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## Former Hunt County constable arrested in fatal shooting of Rockwall woman

By Kory Williams

Law enforcement officials from several agencies are continuing to investigate a double shooting Friday night at The Harbor that left 33-year-old Jessica Aguilar dead and her companion, 40-year-old Francisco Delacruz, in serious condition at a Dallas hospital.

According to a press release from the Rockwall Police Department, the suspect, 47-year-old Anthony Lewis, led police on a high-speed car chase following the shootings before he was stopped by officers in Greenville and pointing a gun at them.

Lewis was taken to a local hospital in Greenville and later transferred to Parkland Hospital in Dallas where he was initially listed in critical condition with gunshot wounds to the arms and legs. He was upgraded to serious condition following surgery. He is expected to survive.

Reports indicate Lewis is an ex-friend of Aguilar who was upset by the couple's breakup. He is a former Hunt County Constable and a 25-year law enforcement veteran. He said they could not find any past evidence of domestic issues involving Lewis and Aguilar.

Following the shootings, Aguilar and Delacruz were transported to hospitals where Aguilar died of her wounds. In 911 tapes released by the Rockwall Police Department, witnesses to the shooting reported that Aguilar had been shot in the chest and abdomen.

At the time Tuesday, Delacruz was listed in stable condition at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas and is expected to survive. Police on Monday were unable to confirm how many times Delacruz had been shot or what injuries were on his body.

According to Sgt. Aaron McGrew, Public Information Officer for the Rockwall Police Department, Delacruz's driver's license showed a last address but no further information about him was available.

All Police detectives were scheduled to interview Delacruz Monday at the hospital to see if he could offer any insight into a motive for the shootings. No information about that interview has been released.

The couple was attacked at approximately 7:53 p.m., Feb. 16, in an office parking lot owned by the City of Rockwall just north of the movie theater on Lake Front Trail. Initial media reports that the shooting had taken place at the theater or in the shopping area were incorrect. On the 911 tapes released Monday, operators asked callers for a landmark at The Harbor closest to the victims so emergency responders could find them easily and callers identified the movie theater.

Rockwall police said Lewis approached the couple as they were walking through the parking lot and had an argument with Aguilar which



Anthony Lewis

allegedly involved a physical altercation. Witnesses told 911 operators the suspect drove away in a dark colored car but he returned a few minutes later, walked up to the couple, pulled out a handgun and began shooting.

At least one witness at the scene was able to give Lewis's license plate number to 911 operators.

Sgt. McGrew said the investigation is continuing into what caliber firearm Lewis used but he confirmed it was a semi-automatic pistol.

At approximately 8:22 p.m., Lewis was spotted in a dark colored Mini Cooper by Garland police, but he fled when officers attempted to stop him.

Officers from the Rockwall Police Department, Rockwall Sheriff's Department, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and a DPS helicopter were all involved in the chase that reached speeds of up to 130 mph on I-30 and the President George Bush Turnpike through Garland, Rowlett, Rockwall, Roysse City, Fate, and Greenville.

Lewis ran over a police spike strip after making a u-turn just west of the Monty Stratton Parkway in Greenville to head back westbound. He then rammed a DPS vehicle.

Westbound lanes of I-30 were shut down for several hours while a DPS reconstruction team examined the evidence at the scene, according to DPS spokesman Trooper Lonny Haschel. Trooper Haschel said Lewis also hit several other law enforcement vehicles during the chase. Sgt. McGrew said officers attempted to use spike strips during the pursuit to stop Lewis but they were not successful.

Trooper Haschel said Lewis was shot after he exited his car on the north side service road of I-30 and pointed a gun at officers. At the time of a press conference late Friday night, Trooper Haschel did not know how many officers fired at Lewis but said none of the officers at the scene were injured.

"The officers were in fear for their lives because of the circumstances surrounding the whole incident itself," Trooper Haschel said. "There was an exchange of gunfire. The suspect was hit and transported to a local hospital."

Trooper Haschel said the Texas Rangers are investigating to see if shots were fired during the pursuit.

"We have the Texas Rangers out here and they're going to sit down and visit with all the parties involved and they'll come together to put all the pieces together of this puzzle, because it's a long, long stretch," Trooper Haschel said.

The Texas Rangers are investigating the shooting of Lewis in Hunt County. The Rockwall Police Department is investigating The Harbor shootings. A number of other agencies are also involved, according to Sgt. McGrew.

Witnesses to the car chase reported to local news agencies seeing a patrol car in a ditch but did not know if it was related to the pursuit. Rockwall Sheriff's Department spokesman Lt. David Davis told the Rockwall County News that a deputy headed to the scene to join the pursuit lost control of his cruiser on a curve in the road near the intersection of FM 1903 and I-30. Lt. Davis said the deputy hit his head and was disoriented and was transported to a local hospital. The deputy

## Roysse City ISD board pleased with security measures

By Millie Jean Coppedge

Plans for Roysse City Chief of Police, Jeff Stapleton, were one of the items for the Roysse City School Board meeting on Feb. 11.

Greg Strahm, safety and security coordinator for the Roysse City Independent School District, gave an informative presentation outlining the district's plans to make local schools safer, especially in light of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

Strahm noted that Stapleton has done an extensive walkthrough of the district's schools, evaluating what he thinks needs to be done to increase safety for the district's students, faculty and staff. Some plans that went into place include "instructing how first responders would respond at a school in an emergency, setting up crisis training for officers, evacuating school buildings in the summer, establishing safe zones and evacuation locations, providing information on faster evacuation options and stressing the importance of shaving seconds in a

meeting. Strahm stated what a committed police force Roysse City has and how they are working together as a team, patrolling and watching over school properties.

Presented were plans to bring aboard Educational/Operational Assistants to address security and safety concerns, to complete the installation of front entry cameras and buzz-in systems, along with monitors and administer training for school administrators of emergency protocol.

Strahm said letters will go home to the parents soon with information

about the new measures being introduced.

Kevin Worthy, superintendent, gave the updates on the district and individual campus scores for the STAAR results for 2012 and discussed the increasing expectation for students success levels for coming years.

Roysse City students scored well on their tests scores, according to reports.

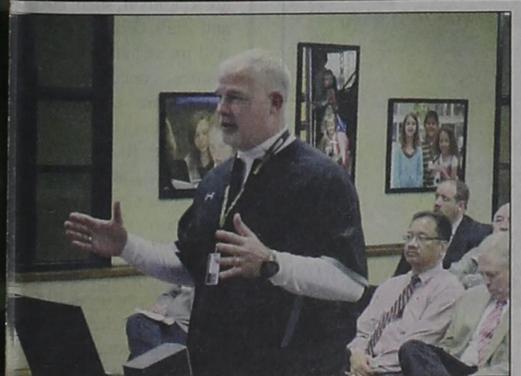
Worthy also introduced the new band director, Doug Fulwood from the Bastrop Independent School District, who is expected to begin duties in April.

Two positions for the school board elections are open, Place 6 and Place 7. The positions are full three-year terms. More information can be found on the RCISD website. Deadline for submitting an application as a candidate is March 1.

March is Public School Month and many events and activities are in the planning stages for the celebration.

All board members present at the meeting.

The next meeting will be March 11.



Greg Strahm, safety and security coordinator for the Roysse City Independent School District presented a most informative and impressive power point to the Roysse City School Board Monday night, February 11, 2013.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News



Don Palmer (right), President of the Roysse City ISD School Board presented a plaque to Roysse City Reporter Millie Jean Coppedge in honor of the Rockwall County News.

The plaque read "To Honor Your Service to Education. By word and deed, your presence has enriched the lives of students...and served as an example for all. Roysse City ISD recognizes Rockwall County News for their exemplary approach to sharing the successes and challenges achieved by the teachers and students of RCISD."

Photo courtesy of Roysse City ISD/Rockwall County News

was treated for a possible concussion and kept overnight for observation. He was released the next day with no other injuries.

In addition to his two terms as a Hunt County Constable, Lewis also served as a University Park police officer, a police sergeant with the City of Argyle, a Coppell traffic officer, and a paramedic with the Dallas County tactical SWAT team.

Sgt. McGrew said Lewis has been charged with murder and attempted murder, with bond set at \$1.5 million. He is currently under guard at Parkland Hospital until he can be released and transferred to the Rockwall County Detention Center.

Jessica Aguilar is survived by three children. Their ages and gender were not released at press time. Funeral arrangements for Aguilar have not been announced.

Editor's Note: On the night of the Feb. 16 double shooting in Rockwall, concerned residents flooded offices at The Harbor with calls and messages about the location of the incident and seeking information about the welfare of family and friends visiting the shops and restaurants at the lakeside entertainment center.

An initial statement Saturday night from representatives of The Harbor in response to the many calls served to accurately give the location of the shootings and expressed condolences to the families of those involved.

An additional statement of sympathy to the families from representatives of The Harbor was offered Tuesday afternoon.

"We are deeply saddened by this tragic event, and we all extend great sympathy to the victims and their families. Our thoughts and prayers are with them," The Harbor Shopping Center & UCR Asset Services."

## Reeves named Rockwall ISD Athletics Director



New Rockwall ISD Athletic Director Russ Reeves (center) with Superintendent Jeff Bailey (left) and Board of Trustees President Doug Hamilton (right).

Photo courtesy of Rockwall ISD/Rockwall County News

by Lary Bump

Russ Reeves was named the Rockwall ISD's athletics director at a special meeting of the RISD Board of Trustees Thursday, Feb. 14.

Reeves had been the assistant director of athletics for the Denton ISD since 2007. Before that, he had coached at Corsicana, Keller and Denton high schools and at Calhoun Middle School in Denton.

He will assume his new duties Monday, Feb. 25. Lee Stout has been the interim athletics director since Jan. 2. Those duties are expected to be similar than those he performed in Denton - budgeting, game reports, transportation, game administration, personnel and program implementation.

Reeves replaced Scott Smith, who had served since December 2009 as both the district's athletics director and Rockwall High School's head football coach and athletics coordinator. Smith now is the associate head football coach at Houston Baptist University.

"I am so humbled and blessed to now be a part of such a wonderful community and school district," Reeves said in an RISD news release. "It is obvious that athletics is woven into the fabric of the Rockwall community and it will be exciting to work alongside people who value and understand the vital role athletics plays in the overall educational process of our students in Rockwall ISD."

The new AD has a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education with a minor in history, and a master's degree in educational administration from the University of North Texas.

RISD superintendent of schools Jeff Bailey said, "We are very pleased to welcome Coach Reeves to Rockwall ISD," said Superintendent of Schools Jeff Bailey. "His experience as a teacher, a coach and an assistant director of athletics give him broad insight and we know that he will provide strong leadership for our athletic programs as well as be a strong partner for our teachers and our school administration."

Reeves is well connected with athletic directors from across the state through his work with the Texas High School Athletic Directors Association. He has served on THSADA committees on Marketing, Membership and the 2012 State Conference to promote interscholastic athletics. He is recognized as a certified athletic administrator by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

He has taught Texas History, World History, American History, World Geography, Humanities, English as a Second Language and Physical Education. He has coached both boys and girls - in football, powerlifting, wrestling, cross country and track and field.

One of Reeves' first personnel matters will be in the hiring of new RHS football coach. Chris Patton is the interim coach.



# National School Breakfast Week observance set in Rockwall ISD

Studies indicate that students who eat school breakfast increase their math and reading scores and improve their cognitive speed and memory, but fewer than half of the children that receive lunch at school also receive breakfast. To garner increased participation in the School Breakfast Program, Rockwall schools will recognize National School Breakfast Week.

Slated for March 4-8, National School Breakfast Week is a weeklong celebration aimed at increasing awareness of the School Breakfast Program among students and parents, according to a Rockwall Independent School District news release.

The 2013 theme, "Be a Star with School Breakfast," highlights how eating a balanced breakfast at school can help students shine like their

favorite stars in the movies, on the field and on TV.

Cafeterias will celebrate school breakfast with special menus and decorations, activities and school breakfast related brainteasers to help students to warm up their brains before they head to class.

Every school day, Rockwall ISD's breakfast program offers students the healthy foods needed to get set for a busy school day. Healthy Whole Grain options, more fresh fruits offered every day at a cost of \$1.25 for breakfast and 30 cents for families who qualify for Reduced Price Meals. Every school breakfast served meets federal nutrition standards limiting fat and portion size.

Healthy school breakfasts can be a lifesaver for busy parents too.

"It's a race for any family to get their kids ready, fed and out the door time for school," said Julie Farris, director of child nutrition. "Knowing that their children can eat a healthy breakfast at school can be a relief for parents."

"Be a Star with School Breakfast" was created by the non-profit Nutrition Association with support from Kellogg's Foodservice, national campaign recognizes National School Breakfast Week, launched in 1989 to raise awareness of the availability of the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to all children and the links between a good breakfast, academic achievement and healthy lifestyles.

## Library fundraiser to showcase McLean's comedic talents

Puppeteer Sandra McLean and her sidekicks, Mimi and Babette, will headline a March 22 "adult cabaret comedy" show set for 7 p.m. in the Rockwall County Library's Community Room.

Mimi and Babette are two of the many characters created by McLean, and this is the only show she has created especially for adults.

Mimi is said to be one of the community's feistiest senior citizens. After Valentine's Day failed to produce any potential suitors, Mimi now is exploring the world of computer dating. She has posted an airbrushed photo and a clever biography on multiple sites and has booked a cruise on the Love Boat. She and her French maid, Babette, will leave in early March, but they'll be back in time to share their experiences at the March 22 fundraiser.

McLean is a featured attraction each year at the Pumpkin Patch children's performances on Saturdays. There, she performs in the

Walkabout Theatre designed and constructed by her husband, Don.

Admission will cost \$20. Seating will be limited, so reservations are suggested. To make reservations, call Leigh Plagens at 972-771-8976 or email cplagens65@aol.com.

The fundraiser will benefit Friends of the Rockwall County Library, which works to promote the interests and the welfare of the library. Profits from fundraising events help supplement the library's budget and pay for special children's programming, adult literacy programs, subscriptions and other items.

## Chamber to offer May 10 leadership event

The Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce will offer Chick-fil-A Leadercast, a one-day leader

development event broadcast live from Atlanta, Ga., May 10 at the Rockwall High School Performing Arts Center on the Utley Middle School campus.

The event will be broadcast to hundreds of sites throughout the U.S.

(Continued on Page 6)

## 'The Murder Room' comes to Rockwall Community Playhouse

"Murder has never been this funny," raved a review of Jack Sharkey's comedic play, which is coming to Rockwall Community Playhouse in March.

A mystery farce revolving around Edgar and his unfaithful wife, Mavis, is a mix of Agatha Christie, Monty Python and Abbot and Costello. This two-act whodunit is filled with witty dialogue, inept criminals and bumbling police and is suitable for all ages.

Directing the production is Shelly Aubrey, who has been working with RCP for about 10 years. The first show that she directed at the playhouse was "Fiddler on the Roof."

Aubrey has been involved with theater since her sophomore year in high school. She has performed with Dallas Summer Musicals, Casa Manana, Country Dinner



Nebbie Williams students Jason and Sarah Trabasso represented the country of Indonesia at the recent Parade of Nations conducted at the Rockwall Independent School District's Multicultural Celebration. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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## Newcomers observe Valentine's Day meeting

The Rockwall County Newcomers and Friends conducted their February meeting on Valentine's Day.

The session was well attended.

Prior to lunch, a short business meeting was conducted. It included a slideshow of photos from the recent social conducted at the Hilton Bella Harbor. A bingo party was enjoyed by all.

The group will host a spring style show March 14 as part of their regular luncheon meeting at Occasions of Stone River, Royse City. The event will include a "How to Accessorize" segment. Doors open at 10 a.m. for coffee, tea and fellowship; the business meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m., with the program and lunch to follow. Cost is \$19, which will be payable at the door.

All female residents of Rockwall County are invited to attend. Reservations are required by March 4 and may be made by calling Sylvia at 972-772-4890 or Marion at 972-722-9896.

If you're a fan of this newspaper, be sure to shop with our advertisers, and tell 'em you saw it in the County News!



Boy Scout Den 5 of Rockwall Pack 528 touring the Rockwall County News office (back row left to right) are Aidan Castillo, Brandon Aldredge, Ella Harris, Max Fox, Luke Hargis (front row) Gabe Montgomery and Ethan Harris. This was the Den's final outing to earn the Tiger Badge at the Pack's Blue and Gold Banquet scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2013. Photo courtesy of Mark Castillo/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall County News Brief

### Dem Dames meeting set Feb. 21

The monthly meeting of Dem Dames will begin at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at La Madeleine Restaurant in Rockwall. The group meets the 4th Thursday of every month to allow women to discuss current political issues. This social gathering of Democratic women is open to all.

### 'Gospel Project' launches at FBC Heath

The First Baptist Church of Heath, 224 Smirl Drive, will launch "Gospel Project" for its Sunday school classes Feb. 24 for young people ages 6-12. Activities will begin at 10:45 a.m. and culminate in a balloon release to celebrate the day at noon following the church services. Everyone is invited to come learn more about the project and participate in the launch. For more details contact Judy Killebrew at 972-771-8275.

### Jones Elementary plans carnival, cook-off

The 2nd Annual Jones Elementary Jag Jog 5K Run and Mile Fun Run will be conducted March 2 at 2051 Trail Glen, Jones Elementary, in Rockwall. It will be a chip-timed event. Also planned are a carnival, silent auction, raffle and chili cook-off, all of which will immediately follow the race. Games, concessions and vendor booths are planned. For more information visit djones.txptx.net.

### Turner to speak at church March 3

Scott Turner, state representative for District 33 that includes Rockwall, will be guest speaker at the Transformation Anglican Church beginning at 10 a.m. March 3. Turner, a Christian former football player, will speak about his faith. Turner played for Washington Redskins, the San Diego Chargers and the Denver Broncos during his athletic career. The public is invited to attend.

(Continued on Page 6)

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**Weldon Collier, his sister Guyrene Randles and niece Carolyn Bryan**

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# Royse City News

## Royse City Council positions on May 11 municipal election

by Millie Jean Coppedge

The opening event for the Royse City Council meeting Feb. 12 was the recognition of Brent Stowers as the new parks, recreation and facility maintenance superintendent for Royse City.

The prior director in this position was Randall Nichols, who has retired.

In other business, Mayor Jerrell Baley issued a proclamation to the Royse City Lions Club proclaiming Feb. 25 as Royse City Lions Club Recognition Day.

A come-and-go open house will be conducted at the Holiday Inn Express in Royse City from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on that date.

The public is welcome to drop by and learn about the many important projects the club carries out on behalf of the community.

Baley also presented the club members with a supply of used eyeglasses to be added to the club's collection. According to the Lions Club's website, "Used eyeglasses are collected around the world by Lions Clubs and are sent to recycling centers to be prepared to be reissued to people in needy areas." He also recognized that the Royse City Lions Club has donated a large outdoor movie screen to the Royse City Parks Department to be used during the city's night out when families gather at the park for an evening of family entertainment.

Brenda Craft, city secretary, gave information to the council regarding the Boards and Commission Campaign and discussed the voting information for 2013. Information on both of these topics can be found on the city's website.

Four positions for the Royse City Council will be filled during the May 11 general election. Those positions are for mayor (now held by Baley); Place 1 (held by Mayor Pro-Tem Janet Nichol); Place 3 (held by Bill Bell); and Place 5 (held by

James Branch). The applications for submitting one's name to be placed on the ballot may be obtained from Craft at the City Hall building at 305 North Arch St.; deadline for submitting is 5 p.m. March 1.

City Manager Carl Alsbrook updated the council regarding the installation of utilities now under way and progressing for the Erby Campbell Overpass Project in preparation for the for the coming of Wal-Mart. At this time there is still no definite date for the beginning of construction for the store.

All council members were present at the meeting.



At the Tuesday night Royse City Council meeting, Mayor Jerrell Baley presented a proclamation to the Royse City Lions Club in recognition of their fifth anniversary, proclaiming Feb. 25 as Royse City Lions Club Recognition Day. Pictured from the left are Baley, club president Kathleen Tyre, Kimberley Wheeler, Melda Belk and Al Belk.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

### Rockwall County Entertainment

#### 'Oliver' set at RCP this month

"Oliver" will be staged at the Rockwall Community Playhouse Feb. 22-24. Friday and Saturday shows will be at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinee performances will be at 2 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

#### Stoney LaRue at Southern Junction Feb. 22

Southern Junction features Stoney LaRue Friday, Feb. 22, reservations are available by calling 972-771-2418. For more details see www.southernjunctionlive.com

#### Firefighters plan benefit ball

The Rockwall Fire Department and the Garland Firefighters Association will co-host a ball March 2 to benefit firefighters Devon Colbert, 29, who was injured Dec. 17 in a car accident in Rockwall. Colbert sustained a severe spinal injury and is now paralyzed. He now has been moved to the Baylor Rehab Center. To help the Colbert family, supporters can buy tickets to the ball, sponsor a table or donate items to the live and silent auctions planned. Visit garlandfirefighters.org to make a donation.

#### Newcomers plan spring style show

The Rockwall County Newcomers and Friends will host a spring style show March 14 as part of their regular luncheon meeting at Occasions of Stone River, Royse City. The event will include a "How to Accessorize" segment. Doors open at 10 a.m. for coffee, tea and fellowship; the business meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m., with the program and lunch to follow. Cost is \$19, which will be payable at the door. All female residents of Rockwall County are invited to attend. Reservations are required by March 4 and may be made by calling Sylvia at 972-772-4890 or Marion at 972-722-9896.

#### Deryl Dodd at Southern Junction March 16

Southern Junction features Deryl Dodd Saturday, March 16, reservations are available by calling 972-771-2418. For more details see www.southernjunctionlive.com

#### Robert Post show slated March 18

Rockwall MusicFest will present Robert Post in a one-man variety show at 7:30 p.m. March 18 at the RHS Performing Arts Center, 1201 T.L. Townsend Drive, Rockwall. Post's show is inspired by classic vaudeville and his Italian grandmother, who danced and sang at any family occasion. Tickets cost \$65 for concert subscription (for four different performances) or \$25 for individual performance ticket. For more details visit rockwallmusicfest.com.

#### Josh Abbott Band at Southern Junction March 23

Southern Junction features Josh Abbott Band Saturday, March 23, reservations are available by calling 972-771-2418. For more details see www.southernjunctionlive.com

#### 42Five performance set May 9

Five male voices comprise 42Five, which will offer up its form of entertainment singing tunes from the '60s to today, including "Don't Stop Believing," "Don't Stop Me Now" and "Joy to the World," beginning at 7:30 p.m. May 9 at the RHS Performing Arts Center. Tickets cost \$65 for concert subscription (for four different performances) or \$25 for individual performance ticket. For more details visit rockwallmusicfest.com.

### Rockwall County Obituaries

#### Don Norman Collins



Funeral services for Don Norman Collins, 47, will be conducted at 10 a.m. Feb. 19, 2013, in the First Baptist Church in Rockwall, Texas. Pastor James Crouch officiating. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Feb. 20 in the National Cemetery in Dallas. The Rev. Haven Funeral Home-Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Don was born Feb. 14, 1922, in Corsicana, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Collins and Daneith (Glen) Collins; he served in the U.S. Army and worked for the government as an auditor. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Rockwall.

Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Doris (Archer) Collins of Rockwall; his children, Richard Collins of McAllen, David Collins and Sherry, of Garland, Sharon Heed and her husband, Chuck, of Rockwall; and Deborah Gunn of Mesquite; his grandchildren, Dawn Heed, David Collins, Amanda Heed, Chaz Heed, David Gunn, Julie Gunn and David Collins; and six great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, three sisters and two brothers.

#### Diane Louise (Decker) McKinney



Funeral services for Diane Louise (Decker) McKinney, 47, will be conducted at 2 p.m. Feb. 21, 2013, in the Rev. Haven Funeral Home-Chapel with Denise Abston officiating.

Diane was born Feb. 15 in Rockwall, Texas. She was preceded in death by her father, Clifford Chandler, Okla., to Clifford Kay Decker of Tryon, N.C. She grew up in Tryon, where she learned to farm and raise animals. She was in the choir of the First Baptist Church of Tryon and worked in various social businesses after hours. She graduated from Perkins-Tryon School, where she performed in both the marching and symphonic bands, playing the saxophone.

She married Terry Lee McKinney on June 16, 1984, in Tryon. They raised their children in Stephenville and Rockwall. She worked as a dental assistant for more than 12 years, after which she enjoyed being a homemaker. She was a member of the Holy Trinity by the Lake Church in Heath, where she sang in the choir. She enjoyed playing board and card games and spending time with family and friends. She was known for her kindness and generosity and never turned down a chance to help someone in need.

Survivors include her husband, Terry Lee McKinney; one son, Terry McKinney, and his wife, Sarah, of Rockwall; her siblings, Ricky Decker and his wife, Nicki, of St. Petersburg, Fla.; Terry Decker and his wife, Lynette Morris and her husband, Chuck, all of Tryon; and several nieces and nephews.

#### Edna Earle 'Sis' Perryman



Funeral services for Edna Earle "Sis" Perryman of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. Feb. 15, 2013, in the First Baptist Church in Heath, Texas. Burial followed in the Heath Cemetery. She was in the direction of the Rest Haven and Haven-Rockwall Chapel.

Edna was born Sept. 10, 1923, in Rockwall, Texas. She was preceded in death by her husband, Grady and Alma (Isbell) Isbell, she lived life to the fullest for 89 years. She worked for the FBI for 25 years, where she met her husband, Curtis Perryman. She was a homemaker, added joy to all she touched and always instilled a spirit of goodwill. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Heath.

Survivors include her sisters-in-law, Clarice Smirl Isbell of Heath, Texas; her nephews, David Isbell and his wife, Linda, of Mesquite, Russell Isbell and his wife, Cindy, of Garland, Kevin Isbell and his wife, Priscilla, of Blossom and Darrin Isbell and his wife, Priscilla, of Dallas; and numerous other nieces, nephews and cousins. Her funeral was preceded in death by her husband; her brothers, Grady Isbell and Frank Isbell; and her parents.

Memorial donations may be made to the Rockwall Cemetery Association, 109 Lemley, Heath, TX 75032.

#### Solomon R. (Sol) Sherfey

Funeral services for Solomon R. (Sol) Sherfey of Royse City were conducted at 10 a.m. Feb. 15, 2013, in the Restland Funeral Home in Dallas.

Survivors include his wife, four children and a stepdaughter.

### Miller added to H-Hands staff

Vanahdy Miller has been hired as practice manager for the Health Center of Helping Hands, according to a news release issued last week.

Miller, who was formerly part of the commercial banking sales staff of JPMorgan Chase & Co. where she specialized in cash management services, brings experience from the corporate sector. She completed the Practice Management Certification Program at Southern Methodist University and attended the University of Texas at Dallas, where she earned her business administration concentration in finance. Miller is honored to be part of the Rockwall County Helping Hands staff and proud of the excellent care services provided to Rockwall County residents at the Health Center," Miller said.



Vanahdy Miller

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# On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

## Meek and lowly heart ... Jacob Part 2

As we continue to search the scriptures and learn about what Jesus meant when he said, "learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart" (Matthew 11:29), it is helpful to dig deeper into Jacob's life.

Our word study of "afflicted" and "lowly" lead to Genesis 31:42 where Jacob said to Laban, "Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Issac, had been with me, surely thou hadst sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction and the labour of my hands, and rebuked thee yesternight."

Jacob's lowly life mostly occurred during the time that he worked for Laban in return for the marriage of Laban's daughter Rachel.

In Genesis 31:38-41 Jacob gives more detail, "This twenty years have I been with thee; they ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young, and the rams of thy flock have I not eaten." Jacob served under Laban for twenty years and he never took advantage of Laban by secretly eating Laban's flock. Remember that Jacob was responsible for Laban's flock of sheep and other animals.

According to verse 39, Jacob did not bring the scarred and wounded animals to Laban. Instead, he bore the loss Laban, include the loss of animals that were stolen. Laban required Jacob to pay for the loss.

Jacob did his absolute best to care for and steward Laban's low quality animals.

According to verse 40 Jacob endured extremely high heat during the days and extremely cold frost during the nights. Moreover, Jacob got very little sleep.

Remember that this lasted for twenty years.

Verse 41 reminds everyone of the reason for Jacob's agreement with Laban, "Thus have I been twenty years in thy house; I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle: and thou hast changed my wages ten times."

Jacob started out agreeing to serve Laban seven years in return for approval to marry his daughter Rachel. But after seven years, Laban went back on his word and gave to Jacob his other daughter Leah.

So then, Jacob agreed to serve Laban seven more years for approval to marry Rachel.

And as if this wasn't enough, Laban changed Jacobs pay agreement ten

times. Something tells me the pay changes were not to Jacob's benefit. Any business manager or owner understands the importance of equity and trust in business relationships.

Jacob's experience could be compared with a modern day agreement between two businesses or people, where God in heaven mightily to put a failing business in the hand of a godly business who turns it into a strong and successful business.

Not only is the business failing at the time of purchase, but the deceives the buyer through inflated numbers and false claims about important details. But the buyer knows how to run the business and trusts God to bless the hands of his labor.

Over the years, the buyer suffers periods of extreme financial and at times is unable to make timely payments to the seller who is happy to seize the business back from the buyer.

Maybe you see where I'm going with this... Over the years, the seller is reminded of how Jesus suffered for him. He did not rail on, or insult the people who were mocking, scourging, and killing him.

Peter said, "Who, when he [Jesus] was reviled, reviled not again; he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to Him that is righteous."

Laban tried to defraud Jacob and cause him to stay longer. But Jacob's success with his sheep and other animals and tried to try. But Jacob was a crafty and shrewd man with a meek and lowly toward God.

During times of great suffering let's fervently press close to God, ing our hearts out to Him with thankfulness. According to the information found in Philippians 4:6-7, as we make our requests known to God in prayer with thankful hearts, the peace from God which surpasses all understanding, absolutely shall guard our hearts and thoughts through Christ.

When we let God's peace guard and reign in our hearts and during the most terrible times of suffering, we are able to be still in thoughts and actions, and we are able to make sound decisions.

What a beautiful thing it is, during horrible unending suffering, to be close to God in prayer and meditation upon His word, and find out learning what Jesus meant when he said, "learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart."

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**Salt named to Dean's List**

Astrea Salt of Heath was named to the Dean's List at Southern University in Georgetown for the fall semester, according to a university news release.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have at least a 3.6 point average on a 4.0 scale with a minimum of 12 graded hours and good standing with the university.

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. The sole purpose of government is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

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Firefighters' Ball to benefit injured fireman

Rockwall firefighters have joined forces with the Garland Fire Department to help one of their own, Devon Colbert, who was seriously injured in a December car accident on State Highway 66.

loves teaching kids safety programs, and he is an asset to our community. It's time for us to step up and help him in these difficult times."
All profits from the Firefighters' Ball will benefit Colbert and his family - wife, Emily, and sons, Levi and 6-month-old Deagan.



City of Rockwall firefighters and the Garland Fire Department have teamed up for a fundraiser for Devon Colbert, who was seriously injured in a December automobile accident on SH 66.

Public hearing on Heath golf yacht club set for Feb. 26

Heath City Council decided at its February 12 meeting to conduct a Public Hearing regarding the petition by Heath Golf & Yacht Club at 6:30 p.m., February 26.

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meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, and we recently added an evening meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., also at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, 203 S. Fannin.

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# Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

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

## Some Taxation Options

There are some very interesting discussions now being conducted by the members of the Commissioners Court that should really interest the citizens of our County. One of these is the Taxation policy we should be looking at implementing for the near future.

In the late 1990's and early 2000's, the taxable value of all property in the county was growing at an 8-15% rate each year. But about four years ago this rate of growth decreased to a slight negative value to no more than 1% a year. Since 83% of the County budget comes from the tax on the property, the County budget remained about flat over this period. Unfortunately because of the road bonds that have been sold, the library and new Courthouse which have been built, and some earlier bonds that were sold for other needs, the total debt service payment which the County must make has gone up each year even though the total budget has remained about constant. At some point, if you continue with the same financial strategy, taxes must go up or spending must be significantly cut; the same basic problem that Washington seems to not understand or do anything about!

But now, because of several things, we have the opportunity to make some rational choices that may not follow the old conventional traditional thinking.

Our Centralized Appraisal District is now projecting a 2% growth rate for next year followed by rates of 4% and 5% the following years. The work load of the County has basically stabilized; by State mandate we have doubled the number of JP's and Constables without any increase in total JP work load, the criminal docket has seen only a slight increase year-over-year, the average number of inmates in the jail remains about constant year-over-year, the District and County Clerks have seen little change in criminal cases filings and a significant decrease in civil cases, and the County has committed \$1.5 million to a new Judicial Case Management system that should allow any increases in work load to be off-set by increases in efficiencies through the automated system.

This basically says we will have a little more money in the budget without a big need to increase spending...except for the debt service payment that still looms and which goes up each year.

There is one new need that must be considered. The employees of the County, who are paid significantly less than corresponding private sector or municipal employees doing the same type jobs, have not received a pay raise for three years other than a 1% raise of living raise two years ago. The elected officials have not received a raise of any type in five years. To put in a small increase for all employees would cost \$850,000.

The County has a financial forecasting model that was developed by a group of citizens during the initial Strategic Planning discussions held a little over a year ago. This model considers all of the projected revenue to be received as well as the forecasted costs over a five year period. The rate of growth of the taxable value of property, the tax rate, the rate of growth of the County expenses, and the collection rate of the levied taxes can all be varied in the model. This allows us to vary and study the effects of any one variable, such as the tax rate, or any combination of variables, such as the tax rate and the growth rate.

At the completion of last year's budget, the thinking of the Court, based on information provided and anticipated projections, was that we could hold the tax rate of 38.64 cents per hundred dollars of assessed value for the current budget, but the next budget, but for the one that goes into effect on October 1, 2013, we would have to raise taxes to pay the debt service obligations by 1 cent, and then another 1 cent the following year, or just immediately go to the 2 cent increase on October 1. We were also going to have to look carefully to see if additional funds would be needed for normal County activities.

But based upon the change in anticipated growth of the taxable value and

some different type thinking on use of funds, there are now some different options available.

When the financial model is run using the current forecasts and known requirements, including an employee pay raise, next year, October 1, 2013-September 30, 2014, there is a \$900,000 deficit in available funds versus projected costs, given that the current operating budget of the County stays constant with the exception of the pay raise. The following year, there is a \$175,000 deficit. Beyond the second year, the normal growth of the taxable value of the County is such that revenue exceeds expenses given a fairly flat operating budget.

So how do you fix the next two years where you have a \$1.1 million shortfall between projected revenue and costs?

One way is to raise taxes. To completely eliminate the shortfall next year would require a 2 cent tax raise to 40.84 cents per hundred dollars of assessed value. A 1 cent raise would not be enough to fix the problem for next year. There would not be a problem the second year with the tax raise of 1 or 2 cents.

But there is an alternative.

The County currently has a "Reserve Fund" of a little over \$16 million. This money is there for emergencies and to operate the County for up to six months if all revenue sources would stop. Our accepted financial policy (by the financial institutions), is for the County to have between 4 and 6 months of funds available, or between \$8 and \$13 million. We have about \$3 million more than we need in the fund to satisfy the financial institutions.

The alternative is to use \$1.1 million from this fund over the next two budget years to eliminate any need for a tax raise.

The Risks: growth rates might not meet projections, the County operating expenses could go up, and some flexibility in budgeting will be given up.

The Advantages: no tax raise for the citizens, holds the line on County spending, allows flexibility going forward (you can always raise taxes going forward if you are wrong), and it's a good use of the "Reserve Fund" as it sure isn't making any money for us at the current investment rates.

There have been no decisions made on the alternatives available and we are still working to define in more detail some of the numbers. But this is a way of doing something that we have not done before. Please let your Commissioner know your thoughts as this discussion goes forward.

Jerry Hogan, Rockwall County Judge  
Jerry Hogan is a retired US Army Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel who is currently County Judge of Rockwall County Texas. He can be reached at jerryhogan@sbcglobal.net or 214-394-4033.

## Rockwall County News Briefs

### Spring Break Art Camp scheduled

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will host a Spring Break Art Camp from 2 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. March 11-14 at the Harry Myers Community Center. Eight spring-themed landscapes will be offered under the guidance of a professional, certified instructor. Participants will learn fine art techniques using five different media - oil, acrylic and watercolor, oil pastel and charcoal. All supplies are provided. Cost is \$119 for Rockwall residents, \$179 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

### Fundraiser, craft show planned in RC

The 4th Annual Battle of the Bulldogs Fundraiser & Craft Show will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 23 at the Royce City HS Royce Swiney Indoor Facility, 700 S. FM 2642. The event, sponsored by Royce City Softball, will include a car show, rag ball tournament, cow patty bingo, silent auction, and jail and bail. Special visits by the Easter bunny also will be offered, with photos available with the bunny from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost for an indoor booth is \$50. For more details visit reisd.org/rchs and click on the Battle of Bulldogs link.

### Easter egg hunt set at park

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Recreation Department-sponsored Easter egg hunt will begin at 10 a.m. March 23 in Harry Myers Park. Special prize eggs will be included in this old-fashioned hunt. A bounce house, games and other fun activities are planned. For more information call 972-771-7740.

## Chamber leadership event

(Continued from Page 2)

Speakers scheduled to participate include Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric; Andy Stanley, best-selling leadership and communicator; Mike Krzyzewski, head men's basketball coach at Duke University and for Team USA; John Maxwell, best-selling author and leadership expert; Dr. Henry Cloud, best-selling author and leadership consultant; LCDR Rorke Denver, Navy SEAL and star of the 2012 "Act of Valor;" Sanya Richards-Ross, 2012 London Olympic gold medalist in track and field; David Allen, best-selling author of "Getting Things Done" and productivity expert; and Condoleezza Rice, former secretary of state.

Last year's event drew more than 100,000 participants in 14 counties. Now in its 14th year, the conference is expected to reach its largest audience to date in 2013.

"It is one of the single most consolidated sources of leadership that we have," said chamber president Dana K. Macalik, "but it goes beyond that. This conference, although very focused on leadership, transcends the topic and really shows you how to lead in life."

The event is hosted by the local restaurant and the chamber. Doors open at 7 a.m., while the event will run from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission tickets cost \$79, which includes breakfast and lunch.

For more details or to purchase tickets, visit rockwallchamber.org.

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SAFE HAVEN-A PG13	11.35	2.05	4.35	X	7.20
SAFE HAVEN-B PG13	12.35	X	X	6.20	X
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# Opinions

## Is Today's Argentina tomorrow's America?

by Michael Tennant, fff.org

Americans wondering what to expect as their government piles on more debt and refuses to cut spending do not need to look any further than Argentina. A nation once among the most prosperous in the world is now deeply in debt, hemorrhaging cash, and trying to inflate its way out of the mess it has created. This inflation, naturally, has caused prices to rise sharply, and so the government is doing what all governments do in such a situation: instituting price controls.

The government of President Cristina Fernandez claims the annual inflation rate is 10 percent, which, if true, would be bad enough. Private economists believe it's closer to 30 percent, but they dare not say so publicly for fear of being fired, fined, or even jailed. However, as the Associated Press points out, "The government says it's trying to hold the next union wage hikes to 20 percent, a figure that suggests how little anyone believes the official index."

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) certainly doesn't believe it. The IMF censured Argentina for exploiting the difference between the official

and private inflation rates to make it appear as though the country had saved \$6.8 billion since 2007.

No one else is fooled, either. Investors were withdrawing billions of dollars from Argentina until Fernandez "tightened controls in the foreign exchange market and forced companies to repatriate revenue," Bloomberg reports. Argentines trying to protect their savings by buying U.S. dollars - also depreciating, but at a considerably slower rate than the Argentine peso - were thwarted when the government imposed currency controls on them.

Apparently not content with the level of suffering she has already inflicted on her people, Fernandez is now instituting a two-month price freeze on "every product in all of the nation's largest supermarkets," according to the AP.

The intention, of course, is to conceal further the rate at which the peso is being devalued, though the policy is, naturally, couched in the language of helping average people who cannot afford the skyrocketing prices. In fact, it will do just the opposite.

When the price of a product is held below the market level, two things occur. First, since they will be making less profit on each unit sold - or perhaps even taking a loss - producers offer less of the product for sale. Second, recognizing that they are getting the product at a bargain price, consumers purchase more of it than they otherwise would. The end result: a shortage of the very product the government was supposedly trying to enable more people to buy. (Argentines have had experience with this: price controls imposed in 2007 led to food shortages then, too.)

The market will continue to function, of course, but it will be a black market. Scarce products will be available, but almost certainly at prices even higher than would be the case in the absence of the price controls. Consumers fortunate enough to obtain products on the black market will have no legal recourse if those products turn out to be faulty. And everyone involved will live in fear of getting caught engaging in peaceful commerce.

Eventually the price controls will be lifted. (These controls are set to expire on April 1, but who knows what kind of tricks the government might pull that day?) At that point

prices will return to their market levels, though they will probably be higher than they would have been if the controls had not been imposed in the first place, as producers - at least those who didn't go out of business in interim - scramble to make up for lost revenue. In addition, observed Durden of ZeroHedge.com, "many of the local stores will not be able to survive as their profit margins implode and as owners, especially of foreign-owned chains, make the prudent decision to get out of Dodge while the getting is good and before the next steps, including such measures as nationalization in the escalation into a full out hyperinflationary collapse, are taken (Fernandez nationalized the country's largest oil company last year)."

Is today's Argentina tomorrow's America? It is certainly within the realm of possibility. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Argentina was one of the freest and most prosperous nations on the globe. Then came the Great Depression and the rise of demagogues such as Juan Peron who turned Argentina into a basket case, nationalizing industries, granting vast power to labor unions, and spending as if there were no tomorrow. The country has never fully recovered from the damage, having suffered multiple rounds of inflation, price controls, and even debt default in ensuing decades, though it is still the second-largest economy in South America.

So, too, with the United States. Prosperous before the Depression, our country elected Franklin Roosevelt to four terms as president during the downturn. He greatly accelerated the process of centralizing power in Washington, cartelizing industries, boosting union leverage, and spending enormous sums of money. Since then the United States has experienced inexorable inflation, price controls (under Richard Nixon), and ballooning debt. The U.S. government now spends more than \$1 trillion more each year, is roughly \$16 trillion in debt, and has many trillions more in unfunded liabilities. The country is still an economic power compared with most of the rest of the world, but the decades of gargantuan government have taken their toll.

*Economist Soledad Perez: Duhalde told the AP that instead of price controls, the Argentine government should "reduce government spending which is financing an expansion of the money supply." Unfortunately, slashing spending is about as likely to happen in Argentina as it is in Washington. Equally unfortunately, the results of such profligacy - inflation, price controls, and national decline - are also about as likely in America as in Argentina.*

## When is it okay to steal?

God said, "Thou Shalt Not Steal." He did not say, "Thou shalt not steal, except help the poor."

He did not say, "Thou shalt not steal, unless government needs more money."

He did not say, "Thou shalt not steal, but it's okay if stealing helps feed the homeless."

He did not say, "Thou shalt not steal, other than to take from those who have given it to those who have not."

God's word is solid, complete, simple and profound ... there are no "exceptions" to his commandment:

Thou Shalt Not Steal!

Stealing: Taking property without the owner's permission.

Taxation: Taking property without the owner's permission.

Those who claim to follow God's Commandments can not justify or support taxation.

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

- TXism: "he's got the morals - an alley cat"
- This Guthrie was in TV's "The Byrds of Paradise" with TX Jennifer Love Hewitt
- pinball foul
- this Art managed Astros ('89-'93)
- TXism: "fits like scales - fish"
- TXism: "limp - rag"
- TX Ginger '54 film: "Twist of ..."
- TX Michael Johnson & ex-Cowboy Bob Hayes
- talking TV horse: "Mister ..."
- TXism: "still wet behind the ..."
- on the Gulf: "Rim State Park"
- TXism: " ... a Panhandle prairie"
- Ranger/Astro RBI: " ... In"
- Roman 400
- these settlers started Danevang, TX
- Cowboy CB Brandon
- TXism: "mean as a cougar"
- near Boerne: "Cave ..."
- beaten path
- "The ... night, are big and bright ..."
- solicitation in the Foard County News

**DOWN**

- LBJ took office on Air Force One in '63
- in Parmer Co. on Hwy 60
- TXism: "it's off a duck's back" (unconcerned)
- "take ... of"
- TXism: "likely ... not" (probable)
- seat of Hansford Co.
- "The Eyes of Texas are upon you, all the ... long day ..."
- understatement expressed by a negative
- salts?
- hospital receiving areas for the injured (abbr.)
- TX Waylon's "Women Know How to Carry On"
- the "Bandit's" car: Pontiac " ... Am"
- Troy after '93 Super Bowl: " ... to Disney World"
- rock band treks
- TX Jim Reeves' " ... Losing You"
- org. for Mavericks, Spurs, & Rockets
- TX Wheeler-dealer: Billie ... Estes
- Jo, TX
- TXism: " ... lying through his teeth"
- TXism: "book learned"
- "it's better to give than ..."
- TXism: "he's careless about which horse he ..." (thief)
- This Faye portrayed TX Parker in "Bonnie and Clyde" (init.)
- Texas Penal Code, e.g.
- long-tailed birds at Bentsen State Park
- great QB from TX: Y.A.
- TXism: "thick ... on a dog's back"
- TX summer wear
- Mary ... West was a south TX rancher
- bikini top
- TX Linda Darnell film: "My Clementine" ('46)
- horse trots
- troops entertainer
- "tit for ..."
- opinion expressed by a newspaper
- TX Ellerbee line: "And ... goes"
- TX Speaker, a great baseball CF
- TX Perot ... for pres. in '92 & '96
- sounds of suffering
- Cajun soup

# Bulldogs finish fifth with 41-49 loss Sherman in District tie-breaker

**Burnett**  
 The Rockwall County Bulldogs finished their 2013-2014 basketball season with a 41-49 loss to Sherman for fourth place tie-breaker. The Bulldogs' Friday, February 15 game at Lovejoy landed the Bulldogs a fifth place finish in District 13-4A.

Head Coach Anthony Howerton said, "We had a tough season against the best district Roys City has been in so far. The more talented teams such as Greenville, Sherman and Wylie were on the team. The Bulldogs (17-15 overall and 7-8 in District) maintained a strong lead during the first half, but allowed Sherman to come back and win in the second half.

The Bulldogs' first half defense was good but included too many turnovers by the Bulldogs which allowed for the Sherman rally in the second," explained

According to Howerton, the team's three top scoring shooters all season were seniors Jamie Briceno (426 points for 13.3 average), Tre Hayes (333 points for 10.4 average) and David Frye (242 points for 8.6 average).

"Our young men are fighters and I could not be more proud of them this year. With several college recruits, our tallest player is 6'2" but the hustle, defense and shooting combined with superior fundamentals helped them through the season," continued Howerton.

Players in the game were Hayes (8 points, 5 rebounds), Joseph Steffen, Michael Webb (2 points, 7 rebounds), Zach Summers (2 rebounds), Jackson Watts (2 rebounds), Dalton Warner (9 points, 4 rebounds), Tyler Thompson, Michael Parker, Briceno (10 points, 2 rebounds), Frye (12 points, 7 rebounds) and Dustin Jackson (1 rebound).



**Bulldogs' senior David Frye drives the basket during the final seconds of the fourth place tie-break game Friday, February 15 against Sherman at Lovejoy. Looking on at back is Joseph Steffen.**  
 Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall County Scholastic Sports Schedules

**Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors**  
 Feb. 22 – Baseball: vs. Emory Rains at Farmersville Tournament, Farmersville, 10 a.m.

Feb. 25 – Softball: home vs. Fort Worth Calvary Christian, 4 p.m.

**Rockwall High School Yellowjackets**  
 Feb. 22 – Varsity baseball: at First Texas Georgetown Invitational, Spring Springs, Georgetown East View High School, 9:30 a.m., and vs. Georgetown High School, 2:30 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity wrestling: 5A State Championships, Austin ISD Delco Center, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity swimming: at 5A State Championships, Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Center, 10 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity softball: at Allen Invitational Softball Tournament, Allen Station Flower Mound Marcus, Field 3, 1 p.m., and vs. Plano John Paul II, 4 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: home vs. Tyler Lee, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity tennis: at Round Rock Westwood Tournament, Round Rock, 8 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity swimming: at 5A State Championships, Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Center, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity wrestling: 5A State Championships, Austin ISD Delco Center, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity baseball: home vs. Sachse, 2 games, 1 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity softball: vs. McKinney North at Allen Invitational Softball Tournament, Allen Station Park, Field 2, 3 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity golf: at McKinney Boyd Relays, Ron Poe Stadium, Dallas, 8 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: home vs. McKinney North, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: home vs. North Mesquite, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: at North Mesquite, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: at Dallas Jesuit Prep High School, 7 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity tennis: at Allen Varsity Duals, Allen High School, 8 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity gymnastics: vs. South at Battle for the Rock, Rockwall-Heath High School, Compulsory, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity gymnastics: vs. South at North vs. South City Meet, Rockwall-Heath High School, Compulsory, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity baseball: at Jesuit Baseball Classic, Dallas Jesuit Prep High School, vs. Mesquite Poteet 12:15 p.m. and vs. Plano Westwood, 1 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity gymnastics: vs. South at Battle for the Rock, Rockwall-Heath High School, Optional, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity gymnastics: vs. South at North vs. South City Meet, Rockwall-Heath High School, Optional, 6 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity boys' golf: at Lake Highlands Tournament, Twin Lakes Golf Club, 9 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity baseball: at Jesuit Baseball Classic, Dallas Jesuit Prep High School, 12:15 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: home vs. Plano, noon

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: at Commonweath Relays, Wylie High School, 1 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity boys' golf: at Cleburne Tournament, Cleburne Golf Links, 9 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity wrestling: 5A State Championships, Austin ISD Delco Center, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity swimming: at 5A State Championships, Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Center, 10 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity baseball: at First Texas Georgetown Invitational, vs. Lubbock, Lubbock High School, noon, and vs. Canyon Randall, Georgetown East View High School, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: home vs. Mesquite, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity soccer: at Mesquite, Berry Middle School, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity softball: vs. Keller Timber Creek at Southlake Tournament, Bob Jones Park, 10 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity tennis: at Corsicana Tournament, Corsicana, 10 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity JV Black baseball: at Plano East JV Tournament, Plano East View High School, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity Saturday, Feb. 23 – Black boys' golf: at Cleburne Tournament, Cleburne Golf Links, 9 a.m.

Feb. 23 – Varsity JV Black baseball: vs. Amarillo at First Texas Georgetown Invitational, Georgetown East View High School, 9:30 a.m.

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 It is the policy of the YMCA to provide services for any person who desires to participate and understands the benefits of the YMCA, regardless of ability to pay the standard membership or program fee. Those not able to pay the fee may be awarded financial assistance based on the individual need and the ability of the YMCA to fund the subsidy.

**JER Chilton YMCA**  
 1210 North Goliad  
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# Hawks' hard hitting should continue during the 2013 season

by Lary Bump

After Rockwall-Heath powered its way to the 4A baseball State Championship last season, one question was whether the Hawks could replace the power that departed with graduating players such as Jake Thompson, Jovan Hernandez and Timbo Duncan.

Through RHHS' pre-season scrimmages, the answer has been that the Hawks still appear to have plenty of offense.

"We've been hitting the ball well," head coach Greg Harvey said after his team's 14-12 victory Monday night at Plano East. "We feel confident that we don't ever have to rebuild, but we reload."

The Hawks trailed East 8-5 before they broke loose for nine runs in the sixth inning. After scoring a run and loading the bases with no outs in the

fifth, RHHS didn't score another run that inning. But in the sixth, Rockwall-Heath combined seven hits with a bases-loaded walk and hit by pitch.

"This was the first game our pitching wasn't very good," said Harvey, who watched his team give up five third-inning runs and four more in the bottom of the seventh.

Thompson now is in the Detroit Tigers' farm system after they made him their first draft pick last June. Hernandez is at Navarro College, and Duncan at prep school before entering the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Other starters graduating in 2012 were Jake Baxter, Jake Bledsoe, Grayson Lewis (Hernandez's teammate at Navarro) and Austin Stewart.

Shortstop Bret Boswell, who has signed a letter of intent with the University of Texas; Russell Hughes (Paris Junior College) and sophomore Clayton

Rasberry form the new middle of a formidable lineup. Hunter Seamster missed most of last season but still has signed with Navarro, and infielder Dylan Lewis also have provided pre-season punch.

They all have a chance to show that this weekend as the Hawks open their first 5A regular season at the First Texas Georgetown Invitational.

Sophomore Tyler Ivey, who pitched a scoreless inning against the Panthers enters the season as RHHS' No. 1 starter. Harvey said, "We have pitchers who could fill in the rotation. We don't have as much pitching as last year, but as long as we have three pitchers for district, we'll be fine."

Rockwall also is opening its season this weekend at the Georgetown tournament.

# Nine Rockwall County athletes sign with Division I colleges

Twenty high school senior athletes from Rockwall, Rockwall-Heath and Heritage Christian Academy signed letters of intent Wednesday to compete in college sports beginning next fall. Nine of them will be going to universities in NCAA Division I, the highest level of competition.

- Heritage Christian Academy
- Savannah Beth, women's soccer, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Ark., NAIA
- Rockwall High School
- Miranda Larkin, women's soccer, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla., NCAA Division I
- Niki McKnight, women's soccer, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla., NCAA Division I
- Kendyl Pirkey, women's soccer, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, NCAA Division I
- Christian Soldat, men's soccer, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, NCAA Division I
- Kaitlin Ross, women's soccer, Adams State University, Alamosa, Colo.,

- NCAA Division II
- Shelbi Walker, women's soccer, Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus, Ga., NCAA Division II
- Jordan Story, men's soccer, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Ark., NAIA
- Dustin Angiel, baseball, Midland College, Midland, NJCAA
- Skyler Bean, baseball, Howard College, Big Springs, NJCAA
- Zach Berryman, football, Navarro College, Corsicana, NJCAA
- Danny Garrett, baseball, Fort Scott Community College, Fort Scott, Kan., NJCAA
- Rockwall-Heath High School
- Jay Arnold, football, Texas A&M University, College Station, NCAA Division I (BCS)
- Raaquan Davis, football, Baylor University, Waco, NCAA Division I (BCS)
- Ashton Hierholzer, women's soccer, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla., NCAA Division I

- Chase Regian, football, University of Louisiana-Monroe, Monroe, LA, NCAA Division I (BCS)
  - Shyon Motlagh, football, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, NCAA Division I (FBS)
  - Evan Higbee, football, Southwest Oklahoma State, Weatherford, Okla., NCAA Division II
  - Roby Worley, football, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., NAIA
  - Kevin Wharry, football, Kilgore College, Kilgore, NJCAA
- In addition, football quarterback Chase Schultz has agreed to Division I (BCS) Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La., as a walk-on for the Bulldogs football team.

# Defense carries Jackets to district soccer lead

Rockwall took a six-match winning streak and a perfect 4-0 District 12-5A boys' soccer record, with no goals allowed, into Tuesday's match at home against Rockwall-Heath.

The two RISD girls' teams were scheduled to meet that night at RHHS. In the boys' matches last week, Micah Day and Clayton Rittershaus scored Rockwall's goals in a 2-0 victory over Mesquite Tuesday, Feb. 12, and Jonathan Otto headed in a crossing pass from Jordan Story in Friday's 1-0 overtime win over Longview. RHS improved to 16-2 overall. For the Hawks (7-7-2 overall, 0-4 in the district), Zach Barham scored in a 5-2 loss to Longview Tuesday, and Hayden Moore had the goal for RHHS in Friday's 4-1 defeat against North Mesquite.

The RHS girls tied Mesquite Horn 1-1 and defeated Longview 2-1 to remain undefeated (2-0-2) in the district. The Lady Hawks lost 2-0 to Longview and 3-1 vs. North Mesquite, with Baily Bacon scoring their goal. RHHS fell to 5-10 and 1-3.

**SOFTBALL:** Rockwall-Heath won five games and lost two to win the Silver Bracket championship at last weekend's Carrollton-Farmers Branch Tournament. After splitting their first four games, the Lady Hawks outscored Wills Point, Garland Naaman Forest and Grand Prairie by a combined score of 33-2 to win the bracket. Their big hitters in the tournament were Sarah Stewart (11-for-19, two doubles and a triple); Ally Brandvold (8-for-14, two doubles and a triple), and Lauren Archuleta (9-for-17, a double and a triple).

**WRESTLING:** The four Rockwall ISD wrestlers who qualified for the 5A State Championships were scheduled for their first matches Thursday at the Austin ISD Delco Center. Representing Rockwall are Garrett Miller (160 pounds), Daniel Roland (195) and Rilee Fisher (220). Rockwall-Heath

170-pounder Brady Van Bevers also is competing.

**SWIMMING:** Three RISD swimmers are competing Friday and Saturday in the 5A State Championships at the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swim Center in Austin.

Rockwall sophomore Raena Eldridge is considered most likely to win a state championship. That's in part because she won the 4A state girls' 50-yard freestyle last year as a freshman. Her seed time for the 2012-13 competition is 23.52 seconds, the fourth-fastest in the field. The top seed is Humble Kingwood's Leah Pfitzer at 23.20. Eldridge won the championship at 23.69 last year, when the 5A winning time was 23.33. Eldridge is seeded ninth in the 100 backstroke, with a seed time of 57.22. The top seed is Keller's Lauren Norman at 55.25.

Rockwall-Heath junior Jared Butler is the 10th seed in the boys' 200 free at 1 minute, 42.12 seconds. RHS junior Haylie Harbin is the 13th seed in the girls' 500 free at 5:00.84.

**BOYS' BASKETBALL:** RHHS ran to a 27-8 first-quarter lead, but had to hold off Rockwall thereafter for a 66-60 victory in the season-ending game for both teams. The Hawks' balanced offense included 17 points by Tyler Zivney, 15 from Luke Ramirez, 13 by Camron Talley and Jackson Zivney's 10. Aaron Maxwell, who led the Jackets with a game-high 23, had help from Will Murdock's 13 points.

**BOYS' GYMNASTICS:** Rockwall placed third and Rockwall-Heath was fourth among eight teams at the Highland Park Invitational Feb. 14. The Jackets totaled 149.10 points and RHHS had 141.90; defending state champion Saginaw won the event with 161.00. RHS' Michael Weidman was fourth all-around, with teammates Zach Bennett fifth and Adam Alford 10th. The Hawks' Cameron Callaway placed 13th all-around.

## Private schools sports roundup

The Fulton School boys' basketball team joined the Heritage Christian Academy girls as district champions when the regular season ended Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Fulton dominated Longview Christian School 80-31, with Conner Cleveland scoring 35 points and Brenden Williams adding 30 and the two grabbing 10 rebounds apiece. Williams made four of his five 3-point attempts. Todd Treadway led the defense with six steals.

HCA had a lower-scoring, but equally dominant, 45-14 victory over Greenville Christian School. Madeline Schroeffer had 13 of the Lady Eagles' 38 steals, and assisted on four baskets. Fellow sophomore Molly Howard had a team-high nine rebounds.

Heritage Christian was scheduled to open the TAPPS 2A playoffs with a home Bi-District game Tuesday against Waco Texas Christian. A win would have given the Lady Eagles, ranked 17th in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches' Small Private Schools poll, another home game this weekend in the Area round. The likely opponent would be sixth-ranked Muenster Sacred Heart.

Fulton received a bye into the Area round, and will host the winner of the Denton Selwyn vs. Amarillo Ascension Bi-District game.

The Heritage Christian boys ended their season with a 34-31 win over Greenville Christian, but missed the playoffs. Chase Moreland, with eight rebounds, and Zach Clarke, with four steals, led the Eagles.

Both the Rockwall Christian Academy boys and girls qualified for the playoffs, but lost halftime leads and a chance for a higher playoff seeding on the final Tuesday against Garland Christian Academy. The boys, who could have tied for first place in the district, lost 67-58 despite Chris Stephens' 18 points. The Lady Warriors lost 56-40 that night, with Ashlee Poland scoring 21 points for the home team. That meant the teams had to play again Thursday to break a second-place tie, and GCA won again 32-23. Poland had a game-high 12 points.

**BASEBALL:** RCA is opening its season this weekend at the Farmersville Tournament.



Heritage Christian Academy Senior Savannah Beth (front right) signed a letter of intent to play soccer at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. The signing took place at HCA on Wednesday, February 6, which is National Signing Day for college sports. Savannah is the daughter of Penny Beth and Sheri Beth of Fate. Pictured are (back row left to right) Grandmother Penny Beth, Savannah's Sting club soccer coach Jeremy Halverson, Mom Sheri Beth and Dad Chris Beth, (front row) John Brown Women's Soccer Coach Scott Marksberry and Savannah Beth.

Photo courtesy of HCA/Rockwall County News



Royse City High School senior Michael Webb (front right) signed to play football at Langston University, Langston Oklahoma. Michael is surrounded by family his parents James & Florie Webb (back left), sisters Kara and Destiny along with friends.

Photo by Katie VanDyke (RCHS Yearbook Staff)/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall County high school varsity results, Feb. 12-18

- Boys' basketball**
  - Fulton 80, Longview Christian School 31
  - Garland Christian Academy 67, Rockwall Christian Academy 58
  - Rockwall-Heath 66, Rockwall 60
  - Heritage Christian Academy 34, Greenville Christian School 31
- Girls' basketball**
  - Garland Christian Academy 56, Rockwall Christian Academy 40
  - Garland Christian Academy 32, Rockwall Christian Academy 23
  - Heritage Christian Academy 45, Greenville Christian School 14
- Boys' gymnastics**
  - Highland Park Invitational (8 teams) - Rockwall 149.10 (the)
  - Rockwall-Heath 141.90 (fourth)
- Boys' soccer**
  - North Mesquite 4, Rockwall-Heath 1
  - Rockwall 2, Mesquite Horn 0
  - Rockwall 1, Longview 0
- Girls' soccer**
  - North Mesquite 3, Rockwall-Heath 1
  - Rockwall 1, Mesquite Horn 1
  - Rockwall 2, Longview 1
- Softball**
  - Ennis 10, Rockwall 3
  - Flower Mound Marcus 8, Rockwall 0
  - Frisco Liberty 4, Rockwall-Heath 2
  - Lake Dallas 3, Rockwall-Heath 0
  - Rockwall 6, Crandall 3
  - Rockwall 4, Forney 3
  - Rockwall 3, McKinney 3
  - Rockwall 20, Greenville 2
  - Rockwall-Heath 3, Irving Nimitz 1
  - Rockwall-Heath 3, Carrollton Creekview 1
  - Rockwall-Heath 8, Wills Point 1
  - Rockwall-Heath 17, Garland Naaman Forest 0
  - Rockwall-Heath 8, Grand Prairie 1

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