

Rockwall County News

Volume 23, Issue 12

USPS 002-495

Newsstand Price 50¢

Thursday, March 12, 2009

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News Briefs

Library expands hours, needs volunteers

In an effort to better serve the community, the Royse City Library has expanded its hours: noon to 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, noon to 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Volunteers are needed to serve as librarians during the expanded hours. For more details, contact Sue Clayton at 972-772-1748.

Newcomers Club plans meeting

The Rockwall Newcomers Club will meet at 10 a.m. today at the Charters Landing. The event will kick off with a coffee social, followed by a program, short business meeting and lunch. The cost is \$16 per person. To RVSP or for more details contact Betty Colquhoun at 972-722-5569 or Ann Small at 972-772-1748.

SKYWARN spotter training slated

SKYWARN spotter training, presented by the Fort Worth National Weather Service office, will run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Rockwall County Library, 1215 E. Yellowjacket in the Community Room on the first floor. SKYWARN training is designed to provide residents with the ability to recognize changing weather conditions. The free class is open to the public. For details call Joe DeLane at 972-772-6625.

Seniors Out-to-Lunch set Friday

The Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's Out-to-Lunch for seniors will be at Esteban's Restaurante Firewheel on Friday. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost will be \$7 for Rockwall residents, \$11 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Brown Bag Lecture scheduled

The Rockwall County Historical Foundation, in conjunction with the Rockwall County Historical Commission, will continue its Brown Bag Lecture Series at noon Friday in the Historic Courthouse. The City of Rockwall's new Main Street manager, Alan Golden, will present a program detailing the new Main Street City designation.

Mental illness support groups to meet

NAMI free support groups – one for individuals with mental illness in Room 121 and another for their families in Room 122 – will meet from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church, 1200 E. Yellowjacket Lane. For more details call Dee Whitfield at 972-412-6030.

Noon Lions plan meeting

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

American Legion to celebrate 90 years

The Rockwall American Legion Post No. 117 will observe its 90th anniversary luncheon at the Rockwall Civic Center on Friday, March 13. The event is an annual function celebrating the founding of the American Legion in 1919. Students from Rockwall High School and Rockwall-Heath High who attended Boys State and Girls State under the post's sponsorship will be feted.

Drummers for Jesus event slated

Drummers for Jesus will meet from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday in Room 122 of the Lake Pointe Church. Participants are urged to bring their drums or hand drums; fellowship and free food will be provided. For more details contact Carlos Benson at 972-722-2493.

IRC Chamber plans Tuesday meeting

Bryan Dodge, a well-known speaker on the subject of personal and professional development, will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Royse City Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday in the City Hall Melody Room.

IRC Breakfast Club changes location

The Royse City Breakfast Club Networking Group, which meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month, has moved its regular meetings from Denny's to the new Holiday Inn Express in Royse City. Breakfast bar costs \$2, with the meeting beginning at 8 a.m. The meeting is open to anyone interested in attending.

Golden Debs meeting slated

Individuals interested in tryouts for the high school drill team, Golden Debs, must attend a 6:45 p.m. March 24 meeting at the Rockwall High School library. Practices for tryouts will be from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 20; official line tryouts will be at 5 p.m. April 24 in the high school auxiliary gym. Info packets are available in the high school and middle school offices.

Game Night set at library

Game Night at the Rockwall County Library will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. March 24 in the big first-floor meeting room. Open to youths in grades 7 through 12, the event will include pizza for the first 30 participants. Door prizes, games and music will be part of the evening's activities.

Class in conversational Spanish offered

The continuation of the beginners' conversational class to help improve Spanish-speaking skills, Advanced Beginning Conversational Spanish, will be offered at 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays March 24 through April 28 in Room G206, Rockwall High School. Open to adults only, the class will be taught by Peggy Young. Cost is \$60. For details visit rockwallisd.com; select community tab.

Trip to Heritage Museum slated

A trip to the Heritage Farmstead Museum, open to individuals 18 and older, will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 27. The trip is sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department. Transportation, admission and guided tour is \$10 for residents and \$15 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

More News Briefs on Page 2



The Rockwall Rotary Club, which celebrated its 70th Anniversary on Thursday, March 5 with a past and present member's luncheon, gave a special tribute to Jane Bounds (left), who in 1988 was the first woman admitted to the Club. The former long-time publisher of the Rockwall Texas Success newspaper, Mrs. Bounds is joined by her daughter, Joy Greenwalt, and current Rotary Club President Bill Sinclair. (See accompanying article on Page 3)
Staff Photo by Kathy Williams

Funding approved for I-30/John King Blvd interchange, FM 740 expansion

by Kathy Williams

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) has approved \$23.5 million to be used for the construction of the John King Blvd./I-30 Interchange and for the Phase I expansion of FM 740 from FM 3097/Horizon Road south to FM 1140/Laurence Drive.

The funding announcement was made by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in Arlington to Rockwall County Commissioners Lorie Grinnan and Dennis Bailey on Thursday, March 5.

Grinnan said the money is only for the FM 740 and interchange road projects. She was quick

to point out that these funds are not part of the federal stimulus package recently approved by Congress. Nor are the projects connected to the \$100 million road bond package approved by Rockwall County voters in the November 2008 election.

"Although the American Recovering Reinvestment Act money doesn't directly go to these two projects, the stimulus money allowed for a reallocation of money by the RTC," she explained.

In simple terms, the money now being given to Rockwall County was originally designated for other projects. Federal stimulus money will now be used for those projects, allowing the RTC to move the original funds down the line to the two Rockwall County road projects.

Taxpayer Benefits

The benefit to taxpayers of finally receiving these funds means that Rockwall County and the cities of Rockwall and Heath will not have to ask taxpayers to foot the bill to improve the roads, or continue to live with Farm-to-Market roads that are incapable of carrying the increasing number of vehicles traveling on them each day.

"This is really TxDOT doing what they should do and the county and cities not having to allocate our tax dollars to do TxDOT projects that TxDOT should be doing," Heath Mayor John Ratcliffe said.

Bailey said Rockwall was able to leverage \$5 million from the 2004 Bond program into \$18 million for the John King interchange. The interchange will be an overpass over I-30 connecting the north/south ends of the recently completed John King Blvd.

He also said \$2.25 million from the 2004 bond vote is allocated for Phase II of the FM 740 expansion.

Grinnan said, "Had it not been for the county and cities taking on the leadership role in planning for and getting local bond approval, Rockwall County wouldn't have been in the position to take advantage of the situation created by the federal stimulus money."

"We have actively lobbied TxDOT, the Council of Governments (COG) and legislators in Austin. This has been a true collaborative effort among the cities and county. I don't think you can belittle the \$100 million road bond. That said to TxDOT that we're ready to step up and get local funding."

City Impact

Beginning in 2004, Rockwall County took a leadership position in forming the Transportation Consortium and passing a \$17.3 million countywide road bond.

The future impact of the FM 740 expansion to both the City of Rockwall and the City of Heath is almost immeasurable. Ratcliffe said when he became mayor of Heath in 2004, the road project was already six years behind its original 1998 start date.

"We've been told 'no' by TxDOT more times in the last five years that I care to admit to. We've been told alternately, 'No, there's no money for you – it's

(Continued on Page 3)

Williams Middle School students buy protective vest for police dog

by Kathy Williams

What started out as a school assignment turned into an extraordinary effort by a group of middle school girls to provide protection for one of Rockwall's finest.

Five students in the Gifted and Talented program at Williams Middle School, Bailey Ferguson, Alex Bridges, Alexis Appelquist, Meghan Johnson and Amanda Thomas, sold candy bars to raise the \$1,025 needed to buy a protective vest for Rockwall's only police dog, Officer Eros.

Students in Sandy Bridges' GT

class were assigned to identify a need and complete a community service project.

After discussing their options, the girls approached the school's resource officer, Phillip Young, to inquire if the Rockwall Police Department had any police dogs and if the dogs had protective vests. One of the girls had worked on a similar project before moving to Rockwall.

Officer Young let the girls know that Rockwall has one canine officer, but no protective vest.

Within three weeks of starting their fundraiser, they had raised

the money for the vest. They and their teacher presented the vest to Officer Eros and his two-legged "Brothers in Blue" on Thursday, Feb. 26 at Williams Middle School.

On hand to help receive the gift were Rockwall Police Chief Mark Moeller, Assistant Chief Kirk Riggs, Crime Prevention Officer Jay Shippy, Officer Young and K-9 Officer Josh Ellis.

Officer Young said he is appreciative of the effort the girls put forth to help protect the police dog. "They did a wonderful job and we really appreciate it."



Rockwall Canine Police Officer Eros (front center) wears his new protective vest, courtesy of members of the Williams Middle School Gifted and Talented class. Celebrating the gift are (back row from left) Rockwall Police Chief Mark Moeller, Williams Middle School Resource Officer Phillip Young, Crime Prevention Officer Jay Shippy, Assistant Chief Kirk Riggs, (front row from left) GT instructor Sandy Bridges, students Bailey Ferguson, Alex Bridges, Alexis Appelquist, K-9 Officer Josh Ellis, Meghan Johnson and Amanda Thomas.
Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

Women's League seeks nonprofit grant requests

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

Proceeds from the RWL's annual fundraising charity ball will be used to provide grants for area nonprofit organizations, as well as scholarships for high school seniors from Rockwall County.

This year's charity ball, operating under the theme "Mystique," is set for April 18 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas. To contribute or attend, contact Kendra Jones at 972-772-8052.

Last year, the RWL awarded \$35,000 to area organizations and \$135,000 in scholarships. Grant requests should include

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

Deadline for submissions is April 1.

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

News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Anime Group to meet

The Rockwall County Library's Anime Group will meet from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. March 28 in the big first-floor meeting room. Open to students in grades 7 through 12, the event will be offered free of charge.

'One for the Books' set March 29

"One for the Books," an original revue featuring songs from Broadway shows and performed by six generations of local performers, will be performed at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. March 29 at the library. Seating for the event, sponsored by the Capital Campaign of the Friends of the Library, will be limited. To reserve tickets or for more details e-mail cplagens65@aol.com. Tickets cost \$20 for the fundraiser, which will benefit the Capital Campaign.

Drum clinic offered

A drum clinic with Tommy Aldridge will begin at 7 p.m. March 30 at Lake Pointe Church. For more details contact Carlos Benson at 972-722-2493 or visit drummersforjesus.com.

Writers Group plans meeting

The Rockwall County Library's Writers Group will meet from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. March 31 in the big first-floor meeting room. The meeting will be free and open to students in grades 7 through 12.

RWL seeks grant requests

The Rockwall Women's League is accepting grant requests from nonprofit agencies serving Rockwall County. Grant requests, including program name, description, beneficiaries and amount requested, should be submitted in writing and mailed to P.O. Box 383, Rockwall, TX 75087, attn.: Caril Johnson. For information call Johnson at 214-537-9475. Deadline is April 1.

'Iron Man' is Wednesday flick

The April First Wednesday Flick, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will be "Iron Man." The movie will be screened at 3 p.m. April 1 at The Center, and admission is open to individuals ages 50 and older. Cost is \$1 for residents, \$2 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

RCC meeting set April 1

Lisa Frazier will continue her program at the next Rockwall Computer Council meeting set for 6:30 p.m. April 1 at The Center at Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington St., Rockwall. She will cover databases in Excel, as well as other topics. Anyone interested in computers - home or office - is invited to attend. For details call Joe Conrad at 972-771-8712.

Old-fashioned egg hunt slated

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

Pullen to celebrate 10th anniversary

Pullen Elementary will observe a 10th anniversary celebration from

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

Easter Egg Hunt set April 4

The Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's seventh annual Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. April 4 at the Tuttle Athletic Complex (Field 1, up to age 2; Field 3, ages 3-4; Field 2, ages 5-6; Field 4, ages 7-12). Candy and special prize eggs will be offered. Other activities are planned. For information call 972-771-7740.

55-plus choir organizing in Rockwall

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

Class offered on saving for retirement

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

Class to explore building financial portfolios

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

April 8 workshop on skin care

Taking Care of Your Skin will be offered April 8 at The Center. Open to individuals ages 50 and older, the free workshop will explore summer skin care, as well as the signs and symptoms of common skin problems. The event will run from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 972-771-7740.

'How to Stay Young' seminar offered

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

Book-writing workshops slated

California writer Bobbie Christensen will teach individuals how to develop and complete a manuscript in six weeks following her four-week plan and either submit the book to a publisher or self-publish. Required book will cost \$15 in class. Classes will run begin at 6 p.m. (writing) and 8 p.m. (publishing) April 9 at Rockwall High School, Room C205. Cost is \$20 per class. For details visit rockwallisd.com; select Community tab.

Concealed Handgun Certification class set

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

April 10 is Out-to-Lunch event

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

RISD sets weather make-up days

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

FOL plan Spring Lunch Basket event

The Friends of the Library Spring Lunch Basket will begin at 11 a.m. April 14 at the Rockwall Rotary Hall, 408 S. Goliad. The program will be provided by RHS Spotlight Productions. Jose Melendez will cater. RSVPs required by April 10: 872-771-8976 or cplagens65@aol.com.

Babysitter training offered

An American Red Cross training for future babysitters, ages 14 and older, will be offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 11 at The Center. Cost is \$60 for residents, \$83 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Casino trip for seniors scheduled

A day trip to the Choctaw Casino in Durant, Okla., will be hosted by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department on April 15. Open to individuals 50 and older, the trip will include an 8 a.m. departure and a 6:30 p.m. return. Cost will be \$20 for residents, \$30 for non-residents. For more details call 972-771-7740.

Family Fun Fridays begin April 17

Family Fun Fridays, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department, will run April 17 through May 8. Free activities will begin at 7:30 p.m. each Friday, including contests, disc golf, shuffleboard, pick-up wiffle ball games, face painting, fishing and a bounce house. A movie is set for 9 p.m. each week. Families should bring picnic lawn chairs, blankets and FM radios. For more information call 972-771-7740.



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Entered at U.S. Post Office, Rockwall, Texas 75087 as Second Class Periodical Material. Postmaster: send address changes to: Rockwall County News, P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087 (972) 722-3099 - Fax (972) 722-2199
Wesley W. Burnett, Publisher
107 E. Bourne Ave., Rockwall, Texas 75087
Rockwall County News is Rockwall County's only newspaper which satisfies the statutory requirements for publication of required legal notices. (See Texas Government Code 2051.044 and 2051.048)
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Subscription Rates:
For All U.S. Zip Codes - \$30.00 per year
6 Months: \$16.00 or 3 Months: \$12.00
Deadline:
5 p.m. Tuesdays
web site: www.rockwallcountynews.com
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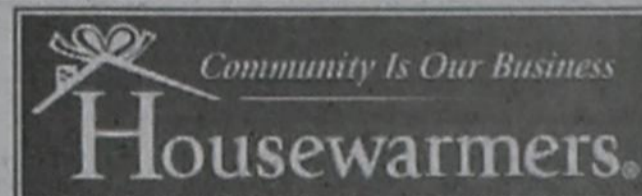
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Rockwall Rotary Club celebrates 70 years of service

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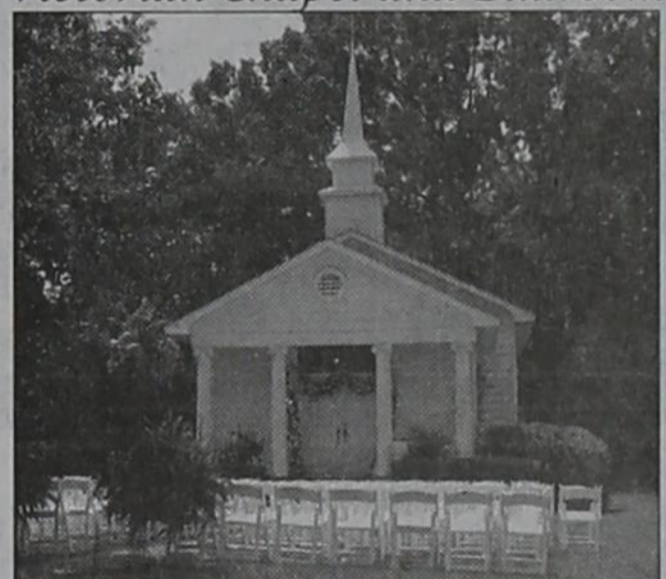
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all Rotary Hall was on only as current members came together to celebrate 70 years of community service and commitment by the Rotary Club.
 On March 15, 1939 the Garland Rotary Club's newest organization paved the way for the club's charter members names familiar in Rockwall County, B. Brooks Jr., R.F. Driskill, E.L. Ed Gilbert, F.V. Irvin, Harry R. Martin, Curry, Hal Phelps, Reese, J.J. Sears, Don Skelton, O.L. Steger, Forest Stephenson, Foy Thomas, H.M. Wade Jr., J.O. Wallace and J.A. Wilkerson.
 Forest Stephenson was the charter president, with M.B. Shook serving as vice-president.
 Several special guests were on hand to offer their congratulations to Club members, including District Governor L.B. Showalter; Roger Jahnel from the Garland Rotary Club; Stan Pinkham Royse City Early Bird Rotary Club and Stephen Straughn of the Rockwall Breakfast Rotary Club.
 Rockwall Rotary has had its share of highlights since those early days. The Club moved to its current meeting hall on Goliad Street in 1945. It has owned the building, which is now man-

aged through the Rockwall Rotary Foundation, since that time. The Foundation was created in 1996.
 Rotary has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 314 since 1939, and began presentation of the Rotarian of the Year and Perfect Attendance Awards in 1968. Forest Stephenson was the first Paul Harris Fellow in January 1979. As of February 2009, 98 Paul Harris Fellows have been named, with \$161,344 contributed to the Rotary Foundation.
 Rotary began selecting an Outstanding Policeman of the Year in 1985 and added Fireman and Emergency Medical Technician of the Year in 1986. The honor now includes a \$100 cash award.
 Rotary has presented a scholarship to a Rockwall High School senior since 1981 and began offering the same award to a Rockwall-Heath High School senior in 2008.
 The Drug Free Youth in Texas (D-FY-IT) program was founded by the Tyler, Texas Rotary Club in 1985, with Rockwall initiating the program in 1986.
 The first woman Rotary member was Jane Bounds, publisher of the Rockwall Texas Success newspaper. She was initiated in February 1988.

Current Rockwall Rotary Club President Bill Sinclair presented Mrs. Bounds with the Horizon Award in recognition of her dedication and leadership as the first female member. Mrs. Bounds was accompanied to the luncheon by her daughter and son-in-law, Joy and Jim Greenwalt.
 Rotary member Don Stodghill received the Allegiance Award for 41 years of perfect attendance, from 1968 to 2009. Member Joe Loftis was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for the longest tenure of uninterrupted membership, from 1958-2009.

Twenty-three past presidents were in attendance at the luncheon and were recognized for their service to Rotary. Those in attendance were Raymond B. Cameron, 1956-57; Don R. Stodghill, 1968-69; David H. Canup, 1973-74; Bruce Beaty, 1977-78; Gary Tapley, 1978-79; Dennis Vierling, 1979-80; Art Kuhlman, 1982-83; R.D. Vanderslice, 1984-85; Kent



Rockwall Rotary Club President Bill Sinclair (front row right) is joined by past Club president and local representatives and guests at the 70th Anniversary celebration of the Rockwall Rotary Club on Thursday, March 5 at the Rotary Hall. Rockwall's Rotary Club was chartered on March 15, 1939. Photo by Kathy Williams

Rockwall County road funding ...

part of preliminary work needed on FM 740, such as utility relocations and right-of-way acquisitions. "We have pushed that with TxDOT as early as 2006 saying, 'We're ready, we've made our commitment,'" Ratcliffe said.
 "Many of our roads are Farm-to-Market roads but they are our major transportation routes - 552, 549, 276, 740. These are our major roads, regardless of how TxDOT or other people look at them. These are our major roads," Cecil said.
I-30 Interchange
 The addition of the new interchange, connecting the two halves of the John King Blvd., will also help to ease traffic issues and bring renewed business opportunities to the city, Cecil said. The overpass will be the final link in the 7.4-mile north-south roadway, helping to redistribute traffic, improve the quality of life for residents and provide an economic stimulus for future development.
 He said, "In 2005, we first authorized \$45 million for the John

King Blvd., and we've built that roadway on time and under cost. And now we're leveraging the \$4 million that didn't get spent on other projects in the city. So, we're leveraging that money twice."
 Cecil added that, although much of the discussion centered on what TxDOT had done or had not done in past years concerning the area's road projects, "TxDOT is not our enemy. The Legislature, right on down through the transportation commission, has not funded, in any way, the transportation needs of this state, much less Rockwall County. I believe TxDOT overall has done a reasonable job of trying their best to fulfill their mission with absolutely and totally inadequate funding."
Phase II
 With funding finally in place on these two road projects, Cecil, Grinnan, Bailey and Ratcliffe all agree that the focus needs to shift to funding for Phase II of the FM 740 expansion project. Phase II will run from the FM 740 in-

tersection with Laurence Drive near The Fulton School and head south to the stop sign at FM 549, just south of Rockwall-Heath High School.
 Cecil said Phase II will be the biggest benefit to the movement of traffic in the southern part of the county because of the location of schools in that area.
 "Historically, the real challenge is getting TxDOT to start a project as opposed to continuing a project. So, we feel very good in light that there's already some money set aside from the 2004 Bond election to contribute and meet our end of the Phase II project and that that project will begin before the first phase is finished," Ratcliffe said.
 Bailey said the lesson learned from this process is to have the projects ready, with the engineering and environmental worked out, "and being poised and ready at the opportunity when there is funding available, whether it's federal stimulus money or whether it's TxDOT or whether there's proposition money that's passed."

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Helen Mitchell (seated) with her daughter Linda Duran.

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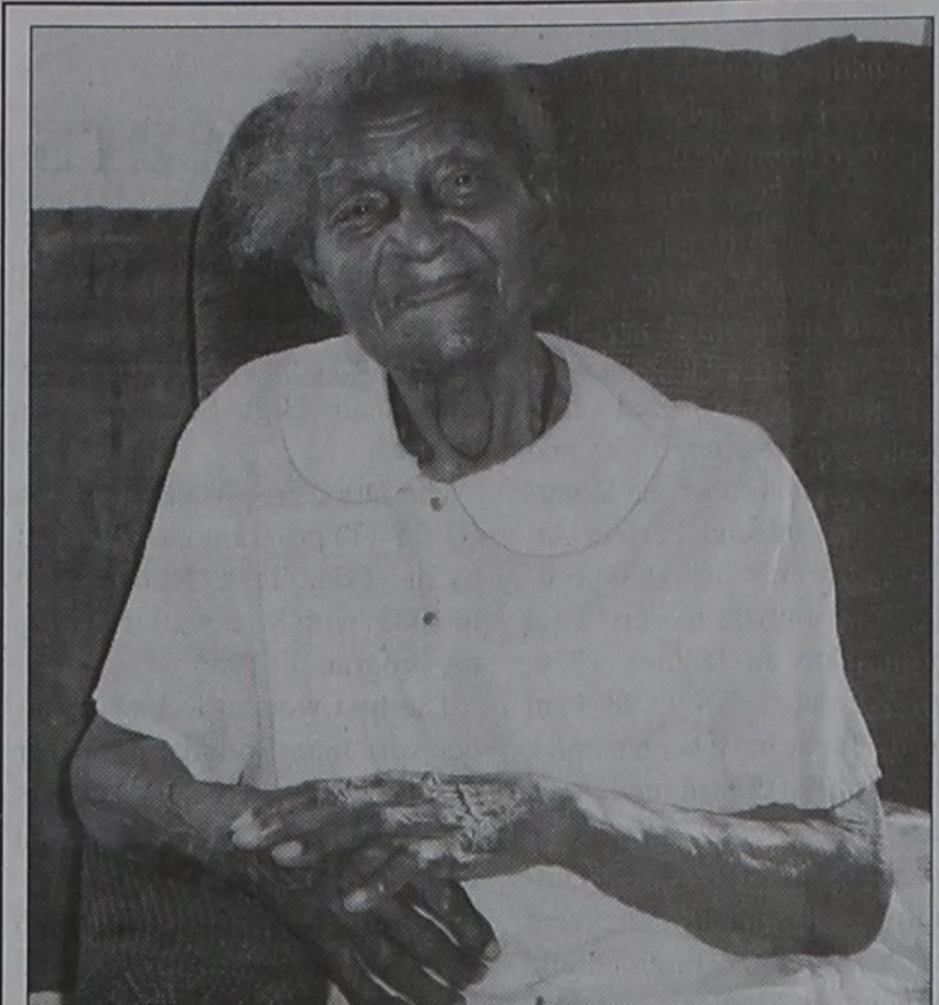
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Christine Meeks of Rockwall recently celebrated her 99th birthday. She is a co-founder of Royse City's Meeks Chapel, which she faithfully attends. "Christine continues to live independently and has an amazing attitude because of her joy for life," said a representative of the Rockwall County Committee on Aging. "We are blessed to have such a wonderful lady in our community."

Legacy's program on learning differences set tonight

From 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, parents from Rockwall and surrounding area can get answers to questions they may have about their children's learning differences and how to overcome them.

The Legacy School of Rockwall will host a panel discussion on learning differences at the Rockwall Independent School District Administration and Education Building, 1050 Williams St., in Rockwall.

The panel will include Dr. Robert F. Mehl III, a clinical psychologist who specializes in learning disorders and president of the Psychological Association and The Legacy School Board of Directors; Dr. Kurt Pfeiffer, a Rockwall pediatrician and owner of Up, a teen fitness center; Jo Polk, a certified academic language therapist and educational diagnostician and director of The Legacy School; and Dr. Terri Zerfas, coordinator for the Southern Methodist University Diagnostic Center for Dyslexia and Related Disorders and a certified academic language therapist and educational diagnostician.

More information about The Legacy School of Rockwall, a private, nonprofit Christian school specifically for children with learning differences, is available by visiting legacy-school-rockwall.com or by calling 972-722-9342.

Ken Dominy honored by family and friends on his 90th Birthday

Contributed by Louise Kosta

On March 17, 1919, Frank and Altha Dominy of Independence, KS became the proud parents of a baby boy named Kenneth. That same day, halfway around the world, the

American Legion was founded by a group of U.S. veterans of World War I.

Frank and Altha had no way of knowing that their small son would grow up to serve his country in a second world war, become a member of the American Legion himself and serve as an officer in his local Legion Post.

But so it was, and this year, both Ken Dominy and the American Legion celebrate 90 years. Legion Posts all around the country will mark the occasion of their organization's founding. Ken's birthday celebration will be held right here in Rockwall.

Ken's long life is a classic story of "The Greatest Generation." After graduating from Independence High School, Ken set aside his oboe, violin and drum, and studied petroleum engineering at the University of Tulsa, graduating in 1941.

Soon America was at war, and Ken entered the Army Air Corps in 1943. He rose to the rank of captain, serving as an Aircraft Engineering Officer in the 392nd Air Service Squadron in New Guinea, Leyte, Luzon and elsewhere in the Pacific theater. Ken was responsible for the work of more than 100 mechanics and technicians who maintained and repaired C-46 and C-47 aircraft, the "warrior workhorse" troop and cargo planes of the Pacific.

When Ken was honorably dis-

charged on March 17, 1946, he earned the Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with Four Stars and other decorations. He had also attended military courses at Yale and in California and Florida.

Soon Ken was pursuing a successful career as a manager of drilling and production for petroleum companies including Atlantic, Midwest Oil Corporation in Fort Worth, Amoco and Kansas Nebraska Natural Gas Company. His work took him to Algeria, Pakistan and the Philippines. In 1941, he married the former Pauline Talley and together they had a daughter, Dorothy Ann.

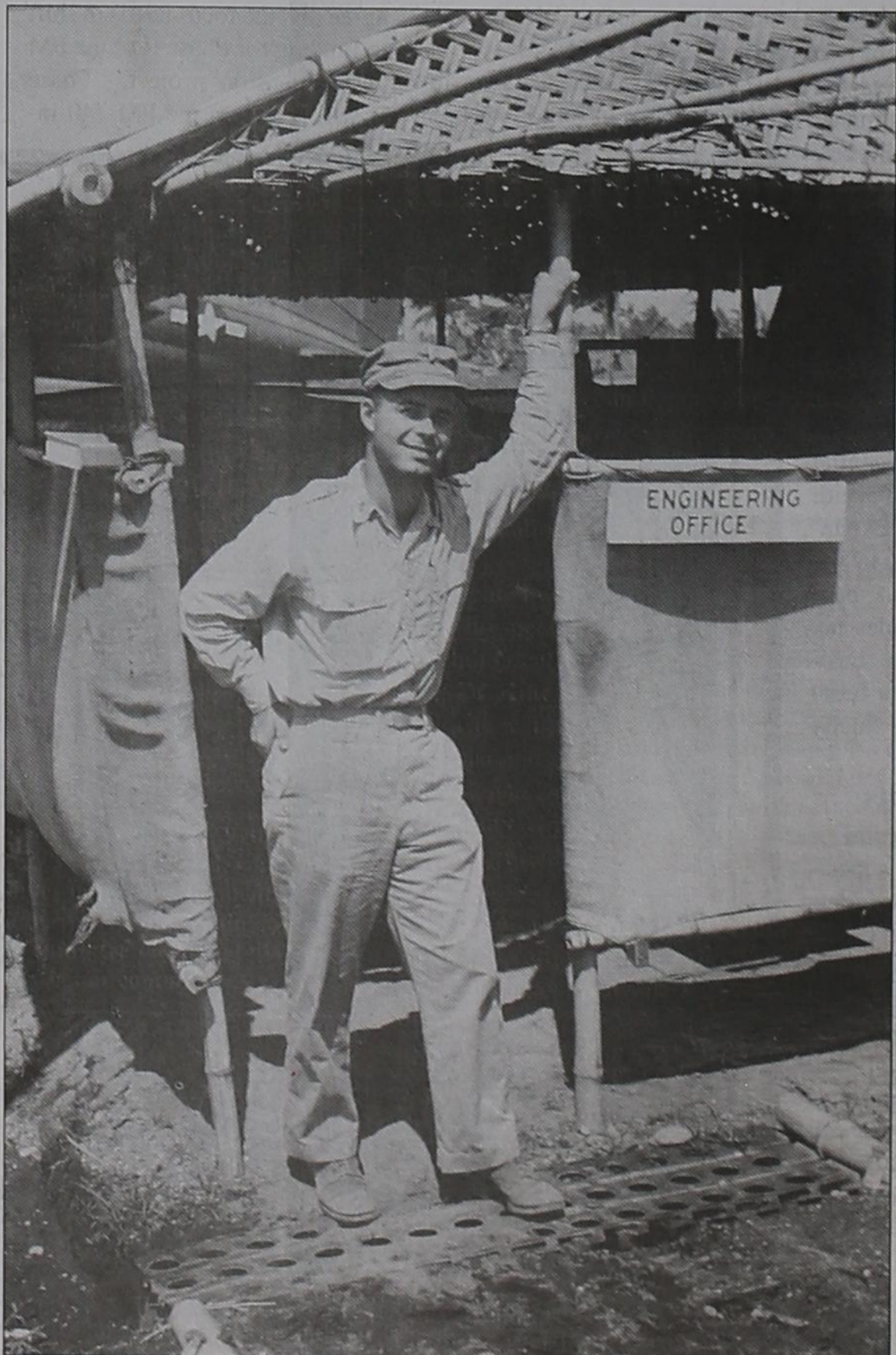
Despite his many professional and family responsibilities, Ken has never forgotten the importance of giving back. He lived in Denver, CO for many years, and was a member of the Petroleum Club, The Denver Executive's Club, the Pioneers, Society of Petroleum Engineers and Service Corps of Retired Executives.

Ken and Maggie Jenkins, his second wife, married in 1977. Together, they developed a keen interest in environment and health issues. This interest led to Ken's service as Secretary/Treasurer of the Rocky Mountain Environmental Health Association, and as President of the Human Ecology Action League, Inc., a national nonprofit organization concerned with environment and health.

Ken and Maggie moved to Denver to Rockwall in 1977. They love its natural beauty, its friendly, small town feel. "It's the perfect place to raise a family," said Maggie. "People are so friendly, neighbors look out for one another and the community spirit is second to none."

Although by 1991, Ken retired from most of his ties, he joined American Legion Post 117 and served as Financial Officer for nearly a decade. He and Maggie are active members of Rowlett United Methodist Church and The New Beginnings School Class.

On Saturday, March 14, family and friends will celebrate Ken's birthday. Dorothy Ann is coming in from all over the U.S. to celebrate Ken's birthday. Dorothy Ann is coming in from all over the U.S. to celebrate Ken's birthday. Dorothy Ann is coming in from all over the U.S. to celebrate Ken's birthday.



Capt. Ken Dominy in New Guinea in 1943.

up needs upcoming

Rockwall County Cities... Prepared (VIP) and... will conduct a full-scale... on March 21 in the... of volunteers are n... exercise participation... available for individuals... exercise will simulate the... through the distribu... provide dispensing time ar... are free to enjoy the... Rockwall County VIP pro... to support officials durin... local hospitals and medic... or handle the number o... the program operates und... judge, the county's publ... need not reside in... more information, call 972... Rockwall County VIP, Att... Drive, Rockwall, TX

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April 16 - Amanda Rochel... Dorothy Smith Pallen... Springler, 6 p.m.; Sha... 6 p.m.

Rockwall County Obituaries

Robert Burton Cruse

Services for Robert Burton Cruse are scheduled to be conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, March 16, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Visitation will precede the service.

He died Feb. 24.

Born July 22, 1930, in Houston to Dr. Percy Cruse and Ultima (Green) Cruse, he graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in business and worked for American General, Newby & Associates and his own company, Cruse Engineered Products Do. (CEPCO) in the Dallas area. Upon semi-retirement, he was business manager for his daughter's business, Aerial Works Gymnastics, in the Rockwall/Rowlett area. He was instrumental in forming two AA groups in the Rockwall and Rowlett areas and acted as a sponsor for many members.

Survivors include his children, Robert B. Cruse Jr. and wife, Margaret, of Rockwall, Christine Cruse Warrick and her husband, Tom, of Rockwall, C. Tait Cruse and his wife, Joy, of Frisco, and Clayton H. Cruse and his wife, Holli, of Plano; and his grandchildren, Justin, Nathan, Mitch, Lexie, Trent, Kylie, Mackenzie, Connor, Carson and Mason.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly; his parents; two brothers; and one sister.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations be made to TeamConnor Cancer Foundation by visiting teamconnor.org.

Andy R. Gossett

Graveside services for Andy R. Gossett, 77, of Caddo Mills were conducted at 2 p.m. March 5, 2009, in the Restland Memorial Park in Dallas with Dr. Aubrey Patterson officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He died March 3.

Born March 6, 1931, in Wylie to A.T. and Dovie Mae (Dunlap) Gossett, he worked for 18 years with Ford Motor Co. and 21 years with the City of Garland until his retirement in 1992.

Survivors include his children, Debra Pease of Caddo Mills and Andy Gossett and his wife, Kim, of Nevada, Texas; his sisters, Frances Lewis and her husband, Archie, of Lucas, Janie Huston of Dallas and Geneva Bayless of Garland; his brothers, Leton Gossett of Garland, Kenneth Gossett and his wife, Maria, of Anton, Bill Gossett of Anton and Sammy Gossett and his wife, Mary, of Caddo Mills; his grandchildren, Misty Gossett and her husband, David, of Farmersville and Joseph Pease and his wife, Julie, of Waxahachie; a great-granddaughter, Katie Gossett of Farmersville; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Willie; and siblings Denny, Marie, Fada, James and Margie.

Choir organized for 55-plus adults

A community choir for musicians ages 55 and older is organizing in Rockwall.

Russ Porter, owner of the Rockwall School of Music, is organizer of the choir, which will observe weekly rehearsals at 1 p.m. beginning April 6. Rehearsals will culminate in a Memorial Day performance at the Rest Haven Funeral Home on May 25.

"This choir is specifically designed with senior musicians in mind," said Porter. "Being a part of a choir is tons of fun. Having a specific goal to sing for a community-wide Memorial Day service is an extra bonus."

Rehearsals will take place at the Rockwall School of Music, located at 749 Justin Road. To register call 972-722-6874.



Edgar Vernon Nevels

Services for Edgar Vernon Nevels, 78, of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 7, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with the Rev. Weldon Doherty officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He died March 4.

Born March 23, 1930, in San Antonio to Edgar and Addie J. (Ashley) Nevels, he served in the U.S. Army in Korea as a weapons specialist. He was employed as an internal audit supervisor at Southwestern Bell before retiring in 1986. He was a private pilot, having purchased his own plane following his retirement. He also enjoyed woodcarving and knife-making. He was a member of Lake Pointe Church.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen (Cannon) Nevels of Rockwall; a daughter, Diane Archer and her husband, Jerry, of Poetry; a son, Edward Nevels of Rockwall; and his grandsons, Austin Nevels and Matt Luther.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one grandson, Taylor Luther.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested memorial contributions be made to the Lake Pointe Church, 701 E. I-30, Rockwall, TX 75087.

Terry Simmons

Memorial services for Terry Simmons, 60, of Garland were conducted at 3 p.m. Monday, March 9, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Aubrey Patterson officiating.

He died March 5.

Born Nov. 13, 1948, in Bogalusa, La., to Bill and Lillie Mae (Smith) Simmons, he had worked in the family business, Simmons Moving & Storage. He was a free spirit, an avid motorcycle rider and had lived in many places, resulting in friends in various locations. He enjoyed animals, especially his two rat terriers, Sweet Pea and Sugar. He was active with his Alcoholics Anonymous family.

Survivors include his daughter, Dixie Miller and her husband, Marion, of Rockwall; his son, Terry "Bud" Simmons of Dallas; his granddaughters, Chloe and Madeleine Miller; and a brother, Billy Simmons and his wife, Sharon, of Bogalusa.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to the Alcoholics Anonymous Rockwall Branch, "The Big Book Group," 213 E. Rusk, Rockwall, TX 75087.

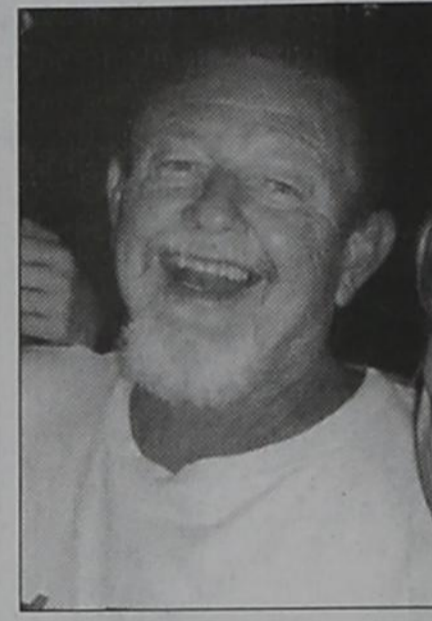
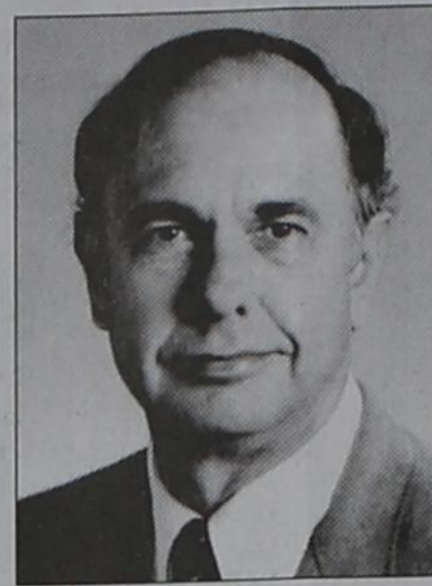
Elizabeth Sharron Van Wolff

Services for Elizabeth Sharron Van Wolff, 64, of Rockwall were scheduled for 3 p.m. today, Thursday, March 12, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Lynn Golden officiating.

She died March 9.

Born March 9, 1945, in Denver, Colo., to Albert and Betty (Manning) Brandsma, she was a medical report writer and a member of the Lutheran faith.

Survivors include her husband, William Allen Fickett of Rockwall; one daughter, Christine Kowal and her husband, Adam, of Rockwall; her sisters, Betty Richards and her husband, Vaughn, of Denver and Kaye Orten and her husband, Rusty, of Boulder, Colo.; and her grandchildren, Samuel Connell, Kassandra Walker, Jordan Walker and Madison Kowal.



Rockwall County Religious Life

Event helps local girls, African children

The Lake Pointe Girls' Ministry and the Adoption and Care Ministry have been collecting "gently-used" prom and dresses for the upcoming Formal-ly Yours Dress Sale at the Bella Harbor from 8 a.m. to noon on March 21.

The groups have collected more than 650 formal dresses, and accessories to be sold at a discount.

"With the shaky economy, we hope this sale will help across the Metroplex find the perfect dress at an incredible price," said Jennifer Piercy, Orphan Ministry coordinator at Lake Church. "For each person that donated a dress or buys a dress, we will have the incredible opportunity to give back in style, and proceeds from the sale will benefit orphan care in South Africa."

Dresses range from short cocktail dresses to fully beaded gowns, including many name-brand dresses such as Terry White House Black Market and David's Bridal, as well as jewelry and purses. All dresses will be priced \$25 to \$50, with section for retro clothes for costume or theme parties.

Before the event, "we will have an opportunity to give dresses locally at no cost to them," Piercy said. "In addition, we have the opportunity to raise money for housing for children with HIV/AIDS in South Africa. I'm amazed by the generosity of the Hilton Bella Harbor/Rockwall that provided a ballroom for the sale and the generosity of each individual that gave a dress."

Dresses will be collected up until the date of the sale. Donated formal dresses and accessories may be made at the Pier 4:19 Center at Lake Pointe Church during weekday business hours. For more information contact DeeDee at 469-371-1800 or dee@sbglobal.net.

Good Friday Services

Night of Worship at LakeShore Church, April 10 - all are invited to LakeShore Church for a special hour of solemn reflection beginning at 7 p.m. in the LakeShore Sanctuary. Childcare will be provided for ages 3 and younger. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. time of silent prayer. LakeShore also will observe Sunday Morning Resurrection Day services on April 12. Services times are 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. For more information visit lakeshore.org.

Lake Pointe Church to show "The Passion of Christ" - Taped version of the movie will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Pic Auditorium on April 10; be advised of the graphic and intense nature of the film when considering bringing children. No childcare will be provided. Run time is 126 minutes.

Easter services at Joy Lutheran

Joy Lutheran Church will observe Holy Week activities 5-12. On April 5, Palm Sunday, 10:30 a.m. worship celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem; April 9, Maundy Thursday 7 p.m. worship commemorating Jesus' last supper with his disciples; April 10, Good Friday, 7 p.m. worship remembering Jesus' death on the cross; April 12, Easter Sunday, worship at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with free breakfast at 9 a.m. and an Easter egg hunt at 9:30 a.m.

The church is located at 302 N. Goliad St. (Hwy. 205) in Rockwall one block north of the Rockwall County Courthouse. The Rev. Appel is the pastor. Contact him at 972-771-4161 or visit joylutheran.org.

First Baptist, Heath, celebrates with pancakes

The First Baptist Church of Heath will host a church-wide pancake breakfast at 9 a.m. on Easter Sunday.

Ridgeview Church adds weekend service

Ridgeview Church is undergoing growth, and on Easter Sunday the church will begin offering two weekend services. The new service times beginning April 23 will be at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. ridgeview.net for more details.

Holy Week, Easter at First UMC, Rockwall

On Palm Sunday, April 5, "The Seven Last Words of Christ" will be presented by the Chancel Choir in the sanctuary at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. At 11 a.m., Open Door Worship in the Community Room on the second floor of the ECCEB, a service of palms, scripture, music and communion.

On Maundy Thursday, April 9, will be a service of communion featuring the Christ-Now Choir and the Rev. Joe Pool delivering the message.

On Good Friday, April 10, will be a Service of Tenebrae, featuring readings, special music and the extinguishing of candles.

On April 11, a children's Easter egg hunt will take place at 10 a.m. on the church campus.

On Easter Sunday, April 12, at 6:30 a.m., a youth-led sunrise service with communion will be conducted. Traditional worship will take place in the sanctuary at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., with Rev. Joe Pool's sermon, "Who Are You Looking For?" At 11:30 a.m. Open Door Worship in the Commons, second floor of ECCEB, the Rev. Valarie Englert's sermon, "From Darkness to Light."

The church is located at 1200 E. Yellowjacket in Rockwall.

Lake Pointe plans four Easter services

Lake Pointe Church will conduct Easter weekend services at 8 p.m. and 6 p.m. on April 11 and at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on April 12. For more details visit lakepointe.org.

'Marriages That Last' seminar offered

The "Marriages That Last" seminar will be offered from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. April 18 at the Lake Pointe Church.

The event is open to married and pre-married couples. Presenters will include the lead pastor, Steve Stroope; Carol Siderea, director of the Lake Pointe Counseling Center; and Shepherd, director of New Hope Financial Fitness.

Cost is \$30 per couple, including breakfast, seminar manual and childcare. Call 469-698-2250 for more information or register online at lakepointe.org.

HCA hosts Texas history trip for students

The Heritage Christian Academy's seventh grade class will take a three-day South Texas bus tour with Dan Dipert Learning Trip Feb. 23-25.

The group's first stop was at the Dr Pepper Museum-Free Enterprise Institute in Waco, where students learned about the history of soft drink and worked in teams to create and market experimental soft drinks. Then they went to Baylor University where they toured the campus and had dinner at Penland Hall. The group traveled to Austin for swimming and an overnight stay.

The next morning the group enjoyed a VIP tour of the state capitol, ending with a class picture with State Rep. Jodie Laubert. Following lunch on the lawn, the group toured the Bob Bullock Museum and the LBJ Library.

After leaving Austin, the students stopped in New Braunfels for a German meal at Oma's Haus. They finished the evening with a ride on the San Antonio River in San Antonio.

The last day of the trip began with an Ash Wednesday service at the Mission Concepcion. During the day the group visited Mission San Jose, watched "Alamo - The Price of Freedom" at IMAX Theater, dined at Mi Tierra's, shopped at The Market and toured the Alamo.

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RHHS Fashion Show set April 23

The Rockwall-Heath High School Family & Consumer Science Fashion Design classes plan to showcase area mer-

chants in their third annual fashion show beginning at 7 p.m. on April 23 in the RHHS cafeteria.

Seventy-six students models will wear garments from local stores as part of the event.

The fashion design classes spent several months preparing for the show, studying the history of fashion, fashion drawing and the production of fashion shows.

This year's theme is South Side Style. The show will be produced by the fashion design classes under the leadership of senior Sarah Kinser and junior Alex West.

Merchants to be highlighted in the show include Groovy's of downtown Rockwall, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Heath Hair & Day Spa, Dots Fashion, Zeus at the Harbor, Logo's Plus, Al's Formalwear, David's Bridal, and Men's Wearhouse. Local, home-based businesses also will be at the show with fashion items available for purchase.

Admission to the show, which will be open to the public, will be \$3.

For more information or to purchase a booth call fashion design instructor Julie Durst at 972-772-2474.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- USS Texas was at this Normandy event
- country singer McEntire
- office vacated by TX George W.
- TXism: "overcoat" (cliff)
- TXism: "slinger" (writer)
- Tyler County "Festival"
- TXism: "I ___ that like a duck needs an umbrella"
- TXism: "scarce as a ___ in Brownsville"
- prefix for "once more"
- "___ in full"
- party of U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett (abbr.)
- small cave
- this TX Bill was Clinton's Ag. Sec.
- this TX-born Ernie was "Mr. Cub" (init.)
- TXism: "you're hanging your ___ my line"
- Dallas urban transit provider (abbr.)
- TXism: "lower ___ snake's belly"
- TX Stevie Ray biography: "Caught in ___"
- UT grad cartoonist Bill
- former TX oil well fire fighting business: "Red ___"
- TXism: "good ___ boy"
- "girl" in England
- in Hill Co. on 171
- TX case Roe v. Wade challenged the ___ of abortion
- TX-based phone co. before it became Verizon
- TX Kenny Rogers sang "I Can Make It On My Own"
- TX-born actress Burnett
- war of TX hero Audie Murphy (abbr.)
- "Ambush in Waco: In the Line ___"
- TX common bar name: "___ Watering Hole"
- '89 film with TX-born Kathy Baker
- novel by TX Dan Jenkins: "___ Perfect"
- most eager
- London cantina: "Texas ___"
- TX ___ Bush
- TXism: "smart as a bunkhouse ___"
- Department of Labor agency (abbr.)
- TXism: "the tail is wagging ___"
- Dallas Stars score
- TXism: "faster than a prairie fire with ___ wind"
- City, TX
- Edinburgh resident
- negative subatomic particles
- TXism: "best I ever wrapped ___"
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- "The eyes of Texas upon you"
- TX-bred Assault won the "Kentucky ___" in '46
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972-771-4161 or visit
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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett
For archives of On God's Word visit
geocities.com/christinyou7love

His Word
God is able to heal our hearts and minds to the end that we may be able to meekly tap into the more than abundant life that is in Him. We have God's word where it says, "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him amen, unto the glory of God." (Psalm 107:20). What a fantastic truth for us to meditate on in our hearts. This has already come to pass. Jesus Christ gave his life as God's purchased price for all of us. He is the living Messiah who is seated at the right hand of God's authority. Jesus Christ is our power of atonement, and he has received for us the throne of grace and receive healing from the heart. And to guard these we must put God's word in the heart. We must pray to God often with believing and thankful hearts, making our requests known to Him. Philippians 4:8-9 sums it up perfectly, "Finally Brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if any praise, think on these things. Those things which ye have both learned, received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." All those deep pains, anger, fears and strong desires will truly disappear when we continue to think on those things mentioned above, and the God of peace absolutely shall be able to work mightily in our lives when we do those things which we both learned, received, heard and saw in God's servant the apostle Paul in the name of Jesus the Christ. We have God's word written to the body of Christ in the epistles. This is our instruction manual for tapping into God's powerful and healing words of everlasting life. We have the book of Acts, which show how God is able to work mightily for His people during this age of grace. God truly sent His word and healed us. It is our responsibility to do what it takes to benefit from what God so graciously gave through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Royse City Chamber of Commerce to host April 24 golf tourney
The eighth annual Royse City Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament will observe a 1 p.m. shotgun start on April 24 at the Stone River Golf Club. The tournament will feature a four-person team scramble format. Entry will cost \$75 per person. Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place teams; longest drive; closest to the pin; last place hole-in-one, Las Vegas hole and advance hole. Goody bags will be distributed.

Rockwall County News Thursday, March 12, 2009 Page 7

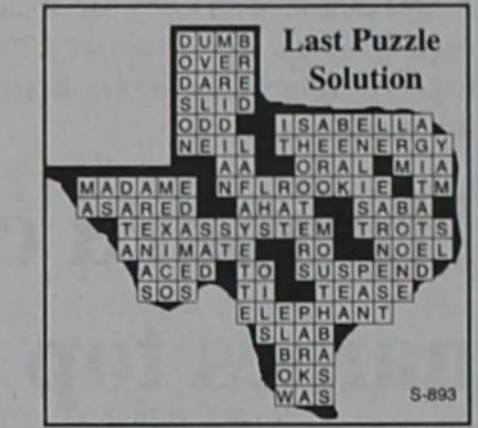
Twin Peaks Restaurant of Mesquite will provide hospitality at the event's contest holes. A beer cart also will be offered, and prizes will be distributed at the dinner provided by Hot Rodz Café of Royse City.

The tournament is the primary source of funding for the college scholarships awarded each year. The event also helps support day-to-day operations of the chamber. Several levels of sponsorship opportunities are available.

Contact the Royse City Chamber for more information at 972-636-5000 or e-mail info@roysecitychamber.com.

Library seeks volunteers for fall tutoring
The Rockwall County Library is needing volunteer tutors for the Reading for Adults program. Training will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 18 in the library's Community Room. Registration is required. For more details or to sign up, contact Gloria Bishop in the ESL classroom near the library entryway, call 972-214-7705 or e-mail gloriab4@verizon.net.

Just Say You Saw It In "The County News"



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Whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Romans 10:13

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His mouth is his destruction, his lips are the snare of his life.
Proverbs 18:7

Rockwall County News
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Attention Rockwall County Churches: Send your church news to a.news@yahoo.com

- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Hwy. 66 E., Rockwall
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
816 W. Church St., Royse City
LAKESHORE COMMUNITY CHURCH
5575 Hwy 205 S., Rockwall
THE RIVER CHURCH
8601 Liberty Grove, Rowlett
BAPTIST
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
520 E. Washington, Rockwall
CENTRAL BAPTIST
Hwy. 66, Rockwall
CHISHOLM BAPTIST CHURCH
1388 Hwy. 205 S., Rockwall
CHRIST CHURCH BAPTIST COMMUNITY
749 Justin Rd., Rockwall
ChristChurchRockwall.org
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
Hwy. 276, Royse City
DAY SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH
8602 Lakeview Pkwy., Rockwall
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FATE
813 Holiday Dr. (Hwy. 66)
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HEATH
224 Smirl Drive
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKWALL
610 Goliad St.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROYSE CITY
Corner of Arch and Church streets
IGLESIA BAUTISTA "NUEVA ESPERANZA"
149 Blackland, Royse City
GRACE FELLOWSHIP
1408 Damascus Dr., Rockwall
LAKE POINTE BAPTIST CHURCH
701 E. I-30, Rockwall
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
850 Blackland Road, Fate
NEW CALDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
301 Boum, Rockwall
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
400 Old Greenville Rd., Royse City
TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH
360 Hickory Hill Rd., Royse City
UNION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
4830 W. Hwy. 276, Royse City
BIBLE
RIDGEVIEW CHURCH
1362 E. FM 552, Rockwall
ROCKWALL BIBLE CHURCH
801 Zion Hills Circle
FAMILY BIBLE CHURCH
351 S. Munson Rd., Royse City
CATHOLIC
OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH
1305 Damascus Road, Rockwall
SAINT MATTHIAS
OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH
305 S. Fannin, Rockwall
CHRISTIAN
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Independent)
203 N. Arch St., Royse City
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) of Rockwall
3375 Ridge Road
CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST
FM 740 one block S. of Laurence Dr., Heath
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corner of Front & Bell streets, Royse City

- EASTRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
485 North FM 549, Rockwall
UNION VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST
9424 FM 35, Royse City
EPISCOPAL
HOLY TRINITY BY THE LAKE
1524 Smirl Dr., Heath
LUTHERAN
OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
3003 Horizon Rd., Rockwall
JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
302 N. Goliad St., Rockwall
METHODIST
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, HEATH
FM 740 at FM 1150 (140 Smirl Dr.)
FIRST UNITED METHODIST OF ROCKWALL
1200 E. Yellow Jacket
FIRST UNITED METHODIST OF ROYSE CITY
Corner of Main and Josephine
FREE METHODIST
ROCKWALL FREE METHODIST CHURCH
315 Dalton Rd., Rockwall
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
CHURCH OF HIS GLORY
1995 FM 549, Rockwall
CHURCH OF PRAYER
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
506 E. Boydston, Rockwall
CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
350 Dalton, Rockwall, Nebbie Wms. Elem.
CROSS CREEK COWBOY CHURCH
Sabine Creek Ranch, Royse City
GENESIS COMMUNITY CHURCH
7066 W. Hwy. 66, Royse City
LAKES COMMUNITY CHURCH
3025 I-30, Fate
LIFE CHURCH ROCKWALL
FM 3097
NEW HORIZONS FELLOWSHIP
408 N. Goliad St., Rockwall
OASIS OF GRACE
Hwy 551, south of Fate
RIDGEVIEW CHURCH
1362 FM 552, Rockwall
THE RIVER OF LIFE FELLOWSHIP
303 Rusk St., Royse City
PENTECOSTAL
HOLY LIGHTHOUSE
TABERNACLE CHURCH
123 Kenway, Rockwall
PEOPLE OF THE NAME PENTECOSTAL
9055 FM 35, Royse City
REVIVAL CENTER OF ROCKWALL
1203 Beta Court Ste. 102
UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
4672 E. I-30, Rockwall
PRESBYTERIAN
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.
602 White Hills Dr., Rockwall
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH/FATE
202 S.W.E. Crawford Rd.
TRINITY HARBOR CHURCH PCA
306 E. Rusk, Rockwall
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER DAY SAINTS
ROCKWALL WARD
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MESSIANIC
BEIT OR MESSIANIC CONGREGATION
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Hwy 205 South
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Fax: 972-772-4574

"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."
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

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Sundays: 8:15 - 9:30 - 11:00
1200 E. Yellow Jacket
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Royse City, Texas
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LAKESIDE NATIONAL BANK
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"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."
Mark 11:24

Attention Rockwall County Churches: Send your church news to rcn.news@yahoo.com

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Rockwall County Entertainment

Entertainment Briefs

Dodds to make March 20 appearance

Deryl Dodd will be in concert March 20 at Southern Junction Nightclub & Steakhouse. Also appearing will be The Dirt Road Gypsies. Doors will open at 6 p.m.; show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 and \$15. For tickets or reservation information call 972-771-2418 or visit southernjunctionlive.com.

Chesnutt performance set March 21

Mark Chesnutt will appear in concert at Southern Junction Nightclub & Steakhouse on March 21. Also appearing will be The Dirt Road Gypsies. Doors will open at 6 p.m.; show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$16.50 and \$33. For tickets or reservation information call 972-771-2418 or visit southernjunctionlive.com.

Mark Owen appearing at SJ

Mark Owen will perform April 10 at the Southern Junction Nightclub & Steakhouse, with Coby McDonald also slated to perform. Doors will open at 6 p.m.; show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 and \$18. For tickets or reservation information call 972-771-2418 or visit southernjunctionlive.com.

Hubbard competition names top musicians

Winners of the Hubbard Chamber Music Young Artists Competition recently were named.

A record number of 50 artists competed in the 13th annual event, which was conducted at the Heath United Methodist Church. Musicians were required to play a program of music for a minimum of eight minutes, then were asked to choose varying styles of music to fill up to a 15-minute program.

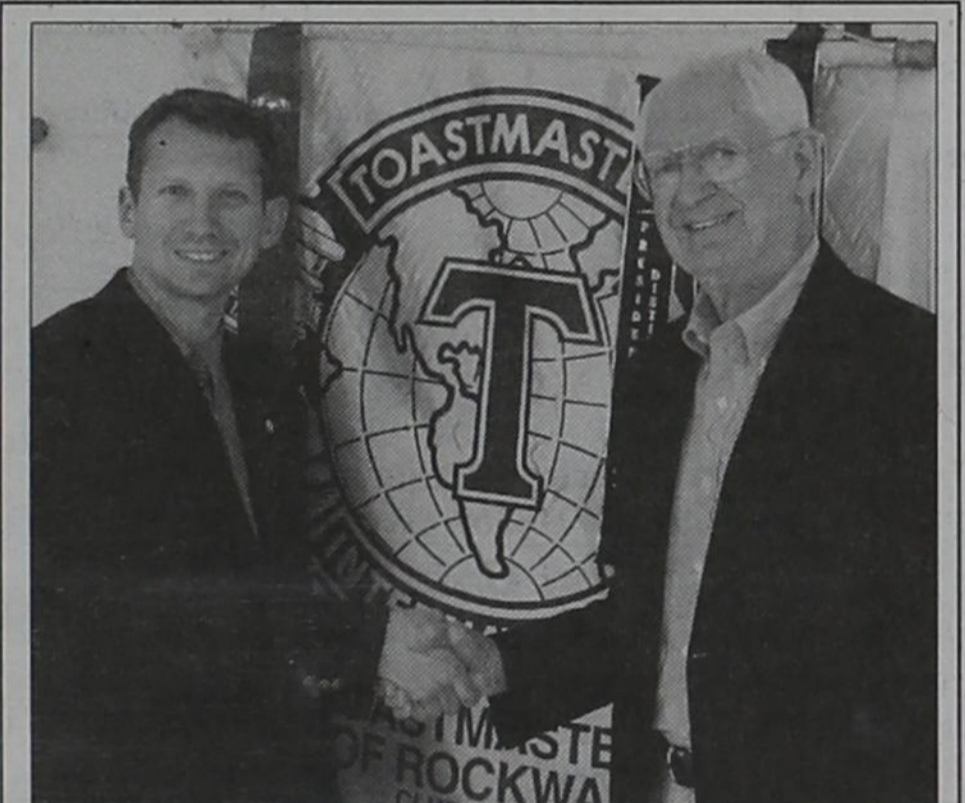
Winners were selected from two age groups, with two grand prize winners selected from each group. Additional first- and second-place cash awards also were presented.

In Division II (collegiate), the \$1,000 grand prize was awarded to clarinetist Jonathan Jones, a student of Paul Garner at Southern Methodist University. First place resulted in a tie between pianist Chun-Chieh Yen of Taiwan, a student of John Perry at the Colburn Conservatory of Music in California and pianist Simonte Sala of Italy, a student of Joachin Achucarro at SMU. Second place went to pianist Anna Starzec of Poland, also Achucarro's student at SMU.

Division I (middle and high school) winners included the \$1,000 grand prize winner, pianist Kyle Orth of Richardson, a student of Mary McDonald; first place, violinist Seula Lee of Plano, a student of Song Young Kim; second place, Sahun Hong of Korea, a student of John Owings at Texas Christian University; and honorable mentions to violapiano duo Sahun Kim and Wyndham Tsai and violinist Sarah Evans.

Each of the winners participated in winners' concerts at the University of Dallas in Irving.

For more information about next season's competition or to learn more about Hubbard Chamber Music, visit hubbardchambermusic.com or call Michele McDonald at 972-772-7692.



Rockwall's Mark Russo (left) and Leslie Buie (right) following last Friday's Toastmasters Area 45 Table Topics and International Speech Combined Contest at the Harry Myers Community Center. Russo placed second in the International Speech Contest with his entry titled, "Living the Hard-Knock Life." Buie was one of five contestants entered in the Table Topics contest. Teams from Rockwall, Greenville, Wylie, Plano and Mesquite were on hand for the competition. Winners from the contest will next compete in the Plains Division Contest on Saturday, April 25 at Collin County Community College.

Staff Photo by Kathy Williams



Professional musician Terry Campbell, back in center, is shown with drummers, at front, Dylan Musser, left, and Luke Glastad and, at back, Kenneth Benson, left, and Carlos Bensen following a recent concert and drum clinic Campbell conducted in Rockwall. Campbell has appeared on "American Idol" and has worked with such artists as Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Backstreet Boys, 98 Degrees and Kelly Clarkson. The clinic was sponsored by Drummers for Jesus, which will offer another clinic from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday in Room A122, Lake Pointe Church. Drummers should bring their kids, snares and hand drums; refreshments will be served. For more details visit drummersforjesus.com.



Amber Seed sings "Anyway" for judges Rachel Hiebert, Greg Lackey and Will Kincaid during the first preliminary round of the Soroptimist Club's annual "Rockwall Idol" completion on Thursday, March 5 at the Hilton Bella Harbor. Two more prelims will be held, with the top finishers from each qualifying round competing to be named the newest Rockwall Idol at the club's WomenAid Banquet on Saturday, March 28 at the Hilton.

Staff Photo by Kathy Williams

'Rockwall Idol' second round prelims Thursday at Hilton

by Kathy Williams

The first three finalists for the title of Rockwall Idol were selected in first round competition last Thursday during the Soroptimist International of Rockwall annual fundraising event. Twenty-two hopeful singers took to the stage, vying for one of nine total finalist spots.

Jennifer Lee, Jesika Emanuel and Sydney Shelton, along with six additional finalists from preliminaries to be held on Thursday, March 12 and March 19, will battle for the title at the final competition, which will take place at the Soroptimist's WomenAid Banquet on Saturday, March 28 at the Hilton Belle Harbor.

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

Contestants in the March 5 show were Danielle Lunson, singing I Turn to You; Heather White, Crazy; Amber Seed, Anyway; Jeni Lynn, Last Dance; Candice Hughes, More Like Her; Mone' Watson, Alabaster Box; Paris Jones, Better in Time; Caryn Tackett, Just a Dream; Lindsey Yarborough, Honey I'm Home; Bud Rager, Drinkin' and Dreaming and Jennifer Lee, Whatever You Say.

Also on the night's bill were Nathan Leach, Ally My Loving; Crixie Catoe, Fancy; Jesika Emanuel, At Last; Dorothy Spradlin, I Cannot Make it Lord, Without You; Marissa Duff, Zombie; Justin Marler, Only Hope; Tamara Knutson, Suddenly I See; Amiee Hancock, Cold Day in July; Rachael Taylor, Broken Wing; Sydney Shelton, I Can't Make You Love Me and Kelsey Grimm, Twisted.

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

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

After moving to Dallas from Southern California in 2006, L. Kincaid helped launch Cornerstone Rockwall Church. He is currently church's full time creative director and worship leader.

Kincaid is a Soroptimist husband and owner of Soul Mission Music Company. He is a professional musician who won the European Music Award in 2001 and plays guitar in his own country band.

Assisting with the shows is Kevin Waitkus, Director of Technology for the Hilton Bella Harbor. He has been in the event technology industry for more than 20 years. Originally from New Mexico he spent 18 years in Oklahoma where he worked for Willie O'Connell Ministries as an AV director. He has been in the Dallas area for two and a half years, where he worked for PSAV, a provider of audio/visual event technology to hotels, associations, producers and meeting planners worldwide. He has been with the Hilton since February 2008.

Tickets for the banquet are still available for \$75 from Shellie Kincaid. She can be reached at shellirocks@aol.com or 972-467-9923.

Rockwall County Book Review

'The Worst Hard Time' by Timothy Egan

Contributed by Gavin Sheaffer Reference Librarian

For this book review, I chose Timothy Egan's "The Worst Hard

Time." This book can best be described as a non-fiction novel; its subject is the Great Depression.

Egan addresses much more than the Depression; whole chapters are devoted to customs, attitudes, and beliefs of the different people at the time. Egan addresses sociological, environmental, and political issues that were the hot button topics of the late twenties and early thirties.

Egan approaches the twin terrors of the Dust Bowl effect and the Great Depression with the vigor of an investigative journalist, supplemented with copious eyewitness accounts and benefitting from meticulous research of archival sources. "The Worst Hard Time" may be non-fiction, but it does not read like your typical non-fiction work.

The sales pitch went as follows: Come to the great American plains, the last unsettled frontier in the US, where a man can own a piece of the earth and make an honest living from it. This was the lure that was used to seduce, dupe, and otherwise cajole desperate sharecroppers and tenement farmers to settle in what was otherwise the ancestral hunting ground of the Cherokee, Kiowa, Apaches, and other plains Indians.

The settlers were bound and determined to make the best of a rotten situation; there would be viable farming on the Great Plains. The method used at the

time was known as dry earth farming, which required the removal of the native prairie grass. Removal of the prairie grass was a mistake. The grass acted like an anchor for the topsoil; with the grass removed, nothing would prevent the wind from blowing the topsoil away. Add to this the drought-like conditions that the plains area faced, plus howling winds, and you have the making of the worst ecological disaster in American history.

The farmers' actions led to an even more life altering and devastating atmospheric phenomenon, massive dust storms. The thick clouds of prairie topsoil blew across the United States, but its deadly effects were felt mainly in the prairie states. The effects of blowing topsoil led to a condition that was later diagnosed as dust pneumonia. Dust pneumonia killed slowly and indiscriminately.

Timothy Egan recreates through creative narrative a window to view the misfortunes and tragedy that befell thousands of families in several states. The environmental degradation, droughts, speculative fervor and crop failure described in the book are to blame for the settlers' trouble.

Egan draws the reader in and vividly describes an environment hostile to life in all forms. Egan also captures the unique outlook (or stubbornness) of the lan-

downers who were determined to stay with their homes against all odds.

"The Worst Hard Time" is written with an attention to historical detail, capturing the triumph and tragedy of a colossal catastrophe and illuminating this event for the many who did not live through it but whose lives (in a roundabout way) are shaped from it.

"The Worst Hard Time" is available at the Rockwall County Library in the adult non-fiction area.



Gavin Sheaffer

Exclusively in the Rockwall County News

Rockwall Yesterday

Compiled by Ju...
The Archives of the R...
10 Years
March 12
Maria Garner of Rockwall...
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Universities and Colleges...
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Lake Pointe Elementary Sch...
Reading Program," spo...
the students who received...
Muselline, Joshua Pellett...
Hammington and Stephanie V...
20 Years
March 10
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from Aerial Works...
Angela Day and P.J. Spil...
several girls came very close...
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30 Years
March 9
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was promoted to Airman...
ed to Carswell Air Force B...
Hampton was named to th...
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A. of 3.5 to 3.9 or higher v...
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40 Years
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High School offered th...
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es, Home Economics, Journ...
ometry, Physical Science, Re...
Trigonometry, Typing, Wor...
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unit of Health.
Rockwall High School Yellow...
Decoratur. Many of the boys...
boys that placed were John...
50 Years
March 1...
and's One Stop store open...
oil, minnows, worms, tac...
Thumb store had a sale...
cents, motor oil 2-gallon ca...
for 29 cents.
60 Years
March 1...
Following names were subm...
positions on the City Counc...
and Lannie Stinson. For...
on, B.A. Klutts, and R.F. Ca...
B. Cullins had weekend...
man and Peggy Joan of Sulp...
ly of Rockwall.
Williams Elementary stu...
student, and Ashlyn Bay...
selected to have their art...
year's Reflections progr...
to encourage students to...
this year's competition was...

James
Painting
Interior
35 Years
Days:
Nights:
Voted Rockwall's

Rockwall County Yesteryears

Compiled by Judy Schneider

The Archives of the Rockwall County Library

10 Years Ago

March 12, 1999

Maria Garner of Rockwall was among 17 students at the University of Texas at Tyler named to Who's Who Among Students in Universities and Colleges. She was recognized at a ceremony at the Robert R. Muntz Library. Make Pointe Elementary School 4th graders participated in the "Reading Program," sponsored by the Dallas Stars Hockey students who received awards were Michael Conomos, Misselline, Joshua Pellett, Alex McCormack, Sarah Radney, Birmingham and Stephanie Wood.

20 Years Ago

March 10, 1989

Lowrance was accepted as an intern at the Midwest Implant Columbus, Ohio. He continued his private practice in while he commuting to Columbus every two months. Students from Aerial Works, Amy McClosky, Jamie Ross, Kara Angela Day and P.J. Spillman, competed in a gymnastics. Several girls came very close to qualifying to the state meet, but none in this competition.

30 Years Ago

March 9, 1979

T. Mize Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mize of Route 2 in Rockwall, was promoted to Airman 1st Class in the U.S. Air Force. He was assigned to Carswell Air Force Base.

Hampton was named to the Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma honor roll for the fall semester. Requirements include having a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9 or higher while taking at least 14.5 semester hours. Hampton is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hampton of Rockwall.

40 Years Ago

March 14, 1969

Rockwall High School offered three new courses, which included Micro-Crafts, Leather Crafts and Office Practice. RHS already offered Algebra, American History, Band, Biology, Bookkeeping, Business, Civics, Drafting, General Business, General Drafting, Home Economics, Journalism, Related Math, Physics, P.E., Geometry, Physical Science, Record Keeping, Shorthand, Spanish, Trigonometry, Typing, World History, Vocational Agriculture. Unit requirements included completing 18 units, with 1 1/2 units of unit of Health.

Rockwall High School Yellowjacket track team competed at a meet in Waco, Texas. Many of the boys had a great day and placed in the meet. Boys that placed were John Buchanan, Robert Kelly and Tomkins.

50 Years Ago

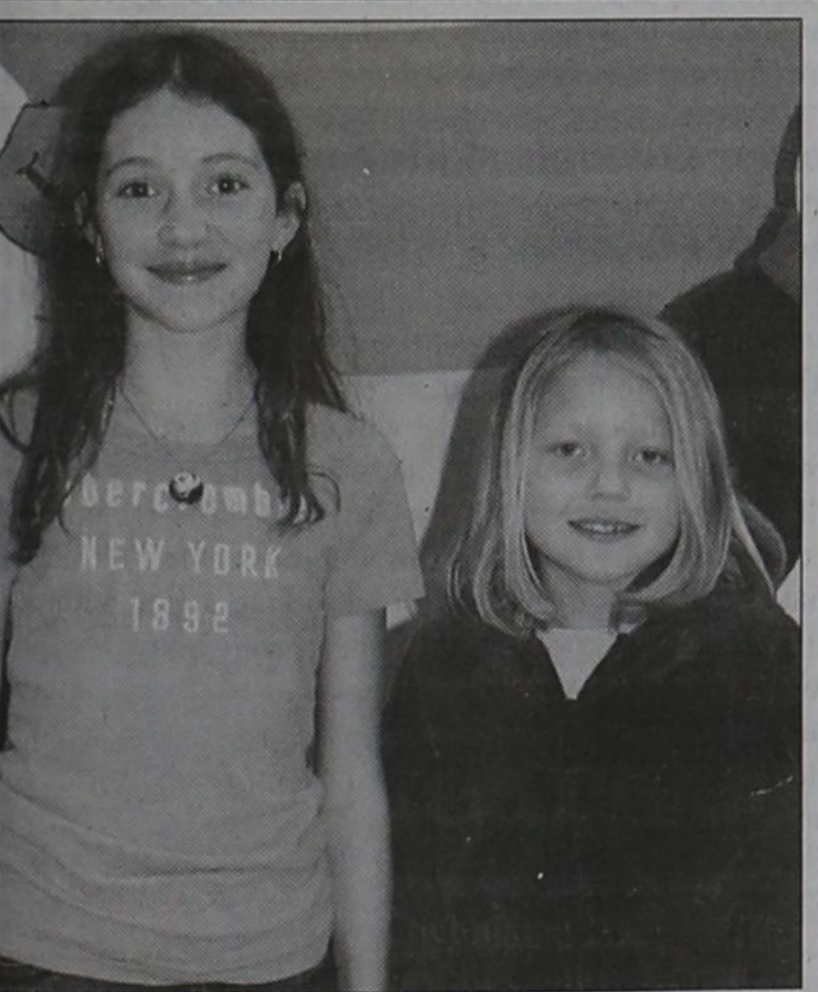
March 14, 1959

Land's One Stop store opened on Sundays. The store sold groceries, oil, minnows, worms, tackle, fishing and hunting license. The Thumb store had a sale, offering oleo for 17cents, biscuits for 2cents, motor oil 2-gallon can for \$2.19, eggs for 55 cents and a 12-egg carton for 29 cents.

60 Years Ago

March 11, 1949

Growing names were submitted by the City Committee for consideration on the City Council. Those were Jack Cunningham, William and Lannie Stimson. For mayor, the names included Forest Stinson, B.A. Klutts, and R.F. Canup. B. Cullins had weekend visitors, including Elder and Mrs. Main and Peggy Joan of Sulphur Springs and Ed Holt, Mr. and Mrs. of Rockwall.



Williams Elementary students Colleen Breen, left, a sixth grade student, and Ashlyn Bays, a second grade student, have been selected to have their artwork to compete at the state-level art competition in Austin. The pair entered their creations through the "Reflections" program, which is a PTA-sponsored effort to encourage students to pursue artistic expression. Theme for this year's competition was "Wow."

City, school district races solidified as filings close

by Sheri Lewis

Monday was the deadline for candidate filings for upcoming school district and municipal elections, and a number of races have developed.

While no races await the decision of voters in the Rockwall City Council or the Royse City Independent School District Board of Trustees, contests have developed in each of the remaining municipalities and school districts in the Rockwall County News circulation area.

Candidates whose names will appear on the May general election ballots were reported as follows:

City of Rockwall

In the upcoming City of Rockwall election, all incumbents have filed for re-election, according to a report from the assistant to the city manager.

Bill Cecil will seek to return to the mayoral post, while David Sweet, Glen Farris and Matt Scott each hope to return to their Place 1, Place 3 and Place 5 seats respectively.

All open seats are for full, two-year terms.

Rockwall ISD

Three posts are open on the Rockwall Independent School District board of trustees.

Two candidates - Chris Cuny and Tony Fisk - have filed as candidates for Place 1, while Russ Childers, Norman Quintero and Earl Milner will vie for the Place 2 seat. Incumbent Craig Zurek was the only candidate to file for the Place 3 spot, according to a report from district officials.

Royse City

Three candidates - William J. Archer, Connie Goodwin and Jerrell Baley - will appear on the ballot for the position of mayor of Royse City.

Vying to fill council posts are, according to a report from the city secretary, Xavier Cortez, Brooks M. Williams and Janet Nichol, Place 1; Bill Bell, Place 3; and James Branch and Mark Plemmons, Place 5.

Royse City ISD

Four positions are to be filled in the election, including three full three-year terms and a single one-year unexpired term (special election) for the Royse City Independent School District board of trustees.

All incumbents are seeking re-election to their posts, and each is running unopposed. They include: Julie Stutts, Place 7, special election, unexpired one-year term; Don Palmer, Place 3; Rhonda Phillips, Place 4; and Charlie Carroll, Place 5.

City of Heath

Voters will be asked to fill four open, full-term positions on the Heath City Council.

Three incumbents, Robert (Bob) Hille, Karen Lewis and Steve McKimney are seeking to return to their seats in Places 1, 2 and 4, respectively. Three candidates - John Koerner, Rich Krause and Tommy Goodson - filed for the open Place 6 council seat, according to a report from the city secretary.

City of McLendon-Chisholm

Three at-large city council seats will be filled by McLendon-Chisholm voters, according to a report from the city secretary.

Candidates include, for Place 1, incumbent Beverly Stibbens and Dr. Jess Lovell; for Place 3, incumbent Jerry Moss and Patrick Short; and for Place 5, incumbent James Parnell and Gary Moody.

City of Fate

Four seats are open on the Fate City Council, including three regular two-year terms and Place 6, a one-year term to be filled via special election.

Candidates include, for Place 1, Autumn Lobinsky and Kerry Wiemolky; Place 3, Wilbur Willie Williams and Forest Murley; Place 5, K.C. Erwin, Ryan Pfuhl and Brad Bianucci; and Place 6, David Hill and Tammy Ryan, according to a report from the Fate city secretary.

Early voting in all of the elections will begin April 27 and run through May 5.

Rockwall County Responders

Rockwall Sheriff's Office

- Calls (Feb. 27 through March 5) - 212
 - Arrests (Feb. 27 through March 5) - 25
 - Warrant unit arrests (week of March 2) - 15
- Royse City Police
Feb. 27- March 5
- Saturday, 28 February -- Alarm, 100 block I-30; Welfare check, 800 block Rowdy Drive
 - Monday, 2 March -- Suspicious activity, 2600 block Spencer Circle; Burglary of motor vehicle, 700 block Rowdy Drive; Accident, 100 block E. I-30; Alarm, 6700 block E. I-30; Public intoxication arrest, 100 block W. I-30
 - Tuesday, 3 March -- Accident, 100 W. Main Street; Marijuana (40 lbs) possession/Controlled substance/Evading arrest, I-30 at the 80 mile marker
 - Thursday, 5 March -- Suspicious activity, 1100 Brazos Court; Alarm, Pullen Street; Theft, 1300 block E. Main Street; Alarm, 1500 block W. I-30

Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

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

Royse City Breakfast Club growth

The Royse City Breakfast Club Networking Group has continued to grow since beginning in October of 2008.

A diverse group of people have met every first and third Wednesday at Denny's of Royse City, eager to tell a little about their business or not-for-profit organization. The unique part of this business card exchange is that it is open to anyone, and there always ends up being a connection made where one business can help another.

Our last meeting drew 32 people, and we burst at the seams in our space that Denny's has been so gracious to provide us. Therefore, beginning at our March 18 networking breakfast we will be meeting at the new Holiday Inn Express in Royse City. We will follow the same format - \$2 for the breakfast bar with the meeting beginning at 8 a.m. All are invited to individually tell about their organization, and then a "sponsor" will provide a 10-minute presentation. After the presentation a business card is drawn for someone to win a door prize that the sponsor provides.

If you would like to attend, just show up at the Holiday Inn Express a little before 8 a.m. on the first or third Wednesday of any month.

If you would like to be a sponsor, please contact Amanda Self at 903-285-0995 to schedule a date.

Julia Bryant
Executive Director
Royse City Chamber of Commerce

Helping Hands needs help for local families

In these critical times, Rockwall County Helping Hands needs your help to continue to serve the growing number of families in crisis.

Donations of food to stock our Food Pantry shelves, clothing and household items for our Thrift Stores and financial donations are needed now more than ever as our friends and neighbors struggle to pay rent, utility bills and to feed their families.

Helping Hands, a critical assistance agency, served 40 percent more clients in 2008 than in 2007, and our client list is expected to grow even more this year based on current economic conditions and the growing number of job layoffs.

Needed food items include: flour, sugar, cooking oil, salt, pepper, canned milk, canned vegetables and meats, macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal, rice, soups, pasta, spaghetti sauce, snack foods for children and coffee and tea and juice.

Food donations can be dropped off at 950 Williams Street, Suite A, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Revenue from Thrift Store sales is one of the agency's primary funding sources. The stores also provide clothing and household items to some of our clients at no cost.

Donations to the Rockwall Thrift Store can be dropped off at 950 Williams St. from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and at the Royse City location, 508C Interstate 30, on Thursday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

You can also help by shopping our stores and experiencing the bargains on quality merchandise in pleasant, clean surroundings. Please don't forget to shop The Boutique at our Rockwall Thrift Store where higher quality merchandise is sold - still at bargain prices.

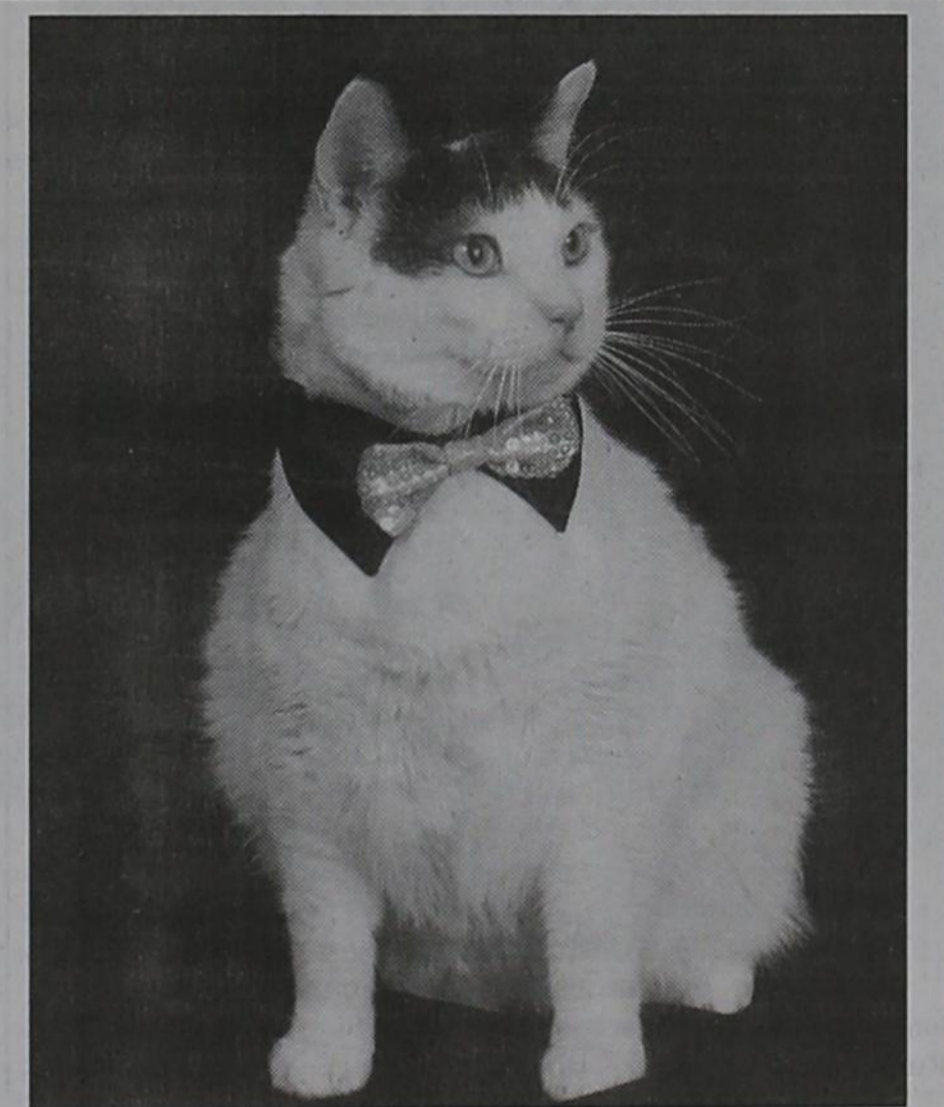
Helping Hands is also working to maintain a healthy community. In response to the nation's healthcare crisis, the Health Center offers all residents affordable healthcare and lower cost lab work for the under-insured and uninsured. Revenues from this program helps fund the care we offer low income patients that qualify for a sliding scale fee.

We also welcome volunteers to help in the Thrift Stores, the Health Center or with our Assistance and Referral Program.

Helping Hands is a non-profit critical assistance agency that has been serving the Rockwall community for more than 30 years. We serve more than 6,000 people annually - and 85 percent of those are considered the working poor.

Please call 972-771-HELP for more information or to make a donation or visit our Web site at helpinghands.com.

Judyjevans, Helping Hands



Mo Snuffles, an 18-pound, shorthaired black-and-white male, is one of the cats currently available for adoption through Feral Friends. He is approximately two years old, moderately active, is friendly and an indoor cat. He is not declawed, but he is housetrained. Mo Snuffles, who goes by Mo, enjoys playing and watching the birds through the windows. One of his eyes is chronically runny, which accounts for his name. For more information on adopting this cat, contact adopt@feralfriends.org.

ROCKWALL COUNTY HOME IMPROVEMENT DIRECTORY

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35 Years Experience
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Nights: 972-771-4513
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FREE ESTIMATES-REFERENCES ON REQUEST
27 years of home repair and maintenance

Gloria Bishop honored for adult literacy work

Gloria Bishop, program manager for the Rockwall County Library's Reading for Adults, recently was honored by "Good Morning, Texas" and Community Coffee for her work on behalf of the adult and family literacy program.



wfaa.com/video/coffeetalk-index.html?nvid=336796.

Reading for Adults offers one-on-one and small-group tutoring for adults. In recognition of Bishop's work, Community Coffee will provide Bishop with a year's supply of coffee.

"Good Morning, Texas" presented her with her Coffee Break award in a recent interview on the WFAA-TV show.

To view the show online, visit

To enroll as a Reading for Adults student or volunteer, or to donate to the program, contact Bishop at 972-204-7705 or e-mail gloriab4@verizon.net.

Helping Hands stores offer St. Patty's discount

The Rockwall and Roysse City Thrift Stores of Helping Hands will offer a St. Patrick's Day special on Tuesday.

All green-colored merchandise will be 40 percent off with a special coupon. To obtain a coupon, call Melody East at 972-771-HELP. She will provide information on signing up to receive coupons and e-mail notices of sales and store events.

Topping off the special Irish celebration will be the serving of cookies and green punch. The Rockwall Thrift Store is located at 950 Williams St. The store is open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The Roysse City Thrift Store is located at 508C I-30. It's open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

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Julia Bryant
Executive Director
Roysse City Chamber of Commerce

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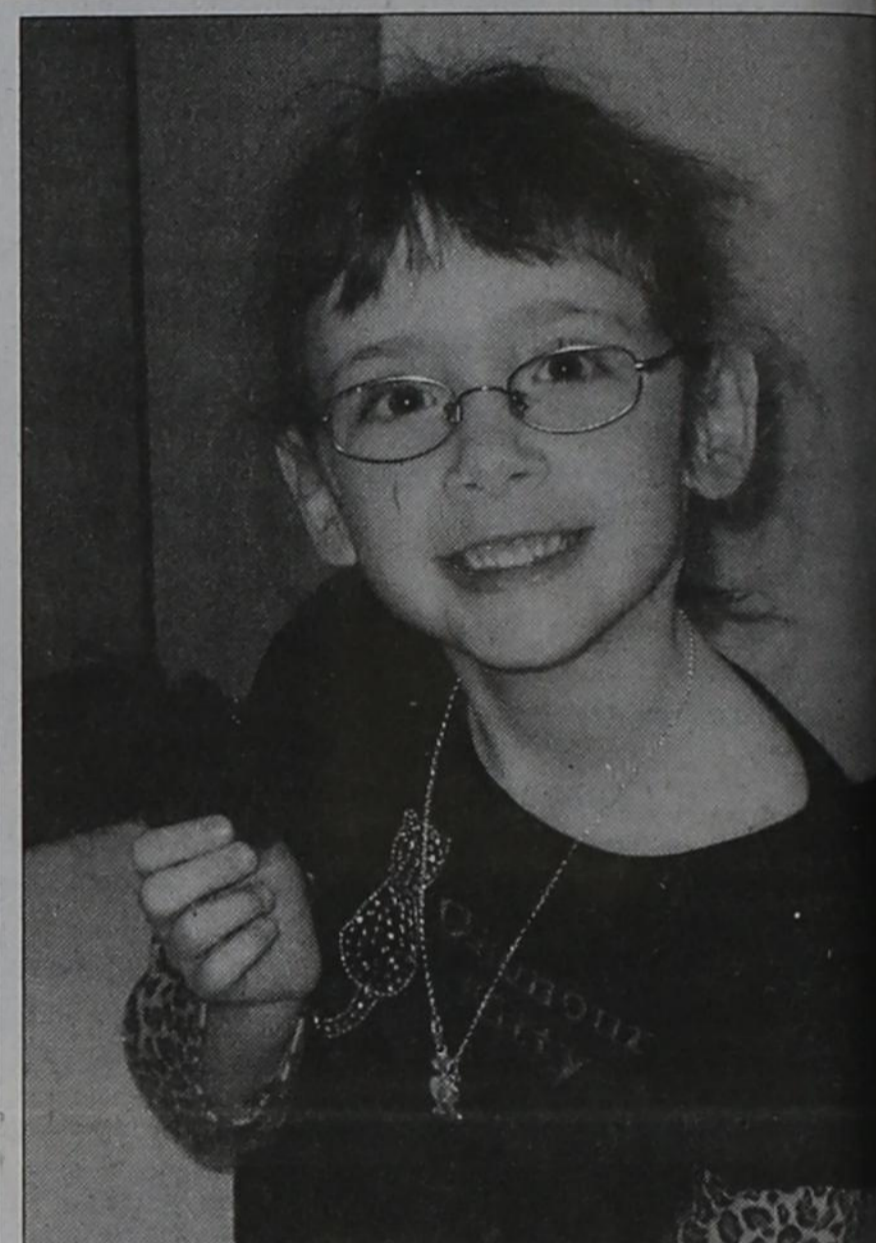
Judy Jevans
Helping Hands



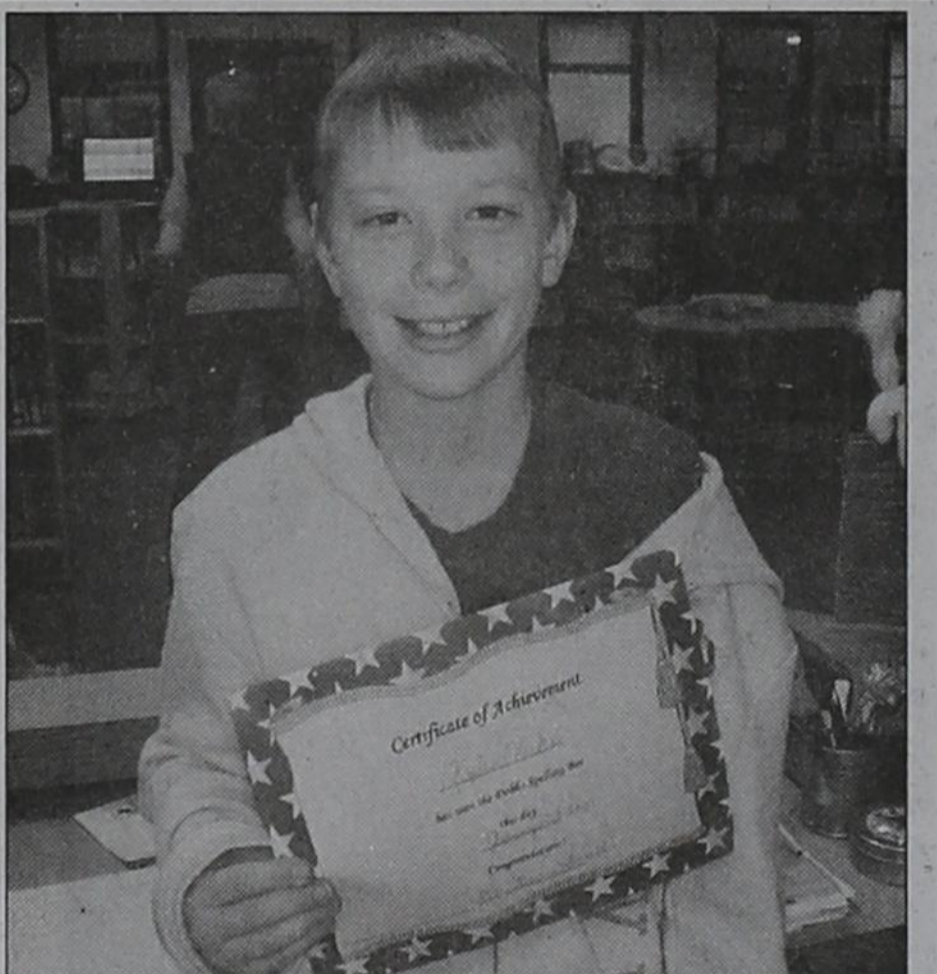
A group of Pullen students recently decided to help support the Nate Oxford family by selling lemonade and cookies in their neighborhood. Second grade students Ashley Peterson and Kate Welch, pictured standing at center and at right, heard about 3-year-old Nate's battle with brain cancer and thought raising funds for the family might help. With help from friends and family members, the group raised \$130. Pictured with Peterson and Welch are, standing, fifth grade student Sean Peterson, and, at front, fifth grade Michael Bartley, left, and second grade student Katie Bartley. Not shown is Ethan Welch, who designed the tip jar the students used.



Jo Polk, director of the new Legacy School of Rockwall, and Mayor Bill Cecil, shown above, were guest speakers for the Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association's March meeting. Cecil gave an update on roads, businesses, housing development and the Main Street program, while Polk told about the nonprofit school, which will open in the fall and serve students with different styles of learning. The next and last meeting of the year will begin at 11:30 a.m. on May 11 in Roysse City. All retired school personnel are welcome to attend. To make reservations, e-mail linda_garrett120@sbglobal.net.



Amy Parks kindergarten student Railey Holley is participating in the school's recent celebration of the number 100. Students demonstrated hand-eye coordination by tracing the feet onto construction paper in 100 Feet of Fun and exercised jumping up and down 100 times. They then created a nutritious trail mix by using a recipe of 100 pieces each of pretzels, crackers, raisins and popcorn. Students also worked 100-piece puzzles and used scales to weigh items numbering 100. Numerous other 100-based projects were completed.



Kyle Pliska, a sixth grade student at Dobbs Elementary, took top honors at his school's annual spelling bee in February. Runner-up was another sixth grade student, Seth Walls.

Junior Olympic skills contest set March 28

The Kellogg's Junior Olympic Skills Competition, hosted by City of Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department, will take place on March 28 at the Rockwall Independent School District Education Center gym, 1050 Williams St.

The competition will begin at 9 a.m.

Boys and girls ages 8 to 13 will compete separately in three different age groups: 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. The free sports competition will involve testing youths in a variety of skills, including basketball (scoring as many points as possible by making baskets from designated shooting areas); soccer (dribbling and shooting accurately in the fastest time possible); tennis (serving a low-compression ball and continuing to hit the ball against a wall and above the net many times as possible in a 30-second time period); and track field (performing two fundamental events - a 50-meter sprint and standing long jump).

For more information contact the Parks & Rec Department at 972-771-7740.



April 4 has been declared Rockwall County 4-H day, thanks to a recent proclamation signed by the mayor of the City of Heath. The presentation of the proclamation was made earlier this month at the Heath City Council meeting. Pictured from the left are Brian Callaghan, Katie Callaghan, Sarah Boronkay, Samantha Redig, Mayor John Ratcliffe, Mollie Malone, Caroline Walsh and Kyle Adams. The observance is designed to pay tribute to local 4-H programs, their members and volunteers.

Betty Moore Relay

President Betty Moore... to her first Relay For... she said, "be... get to see so many... in the same situa..."



Rockwall High Media Technology... and Allie Hinds earned... of Broadcasters Career L... &M-Commerce.

S student media tech

Rockwall High School... technology students at... National Association... Broadcasters Career Day... on March 5. A... of the RHS students re... wards at the event... ward winners included... first place, TV... ment Show: Producer/... Feb. 2 broadcast show;... second place, TV... ment Show: Producer/... December 2008 broad... Nicci Flores, Cody... and Allie Hinds, honor...



RHS Rocket Team

Rockwall-Heath High Scho... sponsorship to assist... the Team American... may have their logos on... challenge set for May 16... a contribution, contact...

Betty Moore preparing for Relay for Life event

Rockwall resident Betty Moore is preparing for her first Relay For Life event. Moore, who was diagnosed with cancer in October 2007, is participating in the Survivor's Lap at the 2008 Rockwall County Relay For Life on May 1-2 at Cain Middle School. Moore, who has diabetes, had her blood sugar drop dangerously low. The drop caused her to fall, breaking her hip and pelvis. She was sent to rehab, where she was expected to remain for months; however, her physicians didn't know who they were dealing with. "The therapy hurt like sin, but I did what was necessary," said Moore, who was home in time for Thanksgiving. When she decided to participate in her first Relay in 2008, she realized many were

uncomfortable talking to her about her cancer, Moore made it easier by bringing the topic out in the open. "I'm a member of the Bad Boob Club," she joked. On the day of her last chemotherapy treatment, Moore, who has diabetes, had her blood sugar drop dangerously low. The drop caused her to fall, breaking her hip and pelvis. She was sent to rehab, where she was expected to remain for months; however, her physicians didn't know who they were dealing with. "The therapy hurt like sin, but I did what was necessary," said Moore, who was home in time for Thanksgiving. When she decided to participate in her first Relay in 2008, she realized many were

to walk around the track did not stop her. She arrived for the event on a scooter, zipping around the festivities. "Just deal with it," Moore said, citing her life philosophy. "Don't get hung up on what's going on. Don't fear what's ahead. Take what's happening now and just deal with it." Moore and her husband, Tom, plan to participate in the Rockwall County Relay For Life on May 1-2 at Cain Middle School. There, cancer survivors and their caretakers will be guests at a free barbecue dinner catered by Eddie Deen's, receive free T-shirts and be cheered on as they walk the Survivor's Lap. To register as a survivor or caretaker, call 469-273-3097 or visit relayforlife.org/rockwalltx.



Rockwall resident and cancer survivor Betty Moore is shown zipping around the track on her scooter at the 2008 Rockwall County Relay for Life. Moore plans to participate in the Survivor's Lap at this year's event at Cain Middle School.

Pullen students take honors at UIL event

Four of the top students participating in the University Interscholastic League district academic competition conducted March 7 at Cain Middle School in Rockwall were from Dorothy Smith Pullen Elementary.

The students, a handful of the 440 Rockwall Independent School District students who competed, were recognized during a special awards ceremony that followed the morning-long contest.

The competition included contests in Storytelling, Ready Writing, Oral Reading, Number Sense and Dictionary Skills.

Students in grades two through six participated in the competition.

Fourth grade student Gracyn Jewett won sixth place for Oral Reading, while fifth grade student Isabella Burzair took first place in Oral Reading. Fifth grade student Nicole Tompkins won fifth for Oral Reading, while sixth grade student Noah Falls tied for fifth place in Number Sense.

"It was such an honor because there are so many talented students competing," said Burzair. "When they called my name, I was so ecstatic I almost keeled over."

While earning a top place in a contest is an honor, Mary Ann



Pullen UIL winners are pictured with ribbons they won at a recent competition. Shown from the left are librarian and UIL coach Rhonda Martin, Gracyn Jewett, Nicole Tompkins, Isabella Burzair, Noah Falls, principal Renee Demianovich and UIL coach and fourth grade teacher Julie Woodard.

Benavides, UIL campus coordinator and Pullen assistant principal, said it is the experience that matters the most.

"UIL is an opportunity for our students to showcase their academic talents in five areas," she said. "Not only do students participate academically, but they also learn how to support

one another and become comfortable performing for an audience. Overall it is a competition that is more about the experience of the process, and winning is a bonus."

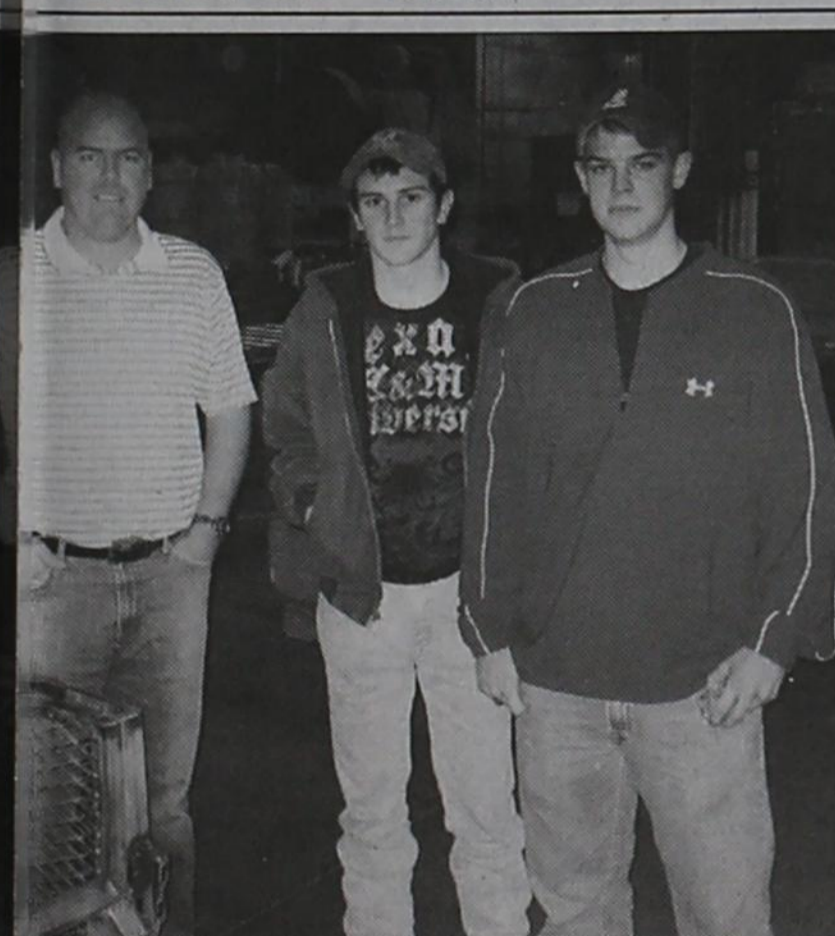
Pullen students began preparations for the contests weeks ago, practicing with teachers and volunteer coaches.

"I am so very proud of our students," said Renee Demianovich, Pullen principal. "They worked hard during their own time so they could participate and compete. Just watching them you could tell they have really enjoyed the event. I am already looking forward to next year's UIL competition."

RHS students earn media tech awards

Rockwall High School media technology students at the National Association of Broadcasters Career Day at Commerce on March 5. Award winners included Nicci Flores, first place, TV News Producer; Cody Hinds, second place, TV News Producer; and Allie Hinds, honorable mention for a public service announcement concerning cell phones that aired during the first semester.

Seven schools were represented at the event, where students attended sessions conducted by an assortment of media professionals - from a session about 2D and 3D animation to one led by George Riba of WFAA-TV sports. "It was a fantastic experience for our students," said Jennifer Faunce, RHS media technology teacher.



Rockwall High School agriculture mechanics students Conner Jones and Colton James are shown with Eric Jones, owner of Met Paint Booths, and a 16-foot utility trailer designed by the RHS ag mech classes. Jones donated the facilities and supplies needed by the students to powder coat projects completed prior to the State Fair of Texas, the San Angelo Show & Rodeo and the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. During the state fair, students earned champion trailer for the 16-foot trailer pictured. Other projects finished by the classes included a welding trailer, a 10-foot utility trailer, a garden bench and a garden bench.

Rocket Team seeks assistance

Rockwall-Heath High School Rocket Team needs corporate and individual sponsorships to assist three students in qualifying for the Team American Rocketry Challenge. The challenge set for May 16 in The Plains, Va. For more information, contact Lori Gerritsen at 469-273-3377.



Alaina Smith, center, the 14-year-old daughter of Nolan and Christine Smith and an eighth grade student at Cain Middle School, has been named District 3 winner in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Patriot's Pen Essay Competition. Smith won the VFW Post 5076 contest, as well as the district competition, and was awarded a certificate of achievement and a \$300 U.S. savings bond for her essay on "Why Veterans Should be Honored." Pictured with Smith are John Lozansky, District 3 commander, and Bettie Newman. Smith's essay will compete at the state level.

ROCK Spring Break Camp returns March 16

The Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department will again host the ROCK Thru Spring Break program for youths ages 6 to 12.

The event, which will run March 16-20, will feature five full days of outdoor education, including trips to Dinosaur Valley State Park, Texas Freshwater Fisheries, the Dallas Zoo, Science Place/IMAX/Dallas Aquarium and a day at Rockwall's Harry Myers Park filled with fishing, cooking and camping.

Participants will meet at the Rockwall Independent School

District Education Center Gym each morning, with the day running from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Each child will be required to bring his or her own lunch and snacks.

Pre-registration is required; space is limited.

Cost is \$75 for Rockwall residents, \$113 for non-residents. Each child will receive a camp T-shirt.

For more information or to register, go by The Center at 108 E. Washington or call the Parks & Rec office at 972-771-7740.



Doobs Elementary students representing grades two through six competed in the district UIL competition on March 7. Ribbon winners included, at back, from the left, Leslie Jaeger, Tara McCoy, Catherine Urina, Ethan Herrera and Victoria Darrington. Shown at front are Tucker Whitus, Austin Whitaker and Wesley Scivetti.

Rockwall-Heath HS Cheerleaders honored at annual awards banquet

Contributed by Krissy Edwards

In celebration of a very special year and to honor members about to graduate, the 2008-2009 Rockwall-Heath High School Cheer Banquet took place Friday, Feb. 20 at the Garland Special Events Center.

The banquet theme was "A Year in Pictures." Decorations included large display boards covered with many of the over 17,000 pictures taken by the cheer publicity committee throughout the year. Freshman cheer parent Monika Amick created the display boards. In addition, large portraits of each senior were taken and displayed by Junior Varsity cheer parent Dawn Cass.

The Varsity sponsor, Shanon Josephson, Junior Varsity sponsor, Christy Telford and Freshman sponsor Melanie

Harlan introduced their respective squads and presented the following cheerleaders with awards as voted on by their peers.

Freshman award recipients were Sloan Johnson, Highest GPA and Miss 100%; Kaylea Wisner, Best Base; Alexis Roland, Best Flyer; Cayley Lott, Most Spirited, and Jordyn Leeuw, Best Attitude.

JV award recipients were Mackynzie Stevens, Most Spirited; Haylee Macon, Best Base; Morgan Rupe, Best Attitude; Lauren Hartnett, Miss 100% and Alex Cass, Best Flyer and Highest GPA.

Varsity award recipients were Kaleigh Loeffler, Miss 100% and Highest GPA; Michaela Tomalin, Best Attitude; Raichel Patrick, Best Flyer; Taylor McLoughlin, Best Base and Sarah Gerritsen, Most Spirited.

Overall Awards were voted on by all the squads. Recipients

were Best Leader, Senior Madison Edwards; Best Jumps, Freshman Paige Richerson; Best Tumbling and Best All Around, Senior Kendal Moore.

The highest honor of the evening, The Legacy Award, is awarded to seniors who brought a unique quality to the team and left their "legacy" as they parted ways with the cheer program. The award is voted on by the coaching staff, in which they take into account the entire year, from tryouts until the end-of-the-year banquet.

This year's recipients were senior cheerleaders Madison Edwards, Cady Dicus and senior mascot Jonathan Romo.

The RHHS "Cheerleader Year" will start anew on Thursday, March 12 when the 2009-2010 cheerleaders and mascots are chosen.



Freshman Cheerleaders from Rockwall-Heath High School honored at last Friday's annual Banquet at the Garland Special Events Center were, (back row from left) Lexie Swiercinsky, Sara Smith, Elliott Amick, Sponsor Melanie Harlan, Tara Woessner, Paige Richerson, Shelby Streigler, (front row from left) Peyton Garner, Brittany Buchanan, Holley Noe, Sloan Johnson, Jordyn Leeuw, Wisner, Cayley Lott, Alexis Roland, Meagan Naegele and McKelvey Moore.
Photo Courtesy of Southern Images Photography



Junior Varsity Cheerleaders from Rockwall-Heath High School honored at last Friday's Cheer Banquet at the Garland Special Events Center were, (back row from left) Kayla Hall, Sponsor Christy Telford, Melanie Parker, Katelyn Brown, Rebecca Eddy, Kirstyn Blackwood, Rose, Kaleigh Moore, (front row from left) Morgan Iles, Rylie Mike-Meyer, Morgan Rupe, Mack Stevens, Alex Cass, Lauren Hartnett, Haylee Macon, Allie Lincoln and Ashley Fladland.
Photo Courtesy of Southern Images Photography



Rockwall-Heath High School Varsity Cheerleaders honored at last Friday's annual Cheer Banquet at the Garland Special Events Center were, (back row from left) Team Sponsor Shanon Josephson, Madison Johnson, Meredith Moreau, Kaleigh Loeffler, Jahmela Headley, Michaela Tomalin, Stefanie Coe, Megan McKenna, Emily Wood Front Mascot Johnathan Romo, (front row from left) Chelsea Dicus, Sarah Gerritsen, Kendal Moore, Madison Edwards, Raychel Clark, Whitney Williams, Kaitlyn Hester, Cady Dicus, Raichel Patrick, Taylor McLoughlin and Sarah Moseley.
Photo Courtesy of Southern Images Photography



Rockwall High School Showstoppers competed in the Starmakers competition at South Garland Feb. 21. Capt. Holly Gibson and Lt. Kassie Armendariz were solo finalists, with Armendariz as second runner-up. Showstoppers won Best in Class and Outstanding Precision Awards. The team won a gold in both Team Lyrical and Team Prop. Officers earned the Circle of Stars Award, named after the top teams in the contest. They received Outstanding Showmanship, Excellence in Technique and Choreography Award. Officers brought home silver for both jazz and hip-hop. Both teams won sweepstakes, scoring 90 or above on all of their dances. Showstoppers include officers Capt. Holly Gibson, 1st Lt. Erin Rapp, Lt. Kathryn Broze, Lt. Bianca Kirkpatrick, Lt. Bethany Lang, Lt. Kassie Armendariz and Lt. Nicole Barton, as well as JV instructors Kelsey Clasen and Meredith Rimmer, Cortney Gamm, Megan Kimmel, Brittany Kostra, Katie Moses, Vicki Hill and Lindsey Koslan.

ATTENTION SHOPPERS:

Let your creative juices flow at **Bally Bead and Jewelry** Located 1/2 mile north of I-30 at 2304 Ridge Road in Rockwall. Bally Bead has thousands of beautiful beads and jewelry findings. Discover how easy, economical and fun it is to make beautiful earrings, necklaces, bracelets, anklets, rosaries and more for yourself, friends and family.

We offer three different and easy jewelry making lessons:

- #1 Simple Bead Stringing
- #2 Wire Wrapped Loops
- #3 Knotting with Silk Thread

Only \$45 per lesson or take all three (on different days) for \$120. Here is a GREAT extra bonus: Take one or more lessons and shop in our wholesale section for 30 days at wholesale prices!

BALLY BEAD is a full service RETAIL & WHOLESALE bead store. We offer repair service and custom orders.

CALL US NOW & SIGN UP: #972-771-4514



Mystique

ROCKWALL WOMEN'S LEAGUE
30TH ANNUAL BLACK TIE CHARITY BALL

Be a part of a
Whimsical
night.



Last year Rockwall Women's League presented \$130,000 in scholarships to deserving seniors graduating from Rockwall High School, Rockwall-Heath High School and Roysse City High School.

Back: Mason Galloway, Ashley Titus, Jessica Crabtree, Kelsey Stone, Kali Katzman, Rebekah Radney, Zachary Jordan
Front: Tanner Rottman, Travis Cunningham, Andrew Young, Nathan Ennis, Andrew Hester, Jose Zaldivar

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Rockwall County Sports

Rockwall's state champs still having success

by Lary Bump

Haley Day took her turn Feb. 28 with her SMU basketball teammates, cutting down the net at Moody Coliseum.

That was to commemorate the Mustangs' clinching at least a share of the Conference USA women's basketball championship.

For her, the net-cutting ceremony could have been old hat, but it still was special enough that she kept the length of twine she cut off. She had been up on a ladder when the Mustangs won last year's Conference USA tournament. And two years ago, she was at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin, getting nothing but net after leading Rockwall to the state 5A championship.

Day has come a long way from Rockwall in the last two years. More often these days, Rockwall is coming to her.

That was the case Thursday, Feb. 26, when Lady Jackets head coach Jill McDill, current star Peyton Adamson and other well wishers from Rockwall went to SMU to see Day play against her high school teammate, Kiara Slaton of Tulane.

Unfortunately, Slaton got no closer than the hotel.

"Kiara called me that morning and said she couldn't sleep all night. She had the flu. She wanted me to come over to the hotel after the game, but I wasn't going. She had the flu!" said Day, concerned about keeping her health for this season's stretch run.

"I really enjoy all the support from Rockwall. Last year we started off not having many fans at our games. The other players would kid me and say, 'It looks like all of Rockwall is here tonight.'"

A good part of Rockwall picked a good night to join this year's larger crowds at SMU.

Day had career highs of 20 points and 13 rebounds as the Mustangs ran past the Green Wave 61-43.

McDill said, "Haley was awesome in that game. She scored the first seven points for SMU, and she took three charges. She plays with so much intensity."

That's just part of what Mustangs head coach Rhonda Rompola likes about the 5'10" Day, who's versatile enough to lead the team in 3-point field goals even though she's now playing mostly inside in the high post.

Rompola said, "Haley can play the whole game full speed. She can play the whole game full speed. She has great endurance. She doesn't tire out easily."

The Mustangs are 20-11 and headed either back to the NCAA Division I Tournament or to the

Women's National Invitation Tournament.

At Rockwall, Day was a two-time All-State 5A player and the most valuable player of the 2007 state championship.

She was not alone on that team. In addition to her and Slaton, four teammates are making themselves known with NCAA Division II teams in north Texas, as are three of her male contemporaries who played basketball for the Yellowjackets.

Slaton, the 6'3" sophomore has played in 18 games, including SMU's game at Tulane. She has played in 19 games, averaging 1.8 rebounds and eight minutes per game. She was at her best this season against Tulsa Jan. 24, when she had five points and a team- and career-high eight rebounds. The Green Wave finished 18-14.

Day said, "In the first game back at Tulane, I didn't match up against her in the game because I was playing the perimeter. It was good to see her and catch up. She hung out with us at our hotel after the game."

Sunny Satery, who played four seasons at Rockwall and was the starting point guard for three. Her freshman season at Midwestern State is over. She played in all 26 games and started five for the Lady Indians (8-18), averaging 3.0 points per game. Satery led the team in 3-point percentage (.349).

Shelby Adamson, another four-year Lady Jacket, even though she started only as a senior. Now she's the Lone Star Conference South Division Freshman of the Year at Tarleton State, which finished 16-12. Adamson averaged 10.3 points per game and led the TexAnns with 59 steals.

Brittany Coleman, Adamson's classmate at Rockwall, Coleman also is at Tarleton. She started only as a senior and RHS, but as a junior played key minutes off the bench in the 2006-07 state championship. She played in 18 games, averaging 1.9 points per game, as a freshman for the TexAnns.

Genevieve Campbell. She led the state in 3-pointers in each of her final three years at RHS, and now is a sophomore at Texas A&M-Commerce. She started 26 games for the Lions (18-11), averaging 8.9 points per game. Campbell scored 25 points, including seven 3-pointers, against Eastern New Mexico and hit a 3-pointer with 13 seconds left to beat Southern Illinois-Edwardsville 66-65.

Campbell played against Satery, Adamson and Coleman in TAMUC victories over Midwestern State and Tarleton State. Adamson and

Satery went head to head in the Midwestern-Tarleton game, but Coleman didn't play that night.

Braxton Adamson. The sophomore brother of Shelby and Peyton Adamson was named second-team All-Heartland Conference and to the all-tournament team in the conference's postseason tournament. He leads Dallas Baptist with 15.7 points per game and an .876 free throw percentage. The Patriots (23-6) received an at-large bid to their first NCAA Division II Tournament. They'll play Central Oklahoma in the first round Saturday.

Eddie Gloviak. A junior, he's a year ahead of Adamson at Dallas Baptist just as he was at Rockwall. Gloviak received All-Heartland Honorable Mention this season. He's averaging 11.4 points per game.

Michael Godwin. A junior at Midwestern State, he missed the season's first five games (including the opener against Dallas Baptist) because of an ankle injury. He has started every game since then. The Indians (24-6) won the Lone Star Conference Tournament, and will be playing Incarnate Word in the first round of the NCAA Division II Tournament Saturday. The 6'7" Godwin is averaging 6.5 points and 4.7 rebounds per game, leads the team with 32 blocked shots and was named to the Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll for academic excellence.

Last year, Day attended a number of the Lady Jackets' games - in part because she went through some hard times.

She said, "Last year was tough. My confidence was down. I was not playing a lot of minutes. I knew it was because I was a freshman and it would take time."

"I knew I could shoot 15-footers because that was my shot in high school. I started out here in the post, the 4 position, so I was making layups. Every time I'd get a 15-footer, I couldn't hit it."

A year has made a big difference.

"We had meetings throughout the summer with the coach, and she felt she needed me to produce more offense," she said.

"It was a shocker to me that I was starting this year. I knew they would need me, but I wasn't expecting to start. My parents were real encouraging. They said I've got to step up and be the best I can be."

Partly through text messaging, McDill knows Day has made that happen. She said, "I do check out the box scores for just about all of those kids. I look up stats and text them."

In fact, that's the biggest way Rockwall's former starts keep in contact.

Day said, "This year it's tough to get back to Rockwall or to see the other girls play. We're all traveling. We all have practice at some time. I try to keep up and see what they're doing. I text-message and phone to keep up with them, and they keep up with me."

Sports Notes

Ping-pong tourney slated

A ping-pong tournament for individuals ages 50 and older, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will begin at 10 a.m. March 20 at The Center. Drinks and snacks will be provided for players. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Special needs open gym March 27

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

Thursday's I-30 Classic games canceled

Thursday's I-30 Classic baseball tournament games have been canceled. Friday's games will run as scheduled.



Lady Jackets' 2007 graduate, Haley Day (24) of Southern Methodist University, shines on the court during the recent game against Tulane University. Staff photo by Roy Heath

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 Thursday, May 28
 Deadline: 5 p.m., May 21, 2009

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Deadline: 5 p.m. May 21, 2009.

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Congratulations!
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Rockwall County Sports

Rockwall-Heath's Morett, Leonard named to District 10-4A All-District first team

by Matt McGillen
Although they just missed out on postseason play, the Rockwall-Heath Hawks didn't miss out on the postseason honors.
Led by senior guard Dustin Morett and sophomore post Demi Leonard, the Hawks placed two players on the District 10-4A basketball All-District first-team and two on the second team, as well as having four players receive honorable mention.
Morett, a 6-1 senior and son of second-year Heath coach Justin Morett, topped the Hawks in scoring with 14.6 points per game average and also connected on 77 three-point shots, fourth best in the DFW, an average of 2.4 treys per game.
He also pulled down 72 rebounds, dished out 67 assists and came up with 32 steals.

Leonard, a 6-7 sophomore, was also named to the first team, tabbed as the co-Newcomer of the year to the district.
The high-leaping Leonard, who blocked an amazing 50 shots, led the Hawks in rebounding, collecting 181 for an average of 5.7 per game while also scoring at a 6.5 points-per-game rate.
Named to the second team were seniors Chase Nielsen and Lewis Snowton. Nielsen, a 6-3 guard, was Heath's second-leading scorer with 8.1 points per game, including 50 three-point field goals.
Snowton, meanwhile, averaged 6.5 points per game, tying Leonard as the third-leading scorer for the Hawks.
Hawks receiving honorable mention were seniors Erik Larsen, Jeremy Casebolt, Cameron McClung and Tony Tension.

The 6-2 Casebolt hit 75 percent of his free throws to lead the Hawks who watched their playoff hopes disappear in back-to-back ending losses to Rockwall.
The two schools wound up tied for fourth place at the end of the regular season, which forced a mini-playoff for the last postseason berth.
Rockwall won 56-54 to move on and end Heath's season with an overall mark of 13-19.

Mike-Mayers winds up sixth at UIL state tourney, becomes first RHHS All-State

Wrapping up a remarkable two-year run, Rockwall-Heath's Austin Mike-Mayers became the first Hawk in school history to earn all-state wrestling honors by finishing sixth at the UIL state finals Feb. 27-28 in Austin.
Mike-Mayers, wrestling in the 152 classification, opened with a 6-3 win over Marc Backus from Canyon Randall in the first round before defeating La Joya's Frank Rivera 3-1 in the second round to advance to the semifinals against Peyton Burns from Austin Westlake.
In a tightly-contested match, Mike-Mayers fell 7-3 to the talented Burns, who would go on to win the state championship.
In the consolation bracket, Mike-Mayer suffered another tough loss, losing 2-1 to Grapevine's Chase Covington, the eventual third-place finisher.
Mike-Mayers then fell to Chris Anaya from El Paso Franklin 5-2 in the match that decided fifth and sixth places.
Ending his two-year varsity career with a remarkable 64-14 record, Mike-Mayers finished his senior year with an unblemished 12-0 dual-

meet mark while winning three individual tournament championships: Vista Ridge, Plano and Arlington Lamar.
Mike-Mayers, who plans to study pre med at the University of Texas, also won the District 19-4A title and wound up second at the Region III tournament.

"He put a lot of extra time in over the summer, and it paid off," said Heath coach Shane Seleznoff. "He went from placing sixth regionally to sixth at state. He improved dramatically in his two years of high school wrestling. Our coaching staff congratulates Austin and wishes him well at UT."

Making the grade as a freshman: Thompson hits three home runs, collects 13 RBI

by Matt McGillen
Most freshman who are expected to be impact players at the high school level never really quite live up to the hype.
But for Rockwall-Heath's Jake Thompson - for the moment at least - the 6-foot-3, 215 pound ninth grader seems to be expanding the definition of impact.
In the Hawks' opening game of the Burleson tournament March 6-8, Thompson came to the plate in the bottom of the seventh with the bases loaded and his team trailing Mansfield Timberview by three runs and promptly delivered a game-winning walk off grand slam to give the Hawks a 10-9 victory.
Although they lost their next game to the host team by an identical 10-9 score, Thompson hit a pair of homers, then followed that effort with a double in a 8-4 win over Crowley after which he took the mound and threw a five-hitter as the Hawks downed Crowley 10-5 in a rematch of the same two teams.
For the day, Thompson had three round trippers and 13 RBI, not a bad day for anyone.
The Hawks wound up their 4-1 weekend with a 5-4 comeback win over Joshua and are 6-4 for the season and appear ready for their district opener March 10 at Greenville.

Down 3-0 against Joshua, the Hawks rallied to tie the game 3-3 in the bottom of the eighth to make a comeback.
Cody Sargent pitched a great game to give us a chance to win, said Heath coach Greg Harvey.
In addition to Thompson's clutch home run against Timberview, VerHagen, Nick Peterson and Jovan Hernandez all contributed.
Charlie Martin added a triple and a home run in the loss to El Paso as John Branum took the loss to drop to 1-1 for the year after the Hawks hurt themselves by making five errors.
"That was a disappointing loss, we had way too many errors," said after his team committed a dozen miscues for the tournament.
In Heath's first win over Crowley, Peyton Desmond got the win while Tyler Harding earned the save. VerHagen contributed a double and two RBIs.
In the rematch, Connor Lewis drilled three doubles while Branum had one.
"We still have a lot of work to do, especially defensively, but we are playing much better," said Harvey.

Sports Notes

continued from page 13

Junior Olympic Skills contest set

A free national skills competition open to children ages 8-12 will be offered from 10 a.m. to noon March 28 in the RISD Education Center. Rockwall youths can showcase their skills in basketball, soccer, tennis, and track and field, with genders competing separately. Each child must provide a copy of his/her birth certificate for age verification. For more information call the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department at 972-771-7740.

Blazing Balls golf tourney slated

The Rowlett Women's Club will host the Blazing Balls Charity Golf Tournament from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on March 30 at the Buffalo Creek Golf Course. Funds raised through the four-person scramble will help provide educational scholarships for women in need. Cost is \$110 per person, \$400 per team; cost includes dinner, snacks, prizes and more. Visit rowlettclub.com or e-mail info@rowlettclub.com for more details.

RC Chamber golf tourney set

The eighth annual Roysce City Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament will feature a 1 p.m. shotgun start on April 24 at the Stone River Golf Club. The event will include a four-person team scramble format; entry costs \$75 per person. Cash prizes and goody bags will be awarded. Hospitality will be provided by Twins Peaks Restaurant in Mesquite. For more information call 972-636-5000 or e-mail info@roysecitychamber.com.

Kayak class set April 25

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

Little Kickers Soccer begins in April

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

Little Sluggers T-ball program slated

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

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Heath softball goes 3-3 at Wylie tourney, splits at 8-5 heading into district action

In their final tune up before the start of District 10-4A play, the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks softball team split their six games at the Wylie tournament March 5-7.
Having advanced to the playoffs in each of the last two seasons, Heath will take to the road to face Greenville March 10 in the district opener for both teams, before returning home March 13 to host Rockwall in another of the "first-ever" matchups between the cross town rivals.
The Lady Hawks are still without their top offensive player, shortstop Sarah Long. Long suffered a back injury in October with a return date uncertain. It is the second year in a row Heath will start the season without one of its premier players.
Last season the Lady Hawks didn't get ace pitcher Chelsey Eddy back from off-season elbow surgery until several weeks into the schedule.
Now 8-5 on the year, the Lady Hawks opened the Wylie tournament with a 12-0 win over The Colony behind Victoria Combs' two-hitter.
They then beat Leander 3-2 with Chelsey Eddy allowing just four hits before falling to Birdville 4-0 despite another two-hitter by Combs.
Heath then beat Ellison 8-0 with Eddy scattering four hits before losing

their final two games, 5-4 to Lovejoy and 3-2 to Horn in nine innings.
Heath 12, The Colony 0 - The Lady Hawks hammered out an 11-run fourth inning. WP: Victoria Combs. Highlights: McLoughlin 3-for-4, 2 RBI, Taylor Blair 3-for-4, 3B RBI, Hailey Galloway 2-for-4, 2 2B, 3 RBI, Devin Edgemon 3-for-3, 2B, 2 RBI, Lutz 2B, RBI, Chelsey Eddy 2B, RBI.
Heath 3, Leander 2 - WP: Eddy. Highlights: Deimling Birdville 4, Heath 0 - LP: Combs. Highlights: McLoughlin 2-for-3, Heath 8, Ellison 0 - WP: Eddy. Highlights: Heath had 14 hits, McLoughlin 2-for-4, Galloway 2B, Deimling 3-for-3, Lutz 4-for-4, 3B, 2 RBI, Edgemon 2-for-2.
Lovejoy 4, Heath 3 - LP: Combs. Highlights: Combs gave four hits but the Lady Hawks committed four errors. McLoughlin 2-for-3, Blair 2-for-3, RBI, Galloway 1-for-2, RBI, Deimling Horn 3, Heath 2 - LP: Eddy. Highlights: Eddy surrendered only five Edgemon drove in a run in the top of the ninth to put Heath up 4-0. Horn scored twice in the bottom of the ninth for the win.

Lady Hawks tie No. 1 Pearce, face last-place Lovejoy with trip to the playoffs on line

Still in need of perhaps two wins and unable to pull off the upset against either third-place The Colony or second-place Highland Park last week, the Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks soccer team turned their sights on first-place Richardson Pierce March 10.
Mission almost accomplished.
Although they led 1-0 with less than eight minutes to play, thanks to a header goal by Amanda Penney off a crossing pass from Kori Kelly, the Lady Hawks (1-4-4) had to settle for a 1-1 draw against the powerful Lady Mustangs (8-0-1) in the District 21-4A game.
Heath now sits in fifth place just two points behind cross town rival Rockwall (3-4-2), which lost 1-0 to The Colony March 10 in the scramble for the fourth and final postseason berth.
And should the Lady Hawks get by Lovejoy (0-9) at home on senior night March 13 in the regular season finale and the Lady Jackets fall to Pearce the same night, a one-game tiebreaker between the two will be needed to settle the matter.
Should the Lady Jackets beat or even tie Pearce, Rockwall takes the berth outright.
After the Lady Hawks took the early lead, the Lady Mustangs spent the rest of the game furiously trying to rally, finally getting a gift goal when a

Heath player put the ball in her own net with just seven minutes to go.
As an interesting subplot to the Rockwall versus Pearce game, the Lady Hawks are looking to replace members of the Pearce junior varsity team.

Bowerman takes 1st at Hawk gymnasts finish 2nd at LD Bell meet

With Jade Bowerman taking first in the all-around competition, the Rockwall-Heath gymnastics team turned in yet another strong performance, finishing second at the LD Bell Invitational March 11 in Euless.
Scoring 110.40 points, Heath took the runnerup spot among the teams competing, which featured a total of 63 gymnasts.
In addition to finishing first in the all-around with a score of 38.55, Bowerman also won the vault (9.60), uneven bars (9.50), the balance beam (9.80) while finishing fourth in the floor exercise. Lauren Vandiver placed eighth in the all-around (36.10) and the beam (9.30) while Regan Allen placing 10th on bars (8.50).
Also turning fine performances were Megan Hasenyager, who placed 13th all around (33.60) and 12th on vault (9.35) and Lauren Starnes and Naje' Watkins, who tied for 11th on Balance Beam (9.50).
The Hawks close out the home portion of their schedule March 12 when they host Saginaw and Richardson ISD on senior night at RHHS.

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Why the U.S. Under Obama Is Still a Dictatorship

by Andy Worthington

Two weeks ago, when the Obama administration announced that it was bringing to an end the disturbing isolation endured by Ali al-Marri, a U.S. resident who has been held without charge or trial for seven years and two months — and who, most worryingly, has spent the last five years and nine months as an “enemy combatant” in solitary confinement in the Naval Consolidated Brig in Charleston, South Carolina — it was clear that one of the Bush administration’s most arrogant and un-American policies was coming to an end.

President Obama clearly regarded al-Marri’s imprisonment as significant, as he issued a presidential memorandum on his second day in office ordering the Justice Department to review the Qatari national’s case, and the announcement that al-Marri was to be moved out of his seemingly endless legal limbo and into the federal court system demonstrated that, in this specific case at least, the president was sticking to his word.

However, what worried al-Marri’s lawyers — and those, like myself, who have been following his case closely — was that the president’s decision would also bring to an end al-Marri’s pending Supreme Court challenge, in which the nation’s most powerful judges were scheduled to review whether or not the president — any president, not just a member of the Bush family — had the right to designate as an “enemy combatant” any person accused of terrorism arrested on American soil, whether a citizen or a resident, and to imprison them indefinitely without charge or trial.

Not an academic exercise

This was not merely an academic exercise. When al-Marri’s case was reviewed by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals last July, a majority of the judges decided that the president was indeed entitled to subject people arrested on American soil to arbitrary imprisonment, despite the complaints of the dissenting judges, led by Judge Diana Gribbon Motz, who argued that, if the ruling were allowed to stand, it “would effectively undermine all of the freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution.”

The Fourth Circuit majority also ignored the complaints of al-Marri’s lawyers, even though they were clearly more aware of the restraints on executive power that had been enforced by Congress in the wake of the 9/11 attacks than most of the judges.

In a brief to the court, the lawyers pointed out that the president lacked the legal authority to designate and hold al-Marri as an “enemy combatant” for two particular reasons: firstly, because the Constitution “prohibits the military imprisonment of civilians arrested in the United States and outside an active battlefield,” and secondly, because, although a district court had previously held that the president was authorized to detain al-Marri under the Authorization for Use of Military Force (the September 2001 law authorizing the President to use “all necessary and appropriate force” against those involved in any way with the 9/11 attacks), Congress explicitly prohibited “the indefinite detention without charge of suspected alien terrorists in the United States” in the Patriot Act, which followed five weeks later.

Keep it out of the Supreme Court

When the Obama administration announced its decision to move al-Marri to the federal court system, Justice Department officials also asked the Supreme Court to dismiss the pending case as “moot,” and on Friday the justices agreed, although, to their great credit, they also made a point of vacating the horrendous decision made by the Fourth Circuit Appeals Court last summer.

As a result, you may be thinking that the president no longer has the power to hold Americans without charge or trial as “enemy combatants,” but if this is the case then you may be — and should be — dismayed to learn that a previous ruling to this effect still stands, which was not addressed by the Supreme Court, and which has not been addressed by the Obama administration either.

In February 2005, in the case of Jose Padilla, an American citizen who was also held in prolonged solitary confinement as an “enemy combatant,” District Court Judge Henry F. Floyd ruled against the government, and ordered Padilla’s release. Noting that the power to suspend the writ of habeas corpus “belongs solely to Congress” under the Constitution, Judge Floyd declared, “Since Congress has not acted to suspend the writ, and neither the President nor this Court have the authority to do so,” Padilla had to be released.

“It is true,” he added, “that there may be times during which it is necessary to give the Executive Branch greater power than at other times. Such a granting of power, however, is in the province of the legislature and no one else — not the Court and not the President.... Simply stated, this is a law enforcement matter, not a military matter.” Echoing the decision taken by President Obama’s Justice Department in the case of Ali al-Marri, Judge Floyd added that the government could avoid releasing Padilla if it filed criminal charges against him, or acted to hold him as “a material witness.”

However, Judge Floyd’s ruling only stood for seven months. On September 9, 2005, three Fourth Circuit judges — J. Michael Luttig, M. Blane Michael, and William B. Traxler Jr. — overturned it, based on their belief (contested by Padilla’s lawyers, and also, as noted above, by al-Marri’s) that Congress had granted these sweeping and otherwise unconstitutional powers to the president as part of his wartime prerogative under the Authorization for Use of Military Force.

Obama fears high court review

As with al-Marri, this ruling was never tested in the Supreme Court. Just before a review was scheduled to begin, the Bush administration got cold feet, and moved Padilla into the federal court system, where, in August 2007, he was convicted of providing material support for terrorism in a lopsided trial — in which all mention of his long years of torture in solitary confinement were excluded by the judge — and, in January 2008, received a sentence of 17 years and 3 months.

In many ways, of course, history is repeating itself with al-Marri, even though the man at the top has changed, but what is most worrying is that the Padilla ruling still stands. Without the Supreme Court being given the opportunity to rule decisively on this question, what is needed is a clear repudiation of the policy by the Obama administration.

Instead, the Justice Department explained, in a brief filed with the Supreme Court last Wednesday, that, while the government “did not defend its power to detain Mr. Marri at present” (as Glenn Greenwald described it for Salon.com), “it left open the possibility that he or others might be subject to military detention as enemy combatants in the future.” In the Justice Department’s exact words, “Any future detention — were that hypothetical possibility ever to occur — would require new consideration under then-existing circumstances and procedure.”

It’s one thing, I suppose, to keep your options open, but quite another to defend the indefensible. Instead of fudging, in anticipation of future emergencies, President Obama and Attorney General Holder need to spell out clearly that no president will ever again treat suspected terrorists, either Americans or foreigners, arrested on American soil as “enemy combatants.”

Otherwise, Barack Obama’s fine words, in August 2007, when he declared, “We will again set an example to the world that the law is not subject to the whims of stubborn rulers, and that justice is not arbitrary,” will be meaningless, and Judge Rogers’ opinion — that the very constitutional foundations of the Republic had been fatally undermined — will be as applicable to the Obama administration as it was to that of George W. Bush.

Andy Worthington is the author of *The Guantanamo Files: The Stories of the 774 Detainees in America’s Illegal Prison* (published by Pluto Press). Visit his website at: www.andyworthington.co.uk.

We must demand a return to the constitutional limited government we inherited from our ancestors

On-Line @ www.rockwallcountynews.com

Opinions



Sweden’s government health care

by E. Williams

Government health care advocates used to sing the praises of the National Health Service (NHS). That’s until its poor delivery of care services became known. A recent study by David Green (Casper, “Delay, Denial and Dilution,” written for the London Institute of Economic Affairs, concludes that the NHS health services are just about the worst in the developed world. The World Health Organization calculated that Britain has as many unnecessary cancer deaths a year because of under-provision and twelve percent of specialists surveyed admitted refusing to treat patients suffering from kidney failure because of a rash. Waiting lists for medical treatment have become so long they are now “waiting lists” for the waiting list. Government health care advocates sing the praises of Canada’s health care system. Canada’s government system isn’t that different from ours. For example, after a Canadian has been referred to a waiting list for gynecological surgery is four to 12 weeks, a tonsillectomy 12 to 18 weeks, tonsillectomy three to 36 weeks and surgery five to 30 weeks. Toronto-area hospitals, concerned about lawsuits, ask patients to sign a legal release accepting that while their treatment may jeopardize their health, they nevertheless hold no blame. Canadians have an option Britainers don’t have: the right to sue American hospitals. In fact, the Canadian government pays \$1 billion each year for Canadians to receive medical care in our country. I wonder how much money the U.S. government spends for Americans to be treated in Canada.

Dr. Williams, you say, “Sweden is the world’s socialist wonder.” Sven Larson tells about some of Sweden’s problems in “Lesson from a Universal Health System: Tales from the Health-care Crypt,” published in the *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons* (Spring 2008). Dr. D., a Gothenburg multiple sclerosis patient, was prescribed a drug. His doctor’s request was denied because the drug was 33 percent more expensive than the older medicine. Mr. D. offered to pay for the medicine himself but was prevented from doing so. The doctor said it would set a bad precedent and lead to unequal access to medicine.

Malmö, with its 280,000 residents, is Sweden’s third-largest city. To see a physician, a patient must go to one of two local clinics before they can see a specialist. The clinics have security guards to keep patients from getting unruly as they wait hours to see a doctor. The guards also prevent new patients from entering the clinic when the waiting room is considered full. Uppsala, a city with 200,000 people, has only one specialist in mammography. Sweden’s National Cancer Foundation reports that in a few years most Swedish women will not have access to mammography.

Dr. Olle Stendahl, a professor of medicine at Linköping University, pointed out a side effect of government-run medicine: its impact on innovation. He said, “In our budget-government health care there is no room for curious, young physicians and other professionals to challenge established views. New knowledge is not attractive but typically considered a problem (that brings) increased costs and disturbances in today’s slimmed-down health care.”

These are just a few of the problems of Sweden’s single-payer government-run health care system. I wonder how many Americans would like a system that would, as in the case of Mr. D. of Gothenburg, prohibit private purchase of your own medicine if the government refused to pay. We have problems in our health care system but most of them are a result of too much government. Over 50 percent of health care expenditures in our country are made by government. Government health care advocates might say that they will avoid the horrors of other government-run systems. Don’t believe them.

The American Association of Physicians and Surgeons, who published Sven Larson’s paper, is a group of liberty-oriented doctors and health care practitioners who haven’t sold their members down the socialist river as have other medical associations. They deserve our thanks for being a major player in the ‘90s defeat of “Hillary care.”

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

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What about Texas independence?

by W. Burnett

I heard famous actor and Texan Chuck Norris talking about Texas as a separate from the “union” and reclaim its independent nation. The exchange came on the nationally syndicated Glenn Beck radio show. This is correct in his belief that Texas has the right to determine their political system and form of government, however, it is not a congressional condition. The right of Texas to stand on its own is contained in a well known but famous U.S. Supreme Court decision:

“Therefore, Texas became one of the United States, she entered into a perpetual relation. All the obligations of perpetual union, and all the obligations of republican government in the Union, attached at once to the State, which consummated her admission into the Union was something more than a mere contract; it was the incorporation of a new member into the political body, and it was final. The union between Texas and the other States was as perpetual, and as indissoluble as the union between the original States. There was no place for reconsideration or revocation, except through consent or through consent of the States.” (74 U.S. 700, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Salmon P. Chase opinion - 1868)

The illogical and contradictory claim by Justice Chase. He emphatically stated that the union between the states is “perpetual,” “indissoluble” and “perpetual.” Then he contradicts his claim by allowing for two exceptions: (1) consent or (2) consent of the States. Apparently then, it is possible for Texas to be an independent nation status, negating the declaration that there can be no separation.

Texasans have come to believe that Texas may separate because of the “Annexation.” Truth is, that treaty was rejected by the U.S. Senate. Polk came into office and conjured up a way to get around the Senate’s objection. He called for and got a joint resolution of congress, which only took a simple majority vote. That joint resolution was approved, but contains no reference to Texas reclaiming its independence.

The Supreme Court decision is the law of the land. Considering the current corrupt, wasteful, self-destructing, unconstitutional federal government, it is not surprising to hear Texans talking about separation. The good news is that there is public discourse on the subject and it appears to be civil and non-violent.

There could list a long series of insults and downright dangerous acts by the government, not the least of which is the security of our borders. The government’s failure to secure our border with Mexico is beyond question, especially for counties along the Rio Grande.

As in Brownsville, Texas... there’s hardly any semblance today of the life I knew. Fear prevails along the border as violent criminals move with ease back and forth across the border, bringing a new brand of violence to our area.

Political leaders are not apt to publicly talk about it now. However,

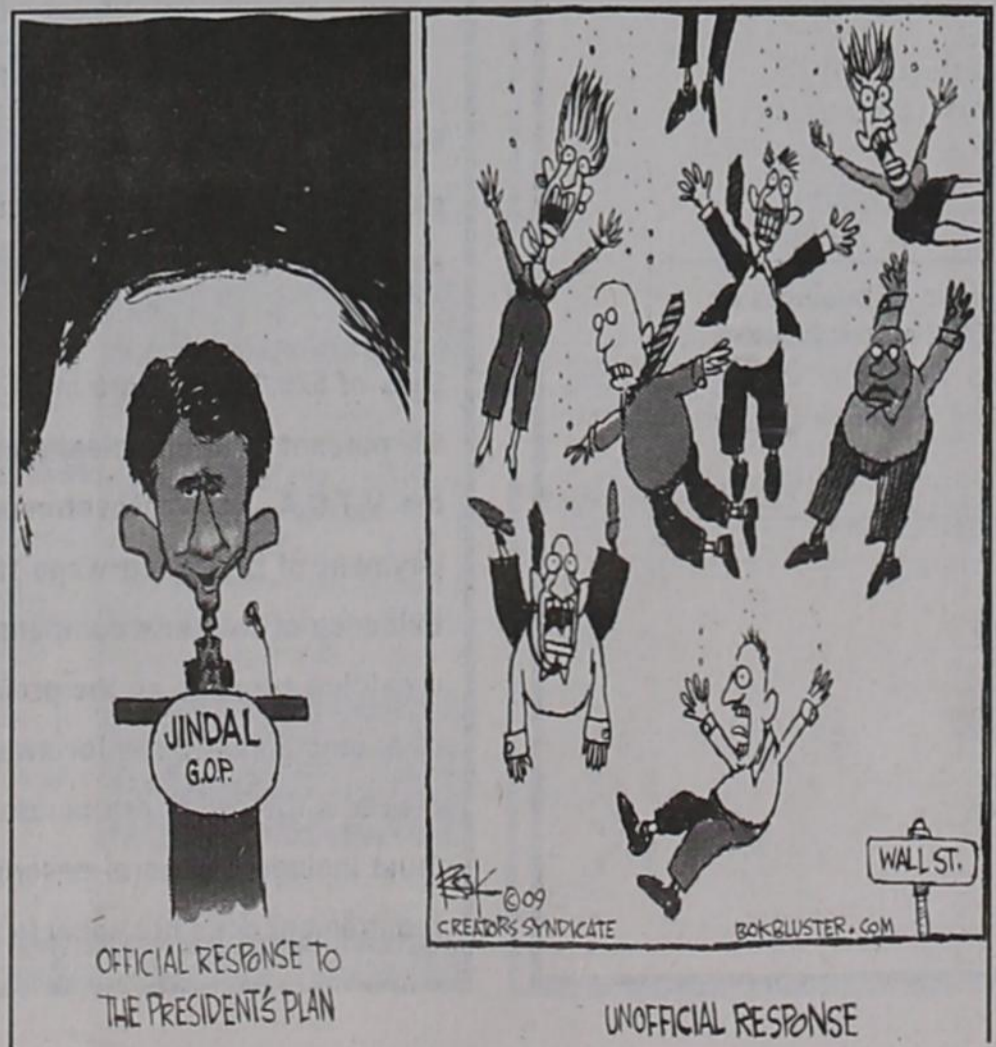
when enough Texans come to see the futility of relying on the U.S. for constitutionally limited government and security for Texans, there will be courageous Texas leaders taking that bold step to reclaim our liberty and freedom as promised to us by our ancestors.

There is a peaceful and lawful process for Texans to begin that process. The legislature has the authority to call a referendum on the issue of Texas independence. When such a referendum is approved by a majority of qualified Texas voters, the legislature then would be authorized to petition the other 49 states to be released from the union.

We believe that Texas voters have the right to decide this important question: Shall Texans create their own republic form of government to better secure their rights, liberties and freedom?

Whether or not a majority of state legislatures would agree with Texas independence, is of course, unknown. It could be that other offended states would take advantage of the law and make their own petitions.

We’re hopeful that the Texas legislature will offer Texans that opportunity. We’ll address a few of the benefits of Texas independence in future articles on this subject.



OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN

UNOFFICIAL RESPONSE

Rockwall County Public Records

Rockwall County Divorces February 2009

1-07-592 Natalie Rass-Gjoshi and Vllaznim Gjoshi and in the interest of Dorian Cloe Rass, A Child, agreed judgment, 2/05/2009.

1-08-159 Darryl Allen Mitchell and Jessica Marie Mitchell and in the interest of Julie Marie Mitchell, a Child, agreed judgment, 2/23/2009.

1-08-299 Cindy Joyce Crosier and Victor Matthew Crosier and in the interest of minor children: Chandler Michael Heilaman, agreed judgment 2/20/2009.

1-08-365 Krystal Dawn Thrash and Jeffery William Thrash and in the interest of Collin William Thrash and Nickolas Austin Thrash, children, agreed judgment 2/19/2009.

1-08-427 Mark Lee Schultz and Teresa Jaminet-Schultz and in the interest of Trevor Adam Schultz and Dustin Lee Schultz, minor children, agreed judgment 2/06/2009.

1-08-622 Grace Halima Guardado-Ruiz vs. Gonzalo Rodrigo Ruiz and in the interest of Ashley Nicole Ruiz, agreed judgment, 2/27/2009.

1-08-683 John Everett Smith vs. Denise Elaine Smith, agreed judgment, 2/23/2009.

1-08-688 Lisa Gayle Manning and Mark Dwayne Manning and in the interest of Sarah Marie Manning, a child, agreed judgment, 2/27/2009.

1-08-755 William J. Harris, Jr. and Jonna Renee Harris, agreed judgment, 2/27-2009.

1-08-819 Stephen D. Moore and Mary Jane Moore, agreed judgment, 2/18/2009.

1-08-850 Michael L. Murphy and Linda Faye Murphy, agreed judgment, 2/04/2009.

1-08-854, Michael Dale Strong vs. Leila Ann Vasquez and in the interest of Nicolas Trujillo,

Dylan Strong, agreed judgment 2/26/2009.

1-08-874 Allison Michelle Clement and Michael Brent Clement and in the interest of Chelsey Taylor Clement, Cody Ryan Clement, and Coree Reese Clement, minor children, agreed judgment, 2/03/2009.

1-08-883 William J. Baker and Heather M. Baker and in the interest of Natalie Kate Baker and Karys Elizabeth Baker, minor children, agreed judgment, 2/26/2009.

1-8-890 Christa Jill Broach and Ronald Preston Broach and in the interest of Connor Broach, Bailey Broach and Presley Broach, minor children, agreed judgment, 2/11/2009.

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1-08-901 Magdi Elnawagha vs. Christine Lynn Brown, default judgment, 2/27/2009.

1-08-921 Greta Lynn Bellinger vs Thomas Peter Ballinger III and in the interest of Mallory Kathryn Bellinger, a child, agreed judgment, 2/25/2009.

1-08-984 Jessica Rodgers vs David Rogers and in the interest of Twyla Rogers, a child, agreed judgment, 2/04-09.

1-08-1009 Dale Edwin Calhoun and Sophroia Funderburke Calhoun and in the interest of Desiree Anne Calhoun and

Savannah Lynn Calhoun, children, agreed judgment, 2/09/2009.

1-08-1011 Dawn M. Streetman and Jeffrey C. Streetman and in the interest of Maddyson B. Streetman, a child, agreed judgment, 2/12/2009.

1-08-1040 Patrick Bureau and Lisa Lechatton, agreed judgment, 2/19/2009.

1-08-1045 Christa Ruff Kent and Christopher Lance Kent, agreed judgment 2/05/2009.

1-08-1101 Danny Lee Wurst and Cindy Lynn Maddox, agreed judgment, 2/17/2009.

1-08-1112 Jonah Stephen Allen and Shaunna Marie Thomas, agreed judgment, 2/02/2009.

1-08-2009 Kellie Leigh Valencia and Carlos Mario Valencia, agreed judgment, 2/27/2009.

1-08-1127 Denise A. Moore and Ross A. Moore, agreed judgment, 2/13/2009.

1-08-1135 Micah Michelle Cupp and Richard Allen Cupp, Jr. and in the interest of McKinley Mayson Cupp and Deegan Ryder Cupp, minor children, agreed judgment, 2/10/2009.

1-08-1169 Michael O. Ekhtor and Laura Cole and in the interest of Sarah Ekhtor Cole, a child, agreed judgment, 2/17/2009.

1-08-1173 Trey Wesley Austin vs. Kathryn Ruth Austin, agreed judgment, 2/10/2009.

1-08-1209 Jeffrey Michael Pilcher vs. Shelly Marie Pilcher, agreed judgment, 2/13/2009.

1-08-1219 Timothy John Fester and Renee Turenne Feaster, agreed judgment, 2/19/2009.

1-08-1234 Angela Kay Cook vs. David Boyd Cook and in the interest of minor children: Jeremy Dylan Cook, Ashton Blake Cook, Hayden Alexander Cook, agreed judgment, 2/18/2009.

1-08-1238 Keith E. Mussog and Linda A. Mussog, agreed judgment, 2/27/2009.

Dolberry sisters help build homes for families in Puerto Penasco, Mexico

The weekend of February 13, four Mesa, Arizona sisters joined their parents Allen and Kimberly Dolberry and several other families from the Red Mountain Community Church on a home building mission in Western Mexico. Following are the observations of these young ladies, the granddaughters of Rockwall residents Pat and Wes Burnett.

by Lindsey Dolberry

I went to Mexico, it was fun. We built a house for a 10 people family. Their old house had a big tarp over it. The walls were made of wood boards and blankets and no door. It was smaller than a one car garage. We measured the house, then we put cement, built the walls and placed chicken-wire around the house.

by Whitney Dolberry

The trip to Mexico taught me humility. When I saw those people's houses, it taught me to be happy with what I already have. I helped build a house for a family of four, a mother, father, daughter and son. The daughter is about six years old, the little boy about three years old. They are like most children, but they have chores. They all worked beside us building their new home. Please keep this family in your prayers.

by Cailee Dolberry

The trip to Mexico is for me one of the best experiences of my life. We built houses for families who lived in shacks. The family I helped consisted of four, and they all worked just as hard as we did. I learned so much on this mission,

mostly to be more appreciative of what blessings we have. Seeing their cramped conditions was a big motivator for me to work even when I didn't want to.

by Alyssa Dolberry

I helped build a house for a family of four on our visit to Mexico. They are a wonderful, loving family and made us all feel very appreciated. The way they have to live is not so good. The weather was very cold and very sandy. Bathrooms are pitiful, nasty porta-potties and a shower is pouring a bucket of cold water over your head. The ride home was tough, at the border we got stuck for four hours, yet we were only a mile from the crossing. The trip was invigorating for me, teaching greater appreciation for our life in America.

Rockwall County News

P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087
107 E. Bourn Avenue
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Rockwall County Sports

Dukes leads Hawk golfers to 2nd place finish at RHS Stinger Classic

With senior John Dukes finishing third overall in medalist play, the Rockwall-Heath Hawks' golf team finished second by just a single stroke to the tournament's host at the 24-team Rockwall High Stinger Classic March 6-7 at the Buffalo Creek and Waterview golf courses.

Played both days in winds that reached 30 miles-per-hour, the title came down to the last putt on

the last whole, according to Heath coach Zak Zachary, with Rockwall emerging as champion with a team total of 611 to the Hawks 612.

McKinley Boyd was third (617), followed by Lake Highlands (628), Frisco Centennial (630) and Plano West (637).

Dukes, who shot a two day total of 75-72-147, was one of three Hawks in the top 15. Fellow seniors CJ Clem finished tied for

seventh (75-77-152) while Abe was 12th (80-74-152). Brooks Taylor provided the fourth score on day one with Reagan firing a 76 on the day to round out the score.

The Hawks were scheduled to play again March 9 at Hills against the South and March 10 at Canyon in a matchup with Rockwall Pearce.



Hawks' golf team members finishing second place during last weekend's RHS Stinger Classic tournament at Buffalo Creek and Waterview Golf Courses are (left to right) CJ Clem, Brent Reagan, Paul Aube', Brooks Taylor, John Dukes and Coach Zac Zachary. Photo courtesy of Gene Aube'



Lady Hawks' Medley Relay team return with Bronze medals. Lady Hawks' UIL State finalists sporting their bronze medals for the 200 Yard Medley Relay event during the February 28 meet in Austin are (left to right) Katie Langdon, Morgan Madril, Jacey Hodan and Coral Davenport. Madril clocked 25.82 seconds in the Freestyle improving her prelim time by about half a second. Madril logged in a time of 30.06 in the Back Stroke. Hodan shaved through in a time of 30.06, while Davenport flew through the Butterfly in 26.44 seconds shaving more than a full second from her prelims time. Photo by Sue Madrid

Rockwall Falls to Bishop Lynch

The Rockwall varsity hockey team took to the ice leading Bishop Lynch in both offensive and defensive stats but trailing the Friars by 2 points in Silver league standings. In a battle to the buzzer, the Jackets came up short 4-3 Mar 5th at the Frisco Star Center.

"We played well for two periods but couldn't make up for a slow start," said Mark Thirion, assistant coach.

The Jackets' start looked promising as they jumped out to an early lead 46 seconds into the game. Rockwall Heath senior Brandon Bambico's wrist shot, set up by classmate Chris Rogers, found the net from the left side circle.

But the Rockwall offense sputtered for the remainder of the first period as the Friars put up 16 shots while the Jackets managed only 6.

Excellent play by Rockwall senior goalie Landon Cain held Bishop Lynch to a single goal and the score even.

The Friars continued to pressure the Rockwall zone in the 2nd period and were rewarded with two scores.

The Jacket offense finally got going at the mid-way point with a number of scoring chances. At 12:10 in the 2nd, Rockwall sophomore Josh Kinnear and Rogers drew the Friar defense off the slot to set up Wylie senior Stefan Skinner for a netter to pull Rockwall within one goal.

With both teams playing even, penalties became critical. Rockwall went down a man early in the final period and that was all Bishop Lynch needed to go up by two.

Rockwall responded with a sustained surge pressuring the goalie, and at 10:17 in the 3rd Rockwall senior Zack Jones up Kinnear who buried the puck in the net from the right circle.

With time winding down the Jackets continuing to pressure the Friar defense stiffened, pulling Cain for an additional tacker was not enough to prevent game even.

The Jackets (16-4-1) will face Frisco (4-16-1) Mar 11 at the Frisco Star Center.

The Rockwall Ice Hockey team competes in the AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey League and is composed of young athletes from Rockwall, Frisco, and Wylie ISDs.

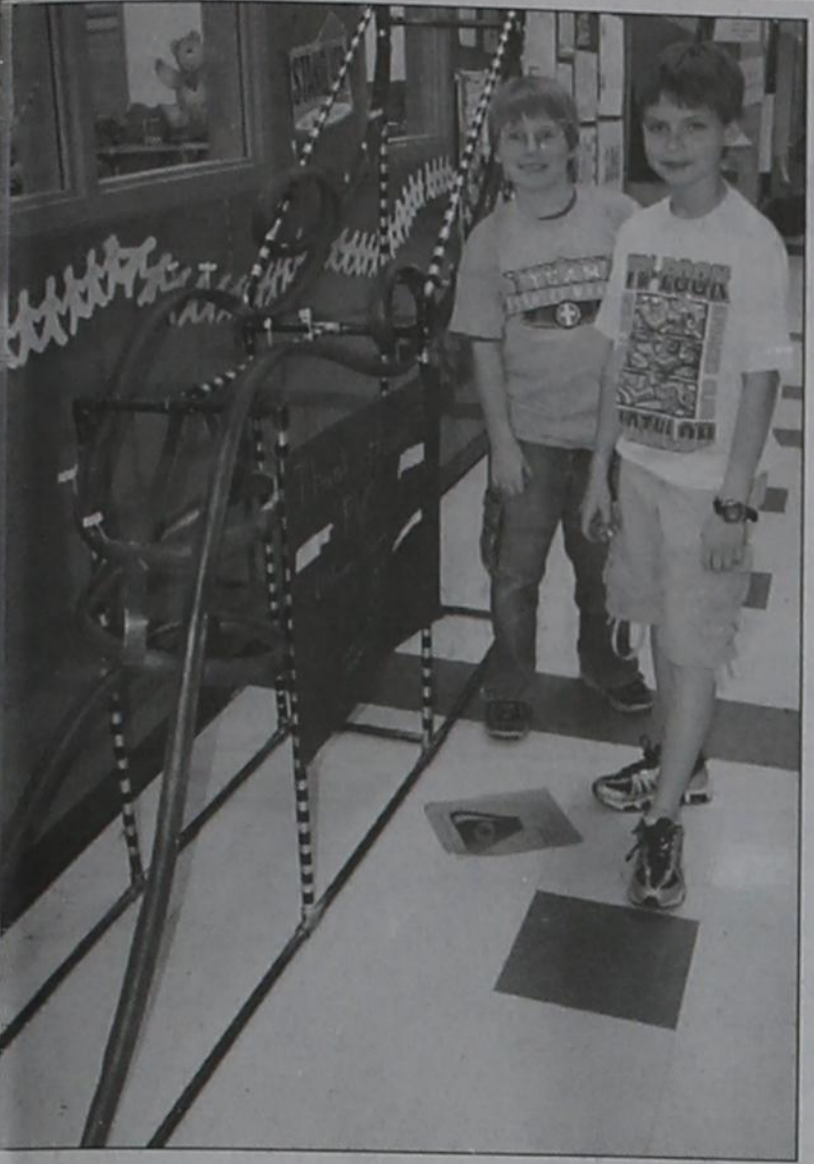
Sports Notes

Disc Golf Weekend slated May 2-3

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

YR to host charity sporting clays event

The Rockwall County Young Republicans will host the 1st Annual Charity Sporting Clays Challenge May 9 at the Elm Fork Shooting Club, 10751 Luna Rd. in Dallas. The event will begin at 9:30 a.m.; sign-in begins at 10:00 a.m. The event will benefit Hands, Habitat for Humanity, the Pregnancy Resource Center. For more details or to register, contact Aaron Moore at 972-3648, amooreyr@yahoo.com or visit rockwallry.org.



Amy Parks Elementary student Sydney Mike-Mayer is pictured in King Tut headwear following a recent trip involving the school's entire sixth grade. Students traveled to the Dallas Museum of Art to view the King Tut exhibit and see the different elements of the ancient culture. The Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts helped sponsor the trip through its Artist in Residence program. During 2008, the organization distributed more than \$13,000 as part of the program. For more information about the RCA visit rockwallarts.org.

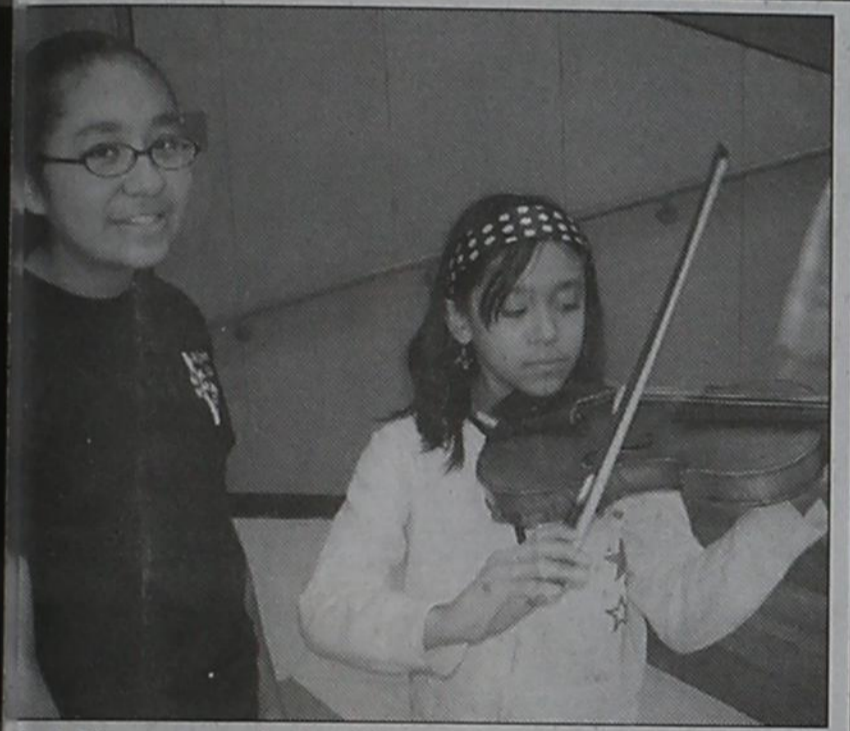


A group of Fulton School students, parents and instructors will leave for the annual spring break educational trip on Saturday. Pictured above preparing for the trip are Maddie Lundell, Amanda Bellinger, Brett Steffen and Harrison Creek. In London, the group will familiarize themselves with the host city of the next Summer Olympics for two days prior to exploring the English countryside and heading to Wales. The group plans to spend the night in Holyhead before ferrying across the Irish Sea to Dublin, Ireland, where they'll spend three days. Then the group will travel along the shore throughout southern Ireland before returning to the U.S.

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weekend's RHS Stinger
right) CJ Clem, Brent

Sixth grade science students at Grace Hartman Elementary demonstrated their knowledge of forces, motion and energy concepts by planning, designing and building a roller coaster model. Students created a roller coaster that not only demonstrated kinetic energy, potential energy and Newton's three laws of motion, they also were able to see how physics is applied in everyday life. Pictured above are Hartman students Jacob Baas and Bovenkerk.



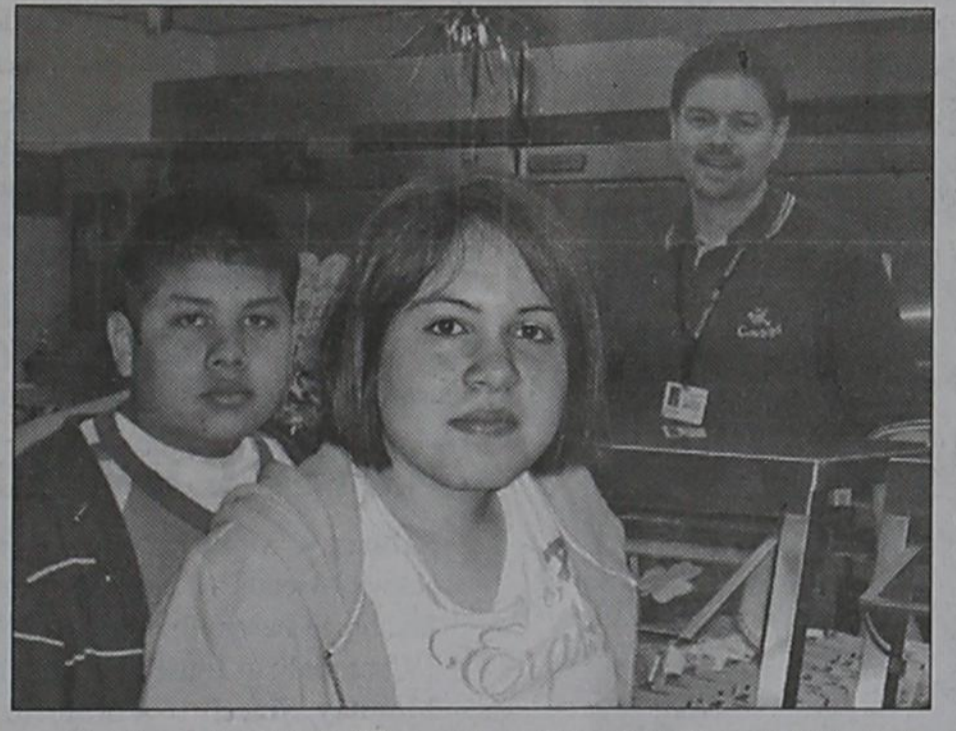
Isol Narvaez worked with her sister, Evelyn, as part of Grace Hartman Elementary's first orchestra ensemble concert for fourth and fifth grade students. The concert is designed to help the younger students consider their musical opportunities for the upcoming school year, and one of those options is being involved in the orchestra ensemble and playing a string instrument. Following the concert, prospective musicians were allowed to hold instruments and then out to get an idea of what it would be like to play in the ensemble.



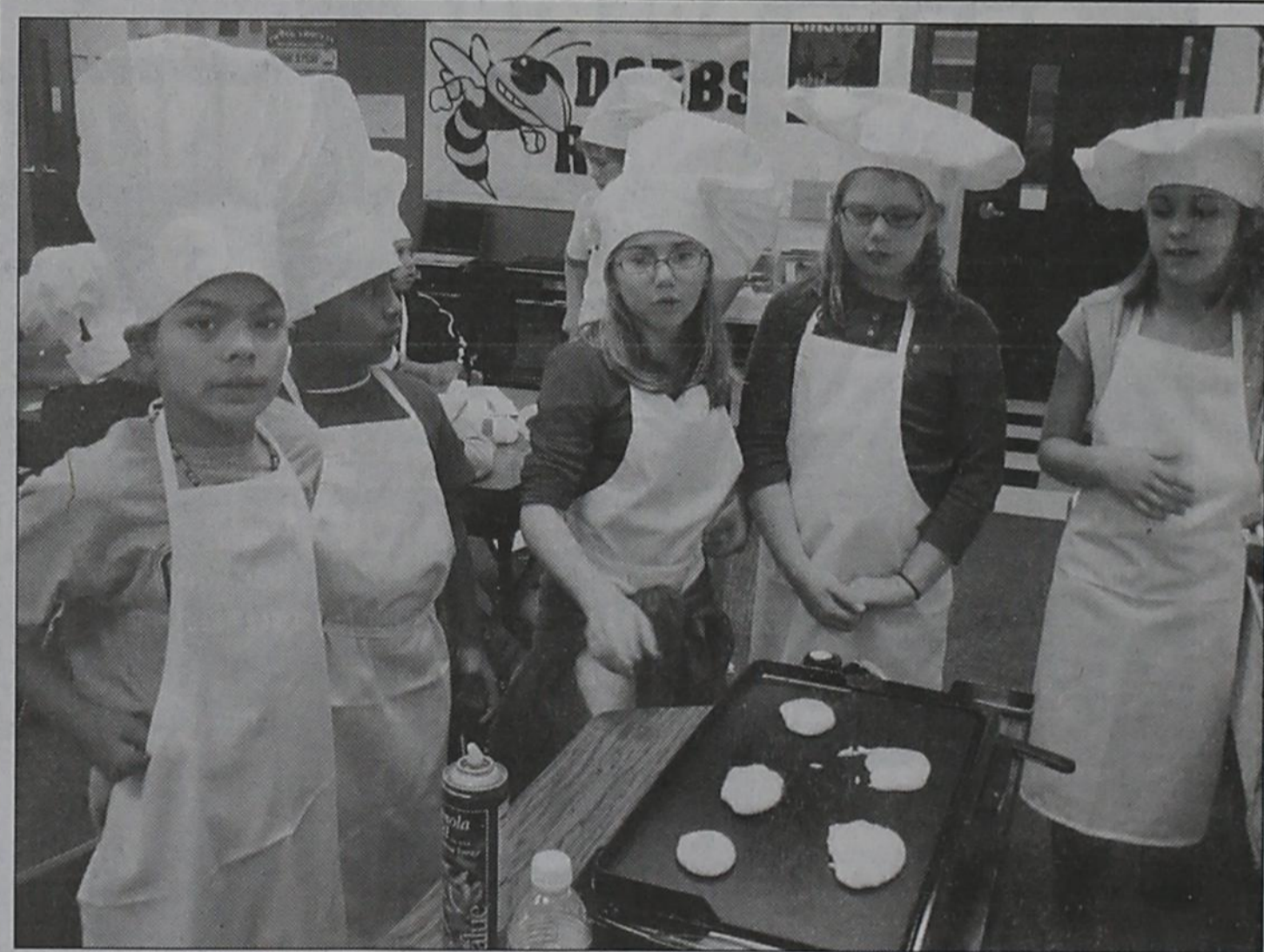
The girls of Girl Scout Troop 2909 and Troop 3147 found a fun way to complete a "try-it" that will count towards their advancement requirements on the trail towards Junior Scouts. On Monday, Feb. 23, three cheerleaders from Rockwall High School met with the girls to teach them cheers, stretches and conditioning and how to make cheer posters. A girl can earn a "try-it" patch by completing four required activities. A "fun patch" is earned by participating in a fun activity, as a troop. The "try-its" are more difficult to earn as they require more effort by the girls. Troop leader Kelly Briceno said the girls are bridging to Juniors next year and have to do certain activities ahead of time to meet advancement requirements. "It is very exciting for them to move up to the next level," she said. Briceno said this was a great experience for the girls to not only earn a try-it, but to learn the importance of cheerleading, stretching, conditioning and good sportsmanship. The cheerleaders spent an hour with the girl scouts teaching them several cheers and different stretches to avoid injury when cheering. They also showed the girls how to make creative, spirited posters for their school. For their activity during the meeting, they made posters to help them tackle the upcoming TAKS test.

Chamber to host April 24 golf tourney

The 15th annual Roysce City Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament will observe a 1 p.m. start on April 24 at the Roysce City Golf Club. The tournament will feature a team scramble format. The cost is \$75 per person. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place teams; closest to the pin; longest hole-in-one, Las Vegas advance hole. Goody bags will be distributed. The Peaks Restaurant of Roysce City will provide hospital-ity for the event's contest holes. A luncheon will also be offered, and prizes will be distributed at the event by Hot Rodz Café. The tournament is the primary source of funding for the college scholarships awarded each year. It also helps support day-camp activities of the chamber. Levels of sponsorship op-



Cullins-LakePointe Elementary School Assistant Principal Brad Helmer, who works with fourth, fifth and sixth grade students, is shown serving breakfast March 6 as part of the Rockwall ISD's "free breakfast" program. Pictured getting their morning meals are sixth grade students Josh Hoyos and Ashlyn Horn.



Following a Central Market field trip, Dobbs Elementary fourth grade students participated in a series of science experiments designed to teach the difference between chemical and physical change. Making Chemical Change Pancakes are Jose Saucedo, Jose Chabolla, Delaney Bird, Caroline Wilson and Madison Jennings. The lab is part of a unit entitled "The Culinary Institute of Physical Science." The field trip and related activities were made possible by a grant awarded by the Rockwall ISD Education Foundation.



Allen Elementary students celebrated their 100th day of school in the 2008-2009 school year by collecting canned goods for Helping Hands. The three kindergarten classes collected a total of 100 cans, surpassing their goal of 100 cans per class. Pictured here with a sampling of the canned goods are class representatives, at back, from the left, Madilyn Kenney-Johnson, Kaitlin Vavrik, Olivia Deja Beasley, Caitlyn Underwood and Reid Jackson, and, at front, Madelyn Everett, Emma Preston Landis, Ryan Judd, Brody Bobst and Alexander Ramirez.



Hannah King, Hannah and Grace Anderson, Kim Anderson and Emily King are shown piled up for Amy Parks' recent Family Movie Night. The school gymnasium was cleared of athletic gear for the evening to accommodate movie-goers and popcorn.

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Rockwall County Sports

Freshman Richardson leads Heath girls track to third place finish at Carl Norris

by Matt McGillen
 With freshman Brianna Richardson scoring in all five of her events – including winning the triple jump – the Rockwall-Heath girls track team captured third at the Carl Norris invitational meet in Mesquite March 6.
 Heath finished with 92 points, trailing runnerup Horn, which had 114, and champion Plano East, an easy winner with 141.
 In addition to her winning leap of 38-1.5 in the triple, Richardson took second in the long jump at 16-10, fifth in the 200 (26.42) as well as running a leg of the Lady Hawks second-place 4x100 relay (50.36)

and fifth-place 4x200 relay (1:50) teams.
 Heath's only other winner was Brittany Hugget, who won the 300 hurdles in a time of 48.74.
 Other strong performances came from Jasmine Williams in the sprints and Andrea Moeller in the distance events.
 Williams, who has signed to run for the University of Mississippi, took second in both the 100 and 200 with times of 12.12 and 25.72, respectively.
 Moeller, a cross country standout, finished second in the 3200 (12:25) and third in the 1600 (5:45).

Other Lady Hawks scoring points included Brittany Wegner with a sixth in the pole vault (8-6), Cybill Owsus, sixth in the discus (87-4) and Jackie Meyers, fourth in the 400 (63.16).
 The 4x100 relay team includes Sharniece Pratt, Cori Kelly, Williams and Richardson; the 4x200 relay is made up of Hugget, Kelly, Richardson and Rachel Garcia; the 4x400 relay squad is comprised of Pratt, Meyers, Hugget and Garcia.
 The Lady Hawks will next be in action in Waxahachie March 13.



Lady Hawks' Andrea Moeller (front) places second in the 3200M run and third in the 1600M during last weekend's Carl Norris Invitational meet in Mesquite. Also in the race is teammate M. Zaldivar (far right).
 Staff photo by Roy Heath

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Royse City boys win first upsetting Wranglers

Royse City scored the first district boys' soccer win in the province on Friday, Feb. 27, with a major upset of West Mesquite. RC's 2-1 victory knocked the Wranglers (5-2 in District 23-4A, 5 overall) two games behind first-place Mesquite Poteet in the standings. West Mesquite then defeated Poteet (6-1, 13-4-3) Tuesday but remained a game behind instead of being tied with the Pirates.
 The Bulldogs, playing in a soccer district for the first year, had their district opener at West Mesquite 6-0 on Feb. 9.
 Since then, their offense has improved. The 'Dawgs also stepped their defense against the Wranglers, holding them to one goal. That Royse City's goals by Abraham Ponce and Dustin Gibson hold the victory.
 Royse City (1-5 in the district) was scheduled to play at home Tuesday against third-place Kaufman.

Royse City Bulldogs' schedule

Saturday, March 14 – Varsity baseball: 1-30 Classic, home vs. Rockwall-Heath, 10 a.m. or 1 p.m., or at Rockwall, 10 a.m.
 Freshman baseball: at Crandall Tournament, 11 a.m.
 JV baseball: at Little Elm, 3 p.m.
Monday, March 16 – Softball: home vs. Rockwall-Heath, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, March 17 – Baseball: home vs. Richardson Pearce, 7 p.m.
Friday, March 20 – Baseball: at Greenville, 7 p.m.

Rockwall Yellowjackets' schedule

Saturday, March 14 – Varsity baseball: 1-30 Classic, home vs. Rockwall-Heath or Royse City, 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.
 JV White baseball: at Rowlett, 2 games, noon
 Varsity boys' golf: at Denton Guyer, Robson Ranch Golf Club
Monday, March 16 – JV White baseball: vs. Rockwall-Heath at Utey Freshman Center, 2 games, noon
 Baseball: home vs. Mesquite, JV Orange 2 p.m. and varsity 5 p.m.
 Varsity softball: at Richardson Pearce, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, March 17 – Softball: home vs. Carrollton R.L. Turner, a.m. and varsity 1 p.m.
 Baseball: at Rockwall-Heath, JV Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 Varsity 2 girls' golf: at Frisco Centennial, Twin Creeks Golf Club, a.m.
 Baseball: home vs. Royse City, JV Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 JV White baseball: at Royse City, 4:30 p.m.
 Softball: home vs. Royse City, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 Boys' soccer: home vs. The Colony, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 Girls' soccer: at The Colony, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 JV tennis: at JV Invitational, Duncanville
Thursday, March 19 – Varsity softball: at Garland, Tournament
 Varsity girls' soccer: Bi-District playoff (Thursday, Friday or Saturday)
Friday, March 20 – Baseball: home vs. Carrollton R.L. Turner, Orange 4:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Rockwall County News
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 107 E. Bourn Avenue - P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087

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 American Legion Bikers r
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