



SPORTS

Showdown
Rockwall girls set for important 10-5A basketball contest.....Page 1B

22 • No. 4

Thursday, January 24, 2008

50 Cents

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To submit stories, photos, letters and letters to the editor to the Rockwall County News, direct our e-mails to the following addresses.
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To contact managing editor Kent Miller, e-mail editor@rockwallcountynews.com.
To contact a staff community reporter, e-mail news@rockwallcountynews.com.
To contact sports editor Cliff Gibson, e-mail sports@rockwallcountynews.com.
To contact the RCN by phone, call (972) 722-3099. Send fax submissions to (972) 524-8083.

Around Town

Starlight Singers

The Amy Parks-Heath Elementary Starlight Singers will host their annual USO Dinner, Dance and Show at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 1-2 at Cain Middle School in Heath. Dinner is catered by Johnny Carino's.

Newcomers Meeting

Newcomers monthly meeting will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 14 at the Shores Country Club. Cost is \$6. Carol East, (972) 722-1774, or Delores Morgan, (972) 722-0088 by Monday, Feb. 11 before 6 p.m. for reservations.

RPA

Rockwall Preschool Association membership is open to all Rockwall area mothers with children through kindergarten. The RPA calendar year runs from September through May. General meetings are the first Friday of the month at 9 a.m. www.rockwall-preschoolassociation.com.

Chili Cookoff

Miss HCA annual chili cookoff is from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24 at Heritage Christian Academy.

Open House

The Fulton School will hold open house from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12 to tour the school and receive information about enrollment for 2008-2009. (972) 772-4445.

'Les Miserables'

Rockwall High School's theatre and choral departments are presenting the musical, "Les Miserables," at 7:30 p.m. Thursday Saturday, Jan. 31 and Feb. 1-2 and at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 2-3 in the RHS Theatre. Tickets are reserved seats only for \$10 and can be purchased from Margaret Mayo the counselors' office between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. or by e-mailing mmayo@rockwallisd.org.

American Legion

American Legion Post 117 in Rockwall meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Chuck Bealmear, (469) 698-0114.

CASA Volunteers

Volunteer orientation will be held 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24 at the Lone Star CASA Office, 950 Williams St., Building C in Rockwall. (972) 772-5858 or director@lonestarcasa.org.

Annexation foes still at bargaining table

By MARCUS FUNK
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Friends and family of the late John Wallace renewed their opposition to an annexation plan at a Rockwall City Council meeting Jan. 22.

The hearing was less emotional than the first public hearing two weeks ago and the 10 residents who spoke to the council were generally more composed than before – but no less passionate.

"Sound planning is more than just looking at the boundary lines you want to establish. We have hearts and voices and feelings, and you're seeing those feelings expressed here," said resident Ernie Hughes. "Please consider what my neighbors and I are saying. Listen to us. We do matter."

“At this point, it's too far down the road to even comment on,” Cecil said. “We've got strict state guidelines we have to follow ...”



Bill Cecil
Rockwall Mayor

The land in question is 234 acres off Farm-to-Market Road 549, an area that includes the bulk of the undeveloped Wallace family farm

and more than a dozen adjacent homeowners. A previous annexation effort incorporated the majority of the surrounding land, forming a "donut hole" in city services around the area.

Council members said the annexation is designed to prevent future developments from harming the area and nearby homes, and it not designed to be an attack on current residents. Council members Glenn Farris and Matt Scott said the city has no interest in developing the property but is concerned that a lack of zoning could cause damaging development to occupy the area in the future. Annexation and proper supervision now would help maintain the residential community, they said, which could be jeopardized by improper development.

SEE ANNEXATION ON PAGE 4A

Officials move TAKS because of voting

By BRITNEY TABOR
news@rockwallcountynews.com

Education Commissioner Robert Scott announced last week that the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills exams regularly scheduled for March 4 have been moved back a day to avoid conflict with the state's primary elections, according to a Texas Education Agency press release.

According to TEA, Scott said the change in the schedule was made to "preserve schools as polling places and maintain a calm, quiet, secure testing environment for our students." TAKS testing was moved after Scott consulted with various superintendents, testing coordi-

SEE TAKS ON PAGE 5A

Keeping Their Attention



Rockwall County News/COURTESY

Pre-kindergarten students from The Fulton School in Heath enjoy a puppet presentation from Doreen Miller and Bridget Thias from the Rockwall Public Library. The two presented "The Cowboy Who Cried Wolf" to more than 130 students age 3 through third grade. Second- and third-graders heard additional cowboy stories and participated in a discussion of folk and fairy tales.

RCISD studying continuing student population growth

By BRITNEY TABOR
news@rockwallcountynews.com

ROYSE CITY –Two final meetings will be held this week and Jan. 31 in Royse City to discuss the overwhelming growth in the school district's population.

Jo Nell Melody, community relations director for Royse City ISD, said that within the last three years the district has averaged a

District has experienced average 12 percent annual increase last three years

12 percent increase in enrollment annually, and district representatives would like to meet with parents to show them a presentation of options being considered to deal with that growth.

Within the last month, trustees have met in response as how

the district should take in dealing with the population boost, Melody said, but the district is still wanting input from parents and the community as to "which direction to go" right now and in the future.

"It's their schools and their kids and we want their input as to

SEE GROWTH ON PAGE 5A

'I am someone who turns peoples' trials to triumph ...'

Rockwall resident uses struggles to reach new heights as an author

By LAUREN OAKLEY
Rockwall County News

Her parents were divorced when she was very young. At 5, she was the victim of sexual assault. At 10, her father died suddenly from a fatal accident in his home. When middle school arrived, she reached the end of her rope and suicide seemed to be the only answer.

"Turning trials to triumph" is

the motto of accomplished writer, award-winning novelist, world-renowned motivational speaker, triathlete and Rockwall resident Mary DeMuth.

"I am someone who turns peoples' trials to triumph and my life is the same way," she said.

Today, DeMuth is a woman of ambition and success. She has multiple parenting books published and more in the making. Her novels have won many awards

such as Retailer's Choice and the Christy Award.

Countries such as Germany, Austria, Italy and France have been graced with DeMuth's speeches and radio appearances. She is also happily married with three beautiful children and a golden retriever.

"When I speak, I love to give people hope. I don't speak to pres-

SEE STRUGGLES ON PAGE 4A



Rockwall County News/
LAUREN OAKLEY

Award-winning writer and speaker Mary DeMuth enjoys training with her dog Pippin after she takes her kids to school for her upcoming triathlon.



VIEWPOINTS

Where our opinions and your opinions come together to give the community a voice.



Quotable

“A lot of who I am today has to do with healing that’s occurred from the aftermath of my childhood.”

— Mary DeMuth
Rockwall resident and author

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Send address changes to the Rockwall County News, P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

DEADLINES

Editorial and advertising deadlines are Friday at 5 p.m.

LETTER POLICY

The Rockwall County News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local interest. Letters should be typewritten and contain no more than 300 words.

All letters must be signed in the usual signature of the writer and carry the phone number and address of the writer for verification purposes.

Letters will not be accepted which are written as “cards of thanks” to commercial concerns for cash or like-kind contributions. No candidate letters will be accepted within two weeks of an election. Please send all letters to:

Letters To The Editor
P.O. Box 819, Rockwall,
TX 75087.

They may also be e-mailed to:
editor@rockwallcountynews.com

It was almost like deja vu all over again in Green Bay

Hee, has it really been 40 years? If you thought the Cowboy’s loss to New York was tough to watch, just remember what it was like to sit in front of the TV and witness the Dallas loss to Green Bay in 1967.

Come to think of it, some of the frustration for Cowboy fans was very much the same, but watching in ‘67 was really more painful.

Dallas was going up against the Packers for the second consecutive season, trying to win the NFL championship game.

The previous season, the Packers defeated the Cowboys, 34-27, by preventing Dallas from scoring a touchdown on four consecutive plays from the Packers’ 2-yard line on the game’s final drive.

This year the Packers were at it again, playing for the NFC Championship against New York with Sunday’s game temperature a balmy minus-1 degree at kickoff and a wind chill that hit minus-23.

Burrrrrr ... The 1967 game, played on Dec. 31 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wis., remains the coldest NFL game on record. The official game-time temperature was minus-13°F, with a wind chill around minus-48°F.

The bitter cold overwhelmed Lambeau’s new turf heating system, leaving the playing surface hard as a rock and nearly as smooth as ice.

Some Cowboys on that 1967 team still claim Packer coach Vince Lombardi turned the heating system off.

Game officials were unable to use their whistles after the opening kickoff. As the referee blew his metal whistle to signal the start of play, it froze to his lips. For the rest of the game, the officials used voice commands and calls to end plays and officiate the game.

Several players, including Dallas defensive tackle Jethro Pugh and Green Bay quarterback Bart Starr, still claim to suffer occasional mild effects of the frostbite they developed



Bill Jordan

that day. Dallas quarterback Don Meredith came down with pneumonia after the game and was hospitalized on his return to Texas.

The Packers jumped to an early 14-0 lead with a pair of touchdown passes from Starr to wide receiver Boyd Dowler. But Green Bay committed two costly turnovers in the second quarter that led to 10 Dallas points. First, Starr lost a fumble while being sacked by Cowboys lineman Willie Townes; Dallas defensive end George Andrie recovered the ball and returned it 7 yards for a touchdown, cutting the lead in half.

Then, with time almost out in the second quarter, Packers safety Willie Wood fumbled a Dallas punt after calling for a fair catch, and Cowboys rookie defensive back Phil Clark recovered the ball at the Green Bay 17-yard line. The Packers were able to keep Dallas out of the end zone, but kicker Danny Villanueva kicked a 21-yard field goal to cut the deficit to 14-10 by halftime.

Neither team was able to score any points in the third quarter, but then on the first play of the final period, the Cowboys took a 17-14 lead with running back Dan Reeves’ 50-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Lance Rentzel on a halfback option play. Later in the quarter, the Packers drove into scor-

ing range and had a chance to tie the game, but kicker Don Chandler missed a 40-yard field goal attempt.

Starting from his own 32-yard line with 4:54 left in the game, Starr led his team down the field with three key completions. Then Chuck Mercein ran 8 yards to a first down on the Cowboys’ 3 on the next play. Twice Anderson attempted to run the ball into the end zone, but both times he was tackled at the 1-yard line, the second time after his footing failed on the icy field.

On third-and-goal, Starr called the Packers’ final timeout with only 16 seconds left in the game to confer with coach Lombardi and decide on the next play.

Starr asked for a sneak, and Lombardi’s response was, “Well, run it and let’s get the hell out of here.” Dallas players expected the play would be a pass because a completion would win the game, while an incompletion would stop the clock, allowing the Packers one more play to attempt a touchdown or kick a field goal to send the game into overtime.

After taking the snap, Starr executed a quarterback sneak behind center Ken Bowman and guard Jerry Kramer’s block through defensive tackle Jethro Pugh, scoring a touchdown that gave the Packers the win and their unprecedented third consecutive NFL championship.

This Sunday there were a lot of Packer fans (and even some non-Packer fans) pulling for Brett Favre to show the ‘ol Bart Starr magic and win one in the freezing cold.

Most of those pulling for Favre were sitting in the stands in Green Bay. But the rest of us were watching from our warm living rooms.

Frankly, I don’t know anybody I want to see play football bad enough to sit outside when it is that cold.

Bill Jordan is the publisher of the Rockwall County News and can be reached via e-mail at publisher@rockwallcountynews.com.

Mail Bag

Sound planning? Protect us from the city

I am thrilled that the Wallace’s family farm was saved. However, there are still 13 other homeowners that the city intends to annex for no valid reason and with at best a vague city service plan.

City representatives have told us that their reasons for annexation was to control development “to protect us,” to define borders, and to close donut holes that effect the city’s infrastructure. The city calls it “sound planning.” They say it is not for our tax dollars. Now that the Wallace family is working out an agreement with the city there is no undeveloped land to be concerned about.

Our area is fully developed and self-sufficient. Borders are defined by Rockwalls ETJ. In the process they created another donut hole. Therefore they will be skipping over two donut holes to annex our area and creating a third if we are annexed.

Doesn’t sound like “sound planning” to me. Does it to you? If not for our tax dollars then what? The only people we need protection from is the city.

Susan Hughes
Citizen Against
Forced Annexation

Primary voting lessons

I don’t understand the problem regarding the touchscreen voting equipment. Glenda Denton knows that she is expected to provide the

voting equipment for both political parties in the county, so I don’t understand why she made an issue of the fact that the current Democratic Party chairman had not signed a contract with her by a particular date. That is curious to me.

I also wanted to mention that you were correct in stating that official party membership is not required to vote in the Texas primary. However, in the state of Texas a voter actually becomes affiliated with a particular political party by voting in that party’s primary. Also, if one does vote in a party’s primary, it in no way binds them to voting for the same party’s candidates in the general election. Voters are free to vote for whomever they prefer in the general election without regard to how they voted in the primary and without regard to party affiliation.

Jeanine Allen
Former Rockwall County
Democratic Party Chairwoman

Remembering a friend

To be greeted with a warm smile and looked upon with eyes that sparkling with happiness is a sure way to lift anyone’s spirits. That was the manner in which Phyllis Pierce would greet each and everyone that she knew. Her warm greeting made each person feel as if they were her special one.

Rockwall County lost a bit of its luster recently when Phyllis passed into the loving arms of her Savior on January 15, 2008. Heaven’s gain was our loss.

Nancy Beaty
Rockwall, Texas

editor@rockwallcountynews.com



Marcus Funk

My name is Marcus and I’m a DVD-aholic

Hi. My name is Marcus, and I have a problem. I’m addicted to DVDs. Not just any DVD – we’re not talking about your standard two-hour-long movie. We’re talking about entire seasons of television programming – months and months of shows, condensed onto a few discs. And every one of them is having its way with me.

There were 72 hours in last weekend. I spent at least 15 of them – a good 21 percent – sprawled out on my couch with a Dr Pepper and a remote control I just couldn’t refuse.

This time, it was season one of “Battlestar Galactica,” which is one of the best shows on TV. Before that my friends and I zoomed through “Boston Legal” and “Psych,” and before that it was “My Name is Earl,” “Firefly,” the “Venture Brothers” and “Scrubs.” “Arrested Development” was in there somewhere, as was “Futurama” and an endless cavalcade of “Simpsons” DVDs.

And in college, I may or may not have cracked open a few beers to celebrate “Pinky and the Brain” – narf! – when those DVDs were released.

Like I said, I have a problem. They all came flooding back to me as I forced my gaping mouth shut after the surprising ending of “BSG” last Sunday. There are a few different genres, but just like any program, they were all really about the audience in one way or another. Perhaps watching them all consecutively made it a little easier to notice that the spaceships and sarcasm were tied back to contemporary society in one way or another. We supposed to realize that even if they’re set in far off culture, they were all made pretty close to home.

But we’re also “supposed” to watch them one at a time, and week by week. And here my friends and I were bingeing on them like digital crack.

So I sat there wondering, are they still TV shows? Or have the DVDs turned them into something else? Is TV’s medium – the weekly commercial format – a crucial part of its storyline, or not?

There’s a big difference between running a marathon and running 26 miles. You’re running either way, but that’s about where the similarities end. You could say the same for television.

I tend to prefer the marathon. It’s easier to get immersed in the storyline and it’s easier for plot lines to span multiple episodes. But I admit that something is lost without the routine and schedule, or even the commercials.

It’s a trend that’s not confined to television either. Music has made a profound transformation since the years of vinyl records, and plenty of enthusiasts will tell you the transition has not been kind. The board games of yesteryear have given way to online role-playing games, and many modern comics bypass print entirely in favor of the Internet. Can anyone really say those changes were all good, or all bad?

As technology evolves – not to mention the TV writer’s strike – we’re going to have to ask ourselves these questions. The line between tradition and modernity is going to continue to move, and we have to become comfortable discussing subtle changes before we can stomach the big ones.

In the meantime, I’ve got another season of “BSG” to watch.

Marcus Funk is a reporter for the Rockwall County News and can be reached via e-mail at news@rockwallcountynews.com.

Driving



Judy Perser and August G...
ing Miss Daisy.

RCP cast to...

Alfred Uhry’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play, “Driving Miss Daisy,” is a humorous and affecting relationship between an elderly southern lady, and a proud, young chauffeur. Feb. 1 at Rockwall County Library. Tickets are available now at www.rockwallcountynews.com or go to www.rockwallcountynews.com to purchase tickets online.

HCMS annual c...

A subscription concert featuring young artist solo and chamber music competition Feb. 2 at the highlight of the Hubbards Chamber Music Series season. HCMS will hold the annual competition all day at the United Methodist Church. The competition is open to public and single tickets are available at the door. Audience participation comes and go as they please throughout the day to hear the Texas’ finest young musicians. Audience members will be admitted to the seating area between contestants to ease the tension. Subscribers may present their subscription tickets for admittance. At 5 p.m., the Hubbard Chamber Ensemble and Hubbards artistic director Michael McDonald will perform works for strings and piano. Winner of the afternoon competition announced and the \$1,000 Hubbards Grand Prize winners.

Every

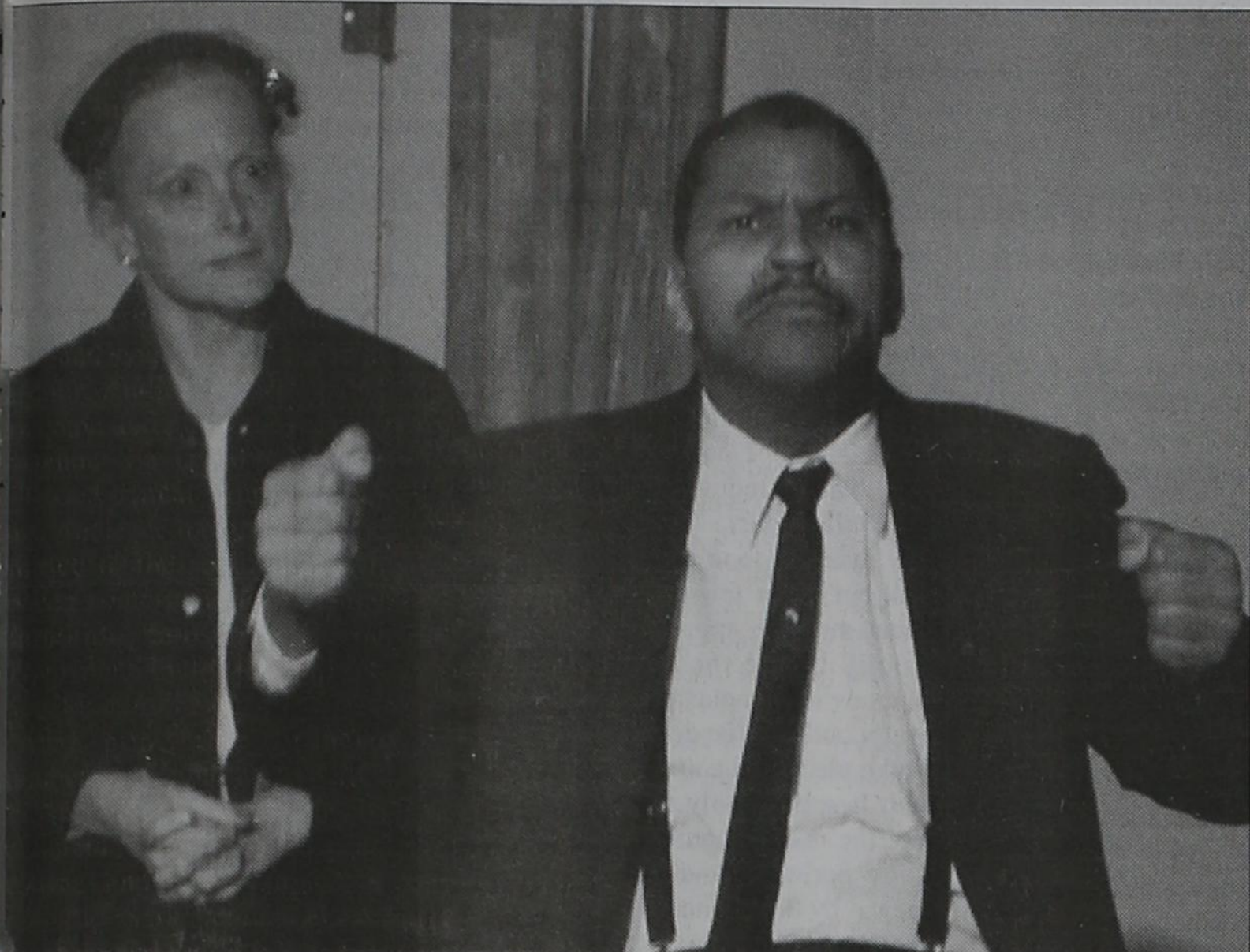
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ROCKWALL
Dine In!

'Driving Miss Daisy'



Judy Perser and August Gabriel rehearse a scene from Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Driving Miss Daisy."

RCP cast to support The Alzheimer's Foundation

Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "Driving Miss Daisy," a warm-hearted, humorous and affecting study of the unlikely relationship between an aging, crotchety white southern lady, and a proud, soft-spoken black man opens Feb. 1 at Rockwall Community Playhouse. Tickets are available now, call (972) 722-3399 or go to www.rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org to purchase tickets online.

The title role of Miss Daisy is played by Judy Perser who lives in Rockwall and was on the RCP stage last year as Truvin in "Steel Magnolias." The role of Hoke, the driver, is played by August

Gabriel. Gabriel is new to Rockwall and this is his first time to be on the RCP stage. There are only three characters in the cast. The third part of Bolie, Miss Daisy's son, is played by Curtis Roughton. Every show at RCP chooses a cause or charity to promote and support during its run. The cast of "Miss Daisy" will be supporting The Alzheimer's Foundation of America. Performances are Feb. 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday matinees. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$12 for children, students and senior citizens.

Governor reappoints J. D. Jacobs to SRA board

ORANGE – Gov. Rick Perry recently reappointed J.D. Jacobs Jr. of Rockwall to the Sabine River Authority of Texas Board of Directors. Created by the Legislature in 1949, the Sabine River Authority is an official agency of the state of Texas. The SRA was created as a conservation and reclamation district with responsibilities to control, store, preserve and distribute the waters of the Sabine River and its tributary streams for useful purposes. The SRA of Texas is governed by nine board of directors members who are

leaders in their communities and are dedicated to addressing water issues in the Sabine River Basin. The board, appointed by the governor, must reside in a county within the basin. Jacobs is a farmer and rancher and is being reappointed to the board with a term to expire July 6, 2013. He lives in Rockwall County where he farms 4,000 acres of cotton, corn, milo and wheat and runs a 100-225 head cow/calf operation. Jacobs is a current member of the Rockwall County Extension Service Advisory Board and

serves as vice president for the Rockwall County Farm Bureau Insurance Board. He is a former member of the Farm Service Agency County Committee. Jacobs and his wife, Ollie, have three children and three grandchildren and are members of the Lake Pointe Baptist Church of Rockwall.



Jacobs

Registration under way for Citizen Fire Academy

Sign up now for the Feb. 7 through April 17 Rockwall Fire Department Citizen Fire Academy. Classes are held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursday nights (with the exception of spring break week March 17) at Fire Station No. 2 at 920 Rockwall Parkway. Applications are available from the Fire Department or at Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad St.

The academy is a great opportunity to learn more about the Rockwall department. Topics covered include emergency apparatus and equipment, fire operations, EMS, special rescue operations, search and rescue and extrication with demonstrations and fire and arson investigations. Hands-on experience and the opportunity to get acquainted with city firefighters are just some of the many benefits of the

Citizen Fire Academy. The academy is open to anyone living or working in Rockwall County. Applicants must have a clear criminal history and must be at least 18d. There is no charge. For more information, contact Tony Santoro at (972) 771-7700. Also, check out the department's Web site at <http://www.rockwall.com> and go to Fire Department.

Time running out to pay county taxes

STAFF REPORT

County taxpayers have just a week remaining to dig into their pocketbooks or risk being turned over to attorneys for collection earlier than in previous years. Tax bills were sent out by the county in October with a big change – those who don't pay up by the Feb. 1 deadline will be turned over to attorneys April 1 instead of July 1, which had

been the county's practice before deciding in late December to move up the collection date. The move – made possible by a change made in the last state legislative session – at the Dec. 26 meeting puts the county in line with the Rockwall County Appraisal District, which collects taxes for the Rockwall ISD and Roysce City ISD, as well as the cities within the county. Delinquent taxpayers could face a 20 percent penalty.

HCMS annual competition scheduled

A subscription concert and chamber music competition Feb. 2 will be the highlight of the Hubbard Chamber Music Series season. HCMS will hold the 12th annual competition all day at Faith United Methodist Church. The competition is open to the public and single tickets are \$5 at the door. Audience participants may come and go as they please throughout the day to hear some of Texas' finest young musicians. Audience members will be admitted to the seating area in between contestants to ease any commotion. Subscribers need only present their subscription tickets for admittance. At 5 p.m., the Hubbard Chamber Ensemble and HCMS artistic director Michele McDonald will perform works for strings and piano. Winners of the afternoon competition will be announced and the \$1,000 Lindy Barton Grand Prize winners will

perform. Single tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$8 for students and may be purchased at the door. A four-course dinner and wine at Culpepper's Steak House will be served after the concert for an additional cost of \$45. For more information about upcoming performances or to find out about 2007-2008 HCMS events, visit the Web site or call Michele McDonald at (972) 772-7692.

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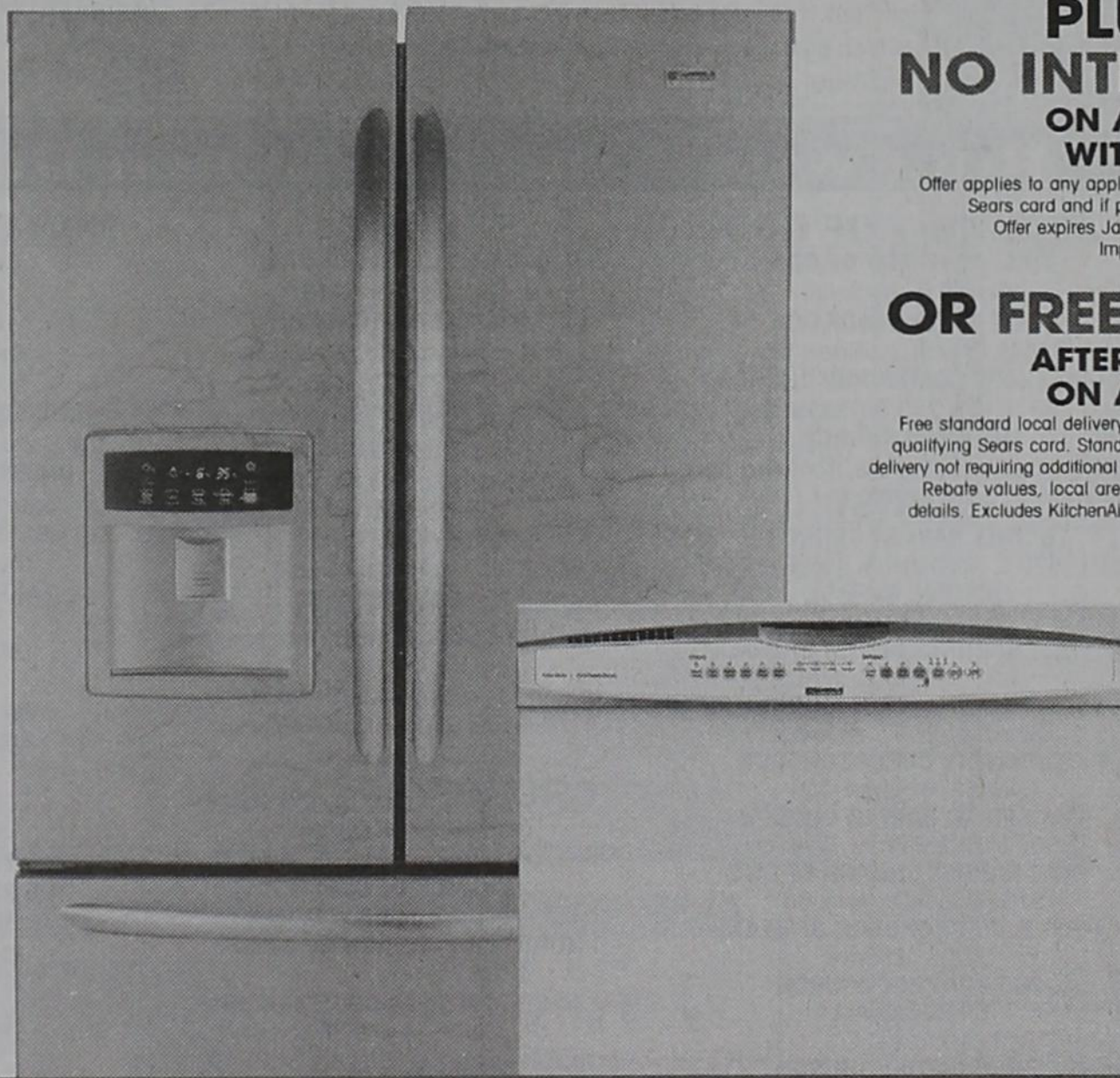
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Offer applies to any appliance over \$399 after discounts and coupons when you use a qualifying Sears card and if paid in full within 12 months and account is kept in good standing. Offer expires January 26, 2008. See our Important Customer Information below for Important Deferred Interest details. Excludes Outlet Stores.

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ROCKWALL

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Visit us online: www.rockwallcountynews.com

Struggles

From Page 1A

ent, I speak to connect," she said.

Her friends say she is a great Christian woman and an author who impacts the lives of hundreds of parents around the world.

DeMuth was born and raised in a small suburb of Seattle, Wash. Raised in a broken home, DeMuth explains how it is possible to grow up in a horrific environment and live triumphantly in the future and in the present.

"A lot of who I am today has to do with healing that's occurred from the aftermath of my childhood," she said.

DeMuth said that after her father died, she started to travel down a road of pessimism and paranoia.

"I had a lot of fear for death. I always thought people were chasing me," she said.

According to DeMuth, her life was in shambles by high school. When a friend invited her to Young Life camp when she was 15, it completely transformed her life.

"Before Young Life, I had no idea who God was. I was a mess and I needed help. It truly did save me in every sense," she said.

Growing up without a father has

molded DeMuth's reality of God into what it is today, she said.

"I grew up without a dad and when I became a Christian, I realized God was the only father who would never leave me," she said.

DeMuth's life-long dream was to become a professional writer and today she dedicates time through her writing and speaking in giving hope to parents who grew up in similar circumstances.

"My message is meant to guide parents who don't want to emulate the home they were raised in or didn't have positive parental role models growing up," she said.

DeMuth is an expert on what she calls pioneer parenting. She defines this as parenting differently from the way someone is raised by pioneering new trials than those modeled during one's childhood.

"I help parents plow fresh spiritual ground, especially those seeking to break destructive family patterns," she said.

According to DeMuth, if someone doesn't know what a healthy home looks like or how to be a good parent, how can you emulate it? Mary said her guidance can help all parents achieve these goals.

DeMuth added that in America, she believes people are too hyped up about being perfect parents.

"The fear of not being perfect parents causes us to make even more mistakes," she said. "We should have confidence and know that our kids will be OK, even if we do make mistakes."

DeMuth's advice for children growing up in a destructive home is to find someone who they can trust for help.

"When your problem is in the dark, it can't heal and it festers like a wound. When you finally share it with someone, that person is there to bare the burden with you so you won't feel alone," she said.

DeMuth recently lived in Southern France for two years to plant a new church where she learned the importance of exploring the unknown.

"Life was very hard in France and I made 5,000 mistakes a day but through that, I grew so much," she said.

If anyone is interested in allowing DeMuth help them break free from the past and break new ground, she is holding a Pioneer Parenting seminar Feb. 23 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, or to register online, visit lakepoint.org.

To see DeMuth's full speaking calendar, check out her speaker's page at Marydemuth.com.

Her next book, "Fear of the Unknown," will be in stores next January.

Annexation

From Page 1A

Residents reiterated many of their objections from the last meeting - city taxes could force some residents to sell their homes, municipal utility services would be redundant and city ordinances would compromise the rural lifestyle many of the residents cherish. The Wallaces again said they have no intention of selling or developing their land.

But the discussion Jan. 22 also focused on a proposed "non-development" agreement city officials hope could provide a compromise. The agreement promises to spare the Wallace farm from annexation and city taxes as long as it remains undeveloped, but has a few conditions - the agreement must be approved by the Wallace family before the annexation timeline reaches its conclusion Feb. 11, and it carefully outlines the developments that could take place if the area was ever incorporated. It applies only to the family farm, not the nearby households, and would require periodic (and potentially annual) renewal by the council.

Michael Henley Wallace said the family appreciated the city's gesture but needed more time to review the proposal before any agreements could be made.

Wallace and his relatives suggested including the nearby homeowners in the arrangement and removing the removal requirement, and said they would be willing to offer a counter-proposal in the coming weeks.

Hughes also suggested that the removal agreement could be in violation of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits exclusion of minority areas - in this case the nearby Lake Rockwall Estates Happy Country Homes - in favor of dominantly Caucasian communities.

Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil said the council would be willing to negotiate an arrangement with the homeowners although strict state guidelines and the complicated annexation timelines could complicate the discussion. He said Lake Rockwall Estates is on an annexation plan but, due to its size and state limitations, could not be incorporated until 2009.

Cecil said he could not publicly discuss specific proceedings but said he was willing to research potential options and work with the homeowners.

"At this point, it's too far down the road to even comment on," Cecil said. "We've got strict state guidelines we have to follow, but I will ask the city attorney to look into it and we'll discuss it."

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 Psalm 150:6

FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE
 A Bronze Snake
 Numbers 21

The Israelites traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Sea of Reeds to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way and spoke against God and against Moses. They said, Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!

The Lord sent venomous snakes among them that bit the people and many Israelites died.



They came to Moses and confessed their sin of rebellion and asked that Moses ask to take the snakes away. Moses prayed for the people. The Lord instructed Moses to make a snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.



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 Romans 10: 9-10

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

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Obit
 MARY HELEN (ROGERS) McCALLUM
 Mary Helen (Rogers) McCallum, 90, a lifetime resident of Rockwall, died peacefully on Jan. 20. She was born...
 ...1917 in Rowlett...
 ...youngest of 13 children...
 ...faithful member of the...
 ...Christian Church her entire...
 ...singing in the choir and serving...
 ...numerous boards and committees...
 ...attended Rowlett...
 ...School and graduated...
 ...Garland High School...
 ...retired in 1982 from...
 ...National Bank in Garland...
 ...working as a clerk for...
 ...She was a 73-year member...
 ...of the Order of the Eastern...
 ...AKS
 From Page 1A
 ...and education services...
 ...who felt voters arriving...
 ...places housed at school...
 ...disrupt student testing...
 ...We know this change caused...
 ...work for our district...
 ...campus testing coordinator...
 ...have not made this decision...
 ...Scott said in a statement...
 ...had to balance the...
 ...tradition of using school...
 ...places with children...
 ...in a quiet testing environ...
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Obituaries

MARY HELEN (ROGERS) McCALLUM
 Mary Helen (Rogers) McCallum, 90, a lifetime resident of Rowlett, died peacefully on Jan. 20. She was born



June 30, 1917 in Rowlett to Mary and Molly (Parker) Rogers, the youngest of 13 children (nine lived to adulthood). She was a faithful member of the Christian Church her entire life and served on numerous boards and committees. She attended Rowlett Elementary School and graduated from Garland High School in 1935. She retired in 1982 from the National Bank in Garland, working as a clerk for 18 years. She was a 73-year member of the Order of the Eastern

Star and faithfully devoted to her church, her family, and the city of Rowlett.

Helen was married to Herman Wilks McCallum in 1935; they were divorced in 1958. She is survived by four children: son Roger McCallum and wife Sandy of Rowlett, daughter Norma Muncy and husband Don of Heath, son Michael McCallum and wife Beckie of Rowlett, and son Wayne McCallum and wife Cathy of Rockwall. Other survivors are eight grandchildren: Darlene Singleton and husband Roy, Darrell McCallum and wife Sharon, Derek Muncy, Shelley Malinowsky and husband Brent, Chad Gagne, Laurin Muller and husband Ed, Taylor McCallum and Lindsay McCallum; seven great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews and several beloved extended family members. She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings and a great-grandson Wesley Singleton.

Family visitation was from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 21 at Williams Funeral Home in Garland. Funeral services were at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at the First Christian Church in Rowlett, with interment following at Mills Cemetery between Rowlett and Garland. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the building fund of the First Christian Church of Rowlett.

Horizon

From Page 1A

ment. Still, there were no crashes Jan. 22, just drivers losing control and leaving the roadway.

Before the improvements, Fite said that if it rained, as it did this day, someone was going to crash.

However, Fite said on the first day with the new white stripes indicating the one-way, eight people nearly crashed.

"We support our city and appreciate the changes they have made so far," Fite said.

Still, Fite hopes for further improvements.

He suggests adding blinking warning lights at the exit and possibly lane dividers that are seen on HOV lanes. He thinks that might slow people down.

Five of the drivers who lost control Jan. 22 ended up driving off the roadway, down a hill and back toward I-30.

"Two [vehicles] did a 180-degree

turn and stayed on the road, just facing the wrong way," Fite said. "One went spinning and ended up in the grass in front of our building."

However, there were no reports from the Rockwall Police Department about anyone overturning or wrecking when exiting the service road, which was the case before the improvements.

"Interesting that it was six trucks and two SUVs, no cars lost control," Fite said.

Fite said drivers exit I-30, turn, hit a bump and go uphill. But when it rains, drivers appear to lose traction going uphill and lose control.

The Texas Department of Transportation started working on the roadway Jan. 9 and completed it the same day. They changed the two-way direction of the service road on the south side of I-30 to a one-way between Shoreline Trail and Horizon Road.

Three calls to the RPD were not returned.

Growth

From Page 1A

how to proceed with these building [options]," she said.

Topics to consider in the district's decision that will be discussed at the two meetings include the 2005 bond proposal and how realigning grade levels

or restructuring schools can affect the city's resident tax base. As of Tuesday, current enrollment for RCISD was at 4,157 students.

The two scheduled meetings are set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Scott Elementary located at 1401 Circle Drive and 6:30 p.m. Jan. 31 at the Fort Elementary cafeteria at 2801 Farm-to-Market Road 35. The meetings are open to the public.

AKS

From Page 1A

ors and education service ers who felt voters arriving at polling places housed at schools would disrupt student testing.

We know this change causes additional work for our district campus testing coordinators who have not made this decision yet," Scott said in a statement.

had to balance the long-standing tradition of using schools as polling places with children's need for a quiet testing environment as they take high stakes tests.

This is the first time TAKS testing has conflicted with primary

elections. Under the new TAKS calendar, exams regularly scheduled for March 4-6 will be moved back a day, whereas an exit-level social studies retest exam scheduled for March 7 will be moved up to March 3. Some tests originally scheduled for March 4 determine whether students are promoted to the next grade or graduate from high school.

Sheri Fowler, a spokeswoman for Rockwall ISD, said that although TAKS testing dates were changed as to not conflict with primary elections, the district was more than prepared if the change was not made. A total of six Rockwall elementary schools had been chosen as potential polling sites and the district had notified those campuses of what rooms

to use for voting so that the traffic of voters coming in and out of the schools would not distract students during testing. While Fowler said the district is "always happy to host elections" because it teaches students "a great lesson in civic duty and responsibility," the district is pleased that the TAKS testing start date was changed.

"It's certainly one less thing that could potentially cause a distraction for our students and our staff," she said of a district which is testing approximately 7,900 students this March. "We view this as a positive move. We certainly want the students and the staff to be able to fully focus on the testing."

According to Jo Nell Melloy, Roysie City ISD community rela-

tions director, holding TAKS testing on the day of the primary elections would have had no impact on students taking exams. The city's middle school library is the only designated school polling site, she said. People coming to vote could enter the library from the outside of the school as not to affect any testing that may have occurred, Melloy said.

"It would not have been a problem for our district," she said.

According to information provided by RCISD, 2,710 students in grades three through 12 are scheduled to take TAKS exams in March.

For a complete listing of the revised TAKS testing dates, visit www.tea.state.tx.us.

Heath establishes household hazardous waste helpline

HEATH - The city of Heath kicked off the new year with a service to help residents be stewards of the environment. Residents may now call the household hazardous waste helpline at (972) 961-4883 for information about properly disposing of the many waste items

that can be harmful to our health, such as automotive products, batteries, cooking oil, electronic devices, fluorescent tubes and bulbs, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paint products and pesticides.

"Improper disposal of house-

hold hazardous waste pollutes the environment and poses a threat to human health," said Les Horvath, administrative projects coordinator for the city of Heath. "We are very pleased to expand our efforts to help citizens remove harmful waste from their homes in the safest, most environmentally friendly

manner."

Horvath also noted that the city will join with Rockwall County to conduct the annual spring household hazardous waste collection event April 19. Complete details will be available at www.heathtx.com in late February.

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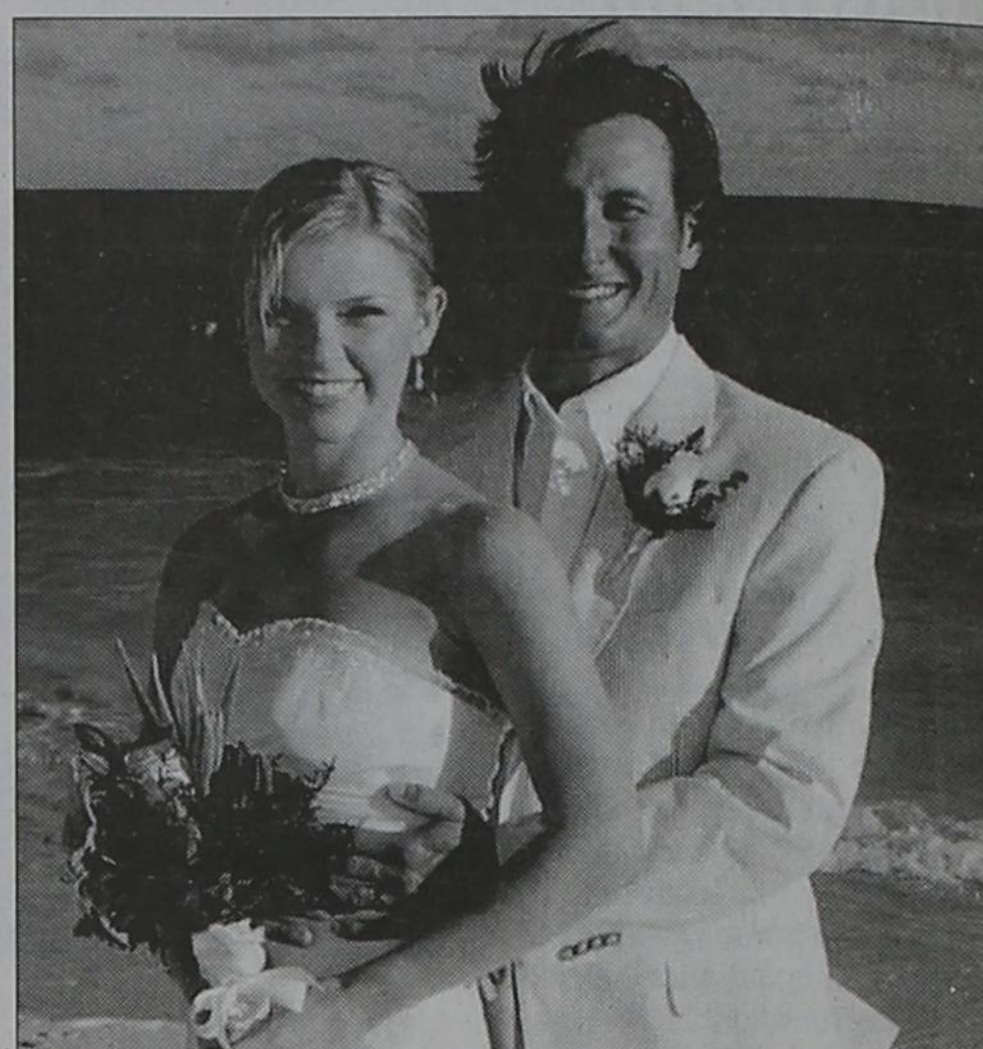
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Minth-Grudem wed



Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Eric Minth

Emily Kay Grudem and Ryan Eric Minth were united in marriage on Saturday, Jan. 5 on Grand Bahama Island with family and friends in attendance. Following the seaside ceremony with pastor Reno Smith, a reception was held at the Wyndham Resort. The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Grudem of Ocala, Florida. The groom is the son the Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Minth of Rockwall, Tex. Alexa Van Eaton of Auckland, New Zealand served as maid of honor, and bridesmaids were Laura Gregory of Sebring, Fla. and Laura Ruhl of Ft. Myers, Fla. The best man was Ryan's father, Ron Minth of Rockwall and the groomsman was Dr.

Jeffrey Minth of Rockwall. The bride is a graduate of Belleview High School and attended the University of Florida where she graduated summa cum laude with a degree in geology. She is currently attending the University of Florida and completing her master of sciences degree in climate studies. The groom is a graduate of Rockwall High School and a graduate of the University of Texas in Austin, where he was captain of the university sailing team. He is currently a sailing professional based out of New York City and Florida. Following their wedding in the Bahamas, they will make their home in Gainesville, Fla.

Library News

Online Services

The Rockwall County Library is offering two new online services. You may use your library card number to access these services on the Internet at www.rocklib.com. Select the "research" button

and you are all set. Reference USA is a business and residential information database that is useful for marketing and investing research. MyLibrary DV offers a variety of downloadable videos, movies, travel and cooking programs and much more.

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS
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Lakeside Civic Chorus holding auditions for spring concert

The Lakeside Civic Chorus, Rockwall's premier chorus, is holding auditions for the 2008 spring concert throughout the month of February. To schedule an audition, contact chorus director David Bush at bushdl@swbell.net or at (972) 679-4227 or (972) 772-0832.

The chorus invites both men and women to join this talented group of committed singers who are dedicated to excellence and expressiveness in the study and performance of choral works of all periods. Rehearsals are held on consecutive Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Rockwall High School Choral room.

Founded in 1984, the LCC is a performing auditioned chorus known for its beautiful tone and expressive singing. Under the direction of David Bush and accompanied by Ken Frerichs, the chorus is comprised of volunteer, diverse singers who share a genuine affection for singing, performing and giving to the community. The chorus is dedicated to excellence and expressiveness in the study and performance of choral works of all periods. The chorus performs a variety of choral music each fall and spring and also assists with furthering music education by offering scholarships to area graduating high school seniors.

For more information, visit www.lakesidecivicchorus.org.

Young Republicans to host forum, revue

The Rockwall County Young Republicans will host their fourth annual candidate political forum and first-ever "Presidential Revue" on Jan. 26 at Rockwall High School, located at 901 Yellow Jacket Lane.

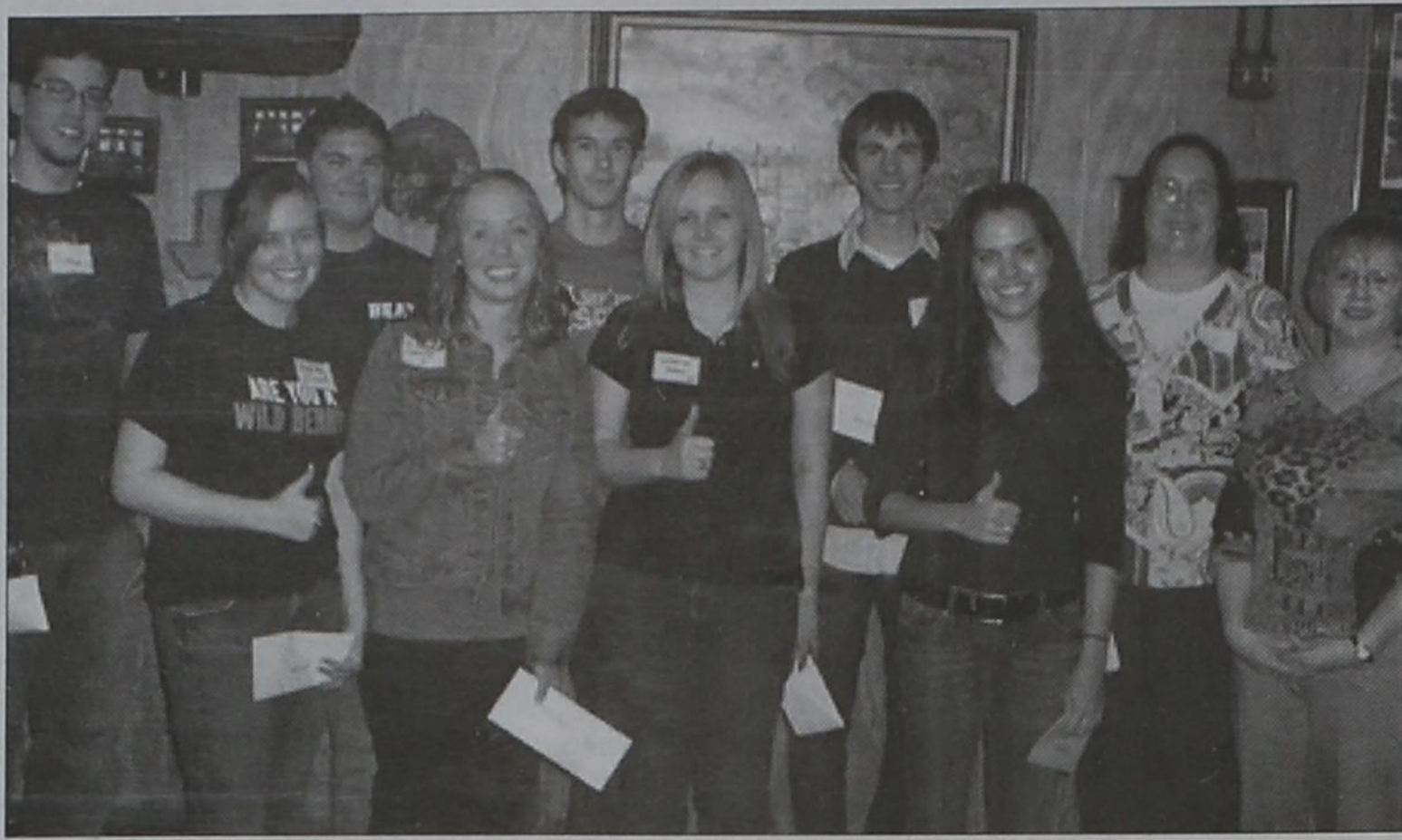
There will be a reception beginning at 6 p.m. and the forum will follow promptly at 6:30 p.m. The "Presidential Revue" will begin immediately following the forum.

Opposed candidates in the upcoming Rockwall County election will be introduced and candidates in contested races have been invited to speak at the forum. Representatives from the Republican presidential campaigns will participate in a "Revue" moderated by Heath Mayor John Ratcliffe.

The Rockwall County Young Republicans is an organization comprised of men and women 18-40 who want to become more actively involved in local, state and national politics. For more information, contact Aaron Moore at (972) 489-3648, e-mail at amooreyr@yahoo.com, or on the Web at www.rockwalljr.org.



Thumbs Up



Rockwall County News / COURTESY

The Rockwall County Aggie Moms Club held their annual scholarship dinner for returning Texas A&M students on Jan. 7 at Soulman's Barbecue and awarded \$4,250 in scholarships.

The Aggie Moms raise scholarship money throughout the year with their annual garage sale, pecan sales and several arts and craft shows. New student scholarships are awarded in May. Recipients pictured at the awards dinner are (front from left) Ashley Crowell, Kristen Cummings, Katherine Kuban, Lindsay Foreman and Becky Pool, scholarship committee. (Back from left are Blayne Johnson, Eric Bryant, David Roden, Jordan Fontenot and Brenda Yeager, scholarship committee. Students not present receiving scholarships were Priscilla Aloj, Aaron Davidson, Aaron Gunderson, Christopher Simmons, Michael Smith, Megan Stussi, Taylor Trammell, Ashton Wilcox and Weston Wilcox.

FUMC Ark Preschool to hold Super Bowl party

The Ark Preschool at First United Methodist Church of Rockwall is holding its second Super Bowl Tailgate Extravaganza on Jan. 30 at 5:30 p.m. at the church, 1200 E. Yellowjacket Lane in Rockwall.

The event will offer a catered dinner by Eddie Deen, musical entertainment by children of the church and both a live and a silent auction. Proceeds go toward the Ark's Building Fund for the Elizabeth Cameron Christian Education Building. Last year's event raised more than \$10,000 for the new building and for the preschool playground.

The cost for the catered dinner is \$5 per adult, \$3 per student and no more than \$15 per family. The Ark preschoolers will perform a short musical program at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Child

care is available during the live auction.

The communitywide event will feature door prizes, raffle items, and special appearances including the Rockwall and Rockwall-Heath high school football teams, cheerleaders, mascots and drill teams. Cowboy Craig will be on hand with his Dallas Cowboys Club semi-trailer featuring Dallas Cowboys highlights, merchandise and memorabilia.

More than 25 baskets prepared by the preschool parents will be available for silent auction bidding. Baskets range from \$50 to \$700 in value and offer something for everyone from the book lover to the sports enthusiast. The live auction includes a pair of boxing shorts autographed by Muhammad Ali, a vintage set of Bobby Jones golf clubs and bag

(irons are 1937, woods are circa 1950), a week's stay in a condo in Hot Springs, Ark., a catered barbecue dinner for 25 by Eddie Dee and a rodeo-style kid's birthday party complete with horse rides.

Now in its 21st year, The Ark began as an opportunity for mothers to have time away from their small children. The program has evolved into a highly regarded preschool that provides children with a solid academic foundation.

For more information about the event or to donate items, contact Pamela Williams at (469) 757-0843. For information about The Ark, contact Laurie Wilder, director, at (972) 771-5501.

County burn ban approved

Rockwall County is under a 90-day burn ban approved by county commissioners on Jan. 15.

Fire Marshal Wesley Roberts said the county was placed under stricter outdoor burning restrictions after experiencing 15 grass fires between Dec. 31 and Jan. 15 that burned about 62 acres of

land. He called the ban a necessity in unincorporated areas of the county in the face of ongoing conditions.

Violation of the ban is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fines of up to \$500. Citations for disobeying the ban are handled through the Justice of the Peace court.

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MARCH 8, 2008

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To serve as a sponsor or auction item donor for this year's ball, a Crown Affair, to be held March 8, 2008 at the Anatole Hotel, please contact Vicki Alexander at 972-772-0337.

Got to www.rockwallwomensleague.com to purchase tickets.

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throughout Texas wi...
It certainly appears the th...
Rockwall County will be...
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announces the new reclass...
One school is expecting to...
participating a drop down...
very well end up meeting i...
will said and done.
Rockwall High School, th...
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sportsske

Rockwall HS
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sportsho

YMCA now accept
spring soccer registr

The Rockwall County Y...
now holding spring socce...
Early registration runs...
Jan. 31 and regular regis...
will take place from Feb...
Late registration will begi...
adium until all teams are fu...
The Rockwall County Y...
a member of North Texas...
and welcomes boys and gi...
8-14. A coaches meeting...
held Feb. 9 at 2 p.m.
The YMCA will also b...
ng Pay the Day membersh...
again through Jan. 31.
The second annual Ca...
Echols basketball tourna...
started for Mar. 1 while vol...
football and baseball regi...
will run throughout the m...
March.
For more information...
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Lady Jackets to be fe
on PSN Southwest s

The Rockwall girls ba...
team will be featured...
Southwest's "High...
Spotlight", a weekly high...
sports show that airs every...
at 11:30 a.m.
The show will featu...
news with players and...
and focus its attention on h...
the basketball pro...
within the city of Rock...
The show will air Ja...
1:30 a.m. and re-air the fo...
afternoon.
The show is hosted...
Wesley. His son, Will, is...
at Rockwall High Sc...
competes in football, base...
kick.

SPORTS

The best source for Rockwall County high school and community sports

Big changes on the way with UIL realignment

By CLIFF GIBSON

sports@rockwallcountynews.com

In just over a week, the high school athletics scene throughout Texas will get a major makeover. It certainly appears the three major high schools Rockwall County will be affected in a major way when the University Interscholastic League announces the new reclassification and realignment, scheduled to be released at 9 a.m. on Feb. 1. One school is expecting to move up and another anticipating a drop down and all three could very well end up meeting in the middle when it is said and done. Rockwall High School, the largest in the county, is anticipating a drop from Class 5A to Class 4A based on the enrollment figure it turned in earlier in the school year.

"We are definitely anticipating a drop to 4A," said Mark Elam, athletic director for RISD. "We turned in a number of 1,924 at Rockwall High School, which should be under the new cutoff for 5A schools."

According to Elam, Rockwall-Heath turned in an enrollment figure of 1,786 and will remain in Class 4A.

Things are a little different at Roysse City High School, where head football coach and athletic director Rodney Webb has been preparing for a jump from Class 3A to 4A for more than a few months.

"The number we turned in (1,079) would have fallen under Class 4A during the last realignment

so we believe we'll be moving up this time," Webb said.

While anticipating a reclassification may be somewhat easy, trying to predict where the realignment will place each school is a bit trickier.

"I think anyone trying to predict where they will land is a bit crazy," Webb said. "I don't think anything is a given and certainly not this time. This will be our first rodeo in Class 4A so there is no precedent."

Webb said that if he had to guess, he could see Roysse City being grouped one of two ways.

"I would think we'd either go east up Interstate 30 with Greenville, Sulphur Springs and some oth-

ers or stay in this area with what District 10-4A has now with the Rockwall schools, Terrell, Forney and Mesquite ISD."

In Rockwall, Elam put out a pair of possibilities, but each one has the two Rockwall schools joined at the hip in a new 4A district.

"It could be our schools with Roysse City, Terrell, Forney and the Mesquite schools. That would make sense geographically," Elam said. "But there has also been talk of Forney and Terrell heading east which would change things considerably. At this point, it's all speculation."

It will remain a guessing game for now, but on Feb. 1 the new map will be revealed and could unveil a new district that squeezes all three Rockwall County schools into one.

Will it wind up being one big happy family? We'll find out soon enough.



sportsskeds

Rockwall HS

in. 25VB hoops vs N. Garland
in. 25VG hoops vs N. Garland
in. 25VB soccer @ Longview
in. 29VB hoops vs N. Forest
in. 29VG hoops vs N. Forest
in. 29VB soccer vs Garland
in. 29VG soccer @ Garland

Rockwall-Heath HS

in. 25VG hoops vs Forney
in. 25VB soccer vs Commerce
in. 25VG soccer vs Commerce
in. 29VB hoops @ Highland Park
in. 29VG hoops vs Highland Park
in. 29VB soccer vs McKinney
in. 29VG soccer @ McKinney

Roysse City HS

in. 25VB hoops @ Commerce
in. 25VG hoops @ Commerce
in. 29VB hoops vs Wills Point
in. 29VG hoops vs Wills Point
in. 29VG soccer @ Forney
in. 29VB soccer @ Forney

Lady Hawks maintain grip in 10-4A

By MATT MCGILLEN

sports@rockwallcountynews.com

MESQUITE - Bouncing back from consecutive district losses, the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks brushed aside the Greenville Lady Lions, 61-45, on Jan. 18 and the Mesquite Poteet Lady Pirates, 56-46, on Jan. 22 to retain their hold on second place in the District 10-4A standings.

Heath (25-4, 8-2) trails West Mesquite (19-9, 10-0) by two games with four district contests to play.

The two teams close out their district schedule against each other at Heath on Feb. 5, but the Lady Hawks will have to not only beat the Lady Wranglers in the finale, but hope that West stumbles against another of their remaining opponents to create a tie for the top spot.

A one-game playoff would decide the district winner in the event of a dead heat.

The Lady Wranglers won the first meeting, 63-52 against the

Lady Hawks, who followed that loss with a stunning 45-40 defeat to Richardson Pearce (9-15, 7-3) that resulted in Heath tumbling all the way out of the TABC state rankings after climbing as high as seventh.

Sequeena Thomas led the Lady Hawks against the Lady Pirates (6-17, 3-7), scoring 24 points. Britton Massar and Shanae Lowrance added 10 apiece for Heath, which jumped out to a 29-18 halftime lead. Poteet cut the deficit to seven after three periods by outscoring Heath, 21-15 in the third quarter.

In the win over Greenville (10-15, 3-7), it was Lowrance who topped the Lady Hawks with 13 points while Thomas chipped in 11. Adrienne Boswell and Katelyn Morris also reached double figures, each contributing 10 points.

Thomas, who averages 19.6 points per game, scored a school-record 39 in the first meeting with the Lady Lions, a 75-41 Heath win.

Heath started slowly against the Lady Lions, trailing 7-6 after one period but outscored Greenville, 24-12 in the second to lead 30-19 at the break and steadily pulled away the rest of the game.

The Lady Hawks entertain Forney Jan. 25 and Highland Park Jan. 29.

Scoring

RH (56) - Sequeena Thomas 24, Britton Massar 10, Shanae Lowrance 10, Adrienne Boswell 6, Ashlyn Reyes 4, Emily Kirwan 2.

MP (46) - Britney Gaines 15, Dee Kyles 9, Meaghan Tolleson 5, Gamblin 5, Alex Campbell 5, Melissa Lusk 4, Jessie Flores 2, Shambreka Jones 1.

Scoring

RH (61) - Audrey Craven 2, Adrienne Boswell 10, Arielle Pace 2, Shanae Lowrance 13, Sequeena Thomas 11, Britton Massar 5, Nadia Thomas 2, Katelyn Morris 10, Ashlyn Reyes 6.

GR (45) - Amanda Weyrick 12, Brittany Gray 2, Rocio Medrano 19, Olivia Carter 12.

Leadership role



Rockwall County News / DAVE KIRWAN

Rockwall-Heath senior defenseman Adam Nedella helped limit Greenville shots on goal during the second district game this season in Greenville. The Hawks won, 2-0, on goals by junior forward Sherrick Davis and sophomore Joseph Pomarico.

sportssshorts

YMCA now accepting spring soccer registration

The Rockwall County YMCA is now holding spring soccer registration.

Early registration runs through Jan. 31, and regular registration will take place from Feb. 1-10. Late registration will begin Feb. 11 and run until all teams are full.

The Rockwall County YMCA is a member of North Texas soccer and welcomes boys and girls ages 4-14. A coaches meeting will be held Feb. 9 at 2 p.m.

The YMCA will also be offering Pay the Day membership campaign through Jan. 31.

The second annual Cameron Schools basketball tournament is slated for Mar. 1 while volleyball, football and baseball registration will run throughout the month of March.

For more information, visit www.rockwallymca.org or call (972) 772-9622.

Lady Jackets to be featured on FSN Southwest show

The Rockwall girls basketball team will be featured on FSN Southwest's "High School Spotlight", a weekly high school sports show that airs every Sunday at 11:30 a.m.

The show will feature interviews with players and coaches and focus its attention on how popular the basketball program is within the city of Rockwall.

The show will air Jan. 27 at 11:30 a.m. and re-air the following afternoon.

The show is hosted by Neil Beasley. His son, Will, is a sophomore at Rockwall High School and competes in football, baseball and track.



Rockwall County News / JD BRYANT

Senior guard Sunny Satery continues to be the vocal leader for Rockwall's Lady Jackets. Satery and teammate Shelby Adamson have won 128 games, more than any players in team history.

RHS girls set for district showdown

By LARY BUMP

sports@rockwallcountynews.com

Right now, it's easy to understand that the Rockwall girls could be looking ahead to Tuesday's basketball showdown for District 10-5A supremacy.

Friday night, however, their goals were more short-term: How to get out of the 10-point hole they'd dug themselves in the first quarter against Rowlett.

The Lady Jackets went to work, regained the lead by halftime and won a record-setting game going away, 69-54. They dismantled South Garland on Jan. 22, 75-35.

Now all that remains between RHS and the rematch with first-place Naaman Forest is Friday's home game against North Garland that shouldn't qualify even as a speed bump. North (0-10 in the district, 3-20 overall) lost at home by 50 points, 65-15, to the Lady Jackets.

Naaman's Lady Rangers (10-0, 22-5) began the new year with a 59-48 home win to begin a 6-game winning streak. Rockwall has won all five games since that loss.

Both teams have clinched playoff berths and figure to finish 1-2 in the district.

That means they wouldn't have to play Plano East or Plano West, District 9-5A's only teams with a winning record, in the first round. Rockwall already has defeated both Plano schools.

Nonetheless, the Lady Jackets are on a quest to come home before a big crowd Friday to defend the district title they feel is rightfully theirs.

"We'll definitely prepare for them," said Peyton Adamson after she'd scored 19 points against Rowlett and set an RHS record with 110 3-point field goals this season.

"My shot wasn't really on," said the sophomore, whose first-half production was just two foul shots.

She then broke a tie for the record set by Genevieve Campbell in 2005-06 by hitting three treys in the third quarter.

Adamson said, "I had a really good teacher in Genevieve. Tonight, other people stepped up. Brittany (Coleman) was great inside. She made some big baskets, thank goodness."

Coleman, who led the Lady Jackets with 20 points that night and added 20 against South Garland, scored six points in the second quarter against Rowlett.

Two of those were on put-backs after offensive rebounds, including the two points that put Rockwall ahead to stay at 22-21.

Each quarter of that game was a separate story. With 3:55 seconds left in the first quarter, Rockwall led 9-8.

But the Lady Eagles went on an 11-0 run for a 19-9 lead. The Lady Jackets then went on an 11-0 run, capped by the last two of six consecutive foul shots by Shelby Adamson (15 points) with 3:55 left in the second quarter.

Rockwall's halftime lead was just 26-25, but the Lady Jackets played 3-ball in the third quarter. In addition to Peyton Adamson's three 3-point

SEE LADY JACKETS ON PAGE 3B

THSCA names 10 area student-athletes to 2007 academic all-state football team

The Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) recently announced the THSCA Academic All-State Football teams for 2007-2008.

Rockwall's Sean Messenger received Class 5A first-team honors, Lucas Beville, Andrew Hester and Ethan Tanner were named to the second-team while honorable mention went to Brandon Lawshe, Desmond Moore and Kacey Valley.

Roysse City's Elias Kawesa and Omar Torres made the Class 3A second-team while Carlos Gallegos received honorable mention.

The teams are selected by a point system that awards points for GPA, class rank and SAT or ACT score.

The student-athletes are then placed on teams according to the number of points they have earned.

Criteria required to be nominated is overall GPA of 92 or above, including grades 9-11 and the first six weeks of grade 12; be a member of the team in good standing at the time of nomination and be of good moral character.

The program is in its 6th year and has steadily grown to over 2,000 applicants.

Hawks see good and bad while splitting district hoops contests

By MATT MCGILLEN

sports@rockwallcountynews.com

HEATH - It was a good news, bad news week for the Rockwall-Heath Hawks.

The good news is they beat up on cellar-dwelling Greenville for the second time this year, thumping the Lions, 64-50 on the road Jan. 18. The bad news is they were beaten up at home by the Mesquite Poteet Pirates,

51-37 on Jan. 22.

With the split, the Hawks fell to 2-6 in District 10-4A and to 8-15 overall.

Junior Chase Nielson scored a game-high 20 points to lead the Hawks over the Lions (3-19, 0-8). Logan Callier added 16 and Chris Buttermore 15 for Heath, which led 17-11 after one period, 31-20 at the half and 51-31 after three periods.

SEE HAWKS ON PAGE 3B

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Kets turn in no wins du
 BY LARY BUMP
 Rockwall County News.com
 Rockwall boys' basket-
 game had its two highest-
 games of the season last
 Unfortunately, so did the
 opponents.
 result of losses to
 (74-68) and South
 (75-62), the Jackets fell
 behind Rowlett and
 in the race for one of
 four berths from District
 Rowlett on Jan. 18,
 fell behind, 38-27, at
 The Jackets switched
 back on to tie the
 44-46 with the first bas-
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 Eagles, who never
 regained the lead and
 RHHS' spirited attempt
 surprised Rockwall
 out in a press to
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 Jackets' comfort zone.
 of those turnovers
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 Eagles forced mistakes
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 STAFF REPORT
 of losses by the Roys
 term in a sticky situation.
 Lady Bulldogs (9-17, 3-3)
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 District 10-3A with Will
 will be broken Jan.
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 between the two teams.
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 (5-1).
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 General Administration
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 Other Promotional Services
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 Net Change in Fund Balances
 Fund Balances - Beginning (September
 Fund Balances - Ending (August 31)
 Accounting codes are an integral

Jackets turn in high scores no wins during last week

By LARY BUMP
rockwallcountynews.com

Rockwall boys' basketball had its two highest-games of the season last week, but unfortunately, so did the jackets' opponents.

As a result of losses to Rowlett (74-68) and South (75-62), the Jackets fell behind Rowlett and in the race for one of the top berths from District

Rowlett on Jan. 18, fell behind, 38-27, at the time of the game.

The Jackets switched offense back on to tie the game, but the first base-fourth quarter.

Eagles, who never regained the lead and off RHS' spirited attempt up.

ett surprised Rockwall going out in a press to game's first six points.

also caused the game's tempo to become faster. Jackets' comfort zone.

Timing of those turnovers are important than the Eagles forced mistakes

to take the lead early, then created more turnovers down the stretch after Rockwall had caught up.

Normally a good defensive team, RHS couldn't stop Rowlett's Devyn Crook. Scoring points off of steals, jump shots and drives that resulted in foul shots, Crook spread 42 points pretty evenly across the four quarters.

On its end, Rockwall turned from an outside shooting team to one pushing the ball inside. That resulted in a season-high 22 points for 6-4 Chase Adair.

Just five Jackets scored in the game, with Jordan Hammontree adding 19 points and Kyle Sandlin with 18.

Against first-place South Garland on Jan. 22, the Jackets took a 16-14 lead after the first quarter and still led at halftime, 28-26.

The Colonels came out smoking in the second half, out-running Rockwall to score 49 points.

The Jackets did most of their scoring from the outside, with Sandlin putting in 30 points and Hammontree 13. South held Adair to four points.



Rockwall's Jordan Hammontree soars through the air for a layup during the Jackets' loss to Rowlett on Jan. 18.

Lady Jackets

From Page 1B

ers, Sunny Satery (13 points) put in two long shots on the way to a 52-40 lead.

Foul shots were the fourth-quarter story. RHS had just one field goal, by Coleman, but made 15 of 16 foul shots. Peyton Adamson had six of those.

"Rowlett has played everybody tough, so we knew it was going to be a tough game," said head coach Jill McDill. "For us to come back and win by 15 was impressive."

The victory also brought a milestone for seniors Satery and Shelby Adamson. It was their 128th win since they began playing varsity basketball at Rockwall in 2004-05. Campbell and Haley Day, all-state players

for last year's 5A state championships, were involved in 127 victories during their four years.

Scoring

ROW (54) – Sashi Butler 22, Jasmine Cannon 15, Jasmine Norton 10, Devin Oliver 3, Sierra Cavitt 2, Amber Brown 2.

ROK (69) – Brittany Coleman 20, Peyton Adamson 19, Shelby Adamson 15, Sunny Satery 13, Nicole Schueneman 2.

Scoring

ROK (75) – Peyton Adamson 30, Brittany Coleman 19, Shelby Adamson 19, Taylor Whitehead 2, Raven Turner 2, Kayla Kimmons 2, Jordan Antherhaus 1.

SG (35) – Jenna Littleton 10, Maranda Martin 7, Briana Beale 6, Shalyce Holmes 5, Brittany Mitchell 4, Natalie Reyes 2, Jaqi Diggs 1.

Hawks

From Page 1B

Against the Pirates, the Hawks started out fast, jumping to a 6-0 lead in the first two and a half minutes. Potet, however, went on an 18-3 run to take a 19-9 advantage.

Heath managed to cut the deficit to six, 22-16, early in the third quarter but Potet ran off six consecutive points and the Hawks would get no closer than nine points the rest of the game.

It was ice cold shooting that did the Hawks in. Again.

Hitting just 11-of-52 field goal attempts, they shot a hard-to-imagine 21 percent for the game after shooting an even harder-to-imagine 17 percent in the first half (4-for-23).

Combined with their 21 turnovers, the Hawks had no real chance against the Pirates.

Jarin Brown was the only Hawk in double figures, finishing with 10 points in a non-starting role. Buttermore had

eight while Nielson and Logan Callier had seven each.

Buttermore, a 6-6 senior, had a game-high 11 rebounds.

The Pirates' Spencer Collins topped all scorers with 18 points while Delaney Dobard added 12.

The Hawks take to the road for their next two contests, traveling to Forney on Jan. 25 and Highland Park on Jan. 29.

Scoring

MP (51) – Spencer Collins 18, Delaney Dobard 12, Nick Shain 6, Eddie Adesodun 6, Walter Reynolds 3, Alex Magee 2, Dominique Lee 2, Nikhil Jeevaraj 2.

RH (37) – Jarin Brown 10, Chris Buttermore 8, Chase Nielsen 7, Logan Callier 7, Eric Larsen 4, Steven Zivney 1.

Scoring

GR (50) – Corey Bosworth 18, Jarel Nelson 10, Johnson 8, Spencer Banett 6, Anthony Yost 4, Cal Crabtree 3, Alton Dennis 1.

RH (64) – Chase Nielsen 20, Logan Callier 16, Chris Buttermore 15, D. Walker 4, Tennifer 3, Eric Larsen 2, D.J. Enoch 2, Jarin Brown 2.

Boys, girls prepare for tie-breaking contests

STAFF REPORT

ir of losses by the Roys City girls them in a sticky situation.

Lady Bulldogs (9-17, 3-3) suffered five losses at Emory Rains (35-33) 18 and at Nevada Community (60-42) on Jan. 22, putting them in a tie for third District 10-3A with Wills Point.

The tie will be broken Jan. 29 when City hosts Wills Point in the second game between the two teams. The Lady Bulldogs took the first meeting on Jan. 11, Wills Point on its own floor, 49-32.

The tie-scoring affair didn't play out the way Lady Bulldogs had hoped against Wills Point, 51-49.

The City led after three periods, 28-24, but the Bulldogs scored in the final stanza, outscored, 11-5 in the final stanza.

Sam Mullin led the team with 10 points and Kellie Wyrick tossed in nine.

Against Community, the Lady Bulldogs kept it close, trailing just 26-19 at the break, but things fell apart in the second half as they were outscored, 34-18, including 15-4 margin in the third period.

Holli Horbacz and Raven Alexander tied for a team-high nine points but three Lady Braves hit double-digits and stayed unbeaten in district play (6-0).

Roys City's boys (15-13, 3-1) split two contests last week but remain tied for the top spot in District 10-3A.

The Bulldogs began the week with an 87-39 rout of Rains on Jan. 18 but ended with a 53-45 loss at Community on Jan. 22.

Five players scored in double-figures for the Bulldogs in the big win over Rains.

Roys City built leads of 18-10, 49-20 and 66-26 while scoring 31 points in the second period alone.

Dustin Peterson had a game-high 22 points, J.T. Thompson and Justin Crutchfield each tossed in 14 while Kollin Padon and Justin Jacobs each contributed 11 points.

Crutchfield led the way with 12 points in the loss to Community. The Bulldogs trailed by a point entering the final frame but were outscored 16-9 over the final eight minutes.

Both teams will play at Commerce on Jan. 25 before returning home Jan. 29 to entertain Wills Point.

The Bulldogs could take over sole possession of first place with a win over Commerce (3-1).

ROCKWALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2007

	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capital Projects Fund	Other Governmental Funds	98 Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
00 Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 66,982,878	\$ 18,539,657	\$ 1,723,575	\$ 4,234,960	\$ 91,480,770
00 State Program Revenues	19,985,823	-	-	1,800,231	21,786,054
00 Federal Program Revenues	341,644	-	-	4,376,412	4,817,976
29 Total Revenues	\$ 87,009,665	\$ 18,539,657	\$ 1,723,575	\$ 10,011,612	\$ 117,284,509
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
11 Instruction	\$ 46,864,460	\$ -	\$ 3,139,823	\$ 3,657,994	\$ 53,662,277
12 Instructional Resources and Media Services	2,547,879	-	483,419	187,606	3,180,604
13 Curriculum and Staff Development	1,273,213	-	-	208,061	1,481,273
21 Instructional Leadership	784,707	-	-	19,773	764,934
23 School Leadership	4,722,416	-	204,865	117,900	5,045,202
31 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	3,050,912	-	-	391,429	3,442,341
33 Health Services	941,223	-	-	4,996	946,219
34 Student (Pupil) Transportation	3,207,282	-	781,390	3,997,244	7,985,916
35 Food Services	2,207,822	-	-	3,995,605	6,203,427
36 Extracurricular Activities	2,738,644	-	-	789,923	3,528,567
41 General Administration	3,618,448	-	29,040	310	3,647,798
45 Plant Maintenance and Operations	11,085,900	-	-	46,629	11,132,429
46 Security and Monitoring Services	473,946	-	-	36,716	510,662
48 Data Processing Services	1,166,661	-	-	625,295	1,791,956
49 Community Services	317,193	-	-	30,314	347,507
71 Principal on Long-term Debt	863,775	8,375,317	-	-	9,239,092
72 Interest on Long-term Debt	139,616	10,130,105	-	-	10,269,721
73 Bond Insurance Cost and Fees	2,000	350,337	-	-	352,337
81 Capital Outlay	8,504	-	42,270,992	-	42,279,496
83 Payments for Shared Service Arrangements	-	-	-	37,388	37,388
40 Total Expenditures	\$ 83,753,778	\$ 18,855,769	\$ 47,550,345	\$ 9,702,496	\$ 149,862,378
400 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ 3,255,887	\$ (316,102)	\$ (46,826,770)	\$ 309,116	\$ (42,577,699)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES AND (USES)					
911 Capital-Related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 84,000,000	\$ -	\$ 84,000,000
915 Transfers In	-	613	-	-	613
918 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	-	245,028	-	-	245,028
911 Transfers Out	-	-	(813)	-	(813)
990 Net Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	\$ -	\$ 245,641	\$ 83,999,187	\$ -	\$ 84,244,828
990 Net Changes in Fund Balances	\$ 3,255,887	\$ (70,261)	\$ 38,172,417	\$ 309,116	\$ 41,667,159
100 Fund Balances - Beginning (September 1)	22,376,881	2,654,614	34,049,495	1,291,870	60,372,760
200 Fund Balances - Ending (August 31)	\$ 25,632,768	\$ 2,584,353	\$ 72,221,912	\$ 1,600,986	\$ 101,939,919

accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

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ROCKWALL COUNTY

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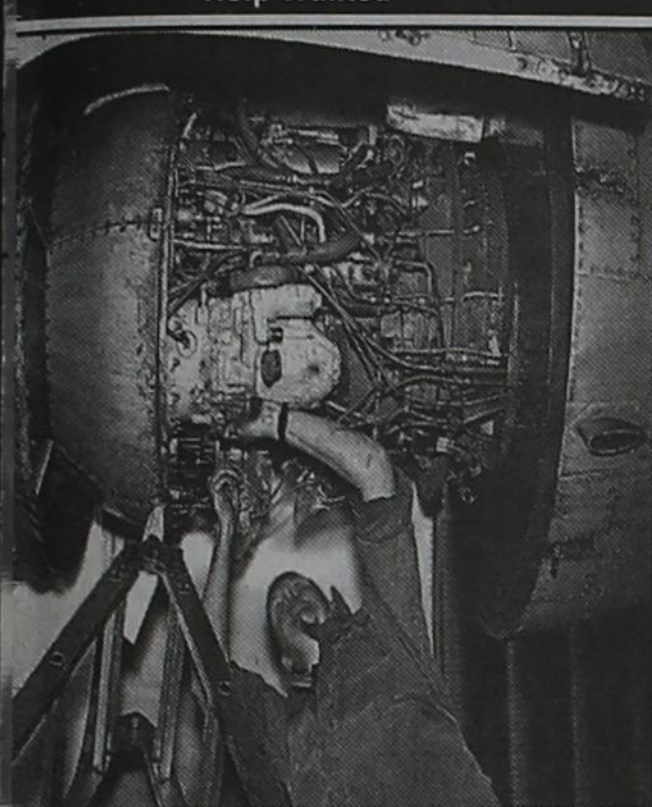
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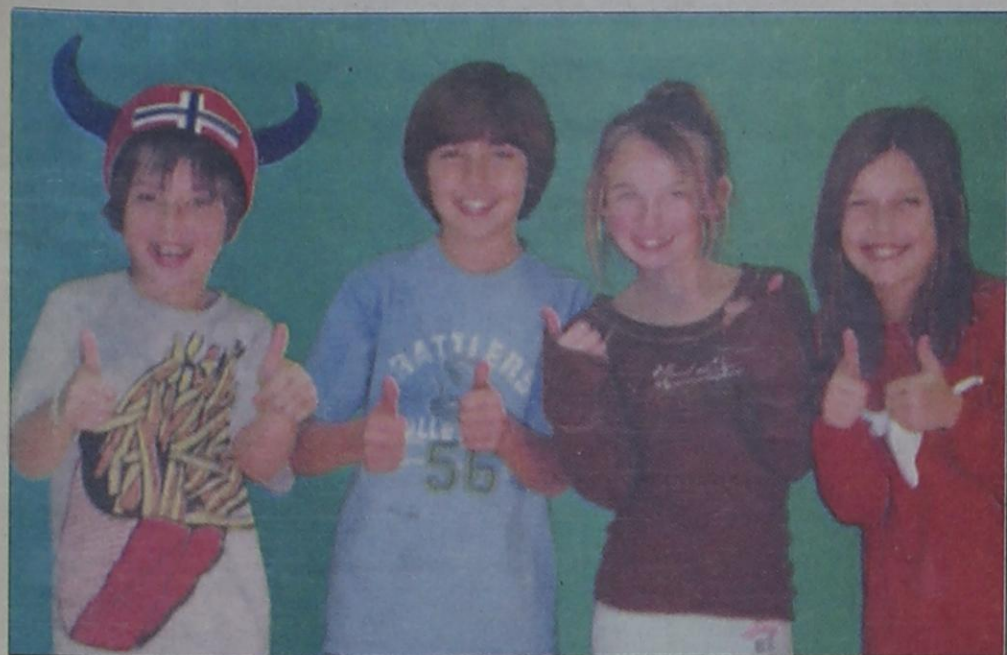


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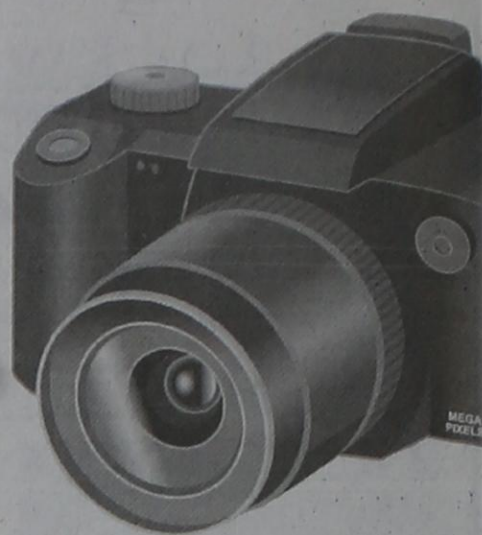
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Amy Parks Elementary fifth-grade students (from left) Nick Leggett, Tom Ross, Anika Smith and Haley Barrow perform a rap song they made up to help remember phases of the moon in front of the school's new green screen.

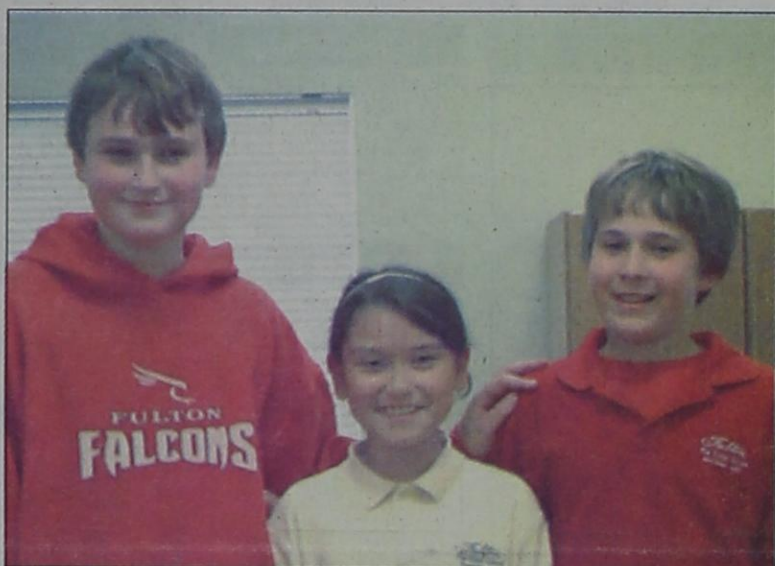
Community Snapshots



Author Susanvens Crummel visited Rochell Elementary with an excited student program. She picked pre-kindergarten student Aa Olivares to be little "plaidypus."



Reinhardt fourth-graders (from left) Tyler Vega and Jacob Hillman and fifth-graders Michael Bonfante and Will Morris enjoy Reinhardt Spirit Night at Joe Willy's Restaurant. Spirit nights are hosted by the Reinhardt PTA at local restaurants throughout the year. Joe Willy's donated a portion of the nights proceeds to Reinhardt's PTA. The money raised will help fund exciting programs and materials for the school.



The Fulton School's National Geographic Geography Bee winners were (from left) Tim Borgen, first place; Isabella Cerritos, third place; and Charles Cowell, second place. Borgen will advance to the regional level. He will take a written exam and, if he is among the top 100 contestants, will proceed to the state competition. This is his second year to win the event.



The Fulton School students (from left) Alex Hughes, Webster and Christian Gonzales participate in a classroom art project. Students take themselves on the project and added clothes to the project.

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To submit stories, photos, letters to the editor to Rockwall County News, direct e-mails to the following addresses:

- To contact publisher Bill Miller, e-mail publisher@rockwallcountynews.com.
- To contact managing editor West Miller, e-mail editor@rockwallcountynews.com.
- To contact a staff community reporter, e-mail news@rockwallcountynews.com.
- To contact sports editor Cliff Johnson, e-mail sports@rockwallcountynews.com.
- To contact the RCN by phone, call (972) 722-3099. Send fax submissions to (972) 524-8083.

Around Town

Grease' Auditions

Rockwall Community Playhouse auditions for the musical "Grease" at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 1-2. Performances begin in May. (972) 722-3399 or www.rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

Class of 2008

Students from the Rockwall High School Class of 2008 are offering flats of petunias and begonias for \$16 each in a variety of colors. Proceeds benefit the school and after-prom celebration. Order forms are due by Friday, Feb. 22 and flowers will be available for pickup in time for your planting. Donna Patrick (214) 697-1026.

Spring Show

Rockwall High School Stingers spring show is at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 8. Advance tickets are \$12 and the door \$15.

Community Band

Rockwall Community Band is seeking musicians for the spring summer concert season. Any woodwind, brass or percussion players, 15 and older are welcome. No audition necessary. Rehearsals are each Monday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Rockwall High School band hall, 717 Yellow Jacket Lane. Gary Peterson, (972) 961-4693 or www.rockwallcommunityband.org or the Web.

Helping Hands

Rockwall Helping Hands needs volunteers to work in the thrift store and the boutique. Patti Maggo, thrift store manager, (972) 722-0190, ext. 232. Helping Hands is a nonprofit assistance agency that has served Rockwall County for more than 30 years.

Library Closing

Rockwall County Library will be closed Monday, Feb. 18th for Presidents Day and will reopen Tuesday at the regular time.

Lunch Bunch

Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Luis's Mexican Cafe. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip. Pay at the door. Reservations are required. Leon Tuttle, (972) 771-6874.

