



Rockwall County News

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Roxy Morrison and her baby sister, Valery, visit with Mr. and Mrs. Claus at last Saturday's Bells on Main Street holiday festivities. Santa took time out from building toys and checking his lists to visit Royse City for photos with kids of all ages. In addition to the appearance by Mr. Claus, his wife, Mrs. Claus, read stories at the Royse City Fire Department before the official tree lighting at Old Jail Park and lighted parade which featured the Royse City High School Band, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, area churches, businesses and civic organizations. Roxy and Valery are the children of Andy and Amber Morrison of Royse city. When not on duty, Santa also goes by the name Clay Ellis and Mrs. Claus answers to Carolyn Thumann.
 Photo by Roy Heath/Rockwall County News

Rockwall City Council considers awning issue at Harbor District

by Patricia Nolan Butts

Paradise Burger in the Harbor district may open, said members of the Rockwall City Council, but the current outdoor metal awning must be changed.

Planning and zoning director Robert LaCroix told city council members at their Dec. 6 meeting that Paradise Burger owner Merion Miller presented a rendering of a proposed awning to the city several months ago.

However, the material of the structure now facing the Harbor fountain, he said, was not the material represented in the rendering and exceeds the 10 per cent metal requirement allowed by P&Z for the Harbor planned development. Merion had applied to the council for a variance to the city's masonry building requirements for PD-7, which includes the Harbor district.

Concerns were raised by council members about the safety of the structure in the strong winds that often come off the lake, as well as about the rusty appearance and its failure to blend with other structures at the Harbor. An alternate material, similar to what was used at the local Saltgrass Restaurant, was recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission instead.

Council voted to approve P&Z's recommendation and to allow Miller to open his business with the understanding that the canopy modifications will be made in accordance with direction from the council.

In other action, the council considered whether the bi-annual Rockwall citizen survey should be in both English and Spanish, for the first time. The survey seeks feedback from residents about city services and amenities.

Consultant Ray Turco presented the draft of the proposed 2011 survey to the council and fielded questions about content. Councilmember Matthew Scott had concerns about some of the questions and indicated he was not in favor of the Spanish option.

Mark Russo asked if the survey could be conducted online as well as by mail. Discussion centered on how the on-line results could be controlled in order to be statistically valid. The item was tabled pending further discussion at the January 17 meeting.

Council did approve 6-1 another five-year contract extension with Allied Waste Services. Mark Sweet, who voted against the contract, said he had voted against it in the past, believing that the city should go out for bid for the services.

At Mayor Pro Tem Farris' motion, the council voted to reappoint John Hohenshelt, Bill Houser and Kevin Fowler to the Rockwall Economic Development Corporation Board, each to serve a three-year term. The council also appointed Herb Moltzan to the Historic Preservation Advisory Board to replace Darlene Singleton for a two-year term to expire in August 2012.

Farris also moved to reappoint Sandra Whitley and Barbara Coleson to the Main Street Advisory Board, each to serve a two-year term expiring in January 2013.

(Continued on Page 2)



Christmas spirit filled the sanctuary last Sunday evening at the First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall. Church youth presenting a special nativity program are (left to right) Zack Thacker, Michael Logue, Will Crutchfield, Amber Logue, Ella Turner, Katie Culmo, Genevieve Young, Neil Blaylock, Madalyn Culmo, Emily Miller, Connor Culmo; dressed as animals: Sasha Vanderpool and Benjamin Fisher. Also in the pageant were musicians Jonathan Dutsch; Darcie, Marlie and Holly Nightengale; actors: John Crutchfield, Ashton Mote and Remy Young; adult leaders: Heather Fisher (PSALM choir director and accompanist), Melanie Logue, Mary Thacker and Neil Turner
 Photo Courtesy Sean Motel/Rockwall County News



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The Catholic Mothers Council of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church recently conducted its annual Brunch with St. Nicholas to celebrate Advent and the approaching Christmas holiday. The event served as a fundraiser for the group, who contributes funds and volunteer hours to different programs in the parish and the community. Pictured above with Santa are members of the White family - Tisha, baby Julia, Santa, Robert, Abigail and Mary. For more information about the Catholic Mothers Council, contact Darcy Rocha, the group's president, at 972-961-0255.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Rockwall City Council ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Cheryl Dunlop, city director of Administrative Services, recognized city employees Irene Hatcher and Mike McVea, who recently completed the requirements associated with Rockwall University. The employees gave background information about themselves, as well as what they had learned through the program. Cecil presented certificates and tokens of appreciation to the Rockwall University graduates.

The Rockwall University Leadership Program was set up in 2002 to provide education and information to the employees of the City of Rockwall.

The 12 courses of the Rockwall U program are designed to educate city employees about the operations of city departments and to promote the development of leadership skills. Examples of core courses are studies in finance planning and zoning, and fire prevention and response. The courses are taught by department directors and provide employees insight into city department other than those in which they work.

The program also consists of leadership courses such as ILead and the Ralph Hall Lecture Series. Graduates from the program must earn 36 hours of course credit. Each three-hour credit requires attendance in five two-hour class meetings, for a minimum of 120 hours.

The council heard second readings of ordinances annexing two tracts of land comprising approximately 58,584-acres located along the south side of Clem Road east of FM 1141, contiguous to the existing city limits line.

The second reading on 10 tracts of land comprised of approximately 68,954-acres south of SH 276 and west of FM 550 was tabled until the December 20 meeting by a motion from councilmember Glen Sevier. He indicated that veterinarian Dr. Allan Stevenson, who lives on Clem Road would like the opportunity to sign a seven-year 212 development agreement exempting the property from annexation.

Scott was the dissenting vote, expressing concern about treating Stevenson's property differently than the council has treated other annexation properties in the past. Margo Nielsen noted that the Council did receive a second request from Dr. Stevenson that week, and believed it would be "OK to wait two weeks before moving forward with second reading of the ordinance."

Municipal Court Judge Cathy Mason Penn offered her annual report and comments to the council. Discussion centered on her request for analysis of citation resolution time.

At the initiation of Russo, the council discussed a pet lost-and-found program using social media and the city's website in conjunction with the Animal Services Department. Council informally directed staff to develop recommendations related to the concept and return them to the council at a future meeting.

Free chlorine maintenance work planned next month

The North Texas Municipal Water District and the City of Rockwall are informing customers that free chlorine maintenance will be conducted on the Wylie water transmission system and customers' distribution systems for a 28-day period from Jan. 6 through Feb. 3.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality allows water

suppliers to perform a free chlorine maintenance. Free chlorine maintenance helps reduce the need for water suppliers to flush systems in order to maintain chloramine residual, which is required by the TCEQ, during the warm weather periods, thus conserving water.

Free chlorine maintenance lasts about 28 days and is performed in cool weather months when water temperature is lower.

The NTMWD utilizes chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia, in the water treatment process and to provide the disinfectant residual in the transmission and distribution systems as required by the TCEQ. Chloramines provide a longer lasting residual disinfection in water pipelines and storage facilities.

Free chlorine maintenance does not affect water quality and remains safe for use. During this period, consumers sensitive to taste and odor changes in drinking water might notice a change; however, this palatability change does not alter the quality of the drinking water provided to consumers, according to the city's news release.

For more information on this project, contact Denise Hickey, public relations coordinator, at 972-442-5405 ext. 203, or at dhickey@ntmwd.com; Ted Kilpatrick, water system manager, at 972-442-5405, ext. 259, or at tkilpatrick@ntmwd.com; Mike Rickman, deputy director, at 972-442-5405, ext. 206, or at mrickman@ntmwd.com; or the North Texas Municipal Water District, 505 E. Brown St., P.O. Box 2408, Wylie, TX 75098.

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Rockwall County News

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Reinhardt first grade teachers Fran Laman, Sarah Baker and Amy Hyvl, acting as flight attendants, began the first leg of a "trip" for students by setting up the school hallway as an airplane cabin. Students sat in rows and were offered bottled water and pretzels. The first "stop" was France, where students received stamps for their passports and ornaments for their trees from Leigh Plagens, former French teacher. Plagens contrasted French Christmas celebrations with those in the U.S.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Fifth grade students at Doris Cullins Lake Pointe Elementary created a sweet treat for residents of the Senior Care Lake Pointe Nursing Care Center. Students made a life-sized gingerbread house out of icing and loaded it with candy for residents to enjoy throughout the holiday season. Pictured are Marshall Blackwell, Rebecca Maloney, Presley Broach, Bailey Broach and Jeffrey Tessitore. Students also plan to visit the nursing home this month to sing and distribute Christmas cards.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Students vs. Faculty at Cain

Cain will host its first Students vs. Faculty Basketball Game at 2:45 p.m. Dec. 17. Admission will cost one canned food item or a \$1 donation; all proceeds will benefit Rockwall Helping Hands and the Kaufman Emergency Children's Shelter.



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Lucile Tate with her son Garvin Tate

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Carolyn Francisco presented the Rockwall County Historical Foundation's fall Brown Bag program of 2010 featuring Headlines of the Past that chronicled the early years of news from The Rockwall Success from the 1880s to the 1900s. Local news stories appeared on the newspaper's front pages, with the communities of Heath, Buffalo, Odell and Fate regularly featured. State and national news took a back seat, appearing on inside pages. At 2 p.m. Jan. 14, the 2011 officers will be installed at the RCHS Museum at Harry Myers Park. The event will be open to the public.

Photo courtesy of Leigh Plagens/
Rockwall County News

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Royse City News



The Javier Santana home, 1404 Englewood Drive, was recognized as the Royse City Chamber's Yard of the Month for December. The program is designed to recognize Royse City residents who "demonstrate above-average efforts in maintaining their property, thereby contributing to the overall appearance of the community at large."

Photo courtesy RCCOC/Rockwall County News

Royse City Wing Dingers fire still under investigation

Fire investigators from Royse City, Rockwall and the State Fire Marshall's office are continuing to search for the cause of a September fire that damaged the building housing Wing Dingers and Roots Coffee in Royse City.

Royse City Fire Chief Richard Bell said that no cause has been determined and no arrests have been made.

Chief Bell said he "can't comment one way or the other" to rumors that a suspect had been arrested and that the cause of the fire was arson. So far no evidence has been recovered to indicate suspicious activity.

"The investigation is ongoing," he said.

The Sept. 2 fire damaged about 20 percent of the building and is believed to have started in an upstairs storage room.



A neighborhood event conducted earlier this month, Cupcakes for Charity, raised \$1,750.50 for the Royse City Police Department annual toy drive. The children sold home-baked foods, coffee, chocolate, soft drinks and water in the 100 block of Elm Street, Royse City. Pictured from the left are Conner Fain, Harlei Fain, holding Mart Dennis and officer Jeff Stapleton. Not pictured are two other participants, Karter and Karson Hargrave. Plans already are in place to conduct a similar fundraiser next year.

Photo courtesy of Gina Dennis/Rockwall County News

Royse City Police Report

Dec. 3-Dec. 9

- Friday, 3 December: Medical assistance, 300 block N. Houston Street; Medical assistance, 2600 block Walnut Circle; Suspicious activity, 800 block Nancy Drive; Welfare check, 3200 block FM 548
- Saturday, 4 December: Burglary of a motor vehicle, 400 block Rustic Meadows Drive; Medical assistance, 1500 block Audrey Drive
- Sunday, 5 December: Suspicious activity, 1100 block Walnut Street; Disorderly conduct, 100 block I-30 NSR; Criminal mischief, 700 block Nancy Drive; Public intoxication arrest, 1000 block E. I-30
- Monday, 6 December: Suspicious activity, 700 block Ame Lane; Suspicious activity, 1100 block Walnut Street; Burglary of a motor vehicle, 400 block Autumn Trail; Criminal mischief, 1400 block S. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Suspicious vehicle, Erby Campbell Boulevard
- Tuesday, 7 December: Accident, 6900 block E. I-30; Reckless driver, I-30 at the 77 mile marker; Medical assistance, 1100 block N. Houston Street; Noise disturbance, 1100 block Oak Grove Lane
- Wednesday, 8 December: Medical assistance, 900 block W. I-30 SSR; Failed to ID, I-30 at the 79 mile marker
- Thursday, 9 December: Alarm, 200 block E. Main Street; Suspicious activity, 100 block Singleton Drive; Accident, I-30 at the 79 mile marker; Driving while intoxicated arrest, E. I-30 at the 78 mile marker

Royse City Christmas Parade winners

Many festive entries took part in the annual lighted Christmas parade in Royse City on Saturday, December 11. Special thanks to all who helped make this great event possible, including the City of Royse City, Royse City Main Street, the Royse City Chamber of Commerce, Kate Tyre, our volunteers and dignitaries, parade judges, emcee, Green singing group, parade entrants, and of course Santa and his lovely wife Mrs. Claus! We would also like to recognize Royse City citizen Donald Clinard and his family who helped make it possible for the city to have a re-usable Christmas tree to use. Mr. Clinard's granddaughter Allison threw the switch to light the parade during the ceremony on Saturday evening.

Parade Winners were as follows: Best Use of Theme (An Old Fashioned Christmas): Coldwell Banker Real Estate - Home for Christmas; Most Original: The "Z" Museum - Surry; Lil' Tikes; Mustang Cheer Group; Equestrian: R&L Ranch - Peruvian Paso Horses; Motorized Vehicle: Vera Buchanan - 1956 Red Chevy Convertible; Most Comical: Smallville Learning Center - The Grinch Theme; Most Festive: Royse City Cub Scouts Pack 312; Best of the Rest: Rockwall Parks and Recreation - The Grinch; People's Choice Award - Judged in "secret" by the applause and oohs and aahs of the crowd: The Royse City High School Mighty Bulldog Band.

Royse City News

See Royse City Christmas Parade Videos at RockwallTexasOnline.com



About 100 Fulton School students, teachers and parents, pictured above, scattered across Rockwall and Heath Nov. 10 to pick up litter for about three hours. The effort netted 127 bags of garbage and 1,000 pounds of larger miscellaneous items, totaling more than one ton of trash. Litter was sorted as recyclable vs. non-recyclable as it was collected. Over the past five years, Fulton School representatives have collected approximately eight tons of litter. "Participating in this project gives our students an opportunity to give back to our neighbors in Heath and Rockwall," said Matt Burgy, head of school. "They also learn the importance of recycling and taking care of our environment."

Photo courtesy the Crutchfields/Rockwall County News



Mother and daughter members of the National Charity League served hot cocoa, wassail and home-baked Christmas cookies at Heath's Holiday in the Park earlier this month. Pictured at front, from the left, are Annika Smith, Abby Childers, Maddie Young, Caitlin Hudecek and Riley Adams; middle row Gabby Merritt, Santa, Allison Strother and Sarah Schneider; and, at back, Mandy McMillan, Breagan Adams, Sydney Mike-Mayer, Ashlyn Hohenshelt, Allison Young, Grace Fowler, Hannah Adley, Al Johnson, MacKenzie Osborn and Macy Hatfield.

Photo courtesy City of Heath/Rockwall County News

Cullens-Lake Pointe celebrates Gaby Yanez citizenship

Gaby Yanez, a member of the Cullens-Lake Pointe Elementary School custodial staff for the last five years, recently took her oath as a new United States citizen. Yanez, whose home country is Mexico, was honored for her accomplishment by the faculty, staff and students of Cullens-Lake Pointe on Tuesday, Dec. 14.

Principal Cory White introduced Yanez and her family, husband Joel, son Daniel, and daughter Karen, before playing a video of Yanez expressing why she wanted to become a US citizen.

"I see so many cultures here and I wanted to be a part of it. I want to vote in a federal election and be heard. I want to choose our representatives in government who help our community. It also gives me the opportunity to bring my parents to live here. They can visit me but they cannot live here and I need them near me," she said.

White told the students that being a citizen of a nation, a state and a community is similar to being a part of their school.

"It's like being a part of Cullens-Lake Pointe," he said. "We should have the same pride in our school and country that Gaby does. She sets a great example for us."

After the video, the festivities took a fun turn. To show the students how m Yanez had to learn about the United States to become a citizen, she was pitted against three teachers in a rousing game of "Are You Smarter Than A Naturalized Citizen."

Answering questions such as, Who Wrote the Declaration of Independence (Thomas Jefferson) and When was the Constitution Written (1787), Yanez went toe to toe with first grade teacher Angela Born, fifth grade teacher Gayle Kidd and sixth grade teacher Amy Jumper.

At the end of the presentation, students and teachers joined Yanez and her family as they listened to the Lee Greenwood song, "I'm Proud to be an American."

Cullens-Lake Pointe Elementary School Cory White (left) emcees a special version of "Are You Smarter Than a Naturalized Citizen" at a celebration to honor school employee Gaby Yanez, who recently became a US citizen. Yanez matched her newfound knowledge of the United States against teachers (left to right) Amy Jumper, Gayle Kidd and Angela Born.



In early October of 2010, I fell with my bicycle and broke my hip.

After surgery and a stay in the hospital, I was given the option of going to the rehab of my choice. Because it was close to my home, I chose Royse City Health and Rehabilitation Center for my therapy.

I want people to know that I am delighted with the care given me while I was a guest there. Every worker, every nurse and every therapist in that center are genuinely delightful people. The staff began immediately learning my likes and dislikes; then they worked diligently to please.

I also watched these workers interplay with the others too. Their care and concern for the the oldest and most unresponsive patient was heartwarming. I saw kisses and hugs along with pills; and pats along with therapy.

If I were to grade the rehab center, I would have to give it at least a 9 on a scale of 1 to 10.

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Gaby Yanez, an employee of Cullens-Lake Pointe Elementary School who recently received her US citizenship, is shown with her husband, Joel, and children, Daniel and Karen, at a celebration of her accomplishment given by the staff, faculty and students of the school.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County Obituaries

Patricia Joe Hartin



Services for Patricia Joe Hartin, 78, of Rockwall will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, 2010, in the First Baptist Church, M.L. Jones Chapel, in Rockwall with Pastor Steve Swoford officiating. Burial will follow in the Rockwall Memorial Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home.

She died Dec. 12, 2010, at her home in Rockwall, Texas. She was born Feb. 28, 1932, in Dallas to Joe and Linnie (Powell) McKnight. She worked as a radiation technician in the Oncology Department at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. She was a member of the First Baptist Church, where she was involved with the Joy and the Martha Class.

Survivors include her daughter, Kathy Kinser, and her husband, Kirte, of Rockwall; her sister, Linda Houston, and her husband, Wayne, of Poetry; her grandchildren, Rebekah, Sarah and Crew Kinser, all of Rockwall; her nieces and nephews, Shannon, Kai Kai and Blake; and numerous cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, William H. Hartin, in 1986; and one son, Chuck Hartin, in 1972.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, Okla., 73123-1718.

Angelica Rose Jones

Services for Angelica Rose Jones, 21-month-old daughter of Douglas and Sheri (Larwill) Jones of Rockwall, will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Joe Pool officiating. Burial will follow in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

She died Dec. 14 following a battle with leukemia.

Born Feb. 27, 2009, in Dallas, she was a beautiful girl who was adored by her family. She was blessed with a fiery spirit to match her red hair.

Survivors include her parents; her brothers, Stephen and Joseph Jones; her grandparents, Gloria Tillery and David and Janet Larwill; and a large extended family.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, Children's Medical Center Dallas, 1935 Medical District Dr., Dallas, TX 75235.

Nancy Rae Sampson

Graveside services for Nancy Rae Sampson, 60, of Roysie City will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010, in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

She died Dec. 9, 2010.

Born Dec. 5, 1950, in Herrin, Ill., to Ray Talbert Rone and Louise Besy (McNeil) Rone, she was a loving mother and grandmother, known as "MaMa." She had worked as a foreman in the aluminum industry.

Survivors include her sons, Jerry Sampson and his wife, Anita, of Roysie City, Mark Sampson and his wife, Sandy, of Wylie, Samuel Sampson and his wife, Beverly, of McKinney, Tony Sampson and his wife, Celeste, of Princeton, and Jonathan Sampson of Roysie City; her daughters, Kandy, Margaret and Amber Sampson, all of Roysie City; her grandchildren, Courtney, Mason, Madison, Whitney, Brittany, Cheyenne, Caitlin, Briana, Faith, Nathan, Felicia, Justin, Everett, Abigail, Jonathan, Brooklyn, Justice, Blake, Jason, Cora, Damian, Jordan and Josey; and her nieces, Gail and Josey.

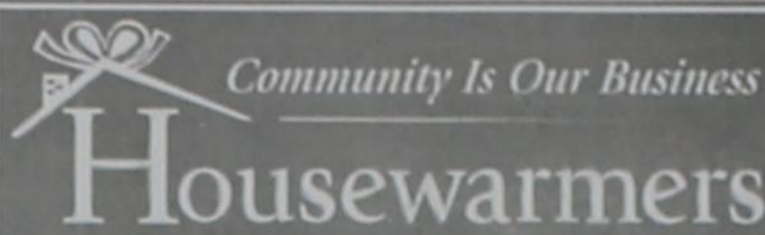
Her parents and her sister, Margaret Ann Fergus, preceded her in death.



Christmas Edition

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Rockwall County News

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Helping Hands board member and Assistance and Referral Committee member Darlene Dabney accepts a donation of gift cards from Dr. Les Sandknop. The gift cards will be distributed to Rockwall families in need as Christmas gifts for teens. More than 1,200 children were registered for this year's annual drive distribution, a record number for the nonprofit critical assistance agency.
Photo courtesy of Helping Hands/Rockwall County News

On God's Word
by Timothy W. Burnett

Revelations chapters 14-18...the wrath of God fulfilled

Continuing our review of significant events in the book of Revelations, chapters 14-18 mostly focuses on the fulfillment of the wrath of God. It appears to be summed up in Revelations 18:20-24, "Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets. For God hath avenged you on her." And it finishes with verse 24, "And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."

Not only will the saints have the hope of the resurrection; and not only will they have the hope of everlasting life in paradise (the new earth), but they will rest assured in knowing that God will execute His wrath upon all who worship the beast and participate in the murder of many people on the earth.

So often, when we see people doing bad things or serving prison time for hard crimes, we try to not assume that they cannot change their hearts. This is true. Only the spirit of God is able to search the hearts of all people.

What kind of people will face the wrath of God? Will there be millions of hardened looking criminals similar to the characters in the movie "Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome?" God's word paints another picture. It may be quite shocking to learn that the combined political-religious system referred to as the "beast" will be perceived as godly, and representative of what is normal social mindset. The system and its leaders will have an appearance of being righteously good and clean.

In Matthew chapter 23, Jesus started talking to his disciples, but in verse 13 he redirects his words to the Jewish scribes and Pharisees. During this godly scolding, Jesus said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like unto whitened sepulchers, which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but are within full of dead bones, and of all uncleanness." In verse 33 Jesus said, "You serpents; you generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell?"

The disciple John tells of Jesus addressing some of the Jewish leaders in John chapter 8. Verses 42-44 shines more light on the subject, "Jesus said unto them, 'If God were your Father, you would love me, for I proceeded forth and came from God...' And he later said, 'You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do...' Jesus clearly distinguished between his Father God, and their father the devil.

The only way Jesus could know they were of the devil was by the holy spirit. Otherwise, their appearances were clean and beautiful. The Jewish leaders were the same ones who ultimately arranged for his death. These were the same people who paid the Roman soldiers to lie about what happened to Jesus' body after God resurrected him. And these same Jewish leaders will also be resurrected in the future and very likely take part in the murder of God's saints during the great tribulation period. If not this, then they will take part in the final battle against Jesus. Guess who will have the last word on that day? Our Lord Jesus.

Ezekiel 28:12-19 gives more information about the god who they serve. According to Isaiah 14:12, his name is Lucifer. Ezekiel 28:14 refers to him as "the anointed cherub that covereth." And verse 15 reveals that he was "perfect" in his ways from the day he was created, "until iniquity was found in him." Verse 17 speaks of his "beauty."

With this information in mind, it can be seen that the "beast" will have all the appearances of popular righteousness in the eyes of the masses. It may seem like an anointed cherub that protectively covers everything around it. It will very likely appear very beautiful in all its ways. Therefore it will deceive they who worship it, into believing that the murder of God's saints and many others is godly and righteous. This is supported by the accounts of the Jewish leaders deceiving the masses into crying out for the death of Jesus.

Just as God raised Jesus from the dead, so also will he resurrect all of mankind. Furthermore, He promises to execute his righteous judgment and wrath upon they who will be marked as worshippers of the beast, and who have murdered and will murder many of His people.

While reading Revelations chapters 14-18 remember that the bad people will probably have all the appearances of good people, and all the truly good people will be seen as bad people.

God in heaven searches that hearts of all, and is able to faithfully fulfill His word perfectly.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Today is Toy Drive deadline

Today - Dec. 17 - is the deadline to donate new, unwrapped toys gift cards for distribution to needy Rockwall County children. More than 1,200 children are signed up to receive gifts through the Helping Hands Drive, and as of early this week only 30 percent of that need had been filled according to agency officials. Toys and gift cards are needed for youths to the age of 16; gift cards for teens are particularly needed. Drop-off locations include several local businesses, as well as all fire stations, Rock City Hall, Rockwall Chamber, Helping Hands and the HH Health Care Volunteers also are needed for Saturday's distribution. Contact Sherry Ham at 972-771-4357, ext. 225, or at sherryham@rockwallhelpinghands.com

Coat, blanket drive under way

The second annual Coat and Blanket Drive for the Homeless Shelter The Bridge seeks donations of coats, blankets, sweaters, scarves and gloves. Items may be dropped off at 2900 Ridge Road. For more details contact Linda McCormick at 469-338-2259.

'Oz' set Dec. 17-18 at RCHS Theatre

The Roysse City Theatre Company will offer performances of its adaptation of "The Wizard of Oz" Dec. 17 and 18 in the RCHS Theatre, 7001 2642. "Oz" performances are set for 7 p.m. Dec. 17 and 3 p.m. Dec. 18. Admission will cost \$2 for children/students and \$3 for adults; a portion of the proceeds will be donated to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Gift items needed for CPS children

Ara Hunt is again asking area residents to give new, unwrapped toys of children of all ages, gift cards and new children's clothing (any size) distribution by the Rockwall County Child Protective Services. Items will be delivered to children placed in CPS custody on Dec. 17. Call Hunt at 214-240-9696 to arrange for pickup or drop off. For more details search Rockwall CPS Toy Drive on Facebook.

Santa's Workshop set Dec. 18

A Santa's Workshop holiday craft session is set for 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 18 at The Center. Jingle bell bracelets, Rudolph necklaces and Christmas magnets are among items to be crafted. Open to ages 5-10, the class will cost \$20 for Rockwall residents, \$30 for non-residents. For more details call the Rockwall Parks & Rec Center at 972-771-7740.

Church to offer play Dec. 18, 19

The Church of Prayer Christian Fellowship, 5326 Rochelle Road, Rockwall, will present "Charlie and the Living Museum" at 8 p.m. Dec. 18 and at 11 a.m. Dec. 19 (worship begins at 10:30 a.m.). Admission will be free. For more details or directions call 972-961-0101 or visit chofprayerrockwall.com.

Live nativity set at FCC Rockwall

First Christian Church Rockwall will host a live nativity from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 19. Performances will take place about every 20 minutes, followed by a group caroling session and time for children from the audience to pet animals from the nativity scene. The church is located at 3375 Ridge Road; enter from White Road and follow signs to parking area. For more details call 972-771-5526.

Food drive to benefit B&G

A food drive benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Rockwall will run through Dec. 20. Donations may be dropped off at the Rockwall Yellow Jacket Barber Shop, 2006 S. Goliad (next to Joe Willy's). For more details call 214-771-0450.

Raffle to benefit Meals on Wheels

The Rockwall County Committee on Aging Meals on Wheels program will raffle off a 42-inch LG 1080p LCD television on Dec. 21. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. Proceeds will benefit the local Meals on Wheels program, which feeds homebound elderly and disabled individuals in Rockwall, Royse City, Heath and Fate. For tickets call 972-771-9514.

RC offices to close for holiday

The municipal offices of Royse City will be closed Dec. 24 and 27 and Dec. 31 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Highsteppers plan Dance Clinic

The Rockwall-Heath Highsteppers will host a dance clinic from 9:30 a.m. to noon Jan. 22 in the RHHS gym. Check-in will be at 9 a.m. The event will be open to girls in kindergarten through ninth grade; participants will be separated into age groups to learn dance steps. Cost is \$25. Only participants registering prior to Dec. 31 are guaranteed a T-shirt. For more details call Amber Creamer at 469-338-8204 or e-mail danceclinic10@gmail.com

Relay For Life kickoff slated

Rockwall County's Relay For Life will have its team kickoff from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18 at the Hilton Bella Harbor. Teams can sign up to participate in this year's event, which will begin at 7 p.m. April 29. For more details about Relay or to register online visit relayforlife.org/rockwalltx. To sign up for a Relay committee, contact Carla Brooks, Relay chair, cbrooks_heath@sbcglobal.net.

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Rockwall city to rename FM 3549, Stodghill Road a contender

Rockwall City Council is considering renaming a one mile stretch of FM 3549, which was released to the city by the State of Texas last year. The section, between I-30 and US 276 is now a city street which the city will name.

Since the road transfer divided stretches of FM 549, the State of Texas changed the 3.3 mile portion from I-30 north to FM 552 to FM 3549. Homeowners and property owners along the road were contacted by letter several weeks ago by the City of Rockwall asking for input on the naming. The letter read in part, "The City of Rockwall is in the process of adding a city street name to the newly renamed FM-3549 from Interstate 30 north to FM-552. The City would appreciate your input and suggestions for the new name for this portion of FM-3549."

Support is building for naming the road Stodghill Road, in honor of a longtime Rockwall family and for whom the road has been informally referred for decades.

Support for the name Stodghill Road have been received from U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall, who wrote a letter supporting the name, Rockwall City Commissioner David Magness and the City of Fate.

Veterinarian Keith Taylor, whose business Rockwall County Vet is located on the road, also suggested the name Stodghill Road to the city.

Another staunch support of naming the road for the Stodghill family is Sheri Stodghill Fowler, Executive Director of Communications for Rockwall ISD and a member of the Stodghill family.

Fowler has offered a history of the property and her family's ties to the land that fronts the stretch of road to be renamed to the Fate City Council, the Rockwall County Commissioners and the City of Rockwall.

In support of her request, Fowler provided documents, including maps and government meeting records going back to the late 1950s, that unofficially referred to FM 549 as "Stodghill Road."

In a letter to Joey Boyd, Assistant to the Rockwall City Manager, Fowler said, "I do not believe the city ever officially deemed it this (Stodghill Road), but I have documentation (printed maps) showing that this has been the commonly held name for this portion of road for many years.

Obviously, I would strongly advocate that the city honor this tradition."

According to Fowler, her grandparents, Woodrow and Willie Stodghill, first moved to the property at FM 3549 and SH 66 in the late 1940s. They had previously lived on a farm on what is now Riding Club Road. From 1949 onward, her grandfather farmed almost two thousand acres of land through ownership or lease fronting and adjacent to the intersection of FM 549 and SH 66.

In her letter to the City, Fowler said, "With the area we are discussing being primarily rural up until the most recent decades, it seems absolutely fitting to honor our agrarian heritage by naming this road after a family that farmed a large part of the land that now surrounds the thoroughfare. In addition, as I said, it is already recorded on historical Rockwall maps as "Stodghill Road."

"As I said (and as I'm sure you can understand), I'm very passionate regarding this section of roadway. It has been referred to historically (both in print and in common conversation) as Stodghill Road and I think the city should honor this tradition as well as a family that literally spent decades contributing to Rockwall's agrarian heritage."

Fowler said there is also a small lake just off of Hillside Drive that is still identified on maps as Stodghill Lake.

Naming the section of road for a long time Rockwall family would not be a first for the City, as several roads in the vicinity are named for other farming families, including Clem, Cornelius, Payne and Springer.

Fowler said the minutes from a 1976 County Commissioners meeting, at which the plat for Mt. Zion Estates was presented, read, "This property is located at the intersection of SH No. 66 and the county road known as the Stodghill Road."

The Stodghill property also contains part of the rock wall for which the City is named. Fowler said in a partnership with the county, the rock wall on the family property was excavated and opened for free viewing in 1976 in conjunction with the U. S. Bicentennial.

"All Rockwall ISD school children visited the site and many community leaders and families also came to look at it," she said.

Her grandparents were also shareholders in the Rockwall Riding Club and

supported the decision to donate the original Riding Club property to RISD for an agricultural learning facility, Fowler said.

A Rockwall City Council subcommittee will consider all possible name suggestions and after making their selections, will make a recommendation to the City Council. The subcommittee is made up of council members Mark Russo, David Sweet and Matt Scott.



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Pictured above are 10 Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association past presidents, including, front row, from the left, Elizabeth Cameron, Mary Davis, Doris Cullins, Beverly Skalberg and Billie Stevenson and, at back, Jannie Clark, Katherine Stevener, Becky Cecil, Darlene Bealmear and Betty Moon. The former officers were on hand for the group's December meeting, which included a performance by the Bulldog Choir from Royse City. Hosts for the event were Linda Garrett, Mary Jackson, Pat Moore, Johanna Ash, Marvin Lee and Georgia Lee. The group's next meeting will be at 1:15 p.m. Feb. 14 at the RISD Administration Building, with Cindy Sandell presenting a book review. The program will be open to all retired school personnel and their guests.

Photo courtesy of Leigh Plagens/Rockwall County News

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Opinions

Bill of Rights Day ... what does it mean?

by James Bovard

Wednesday, December 15, is the 219th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights — the first ten amendments to the Constitution. Bill of Rights Day should be the preeminent Anti-Politician Day on the American calendar. Instead, it has become simply another pretext for rulers to delude the ruled.

Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1787, "A Bill of Rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth ... and what no just government should refuse, or rest on inference." Yet, some of the Founding Fathers — such as Alexander Hamilton — fought tooth-and-nail against codifying any limit on politicians' power. And the second president — John Adams — did all that he could to destroy any restraints on the feds' power to suppress criticism of the government.

President Franklin Roosevelt proclaimed the first Bill of Rights Day, which occurred on December 15, 1941 — a few days after FDR's dream came true and the United States was simultaneously at war with Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany. FDR called the Bill of Rights "the great American charter of personal liberty and human dignity," but proceeded to label the rights "privileges" and then listed only "privileges" contained in the First Amendment. FDR then asserted that "free schools" could not exist without the Bill of Rights, though there was nothing about education in the first 10 amendments. The Second World War provided a blank check for FDR to seize almost boundless power at home and abroad, and he never let the Constitution stand in his way.

Subsequent politicians have done their best to make Americans view the Bill of Rights as simply another government handout. President Bill

Clinton, in an April 19, 1994, television interview, declared, "When we got organized as a country and we wrote a fairly radical Constitution with a radical Bill of Rights, giving a radical amount of individual freedom to Americans, it was assumed that the Americans who had that freedom would use it responsibly.... When personal freedom's being abused, you have to move to limit it."

The Bill of Rights did not give freedom to Americans; instead, the Bill of Rights expressly prohibited the government from violating pre-existing rights of the people. The Bill of Rights was not "radical" according to the beliefs of Americans of that era; instead, it codified rights both long recognized in English common law or that had been carved out over centuries of resistance to English tyranny. The Founding Fathers had difficulty getting the Constitution approved in many states not because it was "radical" in protecting people's rights from the government — but because it was perceived as concentrating too much power within the federal government to violate the rights of the people.

President Obama is upholding the tradition of invoking the Bill of Rights to muddle Americans' political thinking. When he formally proclaimed Bill of Rights Day last December, he declared that "fidelity to our fundamental values is one of America's greatest strengths.... As Americans, we must keep striving to live up to our founding ideals." Obama made this declaration after signaling that all the high-ranking Bush administration officials who authorized torture and other war crimes would face no federal prosecution.

In his Bill of Rights Day proclamation this year, Obama declared: "The United States will always speak for those who are voiceless, defend those who are oppressed, and bear witness to those who want nothing more

than to exercise their universal human rights. Our Bill of Rights protects these fundamental values at home, and guides our actions" abroad.

In the same season that Obama is making such declarations, his administration is also insisting that it is entitled to kill Americans without any due process, without any judicial proceedings, simply because some government officials suspect those Americans are "involved" with terrorist groups.

Presidents and members of Congress take an oath to uphold the Constitution — and thus to respect the rights recognized and guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Insofar as the feds trample the Bill of Rights, the government is illegitimate. Insofar as the government perennially violates the Bill of Rights, it becomes an aggressor against the American people.

At this point, what we really need is a constitutional amendment to require the federal government obey the Constitution. As long as the rulers are permitted to scorn the rightful limits on their power, our political system consists of little more than elective dictatorship.

Americans need to remember Bill of Rights Day but for the proper reason. Americans must recognize that the government poses the greatest peril to their liberties. December 15 is the day to stop and count the ways that politicians are ravaging your rights — and to take action to turn the tide against Leviathan.

James Bovard is the author of Attention Deficit Democracy [2006] as well as The Bush Betrayal [2004], Lost Rights [1994] and Terrorism and Tyranny: Trampling Freedom, Justice and Peace to Rid the World of Evil (Palgrave-Macmillan, September 2003) and serves as a policy advisor for The Future of Freedom Foundation.

Helping Hands, meeting needs of those in need

by Judy Evans

The holiday rush is on as thoughts turn to gifts, parties and extravagant dinners -- but please remember to include Rockwall County Helping Hands on your "To Do" lists this year.

Helping Hands, a nonprofit critical assistance agency that has served Rockwall since 1976, is in the business of helping our residents in need by serving as the first line of defense in critical times.

But we can't do it alone — the needs are too great.

Helping Hands was built on a foundation of volunteers and donations from this caring and generous community. We need your help to continue our mission and to keep our promise that needs would be met.

The Annual Helping Hands Toy Drive provided more than 1,000 less fortunate children with three new toys in 2009, and we hope 2010 will be as successful. Businesses all over Rockwall have agreed to serve as collection sites for toys or you can bring them to Helping Hands at 950 Williams St..

Helping Hands also needs salable merchandise for the Rockwall and Royse City Thrift Stores, food to stock Food Pantry shelves that are often full today and empty tomorrow and volunteers to share their time and talents in the Thrift Stores, at the Health Center and in Assistance and Referral. Also, volunteers are needed for the toy distribution on Dec. 18.

Of course, financial donations are always welcomed and greatly needed.

Your donations to Helping Hands stay in Rockwall to help Rockwall people — so they are an investment in your hometown, an investment that has made huge returns for more than 30 years.

We love helping people in need, and it is a job we do well. Please join us in making a positive difference in the lives of the less fortunate in our community.

Be sure to make our Centsible Thrift Store in Royse City and the Rockwall Thrift Store a stop for your holiday shopping. Shoppers find

incredible treasures such as antiques, designer clothing (some with the tags still on them) and like-new furniture.

To make a donation or to volunteer, call Helping Hands at 972-771-HELP. To volunteer with toy distribution, please call Sherry Hamm at extension 225.

The Constitution of most of our states (and of the United States) assert that all power is inherent in the people; that they may exercise it by themselves; that is their right and duty to be at all times armed and that they are entitled to freedom of person, freedom of religion, freedom of property and freedom of press.

Thomas Jefferson

Rockwall County Sports Schedules

The Fulton School Falcons

Friday, Dec. 17 – Varsity boys' basketball: at Granbury Happy Hill Farm Academy, 6 p.m.

Heritage Christian Academy Eagles

Friday, Dec. 17 – Basketball: home vs. Arlington Fellowship Academy, middle school girls 4:30 p.m., middle school boys 5:30 p.m., varsity girls 6:30 p.m. and varsity boys 8 p.m.

Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors

Friday, Dec. 17 – Basketball: varsity boys and girls at Grand Saline Tournament

Saturday, Dec. 18 – Basketball: varsity boys and girls at Grand Saline Tournament

Rockwall High School Yellowjackets

Friday, Dec. 17 – JV wrestling: at Dallas St. Mark's School of Texas Invitational, 4:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball: at Lovejoy, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:30 p.m. and varsity 8 p.m.

Varsity wrestling: at Hill Country Duals, Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 5 p.m.

Freshman girls' basketball: home vs. Wylie, Utley Middle School, A 5:30 p.m. and B 7 p.m.

Girls' basketball: home vs. Wylie, Rockwall High School, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18 – at Hill Country Duals, Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – Freshman girls' basketball: home vs. McKinney, Utley Middle School, A 5:30 p.m. and B 7 p.m.

Girls' basketball: home vs. McKinney, Rockwall High School, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball: at McKinney, JV and Freshman A 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Rockwall-Heath High School Hawks

Friday, Dec. 17 – Boys' basketball: at North Mesquite, Freshman A 5 p.m., JV 6 p.m., Freshman B 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Wrestling: at Hill Country Duals, Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 5 p.m.

Girls' basketball: at McKinney, Freshman Red 5:30 p.m., JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18 – at Hill Country Duals, Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 10 a.m.

Girls' basketball: at Crandall, Freshman B noon and JV B 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – Girls' basketball: at McKinney North, Freshman Red and JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Boys' basketball: home vs. McKinney North, Rockwall-Heath High School, Freshman A 5 p.m., JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Royse City Bulldogs

Friday, Dec. 17 – Girls' basketball: home vs. Sulphur Springs, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – Girls' basketball: home vs. Texarkana Texas, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball: at Texarkana Texas, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

New winning ways continue; 300 victories for McDill

By Lary Bump

There's more than one way to win a basketball game, as the Rockwall girls' basketball game is proving this season.

For most of Jill McDill's 11-plus years as the Lady Jackets' head coach, Jill McDill has relied on setting up a long-range shooter for 3-point shots. For the last eight seasons before this one, she has had one of the state's leading 3-point shooters – Kelli Walker for two, Genevieve Campbell for three and RHS' all-time scoring leader, Peyton Adamson for three more.

This year's team is more about getting the ball inside to 6-foot-1 center Alyssa Lang. Just during the past week, Lang made the All-Tournament team as Rockwall swept four games to win the metroPCS Hoops Invitational in Garland and scored 28 points and grabbed 14 rebounds Tuesday in a 48-38 victory over Lovejoy.

Before that game, the Rockwall ISD honored McDill for recording the 300th victory of her coaching career during Saturday's semifinal game at the Garland Special Events Center.

Mark Elam and Scott Smith, the district's two athletic directors during her tenure, presented a plaque commemorating that event. Her career record is 302-75, with 33 of the victories coming during her one season at Crawford. The highlight was the 2006-07 RHS team, which went 40-0 to win the state 5A title and a No. 3 national ranking.

It had been gratifying for the Lady Jackets to win that semifinal game against Garland with neither a 3-point presence nor, for much of the first half, dominating inside play.

Assistant coach Casey Reeves joked as he came off the court, "I thought we were going to have to put Mariah at post," referring to 5-2 guard Mariah Roof.

That was because both Lang and 5-8 Paige Turner were in foul trouble, and 5-11 Caitlyn White still hasn't returned from a wrist injury.

So Lacey Smith, a 5-9 junior like Turner in her first year of varsity basketball, took over in the post and 5-6 guards Kayla Smith and Morghen Day moved down low in a zone defense.

Garland pulled within three points at 15-12 with 4 minutes, 55 seconds remaining in the first half, but the makeshift alignment held the Lady Owls to four points to keep RHS ahead 21-16 at halftime.

Garland three times rallied within two points in the second half, but even though the Jackets made just three field goals, they put in 10 foul shots and pulled away to win 38-28.

In that game, Lang and Turner combined for just six points, but All-Tournament performer Hannah Hughes stepped up with 17. In the 49-34 final-game victory that night against Princeton, Lang scored 17 points and Turner added 16.

"Both of them played well," McDill said. "(Princeton) didn't have a lot of size, and we did a good job capitalizing."

"Tournament championships are hard to come by. You have to beat a lot of teams along the way. In this tournament, playing three games at the Special Events Center against good teams, I hope that creates some atmosphere that we can use if we hopefully play in the playoffs."

The Region II-4A championships are held at the Special Events Center.

McDill continued, "I'm proud for us to have played four games well. Different people helped out. Kayla with her leadership, and Morghen, and Paige tonight. The kids are improving. I feel like we're jelling, and for us to be on a roll heading into district is important."

The Lady Jackets' District 10-4A season is scheduled to begin Friday at Highland Park.

Even more than most Rockwall teams, this one isn't about offense so much as defense. During RHS' current seven-game winning streak, no opponent has scored more than 41 points.

It isn't just the varsity that's going in on a roll. The junior varsity won the Royse City Tournament championships, with Ellen Baker hitting six 3-pointers among her 22 points in the final, and the Freshman A team won the North Mesquite Tournament.

The varsity (11-3) is 11th in the TABC 4A rankings. Two of the losses were to ranked teams, Houston Westbury Christian (first among Large Private Schools) and Mesquite Potet (14th in 4A. Lovejoy (8-6) was ranked 18th in 3A entering Tuesday's game.

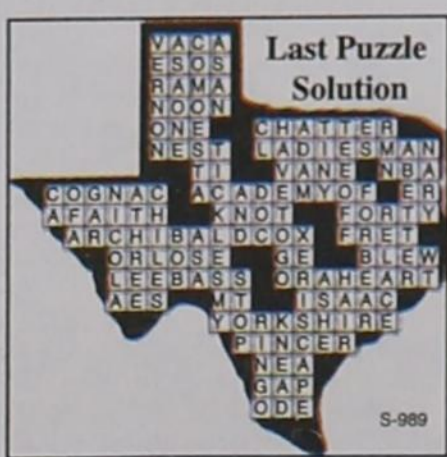
Rockwall (7-3) – Hannah Hughes 25, Alyssa Lang 17, Kayla Smith 5, Paige Turner 3, Mariah Roof 2, Morghen Day 1.

South Garland (4-3) – Alexis Hill 11, Andrianna Williams 8, Sabora Richard 6, Jasmine Hill 4, Ke'Yanna Henderson 2.

RHS (8-3) – Alyssa Lang 28, Hannah Hughes 13, Paige Turner 13, Lacey Smith 8, Kayla Smith 7, Morghen Day 2.

Garland Lakeview Centennial (3-8) – Tiara Brewer 17, Jessica Moss 5, Stevie

(Continued on Page 10)



Last Puzzle Solution

S-989



Sisters Gabriella, age 5, (left) and Alejandra Asencio, 6, are all smiles as they visit with Santa Claus at Saturday's Breakfast With Santa at The Center in Rockwall. The City of Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the breakfast. In addition to spending a few minutes whispering secrets to Santa, the children had breakfast and made crafts to take home. The girls' parents, David and Deanna Asencio of Rockwall, accompanied them to the event.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News



Sergio Perales, age 3, tells his secret Christmas wishes to the Big Man himself, Santa Claus at Saturday's Breakfast With Santa at The Center in Rockwall. The City of Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the breakfast. In addition to spending a few minutes whispering secrets to Santa, the children had breakfast and made crafts to take home. Sergio's parents, Erick and Jennifer Perales of Rockwall, accompanied him to the event. Santa's Elf, who handed out candy canes after the children visited with Santa, was Taylor Poyner from the Parks and Recreation Department.



Charlotte Corbitt, age 5, had a big hug for Santa Claus before letting him know her Christmas wishes at Saturday's Breakfast With Santa at The Center in Rockwall. The City of Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the breakfast. In addition to spending a few minutes whispering secrets to Santa, the children had breakfast and made crafts to take home. Charlotte's parents, Kaki and Greg Corbitt of Rockwall, accompanied her to the event.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News



Kaylee Peoples, age 3, lets Santa Claus know what's on her Christmas wish list at Saturday's Breakfast With Santa at The Center in Rockwall. The City of Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the breakfast. In addition to spending a few minutes whispering secrets to Santa, the children had breakfast and made crafts to take home. Kaylee's mother, Tina Peoples of Rockwall, accompanied her to the event.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News



Autumn Brake, age 4, was dressed in her cutest elf outfit for a visit with Santa Claus at Saturday's Breakfast With Santa at The Center in Rockwall. The City of Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the breakfast. In addition to spending a few minutes whispering secrets to Santa, the children had breakfast and made crafts to take home. Autumn's brother, Ian Kline, and her grandmother, Peggy Brake of Rockwall, accompanied her to the event.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News



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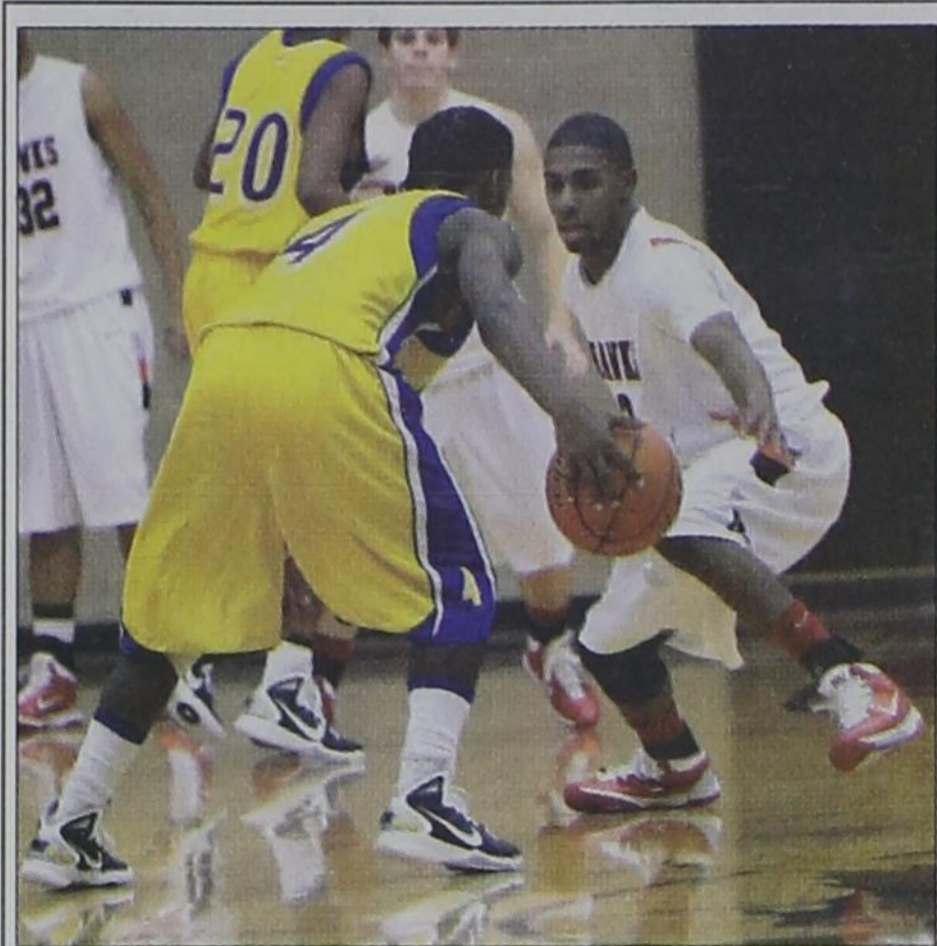
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Rockwall County Sports



Hawks' Jonathan Fuller stays close to a Sulphur Springs ball handler during Monday's game at Heath.
Photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News



Sixth Grade Girls Fall basketball Team Thunder won the championship December 11 with a 28-2 win in the tournament held in Rockwall. Members of the team are (back row: (left to right) Haley Hicks, Sarah Jane Harper, Tannya Gonzalez, Quaniece Burns, Coach - Dave Nelson (front row) Madilyn Maldonado, Megan Dupuis and Jessie Page.
Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

Heritage Christian Academy boys sweep three games

Heritage Christian Academy won three games in eight days, with the margin of victory increasing each time. On Tuesday, Nov. 30, the Eagles used tough defense and balanced scoring to win at Crowley Nazarene Christian 41-36. Garrett Blankenship's nine points led the nine HCA players who scored. Aaron Mateer had four assists and three steals, and Quincy Terrell pulled down seven rebounds for the Eagles. The same players paced HCA three nights later when it won a home game at



Bulldogs' JV player Alfred Haumpy takes a jump shot during yesterday's game against Wills Point at Roysse City. Ready to assist at back is teammate Michael Parker.
Photo by Pat Corll/Rockwall County News

the RISE 56-39 over Poetry Community Christian. Mateer scored a game-high 21 points. Terrell added 12 and led the team with nine rebounds, five assists and three steals. Blankenship scored 10 points. On Tuesday, the Eagles routed Dallas Lighthouse Christian 72-36 at RISE. After one quarter, HCA led just 17-14. The home team's 23-6 advantage in the second quarter produced a 40-20 halftime lead.

Four Eagles scored in double figures: Blankenship with 14 points, Terrell with 13 and Andrew Waters and Asa Burke with 10 each. In Mateer's strong all-around performance, he led Heritage Christian with nine rebounds, nine assists, four steals and a blocked shot. HCA - Garrett Blankenship 8, Quincy Terrell 7, Caleb Cathey 6, Nate Mateer 5, Andrew Waters 4, Preston Smalley 4, Asa Burke 3, Aaron Mateer 2, Eric Tamez 2. Crowley Nazarene Academy (0-2) - Trey Ford 12, Dillon Riechard 8, Keith Hill 5, Justin Perkey 4, Michael Hotopp 4. Poetry Community Christian (2-5) - N/A. HCA (2-0) - Aaron Mateer 21, Quincy Terrell 12, Garrett Blankenship 8, Asa Burke 6, Nathan Mateer 3, Andrew Waters 3, Caleb Cathey 1. Dallas Lighthouse Christian (1-1) - Jesse Carr 22, Bryan Hunter 5, Kaed Kesterson 4, Dylan Louis 2, Nolan Leichy 2, Justin Brannon 1. HCA (3-0) - Garrett Blankenship 14, Quincy Terrell 13, Andrew Waters 10, Nathan Mateer 8, Eric Tamez 8, Aaron Mateer 5, Sa

Fulton boys, middle school girls win

The Fulton School boys' basketball team returned to winning ways Tuesday with a 50-38 victory over Dallas Fairhill. The Falcons are 2-1 this season after winning their opener and losing their second game. The Fulton middle school girls' basketball team defeated Fairhill for its first victory.

Warriors' season off to slow start

Rockwall Christian Academy began its boys' basketball season Friday, Dec. 10, ranked 23rd in the TABC Small Private Schools poll. That ranking was based in part of the Warriors' finish as the TAPPS 2A state runner-up last season. However, only one starter and two players who had significant playing time return from last season. RCA could drop from the rankings after three losses in the season's first week. Still, athletic director Caleb Palmer said he was confident that an influx of new talent would send the Warriors toward another successful season. They were in the first two games late, and rallied to pull within six in the third. On Friday against Dallas Christian, RCA closed within one point during the fourth quarter, but the home team pulled away for a 63-54 victory. The new entrant showed itself quickly; the leading scorers were Grant Jensen with 17 points and Carl Clewis with 13. Returning starter Raymon Stewart scored 12 points and last year's sixth man, Aaron Eastin, added 11. Playing at home the next day, Rockwall Christian led the Dallas Thunder 55 after three quarters, but the Thunder's fourth-quarter surge gave RCA a 74 victory. The scoring leaders were Jensen with 27 points, Stewart with 14 and Justo Garcia with 12.

On Tuesday, Garland Christian had a 39-29 lead after three quarters. RCA's 19-15 advantage in the final eight minutes wasn't enough to avoid a 54-48 loss. Stewart scored 19 points and Jensen added 15. RCA (0-1) - Grant Jensen 17, Carl Clewis 15, Aaron Eastin 10, Raymon Stewart 10, Justo Garcia 1. Dallas Christian (2-1) - Alex Craig 18, D'andre Cannon 10, T.J. Kirell Graham Breeden 6, Chandler Walker 6, Will Morgan 5, Justis Nelson 4, A Colvin 3, Cameron Curry 2, Zach Rudd 1. Dallas Thunder (3-4) - Payton 33, Barlow 13, Parker 8, Keathley 7, Roberts 6, Pollard 4, Jonathan Holden 3. RCA (0-2) - Grant Jensen 27, Raymon Stewart 14, Justo Garcia 12, Carl Clewis 7, Aaron Eastin 7, Eric Wright 6. RCA (0-3) - Raymon Stewart 19, Grant Jensen 15, Justo Garcia 8, Carl Clewis 2, Aaron Eastin 2, Eric Wright 2. Garland Christian (5-5) - Chase Davis 20, Hayden Burnett 17, Cody King Nick Rhyner 6, Evan Davis 2.

Jackets on 3-game streak with close win

By Lary Bump
The Rockwall boys' basketball team has taught opponents a few lessons in the last week. Don't let the Yellowjackets stay close. Don't put them on the foul line. A don't take them lightly. RHS won three of four games in last weekend's Roysse City Tournament, and back at home Tuesday defeated Paris. The Jackets (5-3) now are riding a three-game winning streak, with two overtime victories and another in overtime. Griffin Fraser scored 13 points and Tanner Humm added 12 to help def. Sulphur Springs 52-45 in the tournament's first round Thursday, Dec. 2. Rockwall then lost 56-44 to Red Oak, which went on to win the tournament championship. "If you're going to lose, I guess losing to the tournament champion isn't bad," Simmons said. The tournament guaranteed each team at least three games. The Jackets were fortunate enough to get two more games. First they defeated Greenville 48-45 with Blake Sandlin leading the way with 12 points and the defense holding the Lions. Next up was Hutto, coming off a 65-28 rout of host Roysse City. The Hippy raced to a 55-44 lead after three quarters. "We came from 12 down in the third quarter," Simmons said. "I think they took us lightly. It was a good team effort." The effort almost wasn't good enough. RHS trailed until Griffin Fraser put the Jackets ahead 65-64 with a 3-point shot in the final minute. Hutto regained the lead with 6 seconds left, but Rockwall pushed the ball back down court and set Wesley Davis for a final shot. He was fouled with 2 seconds left, and made two free throws for a 67-66 victory. Fraser led the Jackets with 16 points against Red Oak. Sandlin was the high scorer with 12 against Hutto with 16. Davis scored 14, Fraser 13 and Col Schumucker 11. Against Paris, Rockwall seemed to have the game in hand after an 11-0 run put the Jackets ahead 17-7 in the second quarter. However, the Wildcats gained momentum by making a shot from beyond half court at the halftime buzzer, and finally caught up at 47-47 on another 3-pointer with 19 seconds to play. The first half of the overtime period was scoreless before Fraser put in a

(Continued on Page 11)

Lady Jackets on a roll ...

(Continued from Page 9)

Bradley 2, Brianna Mahoe 2, Elti 2, McClinton 2, Nickerson 1. RHS (9-3) - Hannah Hughes 17, Kayla Smith 7, Alyssa Lang 4, Morghen Day 3, Lacey Smith 3, Mary Hinton 2, Paige Turner 2. Garland (8-2) - Gabrielle Wilkins 12, Kynadi Johnson 4, Rebecca Kolawole 4, Shantoria Taylor 4, Vera Ekpo 2, Alondria Green 2. Princeton (5-4) - Jordan Strickland 17, Rachel Bail 11, Brooke Campbell 2, Jonae Isaac 2, Presley Stanley 2. RHS (10-3) - Alyssa Lang 17, Paige Turner 16, Hannah Hughes 10, Kayla Smith 4, Morghen Day 2. Lovejoy (8-6) - Millie Rivera 9, Katherine McBride 7, Courtney Smith 6, Mikaela Connor 5, Kathryn Odom 4, Shani Rainey 4, Tyler Granson 3. RHS (11-3) - Alyssa Lang 28, Hannah Hughes 6, Morghen Day 4, Lacey Smith 4, Mary Hinton 3, Kayla Smith 3.



Hannah Hughes (14) launches a Lady Jackets' three point shot during last Friday's game at Highland Park.
Photo by Roy Heath/Rockwall County News

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(Continued from Page 10)

her free throw by Davis with 10 seconds to play gave him his game-point and the team its 49-47 winning margin. Paris' final 3-point field pt was wide right, and Fraser corralled the rebound as the game ended.

Fraser said, "We played well enough to win. We pulled out a close one in which we know we can do. We hit some big free throws."

2) - Griffin Fraser 13, Tanner Humm 12, Wesley Davis 9, Landon Taylor Oden 4, Blake Sandlin 4, Clay Marley 2, Jared Ragland 2, Michey 2.

3) - Griffin Fraser 16, Jared Ragland 7, Collin Schmucker 6, Daunte 5, Tanner Humm 4, Wesley Davis 2, Corbin Deshong 2, Landon Taylor Oden 4, Blake Sandlin 4, Clay Marley 2, Jared Ragland 2, Michey 2.

4) - Claud Person 16, Jeremiah Gaines 12, Brandon Hebert 10, Ryan Thompson 6, Casey Hawkins 6, Mandel Dixon 2, Jason Savala 2.

5) - Blake Sandlin 12, Collin Schmucker 9, Wesley Davis 7, Daunte 5, Jared Ragland 5, Josiah Bezet 4, Tanner Humm 3, Taylor Odom 3.

6) - Ladarrien Davis 14, Kenneth Neal 10, Jaquinton Patt 8, Miller 4, Dartanov Wilson 4, Sawyer Harmon 3, Blake Taylor 3, Caleb 1.

7) - Denzel Bellinger 20, D.J. Wilson 16, Corwin Spears 13, Tevin 7, Ryan Thompson 6, Shane Fielder 2, A.J. Lopez 1.

8) - Blake Sandlin 16, Wesley Davis 14, Griffin Fraser 13, Collin 11, Taylor Oden 5, Tanner Humm 4, Jared Ragland 4.

9) - Burns 11, Battle 9, Gray 6, Hall 6, Allen 4, Williams 4, Milton 3, Johnson 2.

10) - Wesley Davis 20, Griffin Fraser 6, Tanner Humm 6, Daunte 4, Blake Sandlin 4, Jared Ragland 3, Landon Knight 2, Taylor Oden 2, Schmucker 2.

RHS boys top 10 other teams for L.D. Bell title

Rockwall used a strong team approach to win the boys' title over 10 other teams Friday night, Dec. 3, in the Hurst L.D. Bell Invitational.

The team effort piled up 167.65 points, just enough to edge the host school's 166.20 by less than 1 1/2 points.

Three Yellowjackets finished among the top 10 in the individual all-around competition.

Bradley Meyer was third with a score of 57.4. Craig Brannon (54.1) placed ninth and Michael Weidman (54.0) 10th.

The Jackets had no individual champions, but Jeremy Scott (9.8) was second on the pommel horse. The horse was a good event for Rockwall, with Meyer (9.7) fourth and Weidman (9.1) sixth.

Meyer also placed third in the vault (9.7) and high bar (9.5), and fifth on the rings (9.6), parallel bars (9.7) and floor exercise (9.4).

Brannon's top places were ninth in the vault and 10th on the parallel bars, with 9.4 scores in each event.

On the floor, Weidman and teammate Zach Bennett tied for ninth at 9.2.

The previous night, the Rockwall girls' team had placed third at their version of the L.D. Bell Invitational. The Lady Jackets' score of 114.725 was less than 1 1/2 points behind champion Rockwall-Heath's 116.05.

RHS wins season-ending tennis title

In one of the last reminders of warm weather for the season, the Rockwall tennis team won the first-place trophy in its tournament Friday, Nov. 19, at the Rockwall Tennis Facility.

Kyle Greer and Greg Nelson took first place in boys' doubles to lead the Yellowjackets' team effort.

Brandon Hogland placed third in boys' singles, and Garrett Junkin and

Rockwall County News • Friday, December 17, 2010 Page 11

Victoria Constant were third in mixed doubles.

RHS also took three first places in the consolation bracket: Sarah Meacham in girls singles, Tijana Nescovik and Madison Milner in girls' doubles and Connor Latus and Hannah Duncan in mixed doubles.

Devereaux, Hinton 1st in "Rumble at the Rock"

Rockwall's wrestling team placed sixth in a strong field of 16 teams Saturday in its "Rumble at the Rock" Invitational tournament at RHS.

Dylan Devereaux (171 pounds) and Robert Hinton (285) won their weight-class championships for Rockwall.

Devereaux won three matches by fall, then took the final match 12-5 over Victor Williams of champion Keller Central. Hinton pinned his first two opponents before winning the tournament's closest final match 3-2 in overtime from Alberto Muratalla of Dallas St. Mark's School of Texas.

Other Jackets placing in their weight classes were Josh Holloway, second at 135; Daniel Roland, third at 189, and Nick Hyde, fourth at 125.

Rockwall had six weight-class champions in the previous day's junior varsity tournament: Roland, Jose Estrada, Brandon Jimenez, Lucas Martin, Zach Peterson and Dylan Graybeal.

The varsity also defeated Frisco Centennial 48-24 Thursday, Dec. 2, to extend the Jackets' dual-match winning streak to seven.

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It's the personal touch at Rockwall Nursing Center

Rockwall Nursing Center is located in a quiet residential area; we have been in this community since 1978. One of our best assets is that large portions of our staff have worked in this nursing home from five to twenty-five years. (Come see our wall of fame!) This longevity of staff allows for continuity of care for all our patients.

Recently, a family member wrote to us and she said, "Everyone was super, making sure dad was comfortable and indicating that if we needed anything to just ask ... at this point we knew dad wasn't going to get any better. We were with him on June 1st, when he passed away."

"One of the things my daughter noticed was that nurses, aides and other workers were coming in to offer hugs and concerns, and to offer their prayers and also to see if we needed anything ... this happened before and after dad passed ... we feel that this was beyond their jobs. This nursing facility is outstanding, with some great people. I have made friends at Rockwall Nursing Center for life. Keep up the great work and please pass this on."

As you can see above, we consider it a privilege to take care of our elders. Our facility can currently take care of short and long term patients with full rehab available on site. Rockwall Nursing Center has many private Medicare rooms as well as private Medicaid rooms. If you have any questions regarding RNC, or what we provide, please feel free to contact us at (972) 771-5000. Iris Clements - Admissions Coordinator, Iris Clements

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Jeffrey P. Myers, M.D.
F.A.C.O.G.



Monika T. Hearne, M.D.

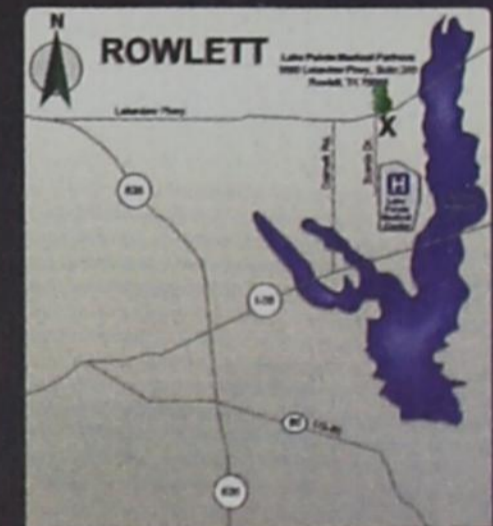


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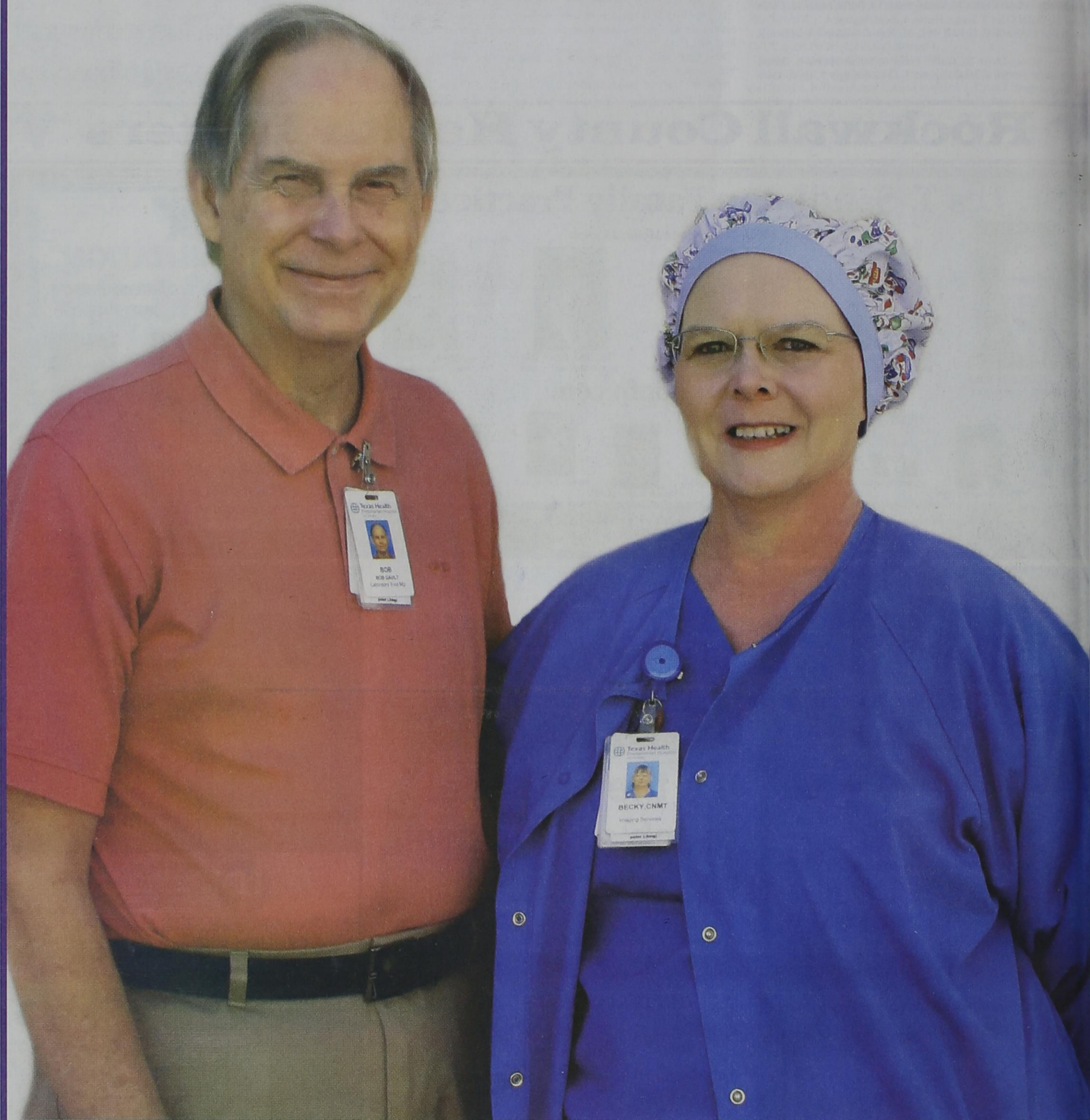
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