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Rockwall County News

Volume Number 30 • Issue Number 11 • USPS 002-495 • Thursday, March 24, 2016 • Single Copy Price 75 Cents • Copyright 2016 Rockwall County News

Local student to play role in Children's Cancer Fund Gala



Local student Hayden Ritchie, 10, is shown with Children's Cancer Fund Gala chairmen and former Dallas Cowboys quarterbacks Roger Staubach, left, and Troy Aikman. The Gala, set for Friday, April 22, at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, serves as a fundraiser for pediatric oncology research and treatment programs. Ritchie will be a part of the evening's festivities. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall student Hayden Ritchie, 10, will be a featured calendar artist and runway model at The Children's Cancer Fund Gala, An Evening in Oz, the nonprofit's 28th annual fundraiser for pediatric oncology research and treatment programs set for Friday, April 22, at the Hilton Anatole Hotel.

Diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia at age 5 and then again at age 9, Hayden Ritchie, 10, is in the fourth grade at Stevenson Elementary in Rockwall, according to a news release from the Children's Cancer Fund. She has three dogs and wants to be a veterinarian when she grows up. She enjoys riding her bike, playing softball and riding her horse. If she could visit anywhere in the world, she would go to Hawaii to swim with dolphins.

Ritchie said her mom is her hero because she always takes care of her and is always there for her, she said in the news release.

"I love fashion and am so excited to be in the fashion show," Ritchie said in the release.

The gala features an auction, program, dinner and dancing with musical entertainment by Emerald City Band, beginning at 6 p.m. with a champagne reception, followed by the dinner and program at 7:15 p.m. at the hotel, located at 2201 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas.

Previously a luncheon event, the gala continues with the traditional fashion show featuring children who are undergoing treatment for cancer at Children's Medical Center Dallas. The children, models for the fashion show, are escorted down the runway by event chairmen and former Dallas Cowboys quarterbacks Troy Aikman and Roger Staubach, along with many other celebrities and sponsors.

Proceeds from the Gala, slated to raise more than \$750,000, go to Children's Cancer Fund to support pediatric cancer research and treatment programs at Children's Medical Center. Since 1982, Children's Cancer Fund has donated more than \$7 million to the childhood cancer cause.

The Children's Cancer Fund spring event is the organization's largest annual fundraiser for pediatric cancer.

Children's Cancer Fund has created a special 2016 Calendar for the Gala, featuring the artwork of 12 children modeling in the show. The calendar, \$15 each, includes photos as well as original artwork by these young cancer patients.

Ritchie's drawing for the calendar represents never being alone when fighting cancer, according to the news release.

To purchase copies after the luncheon, call Children's Cancer Fund at 972-664-1450 or visit childrenscancerfund.com.

Individual tickets to the event cost \$300 or \$2,750 for a table of 10. Contact the Children's Cancer Fund at 972-664-1450 or visit childrenscancerfund.com for reservations and more information. This year raffle tickets cost \$100 or six for \$500 and will be sold in advance of and at the event for a chance to receive a 2016 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sport 4x4.

Diamond Rio, Stoney LaRue set for Rockwall Founders' Day

The Rockwall Founders' Day Festival 2016, celebrating Rockwall's 162nd birthday, will see country music performers Diamond Rio and Stoney LaRue providing a musical backdrop for the event's activities.

This year's festival is set for Saturday, May 21, at Harry Myers Park in Rockwall.

All of the day's entertainment will be free to the public.

Both of this year's headlining acts are anticipated to draw a record crowd to top last year's attendance of nearly 8,000 people, according to a City of Rockwall news release. Award-winning country band Diamond Rio is best known for hits such as, "Meet in the Middle" and "Beautiful Mess." Opener Stoney LaRue, a popular Texas Country artist, is known for his hits, including "Oklahoma Breakdown."

Presented by the Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department, this is the 13th year for the event, which honors the historical founding of the City of Rockwall. The outdoor festival runs from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., with activities planned for the entire family.

Before the featured acts take the main stage that evening, there will be several more bands performing throughout the day, according to the release. There will also be food and shopping vendors.

In conjunction with their new healthy living campaign, Go Outside and Play, the Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department will offer a whole host of activities for children. There will be multiple bounce houses, an obstacle course, inflatable shooting range, a maze and whirly ball competition for children. In addition, the Rockwall Historical Foundation will open its museum on site.

For more information, and a complete list of music groups visit playrockwall.com.

With more than 100 live music events free to the public annually, Rockwall is the Live Music Capital of North Texas, and the Founders' Day Festival is one of the biggest events the city hosts every year, according to the news release.

Rockwall County News Briefs

VNA to host free grief support group

Every Thursday starting today, March 24, through April 21, VNA will host a five-week grief support group - Sharing the Journey: Coping with Grief from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The sessions, open to members of the community grieving the death of a loved one, will be conducted at the VNA East Texas Branch offices at 874 Ed Hall Drive, Kaufman. Each session builds upon the previous one; attendees are encouraged to attend all five for maximum benefit. Reservations are required. Contact VNA's Kevin Moore at 972-962-7500 or moorek@vnatexas.org for more information.

Soroptimists plan March 24 fundraiser

The Rockwall Soroptimists will host a Painting with a Purpose fundraiser from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, at Painting with a Twist, Rockwall. Cost will be \$35; proceeds will help support the Child Advocacy Center at the Soroptimist House. Seating is limited. Visit paintingwithatwist.com/events/viewevent.aspx to sign up.

(Continued on Page 2)



Rothbauer is Hard Luck winner at Houston Rodeo

Kaitlin Rothbauer of Rockwall, representing the Rockwall County 4-H Club, was a Hard Luck winner in the March 11 calf scramble at the 2016 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo.

The local 4-H Club member wore lucky shirt number 13, according to a livestock show and rodeo news release.

The calf scramble is one of the wildest and most spirited events at the rodeo. With the drop of a cowboy hat, the calves are signaled to be released onto the dirt arena for 30 Texas 4-H and FFA members to

chase and catch using only a rope halter. The number of students is always greater than the number of calves.

Each student who catches a calf is awarded a \$1,750 certificate to purchase a registered beef heifer or market steer to show at the Houston Livestock Show the following year. Returning as an exhibitor, the student shows in a special competition with other calf scramble winners. The student receives a \$250 bonus if program requirements are fulfilled throughout the year.

Hard Luck is an award given by the Calf Scramble Committee to a participant who did not catch a calf, but showed an exceptional effort, according to the results published on the event's website. The Hard Luck winner also receives a certificate to purchase a heifer.



Kaitlin Rothbauer of Rockwall represented the Rockwall County 4-H Club and was a Hard Luck winner in the March 11 calf scramble at the 2016 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Photos, film sought about 1950s event in Dobbs gym

A local woman is hoping to find photographic evidence of an event that occurred in the late 1950s in the old Dobbs Elementary School gym.

Mary Waddle of Rockwall is seeking photos and film footage of the event she believes may have been a fundraiser, perhaps for the fire department. The individual in charge of the fire department at that time was Ted Cain.

A portion of the event in which she is interested involved a humorous skit where men dressed like women, she said. Some of the men who participated in the skit included Ralph Hall, who wore women's clothes; Don Waddle, Mary Waddle's husband; Ben Cluts, Rockwall's mayor at the time; and Dick Pickens.

Anyone who knows of or has access to photographs or film of the event may contact Mary Waddle at P.O. Box 144, Rockwall, TX 75087.



"Love, Sex & the IRS" will open at the Rockwall Community Playhouse at 8 p.m. on March 25. Pictured above, rehearsing a scene from the production, are Gene Fields, Erika Nannis, Preston Wells and Camryn Golin. Tickets to the show are available at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org, by calling 972-722-3399 or at the box office, 609 E. Rusk, a half-hour before the show.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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History in America Easter

FROM HISTORY Vol 58

Comparing our past with today and looking at our future
by Kenneth Shores, Rockwall, Texas

The World's only true History book is the Bible, which contains many miracles. The most important miracle is life itself. God created Lucifer (Satan) without sin and he assumed responsibility for his own choices. He was chosen to be closest to God out of all angels (Ezekiel 28:14-19).

When he chose to be equal to God, sin began and he was banished before man was created. Adam and Eve, the first people on earth, chose to disobey God as advised by Satan. God kept his promise of death and sin for all mankind for their disobedience (Genesis Chapter 2&3). The miracle of men and women, was that as the only way people could be born on this earth. We all are descendants of Adam and Eve.

Easter is a time to celebrate the greatest and most important miracle for all mankind. The miracle of God's first begotten son, Jesus Christ, who was born without sin. The only way to be born without sin is to be conceived without man involved. God provided the Holy Spirit (sinless) to replace man (Luke 1:34-35). The reason why this happened is to allow each one of us to be born without sin and spend eternity with God. God sent his only son to spend 33 years on this earth to teach us how to live a life of peace and promote world peace. God loves each of us so much that he gave us a free gift (John 3:14 - 18). The free gift included forgiveness of all our sins.

This is only possible if we turn our lives over to the Son, Jesus Christ, and believe with our hearts that God raised him from the dead. He gave up His life, taking all of our sins defeating death for us. This is how we except God's free gift.

Easter is a time to celebrate the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus was born sinless. At his death, Jesus defeated Satan by bearing the sins of all people that accept God's free gift. These sins were given over to Satan himself, past, present and future for him to carry for eternity.

The Jesus returned to God again to live and rule with His Father. He returned again to earth to prove to mankind that God always kept His word, including His free gift. Jesus gave final instructions to His disciples as noted The Great Commission in the Bible (NIV) Matthew 28:16-20, "16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. 20 And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

Our founding fathers in creating America which was to be founded as a Godly Christian Nation, designed all of our governing documents by understanding God's free gift. They understood Satan presented Sin and evil when God cast him out of Heaven. Now Satan the Prince of Earth, Satan works hard at keeping mankind from accepting God's free gift.

The lack of peace is through the people on this earth that believe that Satan uses to convince people not to accept God's free gift. Throughout the history of America, through our strength in following Jesus' way of life, we have kept our freedom and peace. That is why so many people from the rest of the world want to move to America. Some however want to live in America and change it because Satan has the control like the rest of the world.

Easter is a time to remember what God has done to give each of us a chance to spend eternity in Heaven with Him. Wake up America and understand how Greed, corruption and the sinful nature is all part of Satan's way of life. Christians must be willing to work together to restore this country back to a Godly Christian Nation. Through prayer and letting our government know peacefully what changes are required to again establish this country as the Greatest Country in the World.

You are invited Sunday evening 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM, April 24, 2016 at the Heritage Christian Academy- 1408 S Goliad St, Rockwall, TX. Join others to learn about "SAVING AMERICA THROUGH PRAYER". A live small band, a guest speaker and candidates have been invited. Everyone is invited to this free event. This is on the second Sunday Night of each month at the academy. This is not church affiliated, and is open to everyone invited. For more information contact Mike Kennedy (972) 998-6808 or Kenneth Shores (214) 334-1206 or Jerry Minx (972) 896-0808.

Kenneth Shores' articles can be viewed on my book website www.theagod7.org under ARTICLES.



Cullins Elementary celebrated the beloved children's author, Dr. Seuss, for a week recently as part of the National Education Agency's Read Across America Day observance on March 2, Seuss's birthday. Each day, Cullins staff members, dressed in accordance to the theme of the books, read Dr. Seuss books to their students. Pictured above, Shree and Alyssa Catapano are shown celebrating "The Cat in the Hat."

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Christian rights, Peace ... Part 3

We continue to identify different rights that are truly endowed by God, and inherent in people.

The right to inner peace inherently comes with being filled and sealed with the Holy Ghost, through our Lord Jesus the living Messiah from God.

Colossians 3:15, "Let the peace from God rule in your hearts, to the which also you are called in one body; and be thankful"

The world is evil, and people who live according to the world seek not but to do the will of the Devil, which is to steal, kill, and destroy. In many cases, they falsely believe they are doing good.

God's beloved saints and children live in the world, and not of the world. Thus, in all the persecution and tribulation from the world, God's beloved saints can live with true peace within.

The Body of Christ has the inherent right to "endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:4).

Similar to living with inner peace, keeping unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace requires discipline and practice.

Philippians 4:6-7 provides basic instructions for inner peace, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God ..."

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"Let the peace from God rule in your hearts, to the which also you are called in one body, and be thankful ..."
Colossians 3:15

"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."
Psalm 150:6

"That if you will confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10: 9-10

"Have I not commanded you; be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."
Proverbs 18:7

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding;"

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path;"
Proverbs 3:6

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known ..."
Proverbs 3:6

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Rockwall County News

Publisher: Timothy W. Burnett

Publisher address: 107 E. Bourn Ave., Rockwall, Texas 75087

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Rockwall, 7 days a week, Big Book Group, 213 Rusk St., 972-722-6366.

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Sons of the American Revolution East Fork-Trinity Chapter meets 6:00 p.m., second Thursday each month, 4881 Bass Pro Dr. Garland, Texas. Guests & family welcome. <http://www.txssar.org/EastForkTrinity>.

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Meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, 203 S. Fannin. For more information call 972-772-6001

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If you are interested in delivering weekday meals to homebound seniors in Rockwall County, we will be holding volunteer training sessions the second Wednesday each month at 1 p.m. Please call 972-771-9514 for location.

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Everyone is invited to attend the "SAVING AMERICA THROUGH PRAYER" event, on the second Sunday of each month, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at Heritage Christian Academy - 1408 S. Goliad St., Rockwall, Texas. The free event will include guest speakers. This is not church affiliated, and is open to everyone interested. For more information contact Mike Kennedy (972) 998-2680 or Kenneth Shores (214) 334-1206 or Jerry Minx (972) 896-7081

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Legal Notices

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle **2005 Chevrolet Van** Vin 1gcfg15t451245254 towed from **1451 Campbell Richardson, Tx.** Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, Tx 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$843.00 and increase \$21.65 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before **APRIL 19, 2016.**

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle **2004 Dodge Ram** Vin 1d7ha1bd3us765071 towed from **5132 Henry Chandler Rockwall, Tx.** Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, Tx 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$1016.20, and increase \$21.65 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before **APRIL 09, 2016.**

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle **2004 HYUNDAI TRUCK** Vin 3H3V532C24T080283 towed from **1000 N 28TH Ave Irving, Tx.** Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, Tx 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$3065.11 and increase \$37.88 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before **APRIL 16, 2016.**

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle **2007 utility trailer** Vin 1uyvs253184314678 towed from **11932 Crompton Dr Balch Springs, Tx.** Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, Tx 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$1498.06 and increase \$37.88 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before **APRIL 13, 2016.**

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle **2001 Chevrolet Venture** Vin 1gndx03e91d275646 towed from **3501 Lancaster Hutchins Hutchins, Tx.** Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, TX 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$1232.70 and increase \$21.95 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before **April 21, 2016.**

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle **2001 Chevrolet Venture** Vin 1gndx03e91d275646 towed from **3501 Lancaster Hutchins Hutchins, Tx.** Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, TX 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$1232.70 and increase \$21.95 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before **April 21, 2016.**

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rockwall County invites the following:

Request for Proposal to provide Inmate Phone Services to the Rockwall County Jail

Specifications are on file in the Rockwall County Auditor's office, 1111 East Yellowjacket Ln., Ste. 202, Rockwall, Texas 75087 and also on the Rockwall County website: www.rockwallcountytexas.com.

Sealed submittals shall be marked on the outside "16-06-007 County Jail Inmate Phone Services" to Lisa Constant Wylie, Rockwall County Auditor, 1111 East Yellowjacket Ln., Ste. 202, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The deadline for submission is Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at 10:00 AM Central Time.

Rockwall County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all submittals.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
Rockwall County
Lisa Constant Wylie
Rockwall County Auditor

Public Notice

As of March 22, 2016, the cities of Royse City, Fate, McLendon-Chisholm, Heath, Rockwall and their respective representatives have continued to not publish each required notice in the *Rockwall County News*.

The City of Royse City has not published each required notice since before year 2008.

The City of Heath has not published each required notice since October 2008.

The City of Fate has not published each required notice since October 2012.

The City of McLendon-Chisholm has not published each required notice since October 28, 2014.

The City of Rockwall has not published each required notice since December 1, 2014.

By the above stated non-actions by the respective representatives, the right of the people to be duly notified of each city action, in accordance with state law, has been impaired on multiple counts.

All representatives of the above municipalities have been provided legal proof that the *Rockwall County News* meets the statutory criteria established under Texas Government Code Sections 2051.044, 2051.045, 2051.046 and 2051.048 (b) and (c), as a newspaper of general circulation, for publication of each required notice in accordance with state law.

Respectfully submitted by Timothy W. Burnett
Publisher *Rockwall County News*

Royse City Police Blotter

March 11-17

Friday, 11 March: Suspicious person, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Reckless driver, FM 548 and Elm Grove Road; Accident, I-30 westbound near the 76-mile marker; Welfare concern, 800 block Rowdy Drive; Theft, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Disturbance, 1200 block W. Main Street; City ordinance violation, 1300 block E. Hwy 66; Possession of drug paraphernalia arrest, 1100 block Live Oak Street; Accident, I-30 westbound near the 75-mile marker; Noise disturbance, 1200 block Tyler Court

Area News Briefs

D/FW Cemetery to honor Vietnam vets

A Vietnam War 50th anniversary commemoration ceremony designed to thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery's Assembly Area. Each Vietnam veteran attending will receive a commemorative lapel pin. The event will be hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Free Water Efficient Landscape course set April 2

Texas A&M AgriLife will offer free courses in Water Efficient Landscape in Dallas and Terrell. A course will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon on April 2 at the Dallas Center, Bldg. E auditorium, 17360 Coit Rd., Dallas. In Terrell, the event will be conducted at the same time on April 9 at the City of Terrell Service Center, 400 Industrial Blvd., Terrell. Register online at Dallas.TAMU.edu/courses for either location.

Rockwall County News • Your pure-local newspaper for Rockwall County

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Opinions

Feltway conservative budget plans are big spending and anti-liberty

Ron Paul

Ron Paul Institute (ronpaulinstitute.com)
According to a recent poll, 73 percent of all Americans oppose increases in federal spending. Since this anti-government spending is a major reason Republicans control the House and Senate, one would expect the Republican Congress to hold the line on even cut, government spending. Yet, despite the Republican leadership's rhetoric about "fiscal responsibility," this year's House Republican budget spends \$104 billion more than the GOP's 2013 budget.

Some conservatives, most notably the Heritage Foundation, have criticized the GOP budget. Heritage and the conservative House Republican Study Committee (RSC) have both prepared conservative alternatives to the official Republican budgets. Unfortunately, neither Heritage nor the RSC budgets meaningfully reduce federal spending.

Conservative efforts to reduce the size of government are capped by their love affair with the military-industrial complex. In the Pentagon's budget makes up the largest category of "discretionary" spending, it seems logical that a serious balanced budget plan would reduce spending on militarism.

Many of the same conservatives who (rightly) criticize the Republicans for refusing to cut spending not only oppose cuts to

the Pentagon budget, they actually call for increases in military spending! These conservatives refuse to admit that the trillions spent on "regime change" overseas have not only failed to turn the targeted countries into Jeffersonian republics but have actually empowered groups like ISIS.

Conservative support for ever-increasing spending on militarism undercuts their efforts to end corporate welfare. Much of the so-called defense budget is wasted on boondoggles like the F-35 fighter that only defend the lifestyles of defense contractors and their lobbyists.

Despite insisting on increased military spending, the Heritage and RSC budgets both, at least on paper, eliminate the deficit in less than ten years. These budgets contain some other positive elements. For example, the RSC budget calls for an audit of the Federal Reserve. Both budgets repeal Obamacare and provide the American people with much needed tax relief.

The good features of the conservative budgets do not cancel out their flaws. For one thing, neither of the conservative budgets actually cuts spending. Instead, they both use the old DC trick of cutting projected increases in spending. Only in DC could budgets that increase domestic spending be considered a "radical attack on the welfare state."

The fundamental flaw in the conservative budgets is philosophical: like much of modern American conservatism, the budget accepts the

notion that that the American government is both constitutionally authorized to, and capable of, running the economy, running our lives, and running the world. Hence the "conservative" budgets do little or nothing to scale back the federal role in education, housing, welfare, or commerce.

Conservative budgets reform welfare programs by giving the states more authority and flexibility in administering the programs. This may make marginal improvements in the programs, but it does not make the welfare state moral or constitutional. It also does not make government welfare more efficient or compassionate than private charity.

Similarly, while conservatives promise entitlement reforms that give individuals greater control, they refuse to grant young people the option to care for themselves by opting-out of the government entitlement system.

If America is going to avoid a major economic crisis, government spending and debt must be reduced. However, budgets that merely tinker around the edges of the welfare-warfare state, or only reduce the rate of spending increases, merely postpone the day of reckoning. Only a budget that brings the troops home, shuts down unconstitutional agencies, ends all corporate welfare, and begins unwinding our welfare and entitlement programs will ensure future generations enjoy liberty, peace, and prosperity.

My Wounded Warrior donation – where did it go?

Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

A few months ago, I felt compelled to donate to the Wounded Warrior Project. The many commercials on television showing how the project was helping our veterans and their families with their physical, psychological and emotional healing touched my heart, assuring me this was the right place to contribute.

When a few weeks after sending in my donation, the media blew up with the accusations of fraud and misuse of money that had been injected into the Wounded Warrior Project's care.

The various media -- newspapers, radio and television -- all gave conflicting accounts of the exact amounts of money spent on the veterans' care and on the actual operating expenses of the organization. Of course, the WWP gave its own accounting as to what part of the money was spent for overhead and what went toward the veterans' care.

The WWP began in 2003. Its website states that the organization serves veterans and service members who incurred a physical or mental injury, illness or wound, co-incident to their military service after Sept. 11, 2001." The site mentions its support of the military operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and the global war on terrorism. Veterans who served before 2001, such as in WW II, Korea or Vietnam, are not eligible for the project's services.
In Jan. 26, a lengthy story from Dave Philipps of The New York Times was reprinted in The Dallas Morning News with the title of "Charity's Lavish Outlays at Issue." Although an in-depth, detailed report about all the alleged abuse of the WWP spending, as well as accounts from supporting the organization are part of the story, what originally caught my attention was that in 2015, the donations of \$3 million came "largely through small donations from people (the age of) 65."

I believe the reason for those in this age bracket contributing in such large quantities is because that generation of people experienced WW II, the Korean War, the Viet Nam War and other war-like conflicts and many lived through the Great Depression. People who lived through such agonizing times are more apt to help each other during rough times. Thus when older citizens see the heart-breaking commercials on television of veterans with missing limbs or severe injuries, pictured with their wives, children and possibly a service dog by their side, it inspires them to want to help the veterans and donate money to an organization which will meet these needs in a positive way to show support. Quite possibly, the donations are in small amounts due to the fact that many people over the age of 65 are on limited incomes. Even more reason to appreciate and account for their contributions.

The Philipps' story explained that "the WWP has spent millions of dollars a year on travel, dinners, hotels and conferences that were often more lavish than appropriate. Former workers recounted booking business-class seats and regularly jetting around the country for minor meetings. About 40 percent of the money collected was used on overhead, leaving 60 percent to actually go toward helping the veterans, the real reason for the charity."

The Philipps also states that in 2014, the WWP "flew roughly 500 employees to Colorado Springs for an all hands meeting at the five-star Broadmoor Hotel at a cost of \$500-a-night rooms. They were celebrating their biggest year yet: \$225 million raised." Reporters Michael Pearson and Tiffany Ap of CNN reported that a bar tab of \$2,500 was accumulated at the Broadmoor Hotel during the charity representatives' stay.

But when one reads on about all the fraud, waste and misuse of the

donated money, this very well could be one of the reasons that charities of all kinds say that their contributions are way down and going lower each year. This is one of the reasons I have hesitated to donate to charities. I hear so many reports of so much waste of the money. I have chosen to donate to something more locally where I know the money goes to the designated need.

WWP states they spend 80 percent of the donations on programs for the veterans, which they say also includes marketing and promotion of the program a definite difference in the amount the investigative agencies have uncovered.

On Friday, March 11, multimedia reports hit the air that the two top executives, CEO Steven Nardizzi and COO Al Giordano, were no longer with WWP. Reports were vague as to whether they had been fired or resigned from the charity. The reason given for the change was that the move was due to "extravagant and wasteful spending and the need for new leadership."

I am sure there will be more news to come on the Wounded Warrior Project. At this time it is difficult to say what the facts are and which are really true.

I still feel compelled to help the veterans and their families. I just agonize over the fact that part of what I donated may go for extravagant trips, meals, hotel stays and bar tabs. When I made the decision to contribute, it was with a vision that my money would go to help with medical care, medications, prosthetics, rehabilitation and therapy for our wounded veterans. Now I just don't know what to do. Maybe time and more investigation into the project will help me make a more educated decision.

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 2)

Democratic Men plan April 2 meeting

The Democratic Men's Group of Rockwall County will meet for a luncheon on Saturday, April 2, at Arboledas' Mexican Grill, 1103 Ridge Rd., Rockwall. The group meets for lunch at noon on the first Saturday of each month at various local restaurants. Open-minded progressive men concerned with the future direction of Texas and Rockwall County are invited to attend.

Newcomers & Friends to meet

Rockwall County Newcomers & Friends will host its April luncheon and program beginning at 10 a.m. April 14 at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City. Dave Tanner, who has performed for European royalty and three U.S. presidents, will sing Broadway's greatest hits and reveal the stories behind the songs. Join in the fun; RSVP by April 4 by calling Barbara at 972-771-1057 or Cathy at 942-400-9934 or visit newcomersrock.com.

Fundraiser for WIN set April 7

A fundraiser for Women in Need will be conducted from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, at Painting with a Twist, 513 E. I-30, Rockwall. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event will benefit WIN and its clients. Light snacks will be provided; attendees are invited to bring the beverage of their choice. The event will be open to the public. For more details or to reserve a seat visit painting-withatwist.com/events/viewevent.aspx?eventID=469616.

Texas History in 1861 is topic of April 8 event

To secede or not to secede was the question posed by Gov. Sam Houston (aka Mike Donegan) and Texas Ranger John Salmon "Rip" Ford (aka Jay Webb), will be explored April 8 at the Sheri Stodghill Lecture Series presented by the Rockwall County Historical Foundation and the Rockwall County Historical Commission from noon to 1 p.m. in the third floor in the historic downtown courthouse.

RISD to host April 9 job fair

The Rockwall ISD will host its annual job fair from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 9, at Rockwall High. Representatives from each campus and administrative department will be on site. Job applicants may bring resumes and fill out online applications at rockwallisd.com/event/job-fair.

(Continued on Page 6)

RISD's Duran attends leadership training

Lucinda Duran, a member of the Rockwall Independent School District Board of Trustees, was among a group of school board members gathering in Corpus Christi Feb. 25-27 to learn about 21st century challenges to leadership and the implications of those trends for educators.

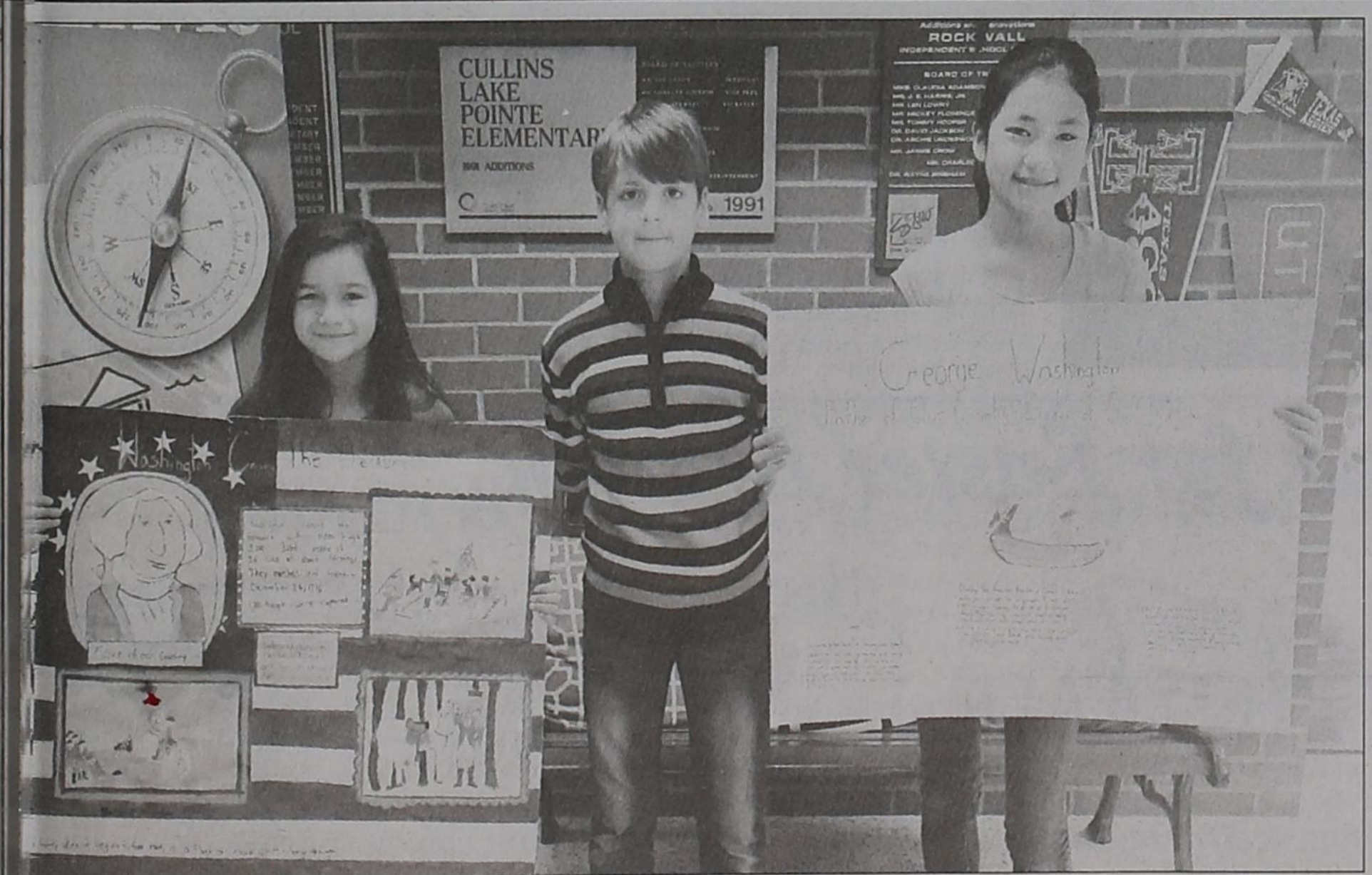
The session theme for this, the third of five training sessions of Leadership Training (LTASB), was "Where Leadership Happens through Embracing Change," according to a RISD news release.

Trustees began activities Thursday with a tour of Driscoll Independent School District, a K-8 district that is completing its first building project in more than 30 years. Driscoll ISD is a Texas Education Agency (TEA) recognized district that remains committed to small class size and the use of technology in every phase of the instructional day.

Featured speaker for Thursday was Kelly McDonald, CEO of

McDonald Marketing. McDonald's remarks were about discovering discernable trends in the federal census and what implications can be drawn by school leaders.

Friday's activities included tours of Santa Gertrudis and Premont school districts. At Santa Gertrudis ISD, LTASB members toured the elementary and secondary campuses. Academy High School was originally established as the secondary school for children living on the King Ranch. Now it is a year-round school located on the campus of Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Premont ISD, since receiving a letter from TEA informing the district of pending closure, has implemented measures and experienced a dramatic turnaround in its academic program as well as district finances.



Fifth grade students at Doris Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary have been studying the American Revolution during their social studies class with Gayle Kidd. The students entered a poster contest hosted by the Sons of the American Revolution, a nonprofit local group that maintains and expands patriotism, respect for national symbols, the value of American citizenship and the unifying force of e pluribus unum – one nation, one people. Students were asked to create posters about George Washington and his role in the American Revolution. Each participant received an honorable mention certificate and three students received awards. Pictured above are the award winners: Marcus Stencil, who received Best All-Around and a \$100 prize and Sloan Stewart and Reaksar Chron, both of whom received Creativity awards, along with a \$25 prize.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Greeting all new residents of Rockwall County and Rowlett with a gift bag to their own front door introducing YOUR business!

Housewarmers
Get in the Bag!
Bringing Businesses and Community Together

Housewarmers of Rockwall County
Blair and Mary Johnson
www.housewarmersusa.com • mjohnson@housewarmersusa.com
469-387-9620

Lady Jackets softball slide into District with 4 shut-outs

The Rockwall High School Lady Jackets varsity softball team opened 2016 District play by overpowering their first four opponents with a 10-point and over margin.

On Tuesday March 1, the Ladies defeated North Garland 20-0 in a game that ended in the 3rd inning. Leading the Lady Jackets were Shelbi Court with 3 At Bats, 3 runs, 3 Hits, and 2 Runs Batted In. Alyssa Henry scored 3 runs off 2 Hits, with 1 RBI. Dani Greenlee knocked in 3 RBIs off 2 Runs and 2 Hits. Erica Speers held North Garland to zero hits.



Lady Jackets Erica Speers winds up for a pitch while holding to Rowlett runners on 1st and 3rd bases, last Fri, March 18, at Rowlett H.S. Ready on defense are Darryon Welborn (5) at 3rd base, and Dani Greenlee at 1st base. Rowlett won 8-6.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

The Lady Jackets traveled to Lakeview Centennial for a second shut-out for a 15-0 win. Speers held Centennial to 1 hit. Court led with 2 Runs off 2 At Bats, 2 Hits and 4 RBIs. Speer scored 1 Run off 3 At Bats with 3 RBIs and 2 Hits.

Next, Rockwall set their sites on Naaman Forest on Mon. March 14, returning with a 12-0 win. The Lady Jackets showed more depth in pitching as Hannah Frank stayed on the mound thru the 5th inning closer, holding Naaman to zero hits and 6 strike-outs.

Regan Swindall shined with 4 Runs of 4 At Bats, 2 Hits and 3 RBIs.

On Tue. March 15, Rockwall returned home for a 2-12 win against Sachse. Pitcher Cassie Lawrence held the mound thru the 5th inning closer, allowing 3 Hits and 2 Runs. Swindall also led on offense with 2 Runs of 3 At Bats, 3 Hits and 1 RBI.

On Fri. March 18, Rockwall fell 6-8 to Rowlett. Swindall scored 3 Runs off 5 At Bats and 4 Hits. Henry logged 2 Runs and 3 Hits, and Darryan Welborn scored 1 Run on 2 Hits and 1 RBI. Court knocked in 3 RBIs.

On Rowlett's side, Payton Sabolski led with 2 Runs, 3 Hits and 2 RBIs. Other standouts were Kendy Dockter with 3 Runs off 5 At Bats and 2 Hits and Victoria Rodriguez with 2 Runs, 1 Hit and 1 RBI.

The Lady Jackets will travel to Garland HS, 5:00 p.m., Thurs. March 24.

Shipley returns with Bronze Medal

Rockwall-Heath High School Senior, Katy Shipley, won the Bronze Medal in Class 5A, Sat. March 19, 2016, in the State Powerlifting Meet in Corpus Christi.

According to Coach Rodney Swinson, Ms. Shipley is the first state medalist in powerlifting at Rockwall Heath.

She finished with a total lift of 895 lbs., which was 5 lbs. out of 2nd place. Shipley lifted 360 lbs. in the Squat, 200 lbs. in the Bench Press, and 335 lbs. in the Dead Lift. Her Bench Press lift was highest in the 165 weight class.

This was Shipley's second trip to the state meet. During the 2015 meet, she finished in 11th place with a total of 795 lbs.

"Katy definitely had her best day lifting on the biggest stage, and we're all extremely proud of her," said Coach Swinson.

Rockwall-Heath powerlifter, Lauren Higbee also advance to the State Meet with a 1st place total of 885 lbs. in her weight class during the Regional Meet, Wed. March 2, at Wylie H.S.

Ms. Higbee was awarded for Outstanding squat, overall lifter in 4 weight classes during the Regional Meet.

Soccer teams advance to Bi-District

Five Rockwall County high school soccer teams are advancing to the Bi-District round of the UIL playoffs.

The Rockwall HS Lady Jackets (Overall 15-3-4, District 11-2-1), will take-on Copperas Cove, 6:00 p.m., Thurs. March 24, at Waxahachie's Lumpkin Stadium.

The Lady Hawks of Rockwall-Heath (Overall 15-3-5, District 10-3-1), are set to compete against Carrollton Newman Smith, 7:15 p.m., Fri. March 25, at Richardson ISD Wildcat/Ram Stadium.

The Roysie City Lady Bulldogs will play against Hillcrest, 7:30 p.m., Thurs. March 24, at Berry Middle School, 2675 Bear Drive, Mesquite.

The Roysie City Bulldogs will travel to Wylie H.S. Stadium, Thurs. March 24, for a 5:30 p.m. game against Carrollton Creekview.

The Rockwall-Heath Hawks (Overall 16-5-6, District 13-1) will hit their home turf field, 7:30 p.m., Thurs. March 24, to play against Dallas Bryan Adams. The Hawks logged 9 District shutout games, while allowing scores on the board by North Forney, South Garland (3-4, Loss), West Mesquite (2-2, Win), Roysie City (3-2, Win) and Forney (2-2, Win).

Leading the Hawks in scoring during District was Mejia Lissandro (13 Points with 4 Assists) and Ethan Welch (6 Pt with 3 Asst). Other totals include Bijan Nichols (4 Pt, 4 Asst), Jonathan Cruz (4 Pts, 4 Asst), Erik Duque (3 Pt with 1 Asst), Eric Robles (3 Pt with 2 Asst), Daniel Anguiano (2 Pt with 1 Asst), David Avitia (2 Pt, 1 Asst), Garrett Daulong (1 Pt, 1 Asst), Kaleb Olsen (1 Pt), Stephen Floyd (1 Pt), Reeves Salley (1 Pt).

Overall, the Hawks scored 62, and allowed 32 goals. In District, the team scored 46 and allowed 13 goals.

Rockin' R Relays slated April 8

The 7th Annual Rockin' R Relays, sponsored by Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Associates/Dr. Mark Olmstead, will take place April 8 at Wilkerson Sanders Stadium. Field events will begin at 1:30 p.m., 3:20 at 4 p.m. and running finals at 6 p.m. Admission will cost \$3 for students, \$4 for adults. Teams from Rockwall, Rockwall-Heath, Carrollton Creekview, Cedar Hill, Forney, Garland, Mesquite Horn, Lake Highlands, Lakeview Centennial, Plano, Naaman Forest, North Garland, North Mesquite, Potett, Rowlett, Sachse (boys) and Frisco Centennial (girls) will attend.



Katy Shipley (center) wins the Bronze Medal, Sat. March 19, 2016, during the State Powerlifting meet in Corpus Christi. Proudly standing with Shipley are Coaches Rodney Swinson and Kevin Napier.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 5)

Household hazardous waste collection set April 23

The City of Heath will join the City of Rockwall to host the 16th Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day rain or shine on April 23 at Rockwall's Service Center, 1600 Airport Rd., Rockwall. The 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. event will be open to Heath residents who must obtain a free voucher to participate, according to the City of Heath's website. Household pesticides, paint products, household cleaners, herbicides, motor oil, automotive chemicals, pool products and tires (no rims) will be accepted. Document shredding and electronics recycling also will be offered. To volunteer as neighborhood coordinator or to obtain a participation voucher go by City Hall or call 972-771-6228.

**Celebrate Easter with
First Christian Church Rockwall
(Disciples of Christ)**

Easter Sunday March 27
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service
(indoors with Eastern view)
• 8:45 Worship
• 10:00 Brunch/Easter Egg Hunt
• 11:00 Worship

3375 Ridge Rd • Rockwall
(1.4 miles south of I-30)
972-771-5526

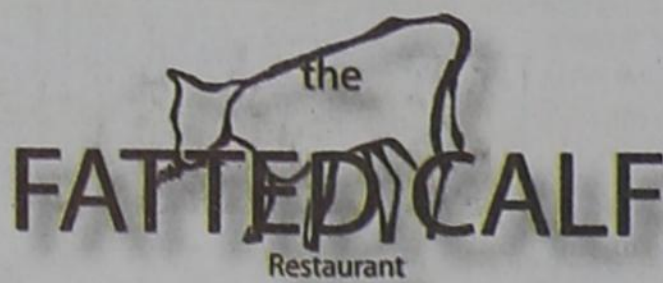
Join us for Easter Brunch



culpeppersteakhouse.com

Reservations
972-771-1001

309 I-30 East, Rockwall



thefattedcalfrestaurant.com

Reservations
972-722-3343

112 E. Rusk, Rockwall



theoarhouserestaurant.com

Reservations
972-771-9687

305 I-30 East, Rockwall



A special menu for each restaurant