

Rockwall County News

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News Briefs

Collection box to aid Mott family

Royse City residents Brian and Jeanette Mott lost virtually everything they owned in a recent fire, and Tangles & Tans on Main Street in Royse City has established a collection box to assist the family. Clothing, toiletries and financial contributions are needed. For more information contact Lori Deweese at 469-338-6607.

RHHS seeks assistance for after-prom event

The Rockwall-Heath High School Class of 2009 is seeking sponsors and donations for the parent-sponsored after-prom party for seniors. The event will run after the prom from 12:45 a.m. to 5 a.m. at Shenaniganz in Rockwall. To donate or sponsor contact Keli Phillips at krbaphillips@yahoo.com or 469-441-8307.

RHHS one-act play set tonight

The RHHS Theatre will present its UIL one-act play, "Little Women," beginning at 7 p.m. today in the Black Box Theatre. Admission will be \$5. The play competition will be on Saturday at the Newman-Smith High School in Carrollton. Tickets are available by calling 469-698-2600.

Anime Group to meet

The Rockwall County Library's Anime Group will meet from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday in the big first-floor meeting room. Open to students in grades 7 through 12, the event will be offered free of charge.

'One for the Books' set Sunday

"One for the Books," a revue featuring songs from Broadway shows, will be performed at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday at the library. Sponsored by the Capital Campaign of the Friends of the Library, event seating will be limited. For tickets or for more details e-mail cplagens65@aol.com. Tickets cost \$20.

Drum clinic offered

A drum clinic with Tommy Aldridge will begin at 7 p.m. Monday at Lake Pointe Church. For more details contact Carlos Benson at 972-722-2493 or visit drummersforjesus.com.

Writers Group plans meeting

The Rockwall County Library's Writers Group will meet from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the big first-floor meeting room. The meeting will be free and open to students in grades 7 through 12.

RWL grant deadline is Wednesday

The Rockwall Women's League is accepting grant requests through Wednesday from nonprofit agencies serving Rockwall County. Mail grant requests (program name, description, beneficiaries and amount requested) to P.O. Box 383, Rockwall, TX 75087, attn.: Caril Johnson. For information call Johnson at 214-537-9475.

Republican Lunch Bunch to meet

The Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Luigi's Italian Café, Rockwall. Cost will be \$10 (includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip); pay at the door. Reservations not required for this informational social gathering, which is open to all area Republicans. For more details call Dalton Kennimer at 972-636-4034.

RCC meeting set Wednesday

Lisa Frazier will continue her program at the Rockwall Computer Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at The Center at Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington St., Rockwall. Anyone interested in computers - home or office - is invited to attend. For details call Joe Conrad at 972-771-8712.

Library accepting food for current fines

The Rockwall County Library will not collect fines on currently overdue books during the month of April; instead, the facility will accept non-perishable food items in the bins by the check-out desk (food should not be dropped in the book drop). Food items will be donated to Helping Hands to help replenish its pantry. Library patrons still will be responsible for previous fines for overdue or lost books.

RHHS one-act play program slated

The RHHS Theatre will reprise its one-act play performance of "Little Women" at 7 p.m. April 2-3 and at 2 p.m. on April 4. Admission will cost \$5 per person. Reserve tickets are available by e-mailing Leigh Reid at lwesley@rockwallisd.org or by calling 469-698-2600.

Brown Bag Lecture slated for Friday

The Rockwall County Historical Foundation Brown Bag Lecture Series will continue at noon on April 3 in the Historic Courthouse on the square. In conjunction with the Rockwall County Historical Commission, the lecture will focus on "History Lessons from Barbara Montgomery," who will share anecdotes from her book about Rockwall. Everyone is welcome; there is no admission fee.

Old-fashioned egg hunt slated

An old-fashioned Easter egg hunt, complete with egg dyeing, cooking decorating and hunting for hidden goodies, is set for 1 p.m. April 3 at The Center. Open to individuals ages 50 and older, the event will be free and will include a prize for the individual who brings the best-dressed basket. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Pullen to celebrate 10th anniversary

Pullen Elementary will observe a 10th anniversary celebration from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 3 at the school. An Italian dinner and silent auction will be conducted, and Pullen students past and present, staff members, families and friends are welcome to attend. Reservations are required by e-mailing deeyoung@mac.com.

More News Briefs on Page 2A



Texas First Lady Anita Perry officially kicked off the Rockwall Main Street historic downtown preservation program at a ceremony on Tuesday, March 24 on the Square. Joining her was (left to right) the Rockwall High School Choir, Pastor Paul Appel from Joy Lutheran Church in Rockwall and Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil.

Photo by Tim Burnett

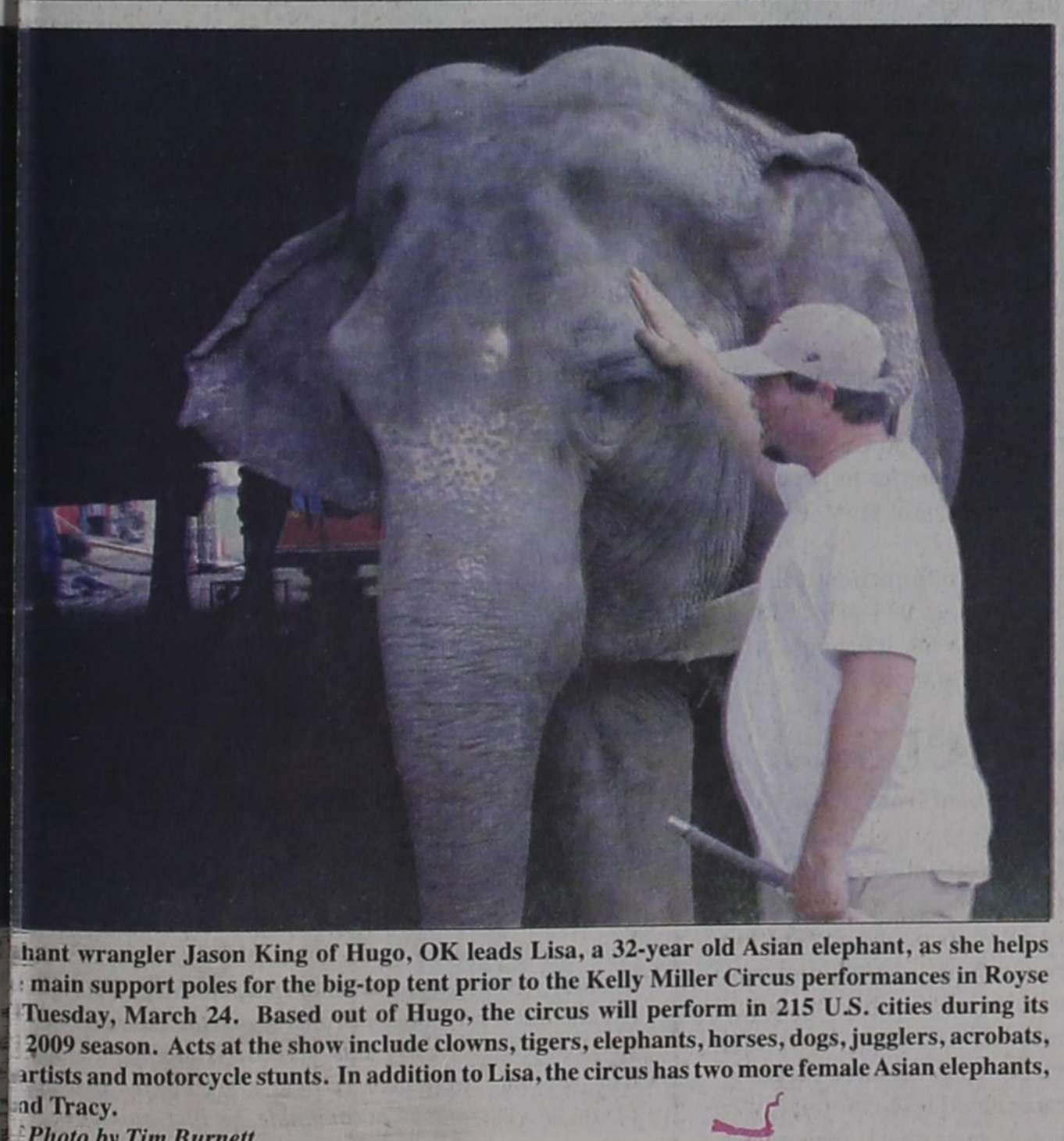
Texas First Lady Anita Perry visit kicks off Rockwall's Main Street preservation program

Kati Williams
The sky may have been full of threatening storm clouds, but Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil said, "The sun is shining and it's a great day!"
It was a great day indeed, as the City of Rockwall Main Street dedication ceremony took place in spite of the threat of rain. Tuesday, March 24 was a special visit from Texas First Lady Anita Perry.
"It's something about Texas is the people of Texas and what I've been able to do that is upside down and sideways and the Main Street is my favorite thing to do," she said.
Perry is a staunch supporter of the historical attributes of the state. "Your downtown courthouse, your courthouse charm. There is something special about living in a place where the people at the top of the bank know who your parents were. They care about your growth, they care about you, they know who you are when you sit beside each other at the football game," she said.
"The Main Street program is about you and to help you be proud of your hometown."
Rockwall was one of only two cities named to the Texas Main Street program for 2009. The selection process was very involved and required the buy-in of officials and downtown business owners alike.
On hand to greet Mrs. Perry were members of the County Commissioners Court, County Judge Chris Florance, city council members, Rockwall ISD officials, members of the newly appointed Main Street Advisory Board, local business owners, Chamber of Commerce representatives and a very loud and proud contingent of school children from nearby Dobbs Elementary School.
Pastor Paul Appel of Joy

Lutheran Church, located one block north of the Square on Goliad, offered the invocation and Boy Scout Troop 83, led by Scout Master Tom Cosby, conducted the flag ceremony.
The Rockwall High School Choir was on hand to get the crowd in the spirit of the day with a rousing chorus of "Deep in the Heart of Texas."
Rockwall Main Street Manager Bethany Golden introduced special guests at the ceremony, including Jon Hansen, chair of the Texas Historical Commission and Curt Nelson, Senior Vice President of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas. The IBA helps support Main Street project and works closely with local Main Street representatives in each chosen city.
Hansen, recently selected to his post by Texas Governor Rick Perry, said the State of Texas is known throughout the country for its historic preservation efforts, specifically for

Courthouse Preservation, the Texas Historic Trails effort and the Texas Main Street program. He said Rockwall fits the THC's new brand, "Real Places Telling Real Stories."
"Main Street is the economic engine for communities of all sizes to achieve their goals through historic preservation. The model is working in communities across Texas. Today, Rockwall joins this powerful network of communities."
Just as the rain finally began to fall, Mrs. Perry unveiled an artist's rendering of the Michael Swercinsky office building at 106-108 E. Rusk Street. As a Main Street City, Rockwall has at its disposal the assistance of architects, designers and other restoration specialists. The First Lady's Rendering shows the Swercinsky building after a renovation to demonstrate what the THS can offer and what the building could be after restoration.
There are currently 88 Texas cities in the Main Street program. Since its inception in 1981, more than \$1.7B has been reinvested in Texas downtown areas, with more than 23,000 jobs created as a result of new and revitalized business opportunities brought about by the Main Street program.

Deadline approaching for voter registration
The deadline to register to vote in the May municipal and school district elections is April 9, according to a news release from the Secretary of State's office.
"This May, voters will head to the polls to elect local leaders and decide local issues all across our state," said Andrade. "These are important decisions, and I hope Texans will take the necessary steps to register to vote or update their registration if their address has changed so they can partici-



Circus main support poles for the big-top tent prior to the Kelly Miller Circus performances in Royse City Tuesday, March 24. Based out of Hugo, the circus will perform in 215 U.S. cities during its 2009 season. Acts at the show include clowns, tigers, elephants, horses, dogs, jugglers, acrobats, magicians and motorcycle stunts. In addition to Lisa, the circus has two more female Asian elephants, and Tracy.

Photo by Tim Burnett

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News Briefs

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Easter Egg Hunt set April 4

The Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's seventh annual Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. April 4 at the Tuttle Athletic

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Complex (Field 1, up to age 2; Field 3, ages 3-4; Field 2, ages 5-6; Field 4, ages 7-12). Candy and special prize eggs will be offered. Other activities are planned. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Noon Lions plan meeting

The Rockwall Noon Lions meet the first and third Mondays of each month at noon at Joe Willy's on South Goliad. Guests are welcome.

RISD plans April 4 job fair

The Rockwall Independent School District will host a job fair for openings in maintenance, custodial, grounds, transportation and child nutrition positions on April 4. The event will run from 9 a.m. to noon at the RISD Administration/Education Center Gymnasium, 1050 Williams St., Rockwall. For more details call 972-771-0605.

RSVP for Newcomers event by April 5

The Rockwall Newcomers will meet on April 9 with a 10 a.m. coffee, followed by a short business meeting, program and luncheon. Cost for the luncheon is \$16; call Kitty Colquhoun at 972-771-3491 or Ann Small at 972-771-1748 by 6 p.m. April 5 to make reservations. Meetings are open to all Rockwall County women.

55-plus choir organizing

Russ Porter is organizing a new choir for musicians ages 55 and older. Weekly rehearsals will be at 1 p.m. every Monday beginning April 6, culminating with a Memorial Day performance on May 25. Rehearsals will take place at the Rockwall School of Music, 749 Justin Road. To register call 972-722-6874.

Class on retirement savings offered

A workshop that will explore service credits, Social Security, health care, lump sums, divorce, annuity options and more pieces of the retirement puzzle will be offered from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on April 7 in Room D232, Rockwall High School Lecture Hall. Cost will be \$15. For details visit rockwallisd.com; select Community tab.

Handgun certification renewal class set

A Texas Concealed Handgun Certification Renewal class will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on April 7 in Room C214 of Rockwall High School. Class meets state requirements for renewal of certification. Do not bring handgun to class. Cost is \$60. For details visit rockwallisd.com; select Community tab.

Class to explore financial portfolios

Building Your Financial Portfolio on \$25 a Month or Less will be offered from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. April 7 in Room C215 of Rockwall High School. The workshop will show participants how to find investments without paying broker fees or expenses. Cost is \$30. For details visit rockwallisd.com; select Community tab.

'How to Stay Young' seminar offered

The Rockwall County Committee on Aging will host a seminar entitled "How to Stay Young The First Hundred Years" with speaker Dr. Dave Engelken from Rockwall Pro Health Chiropractic beginning at 1 p.m. April 9. The event will take place at the Evergreen Apartments, 1325 Goliad. RSVP by calling 972-771-9514.

Concealed Handgun Certification class set

A 10-hour Texas Concealed Handgun Certification class will be offered from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. April 9, 14 and 16 in Room C214 or Rockwall High School. Do not bring handgun to class. Class meets state requirements for renewal of certification; cost is \$120. For details visit rockwallisd.com; select Community tab.

April 10 is Out-to-Lunch event

The Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's Out-to-Lunch Bunch for seniors will be at Love and War in Texas, Plano on April 10. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost will be \$7 for Rockwall residents, \$11 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Library closed April 10, 11

The Rockwall County Library will be closed on April 10-11 for the Easter holiday observance. The facility will reopen at 10 a.m. April 13.

RISD sets weather make-up days

Rockwall Independent School District students will attend classes on April 10 and 13, which have been scheduled as an inclement weather make-up days, according to a district news release. For more details contact the school district. For more information visit rockwallisd.com.

Big bass tournament set March 28-29

KCKL-FM will host its 26th Annual Big Bass Tournament on March 28-29 at Cedar Creek Lake.

The tournament will offer more than 120 cash prizes for big bass weighed each hour and to the winners in the overall final standings. Sanctioned by the Texas Conservation Society, the event meets conservation objectives through the return of all fish back into the lake under the live release program.

Entry fee is \$65 per day; youth entry fees (under age 16) are discounted \$10 per day. Contestants may enter at the lake.

Tournament headquarters will be Log Cabin City Park, located between Clear and Caney Creek bridges one-quarter mile east of the intersection of Hwy. 198 and Hwy. 3054.

For more information, call the radio station at 903-489-1518 or visit the Web site at fishingworld.com/kcklbass.

Voters ...

(Continued from Page 1A)

...ate in the May 9 election."

Texas residents are eligible to vote if they are U.S. citizens, at least 18 years of age on Election Day, not convicted felons (unless sentence, probation and/or parole has been completed) and have not been declared mentally incapacitated by a court of law.

Voters may check their registration status at VOTEXAS.org or by calling 1-800-252-VOTE (8683).



A handful of the performers slated to appear in this weekend's "One For the Books" original revue are pictured above. From left they are Barbara Doudt, Roberta Pavlov, Marvis Kisselburgh and Craig Zurek. The event, designed to celebrate the 10-decade history of the Rockwall County Library, will be presented at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday in the library's Community Room. Seating limited; tickets cost \$20 and are available by calling 972-772-4864 or 972-772-2786.

'Books' performances set Sunday at library

An original revue celebrating the 10-decade history of the Rockwall County Library will be offered in a pair of performances Sunday in the facility's Community Room.

Performances are set for 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. "One For the Books" will feature songs from Broadway performed by six generations of local performers. Designed and directed by Marvis Kisselburgh under the musical direction of Roberta Pavlov, the event will benefit the library's Capital Campaign. Marisa Ford is providing technical direction for the revue.

Cast members include "The Four Plaids" - Bob Cotti, Steve Crotty, Richard James and Brian Morgan - and "Books to Broadway" - Barbara Doudt, Kisselburgh, Pavlov and Craig Zurek - as well as Dennis Gullion, Herb Moltzan, Jan Moltzan, Dennis Kinzler and Molly Dobbs.

Student performers include Jurgen (J.J.) Anderson, Nick Tompkins, Collen Breen, Lucy Ragsdale, Marci Reynolds, Whit Bomkamp, Jason Bias, Molly Dobbs, Michael Sager, Rachel Boyer, Travis McClung, Cole Ragsdale and Trevor St. John Gilbert. Tunes from the following shows will be sampled: "Annie," "Get Your Gun," "Carousel," "Cats," "Chicago," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Forever Plaid," "Funny Girl," "Gigi," "Gypsy," "Jekyll and Hyde," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Mame," "Man of La Mancha," "Music Man," "My Fair Lady," "Oklahoma!," "Pajama Game," "Phantom of the Opera," "Singin' in the Rain," "South Pacific," "Sound of Music," "Sunday in the Park with George," "West Side Story" and "Wizard of Oz."

Seating will be limited. Tickets cost \$20 and are available by calling 972-772-6864 or 972-2786.

Registration under way for youth, adult programs

Registration is under way for several preschool, youth and adult programs offered by the City of Rockwall Parks & Rec Department this spring.

- The following youth programs are open for registration:
 - Texas Freestyle Karate, ages 4 and older, Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Stretch 'n' Grow Kids Fitness, ages 18 months to 5 years, Mondays at 9:30 a.m.
 - Babysitting Training, ages 11 to 14 years, April 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Little Kickers Soccer begins April 27, 5:30 p.m.
 - Little Sluggers T-Ball begins April 28, 5:30 p.m.

Adult classes include Boater Education Program, ages 13 and older, April 18, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Jazzercise, ages 16 and older, runs monthly on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; Paint with Oil, Adults, April 23, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Ballroom Dancing, Wednesday, April 25, 7 p.m.; Yoga, Mondays, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, April 24, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Sail with Scott, April 4, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Freestyle Karate for adults, Tuesdays, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and Capoeira, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, noon to 12:45 p.m.

For more information on the programs, visit rockwall.com or call for the Fun Guide.

To register, visit The Center at 108 E. Washington or mail the registration form inside the city's Fun Guide publication to Fun Guide, 108 E. Washington, Rockwall, TX 75087.

For more information on any of the programs, call 972-771-7740.

RHHS Spirit Night set April 2

The Rockwall-Heath High School Spirit Night at Chiloso Rockwall will run from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. April 2.

Chiloso will donate 20 percent of the proceeds from the event to the PTA, and \$1 tickets to a drawing for an autographed Heath regional champs football and other prizes will be available.

The event will serve as the final Heath PTA fundraiser of the year.

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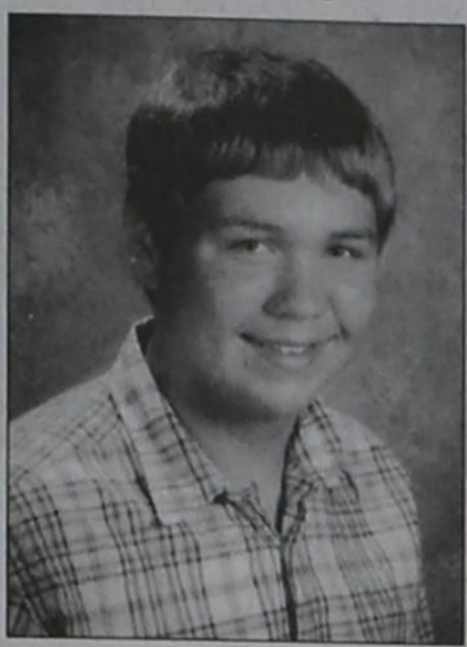
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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals, guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. Government's sole purpose 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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Kenneth Kraft selected for Summer Lone Star Leadership Academy

Kraft, son of Kevin Kraft of Rockwall, is a student at Maurine Cain Elementary School. He has been selected to participate in Education in the Lone Star Leadership Academy in the Houston and Dallas areas from June 22-27.



Kraft was selected for the academy based on his academic achievement. The academy is a leadership program that involves school activities and community activities. He will be mentored by a high school teacher, Wendy...



Greg Nixon and his daughter, Abby, are pictured at Nebbie Williams Elementary's Donuts with Dad event. Many fathers came to the school to enjoy doughnuts and coffee with their children. The event is conducted each year as a way of saying thanks to the fathers for their continued support.

RISD plans job fair in April

The Rockwall Independent School District will host a job fair for openings in maintenance, custodial, grounds, transportation and child nutrition positions on April 4. The event will run from 9 a.m. to noon at the RISD Administration/Education Center Gymnasium, located at 1050 Williams St., Rockwall.

Leaders to gather information and for applicants to have a chance to review job descriptions and make connections with departmental representatives. Anyone interested in participating is welcome, but applicants are encouraged to bring resumes, if available. Applicants also will be asked to complete some paperwork on site. Spanish and English translators will be available to provide assistance. No interviews will be conducted, but applications will be reviewed for future reference.

For more details about the job fair call 972-771-0605.

Rockwall County News Thursday, March 26, 2009 Page 3A Rockwall ISD make-up days set

The Rockwall Independent School District has scheduled two inclement weather make-up days in April. Students should attend classes on April 10 and April 13, according to a RISD news release issued earlier this week.

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Girl Scouts from Troops 3147 and 2909 recently spent the night at the Cook Center Planetarium at Texas A&M University in Corsicana. The girls were able to look through telescopes and explore the night sky. Leaders included (back row from left) Hailey, Kailey, Hannah, Jessica, Cara, Serenity, Taylor T., Siarrah, Sianna, Rachel, Katie, Breonna, (middle row from left) Chyna, Taylor M., Tori, Lexi, Regan, Taylor McM, (first row from left) Delaney, Jennifer, Madison H., Kara, Kourtney, Jordan, Shelby and Gillian.

Planetarium hosts Girl Scouts on space exploration weekend

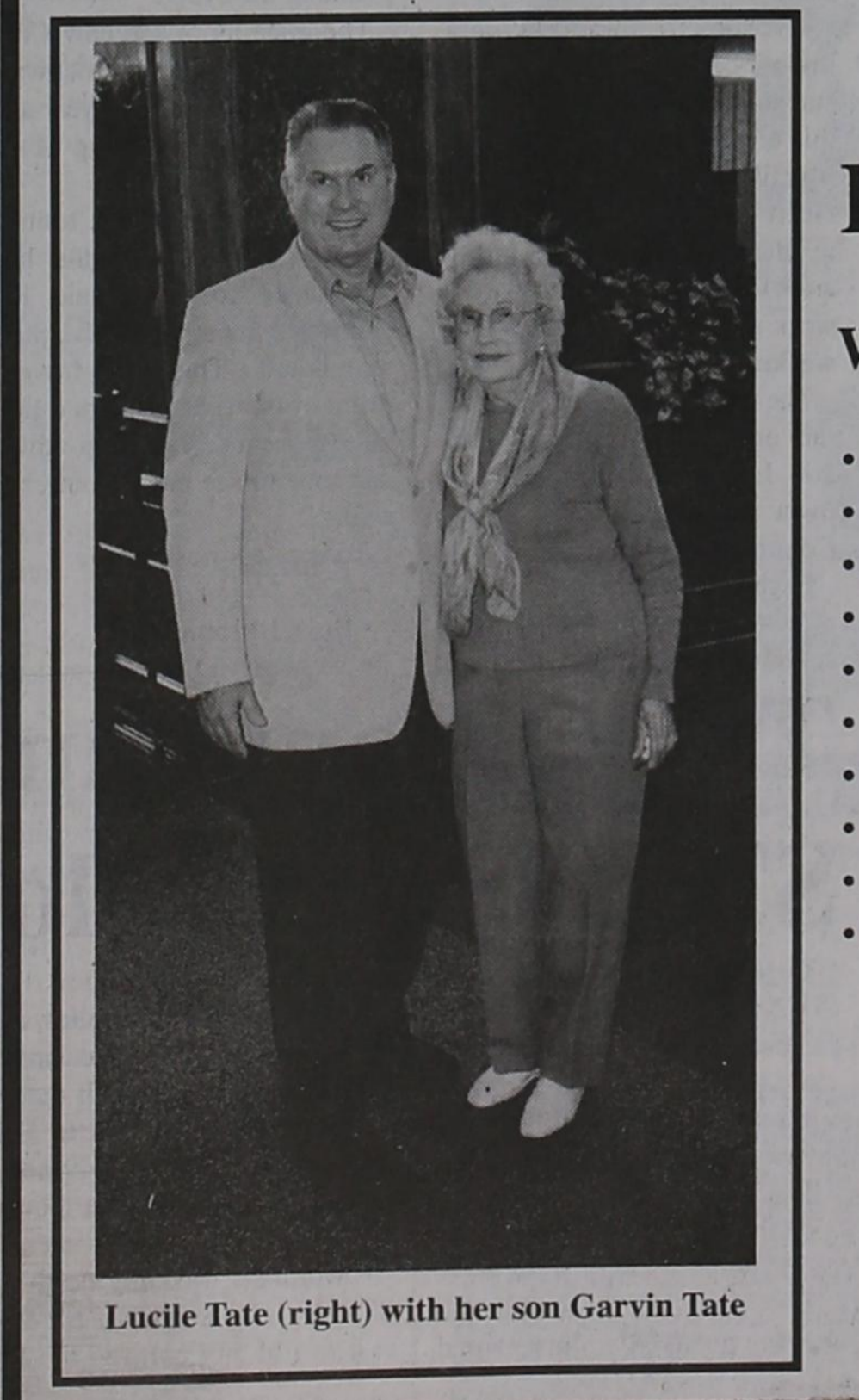
The girls explored the heavens and learned more about the world around them. They participated in a space activity project, watched an IMAX-format movie and looked through telescopes to make observations on what they saw.

"This was a great learning experience for our girls," said leader Kelly Briceno. "They learned how to explore the night sky, look through a telescope and listen to star stories."

The girls visited the planetarium and viewed a planetarium star show, participated in a space activity project, watched an IMAX-format movie and looked through telescopes to make observations on what they saw.

Marine Division plans August meeting

The Marine Division Association is planning its annual meeting. The meeting is for members of the association and is held annually to promote the division and make friends. The 55th annual meeting will be held in San Antonio. For more details, call Mike...



Lucile Tate (right) with her son Garvin Tate

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Meeks Chapel plans April awards banquet

The Meeks Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church will host its Community Servant Leadership Awards Banquet on April 25 at the Roysce City Melody Banquet Hall, 305 N. Arch St., in Roysce City.

The pre-event auction and drawing will begin at 6 p.m., followed by the formal dining and awards ceremony set for 7 p.m. Attire for the candlelight event should be black and white.

Co-hosts and emcees are Darla Miles, WFAA-TV reporter, and Bob Ray Sanders, editor for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Tickets cost \$25 per person. For more information or directions call 972-636-2250.

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Rockwall Orange team won the Adult Championship after four overtime periods at the 3rd Annual Cameron Echols Memorial Basketball Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 28. Team members are (left to right) Arthur Latus, Steve Buttitta, Britten, Ed Echols, Ashlen Echols, Steve Roof, Larry Stevenson and Chris Hilstrap.

Rockwall YMCA hosts Cameron Echols Memorial Basketball Tournament

The teams showed up on Saturday, Feb. 28, for the 3rd Annual Cameron Echols Memorial Basketball Tournament, hosted by the Rockwall YMCA, raised a donation for the Y's Youth program, which provides financial assistance for underprivileged children.

Cameron's mother, the championship adult's game came down to the wire and, after four overtime periods and an hour later, Rockwall's Orange team came out on top by two points. The high school teams came ready to play and have some fun at the same time. The high school boy's team came dressed in Retro '70s basketball attire, which included short shorts, long athletic socks and sweatbands. Not to be outdone, Williams Middle School showed their support by recruiting eight seventh and eighth grade teams.

Games were played at both Williams Middle School and the YMCA, which made for a smooth operation for the one-day event.

The annual tournament is in memory and honor of Cameron Echols, who passed away suddenly on July 31, 2006 after a summer league basketball game. Her loss to family and friends has been huge. Her parents, Britten and Ed, and sister, Ashlen, want to express the strong emotional lift this event is for them. Mrs. Echols said, "Thanks to everyone for helping keep Cameron's memory alive in such a giving way. Without the Rockwall community, this tournament could not be the success that it is."

The Echols' also sent special thanks to referee Arthur Latus and the YMCA referees who spent hours calling games. "All the volunteers and participants played a huge part in making Cameron's tournament an enormous success."

Wilson School places at APPS Academic Meet

Students from The Fulton ISD recently competed in the APPS District 3-1A Academic Meet in Poetry, with eight members advancing to the competition in Austin next week. The school as a team placed first at the meet. The school's 2008 Yearbook also received a place in the Yearbook competition and will also compete at the state level in Austin. Students from Poetry Christian School, The Alexander School, The Westwood School, and Plano Christian School were also at the Poetry Christian School.

Borgen and Kendall Johnson in Advance Mathematics, Tim Borgen and Kendall Johnson in Number Sense, Stewart Draheim and Tyler Johnson in Calculator Operations, Kierra Tatum and Quinn Ellison in Literary Criticism and Austin Reid and Adam Gilbreath in Current Events and Issues. Those Fulton students advancing to the State Competition are Brett Steffen in Science, Tyler Johnson in Calculator, Stewart Draheim in Calculator, Tim Borgen in Number Sense and Advanced Mathematics, Kendall Johnson in Advanced Mathematics, Adam Gilbreath in Current Events and Issues and Quinn Ellison in Literary Criticism.

Kierra Tatum was named the District Champion in Literary Criticism. The students will be accompanied to the April 3-4 State meet in Austin by Fulton's Head of Upper School and Academic Coach Matt Burgoyne and Upper School English Teacher Becky Moore.

Chamber to host April 24 golf tourney

The City Chamber of Commerce will conduct its 8th Annual Golf Tournament & Fundraiser on April 24 at the One River Golf Club. The tournament will be at noon; shot-golf will be at 1 p.m. The event will feature a four-team scramble format. Registration for the tournament is \$75 per person. Prizes will include cash prizes, second- and third-place trophies, and a hole-in-one. The tournament will be held at the One River Golf Club. Registration for the tournament is \$75 per person. Prizes will include cash prizes, second- and third-place trophies, and a hole-in-one. The tournament will be held at the One River Golf Club.

Twin Peaks Restaurant in Mesquite. Hot Rodz Café of Roysce City will provide the catered dinner following the tournament. The annual tournament is the chamber's primary source of funds for the college scholarships awarded each year to a graduating high school senior. The tournament also helps support the day-to-day operations of the chamber. Tournament sponsorship opportunities are available, and firms interested in contributing items to the goody bags are welcome to contact the chamber at 972-636-5000 or info@royscecitychamber.com. All business sponsorships are tax deductible.

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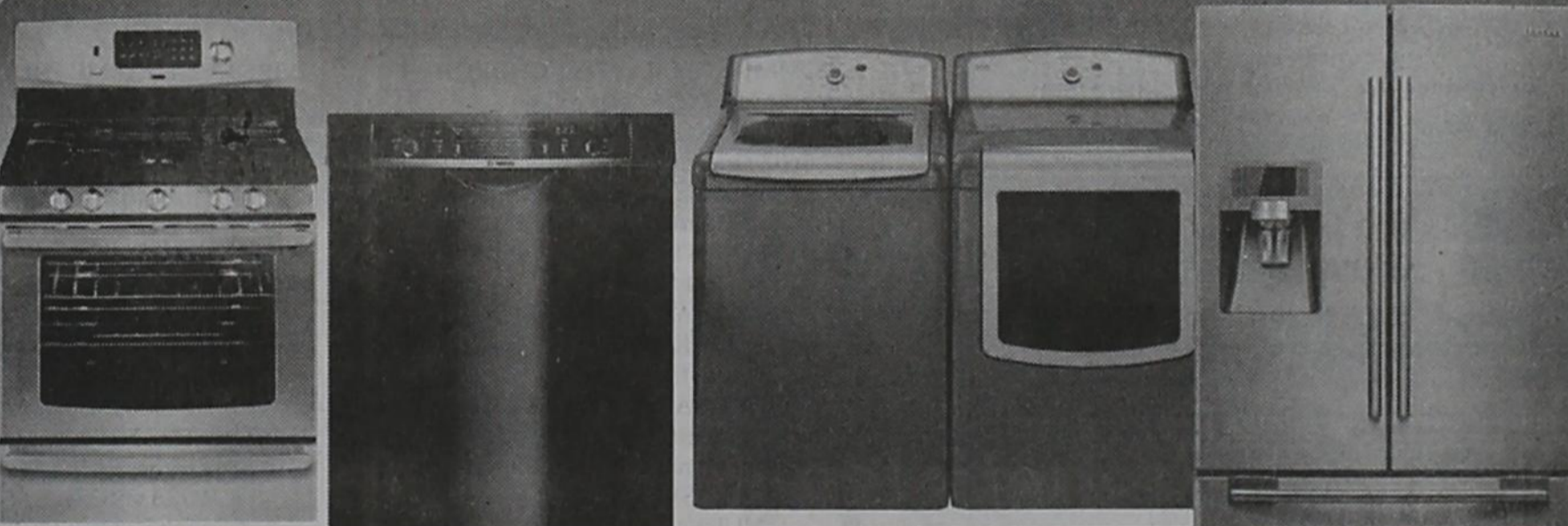
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Rockwall County Obituaries

Leola M. Beaty

Services for Leola M. Beaty, 71, of Garland were conducted at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with the Rev. Charles Diffie officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.



She died March 20. Born June 8, 1937, in LaPorte, Ind., to Walter and Dorothy (Raimond) Starkweather, she was a member of the Metropolitan Bible Church in Dallas. She was a retired human resource manager for the Internal Revenue Service.

Survivors include her sons, David Calvert of Garland, Clark Calvert and his wife, Angela, of Keller and Kenneth Beaty of Garland; her mother, Dorothy Starkweather of Garland; her brother, Wayne Starkweather of Rockwall; and her grandchildren, David II, Morgan, Courtney, Landree and Christian Calvert and Samantha Diles.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Eddie Kenneth Beaty; her father, Walter Devon Starkweather; and her brother, Charles David Starkweather.

Melvin 'Rock' Goldstein

Memorial services for Melvin 'Rock' Goldstein, 69, of Rockwall will be conducted at 2 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2009, in the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, in Dallas. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

He died March 22.

Born Nov. 12, 1939, in Manhattan, N.Y., to Sam and Beatrice R. (Polkes) Goldstein, he served in the U.S. Marines in Vietnam. He was a gunny sergeant in the Marine Corps, serving 20 years of active duty and 10 years in the reserves. He enjoyed telling stories, going on road trips, being a jokester and spending time with children. He also was a good listener.

Survivors include the love of his life, Patricia Tucker of Rockwall; four sons; one daughter; his grandchildren; his great-grandchildren; and a large extended family and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Rockwall County Religious Life

FBC Rockwall Presents "On a Hill Too Far Away"

On a Hill Too Far Away is a story of Calvary: of Jesus, the cross, and the way of the cross that leads us home. The First Baptist Church of Rockwall Worship Choir and Orchestra will present this poignant Easter musical on Sunday, April 5, during the three morning worship services at 8:10 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10:50 a.m. The Lake Ray Hubbard area community is invited to come and share in a place of mercy and grace.

Preschool care through age 4 will be provided. FBC Rockwall is located at 610 South Goliad, across from the Post Office. Because of road construction, some streets and parking lot entrances on Goliad may be blocked off. Please park in our new parking lot between Ross and Boydston streets. For information about this musical production, call 469-698-2501.

Good Friday on Main Street

Cedar Ridge Bible Church will hold a Good Friday Service at 7 p.m., April 10, and Easter morning service at 10:30 a.m., April 12. Cedar Ridge Bible Church is located in Royse City at 114 East Main Street. For information, visit cedarridgebible.com.

Night of Worship at LakeShore Church

Good Friday Service, April 10
Please join us for a special hour of solemn reflective worship beginning at 7 p.m. in the LakeShore sanctuary. Childcare will be provided for ages 3 and under. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for a time of silent prayer.

You are also invited to celebrate Easter with LakeShore at one of our Sunday morning Resurrection Day services on April 12. Service times are 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

LakeShore Church is located at 5575 S. State Highway 205 in Rockwall. Contact the church at 972-771-1942. Visit LakeShoreChurch.net for more information.

"The Passion of the Christ" Movie

Showing on Good Friday, Pier 4:19 Student Center
"The Passion of the Christ" begins at 7 p.m. Friday, April 10 in the Pier 4:19 Auditorium, Lake Pointe Church. We will be showing the recut version, but please keep in mind the graphic and intense nature of the film when considering bringing children. No childcare is provided. (Movie running time is 126 minutes.) Lake Pointe Church is located at 701 E. I-30 in Rockwall. The Pier 4:19 Student Center is on the south side of the parking lot.

Easter Celebrations in Rockwall County

First Christian Church, Rockwall

Saturday April 4: 12 p.m.-2 p.m. Outdoor walking tour through scenes depicting events from Palm Sunday through Easter.

Approximate walking time is 15 minutes.

- Palm Sunday:
 - * 8:30 a.m. Worship with indoor drama
 - * 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 - * 11 a.m. Worship with outdoor drama and palm procession
- Maundy Thursday, April 9:
 - * 5:45 p.m. Soup Supper
 - * 7 p.m. Worship with Tenebrae Service featuring Chancel and Hand Bells
- Good Friday, April 10:
 - * 7 a.m.- 8 p.m. Church open for prayer and devotions
- Easter Sunday:
 - * 6:45 a.m. Sunrise Service (indoors, with glass wall to view rise), traditional flowering of the cross
 - * 8:30 a.m. Worship
 - * 9:45 a.m. Brunch
 - * 10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children through elementary age
 - * 11 a.m. Worship

Joy Lutheran Church

April 5: Palm Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Worship, celebrating Jerusalem's triumphal entry into Jerusalem
April 9: Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. Worship commemorating the last supper with his disciples
April 10: Good Friday, 7 p.m. Worship remembering Jesus' death on the cross to save us from sin
April 12: Easter Sunday, Worship at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. breakfast at 9 a.m.; Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 a.m.
Joy Lutheran Church is located at 302 N. Goliad Street (Hwy. 7) in Rockwall, one block north of the Rockwall County Courthouse. The Rev. Paul Appel is Joy's pastor. He can be contacted at 972-771-4161. The church's website is joylutheranchurch.org

Ridgeview Church Begins Two Weekend Services

Ridgeview Church is undergoing growth and, on Easter Sunday, will begin offering two weekend services. The new service times are 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. beginning April 12. Visit www.ridgeviewchurch.org for more information.

First United Methodist Church, Rockwall

Holy Week and Easter Events
Palm Sunday, April 5: "The Seven Last Words of Christ" presented by the Chancel Choir in the Sanctuary at 8:15, 9:30 and 11:15 am. Open Door Worship in the Commons, second floor, at 11 am. ECCEB, a service of Palms, Scripture, Music, and Communion.

(Continued on Page 7A)

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For in thee, O Lord, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord My God.
Psalm 38:15

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you ..."
Matthew 7:7

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

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."
Matt. 28:20

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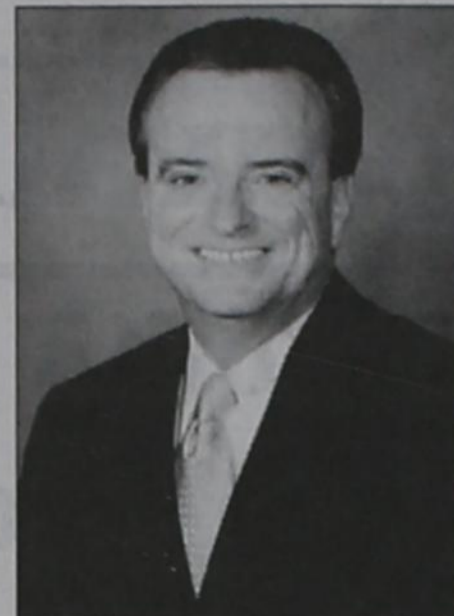
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"That if you will confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10:9-10

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."
Mark 11:24

"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."
Proverbs 10:13

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Greg Scott Byrd



Kimberley Byrd

Byrds to serve as missionaries in Mexico

Heath residents Greg Scott Byrd and his wife, Kimberley Kay Byrd, were appointed new missionaries on March 18 by the International Mission Board.

The Byrds will serve in Mexico. Greg Byrd will serve in theological education while Kimberley Byrd will serve in communications and home outreach, according to a news release issued this week.

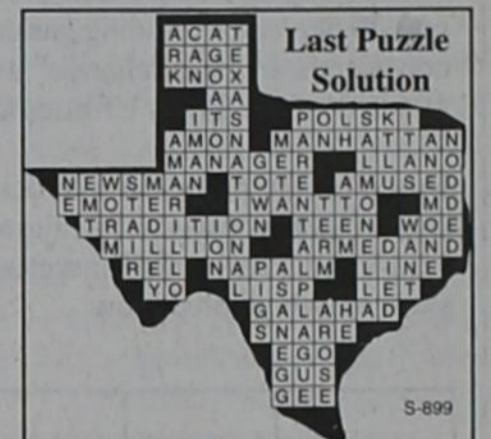
The appointments were made at Taylors First Baptist Church in Taylors, S.C.

Greg Byrd is pastor of the Faith Temple Baptist Church in Terrell, a position he has held since March 2003. Prior to that he spent almost 20 years as director of store operations with Tom Thumb. He holds a B.A.S. in interdisciplinary studies from

Dallas Baptist University in Dallas and a M. Div. in Biblical language from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Kimberley Byrd worked for many years as an escrow officer with the American Title Company in Carrollton.

The couple are the parents of four children — James, 25; Elisabeth, 21; and 4-year-olds Lottie and Emma.



On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

For archives of On God's Word visit geocities.com/christinyou71love

Christ prayed with an honest heart

Jesus' walk with his disciples they stopped at a place called Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36 and Mark 14:32). The record says they stopped at the "mount of Olives". It appears this was the location of an Olive garden which probably had an Olive press (see The Companion Bible with Bullinger's use 40). According to John 18:1, they first crossed over a ravine called Cedron.

When Jesus stopped Jesus told his disciples to pray so that they might not be tempted, and then he separated himself from them and went away. He then knelt down to pray (Luke 22:40-41). The same event, Jesus told his disciples to sit at a certain place and pray. He took with him Peter, James and John. The disciples that Jesus began to be sorely amazed and very heavy or burdened with depression. He said, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death. Tarry here and watch" (Mark 14:34 and Matthew

26:41). Jesus went a little farther away and "fell on his face" praying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." The record in Matthew 26:39-44 reveals that Jesus returned to find his disciples asleep. In Mark 14:35-38 Jesus returned to find his disciples sleeping and said, "You're sleeping? Couldn't you watch one hour? Watch and not let yourselves enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak."

In Luke 22:43-44, we find that after his first prayer an angel came down from heaven and strengthened him. While in extreme agony he prayed even more earnestly. His sweat poured out like great drops of blood. The reference to great drops of blood was very likely a metaphor emphasizing the greatness of his agony. Jesus was about to face the most difficult time of his life. He felt alone and depression. Look at his response to the feelings. He cried out to his Father. With an honest heart he asked if it might be his Father's will to let him pass what was coming. He was checking to see if there was another way. He then finished by humbly saying, "not as I will, but as you will." What a fantastic example of prayer! Jesus was weak and vulnerable.

When we feel agonized and depressed about something, we can go to God with an honest heart, and make our specific requests known to Him. God's word teaches us to "be anxious for nothing. But in everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6-7). The end result is a peaceful heart.

It's written in God's word, "Be still and know that I am God..." (Psalm 46:10). Out of haste, Jesus Christ could have decided to not go through the whole painful process. Instead, he stayed focused on God's promise of glory. In the name of Jesus Christ, let's pray with an honest heart, and with the confidence that God is able to faithfully back His word for us.

Religious Life ...

(Continued from Page 6)

Maudy Thursday, April 9: A Service of Communion, featuring the Christ-Now Choir, Rev. Joe Pool preaching.

Good Friday, April 10: A Service of Tenebrae, featuring readings, special music, extinguishing of candles.

Saturday, April 11: Children's Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. on the church campus.

Easter Sunday, April 12: 6:30 a.m.: Youth-led Sunrise Service with communion

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.: Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary with Rev. Joe Pool's sermon: "Who Are You Looking For?"

11 a.m.: Open Door Worship in the Commons, second floor of ECCEB, Rev. Valarie Englert's sermon: "From Darkness to Light."

First United Methodist Church, Rockwall, is located at 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane in Rockwall.

Saint Matthias Catholic Church

Holy Week schedule is as follows:

Palm Sunday Mass 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Holy Thursday Mass 7 p.m.

Easter Vigil (Saturday) 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Mass 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Saint Matthias is located at 305 S. Fannin Street in Rockwall.

Lake Pointe Church Celebrates Easter All Weekend

Lake Pointe Church will hold Easter weekend services at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 11, and at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 12. For details, visit www.lakepointe.org.

Girls in Action at First Baptist Church Rockwall

The Girls in Action at FBC Rockwall collected reams of paper to be donated to Woman Set Free, a prison ministry. The paper will be used by the organization to print Bible study homework and hymns for the inmates.

Rockwall County Health Matters



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MISTY HURLEY, MPT
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Women's Imaging Center Opening in April

Presbyterian Hospital of Rockwall Women's Imaging Center will cater to the ever-increasing needs of the women of Rockwall County. Our mission is to reach out to the women of our community; our mothers, daughters and friends; to ask you what's important, what do you expect and need from your healthcare provider.

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Located next to the Hospital • 3142 Horizon Rd., Suite 206, Rockwall, TX 75032

Rockwall County Yesteryears

Compiled by Judy Schneider
The Archives of the Rockwall County Library

10 Years Ago

March 23, 1999

Posay was named Teacher of the Year at Community High School. He was an English teacher and JV and Varsity cheerleader. Posay graduated from Rockwall High School and attended University.

Stinkins of Rockwall received the Gold Star from the U.S. Marine Academy in New York. He received cited for his achievement during the first semester. Gold Stars are only awarded to students who received a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

20 Years Ago

March 21, 1989

Myers, a pitcher for Rockwall High School, had a record 10 strikeouts during the school's first game of the season. They defeated Bishop Lynch in the first round of the Grand Prairie Invitation Baseball Tournament.

Rockwall's junior varsity baseball team broke its three-game losing streak when they beat Bishop Lynch. Jarvis Myers, Terry Waters and Jarrett all had great hits to get the team back on a winning streak.

30 Years Ago

March 23, 1979

White was the Stingerette Spotlight person of the week from Rockwall High School. She enjoyed the drill team, along with swimming and church activities.

Myers, Mayor of Rockwall, announced his candidacy for reelection to the office for a fourth term. Myers moved to Rockwall in 1979 following a 20-year career with the United States Marine Corps.

40 Years Ago

March 21, 1969

Rockwall had a Monday night special that included a barbecue dinner and malt for 69 cents. Wednesday night was all-you-can-eat chicken for \$1. The Dairy Queen at IH-30 and SH-205 was owned and operated by...

Junior Class at Rockwall High School had a talent show that made up the Junior-Senior banquet and prom. The winners were, first place - Jena Vrana, Vicki Vrana, Donnie Vrana, Patti Orr, Larry David Myers and Donna Cullins with their "The Fastest Gun in the West" skit.

60 Years Ago

March 25, 1949

Rockwall High School girls organized four baseball teams and a softball team. The captains of the teams were Doris Hornsby, Ruth...

Bill Snow, a musician from Rockwall, toured for four months in Texas and New Mexico. Snow appeared daily in concerts as a soloist. She attended SMU and Texas University where she studied music.

May 28, 1886

Two 3-year old horse mules. They were half brothers and half sisters, broken, with each standing over 15 hands high. Price was \$100. B. J. Cockrell in Fate for information.



Leighann Noel

Rockwall High School grad Leighann Noel performs recital at UNT

A recital featuring Leighann Noel and Anna Gross, both clarinet players and students in the College of Music at the University of North Texas in Denton, took place March 8 in the Concert Hall.

Leighann, accompanied by Arsentiy Kharitonov on piano, first performed Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, composed by Francis Poulenc, and Three Etudes on Themes of Gershwin, composed by Paul Harvey, unaccompanied.

Anna performed Premiere Rhapsodie, composed by Claude Debussy, and Viktor's Tale, from The Terminal, composed by John Williams, accompanied by Arsentiy Kharitonov on piano.

Concluding the program, Leighann and Anna performed Concerto for two clarinets in E-flat Major, Opus 91, III (third) movement composed by Franz Krommer.

Leighann, a much-accomplished musician and a double major in Music Education and Clarinet Performance, is looking forward to a career in music education upon graduation. She is a 2005 graduate of Rockwall High School and is the daughter of Keith and Kathy Noel of Rockwall.

Anna is a 2005 graduate of Midlothian High School and the daughter of Robert and Barbara Gross.

The recital was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. Food and refreshments, furnished by family members, was served following the program.

Library seeks volunteers for fall tutoring

The Rockwall County Library is needing volunteer tutors for the Reading for Adults program.

Training will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 18 in the library's Community Room.

Registration is required. For more details or to sign up, contact Gloria Bishop in the ESL classroom near the library entryway, call 972-214-7705 or e-mail gloriab4@verizon.net.

News You Won't Find Anywhere Else!



Lindsey Snelling
General Services Librarian
Rockwall County Library

Rockwall County Responders

Rockwall Responders

Calls for Service

March 16 - 22

Rockwall Fire & EMS

• Car Fire 3, Dwelling 3, Emergency medical 1, Fire alarm 5, Investigation 1, Fuel spill 1, Grass fire 3, Minor traffic accident.

Rockwall Police Department

• Monday, 16 March: Burglary, 2900 block Cool Wood Lane; Theft, 900 block IH 30; Theft, 3800 block Chestnut Trail; Theft, 2800 block Market Center Drive; Theft, 200 block West Rusk Street.

• Tuesday, 17 March: Burglary, 2000 block Kristy Lane; Burglary, 1100 block South Goliad Street; Burglary, 1200 block Hampton Bay Drive; Theft, 200 block West Rusk Street.

• Wednesday, 18 March: Burglary, 700 block IH 30; Theft, 2800 block Ridge Road; Theft, 1400 block Cub Hill Drive (2); Theft, 600 block IH 30.

• Thursday, 19 March: Burglary, 800 block IH 30; Theft, 600 block South Goliad Street; Theft 2000 block Summer Lane; Theft 2200 block Ridge Road.

• Friday, 20 March: Theft, 300 block Eva Place.

• Saturday, 21 March: Burglary, 100 block Pinion Lane; Burglary, 300 block Julian Drive; Burglary, 100 block Lanshire Drive; Burglary, 3800 block Sycamore Lane (2); Burglary, 200 block West Rusk Drive; Theft, 2300 block Summer Lee Drive; Theft, 2300 block South Goliad Street.

• Sunday, 22 March: Theft, 800 block Austin Street; Theft, 3600 block Laurel Crossing Drive.

• Other Calls: Abandoned property 5, Animal complaint 12, Alarms (all) 35, Assist citizen 26, Civil matter 3, Criminal assault/rape 4, Criminal mischief 16, Drunk 9, Fight 1, Fire call 1, Investigation (all) 51, Forgery 7, Grass fire 1, Injured or sick person 28, Major disturbance 1, Major traffic accident 1, Meet complainant 27, Minor disturbance 18, Minor traffic accident 39, Missing person 3, Narcotics 3, Open building 4, Ordinance violation 49, Possible DWI 20, Shots fired/shooting 2, Street hazard 7, Suicide 1, Suspicious person 60, Welfare concern 13.

Heath DPS

• Abandoned property 1, Animal complaint 3, Alarm (all) 7, Assist citizen 5, Criminal mischief 1, Fire Call 2, Injured/sick person 7, Meet complainant 2, Minor traffic accident 1, Ordinance violation 3, Possible DWI 4, Suspicious person 14, Telephone harassment 1.

Rockwall Sheriff's Department

• Calls (March 13-19) - 212

• Arrests (March 13-19) - 40

• Warrant unit arrests (week of March 9) - 2

Royse City Police

March 13-18

• Friday, 13 March: Medical assistance, 500 block Peterson Street; Medical assistance, 900 block Nancy Drive; Noise disturbance, 300 block Hickory Hill Road; Alarm, 700 block FM 2642; Medical assistance, 600 block Timberhaven Trail; Rockwall County warrant arrest, 200 block S. Elm; Evading arrest with vehicle, I-30 NSR at the 77B mile marker; Accident, 1300 block I-30

• Saturday, 14 March: Assault, 800 block Kim Lane; Noise disturbance, Marti Drive; Noise disturbance, 300 block May Street; Noise disturbance, 800 block Rowdy Drive; Medical assistance, 1200 block Tyler Court

• Sunday, 15 March: Criminal mischief, 300 block Cookston Lane; Alarm, 1100 block Hidden Creek; Suspicious person, 1200 block N. Houston; Dallas County warrant arrest, Corner of Hidden Creek and Josephine

• Monday, 16 March: Theft, 1000 block W. Main Street; Suspicious person, I-30 at the 77.5 mile marker; Suspicious person, 900 block Wood Street; Welfare check, I-30 NSR near the 79 mile marker; Medical assistance, 500 block Sandy Lane; Alarm, 500 block Welch Road; Suspicious person, 1000 block Pullen Street

• Tuesday, 17 March: Noise disturbance, 1200 block Evergreen Street; Suspicious activity, 200 block Barton Street; Noise disturbance, 400 block High Meadow Court; Domestic disturbance, 500 block Briar Oaks Drive; Accident, 300 block Panola Court; Noise disturbance, 1400 block Evergreen Street; Alarm, 2300 block I-30 NSR; Alarm, 1500 block Lorena Drive; Criminal mischief, 900 block Walnut Street; Theft, 1000 block Oak Grove Lane; Suspicious activity, I-30 at the 77A mile marker; Theft, 800 block Loganwood Drive; Noise disturbance, 400 block W. Gail

• Wednesday, 18 March: Domestic disturbance, 300 block N. Hickory Hill Road; Medical assistance, 300 block N. Hickory Hill Road; Welfare check, 1000 block Oak Grove Lane; Reckless driver, Corner of FM 548 and FM 276; Medical assistance, 600 block N. Houston; Theft, 100 block Sandy Lane; Accident, I-30 at the 78 mile marker; Accident, I-30 SSR near the 77A exit; Suspicious activity, 2400 block FM 2453; Medical assistance, 300 block N. Houston Street

Big Bass Tour plans event this month

Big Bass Tour will host the 2009 Slot Lake Shootout presented by Legend Boats on Lake Fork and Lake Ray Roberts on March 27-29.

Amateur anglers will compete on both lakes for more than \$200,000 in possible prize purse and hourly payouts in this open big bass format event. Overall winner will receive a 2009 Dodge Ram 1500 crew cab pickup valued at \$32,000 from Dodge City Dodge in McKinney.

Advance registration is required. Anglers may register online at bigbasstour.com or by calling 977-958-8687. Registration also will be conducted at the Lake Fork Marina and Lantana Lodge from noon to 9 p.m. on March 26.

Rockwall County Book Review

'Murder with Peacocks: A Meg Langslow Mystery' by Donna Andrews

by Lindsey Snelling,
Services Librarian,
Rockwall County Library

Books make you laugh out loud for me "Murder with Peacocks" by Donna Andrews is...

"Murder with Peacocks" is the first installment in the Meg Langslow Mystery series and an excellent read if you like kooky families and/or amateur detectives.

The series features three installments in the Meg Langslow Mystery series and an excellent read if you like kooky families and/or amateur detectives.

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the wedding plans on track.

Meg's mother, a woman whose beauty is exceeded only by her delegating skills, is engaged to the oddly skittish widower Jake; her forgetful brother Rob is engaged to the rather cunning, yet narrow-minded, Samantha Brewster.

Meanwhile, Eileen's wedding to Steve is first on the docket, and she's the only bride that hasn't chosen gowns for her bridesmaids. As Meg grows increasingly frustrated with her trio of brides, the discovery of a body and the resultant investigation turn this rural Virginia town on its ear, just as all the eccentric Langslow cousins are beginning to turn out in force for the upcoming celebrations.

Meg, along with her intrepid father and Michael, the hunky son of the local seamstress, endeavors to resolve the mystery before it interferes with the festivities.

"Murder with Peacocks" is an

animated read whose true charm lies in the foibles of its supporting cast of characters. Save a date and spend some time with this whimsical novel featuring Meg Langslow as the beleaguered maid-of-honor for three weddings that are going to be the death of someone.

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Rockwall author Reginald Williams writing screenplay of book, 'Time Traveler's Academy'

by Kathy Williams

Who among us hasn't wondered what it would be like to travel through time — to see our future or travel to the past to right a wrong, change our destiny or simply try to get a "do over."

Rockwall's Reginald Williams has put his time travel fantasies on paper in his book, "The Time Traveler's Academy." Currently listed at #51 on Amazon.com and Kindle Books, his story is a sci-fi adventure that deals with saving the planet, saving the girl and ultimately, saving ourselves.

Williams, an employee at the Rockwall Post Office, said he came up with the idea for the book several years ago, but never had the inspiration to follow through with putting his idea on paper. He even told his then girlfriend, Maria, now his wife of four years, about his idea but never got past the thinking phase.

After their marriage, Maria reminded him of his idea and his past desire to write. The next day, they went together to buy writing supplies and a long-held idea was transferred to written words.

Williams said it took him between six and nine months, with

additional time for the editing process, to write the first volume of what he hopes will be a six book series.

"The Time Travelers Academy" was published in October 2006 and listed on Amazon.com beginning in January 2007. Williams said since the book was listed, sales have been very good.

As satisfying as it was to see the book becoming successful, Williams had bigger plans for his story, and began shopping around for a literary agent who could get the book in front of movie producers. His plan is for the series to be brought to the big screen, "like the Harry Potter series."

He said in order to get the attention of movie producers, a literary agent must introduce a book to them — an author can't just send them his work and expect producers to look at it. They must work through the system and hierarchy to get their work in front of the right people.

Williams said, "I got rejection letters from agents — and more rejections and more rejections. We sent out so many inquiries and just kept getting rejections."

He said after reviewing his media packet, he realized the

book synopsis he was sending out didn't properly describe his story and wasn't grabbing the attention of agents.

"I rewrote it and an agent in Florida contacted me. He referred me to Morgenstern Entertainment," Williams said.

Williams was also contacted by Upside Down Entertainment from Singapore. Although he has since signed with Morgenstern Entertainment in Los Angeles for a screenplay of his book, Upside Down Entertainment is working with Morgenstern on funding for the screenplay.

Writing for the screenplay is currently underway, with Williams working with a writer from Morgenstern. He said he has never written a full screenplay before, but has taken a screenwriting class at The Studios at Las Colinas in Irving.

"Writing a screenplay is different from writing a book — what you see, what you hear," he said.

His basic story will be reworked a little to add more action. He said some of his original story will be taken out and new parts will be added to translate the story into an action-packed film.

"We want to finish the screen-

play as soon as possible but we want to make sure it's a good movie. I'm sure a director will make changes, but we want to make sure we make a good film," he said.

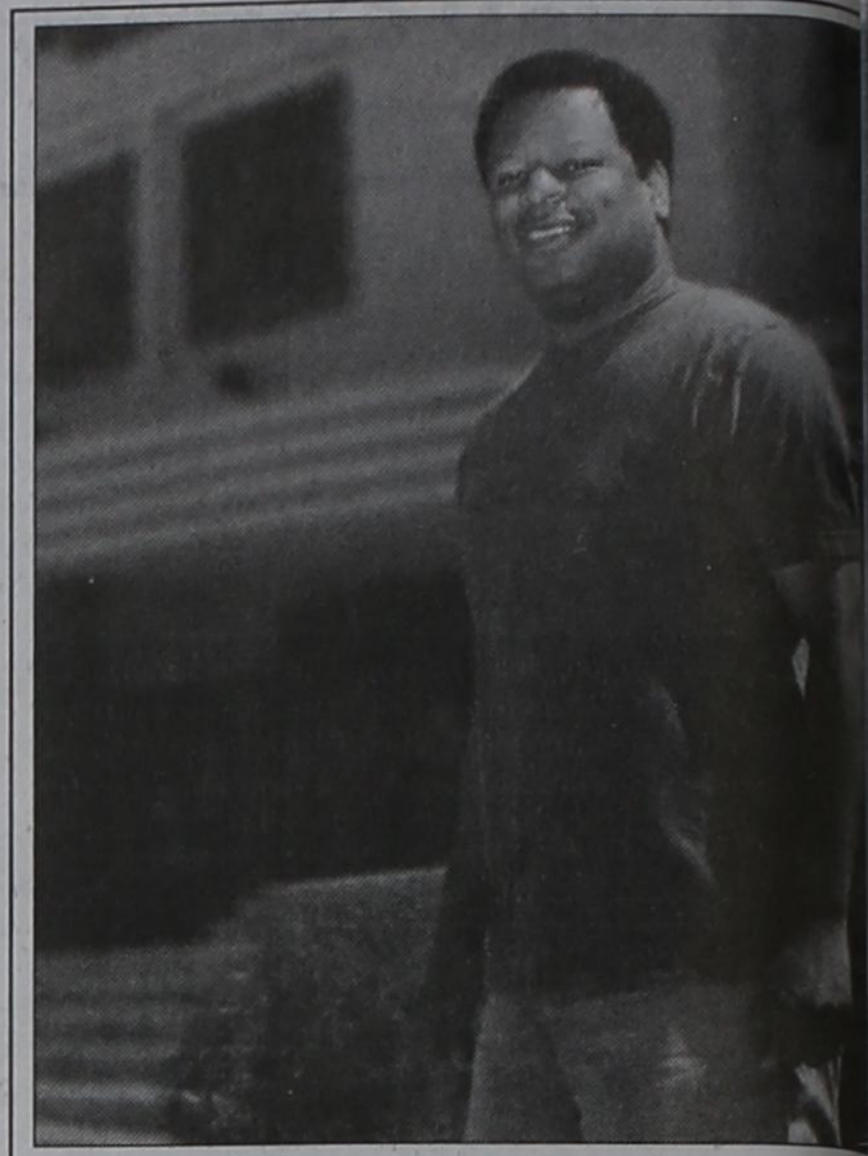
Williams said once the screenplay is finished, it will go through another "shopping around" process to see if it's actually purchased to make into a movie. He said there is currently a producer who is interested in the project, but it takes time for a screenplay to be bought and actually made into a film.

In the meantime, he wants to write five more books, with a prequel and sequels to the current story. "The setting is perfect for multiple books. So many things can happen."

Morgenstern Entertainment is the powerhouse behind such movies as "My Fair Lady," "Camelot," and "Karate Kid." Williams said, "With them behind me, I feel quite sure this will be a movie."

If his story does indeed become a film, Williams said he would like to have his premier in Rockwall at the Harbor Cinemark 12 Theater.

"I would like to have all my friends and customers from the



Reginald Williams

Post Office who have always been there for me with me on that day. I would love to give something back."

Williams added, "I would eventually like to have my own production company and make any sequels myself and open doors for other writers and other actors. This has been a challenge for me — I've run into a lot of closed doors."

Prior to working for the Postal

Service, Williams, who graduated from Columbia College, Missouri with a bachelor's degree in business management, served in active duty with the U.S. Navy in the medical field.

Williams credits his wife, Maria, for giving him the support he needed to write his story. "If it had not been for her bringing my attention to what I told her, I never have started."

Master Gardener classes scheduled

The Rockwall County Master Gardener Association will begin its 2009 classes Aug. 12. Classes will meet each Wednesday until Oct. 28.

The program will include an "intensive study of the broad spectrum of horticulture utilizing research-based information," according to a news release from the organization.

The Master Gardeners, a volunteer organization that is part of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, has members trained to provide information and technical assistance in the areas of gardening and home horticulture within the community and county.

Anyone interested in the training may obtain an application by calling the Texas AgriLife Extension Office at 972-204-7660. Completed applications must be returned by June 15.

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.

Emergency Preparedness Drill

This morning I had the opportunity to join with volunteers from all entities of Rockwall County to participate in a full-scale Pod Site Activation Exercise.

The Sheriff's Office, Sheriff's Posse, Rockwall Police Department, fire department, ambulance/EMT personnel, Rockwall ISD and medical personnel, as well as non-medically trained citizens, turned out at Rockwall High School at 8 a.m. on the final Saturday of spring break for briefings, training and the Pod Activation Exercise, which simulated drive-through mass dispensing of "emergency medications" (M&M candies). The purpose of this practice drill was to provide information necessary before an actual disaster activation should prove necessary in the event that the unthinkable occurred.

In the wake of a catastrophic event, local communities must be prepared to provide supplies to 100 percent of their population. Rockwall County has made every effort to pull together our entire community to become ready now. If disaster strikes, it affects us all.

It was very gratifying to meet the men and women who work under the direction of Dr. Dave Schwartz, volunteer and training coordinator and the Rockwall Sheriff's Office, along with the Cities Readiness Initiative to see what important and potentially lifesaving measures are being taken to keep our families safe and secure.

And the M&Ms were delicious!

Leigh Plagens
Rockwall
March 21, 2009

Thanks to drill volunteers

For all of the seasoned and new volunteers who came and made this morning's exercise a success — thank you! You signed up, showed up and made a positive impact for our community.

We gained a little more experience, and lessons learned will be incorporated into the next large-scale regional drill in October.

We certainly will keep everyone in the loop for all future meeting and planning. Let's plan now!

Our gratitude to the following organizations for their assistance this morning: Rockwall County Sheriff and officers, Rockwall Fire Department, Rockwall County EMS, Rockwall RACES, Rockwall Sheriff's Office Posse volunteers, Rowlett CERT, Texas DSHS SNS coordinator,

Dallas County Public Health and Parker County Emergency Management and North Central Texas Council of Governments. Thank you for attending and assisting. Please call us if we can ever reciprocate.

This morning was proof that our community succeeds with the help of everyone. We are a better community for it.

Please contact me anytime — will have, as always, more e-mails with information coming soon.

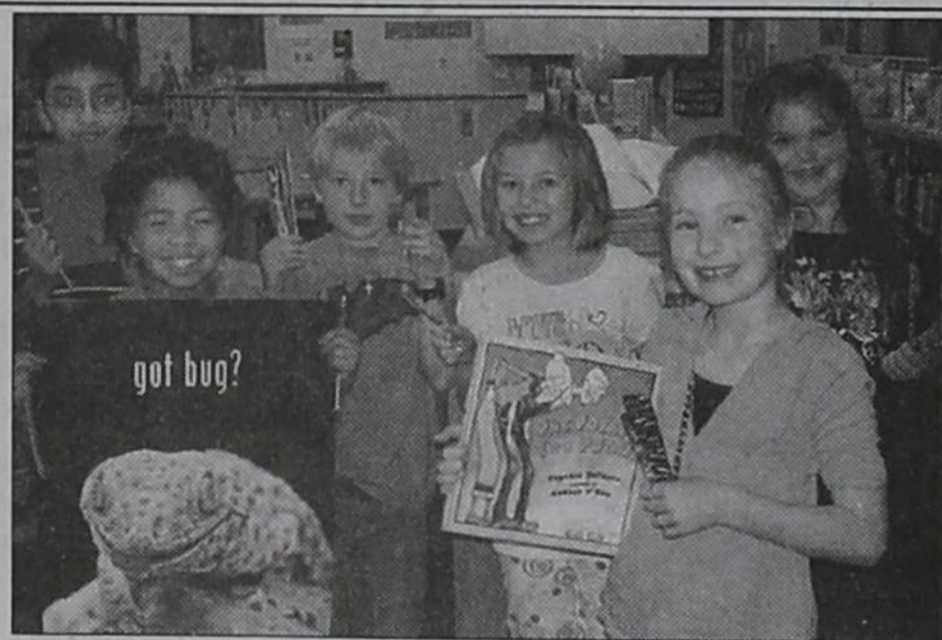
Have a safe weekend.
Dave Schwartz, DPM, RPH
Volunteer & Training Coordinator
Rockwall Sheriff's Office
Cities Readiness Initiative
Rockwall County
March 21, 2009



Only three more show times are available for the Rockwall Community Playhouse presentation of "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Tickets for the 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday shows and the 2 p.m. Sunday matinee can be purchased by calling 972-722-3399. Cast members for the murderously funny show are (left to right) Philip Zehr, Sean Perser, Leo Houck, Lloyd Turney, Monte Monkress, David Kierski, Downing, Amy Smith, Fred Kumpel, Gayle Brewer, Kathleen Smith, David Houck and Curtis Roughton. Director for the show is Doug Persons with Assistant Director Patrick Persons. Next up for the Playhouse is "Kiss Me Kate," which will run from May 8-24.

Photo Courtesy of Rockwall Community Playhouse



More than 85 Nebbie Williams Elementary students, including the ones pictured above, participated in a recent Texas Bluebonnet Party in the school library. Students in grades three through six were eligible to attend the event if they had read five or more books from the Texas Bluebonnet Master List and voted on their favorite book. Students enjoyed playing bingo and earning prizes.



Pictured above are a few of the fourth grade students at Heritage Christian Academy who recently completed a research project on states. As part of the project, each student created his or her own float, which represented one of the 50 U.S. states. Shown are, from the left, Joshua Henson, whose float depicts Florida; Lorin McNeil, whose float portrays a New Mexican theme; and Halee Minter, whose float has a Hawaiian flavor.



Members of Pullen Elementary's SAGE program recently rode in an airplane simulator used to test individuals training to be airline pilots. Each student got a turn piloting the simulator experiencing what it is like to take off, fly and land a 737 airplane. Pictured from the left are Isabella Burzair; Ryan McHargue, former SAGE student who now attends Cain; Gina Mullins; Alyssa McHargue; Andrew Mitchell; and teacher Jan Brown. Shown at front is Daniel Balli. The opportunity was made possible by Frank Mullins, a pilot, pilot instructor and father of a SAGE student.

Women's League seeks nonprofit grant request

The Rockwall Women's League is accepting grant requests from nonprofit agencies that serve Rockwall County residents.

Proceeds from the RWL's annual fundraising charity ball will be used to provide grants for area nonprofit organizations, as well as scholarships for high school seniors from Rockwall County's year's charity ball, operating under the theme "Mystique," is April 18 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas. To contribute, contact Kendra Jones at 972-772-8052.

Grant requests should include program name, description, beneficiaries and amount requested. All requests should be submitted in writing and mailed to P.O. Box 383, Rockwall, TX 75087, to Carli Johnson.

Deadline for submissions is April 1.

For more information, contact Johnson at 214-537-9475.

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Stevens, left, was present
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founder and owner of
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and Williams won silver in Po

Drakes selected to attend Congressional Leadership Conference

Drakes, a junior at Rockwall High School, has been selected to attend the Congressional Student Leadership Conference on Robotics, sponsored by LeadAmerica. The college-accredited leadership program annually talented and young leaders from the United States and international students with exceptional academic achievement in extracurricular or community activities who are interested in participating in the conference.

In a hands-on learning environment, Drakes and fellow students will compete in a series of increasingly difficult engineering challenges that encourage critical thinking and collaboration. In the Robotics Simulation, students will design, construct and program an automated machine that performs functions operating by the team's rules and protocols. Throughout the program, students will learn about material logistics, mechanical stress, design strategies and more. LeadAmerica is the nation's premier youth leadership organization. With a commitment to providing quality leadership education, LeadAmerica inspires and empowers young people to achieve their full potential and instills a sense of purpose, integrity and personal responsibility. Each of its high school conferences is college-accredited and its programs are approved activities of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. LeadAmerica sponsors the Congressional Student Leadership Conference for high school students, the National Junior Leaders Conference for middle and junior high school students, and Ambassadors Abroad international study programs in Australia, Costa Rica and Europe.

Drakes plans to major in Robotics and Engineering in college. His goal is to design artificial intelligence programs that would allow individuals with disabilities to live in their homes independently or with minimal assistance. He would also like to develop gaming systems that would allow everyone to participate.



Middle school students, parents and teachers from Heritage Christian Academy recently spent time engaging in hands-on mission work at Mission Arlington. Team 1 from the school spend the bulk of their day unloading trucks of donated supplies to be given to those in need. Team 2 raked and bagged leaves for a local church affiliated with Mission Arlington. Those in attendance were (back row from left) parent Christopher Beth, Mollie Devine, Savannah Beth, HCA 4th-6th grade art teacher Stacey Kilpatrick, HCA Missions Director Cheryl Read, parent D'Ann Mateer, Evan Norlie, Alex Barron, Jack Ragsdill, (front row from left) Alyssa Mount, Rebekah Alexander, Brandon South, Pricilla Anderton, Rachel McMillan, Anabel Burke and Erika Hochstein.
Photo Courtesy of Cheryl Read

Rockwall ISD plans parent-based pre-K transition meeting

Rockwall Independent School District will host a parent-based pre-K transition meeting beginning at 6 p.m. on May 16, with the same rain-out stipulation in place. Ages for the Boys and Girls teams are as of July 31, 2008. A coaches meeting for all ages groups will take place at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 25 at the Rockwall YMCA, 1210 N. Goliad. Information on fees is available at the Y. Financial assistance is available. For more information, contact Gina Lancaster, Rockwall YMCA Sports Director, at 972-772-9622.



The East Fork-Trinity Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution recently presented a set of books to the Rockwall County Library. The set is entitled "The Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Society History, Volumes I and II." Shown presenting the books to Marcine McCulley, library director, are chapter president Dr. Allen Christian, left, and vice president compatriot Harmon Adair.

Rockwall YMCA spring T-Ball, baseball sign up underway

Sign up dates for the Rockwall YMCA T-Ball season have been announced, with plenty of spots for players still available for boys and girls in different age groups. Early registration continues through March 31, with fees ranging from \$25 for Family, \$45 for Youth and \$70 for Program memberships. Regular registration dates are from April 1-26. An additional \$15 should be added to the early-bird fees for regular registration. Late registration will run from

April 27 until teams are full. The season for Small Fry T-Ball, for 3-year olds, begins May 20. Boys and Girls T-Ball for ages 4, 5, and 6 will begin when the YMCA Soccer season is over, which is tentatively scheduled to end on May 16. The actual end date will depend on the number of rain out dates that occur before then. Girls Softball, for ages 7-14, and Boys Baseball, also for ages 7-14, will also tentatively begin

on May 16, with the same rain-out stipulation in place. Ages for the Boys and Girls teams are as of July 31, 2008. A coaches meeting for all ages groups will take place at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 25 at the Rockwall YMCA, 1210 N. Goliad. Information on fees is available at the Y. Financial assistance is available. For more information, contact Gina Lancaster, Rockwall YMCA Sports Director, at 972-772-9622.

56th annual youth fair set April 1-4 in Rockwall

The 56th Annual Rockwall Youth Fair will take place April 1-3 in the Rockwall Independent School District ag facility located on Riding Club Road. New to this year's event is the agriculture mechanics show, which will include representatives from about 30 schools. The event is set for 5 p.m. April 1. Livestock show activities begin at 6 p.m. April 3 with the open breeding show of heifers, rabbits, goats and sheep. Also scheduled for April 3 is the second annual Heritage Land Bank School Day, where Rockwall ISD third grade students will engage in interactive learning sessions ranging from learning about farm animals to fun and easy gardening. The event will be sponsored by Heritage Land Bank with collaborations from the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Texas Farm Bureau. Rockwall 4-H and FFA students will lead tours of the animal project barn and discuss their experiences in raising livestock projects. On April 4, events begin at 9

a.m. with market lambs, market goats, market swine and market steers showing. The livestock show will be followed by a noon barbecue lunch and the premium market sale at 1 p.m. The sale will see market animals auctioned off to the highest bidders. Last year more than \$60,000 was given back to Rockwall youth as a result of the market auction. "The Rockwall Youth Fair is a fine example of our young leaders of tomorrow presenting their hard work and dedication to success in their future of agriculture and agribusiness," said Travis Reynolds, Rockwall Youth Fair president. "It is our responsibility as leaders to offer support and guidance to these students to enable them to achieve their goals. We must always remember that the children are our future, and we are their guide." Sidelineing the livestock show is the art show, which is open to all RISD youth. It is comprised of artworks classified as painting, drawing, sculpture, craft and mixed media.



The Rock Wall Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution recently recognized Fulton sixth grade student Morgan Elizabeth Froehlich for her entry in the organization's American history essay contest. Pictured with the honoree is DAR regent Faye Heil. The contest is one of several DAR offerings designed to preserve U.S. history and support educational programs. For more information on the DAR, a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to keeping America strong by promoting patriotism, contact Heil at 972-771-3033 or fsheil2004@sbcglobal.net or visit dar.org.



The Rock Wall Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution recently recognized Fulton ninth grade student Timothy Charles Borgan for his entry in the organization's American history essay contest. Pictured with the honoree is DAR member Jinkie Patton. The contest is one of several DAR offerings designed to preserve U.S. history and support educational programs. For more information on the DAR, a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to keeping America strong by promoting patriotism, contact Faye Heil at 972-771-3033 or fsheil2004@sbcglobal.net or visit dar.org.



Four Rockwall High School members of the Business Professionals of America organization recently competed at the BPA State Leadership Conference. Pictured above are Michelle Dose, who earned a seventh place finish in Advanced Office Systems & Procedures, and the video production team of Ryan Reynolds, Brian Sheffield and Dillon White, which finished in sixth place at the state-level contest. Club sponsors for the BPA are Fran Webb and Heather Letlow.

Cornwell makes Dean's List

Sage Cornwell, son of Lonnie and Debbie Cornwell, was named Dean's List at Midwestern State University for the fall 2008 semester. Cornwell was a 2008 graduate of Rowlett High School where he was a member of the varsity soccer team. He is a biology major, Cornwell was recruited to play soccer with the Red Sox, who have advanced to the NCAA Division II National Championship for two straight years.



Rockwall Christian Academy elementary school recently competed in the ACSI Elementary Speech Meet at Carrollton Christian Academy. Students competed in recitation, Poetry, Fable and Folklore, Patriotic Oration, Bible Prose and Original Speech. Three RCA students - Coleman, a sixth grade student; Shariah Harris, a sixth grade student; and Kassidie Williams, a fifth grade student - earned gold medals in Poetry. Harris took a gold in Original Speech and Williams won a silver medal in Patriotic Oration.

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Jesika Emanuel, Brittany Santo and Alex Jordan (left to right) will compete for the title of Rockwall Idol on March 28 at the Rockwall Soroptimist's WomenAid Banquet at the Hilton Bella Harbor. Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

Finalists named for March 28 "Rockwall Idol" showdown at Soroptimist WomenAid Banquet

The three finalists for the title of "Rockwall Idol" were named at last Thursday's third and last preliminary contest at the Hilton Bella Harbor. Vying for the title will be Jesika Emanuel, Brittany Santo and Alex Jordan. The final competition will be part of the Soroptimist's WomenAid Banquet on Saturday, March 28 also at the Hilton.

Created in 2004, WomenAid provides healthcare, dental care and medical screenings for women and children in Rockwall County.

Previous reports of each week's preliminary winners advancing to the final contest were incorrect. The top three contestants in each week's preliminary were awarded points. They could compete in the following week's competitions to possibly gain more points. The three contestants with the most total points from the preliminary rounds will compete for the title of Rockwall Idol.

Receiving the most points from the three weeks of preliminaries was Santo, second place was Jordan and third place overall was Emanuel.

Last week, 28 contestants auditioned for a last chance at a spot in the final. Contestants in the March 19 show were Loretta Cooper singing A Little Girl from Little Rock; Wendy Schmid with Always on My Mind; Alex Jordan, At Last, Courtney Haycraft, Broken Wing; Josh Miller, Empty Chairs at Empty Tables; Bud Rager, Between Right and Wrong; Emily Russell, Crazy Dreams; Alex Brandon, Suds in the Bucket; Lindsay McPherson, Bring Me Down; Amber Seed, Walking After Midnight; Nicki Dearick, Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy; Glenda Burgess, Yoice of a Savior; Danielle Lumsden,

Young and Beautiful and Lauren Alsbrook, with Beautiful.

Also on the night's bill were Meredith Murphy with Anyway; Lindsey Yarborough, Don't Know Why; Klaesha VanSickle, Love Story; Cassandra Rivera, Someone Watching Over Me; Eternity Gunn, Not Ready to Make Nice; Katie Mariah, Too Long; Mone' Watson, Anyway; Crixie Catoe, Amazing Grace; Rachel Smith, Me and Emily; Jesika Emanuel, There Are Worse Things I Could Do; Steven Dixon, I'm With You; Sydney Shelton, Where Would You Be; Clint Scott, Walking in Memphis and Anita Crawford with Last Name.

Judges for the competition are Rachel Hiebert, Greg Lackey and Will Kincaid.

Hiebert moved to Texas after completing college. Her early musical influences were country music and gospel hymns, with a passion for modern worship music developing in her adult years. She is a well-respected and seasoned artist in her local church, Still Water Community Church, and in the D-FW area.

After moving to Dallas from Southern California in

2006, Lackey helped Cornerstone Rockwall. He is currently the creative director and time leader.

Kincaid is a Soroptimist band and owner of So Apparel Company. He is a professional musician and the European Country Award in 2001 and placed in his own country music in Region 2.

Assisting with the event are Kevin Waitkus, DJ and Event Technology for Bella Harbor. He has been in the Dallas area for more than 20 years. From New York, he has worked for Willie Ministries as an AV director. He has been in the Dallas area for two-and-a-half years, worked for PSAV, a producer and meeting technology to hotels, and producers and meeting worldwide. He has been in the Dallas area since February.

Tickets for the banquet are available for \$60 for adults and \$30 for children. Tickets can be purchased at shellirocks@aol.com or 467-9923.



Proving the show must go on, Rockwall Idol contestant Steven-Adrian Dixon sings his selection a capella after the equipment failed at last Thursday's final preliminary contest. Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

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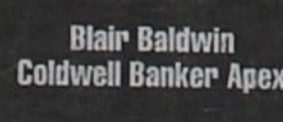
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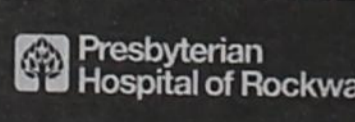
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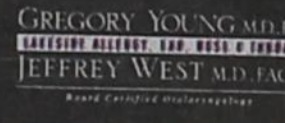





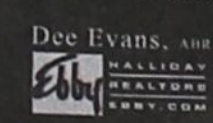












To serve as a sponsor or auction item donor for this year's ball, Mystique, to be held April 18, 2009 at the Anatole Hotel, please contact Kendra Jones at 972-772-8052. Go to www.rockwallwomensleague.org to purchase tickets.

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Rockwall County Sports

Lady Jackets win Area soccer championship

mp together, and at just the right time, the Rockwall girls' soccer team won its first two matches to advance to a sectional showdown at Highland Park.

The Lady Jackets combined one of their best offensive stretches this season with a similar defense to defeat District 22-4A champion Bryan Adams 2-0. All four 21-4A playoff teams still are alive among the 16 teams in Region 2.

Rockwall will survive this weekend, because RHS is playing second-round action Friday at 6 p.m. at Lovejoy, and district champion The Colony will meet the third-place team from The Colony.

The Lady Jackets have a 9-10-6 overall record, compared to HP's 18-11-1 record with 1-0 losses by Pearce. However, Rockwall has played with the Lady Scots. During the district season, the team lost 2-0 at Highland Park, then rallied from a 2-0 deficit for a 3-1 win on March 3. Those were the most goals HP has allowed in a game when it has outscored opponents 6-8.

"The Lady Jackets' defense in the district has definitely helped us," said Rockwall coach Melissa Garcia. "We saw so many kinds of different defenses out there. Forney, a team the Lady Jackets had defeated 3-0 on Jan. 20, was a real challenge. Rockwall's offense in the Area matchup Tuesday at Roysce City was very good. They had a great offside trap, which is something we had not seen before. Their defense up far in front of their goalie, the Lady Rabbits, was being passed to them.

In the second half, the Lady Jackets figured out the defense. They had long passes downfield. RHS' forwards waited until the ball was passed, then outran Forney's defenders to the ball. That was a 2-1 game into a two-goal margin in the 73rd minute, with minutes to play, when Kendall Smith took a ball and beat the Forney goalie with a shot into the lower right corner of the net.

"Missing the district season must have made her more determined to be bidding her time, and she's done a real good job in the playoffs. She scored twice midway through the first half against Bryan Adams at Homer B. Johnson Stadium that gave RHS a 2-0 lead it never lost in the Bi-District game. She added a score in the 28th minute, and Michelle Kelley put in the second goal in the second half.

Smith missed most of this season because of an ankle injury, just

one ailment that prevented the Lady Jackets from fielding their regular starting lineup for much of the season.

"Having a full roster now really helps us. We had a lot of people out. Now everybody can get to their actual spots on the field," Garcia said.

As she was saying that, though, it wasn't clear that the team would remain at full strength. Smith limped off the field in the final minutes with what appeared to be an injury to the side of her right hip or upper thigh. Garcia said Smith would be examined.

In Tuesday's game, Nicole Salom and Randi Soldat scored first-half goals to give the Lady Jackets a 2-0 lead. They then let up, allowing a goal in the 26th minutes and permitting the Lady Rabbits to control the

early part of the second half.

Goalie Bekah Barton stopped everything sent her way after halftime, with help from defender Arzola in keeping Forney forwards away from the goal.

Still, every time the Lady Rabbits had the ball they had a chance to tie the game. A bad omen came halfway through the second half when Allie Wentzel headed a crossing pass from Smith over the goalie, but the ball struck the left post and bounced away from the goal. That all changed after Rockwall took a 3-1 lead and Barton stopped Forney's final threat by grabbing a free kick out of the air.



Lady Jackets' Shelby Soldat (9) drives the ball up field against the Forney defender Sandra Quintero (8) during Tuesday's Area playoff game in the Roysce City ISD Stadium. Rockwall won 3-1. In the back are teammates Randi Soldat (2) and Daniela Arzola (7). Staff photo by Roy Heath

Sports Notes

Special needs open gym Friday
 Friday of each month is Special Needs Open Gym Night at the Education Center gym, located at 1050 Williams St. The gym is open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for children with special needs to interact with other children and play various activities while their parents meet in a separate room. For details call the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department at 972-771-7740.

Junior Olympic Skills contest set Saturday
 A regional skills competition open to children ages 8-12 will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday in the RISD Education Center. All sports can showcase their skills in basketball, soccer, tennis, volleyball, and field, with genders competing separately. Each child must have a copy of his/her birth certificate. For more information call the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department at 972-771-7740.

Monday is Blazing Balls golf tourney
 The Rowlett Women's Club will host the Blazing Balls Charity Golf Tournament from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday at the Buffalo Creek Golf Club. All proceeds raised through the four-person scramble will help provide scholarships for women in need. Cost is \$110 per person, which includes dinner, snacks, prizes and more. Visit rowlettclub.com or e-mail info@rowlettclub.com for more information.

Heath to host 5k event on Easter weekend
 Roy Heath will host the 2009 Heart of Heath 5k Run/Walk on Easter Sunday. The family-friendly event is open to individuals of all ages and abilities. The run will begin at 8:30 a.m., rain or shine, at the Community Center, followed by a pancake breakfast in the Community Center. For details on race categories and registration, visit heathtx.com.

RC Chamber golf tourney set
 The annual Roysce City Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament will be held on a 1 p.m. shotgun start on April 24 at the Stone River Golf Club. The event will include a four-person team scramble format; entry fee is \$75 per person. Cash prizes and goody bags will be awarded. For more information call 972-636-5000 or e-mail info@roysecitychamber.com.

Kayak class set April 25
 A kayaking clinic, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on April 25 at the Hwy. 66 boat ramp. The class is for individuals ages 18 and older, the class will be taught by Dave Cooper. The cost will be \$60 for Rockwall residents, \$90 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Little Kickers Soccer begins in April
 A program designed for children ages 3 1/2 to 5 years of age, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will run April 27 through June 1. The program is designed to teach age-appropriate drills and will include Monday evening classes and games at Myers Park Field No. 1. Cost is \$30 for Rockwall residents, \$45 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Little Sluggers T-ball program slated
 A program for ages 3 1/2 to 5 years of age can learn T-ball fundamentals through the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department's Little Sluggers program, which will run from April 28 through June 2. Classes will run Tuesday evenings at Myers Park Field No. 1. Cost is \$30 for Rockwall residents, \$45 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Disc Golf Weekend slated May 2-3
 Being billed as the "World's Biggest Disc Golf Weekend" is the Disc Golf Weekend for May 2-3 in Harry Myers Park. The non-competitive event is open to all ages and levels - from professionals to first-time players. Visit wbdgw.com for more information.

Rockwall to host charity sporting clays event
 The Rockwall County Young Republicans will host the 1st Annual Sporting Clays Challenge May 9 at the Elm Fork Shooting Club, 101 Luna Rd. in Dallas. The event will begin at 9:30 a.m.; sign-in starts at 8 a.m. The event will benefit Helping Hands, Habitat for Humanity, and the Pregnancy Resource Center. For more details or to register, contact Aaron Moore at 972-489-3648, amooreyr@yahoo.com or visit rockwallry.org.

Thomas Jefferson holds off Jackets in soccer playoffs

Rockwall had plenty of chances to send its boys' soccer Bi-District playoff game into overtime, but not a very good one.

District 22-4A champion Thomas Jefferson made Luis Barcenas' goal in the 68th minute (12:15 to play) stand up for a 2-1 victory that eliminated the Yellowjackets from the postseason.

A long pass got past Rockwall's defense to Barcenas, and he beat goalie Joey Hernandez to put the Patriots (10-7-1 overall) ahead in Friday's game at Homer B. Johnson Stadium in Garland.

RHS head coach Troy Williams said, "There was miscommunication between a defender and the goalie. That was a really bad time to give up a goal. We staggered around for a while, but then in the last nine minutes we got a lot of shots from different players.

We had an open goal a couple of times, and two free kicks. The last one was with nine seconds left, and we never got a really good shot off because (the Patriots) were late in getting 10 yards off the ball."



Yellowjackets' Justin Mayfield (4) races to the ball against Thomas Jefferson defenders during last Friday in Garland ISD's Home B. Johnson Stadium. Jefferson won 2-1. Ready to assist in the play is teammate Cameron Canada (17, back). Jefferson won 2-1. Staff photo by Roy Heath

The game was scoreless until the Dallas team, which dominated first-half play, scored in the 38th minute, less than two minutes before halftime.

The Yellowjackets took control of the game early in the second half, and finally broke through to tie the game on Janson Rector's goal in the 60th minute.

Rector and Ryan Hughes were the Jackets' best offensive players, with Tapp Hazel, Grant Gunderson and Justin Mayfield doing the most to stop Thomas Jefferson's attack.

Williams was pleased with the team's performance this season, his first at Rockwall after moving over from South Garland. He inherited a team that had taken a number of tough losses and spiraled downward as last season progressed. The 2009 Jackets pulled out a tie in their final game to take the fourth and final playoff berth from District 21-4A.

He said, "One thing that stands out is that we never gave up. It took a lot of courage to overcome last year's disappointing season. They just fought back."

"I think we have some young guys who will make really good leaders next year."

Includes information provided by Roy Heath.

Rockwall Yellowjackets' schedule

- Saturday, March 28** - JV White baseball: home vs. Mesquite Horn, Uteley Freshman Center, noon
- JV Orange baseball: at Mesquite, Tillery Field, noon
- Monday, March 30** - JV girls' golf: at Rowlett, Waterview Golf Club, 8 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 31** - White or freshman boys' golf: home, Buffalo Creek Golf Club, 8 a.m.
- Varsity 2 girls' golf: at Richardson Pearce, Canyon Creek Country Club, 8:30 a.m.
- JV White baseball: home vs. Highland Park, 4:30 p.m.
- Baseball: at Highland Park, JV Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
- Softball: home vs. Greenville, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
- JV tennis: at JV Invitational, Cedar Hill

continued on page 2B

Rockwall County Sports

Lady Hawks split with Rockwall and Royse City; sit in a three-way tie for first place

McGillen
It's not easy to say that if not for one bad pitch, eighth-ranked Rockwall would be sitting alone atop the District 10-4A softball

after crushing three of their first five district foes, the Lady Hawks also disposed of cross-town rival Rockwall 2-0 on March 24. Taylor McLoughlin's two-run double and Chelsey Eddy's two-hitter.

Eddy cruising along almost untouchable against Royse City in a makeup game, all that remained was for the Lady Hawks to scratch out a run against the Lady Bulldogs' hard-throwing Alicia Pille and they could be 5-0 in district.

Bulldogs, however, who came up with the big hit against Rockwall was on her way to another gem, finishing with 14 strikeouts following just two hits.

One of those hits came on an off speed pitch to Pille, who double bled the fence for a two-run homer.

The Hawks, meanwhile, touched Pille for five hits but couldn't get their own big hit when they needed it, stranding a runner on first the times with the Pille blast ending up being the difference in the game.

Rockwall sits in a tie with both Rockwall (4-1, 14-7-1) and Royse City (4-1, 14-7-1) for the 10-4A lead.

Rockwall finished with a dozen strikeouts against the sometimes freewheeling Lady Hawks, who chased the ball out of the strike zone on several occasions.

The best opportunity may have come in the fifth inning when Eddy hit a one-out double into left and advanced to third on a fielder's error. A called third strike on Taylor Blair ended the threat.

At Rockwall, Eddy was in and out of trouble several times, due to issuing six walks and hitting another batter.

Her left hander was tough when she needed to be, though, getting herself out of trouble with runners on first and second in both the first and third innings and out of a bases-load jam in the fifth.

In the sixth, Eddy struck out the first batter but then issued a pair of walks, which swished around an error by Heath's third baseman. She avoided a double play, though, as she struck out the number four and five hitters in the Lady Jackets' order to end the inning.

McLoughlin provided Eddy with all the offense she would need in the sixth inning when she stroked a liner over the reach of Rockwall's second baseman and into the gap to score Victoria Combs and Dakota Whittern who had delivered back-to-back singles to open the frame. The six-inning rout of Pearce, McLoughlin again delivered the big

hit, unloading a bases-loaded triple in a seven-run third inning that broke open a 1-0 game. Whittern added a two-run single in the same inning to give Eddy way more run support than she needed as she allowed just three hits while lowering her district ERA to a tiny 0.48.

The Lady Hawks travel to RL Turner March 27 before returning home to face Highland Park March 31.

San Marcos tournament results:

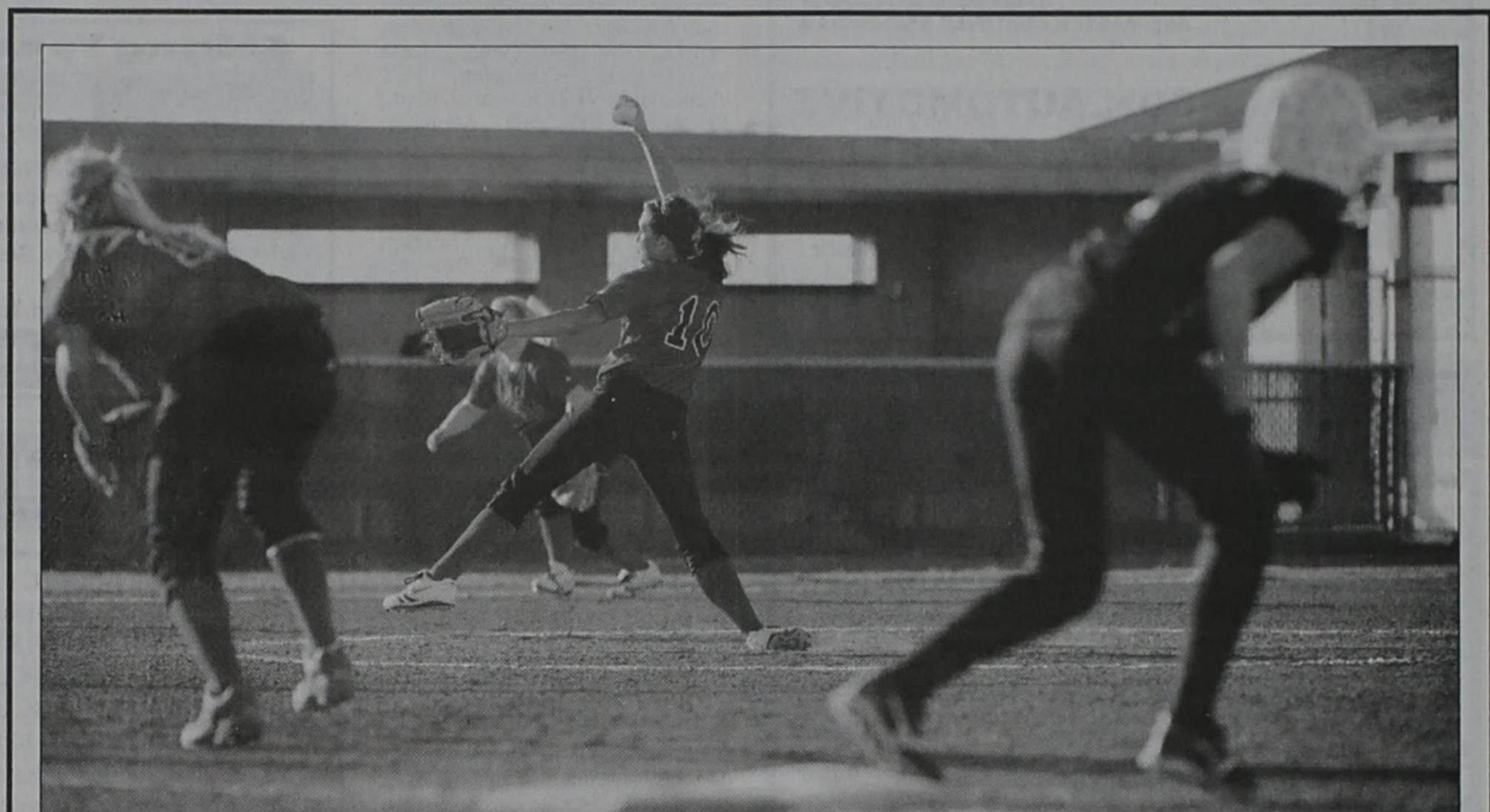
Heath 3, Houston St. Agnes 2. Devin Edgemon and Whittern both had doubles and Eddy allowed one hit and fanned seven.

Heath 11, Austin McCallum 0. McLoughlin 1-for-2 with a triple, Edgemon 2-for-3, Sarah Deimling 2-3 with a double, Kaeleigh Lutz 2-for-3 with a triple, Whittern 2-for-3 with a triple, Hailey Galloway

2-for-2 with a double and a triple and Victoria Combs 1-for-1 with a double. Eddy threw a no-hitter with six strikeouts.

Heath 12, Austin St. Michaels 0. McLoughlin 2-for-3, Lutz 2-for-2 with a double and Hailey Galloway 2-for-2 with a triple. Combs threw a no-hitter and struck out five. Heath 4, Austin Westlake 0. Whittern 1-for-3 with a double and Eddy 1-for-1 with a double. Eddy gave up two hits and struck out five.

Brock 1, Heath 0. Eddy allowed three hits and struck out 14. Heath 1, Plano East 0. McLoughlin was 1-1 with a double, Blair was 2-3, and Eddy was 1-2. Eddy gave up two hits and struck out 10. Heath 2, Andrews 1. Lutz was 2-for-2. Combs gave up seven hits, no earned runs, and struck out five.



Chelsey Eddy (10) winds up to pitch for the Lady Hawks during last Wednesday's game against the Lady Jackets in the RHHS field. Leading off from first base is Rockwall High's Maddie Canon. Lady Hawks defenders ready for the play are Hailey Galloway at first base and Dakota Whittern at third base.
Staff photo by Carl McClung

Thompson delivers another grand slam as Hawks break losing string by thumping Royse City

McGillen
Watching the two teammates that precede him in the batting order unlinked by Royse City starter Cameron Nichols, Rockwall's Jake Thompson might have been a little nervous stepping up to face the hard-throwing righthander with the bases loaded in a 4-4 game March 24 at RHHS.

The 6-foot-3, 215-pound ninth grader was apprehensive, it wasn't until he crushed a 3-1 offering from Nichols far beyond the 365-foot left center for a grand slam that broke open a tight game and gave the Hawks a 5-0 lead that they would stretch into a 10-0, five-inning rout over the Bulldogs.

Thompson not only snapped a three-game losing skid for the Hawks, it also moved them into a tie for fourth place in the standings at 2-2 (8-7 overall) as Pearce (6-7), whom they host March 27.

Rockwall (4-0, 13-2) and Newman Smith (4-0, 11-2), who edged Royse City March 20, are tied atop the standings followed by third-place Highland Park (3-1, 14-7) in the race for four playoff berths.

Royse City fell to 1-3 and 5-7. Thompson's bases-clearing blast was his second grand slam of the season and his fourth home run overall. He added a double to finish the game with five RBI.

Perhaps somewhat lost in the erratic performance of three Bulldog pitchers, who yielded just six hits but combined to walk five and hit four batters while unleashing several wild pitches, was the coolly efficient effort of Heath starter James Baune.

The slender junior gave up just three hits in four innings, while fanning three and walking two and was never in trouble. His replacement, Cody Sargent, finished out the game, walking two and striking out one in the fifth.

Heath got on the board in the second inning fairly quietly as Drew VerHagen singled to right, stole second and then moved to third and eventually home on a pair of wild pitches.

In the Hawks' eight-run third, Charlie Martin led off with a walk before Nichols nailed Drew Benefield and Connor Lewis with one out to set the stage for Thompson.

Following the big freshman's rocket, Nichols then drilled VerHagen who went to second on a passed ball, stole third and then scored on another passed ball to make it 6-0 Heath.

Martin, batting for the second time in the inning, then came up and delivered an RBI single to push the lead to 7-0 before Matt Bielski added a two-run single to end the scoring in the frame.

Needing a run to end the game by virtue of the mercy rule in the bottom of the fifth, the Hawks had Thompson at the plate, again with the bases loaded.

Thompson never got to take a swing, though, as the Bulldogs' pitcher, perhaps having seen enough of Mr. Thompson, uncorked a wild pitch to score Martin who had gotten aboard on an error and moved to third on a pair of walks.

The Hawks will travel to Forney (4-8) March 28 for a non-district game with the Jackrabbits and then to last-place RL Turner (0-4, 1-8) March 31 for another district game.

Heath/Cain schedule

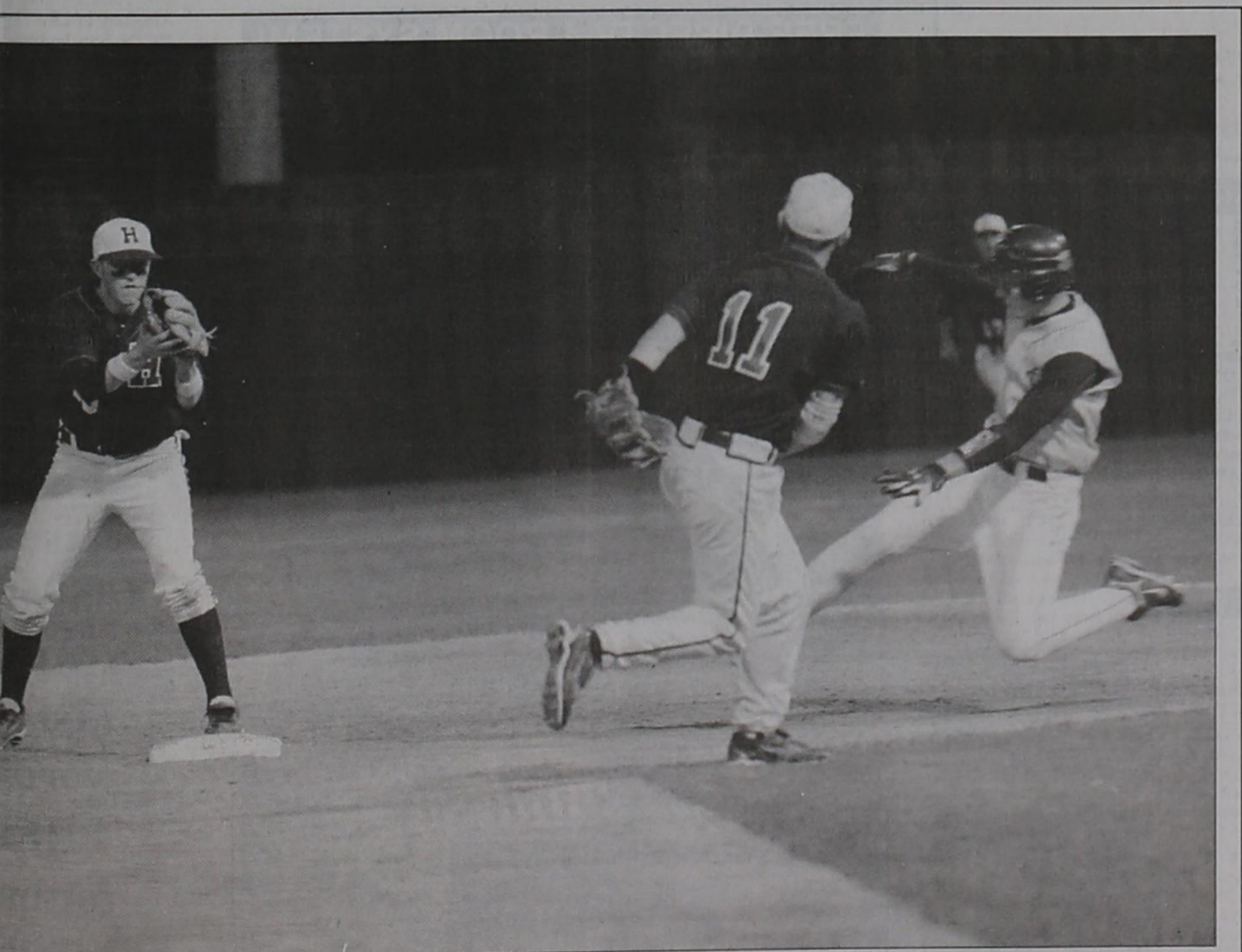
- Thursday, March 26**
- CMS track @ Lovejoy HS 3:45 p.m.
- RHHS golf @ Waterview
- RHHS gymnastics district championships @ Brandenburg MS 6 p.m.
- RHHS JV softball @ Ennis tournament
- Friday, March 27**
- RHHS baseball vs. Pearce 4:30/7:30 p.m.
- RHHS JV baseball @ Pearce 4:30 p.m.
- RHHS softball @ Turner (Oran Good Park) 5/7 p.m.
- RHHS tennis @ Arlington Martin 6 a.m.
- Saturday, March 28**
- RHHS baseball @ Forney noon
- RHHS track @ Royse City Bulldog Relays
- RHHS JV softball @ Ennis tournament
- Monday, March 30**
- RHHS girls golf vs. Rowlett @ Waterview
- RHHS JV track @ Mustang Relays (Grapevine)
- Tuesday, March 31**
- CMS gymnastics district championships @ RHS 6 p.m.
- RHHS baseball @ Turner 4:30/7:30 p.m.
- RHHS boys golf vs. RHS @ Buffalo Creek GC 8 a.m.
- RHHS girls golf vs. Desoto @ Lancaster Country View
- RHHS softball vs. Highland Park 6 p.m.

Rockwall County News

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Rockwall Hawks' second baseman Connor Lewis (10) catches a lobbed pass from teammate Trevor Holland (11) for an out against the Royse City Bulldogs during Tuesday's game in the Royse City ISD Stadium.
Staff photo by Carl McClung

From the Trenches of the Drug War: A Street Cop's Perspective

by Howard J. Wooldridge

The nine-year-old boy's eyes went as big as saucers, as my 40-caliber Glock came into view and paused for a split second on his chest. Being the fourth officer through the door of the townhouse meant the woman and her three kids were already in a state of shock. We spent 30 minutes looking for the marijuana mentioned in the search warrant, coming up empty. In retrospect, at least we had bothered to obtain a warrant.

As we left, no one bothered to apologize for our intrusion, the terror we created, or for any action on our part. Since we were the good guys, doing good work, what need was there to apologize? Looking back and realizing now what havoc I caused makes me ill. Incidents like this "spurred" me into riding my horse across North America to speed the end of the most destructive, dysfunctional, and immoral policy since slavery and Jim Crow.

I spent 18 years in law enforcement near Lansing, Michigan. The first three were in a cadet-type program, the next twelve (12) as a road officer, and the last three as a detective. Essentially I did everything in police work but shoot someone or be shot at. The war on drugs went from almost zero to a huge factor in my professional life as my career spanned 1974-1994.

From private to public

When I first started, a mentor, Lt. Terry Meyer, summed it up best, "I don't give a damn what you do in your own home. But what you do in public becomes my business big time." And for the first 10 years or so we focused on public safety, not what an adult did in private.

The turning point came in about 1986, when we were educated on how to take property from citizens. I will never forget the two-hour seminar I attended at the Michigan State Police HQ in Lansing. A narcotics officer was almost gleeful, as he explained to the uniformed street cops how they too could become foot soldiers in winning the drug war. "No drugs need be found in the vehicle to seize it. All you need is either cash, drug paraphernalia, or drug documents. How much cash? Your local prosecutor will decide. When in doubt, seize the money and the vehicle. We can always give it back," he explained.

Simply a money-making machine

I was a mature 35 when they tried to enlist me in their money-making scheme. Without any conscious thought, I rejected what I learned. I continued my relentless pursuit of stopping people using 3000 pound killing machines (i.e., cars and trucks) from killing innocent motorists in my township. Who cares if students from Michigan State have some pot in their glove box, as long as they were not driving stoned?

My early twenty-something colleagues however saw catching pot smokers as great sport, fun and rewarding. They were rewarded with attaboys from the chief for pot busts and especially when they were able to seize a car. Mind you, despite what you see on TV, the average car seized was 10 years old and worth maybe 2,000 dollars. No matter, it all counted. I remember the first thing my chief bought with civil-asset-forfeiture money was a pager for all of us... for the stated purpose so we could be quickly assembled if we needed to go on a drug raid. I looked at the thing with Alice in Wonderland in mind. What the hell are we doing? Nonetheless, I carried it with me, like I carried my off-duty 38.

"It's a Hoot"

Being the ever-curious type, at the donut shop one night I asked my colleagues why they spent almost all their free time stopping and searching cars for a baggie. "It's a hoot. It is so easy to get them to agree to a search. Chief likes it. I feel good about it," they responded. What about the drunk drivers that actually hurt and kill people? I inquired. They shrugged their shoulders. Talk about a disconnect.

A few years later I became our department's first detective. As I began investigating the home burglaries and car thefts, I learned quickly the drug war was the cause of 80% of theft crimes. Crack was the drug du jour and addicts needed about 200 dollars per day and were stealing about \$2,000 to get the money. Addicts told me that some dealers would take the stolen goods in exchange for crack... a barter system. I saw the pain and anguish as home owners described their precious heirlooms stolen, their sense of violation knowing that strangers had been in their "castle."

Let the idiots buy their self destruction

As one homeowner described his grandfather's pocket watch, his wife began to cry and the man suddenly slammed his fist into the wall. It was at that moment that I became conscious of my opposition to drug policy. Why not let these damn idiots have the all the crack they want until they are dead? Leave the good people of Bath Township alone!

Two years after retiring and moving to Texas, I became a foot soldier in the movement to end drug prohibition. I expect to see it end in my lifetime but if not, I am confident that others will carry on the effort. I will work on this until modern Prohibition is in the history books or I draw my last breath. Little boys do not deserve to have weapons shoved in their faces.

Howard J. Wooldridge is a retired police officer residing in Texas.

Blame Bush

by Bill O'Reilly

The other day, a left-wing reporter named Seymour Hersh went on MSNBC and said he had information, provided by the usual anonymous sources, that Dick Cheney was running an assassination squad out of the White House.

I have but one simple observation: If Cheney really had such a crew, Hersh would have been dead a long time ago, and so would most everybody at MSNBC.

Would they not?

In the months to come, we can expect all kinds of horror stories from the left about alleged Bush-Cheney atrocities. These will deflect attention from present-day problems and provide liberal thinkers with the intense indignation they so desperately need. In addition, the bevy of Bush-Cheney sins will supply the media and individual opportunists with "product." So, in order to get ahead of this inevitable situation, I will now predict some future headlines:

- Newsweek will report that Bernard Madoff has told unidentified friends that it was George W. Bush who actually forced him to develop the \$65 billion Ponzi scheme that ruined thousands of people. Friends of Bernie say Madoff was ready to be an honest broker until Bush came to him in a dream and urged him to commit massive financial fraud. Also, Newsweek's "Periscope" feature hears that it was W who told Jim Cramer to recommend Bear Stearns.

- In his new book, "Squealing," Jose Canseco writes that he injected George W. Bush with steroids when W was owner of the Texas Rangers and again in the Oval Office immediately before the president met with Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Canseco dismisses claims that W's mountain bike regimen kept him toned and says the Iraq invasion was actually caused by "roid rage."

- The New York Times will run a page-one story saying that after the Iraqi shoe guy embarrassed Bush in Baghdad, the president himself waterboarded the man and kept him tied up in a cold room while looping excerpts from Wolf Blitzer's program at high sound levels. The Times, citing unidentified sources close to the footwear industry, will allege the shoe guy gave up bad information because torture never works.

- Vanity Fair magazine, in between pictures of Lindsay Lohan partying in Baja, will present a most startling scenario: It was Cheney who contaminated peanut butter with E. coli because, according to anonymous sources speaking only to VF, the VP had "had it" with the kids.

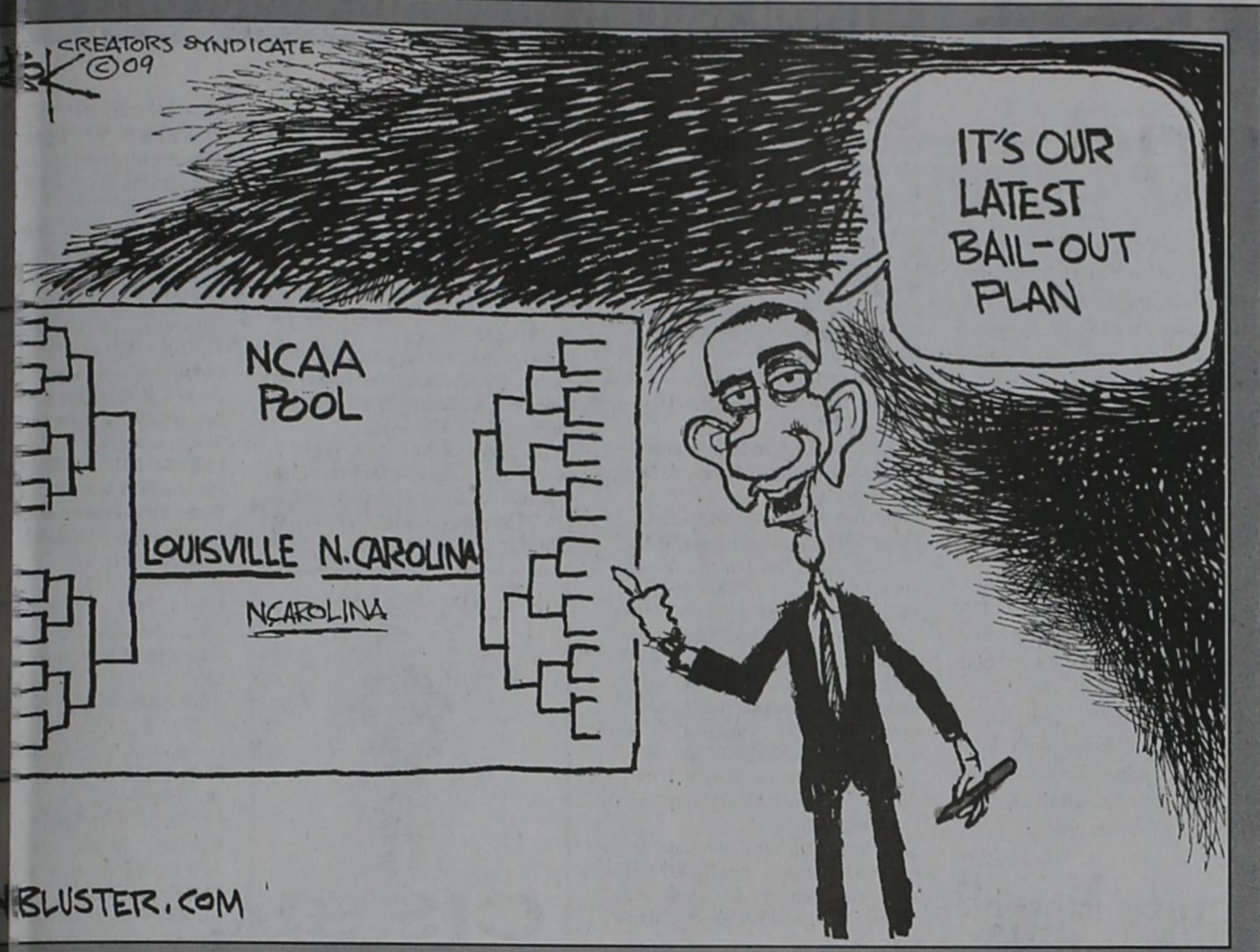
- Finally, Will Ferrell will star in a new movie called "Crawford Nights: The Ballad of Dickie/Georgie." In this film directed by Oliver Stone, it will be purported that the real head of the Cali drug cartel was George W. Bush, with Cheney as consigliere. The screenplay, written by Sean Penn and Jessica Alba, is being closely guarded, but word is that it will portray Cheney as the guy who provided Michael Phelps with the substance-filled bong.

So it will likely be a busy 2009 for the Bush-Cheney team. No doubt they are the perfect stimulus package for the far left.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com. COPYRIGHT 2009 Bill O'Reilly.com.

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Opinions



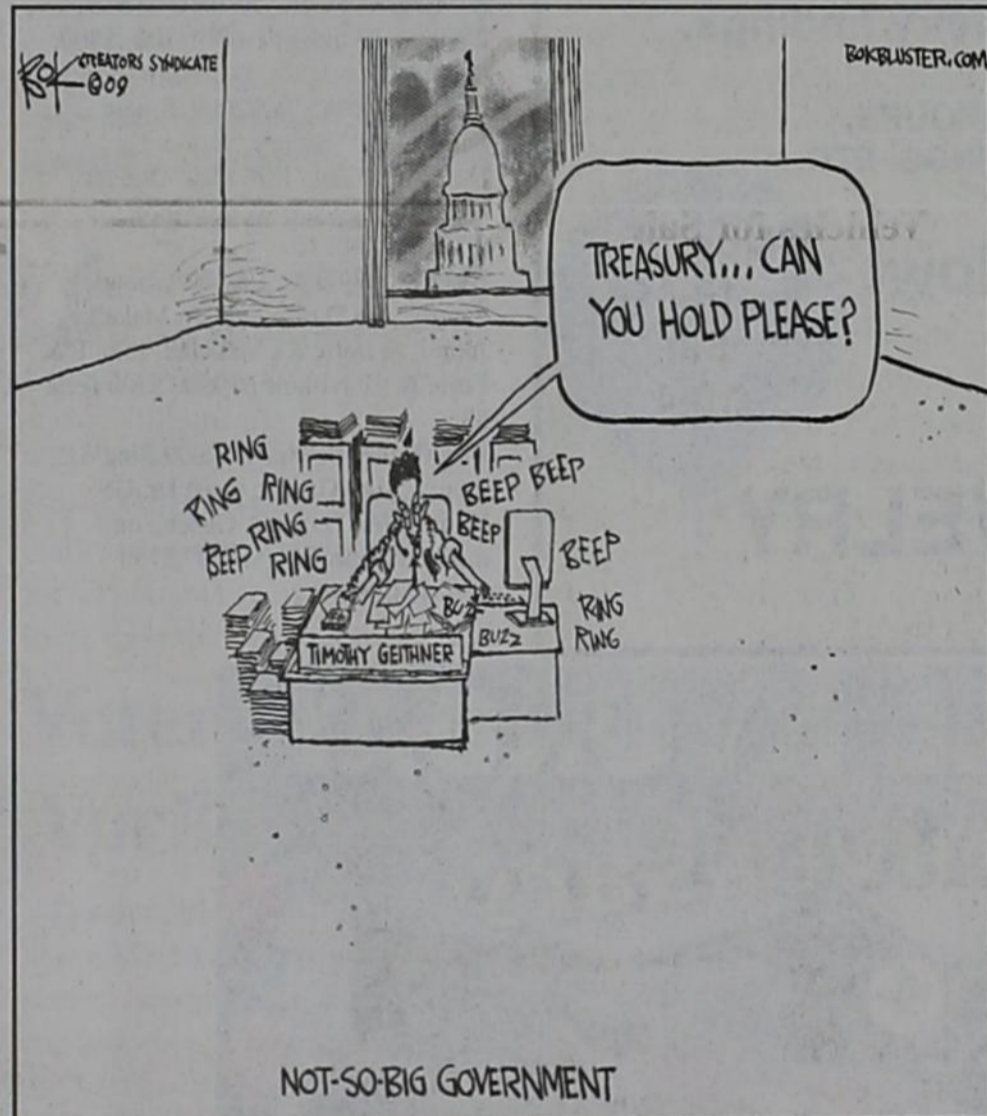
Prosperity lost in America

Walter E. Williams
The correct answer to the following question: Who gave the biggest tax cuts for the rich — Reagan or Bush? I would say neither. The correct response, which is: HARRIS AND ROBERTS. Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, in accordance with the Uniformity Clause of the Constitution. I know that many politicians and news media people read my column and wonder if they should continue to speak of presidents HARRIS, CHILDREN and taxes?

say yes, but we'd be criminals. You might wonder how congressmen can get away with taxes and other measures that reduce our prosperity potential. Part of the answer is the anti-business climate promoted in academia and the news media. The more important reason is that prosperity foregone is invisible. In other words, we can never tell how much richer we would have been without today's level of congressional interference in our lives and therefore don't fight it as much as we should.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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FLASH NEWS: Congress plans another Trillion Dollar Bail Out ... Not so newsworthy: It's so easy to spend other people's money ...



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