

# Rockwall County News

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Local Subscribers in North Texas Counties of Collin, Dallas, Hunt, Kaufman and Rockwall

## Local non-profit applies for charter school status Possible beginning 2014-2015 school year

The application for a charter has been submitted and the future of the American Honor Academy and the proposed American Honor Academy will be in the hands of the Texas State Board of Education. The charter, which was applied for in March for the 2014-2015 school year, will be replaced by American Honor Academy. Tony Rorie, principal of the junior high and high school at Rockwall Christian Academy, Rorie wrote, "This will not be a hybrid charter school, it will be a hybrid charter. American Honor Academy, as it will be called, will emphasize excellence in every subject, continue the culture of high moral standards, personal character, and a nurturing atmosphere."

The application includes information about a proposed school board, an educational plan, a business plan and the vision of the school.

Because of new standards put in place by the State Board of Education this year, only 37 applications, as opposed to about 50 in previous years, have been received and at this time, 17 are still in the running with only six to 10 charters available.

Those that are still in the running have already passed the completion part of the process and are currently awaiting the results of the judging of the quality of their applications. The results of this are expected to be announced in the coming days.

Applicants still in the running after this portion of the process, will be invited to sit before the Texas State Board of Education for a face-to-face interview.

American Honor Academy will be a K-12 facility and will serve Rockwall, Dallas, Collin, Kaufman and Hunt counties.

If awarded the charter, Rorie expects 500 students to be enrolled on the first day of American Honor Academy, with another 200 to 300 on a

waiting list; 800 are expected the second year with an even larger waiting list.

"People will see the impact and the quality of education and the culture of character that we have and they're going to say 'We want our kids going to that kind of school,'" Rorie said.

According to the application, "American Honor Academy will serve as a safe haven for students and teachers while transforming learning into a series of relevant experiences. Ultimately producing students that value tasks the result in learning and prepare them to become contributing citizens in a rapidly changing world...AHA students will develop world-changing skills to make our globe a safer, more thoughtful and inclusive place in which to live."

"Rockwall Christian has reached a number of students over a period of time and it's been a small amount, and financially, it's been a struggle for those students to come here because their parents have to pay high tuition, but now we want to be able to open our doors to a larger group of students," Rorie, founder of The Men and Ladies of Honor, said.

The campus American Honor Academy will be located at 6005 Dalrock Road in Rowlett, where RCA and Church in the City are housed.

According to their website, "Men of Honor and Ladies of Honor exists to develop world-changers by training & mentoring youth, most of which are at-risk and fatherless youth ages 11-17 in principles of Chivalry, Honor, Moral Excellence and Courageous Leadership utilizing a three pronged strategy of life changing camps, conferences and weekly curriculum based meetings."

"With American Honor Academy, we'll be able to have a highly functional, highly principled school that we are utilizing a very solid model for," Michael Hankins, senior pastor of Church in the City, said.

According to the National Charter School Resource Center, charter schools are defined as publicly funded, independently operated schools that are allowed to operate with more autonomy than traditional public schools in exchange for increased accountability.

The purpose of charter schools, according to the Texas Education Board, is to improve student learning; increase the choice of learning opportunities within the public school system; create professional opportunities that will attract new teachers to the public school system; establish a new form of accountability for public schools; and encourage different and innovative learning methods.

For more information about Rockwall Christian Academy, visit [rockwallchristian.com](http://rockwallchristian.com) or call the school office at 972-412-8266.

For more information about The Men and Ladies of Honor, visit [themenofhonor.org](http://themenofhonor.org).

## Rumors of found body evolved from traffic stop

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Rumors circulated throughout Rockwall County earlier this month, suggesting that a body had been found in the pond at the Williamsburg Housing Addition located at Hwy. 551 and Greenbriar, specifically at 201 Colonial Trace, Fate.

The Rockwall County News made numerous contacts with local law enforcement officials in an attempt to chase down information relating to what was being talked about throughout town. Several stories emerged within the community, with one woman reporting that a customer had come into her store early Thursday morning saying that a body had been found in the pond at the Williamsburg Addition. Later that afternoon, she said another customer came in and said it was a hoax or a rumor.

On Aug. 7, the RCN corresponded with Lt. Ed Fowler at the Rockwall Police Department, sending him a list of questions. He had the department's public information officer, Sgt. Aaron McGrew, respond. According to his information, at 4:10 a.m. on Aug. 1, a Rockwall Police Officer-Patrol Division observed a traffic violation on Eastbound I-30. The vehicle involved was a dark-colored SUV with two occupants. The final stop occurred on Colonial Trace, near the Williamsburg Amenity and the front pond.

During the stop, the officer observed what he believed to be illegal contraband in plain view and a search was conducted. Inside the vehicle, the officer reported finding components of a methamphetamine lab including various cookware, chemicals and a heat source. Other law enforcement officials and fire trucks were called in from the Rockwall Police Department, the Rockwall Sheriff's Department and the Fate Department of Safety to help secure the scene.

McGrew said the SUV was towed from the scene approximately two hours after the stop. The DEA assisted in removing the chemicals because its agents have specialized training and equipment in dealing and determining the type of chemicals involved.

McGrew's information indicated the two arrested were Robert Joel Forney, arrested on charges of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Driving While License Invalid, and Carla Allie Chisk Ochs, arrested on charges of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

The case is ongoing and the department can release no more information at this time.

## Rockwall County News Briefs

### Local Democrats plan breakfast meeting

The Rockwall County Democratic Party will host a breakfast meeting beginning at 9 a.m. Aug. 17 at the Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington St., Rockwall. Individuals interested in increasing the Democratic presence and voice in Rockwall County are urged to attend. The County Elections office will conduct deputy voter registrar training, and Jeff Casper from Battleground Texas will be on hand.

### Women of Influence Tea set Aug. 17

The 2013 Women of Influence Tea sponsored by the Rockwall County Republican Women will be conducted Aug. 17. The doors of Occasions at Stone River will open at 10 a.m. to allow everyone to mingle and place bids on silent auction items. Lunch will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with Kim Watson of GOPbuzz serving as keynote speaker. The event will include entertainment and recognition of the Woman of Influence. Tickets cost \$30 each; a reserved table for 10 costs \$300 (will receive special recognition). Space is limited; reservations should be made soon. For more details call Marcia Gilbert at 972-771-1780. For tickets contact Donna Kirby at [donna@fcc1.com](mailto:donna@fcc1.com).



Children and adults start "The Ride for Families that Rock" Hot Rocks Bike Ride, Saturday August 10, on Townsend Drive in front of Willson-Sanders Stadium in Rockwall. Races included 100K, 40 miles, 23 miles, 13 miles, 6 miles and 3 miles. Photo by Brittany Williams/Rockwall County News

## Locals tour new RISD campus, Stevenson Elementary, in Fate

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Stevenson was the honoree at an Aug. 7 reception at the new Stevenson Elementary School scheduled to open in Fate for the 2014 school year.

Present at the reception were representatives from the City of Fate and the Rockwall City Council, the Fate City Council

including Mayor Bill Broderick and staff, the Rockwall Independent School District Board of Trustees, Jonathan Aldis, a partner with the SHW Architectural Firm that designed the school, and Pogue Construction representatives, the company that built the school.

The new administrators will be principal Mike Pitcher and assistant principal Laurie Branch.

The tour began in the school library, then advanced to a model classroom with a complete demonstration given by Chris Gasaway, the director of technology. Other classrooms, the restrooms and the gymnasium completed the tour.

This is the 13th elementary school in the Rockwall Independent School District. The state-of-the-art, \$18 million school will enhance students' learning experience through the newest technology, preparing them for higher education and the work force.

The groundbreaking ceremony was conducted May 6 with Bailey officiating. Also in attendance were representatives from the City of Fate and the Rockwall ISD Board of Trustees and administrators.

Stevenson, an educator and community leader, taught school for 31 years, 26 of them at the Rockwall High School. She has lived in Fate all her life and lives near the site of the new school.

The school is located at 636 Stevenson Drive in the Woodcreek subdivision.

She and her husband, Bill, both attended the reception and said they were overjoyed to see how far electronic learning has come and how beautiful the new school is.

Stevenson is a member of the Texas Retired Teachers Association, the Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association, the teachers' sorority Delta Kappa Gamma, Kappa Kappa Iota, Retired High School Teachers Association, Rockwall County Historical Foundation and numerous other civic and church groups. She also spends many hours as one of the Fate Girls who promote the history of the community.

The first day of school for Rockwall students is Aug. 26.



Members of the Fate City Council were given a tour of the new Stevenson Elementary School in Fate on Aug. 7. From the left are Mayor Pro Tem Sheri Gaber, Lorne Legyes, Michelle Butler, Mayor Bill Broderick, namesake Billie Stevenson and John Stacy. Members of the Fate city staff also were on hand for the tour. This \$18 million school will be the 13th elementary school in the Rockwall Independent School District. Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

## Open house set Oct. 12 during Fire Prevention Week

Rockwall firefighters will celebrate the National Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 6-12, with its 10th annual open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 12 at Fire Station #2, 920 Rockwall Road. The free family event will include food, activities, fire safety tips for children and adults, and the opportunity to visit with firefighters and view their equipment.

During the week, department members will visit city elementary schools to deliver a message that cooking is the leading cause of home fires, and to provide information on the leading cause of home fire-related injuries and to provide fire safety tips.

"Two of every five home fires begin in the kitchen," said Ariana Hargrove, the city's fire marshal. "That's more than any place in the home. Often, when we're called to a kitchen fire, residents tell us they only left the kitchen for a few minutes. Sadly, that's all it takes for a dangerous fire to start."

"As fire marshal of the City of Rockwall, I often talk to people about the ways they can stay safe in their homes. Too often, we have that talk after they've suffered a damaging fire," she said. "It's my hope that people reading this article won't have to learn the hard way. If I could give just one fire warning, I'd say, 'Keep an eye on what you fry.'"

(Continued on Page 4)

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The main ballroom at the South Fork Ranch in Allen was full Aug. 10 with representatives from Fate, Heath, Rockwall, Rowlett and Roysse City. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Rockwall Iron Chef Challenge sponsored the four-hour event. Shown at the front table are Fate City staff and family members. The event included an announcement that a new Boys and Girls Club for Rockwall County will be built on 45 acres in Fate at Hwy. 551 and I-30. It will include a center, a wellness center and a sports complex.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall ISD trustees consider new school site

Trustees for the Rockwall Independent School District will meet at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 19 in the RISD Administration/Education Center, 1050 Williams St., in Rockwall. One of the items on the meeting's agenda is deliberation regarding potential sites for a new school.

Discussion of the possible sites for the new campus is scheduled to be conducted in executive session, according to the meeting's agenda. Trustees are slated to reconvene in public session at 7:30 p.m. Any action taken as a result of discussion during the closed-door session will be taken in open session in accordance with state regulations.

In other business, trustees will

receive several informational reports and consider approval of items on the consent agenda. Other discussion/action items include consideration of approval of a wealth equalization plan for the upcoming fiscal year; consideration of approval of the Texas Association of School Board Policy Manual Update 97 on first reading; consideration of approval of the TASB policies relating to leadership team and Title IX designations on first reading; consideration of approval of the concussion oversight team for the upcoming school year; consideration of approval of the 2013-2014 Student Code of Conduct; establishing a time, date

and location for the presentation on the budget and rates for the upcoming year and the superintendent's report.

### Four locals to UH Dean's List

Four local residents were named to the more than 6,100 of Houston students the Dean's List for the semester, according to a news release.

Honorees included Justin Garcia, a pre-pharmacy student from Rockwall; Megan Purcell, a nursing student from Roysse City; Obika Heath, and Sharon Heath, and Sharon Heath, a human resources major from Rockwall.

### Shipley enrolls at James Madison

Michael Shipley of Rockwall has enrolled at James Madison University for the fall semester, according to a university release.

Shipley has not yet decided on a major.

### Tejano Democrats to meet in Dallas

The State Tejano Democratic Convention will take place Aug. 23-24 at the Renaissance Hotel. For more details, contact Leticia Ruvalcaba at 682-553-3333. Registration forms are available at [state.tejanodemocrats.com](http://state.tejanodemocrats.com).

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18



Joyce Jackson and her Son Charlie Roach

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# Rockwall Independent School District meets new STAAR/EOC standards

Each Rockwall Independent School District campus achieved the State of Texas' "met standard" designation under the new STAAR/EOC accountability guidelines, according to a news release from the school district.

## Open house set Oct. 12 during Fire Prevention Week ...

(Continued from page 1)

Firefighters urge you to take a minute and review these important kitchen fire safety tips they will be emphasizing in October: Stay in the kitchen when frying, grilling, broiling or boiling food. If you must leave the room, even for a short time, turn off the stove. Check food you are simmering, baking or roasting regularly, stay in the home and use a timer as a reminder. Enforce a kid-free zone of three feet around the stove to keep children away from cooking areas. Keep all items that can burn (potholders, wooden utensils, paper and plastic bags) away from stovetop. To learn more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in the City of Rockwall, contact the Rockwall Fire Department at 972-771-7770.

The district was evaluated on 79 indicators including performance, participation and graduation. Rockwall ISD met 99 percent of those indicators, according to the Aug. 8 news release.

"I couldn't be more proud of our students and teachers in meeting the challenge of the higher standards assessed by STAAR," said superintendent Jeff Bailey. "I credit the students and teachers for their hard work in preparing for the state test, which is much more difficult and includes complex questions that require higher order thinking skills. The district's new curriculum has supported our teachers in the scope and sequence as well as teachers utilizing strong instructional strategies to meet the increasing standards of learning."

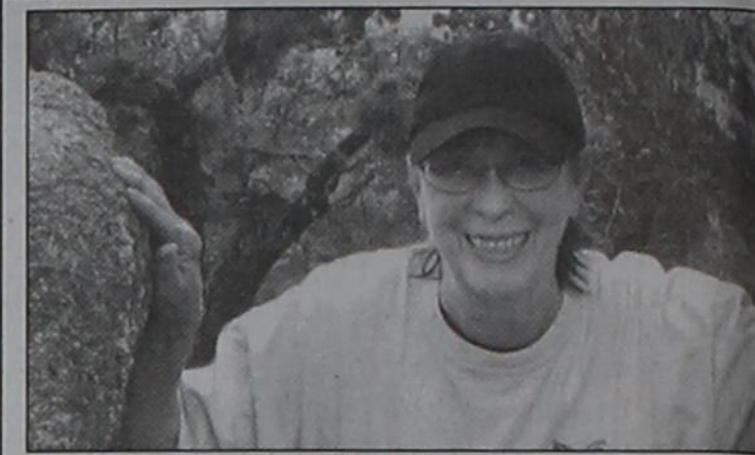
This is the first time the state has used an index-based approach to academic accountability. Because ratings are based on multiple aspects of performance and not just simple passing rates, the system is by definition much more complex than what many are accustomed to seeing. To be rated as "met standard," the district and each campus must meet all applicable index targets.

There are four index targets in the new accountability system. Index One addresses overall student performance; Index Two addresses student growth in performance; Index Three addresses closing achievement gaps among student groups and Index Four addresses graduation rates.

Another component of the new accountability system is Academic Achievement Distinction Designations. These distinctions are awarded

to campuses that have "met standard" and are available in reading/language performance in math, high performance in reading/language performance in student progress.

Three Rockwall ISD campuses earned a total of 10 Distinctions in Reading/ELA performance. Herman E. Utley Middle School and Howard D. Elementary were awarded Distinctions in Reading/ELA as well as scoring in the top 25 percent of its comparison to the state, according to the news release.



Carolyn Roosth of Heath just published her new book, "Anger." This book follows her last year's publication, "The Childhood of Richard North Champion," and explores the childhood of Richard North Champion character in the first novel. Roosth grew up on a farm Point and spent 22 years teaching school in Houston and her husband, Nathan, built their home in Heath. She enjoys traveling, hiking, reading, snorkeling and watching movies. *Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News*

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Psalm 150:6

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

"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."  
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# Rockwall County Classified Advertising

## Senior Services

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

24 Hour Help Line for substance & mental health counseling. 800-662-4357.

NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) meets second Saturday monthly. We offer support and education for families and individuals affected by mental disabilities. For more information call the Dallas office at 214-341-7133.

Garland Kiwanis Club Tuesday at noon. Wedding Chapel, added an evening Tuesday of each also at the Rockwell Chapel, 203 S. Fannin. Information call 972-

Meetings information and location, 214-363-0461.

Garland day & Friday, 8 Jupiter St., Suite

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## Help Wanted

Sunny Sunshine USA Inc. in Rockwall is now hiring for the following positions: Sales Director, Operation Manager, and Sales Representative. Please Fax Resume to 972-722-2167 or email sunnysunshine1500@yahoo.com.

The Yellow Rose. Part-time help wanted. Kitchen and Wait staff. Apply in person between 2 pm & 3pm. 206 N. Fannin. 972-722-7307.

## Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 3)

Following the 11 a.m. worship service there will be prayer walks at Amy Parks & Cain Elementary schools, Pullen Middle School and Rockwall-Heath High. For more details call the church office at 972-771-6732, visit 140 Smirl Drive in Heath or go online to funcheath.org.

## Helping Hands plans school supply drive

Rockwall County Helping Hands has organized a school supply drive to help provide the less fortunate children in the community with the supplies needed for a successful school year. In lieu of donated items, monetary donations and gift cards also will be accepted. Donated items may be dropped off or mailed to Helping Hands, 950 Williams St., Building A, Rockwall, TX 75087. Donations also may be made online at rockwallhelpinghands.com. For more details contact info@rockwall-helpinghands.com.

(Continued on Page 7)

**Rockwall County News qualifies for publication of required legal notices under Texas Government Code Section 2051.044, 2051.045, 2051.046 and 2051.048 (b) and (c).**

Submit Legal Notices 972-722-3099 or email to rcn.advertising@yahoo.com

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## Estate Sales

Estate Sale/Garage Sale. 112 Charlotte Court in Heath, Texas. Saturday August 17 and Sunday August 18. Must see to believe. 9am to 4pm.

## Legal Notices

(Continued from Page 3)

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Submit Legal Notices 972-722-3099 or email to rcn.advertising@yahoo.com

## Legal Notices

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST ESTATE OF CHARLES RICHARD ALLEN Administration of the estate of CHARLES RICHARD ALLEN, deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of original letters testamentary to the undersigned on July 24, 2013, by the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, acting in Cause No. 13-77, styled Estate of CHARLES RICHARD ALLEN, DECEASED, in which court

the matter is pending. All persons having claims against the estate are notified to present them to the undersigned at the address shown below within the time prescribed by law. My Address is: Debra Kay Allen, c/o David Bower and Associates, PC 2926 Maple, Suite 200 Dallas, Texas 75201 Independent Executrix of The Estate of CHARLES RICHARD ALLEN, Deceased, Cause No. 13-77

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## Public Notice

Rockwall County invites sealed bids on the following bid numbers for road construction materials for the Road & Bridge Department:

- Bid 13-08-015 Hot Asphalt Concrete
- Bid 13-08-016 Asphalts & Emulsions
- Bid 13-08-017 Gas and Diesel
- Bid 13-08-018 Aggregate for Surface Treatment
- Bid 13-08-019 Flex Base
- Bid 13-08-020 Corrugated Metal Pipe
- Bid 13-08-021 Lime Slurry
- Bid 13-08-022 Aggregate Hauling
- Bid 13-08-023 Cement Treated Material Super Slurry

Bid specifications are on file in the Rockwall County Auditor's office, 1111 E. Yellowjacket Lane, Ste 202, Rockwall, Texas.

Bids must state a unit price for the materials and be submitted in a sealed envelope marked on the outside with the appropriate Bid Number and Product Name, to Lisa Constant Wylie, Rockwall County Auditor, 1111 E. Yellowjacket Lane, Ste 202, Rockwall, Texas 75087, on or before Friday, August 23, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Upon acceptance of bid and award of a contract by Rockwall County Commissioners Court, remittance shall be made through invoicing at the awarded unit price.

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

## Wanted

Looking for an outside sales opportunity that will help local businesses grow, despite the economy?

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**REAL ESTATE**  
\$106 MONTH BUYS land for RV, MH or cabin. Gated entry, \$690 down, (\$690/10.91%/7yr) 90-days same as cash. Guaranteed financing. 1-936-377-3235

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**ACREAGE REPO** with septic tank, pool, pier, ramp. Owner finance. Granbury 1-210-422-3013

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# Rockwall County Classified Advertising

(continued from page 5)

## Legal Notices

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, American Mini Storage, which is located at 660 Justin Rd. Rockwall TX 75087, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien online at [www.StorageBattles.com](http://www.StorageBattles.com). The auction will end on or around 12 pm on July 26th. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. Deposit for removal and cleanup is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of following tenants: Stacie Cook, wood tables & chairs, wood chest, Misc. Boxes; Susan Miller, contents include craftsman toolbox, luggage, fishing pole, bike, household misc. items. Contact Cody Reynolds 972-772-3212 at Advantage Storage.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 AND PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Tex. Local Gov't Code Ann. § 102.006(a)

City of McLendon-Chisholm, Texas  
1248 State Highway 205  
mclendon-chisholm, Texas 75032  
(972) 524-2077

The City Council of the City of McLendon-Chisholm will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 27th day of August, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 1248 State Highway 205, McLendon-Chisholm, Texas 75032, for consideration of the Proposed Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. A copy of the Proposed Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 will be available for review prior to the hearing in the office of the City Secretary.

To sponsor the  
Rockwall County News sports pages call  
972-722-3099 or email [rcn.advertising@yahoo.com](mailto:rcn.advertising@yahoo.com).

## Oil-painting class slated for October

Nancy Medina, an instructor for the Dallas Arboretum and an artist whose paintings are featured in collections throughout the world, will offer a three-day oil-painting workshop in October at the Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington, Rockwall. The event

is being offered by the Rockwall Art League.

The workshop, Painting Brilliant Florals in Oils, will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 7, 8 and 9.

The class will be open to artists ranging from beginners to advanced students, as well as individuals interested in working in water-based oils and acrylics. Six demonstrations will be given by the instructor as she teaches students to "loosen" their approach to capturing floral still life. Students are encouraged to take photos and ask questions during the workshop.

Class will begin each day with a thorough demonstration by the instructor, followed by an afternoon of step-by-step instruction. Participants will take home three completed paintings. Help will be provided in becoming familiar with painting tools and supplies, as well as setting up the palette.

A supply list will be shared with students following registration. For those interested in purchasing paints from the instructor, palettes will be provided at a cost of \$20 each.

Cost will be \$325 per student. Participants need not be members of the Rockwall Art League to participate; however, class registration will be limited to the first 21 students. Full payment is due upon registration.

For more details or to register, visit [nancymedina.fineartstudioonline.com/page/3287/october-7-8-9-2013-rockwall-texas-new](http://nancymedina.fineartstudioonline.com/page/3287/october-7-8-9-2013-rockwall-texas-new); call 214-802-5537; or email [nancy@nancymedina.com](mailto:nancy@nancymedina.com).

## Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

We encourage the submission of Letters to the Editor for publication. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and accuracy, which are considered libelous or an attack on a character will be rejected, as well as those promoting political candidates. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number or address for verification.

A Heath town hall meeting, conjoined with the meeting, was called for last Tuesday, Aug. 13. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss capital expenditure in part of a \$20 million capital improvement plan. Residents of Heath arranged to refinance and float bonds to the million whose proceeds will be used to fund infrastructure that will "address immediate street, utility and drainage improvement needs" (Mayor Liechty, 7/25/13).

But nowhere was urgent repair of seriously failed Terry Park mentioned. The CIP does, however, plan an entry feature on the north side of town. What?

I have recently asked the City of Heath, per the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), to provide data to me regarding the status of Terry Park. My request was denied. Heath secretary requested information and documents the public by law, that pertain to various aspects of the park and maintenance of our park. This includes, litigation, insurance provisos (if any) and city expenditures to outside consultants and lawyers thus far.

Yes, our infrastructure is failing all over our city. Jacking up ugly black macadam-filled pot holes that are crumbling around for a long time and is proving to be accurate screaming for attention all around town.

I urge our citizens to attend any and all meetings to us -- town hall meetings, City Council meetings -- rather have your taxes go towards paying to rebuild collar at Terry Park than build fancy entry features (fountains, vulgar Versailles).

I'll bet that most of us want a hale and hearty Heath.   
Joan Ream  
Heath

# Opinions

## TGIF: Truman, A-Bombs, and the killing of innocents

by Sheldon Richman  
Future Freedom Foundation  
[fff.org](http://fff.org)

Sixty-eight years ago today a president of the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, a city full of innocent Japanese. It was the second time in three days that Harry Truman had done such a thing: He had bombed Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. The fatalities in the two cities totaled 150,000-246,000. The victims -- mostly children, women, and old men -- suffered horrible deaths in the blasts and firestorms. Only shadows remained of those who were vaporized. Many more were injured; others later died from radiation sickness.

Appallingly, history has been kind to Truman, and people who profess a variety of political views claim to admire the "plucky" plain-speaking guy from Independence, Mo. As I see it, however, no condemnation could be harsh enough, for if Truman wasn't a mass murderer, no one was. (Truman said no to a bombing demonstration on an uninhabited island.) He was a liar too. In announcing the first bombing, he called Hiroshima an "Army base." But author Greg Mitchell writes, "Hiroshima did contain an important military base, used as a staging area for Southeast Asia, where perhaps 25,000 troops might be quartered. But the bomb had been aimed not at the 'Army base' but at the very center of a city of 350,000, with the vast majority women and children and elderly males."

Nevertheless, in his Aug. 9 radio address to the American people, Truman said, "We wished in the first attack to avoid, in so far as possible, the killing of civilians."

And Nagasaki? It, Mitchell writes, "had become a Mitsubishi company town, turning out ships and armaments for Japan's increasingly desperate war effort. Few Japanese soldiers were stationed here, and only about 250 of them would perish in the atomic bombing. It was still the Christian center in the country, with more than 10,000 Catholics among its 250,000 residents.... Some 35,000 perished instantly, with another 50,000 or more fated to die afterwards. The plutonium bomb hit with the force of 22 kilotons, almost double the uranium bomb's blast in Hiroshima."

### Nothing can justify what Truman did --

neither revenge for the Japanese attack on the U.S. naval fleet at Pearl Harbor nor avoidance of a U.S. invasion of Japan. (Truman first justified the bombings in terms of vengeance.) Top American military leaders -- Eisenhower, MacArthur, and Leahy among others -- opposed the bombings. The estimate of American casualties in an invasion have been grossly exaggerated, even invented out of whole cloth. While guesses ranging from half a million to millions are bandied about, Truman's Secretary of State James Byrnes said the death rate would be in the thousands. But even if we accept the high guesses, why was the slaughter of Japanese noncombatants preferable to the deaths of military personnel, even if many on both sides were conscripts? (See Ralph Raico's "Hiroshima and Nagasaki," Anthony Gregory's "Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and the US Terror State," David Henderson's "Remembering Hiroshima," and Charles W. Johnson's "11:02 A.M.")

### Why do people today assume an invasion would have been necessary without the bombings?

American military leaders did not believe it. Japan had already been defeated; its leaders were suing for peace, though they resisted Truman's unreasonable demand for unconditional surrender, which appeared to require removal of the emperor. (In the end, the emperor remained.)

In fact, America could have -- and should have -- simply gone home, neither bombing nor invading. Moving back a step, we should also reject the article of faith that the attack on Pearl Harbor justified the American war against Japan. Even had the attack not been deliberately provoked or in some manner foreseen by the Roosevelt administration, it could not have justified the American state's taxation, conscription, suppression of dissent, and the foreseeable mass killing of noncombatants. (All wars are double wars: States wage war against the populations they rule as well as against the

foreign populations of the opposing countries.) The war against Japan was not inevitable -- even after Pearl Harbor (which was a military base). It was a choice. What should the U.S. have done? Sue for peace.

As Bryan Caplan writes in his pragmatic case for pacifism,

1. In the modern world, there are no wars of "self-defense." War today inevitably means deliberately or at least recklessly killing many innocent civilians. This creates a strong moral presumption against war.

2. To overcome this presumption, you'd have to show that long-run benefits of a war are so wonderful that they clearly overshadow its grisly short-run costs. And you'd have to show that there isn't any cheaper, more humane way to obtain these benefits.

3. In practice, predicting the consequences of war is extremely difficult. Expert predictions are barely better than chance. "It's complicated" is not a good enough reason to deliberately or recklessly kill many innocent people.

### The moral distinction between killing noncombatants deliberately and killing them in "collateral damage" is overstated.

As Caplan says, "But we greatly exaggerate the moral difference when foreigners are the ones who suffer the 'unavoidable side effects.' If the police firebombed a domestic apartment complex to pursue the legitimate goal of killing Charles Manson, few people would consider the doctrine of Double Effect a strong defense. Would you?"

People with a connection to the bombings knew they were war crimes. According to Robert McNamara, a World War II strategic bombing analyst who would later engineer the war in Vietnam, Major Gen. Curtis LeMay acknowledged that if America had lost the war, he and his colleagues would have been "prosecuted as war criminals."

Leo Szilard, one of the physicists who prompted the Manhattan Project, wrote in 1960: "If the Germans had dropped atomic bombs on cities instead of us, we would have defined the dropping of atomic bombs on cities as a war crime, and we would have sentenced the Germans who were guilty of this crime to death at Nuremberg and hanged them."

The Truman administration revealed that it knew the atomic bombing was immoral by attempting to keep the full truth from the American people. (See Greg Mitchell's "White House Cover-Up: When Truman Censored the First Hollywood Movie on the Atomic Bomb" and "Atomic Film Coverup -- Key Footage from Hiroshima Buried for Decades.") Truman decided not to drop a third bomb, saying, "The thought of wiping out another 100,000 people was too horrible ... all those kids."

### Summing up,

historian Ralph Raico wrote: "The destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was a war crime worse than any that Japanese generals were executed for in Tokyo and Manila."

Wanton disregard for noncombatants continued in Korea, Vietnam, and beyond to Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, and more. Today, America also inflicts

misery on the Iranian people through the terrorism sanctions, ostensibly aimed at stopping Iran's (nonexistent) weapons program. Anthony Gregory writes:

The U.S. has committed mass terrorism since [1945], on quite the scale as in past generations. Back in the 1940s, it would drop tons of explosives, knowing that thousands in an instant. In today's wars, it drops explosives and it didn't mean to kill the many civilians who predictably acts of violence. Only fifteen hundred bombs were dropped in Baghdad in March 2003. That's what passes as progress. The murderousness of U.S. foreign policy, however, is still a bombings of water treatment facilities and sanctions of 1990s deliberately targeted the vulnerable Iraqi people. Of atrocities the U.S. committed in World War II have been as at the worst debatable tactics in diplomacy, anything but

The bombings -- and other atrocities committed by government during World War II, including the firebombing of Tokyo that killed 100,000 noncombatants, destruction of Dresden, a German city of no strategic value, continued bombing of Tokyo after the A-bombings and to surrender -- should have been enough to destroy perception of moral authority in the U.S. government -- on the subjects like terrorism. But, oddly, things have not that way. America proclaims itself the "indispensable" rules that apply to everyone else don't apply to America. Because of alleged "American exceptionalism," presidents of the United States get to write their own rules, even redefining they wish. If much of the rest of the world objects, it's too is in a position to do anything about it. (This immunity from rules of decency extends to America's "closest ally," Israel.)

Until Americans come to see the mass murder in Hiroshima and Nagasaki for the war crimes they are, it's hard to be optimistic they will ever see U.S. imperial foreign policy for what it is.

### TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbach  
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**ACROSS**

- 1 in East TX: "Lake Pines"
- 5 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ like death warmed over"
- 6 TXism: "sounds like a dry \_\_\_\_\_ (bad singer)"
- 7 TXism: "useless as panty \_\_\_\_\_ to a pig"
- 8 TX Charley's "Losing You?"
- 9 Reba's "Life Out There?"
- 16 NASA drink?
- 18 TXism: "popular as \_\_\_\_\_ daughter"
- 21 TCU All American center Charles \_\_\_\_\_ Aldrich
- 22 1st female TX Sec. of State, Meharg
- 23 TXism: "smart as a bunkhouse \_\_\_\_\_"
- 24 "\_\_\_\_\_ work"
- 30 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ better, I couldn't stand it"
- 34 Jason Witten's position on the Cowboys (abbr.)
- 35 TXism: "tall hog at the \_\_\_\_\_ (VIP)"
- 36 TX Roddenberry's "Star \_\_\_\_\_"
- 37 a daughter of TX Gene Tierney
- 39 TXism: "beats a \_\_\_\_\_ with a sharp stick"
- 43 Burleson Co. town that hosts "Chillfest"
- 44 former name of Houston's "El Paso Energy" building
- 45 tree chopper
- 46 Winnsboro gospel FM
- 47 natural height
- 49 "\_\_\_\_\_ of Laredo"
- 52 Elvis' pos. on the Rangers (abbr.)
- 53 TX actress Sandy (init.)
- 54 TXism: "got blood in his veins" (lover)
- 55 traps
- 58 sour tasting substance
- 59 once a big "news wrangler" (abbr.)
- 60 TXism: "two-nag" (poor horse)
- 61 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ some gravel" (fell)

**DOWN**

- 1 TXism: "at the drop \_\_\_\_\_"
- 2 TX-OK lake
- 3 TX Browning won "52 diving gold in \_\_\_\_\_, Finland"
- 4 Gen. Robt. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 TX Buddy Holly died in this state (abbr.)
- 10 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ an egg-sucking dog"
- 11 TXns Landry & Kite
- 12 TXism: "gave \_\_\_\_\_ dose of his own medicine"
- 13 African antelope
- 14 "Dang Me" singer, TX Roger (init.)
- 15 TXism: "can't make a silk purse out of a sow's \_\_\_\_\_"
- 17 TXism: "never look a \_\_\_\_\_ in the mouth"
- 19 TX Walker was commander of the United \_\_\_\_\_ forces in Korea
- 20 chicken fried \_\_\_\_\_
- 24 TX singer Hank (init.)
- 25 in Smith Co. off 64
- 26 TXism: "it's \_\_\_\_\_ hog or die"
- 27 TX Waylon sang "\_\_\_\_\_ of Hazard" theme
- 28 border patrolers
- 29 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ hen's teeth"
- 31 anger, wrath
- 32 TX Ben Hogan: "The \_\_\_\_\_ Ice Man"
- 33 Rangers \_\_\_\_\_
- 38 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_"
- 40 Gulf fish \_\_\_\_\_
- 41 Fort Worth Univ. (abbr.)
- 42 deliver \_\_\_\_\_ another \_\_\_\_\_
- 48 Jackson \_\_\_\_\_
- 50 this California TX \_\_\_\_\_
- 51 Tex-Mex \_\_\_\_\_ mafia \_\_\_\_\_
- 56 Gulf coast \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_
- 57 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ in the bud"

# The Falcon's Midnight Madness draws crowd for football

showed up late Wednesday night, Aug. 7, for The 11th Annual Midnight Madness, designed to get a jump start on the season and to serve as a preview for parents, teachers and friends of the Falcons.

Fulton began the non-contact portion of its pre-season practice with three days at Camp Copass in Denton, beginning Monday, Aug. 5. The team returned Wednesday evening. Under Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools rules, the Falcons and other teams could begin contact drills that Thursday.

Nobody in the state began contact any earlier than Fulton's 12:01 a.m. Midnight Madness behind the school, illuminated by the headlights of vehicles circling the practice area.

"It went well," said head coach Josh Johnson of the six-man team. "The boys played well. We had 12 boys going to camp, and 12 healthy bodies coming back."

The Falcons' growing program still hopes to have games played on campus this year for the first time.

Johnson said construction of a playing field has been delayed, so that the earliest the team could host a real home game, if at all this season, would be for Homecoming Sept. 27 against Irving Faustina. The first scheduled home game, Sept. 6 against Savoy, most likely would be played at a Rockwall ISD venue.

Also beginning practice last week were Heritage Christian Academy – under Robert Huckabee, the longest-tenured head coach among Rockwall County's six high school teams – and Rockwall Christian Academy – with first-year head coach Joseph Garcia.

Rockwall, Rockwall-Heath and Roysse City all began pre-season practice Monday, with their first contact practices scheduled for Friday. HCA and Fulton both will travel Saturday to the first of their two scrimmages. The Eagles are scheduled to play at 10 a.m. at Crowley Nazarene Christian Academy. Fulton will be part of a five-way scrimmage beginning at 11 a.m. at Lucas Christian Academy, with Fruitvale, Richardson Canyon Creek Christian Academy and Arlington Newman also competing.

## Rockwall County Sports Notes

### Advisors Golf Tournament slated

Advisors Golf Tournament benefitting Helping Hands will be held at the Buffalo Creek Golf Club, 624 Country Club Blvd., on Wednesday, Aug. 14. The event will begin with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Registration will begin at 7 a.m. A putting contest will be held on the green. Awards, door prizes and raffles will be held throughout the day. Contests include Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Hole in One, Putting Contest and Closest to the Hole (per team). To register, visit [donate.towercare.com/](http://donate.towercare.com/)

### Registration underway for 'Little' activities

Registration is underway for the Rockwall Parks & Recreation "little" athletes. This season's activities include Little Kickers/Big Kickers, Sept. 9; Little Sluggers, Sept. 11; Preschool Flag Football, Sept. 12. Registration will be from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Children ages 3-5 are eligible. Fees are \$45 per participant for Rockwall residents, \$29 for Rockwall residents. For more details call 972-771-7740.

### Regatta to benefit Helping Hands

The Griffith Regatta, set for Sept. 28 at the Rush Creek Golf Club, 3200 Rush Creek Drive in Heath, will benefit Helping Hands. For more details about the day-long event, contact Kay Dutta at 972-771-222.

### Slow-pitch softball league forming

A slow-pitch softball league is being formed, with divisions by level of ability. The league will include eight teams. The top four teams will have a final night of playoffs to determine winners. Divisions will include co-ed recreational, men's D-league, and a men's D-league, which will play on Mondays. All games will be conducted at the Leon Tuttle Athletic Center. Registration will begin the week of Sept. 23. Registration cost is \$325 per team. For more details call 972-771-7740.

### Youth Fishing Derby set Oct. 12

Park & Rec will host a Fishing Derby for youths ages 5-12 on Oct. 12 at Harry Myers Park. The pond will be stocked with fish ready to bite; participants may bring their own bait. A number of worms and hot dog bait will be available. \$5 per fisherman. For more details call 972-771-7740.

## Jones, Malak win 2 races each

Mike Jones and Dan Malak each sailed to two victories in recent sailing races on Lake Ray Hubbard.

Jones guided "Wings" to first place in the B Fleet of Summer Wednesday Night Series Races 6 and 7 July 31 and Aug. 7.

Aboard "Orion," Malak finished first in Wednesday Night Race 6's A Fleet, four days after taking Summer Saturday Night Race 5.

Other winners were Bryan Taylor and "Rented Mule" in the A Fleet of Wednesday Race 7 and "Laree" in Saturday Race 6.

Finishing behind Taylor Aug. 7 were Marshall MacKenzie, second with "Superman's Cape"; Malak and "Orion," third; Jeff Willis on "Chaos Theory," fourth, and Chris Hunke fifth with "Swale." The runner-up to Jones in the B Fleet was Keelan Manuel aboard "Joint Venture."

Malak also was third in Saturday Race 6 Aug. 3, behind "Laree" and Roy Kuipers with "Three Sheets."

In Wednesday Race 6's A Fleet, Hunke and "Swale" were second, with Willis and "Chaos Theory" third behind "Orion."

Willis was also third in Sunday Race 5, behind Malak's "Orion" and second-place George Conklin with "Audacity."

## Rockwall County Entertainment

### RSM offers 'King and I'

Rockwall Summer Musicals will stage its production of "The King and I" Aug. 15-18 at the Rockwall High School Performing Arts Center at Uteley, 1201 T.L. Townsend. Performances will begin at 7:30 p.m., except for the Sunday matinee, which will begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at [rockwallsummermusicals.org](http://rockwallsummermusicals.org). Also available are \$10 raffle tickets for one of six prizes valued at a total of \$6,000. Winners will be drawn at the conclusion of Sunday's performance; winners need not be present to win.

### 'Grease' set at RCP

The Rockwall Community Playhouse will offer its Star Players in performances of "Grease" at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 17 and 2 p.m. Aug. 18. Tickets may be purchased online at [buy.ticketstothecity.com/purchase.php?event\\_id=2492](http://buy.ticketstothecity.com/purchase.php?event_id=2492).

### RSM to offer high tea event

Rockwall Summer Musicals will offer High Tea with Mrs. Anna from "The King and I" from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Aug. 21 at the Yellow Rose, 206 N. Fannin St., in Rockwall. Seating for the event will be limited; cost is \$45 for mother and child, with each additional child \$20. Proceeds will benefit RSM. Contact Keeli James at [myprincessparty@live.com](mailto:myprincessparty@live.com) or call 214-287-3733 for more details.

### Philharmonic performance set Aug. 31

The Greater Rockwall Philharmonic Orchestra will present "A Toast to Musical America" beginning at 8 p.m. Aug. 31 at the Band Shell in The Harbor, Rockwall. Admission will be free of charge. For more information call 972-771-3573.

### Adult oil painting classes offered

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will offer monthly adult oil painting classes with the Robert Garden School of Art beginning Sept. 9 at the Harry Myers Community Center. The first class, Mt. Fuji with Cherry Blossoms, will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sept. 9. Open to individuals ages 14 and older, the session will cost \$55 or \$43 for Rockwall residents. For more details and upcoming session dates call 972-771-7740 or visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

### Not-so-Scary Haunted Hayride slated

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host a Not-so-Scary Haunted Hayride Oct. 18 in Harry Myers Park East. Sessions will run from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will be open to children up to the age of 5. The event will include a monster mash dance, spooky snacks and storytelling; each child will receive a pumpkin. Pre-registration is required for this event. Fee per child and one adult is \$15 for Rockwall residents, \$25 for non-residents. For more details call 972-771-7740 or visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

### Roysse City FunFest scheduled Oct. 19

The Roysse City Chamber of Commerce will host its 24th Annual FunFest Oct. 19. The event will include a children's carnival, live bands, arts and crafts vendors, food, a children's pageant, doggy contest, pie-eating and Hula Hoop contests, a truck pull and a professional DJ. Also scheduled is the inaugural RunFest, as well as the Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast, Girl Scout Spaghetti Dinner, blood drive and animal adoptions. For more details or to reserve vendor space, call the chamber at 972-636-5000 or email [info@roysecitychamber.com](mailto:info@roysecitychamber.com). A vendor applications and rules are available at [roysecitychamber.com](http://roysecitychamber.com).

### Daddy/Daughter Dance tickets available Nov. 4

Tickets to the annual Daddy/Daughter Dance, organized by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will go on sale Nov. 4 at The Center. The event will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 25 at The Hilton Bella Harbor. Cost will be \$69 per daddy/daughter couple or \$45 for Rockwall residents; each additional child will cost \$15. Tickets will be limited and pre-registration is required. For more details call 972-771-7740 or visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

## Lady Falcons hosting 1st volleyball tournament

The Lady Falcons are hosting a JV volleyball tournament this weekend. The tournament field swelled when Irving StoneGate canceled its tournament, putting StoneGate, Waxahachie Prep and Westwood from the Lady Falcons' district into the Fulton tournament.

Rockwall Christian Academy is scheduled to host Poetry Community Christian Monday.

To sponsor the Rockwall County News sports pages call 972-722-3099 or email [ren.advertising@yahoo.com](mailto:ren.advertising@yahoo.com).

## Rockwall County crime activity statistics

The Rockwall County Sheriff's Office reported four residential burglaries, 3 building burglaries and 51 arrests in Rockwall County during the month of July 2013.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Rockwall will hold a public hearing to hear comments regarding the proposed 2013-2014 budget. The hearing will be held on Monday August 19, 2013 at 6:00p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 385 South Goliad Street. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

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## Rockwall County News Briefs

### Tool supply drive set for Boys & Girls Club

Parents can help send Boys and Girls Club members from out of town back to school with the tools they need to dropping off at one of these community partner locations: Chase (Rockwall locations), Culvers, Old Navy and Staples. All items will be donated to the local club and distributed to members prior to school.

### Doggie Splash Day set Sept. 7

Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's annual Doggie Splash Day will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 7 at the Harry Myers Park, 1515 Washington. Cost will be \$5 per dog; owners get in free. Proof of rabies vaccinations will be required for each dog to enter the pool. Owners will be held responsible for their dog's behavior.

### 5K Dash to sideline Rubber Duck Regatta

The Rockwall Rubber Duck Regatta will include a 5K race, which will raise funds for the Rockwall Boys & Girls Club. The dash will begin at 8 a.m. Sept. 21, followed by the Family Walk and Duck Wash. Registration costs \$35 for the 5K and \$20 for the walk. Duck wash T-shirts will be distributed; racing caps will be available for the first 500 registrants. The best dressed male and female will each win a pair of Newton running shoes. The event is managed by Event Southwest, using ChronoTrack timing system. More than 1,000 runners are expected. To register, visit [www.eventsw.com/reg/form?eventID=3087](http://www.eventsw.com/reg/form?eventID=3087).

### Artisan Fine Arts Festival slated

The Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts will host The Harbor Fine Arts Festival Sept. 21. Works from some of North Texas' most prominent artisans will be featured in the day-long event. Scheduled to be featured include sculpture, glass, painting, drawing, wood, fiber, jewelry, digital, ceramics, photography, mixed media, printmaking and graphics. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Alliance. A limited number of artist spaces remain. For more details visit [rockwallarts.org](http://rockwallarts.org).

### Senior Health Fair planned at The Center

A Senior Health Fair open to individuals ages 55 and older will be held at The Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 2. Organized by Rockwall Parks & Rec Center, the event will include a variety of health care providers, doctors, retirement community and more. Door prizes also will be offered. For more details call 972-771-7740 or visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

### All firefighters plan Oct. 12 open house

All firefighters will host their 10th annual open house from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 12 at Fire Station #2, 920 Rockwall Parkway. The family event will include food, activities, fire safety tips for children, and the opportunity to visit with firefighters and view their equipment.

### Outdoor family campout set Nov. 2-3

Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host an outdoor family campout at Harry Myers Park Nov. 2-3. The event will run from 4 p.m. to 10 a.m. Nov. 3. The event will include fishing, disc golf and other activities. Participants will receive campout gear and should bring tents and sleeping bags. A hot breakfast will be provided for the morning of Nov. 3. Cost is \$59 per family or \$9 for Rockwall families (up to six individuals who live in the same household); limited registrations available. For more details call 972-771-7740.

### Conditions set at RCP for 'Foreigner'

The Rockwall Community Playhouse's rendition of "Foreigner" will be performed Feb. 7-9, 14-16 and 21-23, at 1 p.m. Dec. 14 at the playhouse, which is located at E. Ruskin. For more details visit [rockwallcommunityplayhouse.com](http://rockwallcommunityplayhouse.com).

The rubber duck regatta ducks are ready to race!  
Too many ducks sit unsponsored wondering if they will get to race.  
Will you sponsor a duck?



Win prizes while supporting two GREAT local Rockwall County non-profits! Proceeds go to feed seniors with Meals on Wheels and provide safe activities for children with Boys and Girls Club

To learn more, adopt your duck, or get involved, please visit:

[www.rockwallduckrace.org](http://www.rockwallduckrace.org)



# WHO CARES ABOUT TAKING CARE OF YOU?

## Daniel Elam cares because people are his priority.

After changing careers to nursing in 2009, Daniel's high level of care, compassion and patient advocacy have earned him honors as the Employee of the Quarter in 2012. He says, "Nursing gives me the opportunity to help people." Daniel gets to know his patients personally, going beyond what they might expect in responding to every physical, emotional and spiritual need. He says, "Each patient should feel like they're my only patient." Find out who cares at [texashealthrockwall.com](http://texashealthrockwall.com).

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