled to continue through the week, with some departments bringing back more information to assist in the decision-making process. On another fiscal-related item, the court received a briefing on Rockwall County's annual financial audit report from Pattillo, Brown & Hill L.L.P., CPAs. Presenter John Manning reported a positive outcome of the audit, including complementary comments on the county staff involved. "All in all, it went very well," said Manning, who said the audit concluded that the county "did not have any material weaknesses."

The court directed that the audit report, in its entirety, be made available for public review on its website as soon as possible. In other matters, the court approved a number of actions already addressed in previous workshops. One action involved an order to authorize repairs to the Law Enforcement Facility's firing range with funds that would be available through the current fiscal year's contingency funds. This motion also authorized refinancing the bonds to reduce the interest rate. The court also moved to approve support of the City of Terrell in its efforts to secure grant funding to repair a dam, to replace the roof at the county jail with insurance funds already in-hand, and to authorize funds for elevator inspections required by the state at county facilities. An interlocal agreement with the City of McLendon-Chisholm was approved that allows for continued regulation by the county of subdivisions. The agreement will be renewed on an annual basis, establishing a unified set of regulations that the county will continue to enforce. The matter was scheduled to go before the McLendon-Chisholm council for approval, as well. The Court then adjourned to convene in executive session regarding a personnel matter in which staff requested that a district attorney part-time position be converted to a full-time position. After reconvening in the regular meeting, additional discussion followed, but the motion was defeated three to two. The court noted that it was unusual to make a mid-year adjustment of this nature, and expected it to be addressed, instead, during regular budget discussions for next year. The court discussed rising unemployment costs, incidental to a request to transfer additional funds in the amount of \$8,000 to cover the expense. The total amount thus far for 2011 exceeds \$70,000. Staff reported that yet another transfer would probably be necessary later in the year, as the trend continues. Finally, the court received financial reports and updates, and approved the payment of regular invoices, payroll, and claims totaling about \$18,000, unpaid claims more than \$325,000. The court emphasized that all documents related to the budget preparation would be made available online, in the interest of openness and transparency.



Rockwall Founders Day celebration included an evening performance by the country/swing band Asleep at the Wheel for a night at the courthouse lawn and San Jacinto Street. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall County EMS celebrates 15th Anniversary

Rockwall EMS marks its 15th year of providing emergency services to the area with the organization celebrating National EMS Week. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week began May 20 and runs through May 26. Events in communities across the nation, as well as several national events, are organized around the theme, Everyday Heroes.

Rockwall EMS wrapped up the week's festivities with its annual barbecue, where employees shared their tables with their families, community leaders and volunteers. Attendees included some of the 120-plus local police, fire and sheriff's department volunteers who serve the community side-by-side the Rockwall EMS. Members of the First Responders Organization, as well as top city and county officials, attended as well.

The highlight of the event was the naming of Rockwall EMS Paramedic of the Year Jason Piecek. The honor is bestowed by a peer election to distinguish one paramedic for exceptional service. The dinner also served as an occasion to recognize citizens for life-saving efforts. This year, the spotlight was on a group of participating bikers in the Heart of Heath event that saved a man's life by performing CPR when they realized he was having a heart attack. Citizens honored were Greg Mead, Erik Kosar, Brian CdeBaca, Greg Gunderson, Billy Self and Scott English. Founded in 1996, Rockwall EMS has been answering 911 and EMS calls for service county-wide since 1997. They serve alongside the firefighters and police officers in five different cities whose emergency services are also supplemented by a total of more than 120 volunteers. "We like to recognize all the police and volunteer fire departments, all the people that are first responders," said paramedic supervisor Mitch Ownby, explaining how the event has grown from the point of just intending to recognize the Paramedics alone. "Working together like that — on 24 hour shifts — it's like your second family."



Tim Wolf (center) and Martin Ramirez (right) present this year's Paramedic of the Year honor to Jason Piecek. Photo by Katy Williams/Rockwall County News

## Robbery, kidnapping accusation recanted in Royse City event

Accusations involving an alleged kidnapping and robbery reported May 19 to the Royse City Police apparently have been recanted, according to information made available by the city's police chief. Attempts to contact Royse City Police Chief Carl Alsbrook Monday proved unsuccessful, but in a voicemail left in response to a Rockwall County News reporter's inquiries, Alsbrook indicated that no such crimes occurred. "The incident never occurred and there are no charges pending for a false report at this time," the police chief said in his message. "There is no story." An RCN attempt to review the police report on the incident, at least a portion of which should be available for public scrutiny under Texas open records laws, also were unsuccessful. The newspaper was refused access to the report.

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Pictured are Cami Duffey, Macey Sterry, Delaney Davis and Sumer Eason who performed as USO girls during the Amy Parks Elementary School's 12th Annual USO Dinner Dance Show conducted earlier this month.  
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

## Amy Parks students deliver patriotic showcase

Greeted by a flag-lined drive and a vintage Army Jeep, guests for the Amy Parks Elementary School 12th Annual USO Dinner Dance Show at Cain Middle School on May 12-13 knew they were in for something special.

Once inside the building, helpful students dressed in red polo shirts and blue aprons escorted visitors to their tables. The cafeteria was transformed into a classic USO canteen with stars and stripes, white bunting, streamers and flags. The tables were draped in black linens topped with candles and glittering stars.

Amy Parks' choir director, Jan Stonestreet, educates her students about a specific conflict in U.S. history and teaches them about the music of that particular moment in time. This year the concentration was on Desert Storm. Using the music of the era, Stonestreet crafts a program designed to recognize veterans of the Armed Forces with a special evening of entertainment designed especially for them.

The Starlight Singers opened the evening with the song "Be Our Guest" from the musical "Beauty and the Beast." Once everyone was finished with their meal, patrons were urged to dance to the tunes from the era of Desert Storm. Between songs, emcee Chris Childs conducted a trivia contest about the conflict between the United States and Iraq.

Next, USO representative Mike Wilburn spoke to the audience about the United Service Organization and its work. He mentioned that the USO has more than 25,000 volunteers in 11 countries and 23 states and has been in existence for 70 years. The group was developed during World War II to boost the spirits of servicemen and women. Wilburn praised Stonestreet for instilling patriotism in her students by educating them as to the sacrifices of our country's veterans.

During Wilburn's presentation, choristers were backstage changing from their waiters' uniforms to their performance outfits. The curtains parted to reveal 31 young girls in shimmering red dresses and 34 boys in tuxedos. They began with the theme song from the television show "Cheers—Where Everybody Knows Your Name" and segued into "Save the Best for Last," sung by Mackenzie Iles and Asher Cannon. After the duet, Nathan Childs sang "I Cross My Heart."

Mistress of Ceremonies Rachel Fuller recounted details of Desert Storm between musical numbers, including the ways in which music played a part in the lives of the soldiers. It is said that war is 99 percent boredom and 1 percent terror. To help ease the boredom during Desert Storm, Sony Corporation sent Walkmans and civilians mailed music tapes overseas to the troops. The Armed Forces Network Radio broadcast tunes for the soldiers, as well.

In Michael Jackson's "Heal the World" with solos by Anne-Marie Thacker, Nate Buzzell, Cade Govender and Brock McCarty, the choir sang of a world without war which was followed by an old Andrews Sisters favorite "Three Little Fishes." Next Hunter Leeuw and Payton Nix sang the duet "After All."

Kelsea Buis touched everyone's heart by serenading her father with the song "Somewhere Out There."

As a video presentation showing veterans returning home from war played in the background, The Starlight Singers sang "Welcome Home." Next the audience was asked to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by the song, "When You Are a Soldier."

A group of the children related a story about an Arkansas school teacher who sought to teach her students about the debt that is owed to every member of the Armed Forces. She wanted them to understand that the reason they were able to come to school was because of the efforts of United States soldiers who paid the price for their freedom. The Starlight Singers brought the lesson home by thanking all the servicemen and women in the audience for making it possible for their choir to be standing on the stage that evening. Next, veterans from the Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Air Force and Navy were asked to stand for recognition as the choir sang the songs associated with their branch of the Armed Forces.

The finale was comprised of a medley of patriotic songs including "Proud to be an American," "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" and "America."

When asked what she liked best about performing in the USO Dinner Dance Show, Starlight Singer Braeden Ware said, "I like getting to sing to the veterans and telling them thank you by having the show to honor them."

Sixth grade student Avery Morey smiled as she said, "I like embarrassing the men sitting on the front row that we pull out of the audience to sing to."

But Lily Bennett stated what many of the singers agree upon by saying, "The best part of the USO show is Mrs. Stonestreet. I love Mrs. Stonestreet."

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## Airport project May 31

The Airport Road project is scheduled May 31, according to an issued this week by Rockwall.

The project is to improve Airport Road lane asphalt roadway and gutter and an sewer system.

Along with paving improvements, the project also includes a new water line including additional improvements to Amy Indian Trail, replacing asphalt roads with roadways.

Construction is completed in approximately one year, according to the city.

During construction at times be limited with signage and flags to property will be provided.

For more information, contact Tim Duke, construction manager, at 214-543-1459 or Lappen, city project manager, at 972-771-7746.



Jan Shewmaker

## RISD teacher national recognition

Jan Shewmaker, Nebbie Williams has been selected the Elementary School Relation Education the Year Award.

Presented by the Lawyers Auxiliary, the American Bar Association, the award is presented to an elementary, middle school or high school teacher based on the teacher's dedication and innovation in the field of law-related education," according to a news release.

Making the selection, Shewmaker and Williams were chosen from throughout the district.

Each winner received a check and certificate of recognition. Shewmaker, a teacher and talented student, has been an elementary school teacher for 20 years. She was recognized as the district's Teacher of the Year in 2011.

"Mrs. Shewmaker has inspired her students to learn and grow through their involvement and civic participation. She has been a role model for her students, who have learned to stand up for their beliefs and to help solve a problem. This has led to her students to Austin, Texas to testify before a legislative committee and to meet with legislators about topics such as immigration and the environment. She has also been present to our Rockwall Council during a regular meeting."

"During election year, we are lucky to have you in place on our school board. Mrs. Shewmaker's leadership and arrangements with the council to have her students participate in the voting process in action. She was the last voted for a president. Mrs. Shewmaker helped lead school-wide voting efforts. Needless to say, Mrs. Shewmaker's students about our government come active citizens in her teaching."





Innovative Teaching Grant Recipients for the spring 2011 semester were announced at the Rockwall ISD Education Foundation's board of directors meeting earlier this month. Grants Committee chairman Larry Womack recognized the recipients, who represent and earned seven grants. The group collectively was awarded \$11,458 to cover concepts such as composting, storytelling, art technology integration. Superintendent Jeff Bailey also addressed the group, expressing the school district's appreciation for the extra attention to their students. Shown seated are grant recipients Mariemma Cobb, Darlene Humphries, Cindy Herndon and or, at 214-545-White. Standing are Cheryl Kelly, Rachel Johnson, Susan Boyd, Tammy Hale, Chad Ashby, Julie Byrnes, Janie Blackwell, Holly Babb, Browne and Audra Schreiber. Not pictured are Emily Carlton, Trish Cherrington, Justin Clumpner, Anne Foster, Pam Johnson, Kirsten Brown, Lashia Mejia, Dr. Michelle Pauken, Cindy Waltrip, Clint Wilcox.



Hunter Jistel and Hallie Coy are shown delivering backpacks filled with toiletries to Rockwall County Helping Hands. The sixth grade Grace Hartman students have been working on a homeless service project all year long. The project has included writing research papers and raising money for supplies.

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### League Helping Victim Assistance

Rockwall Art League is organizing a victim assistance effort to help those affected by the recent tornado in Alabama. The league's longtime member, Mania Hewitt, is from Alabama and has family residing in that area. She is helping to coordinate the effort. Other members include Leigh Anne Way, who lives in Alabama and has family there. The league's representative to the Alliance and a member of the Alabama Victim Assistance Fund. The group will be donating items to the Alabama Victim Assistance Fund. Items needed include school supplies, clothing, and household items. The group's next meeting will be in September at a time and date to be announced.



The Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association ended its year with a red carpet-themed luncheon hosted by the Royse City members under the leadership of Barbara Bateman. Awards were given and a check was presented to Joan Terry and Cindy Benefield representing the RISD Education Foundation. New officers, pictured above, also were installed. At front, from the left, are Marvin Lee, president; Becky Cecil, past president; and Linda Garrett, treasurer. At back are Patsy Fleetwood, second vice president; Robyn Liane, third vice president; and Bateman, secretary. Not pictured are Dellene Burgamy and Anna Lea Knight, who share the position of first vice president. The group's next meeting will be in September at a time and date to be announced.



Vernon students and staff organized a Jammies and Jerseys Day last month to collect money for the American Red Cross efforts under way in Japan. Each student was asked to bring \$1 to be eligible to wear their pajamas or a jersey to school. To date more than \$600 has been raised. Pictured are third grade participants Shawn Ahmed, Kayla James, Mikel Rushing, Valerie Santos Silva, Erin Poe, Collyn Tate, Rachel Ackerman and Destiny Sullivan. The project was sponsored by the MMV Student Council.

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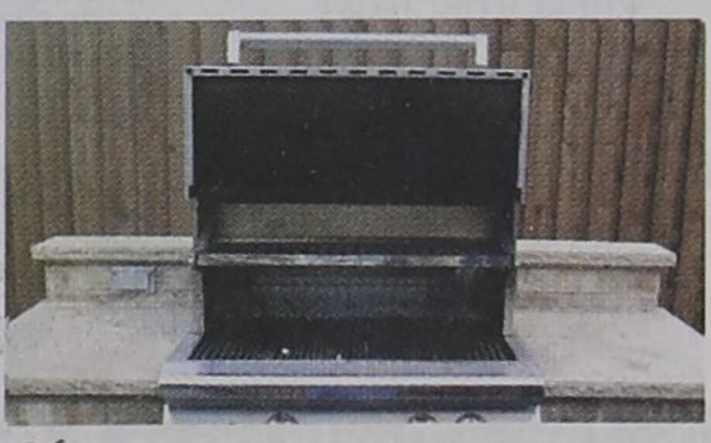
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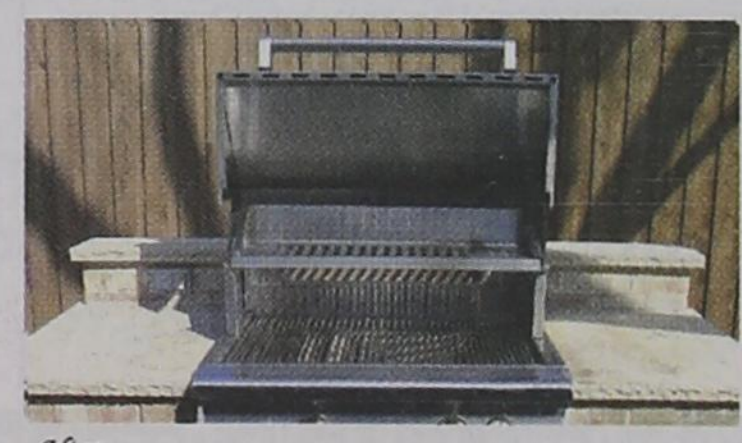
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# On God's Word

Suffer with the suffering members...1Corinthians 12:14-27

by Tim Burnett

Last week we looked at 1Corinthians 12:14-27 and learned about the one body of Christ. In God's eyes, each individual member of the body of Christ is uniquely important. He expects all the members to show honor for each member and see every member as being beautiful. All people in the body of Christ have the full measure of holy spirit, with the capacity to manifest holy spirit in all nine ways list in 1Corinthians 12:7-10.

According to verse 25 there should be no schism in the body of Christ, and the members should have the same care for each other. When one member suffers, all the members will suffer with it. If one member is honored, then all the members will rejoice with it.

There are many examples in today's life that can be applied to the above scripture. I would like to apply it to an alternative scenario, that involves government officials in a country of free people like the United States of America. Within the body of Christ there may be people who serve in government positions whether elected or appointed.

Christians in government positions may lose track of their underlying responsibilities and authorities. Soon they make decisions and pass laws that are unconstitutional and against the law of the land. More often than not, they do it for what seems to be good causes. Among the masses of people in Texas and the United States there are many who stand firmly against government officials who break the law of the land. In the end, the government officials start to feel as if they are being attacked and persecuted.

In this area there are members of the body of Christ who serve in government positions and others who serve to question, scrutinize and even squash unlawful legislation and enforcement practices. In the end, Christian government officials are seen to be suffering. What typically happens is the church will act on God's word and help them endure their suffering, while at the same time rally around the officials' unlawful decisions. This is not necessarily the best option.

You see, the suffering government officials often bring the themselves because of their own unlawful actions or legislation. It is possible for the other members to suffer with the suffering at the same time not condone their actions or decisions.

In all areas of life, the members of the body of Christ can or hazardous decisions that result in others standing against seeking to punish them. Yes, this can happen to Christians, tempting to make mistakes when given the power of State and government. With good intentions, they believe a good cause is served by the power of the State to legislate and enforce rules for areas that may even be against God's will in general. While there are many people who stand and speak out against the same regulatory codes that regulate underlying constitutional rights, there are Christians who stand and speak out against the same regulatory codes.

This puts the body of Christ in an interesting situation. Christian government positions can become targets of heavy scrutiny, law, criminal prosecution. They become the suffering party. Yet this is not a conflict when applying 1Corinthians 12:14-27. In the end, it is possible for the members to suffer with the suffering officials, to endure the suffering, while at the same time help them to endure the suffering, while at the same time help them to endure the political job related errors, as well as learn and grow more as a Lord.

One simple example might be where a Christian attempts to enter a government building, only to be stopped and searched by a government official. Although the government official may believe he is served by the forced search as a condition for entry, in Texas, a crime against the law of the land which protects Christians from searches and seizures without lawfully executed warrants probable cause. In this scenario, the Christian government official an adversarial party against the Christian attempting to enter, refuses to obey the law of the land, and denies the person to enter one faces the possibility of civil suit or criminal conviction. One can suffer with the official, without condoning his unlawful actions. Although we focused on the area of government officials, in all areas of life. God's people can easily make decisions and result in their own suffering. With God's love, grace and mercy, suffer with them with out condoning their actions that lead to the. And we can also do so without badgering them over past mistakes. The body of Christ can truthfully say they have never made a mistake poor judgment that resulted in unanticipated consequences.

Exclusively in your hometown news

## Midwestern names locals to honor

Three local residents were named to Midwestern State University honor rolls for the spring semester, according to a news release last week.

Samantha L. Bigham, Whitney D. Caldwell, Rockwall residents, were named to the Dean's Honor Roll. Students who complete a semester schedule of at least 12 hours with a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74 are lower than a C are named to the Dean's Honor Roll. Katie N. Noerper, Rockwall, was named to the Provost's Honor Roll. A student who completes a minimum of 12 hours in one semester with a GPA of 3.75 to 3.99 and lower than a C is included in the Provost's Honor Roll.

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# Rockwall County Obituaries

## Wilma 'Jeanie' Birchfield

Wilma "Jeanie" Birchfield, 80, of Heath were conducted at 2 p.m. May 26, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Dan Post officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 30, 1930, in Bonita to Theodore and Uldean (Howard) Powell. She worked at E. Birchfield on Oct. 18, 1952, in Dallas. She worked at the Rockwall town square as a hair stylist. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Heath.

She is survived by her husband, Walter E. Birchfield of Heath; her daughter, Patsy, of Indonesia; her grandchildren, Lauren center, Meghan Birchfield and Ashley Birchfield; and a brother, Oliver.

She died in death by her parents and a brother.

## John David Carrell

John David Carrell, 49, of Rockwall, was conducted at 2 p.m. May 26, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Dan Post officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 20, 1961, in Houston to John and Mary (Nox) Carrell, he served in the U.S. Army and was a graduate of the University of Texas at State University. He worked for a Farmers Insurance Company and resided in Rockwall.



He is survived by his wife, Tara Carrell of Rockwall; his daughters, Katie and Keelie, Samantha, Paige, Jenna and Morgan Carrell, his sons, Joshua Carrell of Japan and Michael Carrell of Texas; his parents, Dave and Lillie Carrell of Brookeland; his brother, John Carrell of Brookeland; his sisters, Patty Barthol and her husband, Lisa McDonald and her husband, Luke, of Jasper; his aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

## Cleo Coons

Cleo Coons, 89, of Rockwall, was conducted at 2 p.m. May 28, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Dan Post officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 31, 1921, in Austin, Minn., to Elizabeth (Littenberger) Coons and a homemaker on the Rockwall. She worked as a dental secretary for the Little Cedar Lutheran Church in Mesquite.



She was a member of the Little Cedar Lutheran Church in Mesquite, Minn., and more recently a member of the Eastridge Park Lutheran Church in Mesquite.

She is survived by her son, Robert W. Thompson of Tucson, Ariz.; her daughter, Beverly Clappitt, and her husband, Harold, of Rockwall and her husband, Henry of Chapel Hill, N.C.; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She died in death by her parents; her sister, Eris Raymond; and her brother, Edward M. Thompson and Lavern Coons.

## Wallace Lee Duvall

Wallace Lee Duvall, 60, of Rockwall, was conducted at 2 p.m. May 26, 2011, in the Dallas National Cemetery with Pastor Dan Post officiating. The Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He was born Oct. 6, 1926, in Charleston, S.C. Wallace Duvall and his wife, Bonnie, he was a retired colonel for the U.S. Army during World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He was a Bronze Star recipient and a professor at Trinity University in San Antonio where he was the university's hospital administration program. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Denton where he served as a deacon.



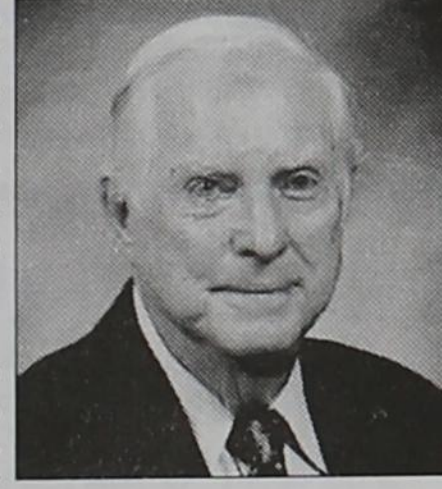
He is survived by his son, Ron Duvall, and his wife, Peggy, of Utopia; his daughter, Nancy Hinkley of Rockwall; his grandchildren, Jeremy and Ian Hinkley and Travis Armstrong; 10 great-grandchildren; his wife, Bonnie Moore of Claremore, Okla.

He died in death by his wife, Bonnie Duvall, on May 1, 2010; one daughter, and two sisters.

## Byford L. Fleming

Byford L. Fleming, 92, of Rockwall, was conducted at 2 p.m. May 26, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Dan Post officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 24, 1919, in Frankfort, Ill., to Leatha (Terry) Fleming, a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War II, fighting under the name of Marcy. He and his wife, Marcella (Marcy), moved to Dallas in 1950. He was employed by Sears and Roebuck as manager of the electrical department. He had an interest in building and construction and worked as a contractor, building homes and apartments in east Dallas and Fort Worth, and commercial buildings in Garland. He was past owner of Southern Sales in Dallas and was past secretary/treasurer of Precision Cable in Rockwall.



He enjoyed boating and motor coaching and had been on 55 cruises with his wife. He was a former Golden Degree Mason and member of Lake Pointe Country Club.

He is survived by his wife of 73 years, Marcella Fleming of Heath; two daughters, Dale Fleming, and his wife, Rosemary, of Rockwall and Jeff Fleming of Heath; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Wendy Lawrence and her children, Audrey, and Ben; Scott Fleming and his wife, Jennifer, of Heath and their children, Patrick, Cole, Isabelle and Stephen Fleming and Jennifer DeSocarraz, of Heath. He is survived by his daughter, Hilda Fleming of Dallas and his wife, Betty Fleming of Austin; a son, Peter Fleming of Era; and his grandchildren and nephews.

He suggested memorials to the Rest Haven Funeral Home, 3777 Rockwall, TX 75087.

## J. LaVerne Thomas

A memorial service for J. LaVerne "Tropical Mom" Thomas, 82, of Rockwall was conducted at 4 p.m. May 26, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Dan Post officiating.

She died May 20.

Born Oct. 26, 1928, in Milwaukee, Wis., to John and Katherine Elizabeth (Playchek) Thomas, she worked with her son at Tropical John's for 20 years where she was known as Tropical Mom.

Survivors include her sons, David Worm, and his wife, Shiril, and John Thomas and Sarah Spafford, all of Rockwall; her grandchildren, Jon David Worm, Stephen Waldrep Jr., Jonathan Johnson, Jolene Spafford and Micah Worm; and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a granddaughter, Jana Diane Worm.

# 'Older Americans' feted at library event

by Mary Thacker

The community room of the Rockwall County Library was filled to capacity on May 20 for the Older Americans Day celebration.

Older Americans Day has been a nation-wide event for the past 48 years with its goal being to thank senior citizens for sharing their experience, wisdom, time and talents with their community.

Margie VerHagen, executive director of the Rockwall County Committee on Aging, opened with a few words of welcome before introducing Bill Michalenko, who led the group in prayer and was followed by Rob Glover, assistant director of RCCOA, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Judge Jerry Hogan spoke first, recounting how he had graduated from Illinois State, served for 20 years in the Army, was president of IBM and MCI and whose wife was diagnosed with Alzheimer's when she was just 47 years old. He is committed to the needs of Rockwall County's aging population and earned a chuckle from the crowd by saying, "If you have to have white hair to be called an Older American, then we're all in the same club."

Next, Mayor Bill Cecil issued a proclamation that paid homage to the seniors for the vital role they play in weaving the unique and lasting community fabric that is Rockwall County.

County Commissioner David Magness praised the seniors who served at the RCCOA fundraising golf tournament the previous weekend and noted how active, engaged, and accommodating they were as they volunteered. He expressed appreciation for the way the older Americans share learning between generations and serve as mentors for the leaders of tomorrow.

Congressman Ralph Hall, who just celebrated his 88th birthday and is the oldest member of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, called the senior citizens of Rockwall County "the treasure of this country." He said that when he is asked why he continues to seek re-election, he says, "I know what I'm doing. I like what I'm doing. Do you know anywhere else an 88-year-old can get a job?"

Stephanie Galanides, secretary of the City of Heath, and RCCOA executive assistant, Janice Enloe, aided Hall in presenting the certificates to the 29 honorees whose list of involvement in the community is impressive.

Honorees included Mike Kennedy, Walter Williamson, Sandy Price, Geraldine Lynch, Bill and Barbara Wilson, Taylor and Mary McClure, George Ellington, Annette Tyson, Marilyn Field, Pat Henson, Charlene Stribling and Marion Miller volunteer for MOW.

Honoree Henry Beckham, who holds the record in the state of Texas for the longest-standing driver's license, was also past president of the Association for Masonry Contractors of Texas/DFW. Barbara Willess is the president of Take off Pounds Sensibly. Clyde Schremp volunteers for Vista Care Hospice, AARP Tax Aid and Meals on Wheels. Bob Hille has served on the Heath City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Jessie Martin crochets, makes crafts for seniors and transports the elderly of First United Methodist Church. Ed Fraiser works in the food pantry of Helping Hands. Virginia Anderson has volunteered as a Girl Scout leader and has assisted the Roysie City drill team and basketball team. Billy Stevenson is active in the Society of St. Stephens. Jo Leonard works in the Mt. Zion Cemetery Association and is a Sunday school teacher. Her husband, Carl, is a member of the Masonic Lodge, has served on the city council, as fire chief and as justice of the peace. Terry Easterwood is active in the theater arts. Don Johnson is an income tax counselor, precinct election judge and repairs cameras for Helping Hands. Mary Puckett is involved in the voting process, and Robert Jacobs delivers the Eucharist to his congregation's shut-ins. Flo Burkes is on the board of her church and serves as a Sunday school teacher.

Each volunteer received a certificate of appreciation from Hall and was honored at a cookie reception.

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Congressman Ralph Hall (R-TX), right, recently was awarded the Guardian of Seniors' Rights Award from the 60 Plus Association, a nonpartisan organization advocating lower taxes and adherence to the U.S. Constitution. Awards are made annually to both Republicans and Democrats. Hall was singled out for his "commitment to look out for America's greatest generation as well as the congressman's promise to always work to preserve Medicare and Social Security for future retirees, our children and grandchildren." Pictured above with Hall is the organization's chairman, Jim Martin.

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Jimmy Songer and Adam Gerhart, Rockwall First Baptist Church Royal Ambassadors for Christ sponsors, shelve food at the Food Pantry of Helping Hands. Two truckloads of food were collected and donated by the RA group, which is comprised of boys in grades one through six. For more information about Helping Hands or to organize a food drive, call 972-771-HELP.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Volunteers representing all grade levels gathered in the school library at Miss May Vernon Elementary to enjoy the Annual Volunteer Tea on May 13. Staff members took the opportunity to thank the parents and grandparents who have contributed time to help teachers and staff members. Pictured are Leah Ingram with her mother, Natonya Ingram, and brother, Darren, along with teacher Teresa Bennett, standing.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Tom and Patti Muggoo are shown presenting a check to the executive director of Helping Hands, with a doorkick off the nonprofit agency's 2011 Annual Campaign. More than 35 years Helping Hands has served Rockwall County through its food pantry, health center and assistance program. For more information about Helping Hands call 972-771-HELP.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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## Hungry Harry

### Hungry Harry gets great local fast-food

We live in a very fast-paced time where trends can change in seconds. Food trends can change in the blink of an eye.

One trend that is still growing is restaurants offering locally grown produce. The idea is by buying local your food will be fresher and is less likely to have less preservatives and thus providing a healthier meal. The trade-off comes in price often times and depending on the food the flavor. There is also the trend

of being "organic" and the truth is to be officially called organic a product must jump through more hoops than a poodle in the circus. Just because the food doesn't have the official label sometimes doesn't mean it isn't from a great farm.

Cost is a big issue to smaller family-owned restaurant and the other issue is sometimes restaurants do not have a farm close enough to provide them with amount need. Just remember if you want fresher foods you should most likely have to pay more for it.

Zanata's has become one of the hottest trendiest places to go on a weekend. Often times, there can be a line out the door. Zanata's offers Mediterranean-style food and wood-fired pizzas. Most of the food is locally grown and produced.

The chefs at Zanata's keep the menu fresh and innovative. Usually when you have a restaurant that is packed service suffers and in this case the professional and savvy servers keep that to a bare minimum. The experience dining at Zanata's is upscale, but at a casual neighborhood friendly level. The servers treat you like they are your long-lost cousin.

The pizza is one of my favorite items and is actually of great dining value. There doesn't seem to be one item that won't satiate your palate. One special of the day that caught my eye was the Barking Cat Farm Salad. It featured greens from the locally grown farm Barking Cat Farms owned by Kim Martin.

The only downside one could complain about is the acoustics as sometimes it can be hard to hear a conversation. Zanata's is a restaurant that warrants repeat visits and looks like a local favorite for decades to come.

Atmosphere: Trendy, up-scale, local hot-spot

Service: Pleasant, professional

Food: Great

Price: \$\$\$

Overall: Four out of four smiles.

Location: 202 E. Rusk St., Rockwall

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Hungry Harry is a local resident who enjoys eating out. The writer receives no compensation or benefit from any food establishment.)



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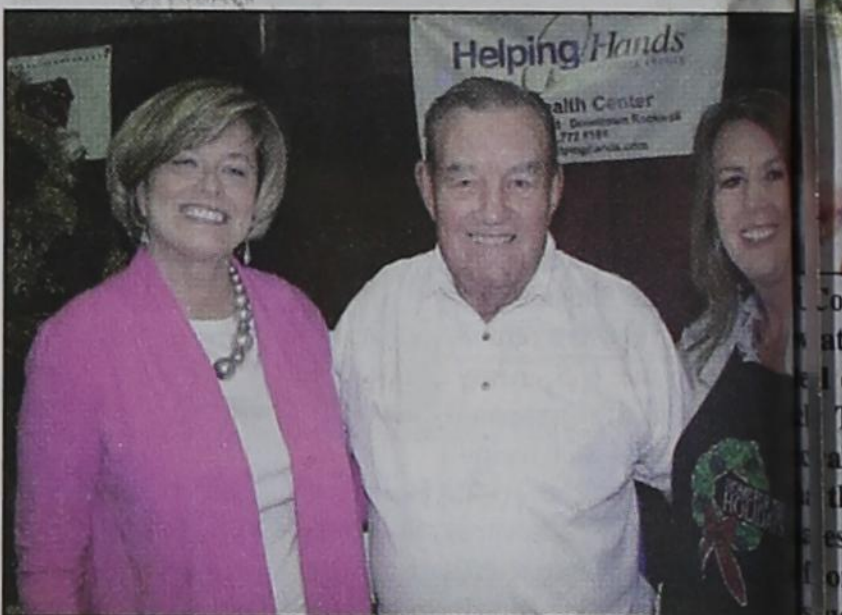
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Line officers for the varsity Highsteppers drill team at Rockwall-Heath High's 2011-2012 school year are pictured. Haley Mullet, head line officer. On the second row are Kayla and Katelyn Redding. At back are Allie Heath, Rebecca Kayla Stubbs. Tryouts for officer positions were conducted on May 13.

Photo courtesy of Cyndi Bender Photography/Rockwall County News



### Taking Care of "Business" at the Health Center

Nancy Runge of Farmers Electric Cooperative is shown with Jim Baird and Melody Hail at the Health Center of Helping Hands booth during the recent Business Expo. Baird is the board president and Hail is coordinator for the November fundraiser for the agency. For more information about Helping Hands and its Health Center, call 972-771-232-2891. Volunteers, vendors and sponsors are needed.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Helen Mitchell (seated) with her daughter Linda Duran.

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Amanda Zalk, a Rockwall-Heath School student, has been selected as a participant in the U.S. Naval Academy Summer STEM Program, an academic camp designed for students in grades through 12 in good academic standing who have an interest in math and science. Fewer than 400 students are selected to participate each year. The program gives students the opportunity to experience real-life applications of math and science through hands-on learning. Students will receive instruction from Naval Academy professors in a unique learning environment outside of traditional classrooms.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



# Royse City News



## Royse City Police Blotter

**May 13-19**

- Friday, 13 May: Driving while license invalid/Failed to maintain financial responsibility arrest, 3000 block FM 1777; Royse City warrant arrest, 500 block Main Street; Driving while license invalid/Dallas Police Department warrant arrest, Corner Hwy 66 and Sorrels Road; Accident, I-30 near the 77 mile marker
- Saturday, 14 May: Driving while license invalid arrest, Corner of I-30 SSR and FM 548; Medical assistance, 500 block Barton Street; Traffic hazard, 300 block Main Street; Welfare check, 200 block S. Elm Street; Welfare check, 300 block Panola Court; Suspicious person, 400 block S. Shepherd Lane
- Sunday, 15 May: Noise disturbance, Leslie Lane; Welfare check, I-30 at the 75 mile marker; Alarm, 2300 block I-30 NSR; Accident, 900 block Pullen Street; Welfare check, 900 block Brookhaven Drive
- Monday, 16 May: Possession of paraphernalia, 500 block Autumn Trail; Theft, 1000 block Joe Bailey Street; Possession of controlled substance arrest, 700 block S. Bulldog Boulevard; Burglary of motor vehicle, 2200 block E. County Line Road; Welfare check, 800 block E. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 900 block Peterson Street; Welfare check, City Lake Park
- Tuesday, 17 May: Theft, 800 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious activity/Burglary of habitation arrest, 600 block Orchid Boulevard; Noise disturbance, 200 block Texoma Court; Alarm, 200 block E. Main Street; Suspicious vehicle, Area of Laurel Lane/Primrose Lane/Englewood Drive; Alarm, 200 block Sandy Lane
- Wednesday, 18 May: Collin County warrant arrest, 1300 block E. Main Street; Hit and run, 700 block S. Bulldog Boulevard; Theft, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Assault, 1100 block Industrial Drive; Verbal disturbance, 1100 block Live Oak Street; Reckless driver, I-30 at the 85 mile marker
- Thursday, 19 May: Minor in possession of tobacco/Possession of drug paraphernalia, 700 block S. Bulldog Boulevard



Royse City High School senior Ryon Phillips was one of two recipients of the Stick Robinson Memorial Scholarship awarded last week at the RCHS Athletic Banquet. Making the presentation was Robinson's sister, Rosie Willis.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Royse City ISD administrators traveled to Austin May 18 to meet with state representatives. The meeting was held at the Texas Association of Community Schools, and included Rep. Dan Flynn and his aides. Topics of discussion included current education issues, proposed financial cuts will impact the RCISD and updates on current legislative actions. Presenting at the meeting were Kenny Kay Hudson, federal programs director, and Lloyd Blaine, principal; principal Cynthia Pense, principal Shanna Brown, curriculum director Janie Pope and superintendent Jeff Webb; and, at back, principal Jimmy Hughes, superintendent Randy C. Setliff and principal David Dodd.

Courtesy of RCISD/Rockwall County News



Jennifer Null, a senior at Royse City High School, was one of two recipients of the Stick Robinson Memorial Scholarship recognized last week at the RCHS Athletic Banquet. Making the presentation was Robinson's sister, Rosie Willis.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall and his sister, Rosemary, are strategizing about how to successfully balance their buffet and desserts at last month's Fate Chamber of Commerce luncheon. The local lawmaker served as speaker of the event, and he led the expansion of the city the 2010 Census named Royse City as the "greatest percentage of growth in population" in all of Texas. The chamber's next quarterly business luncheon is scheduled for July 26 at The Lakes Church. Cost will be \$10 per person. Reservations will be welcomed. To RSVP, call Jay Broderick at 972-985-9322.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

## Graduates from Everest

One of Royse City was one of nearly 275 students graduating from Everest College-Dallas during the college's May 13 commencement ceremony. The graduate received a diploma in medical insurance billing and coding, according to a news release from the college.

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# Local artist's work part of weekend exhibit

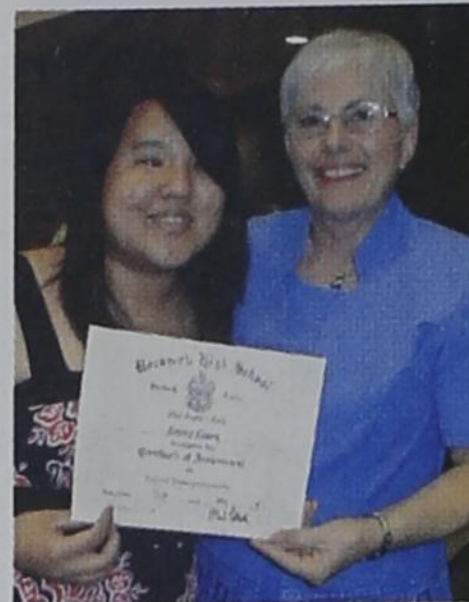
Works by Rockwall artist Donald Van Oppens will be featured at this weekend's 8th Annual Texas Masters of Fine Art and Craft Invitational Exhibition at the Y.O. Ranch in Kerrville.

The Memorial Day weekend art show will fill three ballrooms at the Y.O. Ranch

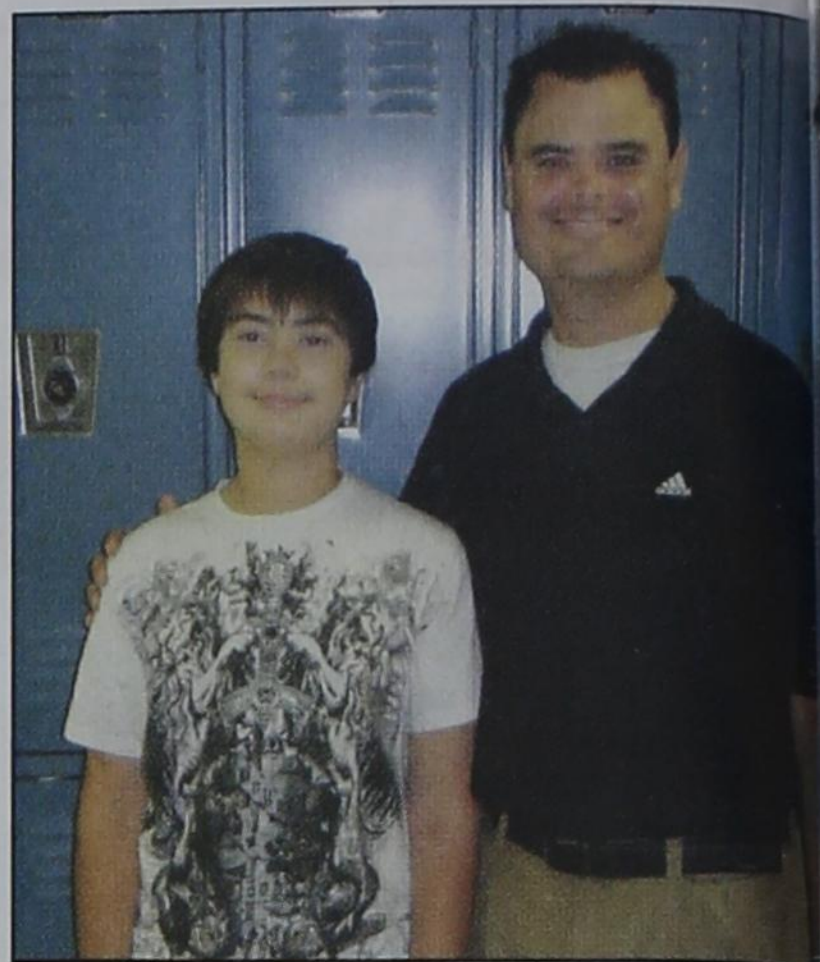
Resort Hotel. Show hours will be from noon until 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. A public reception is set for 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. Admission will be free. Van Oppens took up wood turning after retirement, studying with world-renowned artists before going on to specialize in his own unique wood objects – both art and utilitarian pieces. His trademarks are maintaining the natural edge of the tropical and native Texas woods he uses while imparting an ultra-smooth finish to each item. Examples of Van Oppens' work may be viewed at [texasmasters.com/artists](http://texasmasters.com/artists). The Y.O. Ranch Resort Hotel is located at 2033 Sidney Baker (Hwy. 16) in Kerrville, one-half mile from Exit 508 of IH-10.



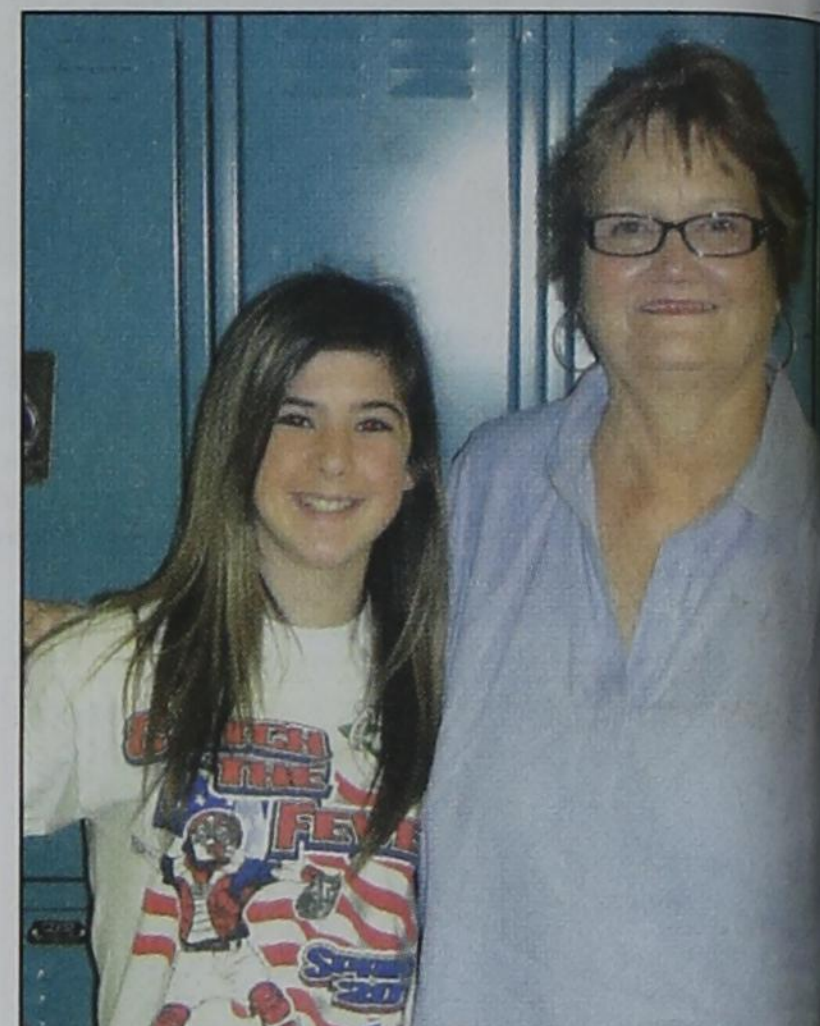
Rockwall Chamber of Commerce members celebrating the opening of Rockwall Dog Park at Harry Meyers Park recently.



Susan Reeves, right, scholarship chairman for Soroptimist International of Rockwall, presented the Susan Faulkner Memorial Scholarship to senior Jenny Gang at the Rockwall High School awards ceremony conducted May 23 at the Performing Arts Center on the Utley Middle School campus. Photo courtesy of Susan Reeves/Rockwall County News



Seventh grade student Donna Lasater, pictured above with Brenda Parish, was selected as one of two Cain Middle School Character Counts Star Students for the fourth nine-week period. Parish nominated Lasater for the recognition lauds students for exemplifying responsibility, respect, and trustworthiness. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Caden Cox, a seventh grade student at Cain Middle School, was nominated for the honor, which is bestowed on students who exemplify responsibility, respect, caring and trustworthiness. Teacher Jeff O'Shields, who is pictured above with the student, nominated her. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Caleigh Demien, a sixth grade student at Grace Hartman Elementary, is shown presenting a check to Joyce Ross, a representative of Rockwall Animal Shelter. As part of her school-required community service project, Demien partnered with Planet Kidz to raise funds for the shelter. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Eli Owen from Amy Hyvl's first grade class at Reinhardt Elementary is shown reading to Eli Tomasino from the Tiffany Bankston's class. Students from classes throughout the school assisted their peers as part of the Rockwall ISD's observance of the Virtual Reading Challenge Rally. May 5 kicked off 29 "days of kindness," which prompted students to clean desks for other students, write notes of encouragement, read to one another, treat each other to lunches and deliver candy to their peers. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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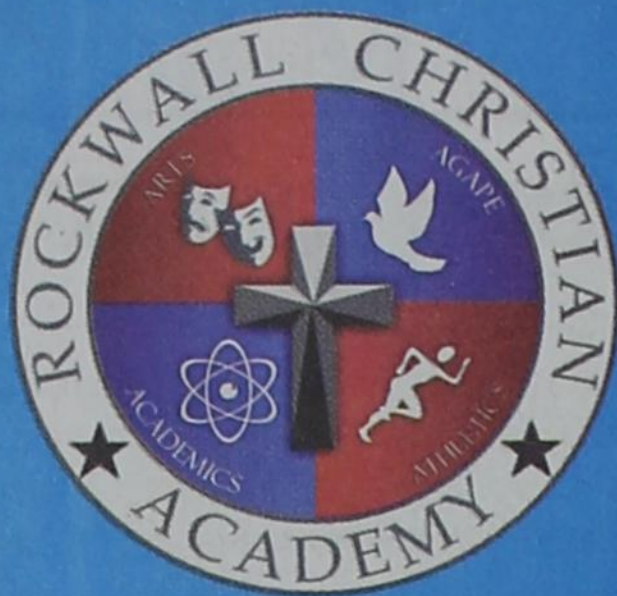
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# Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors

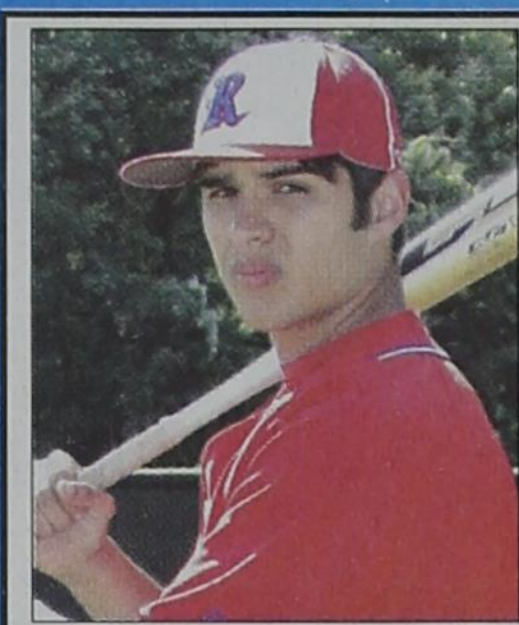
## Congratulations on your



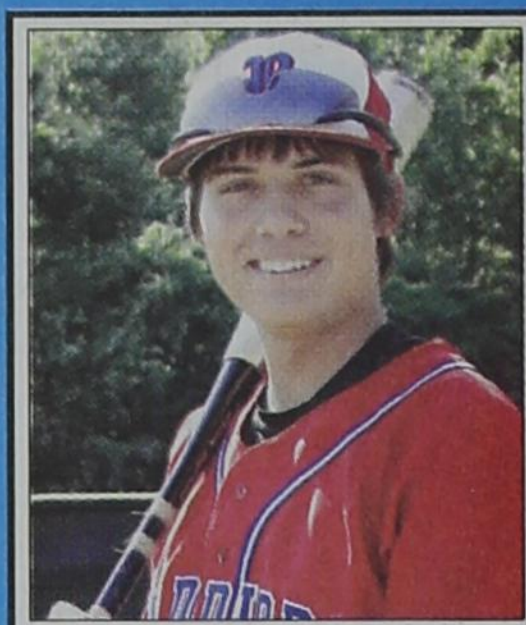
### Award Winning Baseball Season!



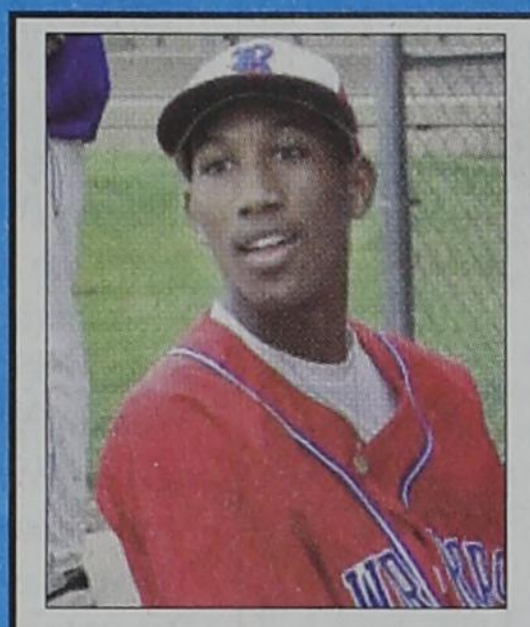
Saluting Our Senior Aaron Eastin  
1st Team All-District, District MVP,  
Final Four All-Tournament Team,  
1st Team All-State



Saluting our Senior  
Randy Castaneda  
2nd Team All-District



Saluting our Senior Seth Berkshier  
Honorable Mention All-District



Saluting our Senior  
Raymon Stewart  
District Sportsmanship Award



Saluting our Senior  
Ryan Lee



Saluting our Senior  
Colten Portillo



Justin Robison  
1st Team All-District,  
Final Four All-Tournament Team,  
Honorable Mention All-State



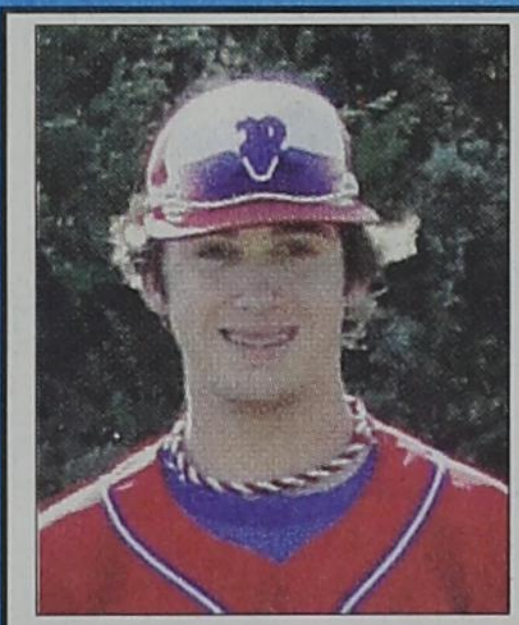
Colton Jones  
1st Team All-District,  
Final Four All-Tournament Team,  
Honorable Mention All-State



Jordan Williams  
1st Team All-District



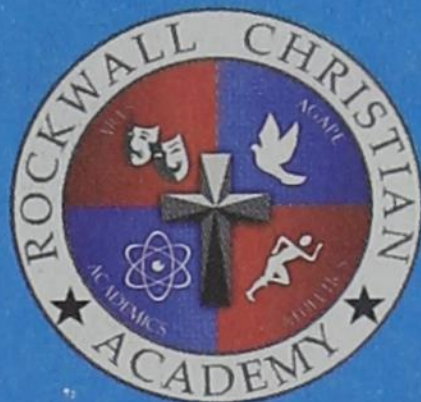
Shelby Sharpless  
Honorable Mention All-District



John Edwards  
1st Team All-District,  
Final Four All-Tournament Team,  
1st Team All-State



Cameron Carroccia  
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# Rockwall County Sports

## Hawks strike back to reach Regional semifinals

by Lary Bump

Rockwall-Heath's chances of advancing to the Region II-4A semifinals looked as cloudy as the skies over the Sunnyvale High School baseball field Saturday afternoon. The Hawks already had lost the first game of the best-of-three quarterfinals 3-1 to Dallas Hillcrest Wednesday, and the Panthers had another 3-1 lead 2 1/2 innings into Game 2 Saturday.

What's more, if the game Saturday, originally scheduled for Friday at RHHS, was rained out again, the quarterfinal would revert to a single-game playoff and Hillcrest would win.



Rockwall-Heath's Jovan Hernandez (5) releases the ball for a pitch during game two of last week's Regional Quarterfinals series against Hillcrest. Hernandez was the winning pitcher.  
Photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News

The rain held off.

For a time, the sun even came out. It shone directly on the Hawks, who scored the next 28 runs, sweeping Games 2 and 3 Saturday 16-3 and 13-0.

"Our guys finally relaxed and hit the ball hard. We got some big hits," said head coach Greg Harvey.

The Hawks took the lead in the bottom of the third inning with three runs - hits, but on a balk and sacrifice flies by Jovan Hernandez and Jake Bledsoe. At that point, Hernandez also turned up the volume on his pitching. He held the Panthers hitless over the last three innings to improve his record to 11-0. Rockwall-Heath scored five runs in a fourth inning climaxed by Jake Thompson's bases-loaded home run.

The lead grew to 12-3 when Hernandez came up with two out and the bases full in the bottom of the sixth. If he drove in a run, the game would end under the rule. Instead, he too hit a grand slam to end the game at 16-3.

RHHS won the series-deciding third game with timely hitting and defense number three pitcher Jake Baxter's shutout.

"Baxter did a great job," Harvey said. "He got ahead in the count and controlled the zone. He didn't even throw a curve until the third inning, and when we asked him to throw it, it was a good one. So was his changeup."

With Rockwall-Heath leading 2-0 in the bottom of third inning, Hillcrest had a runner on second base with two out. Baxter threw three curves to leadoff batter Coleman Waheed, who swung and missed all of them.

Baxter allowed just two hits and one walk, and struck out three batters. Two plays helped him face just 16 batters, one over the minimum for the five-inning game. It became a five-inning game after the Hawks broke open that close game with a grand slam in the top of the fourth. The biggest hit in that inning was Baxter's two-run grand slam. Also driving in two runs in the game were Hernandez and Austin Stewart, who had three hits in the game. Stewart's totals for both games were five hits and five runs. Winning that series propelled Rockwall-Heath (33-6-1) into the Regional semifinals against Waxahachie (27-11). That series was scheduled to begin Thursday with Games 2 and (if necessary) 3 at Waxahachie.

Harvey said, "They got hot in the second half of their district (15-4A). They were able to end their 59-game district winning streak." The coach said the Indians feature good left-handed pitching.

Facing lefties could help the big right-handed bats of Hernandez and Thompson. That is if Waxahachie doesn't follow the lead of Hillcrest, which on Saturday was hit by Thompson seven times, three intentionally.

## Whittern, Rice share MVP award at RHHS

Dakota Whittern and Madie Rice have been named the Co-Most Valuable Players for the Rockwall team.

The other team awards were Offensive Player of the Year, Emily Coltharp; Ashlee Reese, Defensive Player of the Year; Lady Hawk Award, Lindsey Archuleta, and Hawk Heart Award, Lauren Archuleta and Mallory Whittern also was RHHS' only representative on the All-District 10-4A first team. Rice and Coltharp were named to the second team, and Reese received Honorable Mention.

Nine Lady Hawks were named to the Academic All-District team: Whittern, Rice, Coltharp, Archuleta, Lauren Archuleta, Kaitlin York, Sarah Stewart and Kenzie Poynter.



Hawks' Greyson Lewis (10) slides into second base safely, as Hillcrest's Coleman Waheed (2) loses control of the ball, during Friday's game two of the Regional Quarterfinals.  
Photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News



# Richardson, Bingham named Yellowjackets golf MVPs

Hayley Bingham led the award winners for the Rockwall golf teams this season. She was named the team's Most Valuable Player. Both received All-District 10-4A first-team recognition, and were named Team Leader for the boys' and girls' teams.

Richardson was named the Most Dedicated award for the Lady Jackets, and shared the Team Leader award with Brittany Bingham. The girls' team qualified for the 4A State Championships, where they finished eighth. Christian Rang received the Most Dedicated and Best Attitude awards; Chris Cho was named Most Improved and Teal Willis and Tyler Eavenson was the Newcomer of the Year.

The boys' All-District selections included Chad Taylor, first team, and Nick Ziebell, second team. Willis received Honorable Mention.

For the Lady Jackets were Most Improved, Katie Lamond; Most Consistent and Best Attitude, Cindy Spencer; and Most Dedicated, India Spencer.

The 4A girls' all-district selections included Stansbury and Shelby Vaughan, first team; Cho and Lamond, second team; and Spencer, Honorable Mention.



Yellowjackets' golfer Teal Willis putts on hole five which is a par three, during the second day of last week's UIL State Championship Golf Tournament in Austin. Photo by Peggy Willis/Rockwall County News



Rockwall University Yellowjackets' Golf team prays before a round during the State Tournament. Photo by Peggy Willis/Rockwall County News

## Compton named Hawks' MVP

Hayden Compton has been voted both the Most Valuable Player and Outstanding Runner for the Rockwall-Heath boys' track and field team.

The Hawks' other awards went to Jonathan Fuller, Outstanding Field Events, and Hunter Hopkins, Hawk Award. Fuller, a senior, placed second in the high jump at the 4A state championships.

### Price is right for Royse City spring game

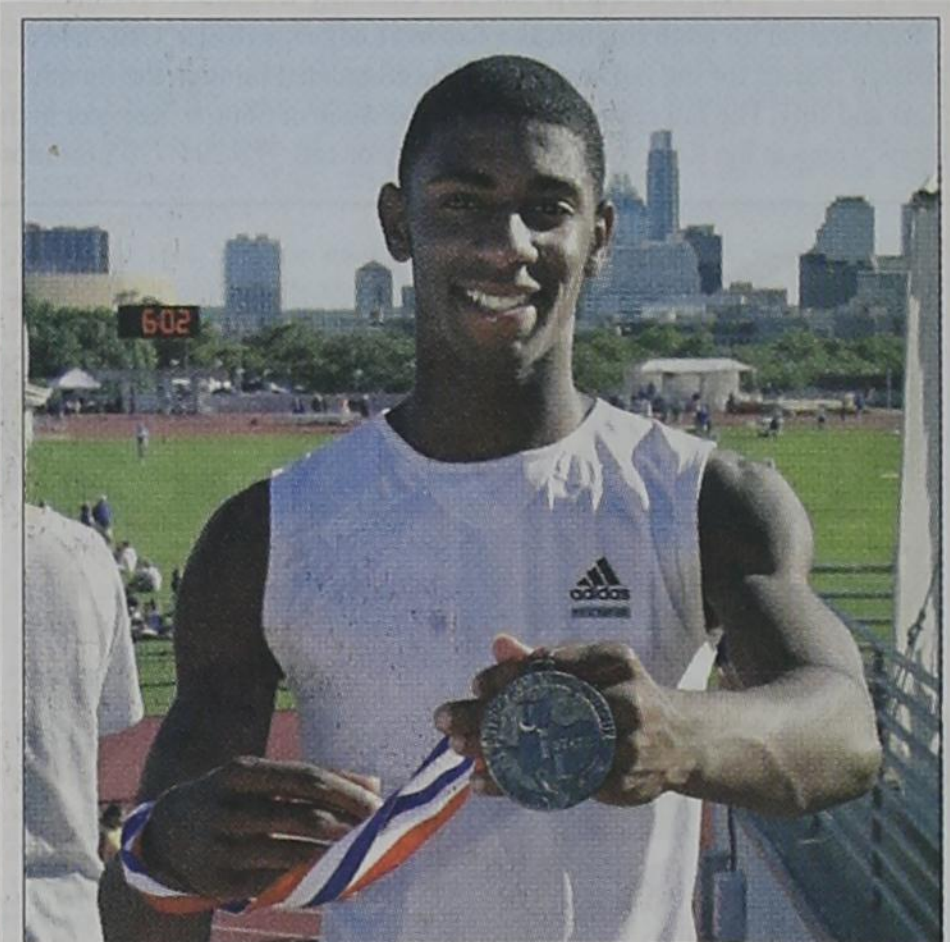
Spring football is a time to clean up.

Royse City head coach Greg Strahm used time on the practice field to clean up mistakes and inconsistencies in the offense and defense to prepare for the fall season.

When the Bulldogs culminate their practices Friday night with its spring game, spectators can help the Bulldogs clean up.

That's because admission to the game is just a bar of soap. The team will donate those bars to charities to help people in need.

That's just one reason for Strahm to feel good. He's also excited about the team's young defense, and he has senior quarterback Taylor Corbin coming back for his third year as a starter.



Hawks' Jonatha Fuller returns with the Silver Medal in the High Jump after the recent UIL Track and Field Meet in Austin. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall county News

## Richardson heads Lady Hawks' track awards

Richardson's most impressive performance was in the triple jump, and she also earned a silver medal in the long jump this year.

Richardson's other awards went to Aly Coughlin; Jackie Myers; and Emily Fletcher. Athletes, Jazzmon and Jodie Mishler.



Lady Hawks' Brianna Richardson earns the Gold Medal in the Triple Jump, and Silver Medal in the Long Jump during the recent UIL Track and Field Meet at Austin. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

## RACE's Eldridge, Rodriguez swim to 1st place at SMU

Raena Eldridge and Alex Rodriguez from Rockwall's RACE swimming club each won an event at last weekend's USA meet at the A.R. Barr Outdoor Pool at Southern Methodist University.

Eldridge, 14, finished first in the 50-meter freestyle, and was third in the 100 breaststroke and fourth in both the 200 free and 100 butterfly in the 13-14 girls division.

Rodriguez, 13, placed first in the 200-meter breaststroke and second in the 100 breaststroke among the 13-14 year-old boys.

Swimmers meeting USA "A" level time standards from 18 clubs in North Texas competed in the meet hosted by the Dallas Mustangs.

RACE's Emily Manly, 12, and David Johnston, 9, each took a second and third place and finished among the top eight in each of their races in their age group.

Erik Linn, 18; Bridget Griesbach, 12; Carolyn Johnston, 11, and Ruth Huffman, 10, each placed among the top eight in at least one event in their division.

Head coach Neil Walker and assistant coaches Liz Kershaw and Tom Applegate accompanied the team to SMU.

A week earlier, Eldridge and RACE members Tobias Kim and

Jeremiah Kim each finished among the top eight in an event at a senior circuit meet in Southlake.

RACE will host a USA "A" Long Course Invitational June 17-19 at the RISD Aquatic Center.



Emily Manly competes in the Breast Stroke during the recent meet at Southern Methodist University. Photo courtesy of Barbara Tokuz/Rockwall County News



Alex Rodriguez competes in the Breast Stroke during the recent meet at Southern Methodist University. Photo courtesy of Barbara Tokuz/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall County Sports Schedule

### Rockwall-Heath High School Hawks

Saturday, May 28 – Baseball: Game 2 of best-of-3 Region II-4A semifinals at Waxahachie, 2 p.m.

### Royse City High School Bulldogs

Friday, May 27 – Football: home for spring game, RCISD Stadium, 6:30 p.m.

## Sports Notes

### RTU to host Memorial Day Mixer

Rockwall Tennis Unlimited will host a Memorial Day Mixer from 9 a.m. to noon May 30 at the Wilkerson Sanders Courts. Cost for members is \$10, non-members \$15. For more details contact J.R. at 972-771-8883, visit rockwalltennisunlimited.com or email rahmanzadeh1@sbcglobal.net.

### Rockwall Open tourney set June 3

The 19th annual Rockwall Open Golf Tournament is set for June 3 at Buffalo Creek Golf Club. Practice and box lunches will begin at noon, with tee off at 1 p.m. The tournament will be a Florida scramble format with raffle and auction items. Email paula@rockwallchamber.org to reserve spots. Individual players cost \$150 (bring a team together, cost is \$550 for four), which includes lunch and dinner, practice balls and cart. Sponsorships also are available. Automobiles, a golf cart and trips will be awarded for holes in one. Donated items relevant to golf/golfers also are needed for goody bags; drop them off at the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce office.

### Wide World of Wee Sports offered

A program combining Little Kickers soccer, T-ball and flag football will be offered by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department June 7 through July 12 from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. on Tuesdays on the Harry Myers fields. Youths ages 3 1/2 to 5 years of age will be introduced to the basics of each sport through fundamental drills. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks or call 972-771-7740.

### Mountain Biking 101 class set

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host Mountain Biking 101, a class designed to teach the in's and out's of mountain biking. Participants will learn techniques on how to select a bike, safety and mountain biking guidelines and procedures. Following the class, participants will take a light ride along the DORBA trail. The class will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. June 11 at the Squabble Creek Mountain Bike Trail. Individuals ages 16 and older can participate. Cost is \$20 for Rockwall residents, \$30 for non-Rockwall residents. For more details call 972-771-7740.

### Twilight paddle set on Lake Hubbard

ACA-certified kayak instructors will oversee a twilight paddle on Lake Ray Hubbard from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. June 15. Open to individuals ages 12 and older, the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department-organized event will take place in a protected area good for beginners and families. Instructors will provide assistance with technique. Fee is \$40 for Rockwall residents, \$60 for non-residents; the fee includes all necessary equipment and the guided tour. Individuals with special needs should contact Dave at 972-412-7691.

**Puzzle Solution**



# Rockwall County News Briefs

## Deadline today for cooking school sign-ups

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Rockwall County will present two healthy-cooking schools in June. "The Healthy Kitchen," a three-lesson program scheduled on June 1, 8, and 15, will provide information about healthy meal planning, grocery shopping and healthy holiday foods. "Cooking Well with Diabetes," a four-lesson program scheduled on June 7, 14, 21 and 28, will provide information for individuals with Type 2 diabetes who want to adopt healthy eating habits and attain better blood glucose control. The fee is \$20 for either cooking school. Registration is limited; pre-registration is required. For more details or to register, call 972-204-7660. Registration deadline is May 27.

## Museum plans tea, fashion show

The Zaner Robison Historical Museum in Roysse City will host its annual Keep the Cup Tea and Fashion Show on May 28. The event will include a full tea, as well as a fashion show organized by Helping Hands. Cost is \$10 per ticket, and seating will be limited to 32. Purchase tickets at the RC Hardware Store or at the museum. For details, call 972-635-7438.

## Hope at the Harbor set Saturday

Hope at the Harbor, a benefit for The Genesis Center Women's Shelter, will begin at sunset May 28 at the Rockwall Harbor Amphitheater. The event will include a contemporary dance collective choreographed and performed by local professional dancers. Admission to see the performance is free for those who want to bring a chair or blanket from home; seating in the chairs in the reserved section will be available for a minimum donation of \$25 per chair. For more details visit [danceforhopecharities.org](http://danceforhopecharities.org).

## Library to feature mixed media display

The Rockwall County Library lobby display cases will feature mixed media items by Mary Brooks during the month of June. Brooks is a local artist and teacher.

## Registration set for library classes

Registration for adult English as a Second Language (ESL), GED and citizenship classes for the fall session will be completed through the months of June and July. The fall session will begin the week of Sept. 6. Register in the literacy area at the Rockwall County Library or call 972-204-7705 for more

details. New students will need to be evaluated for placement into classes prior to the beginning of classes.

## Republican Lunch Bunch to meet

The Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 1 at Luigi's Italian Café, Rockwall. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip; pay at the door. No reservations needed for this informal gathering open to all area Republicans. For more details contact Dalton Kennimer, 972-636-4034.

## Journey tribute band to play

Escape, a Journey tribute band, will be the featured performers at the Concert by the Lake event beginning at 7:30 p.m. June 2 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

## Family Fun Friday slated June 3

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department's Family Fun Friday will begin at 6 p.m. June 3 at Emerald Bay Park. Free-throw shooting contests, sack races, obstacle courses, face painting, a bounce house and other activities are planned. The movie "Mega Mind" also will be screened at dusk. For more details call 972-771-7740.

## Rockwall pools open June 4

The Harry Myers Park pool and the Gloria Williams Park pool will open for the season June 4 and remain open until Aug. 12. Admission to the Harry Myers pool, located at 815 E. Washington, will be free for children ages 0 to 24 months, \$3 for children ages 2-17, \$2.50 for individuals 18 and older or \$5 for a family (six individuals who reside in the same household). Admission at the Gloria Williams pool, 801 Davy Crockett, is free for the youngest age group, 50 cents for children ages 2-17, \$1 for individuals ages 18 and older and \$2 for a family.

## Church to host June 5 blood drive

A blood drive will be conducted from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. June 5 at the Transformation Anglican Church. The blood drive will take place in the church parking lot. The church worships at Heritage Christian Academy, located at 1408 S. Goliad. For more details, call the church office at 972-772-5525.

## Library plans reading program for adults

The Rockwall County Library will host a reading program for adults beginning June 6 and running through Aug. 6. Participants will receive book bags and will be entered into a drawing to win additional prizes. Reading logs may be picked up at the library's second floor Reference Desk. No registration is required; however, participants must be 18 years of age or older. For more details call 972-204-7700.

## Class on social media planned

Individuals ages 55 and older are invited to attend a class, "Social Media and You," from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. June 7 and 9 at The Center.

Participants will learn how to create and upkeep a Facebook profile, upload pictures on Flickr or Kodak Gallery and become familiar with social outlets. No previous experience is necessary. Cost for the Parks & Rec Department-sponsored class is \$20 for Rockwall residents, \$30 for non-residents. For more details call 972-771-7740.

## Bon Jovi tribute band scheduled

Blaze of Glory, a Bon Jovi tribute band, will be the featured performer at the Concert by the Lake event beginning at 7:30 p.m. June 9 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

## 'Pink Panther' auditions slated

Auditions for the Rockwall Community Playhouse production of "Pink Panther" will be at 1 p.m. June 11-12 at the Playhouse. The production will be open to teens ages 13 to 19. For more details call 972-771-7740.

## RHS Alumni Banquet set June 11

The Rockwall High School Alumni Association will conduct its annual Rockwall All Class Banquet and Reunion on June 11 at the Rockwall Convention Center. All RHS alumni and friends are invited to attend. The dinner will be a buffet-style barbecue. The program will feature speakers from classes honored - 1941, 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1986, 1991. Tickets cost \$15 each and may be purchased in advance at C Bank (downtown), Alliance Bank (Heath) and American National Bank (Ridge Road). Tickets also may be purchased by mailing payment to Box 385, Rockwall, TX 75087. For more details, contact Kathleen Evans at 214-514-1689 or email [kathleenpevans@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kathleenpevans@sbcglobal.net). [wallhighschoolalumni.com](http://wallhighschoolalumni.com) for updated details.

## 'Unusual Herbs' program slated

The Rockwall-Rowlett Garden Club will have a program, "Unusual Herbs," beginning at 6 p.m. June 15 at the Rockwall Convention Center, 815 E. Washington St., Rockwall. The event will take place at the swimming pool at Harry Myers Park. Visitors are welcome to bring plants and seeds to share. For more information call 972-771-7740.

## The Pictures to perform

The variety band The Pictures will be the featured performer at the Concert by the Lake event beginning at 7:30 p.m. June 16 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

## RHHS cheer camp set June 17

The RHHS cheerleaders will host a skills camp for children ages 10-16 at Cain Middle School. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 17 at Cain Middle School. The camp will be divided into skills-appropriate groups. Camp activities include skills, jumps, cheers and tumbling will be taught. Cost is \$30. Seating is limited. For more details call 972-771-7740. Seating will be available at a cost of \$10.

# Opinions Only 555 people ...

by Andrew Leonie

Our federal government is debating interim continuing budget resolutions and raising the debt ceiling - again. Nevermind that the national debt ceiling is an artificial and arbitrary self-imposed spending limit routinely ignored and which keeps being pushed upwards. On one hand both Democrats and Republicans loudly proclaim that they are against deficits and increasing our government debt. But, have you ever wondered, if that was true, then why do we have growing deficits and increasing debt.

Various officials in the Obama administration have proclaimed at various times and in various venues that they are opposed to increased deficits, or that raising the debt ceiling is an absolutely necessary choice, or even that deficits are actually good for our economy. Most of the Republicans are barely any better, loudly opposing the raising of the debt ceiling but covertly negotiating the increase, and echoing the falsehood that if we don't raise the debt ceiling our credit-worthiness and economy will crash. The truth is that Congress can simply direct that Treasury pay debts before spending money on non-essential government expenditures, and live within the budgeted ceiling limit.

We all intuitively know that debt at the excessive level where each day

our federal government borrows \$4 billion - almost half from foreigners and most of that from China and continues to spend money it does not have is a real problem. That is the reason we have a \$14 trillion debt that threatens to bankrupt our country. Meanwhile is anyone "just saying No" - No more increased spending?

Ok, perhaps Rep. Paul Ryan is, with his recent budget "Roadmap for America's Future". But, have you noticed how even Republicans such as Sen. Mitch McConnell (the Republican leader in the Senate) have avoided endorsing Ryan's plan to balance the budget in ten years. With tacit agreement between both political parties, no one seriously wants to tackle the problem of "entitlements" and huge amounts of money continue to be funneled to enemy countries in an effort to buy their friendship (when last has that ever worked with friends of yours). In fact for all this endless talk in Washington about budgets, even the Democrats failed to pass a budget last year when they were in complete power.

Charlie Reese a journalist at the Orlando Sentinel recently retired and wrote his last column asking the question; "If all the politicians are against deficits, inflation and high taxes, then why do we have deficits, inflation and high taxes?" Charlie suggested that we clear a new perspective on this issue. He noted that there are 100 Senators, 435 Congressmen, One President, and

9 Supreme Court Justices who occupy positions of direct power in our country. This "equates to 555 human beings out of the Americans (who) are directly, legally, morally and individually responsible for the problems that plague our country".

It isn't the lobbyists and it isn't the bureaucrats or regulators at fault. It is only those 555 people who can, should and are accountable. These 555 are experts at invoking and getting us "mystical forces like 'the economy', 'inflation', or 'politics' them from doing what they take an oath to do". They are masters of the blame and passing the buck. We must never forget that "If the blame is in the red, it's because they want it in the red. If the tax code is because they want it unfair". Is there any single domestic problem not traceable to these 555 people? ... No not one!

So should not these 555 people be truly held accountable to the American people - the people. This small group of 555 are employees of the government - they are not doing their job, we can and should fire them. "Vote them out and clean up their mess!"

Andrew Leonie is a lawyer who has lived in Rockwall County for over 20 years. The opinions expressed are his own.

# Debate continues on government spending

by Jerry Hogan

The great debate in Austin over budgets and how much will be spent on all of the worthy things is rapidly drawing to a close. Unfortunately in Washington the debate continues and the probability of a quick settlement on how our nation will spend its dollars is close to zero. In this debate, the differences center on how big our government should be and how much the government should be involved with our daily lives.

We have just started the budget debate here in Rockwall County as the first draft budget has been prepared by the county judge and presented to the Commissioners Court. This first draft is a balanced budget with no deficit spending and no need for new taxes. Now the court will examine the budget, hear the opposition for cuts in recommended spending from special interests, and decide on a final budget that will be used to manage the county for the next fiscal year.

Rockwall County is in good fiscal condition. Over the past 15 years our county revenues have grown between 10 percent and 15 percent per year, which has allowed us to build a reserve fund of about \$20 million to be used for emergencies and special needs. Unfortunately, however, that continuous rapid growth has stopped and the forecast now is for our county, on a personal property basis, to grow no more than 1 percent per year for the next five years with a possible increase to 2 percent in the fifth year. Since 83 percent of the county funding comes from this personal property tax, clearly the county budget is going to be impacted.

Over the past 12 years, the county budget has grown each year, on almost a straight line basis, from about \$7 million to \$31 million. This year, the initial analysis of the county "needs" showed a budget requirement of slightly over \$31 million. However, our projected revenue is \$29.77 million; a deficit of almost \$1.3 million.

As a result of this shortfall in funds, the leaders of the county now have two options. Do we handle this deficit like they handled it in Austin by cutting spending, even though there was much opposition from special

interest groups, to balance the budget, or do we handle it like they have done for years in Washington, D.C., by simply raising taxes or going into debt and pulling from our reserve fund to balance the yearly expenditures?

Sure, pulling from the reserve fund would work for a year since we "only have a \$1.3 million deficit," but what happens in the next year and then the next year and then the next year when revenues are flat and the county budget continues to want to grow. How far do you take tax increases to operate the county, or how far do you continue into deficit spending before you simply run out of money and citizen trust?

As the county judge, one of my mandated requirements, by state statute, is to prepare the county budget and then present it to the court for approval. When I started gathering the data to prepare the budget and saw that our projected costs exceeded our projected revenue, I quickly made the decision that we would have a balanced budget; we would not go down the path of spending more than we make with the idea that over time we could recover the money when "times get better." My choice is the path away from higher taxes and deficit spending merely to operate the county while it does its daily business. Debt and taxes must be reserved for improving the infrastructure of the county so our citizens can have such things as better and more roads, more programs to help bring more economic growth, and a continued secure and friendly environment.

There will be strong objections to parts of the recommended budget where dollars have been reduced. Some of the departments within the county that are mandated by state statute are being asked to make minimal reductions in their budget. Our only non-statute department, which has a strong volunteer citizens group, is being asked to reduce its budget by 21 percent. I am sure there will be increasing pressure on the court members to remove these cuts and there will be good arguments presented that try to persuade why that should happen. However, the bottom line for me is, "you don't spend more than you make." It applies in our private life and it must apply the same in the organizations that are elected to govern us as

citizens. Your input to the upcoming budget discussions is important. Do not be one of the five individuals who control the county purse strings. Write the Commissioners Court members. Let them know your views.

These upcoming discussions and decisions will set the tone and direction of the county as we go forward into the years where our growth is flat to rising 1 percent per year. How we are structured in that sixth year when things start their vigorous growth again. Which do you prefer, a vibrant county that has paid its way, or a county loaded with debt and higher taxes with little room for continued growth. That's the big decision.

## 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 will be edited for brevity, grammar and accuracy. Letters which are considered libelous or an attack of an individual's character will not be published. Letters must be signed and include telephone number and address for verification.

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I believe you achieved your goal of being the "C-Span" for Rockwall County. By your hosting the videos on your site you essentially put the candidates as opposed to a Yard Sign name. If a picture is worth a thousand words then a video is worth at least a million. Have a great day and keep up the the good work in informing the voters.

Randy Oakes

# If they'd only spend money on essential

by Wes Burnett

Here's a message to all elected officials ... just spend our money on the essentials of government. What are those essentials? They are those authorized by our state and national constitutions.

Sadly, the vast majority of elected officials, at all levels of government, believe their primary role is to "protect the people" and "provide for the common good." Neither of those concepts are supported by our Texas or American constitutions.

Even worse is the notion held firmly by a huge majority of government officials that they have "plenary" power ... that is, they believe they can take any action they wish, as long as our constitutions do not forbid it.

So much for the American idea of government limited to only specified authority.

Therefore, government expands to its ultimate demise ... spending more and more on government control and "services" to the people.

When challenged on the misuse of "plenary" power, I've found that government officials cite the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution as the authority for this "anything goes" mentality.

Citizens beware ... the Texas and U.S. Constitutions were written with the principle that government is bound and limited to only specific functions ... without that protection, there is no security of life, liberty or property ownership. The founders of this great nation understood and feared that

"plenary" power political career.

We must elect people to public office who will return to the people. Government is limited to the functions defined in our American Constitution. As Jefferson wrote: the purpose of government is to secure the individual rights of the people.

Anything government does beyond that is dangerous to the rights of the people.

The Texas legislature and all other government units could easily be authorized by simply eliminating activities and agencies not specifically authorized by the Texas Constitution.



# Rockwall County Classified Advertising

## Notices

**Renewal application has been made for a Private Club Registration Permit for Scoreboard located at 2410 S. Goliad Street, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas**  
**Said application made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provision of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.**  
**an Unincorporated Association of Persons:**  
**Laretta Hyyette Green - Director / President**  
**Shelley Caprice Green - Director / Secretary**

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seal of the Court at Rockwall, Texas, this 20th day of May, 2011.  
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 Rockwall, Texas 75087  
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## Legal Notices

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GREETINGS:  
 "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation, a default judgment may be taken against you. The FIRST AMENDED PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, was filed in the 382nd District Court of Rockwall County, Texas, on MAY 20, 2011, against GENARO VALENCIA, JR., Numbered 1-11-172, and entitled IN THE INTEREST OF NATHANIEL LEIGH ALVARADO, A CHILD. The date and place of birth of the child (children) who is (are) the subject of this suit: NATHANIEL LEIGH ALVARADO, DATE OF BIRTH: NOVEMBER 2, 2006.  
 The Court has the authority in this suit to render an order in the child's (children's) interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's (children) adoption.  
 Issued and given under my hand and

Manhattan Construction Co. will be receiving bids for the final cleaning of the Rockwall County Courthouse project on June 1, 2011. Interested parties please contact Nicholas Link at 214-438-6860 or e-mail at nlink@manhattanconstruction.com

## NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RICHARD O. DePETRIS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard O. DePetris, Deceased, were issued on May 11, 2011, in Cause No. PR11-39 pending in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, to:  
 GAYE KENDALL DePETRIS  
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
 Claims may be presented and addressed to Gaye Kendall DePetris, c/o L. Kimbal Simpson, P.C., 3623-B Broadway Blvd., Garland, TX 75043-1647.  
 DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.  
 L. KIMBAL SIMPSON, P.C.  
 L. Kimbal Simpson  
 Attorney for the Estate  
 3623-B Broadway Blvd.  
 Garland, TX 75043-1647  
 (972) 840-3667

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Following property owners are hereby notified that their property contains a vacated and has been declared dangerous by the Building Official of the City of Rockwall. To the Rockwall County Appraisal District, you are the registered owners of the properties.

Property owner: Loc, Phu and Vincent Tong; 548 Eva Pl; Rockwall, TX 75032  
 Property address: 175 Valerie, Rockwall, TX 75032  
 Legal Description: Rockwall Lake Est. #2, Lot 830A  
 MH Label #TXFL1AC428600557 FLEETWOOD

Property owner: Colunga, Bernabe; P.O. Box 683; Roysse City, TX 75189  
 Property address: 448 Nicole Dr.; Rockwall, TX 75032  
 Legal Description: Rockwall Lake Est. #2 Lot 1327 & 1328  
 MH Label #UNK0000000 FESTIVAL

They are hereby ordered to appear before the City Council on June 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m., to show why they should be repaired, demolished, or removed as the Council deems necessary.

## - Public Notice -

Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, June 14, 2011** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, and the Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, June 20, 2011** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, to consider the following items:

**2011-09: Proposed Amendment to the UDC**  
 Public hearing and consider approval of a city-initiated request to amend the Unified Development Code (Ord. No. 04-38), specifically Article IV, Permissible Uses, relative to the provisions and standards for "Assisted Living Facilities," "Congregate Care Facilities," "Independent Care Facilities/Nursing Homes" and other similar uses, and take any action necessary.

**2011-10: Proposed Zoning Change from GR to PD - Yellowjacket Ln**  
 Public hearing and consider a request by Mark Lowen of The Lenity Group LLC for approval of a zoning change from (GR) General Retail district to (PD) Planned Development district specifically to allow for a congregate care/elderly housing facility on a 4.279-acre tract known as Tract 16-5, Abstract 145, J. D. McFarland Survey, situated along the west side of Yellowjacket Lane east of Kyle Drive, and take any action necessary.

**2011-11: Proposed Zoning Change from AG to RO - N Goliad**  
 Public hearing and consider a request by Misty Phillips (and others) for approval of a zoning change from (Ag) Agricultural district to (RO) Residential Office district, on property approximately 3.25-acres overall and comprised of Tract 6 (4031 North Goliad), (4037 North Goliad) and Tract 22 (4035 North Goliad) of Abstract 187, J. Strickland situated along the west side of North Goliad south of Windham Drive, within the 4205 Overlay district, and take any action necessary.

**2011-12: Proposed Amendment to PD 9 - 2935 Ridge Rd**  
 Public hearing and consider a request by Christina Konrad of Kroger Texas LP for approval of an amendment to (PD-9) Planned Development No. 9 district, specifically to allow for a proposed fuel center in conjunction with the existing Kroger store located on Lot 2935, Block A, Horizon Ridge Addition, being 7.1779-acres situated at 2935 Ridge Road within the 2935 Overlay district, and take any action necessary.

**2011-13: Proposed SUP for Self Storage Facility - FM 3097**  
 Public hearing and consider a request by Don Lord, on behalf of Jim Menconi of Impco Self Storage, for approval of a Specific Use Permit (SUP) to allow for the expansion of the existing "Buffalo Ridge" mini-warehouse facility located on Tracts 26, 26-4 and 26-6, Abstract 80, W. W. Ford Survey, being 8.84-acres overall zoned (C) Commercial district and situated at 5543 and 5573 FM 3097 (Horizon Rd), and take any action necessary.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions. Additional information can be found on all current Zoning cases on the City's website at <http://www.rockwall.com/Planning/ZoningChanges.asp>

## Estray Notice

**Rockwall County Sheriff's Posse picked up 2 horses and 2 donkeys at 244 Santa Fe in Roysse City on May 24, 2011**  
**Call 972-204-7001**

**Tree Work**  
 Do you need help with your tree work? Call 214-478-9269.

## Help Wanted

Wanted Part-Time Education Assistant - clerical - 5 hrs/week - weekdays - Church in Rockwall. Email resume to ceassistant701@gmail.com

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 50 actress Hart in film "King Creole" with TX Carolyn Jones  
 53 golf ball support  
 54 dir. from Abilene to Hico  
 55 Crowell newspaper: "County News"  
 56 hollers at (2 wds.)  
 59 TX-born sprinter and pro RB, Matson

**DOWN**

13 TX George W. narrowly beat him in 2000 election  
 14 Yo...-Digo Creek  
 15 39-across wrote "A \_\_\_ in Santone"  
 17 students who quit before graduating  
 19 Carlos \_\_\_ de Gortari was Mexico president when NAFTA was signed  
 20 TX Ivory Joe Hunter song: "I \_\_\_ Lost My Mind" (50)  
 24 state where Emmitt was born (abbr.)  
 25 this Stillwell founded Port Arthur (init.)

33 Corsicana's county  
 38 TX L.Q. Jones film: "Ten Who \_\_\_"  
 40 in Boerne: "You'll \_\_\_ a Kendall Inn"  
 41 TXism: "compadres"  
 42 considerations in designing houses  
 49 Art \_\_\_ style  
 51 TX Freddy Fender hit: "You'll \_\_\_ a Good Thing" (76)  
 52 horse morsel  
 57 old Oilers kicker: \_\_\_ Greco  
 58 county & town in the Hill Country

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# Salute to the Class of 2011

## CLASS OF 2011



Kalli Armstrong  
Rockwall High School



Shaun Bruner  
Rockwall High School



Lindsay Norris  
Rockwall High School



Gavino Nunez  
Rockwall-Heath High School



Katie Paschal  
North Mesquite High School



Rachel Elizabeth Rosa  
Home School



Francesca Torres  
Royce City High School

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Our special congratulations to our graduating team members. Thank you for your dedication. We salute your success! From all of us at Culver's®



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# Rockwall County News



**Brett Steffen**  
The Fulton School  
Class of 2011  
With lots of love,  
Mom



**Rebecca Nicole**  
Rockwall-Heath Class  
With love, from All

**Congratulations!**



**Cameron Peterson**  
RHS Class of 2011  
We are so proud of you!  
Love Mom & Dad



**Brad Carter**  
Rockwall High School  
Class of 2011  
So Proud of You  
Love, Your Family



## AWARD/GRADUATION DAY FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2011 LAKESHORE CHURCH

5575 Hwy. 205 South Rockwall 75032

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Pre-K - 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
Kindergarten - 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Lower School - 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
Middle & Upper Schools - 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### A Note from Mr. Burgy on the Class of 2011

The Class of 2011 is a particularly special class to me. Four years ago when I began my journey as a teacher of Upper School Mathematics at The Fulton School, I took it upon myself to sponsor the Class of 2011. That year, there were only 11 high school students. Today, there are almost 40. This class has added not only to the number of students, but most importantly to the character of Fulton.

### Senior Profiles for The Class of 2011



#### Chana Baggett

Chana is in her 4th year at Fulton and is the daughter of Carolyn Baggett. Chana has been involved in many activities at Fulton including the track team, the academic team, and the Shakespeare Festival. She is a member of the inaugural varsity track squad, and anchored the first ever state qualifying 4 x 200 meter relay team. As a member of the academic team, Chana placed 3rd in district to qualify for the state academic meet in Literary Criticism. Chana is attending the University of Houston, where she is planning to major in Nursing. Chana's advice to students, "Enjoy your time at the school. Before you know it, time will pass by and you won't be able to get it back. Get involved and stay involved."



#### Kendall Johnson

Kendall is in his 11th year at Fulton and is the son of Joel and Liz Johnson. Kendall is the class valedictorian, and has been actively involved in numerous functions at Fulton in his time at the school. He has been a member of the drama club, a camp invention counselor, a member of the student council, the talent show, soccer, softball, National Art Honor Society, National Honor Society, the football team, the track team, the basketball team, and the academic team. He has been named All-District in football on the offensive line and defensive line, as well as track in the 3200m run. Kendall qualified for the state track meet in 2009 and in 2010 in that event. He earned Academic All-State in football and in track. On the academic team, he has won an Individual District Championship in Graphic Design, which led to a 2nd place finish at the State level, and qualified for the State Academic Meet 3 consecutive years. Kendall has been the recipient of the Iron Man Award, the D. Harold Byrd Jr. Scholarship, and the Dr. Bernard Fulton Award, our

school's most prestigious honor. Kendall is attending California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, CA, where he plans on majoring in architectural engineering. Kendall's advice to his peers is to, "Take advantage of what Fulton has to offer. It is a second home. You'll find teachers that are well-versed in their subjects who care about WHO you are, what you learn, and what you'll become. You will learn much more about life if you listen what they have to say. It's hard to understand when you're freshman or a sophomore, but you'll realize when you're on your way out that it's a GREAT school filled with GREAT people."



#### Tyler Johnson

Tyler is in his 11th year at Fulton, and is the son of Joel and Liz Johnson. Tyler is the class salutatorian, and has been involved in every function imaginable at Fulton during the course of his 11 years. He has been on the soccer team, the garden club, the drama club, the sailing team, the softball team, a Camp Invention instructor, and Community Clean-Up. He is the current Yearbook Editor, and has been a yearbook staff member the past 2 years. He has lettered in football and in track for 3 years. Tyler has also served on the student council, and a charter member of National Honor Society. He was the President of the Regional Champion Robotics Team in 2010. Tyler has won numerous awards at Fulton such as, All-District in football as Defensive End, Kicker, and Punter. He was named All-State Punter in 2010, and Academic All-State in football in 2010. Tyler has been actively involved in the academic team and in the art program, winning an Individual District Championship in Computer Science in 2009 to qualify for the State

Academic Meet, where he placed 3rd in the State Competition. Tyler has been a Fulton Service Award Recipient and has received the D. Harold Byrd Scholarship numerous times. Tyler is attending Rose-Hulman University in Terre Haute, Indiana where he will study mechanical or civil engineering. When asked what his greatest memory of Fulton was, he replied, "I've been here for 11 years, are you kidding me...I have to pick one?" His advice to students, "Fulton is an amazing place to learn. Teachers care about you like nothing else, and want you to learn."

A class that started out as five young men, has grown to six young men, and one wonderful young lady. How she has been able to stand four years as the only girl in a class of, let's say, energetic young men is a testament to her fortitude.

This class has grown into THE class that has set the tone for excellence for Fulton. At every moment they have provided me with laughter, tears of joy, and pride. In many ways, they have helped define who I am as an educator. They constantly test my intellect, and force me to learn more as a teacher and leader. When you speak to the Upper School teachers, you find a similar story.

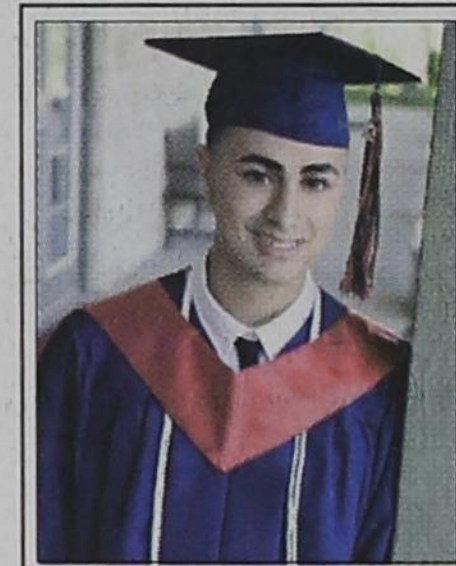
The class will graduate with over 2000 hours of community service, earning over 3 million dollars in college scholarships, and a plethora of awards outside of The Fulton School. They have set the standard at Fulton. As a group, and individuals, they have shaped Fulton beyond imagination. As you read their biographies, you will see many of the ways that they have made a difference at The Fulton School. But, more than that they express how this class has truly defined Excellence, Service, and Honor at The Fulton School.



#### Dylan Leverett

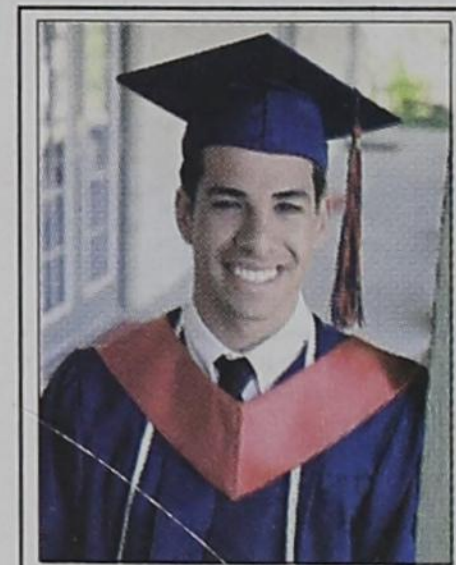
Dylan is in his first year at Fulton, and is the son of Tammy Escobedo Leverett, and step-father Jamie Escobedo. In his one year at Fulton, Dylan has made a significant mark on the school. He was named All-District in basketball, and track. He was also named All-State in all three sports. In track, he won the regional championship in the 100m dash, the 200m dash, the long jump, and the triple jump, becoming the first Fulton student to qualify for the state track meet in 4 different events. Dylan followed up on his regional performance by bringing home a bronze medal in the triple jump and the long jump at State. In addition to his 2 bronze medals, Dylan has also won Fulton's 3rd and 4th State Titles in the 100m dash and the 200m dash. For his accomplishments, Dylan was named Fulton's Male Athlete of the Year, and has been nominated for the TAPPS 1A Male Athlete of the Year. Dylan also competed for the academic team, placing 3rd in district in Original Oratory, and competed at the State Academic Meet. Dylan is also involved in the Sea Perch Robotics Club that is competing in Philadelphia

this summer for a National Title. Dylan is attending The University of Southern Arkansas to study Criminal Justice. Dylan's quote to his fellow Falcons, "I learned more in my one year at Fulton than I did in my entire scholastic career. Take advantage of what the school gives you...you'll never regret it."



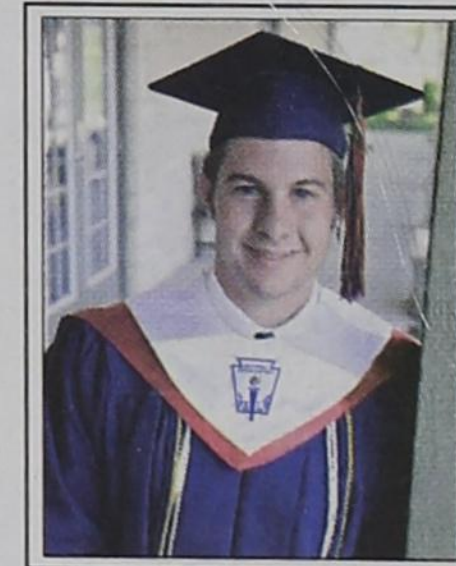
#### George Nasr

George is in his 2nd year at Fulton, and is the son of Louis and Suzie Nasr. George was very involved at The Fulton School in his two years, lettering in football and basketball. George received district honors in football as a 2nd team All-District at Wide Receiver. George has also been a member of the academic team, earning 4th place in Current Events at the District Academic meet, as well as the Sea Perch Robotics team. George plans on attending the University at North Texas and majoring in Business. George's advice to his fellow Falcons, "Never stop short of reaching your goals. Listen to what the teachers tell you... especially Ms. Moore!"



#### Hasan Rabah

Hasan is in his 4th year at Fulton, and is the son of Haas and Milena Rabah. Hasan has been deeply involved at Fulton, competing on the football and basketball teams. Hasan is one of the charter members of the Fulton track team, and is the first student in school history to letter in a sport for 4 consecutive years, qualifying for the state track meet as a sophomore in the 100 meter dash. Hasan has also been involved in the academic team where he placed 2nd in the 2010 District Competition in Current Events and Issues to qualify for the state academic meet. Hasan has been an All-District selection in football at Wide Receiver and Cornerback the past 2 years. Hasan was the recipient of the Mrs. Burgy's "Gold Star Award" in 2010. Hasan plans on attending the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor to major in Criminal Justice. Hasan's advice to his fellow classmates, "Listen when Mr. Burgy talks to you. Take it from someone who has had COUNTLESS talks with him."



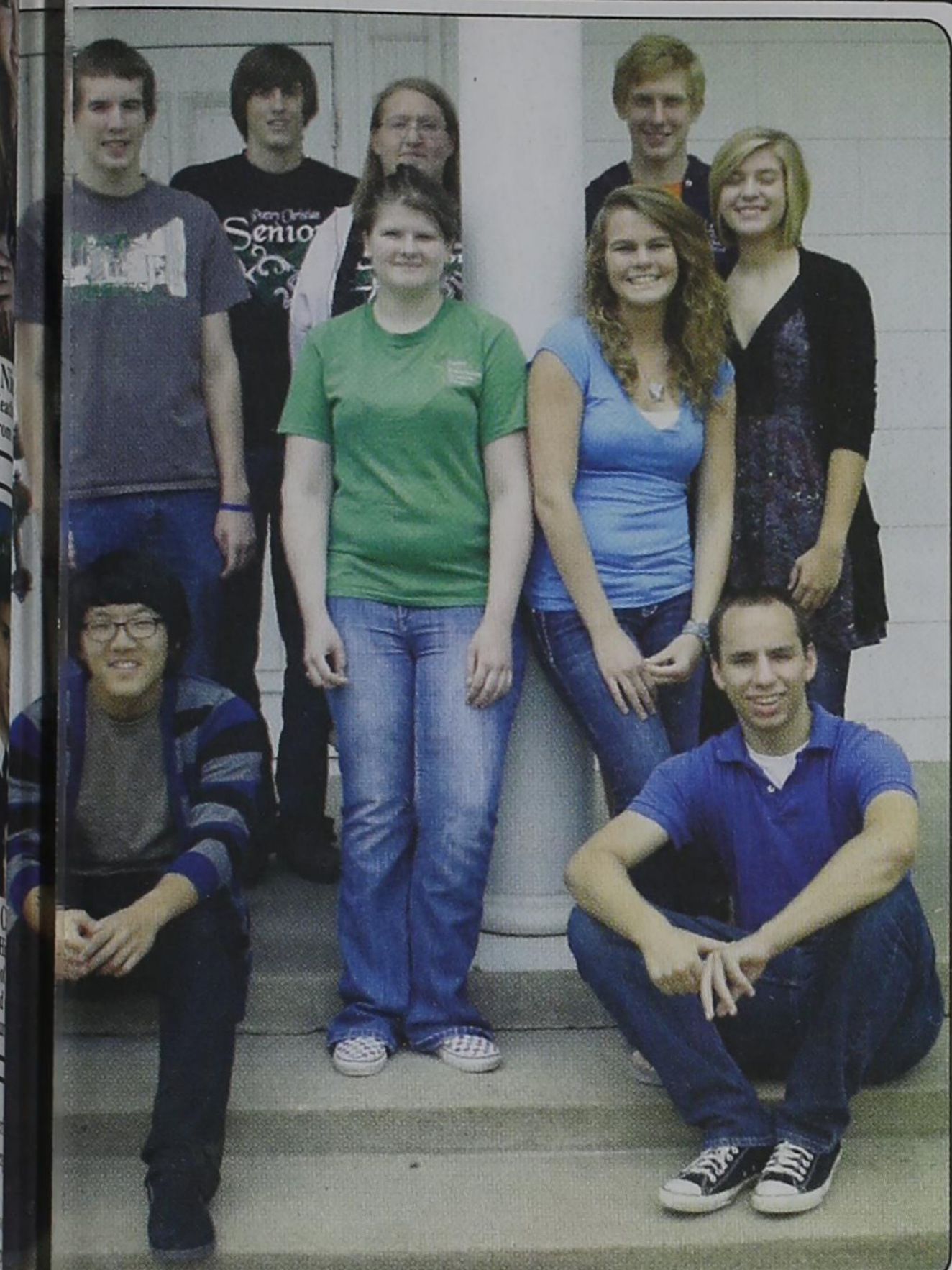
#### Brett Steffen

Brett is in 3rd year at Fulton, and is the son of Sue Steffen. Brett has been actively involved at Fulton, lettering in football, basketball, and track. He has captained all three teams each season from his sophomore to senior year. As a student-athlete, Brett has received numerous awards, including 1st team All-District Defensive Line as a sophomore, 2nd team Tight End as a sophomore, 1st Team All-District Linebacker as a junior, 1st Team All-District Utility Back as a Junior, 1st Team All-District Quarterback as a senior, 1st Team All-District Defensive Line as a Senior, and Academic All-State in football as a junior. Brett has also earned District honors in Basketball as a 1st Team All-District Point Guard as a sophomore, junior, and senior. Brett has been involved in the Academic Team as well, earning an Individual District Championship in Original Oratory as a junior, and competing at the State TAPPS academic meet in science as a sophomore and junior. In addition, Brett has been a member of the Yearbook Staff, the Community Clean-Up, Hands, National Honor Society, and the Regional Champion BEST Robotics

Team. Brett has earned numerous school awards, including the Fulton Service Award, the Ironman Award, the Brian E. Tiffie Scholar-Athlete Award, and MVP of both the basketball and football teams. Brett also was named "Homecoming King" for his Senior year. Brett is attending Trinity University in San Antonio, where he plans on earning a degree in Biology. His goal is to move on to medical school as a graduate, or return to Fulton to become a doctor. His goal is to become Head of School (after Mr. Burgy retires of course). His advice to his fellow Fulton students, "Start preparing for college early. Listen to the teacher's advice on getting ahead, and not falling behind. Start on where you are going to college early in your senior year so you can focus on enjoying everything the school gives you."



# Salute to the Class of 2011



**Congratulations Class of 2011**  
**Herbert Community Christian School**  
 (front row left to right) Gunny Park, Macie Wilhite, Leslie Faulk, Eddie [unclear]; (back row left to right) Reid Harrison, Brennan Sapp, Grce Morgan, [unclear] and Salutatorian Hannah Horton.

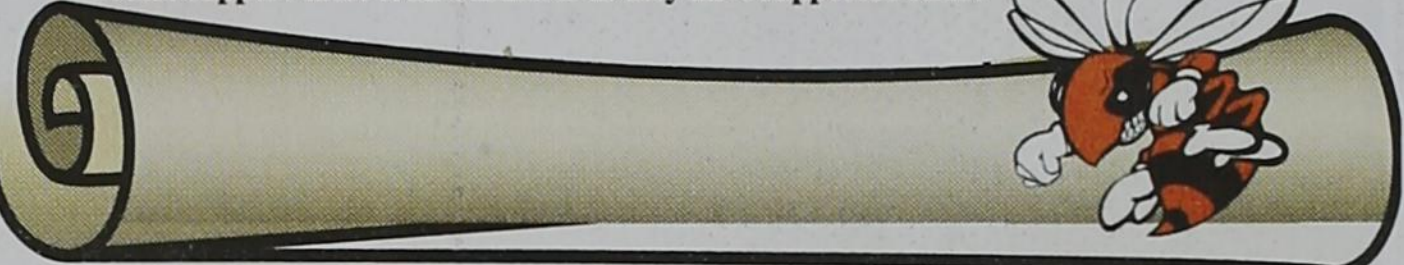
## Thank You!

Thank You Rockwall!

The Rockwall High School Class of 2011 would like to thank the following businesses and entities for their donations of time, money, food, prizes, and services that helped to make our prom and after prom such a huge success! A special thank you is extended to our Class Sponsor, Ms. Anna Campbell. We would also like to say a special thanks to all of the parents for their efforts, especially our parent sponsors, Mrs. Chrissie Loftis, Mrs. Christi Gates, Mrs. Kathleen Broze, and numerous other committee heads. We are very fortunate to live in such a supportive community!

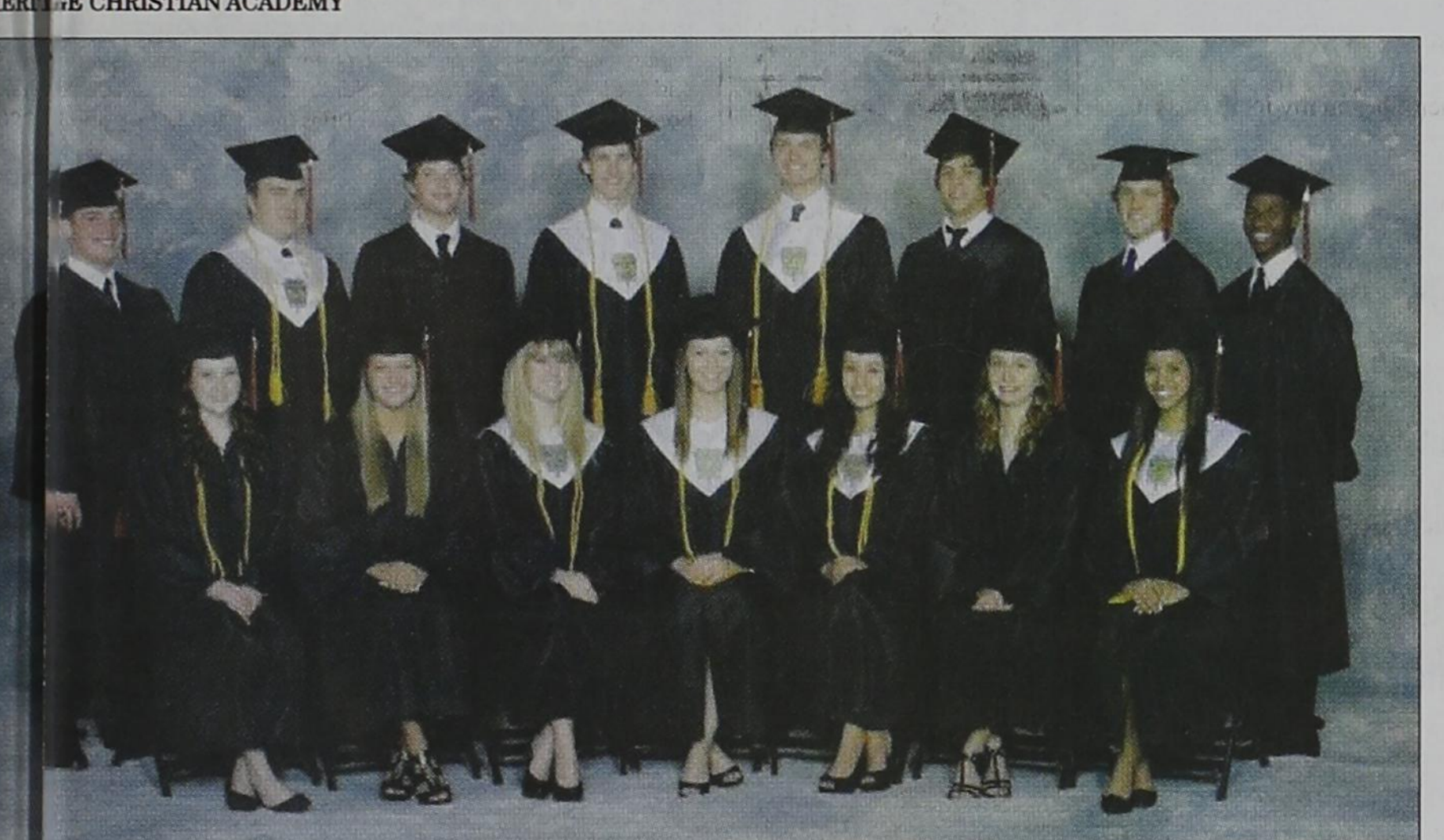
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**Rockwall County News**  
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## Saluting Heritage Christian Academy's Class of 2011



Back Row: Travis Arterburn, Joe McConnell, Austin Pettit, Aaron Mateer, Asa Burke, Sam Lyon, Aaron Weghorst, Eric Braden; Front Row: Jessica McPhail, Emma Swarner, Lana Whittington, Birgitte Obenchain, Tayler Insuaste, Nicki Evans and Lissy Olivares.

www.heritagechristianacademy.org Distinctly Christian College Preparatory

# Rockwall County News

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  - Royse City**
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**Rockwall County NEWS**

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