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# Rockwall County News

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## Contested Commissioner and J.P. races finish with wide margin, close run for Sheriff

According to the Unofficial Tabulated results of the 2016 Rockwall County Republican Primaries, Cliff Sevier and Mark Russo won by wide margins against their respective candidates. Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 pulled in 1580 votes at 54.43% compared to 642 for Jennifer Jeffus and 681 for David White. Sevier drew 2802 votes for County Commissioner Precinct 1 for 4.64% with 1533 votes for opponent Doug Hamilton at 35.36 percent. Harold Eavensen will return as Sheriff with 7357 votes at 58.17%. A few Hawks was close behind with 6132 votes and 41.83%. The following results are incomplete, but represent reports provided by the Rockwall County Elections Office as of 9 p.m. on Super Tuesday.

### Republican Primary

President – Ted Cruz, 41.76 percent; Ben Carson, 3.89 percent; Marco Rubio, 18.72 percent; Jeb Bush, 1.10 percent; John R. Kasich, 4.1 percent; Donald J. Trump, 27.64 percent; uncommitted, 1.67 percent  
 U.S. Representative, District 4 – John Ratcliffe, 74.66 percent; (Giigliotti, 14.83 percent; Ray Hall, 10.51 percent  
 Railroad commissioner – Weston Martinez, 12.79 percent; John Gortok, 6.66 percent; Lance N. Christian, 18.03 percent; Doug Jeffrey, 13.53 percent; Ron Hale, 15.30 percent; Gary Gates, 15.71 percent; Wayne Christian, 17.98 percent  
 Justice, Supreme Court, Place 3 – Debra Lehmann, 52.95 percent; Mnael Massengale, 47.05 percent  
 Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5 – Rick Green, 54.11 percent; Paul Green, 45.89 percent  
 Justice, Supreme Court, Place 9 – Joe Pool, 46.47 percent; Eva Goman, 50.53 percent  
 Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2 – Chris Oldner, 29.99 percent; Mary Lou Keel, 38.91 percent; Ray Wheless, 31.09 percent  
 Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5 – Brent Webster, 27.33 percent; Sid Harle, 14.12 percent; Scott Walker, 44.82 percent; Steve Smith, 13.72 percent  
 Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6 – Michael E. Keasler, 60.3 percent; Richard Davis, 33.57 percent  
 Member, State Board of Education, District 9 – Keven M. Ellis, 31.5 percent; Mary Lou Bruner, 49.87 percent; Hank Hering, 19.29 percent

• State representative, District 33 – Justin Holland, 41.08 percent; Lorne Liechty, 36.97 percent; John Keating, 21.95 percent  
 • Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 4 – Lana Myers, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 7 – David James Hanschen, 42.61 percent; David John Schenck, 57.39 percent  
 • District judge, 382nd Judicial District – Brett Hall, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • District judge, 439th Judicial District – David E. Rakow, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Judge, County Court at Law – J. Brian Williams, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Sheriff – Andrew Hawkes, 45.46 percent; Harold W. Eavenson, 54.54 percent  
 • County tax assessor/collector – Kim Sweet, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • County commissioner, Precinct 1 – Cliff Sevier, 64.64 percent; Doug Hamilton, 35.36 percent  
 • County commissioner, Precinct 3 – Dennis Bailey, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Justice of the peace, Precinct 3 – Mark Russo, 56.63 percent; Jennifer Jeffus, 20.67 percent; David White, 22.7 percent  
 • Justice of the peace, Precinct 4 – Liana Bell Whitten, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Constable, Precinct 1 – John Benedetto, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Constable, Precinct 2 – Trey Chaney, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Constable, Precinct 3 – Tom Egan, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Constable, Precinct 4 – Randy Earl Parks, 100 percent (uncontested)  
 • Proposition 1 – Yes, 66.52 percent; No, 33.48 percent  
 • Proposition 2 – Yes, 62.25 percent; No, 37.75 percent  
 • Proposition 3 – Yes, 81.95 percent; No, 18.05 percent  
 • Proposition 4 – Yes, 95.38 percent; No, 4.62 percent  
 According to the elections office a total of 17,313 ballots were cast in the primary, out of a total of 53,944 registered voters for a 32.09% voter turn-out.

### Democratic Primary

• President – Hillary Clinton, 59.63 percent; Bernie Sanders, 35.94 percent; all other candidates, less than 2 percent

(Continued on Page 4)



Melissa Tyner, pictured above, was selected as the 2015-2016 Ouida Springer Elementary School Teacher of the Year. She was recognized recently with a cake. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall to consider canceling May election

After no one but the incumbents stepped forward to file as candidates in the May 7 City Council election, the City of Rockwall will consider an ordinance canceling the election, according to a city news release issued last week.

The City of Rockwall recently called an election for May 7 to elect City Council members for Places 2, 4 and 6. All three incumbents – John Hohenshelt (Place 2), Dennis Lewis (Place 4) and Mike Townsend (Place 6) – each filed to run for an additional two-year term in office.

The filing deadline was Feb. 19 and the last day to declare write-in candidacy was Feb. 23, according to the news release. No candidate filings except for the three incumbents were filed.

As a result, the Rockwall City Council will consider an ordinance at its meeting on Monday, March 7, cancelling the election due to no opposed candidates. If approved, all three incumbents will take the oath of office at the regular city council meeting on Monday, May 16, to begin serving their new terms.

### Rockwall County News Briefs

#### Democratic Men's Group plans March meeting

The Democratic Men's Group of Rockwall County will meet for lunch at noon on Saturday, March 5, at Johnny Carino's Italian restaurant, 819 E. I-30 Frontage Rd., Rockwall. The group meets on the first Saturday of each month at local restaurants. Open-minded, progressive men concerned about the future of Rockwall County and Texas are invited to attend.

#### Spring Break Rock Camp set March 7-11

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department has organized a Spring Break Rock Camp that will run March 7-11. Participants will venture to destinations throughout the area, including the Heard Museum, the Texas Skatium/Bowl-o-Rama, Dallas Arboretum, Cowboys Stadium and more. The camp will be open to youths ages 6-12; each child needs to bring a sack lunch and water bottle each day. Cost will be \$215 or \$143 for local residents. Visit [rockwall.com/parks/index.asp](http://rockwall.com/parks/index.asp) for more details.

#### Spay/neuter mobile hospital scheduled

The Spay Neuter Network's hospital bus, in the I-30 Wal-Mart parking lot, offers surgery performed on site the second Friday of every month. Next date is March 11. Free spay/neuter is offered in selected ZIP codes. For appointment/information call 972-472-3500 or 817-423-5500. Be sure dog's collar cannot be slipped, cats are in secure carriers. Promoted by Rockwall PAWS (Rockwall PAWS @ att.net).

#### Believe It or Not is lecture topic

Tall tales of Rockwall County will be the topic at the Sheri Stodghill Lecture Series presented by the Rockwall County Historical Foundation and the Rockwall County Historical Commission from noon to 1 p.m. in the third floor in the historic downtown courthouse on March 11.

#### RARTA to meet March 14

The Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association will meet at 1:45 p.m. on Monday, March 14, at the Rockwall ISD Administration Bldg., 1050 Williams. The meeting will take place in Room #600, the board room. Todd Williams, county extension agent, will speak about container gardening. Come at 1:15 p.m. for refreshments.

#### Luncheon honoring first responders set March 16

The Rockwall County First Responders Luncheon, organized by the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce, will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 16 at the Thomas H. Nalls Fire Station, 920 Rockwall Parkway. Sponsorship opportunities also are available. (Continued on Page 2)



## University scholastic honors

### Foreman named to President's List

Wendy Garrett Foreman of Rockwall was named to the President's List for the fall semester at the University of Lafayette, according to a news release from the university. To be included on the President's List, a student must earn a grade-point average of 3.8 or better.

### Draheim tapped for Dean's List

Stewart Draheim of Roysse City was named to the Fall 2015 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, according to a news release from Bristol, Rhode Island, university. Draheim is a finance major. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a grade-point average of 3.4 or higher are eligible for inclusion on the Dean's List, according to the news release.



Kathy Smith, career and technical education campus coordinator for the Roysse City High School, was the speaker for the Tuesday, Feb. 16, Roysse City Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon. She spoke on the topic of a new internship career program for students.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/  
Rockwall County News

## Vendors sought for June 4 Country Fair

The Rockwall Soroptimists are accepting applications for booth and food vendors for their third annual Country Fair on Saturday, June 4.

The event, which will include live music and dancing, vendors, food, a kid zone, rides, vintage games, a car show and a live auction, will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 1111 E. Yellow Jacket Lane, according to the organization's news release. Admission will be free. Tickets will be sold for vintage game play, rides and beverage purchases.

Check out the Soroptimists' website, [rockwallcountryfair.com](http://rockwallcountryfair.com), for further details and to sign up.

Sponsorships are also available.

Proceeds will fund the Rockwall Soroptimists' ongoing projects benefiting women and children, including the new Children's Advocacy Center of Rockwall at the Soroptimist House.

## RCHS career tech programs detailed at RC Chamber

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Kathy Smith is the career and technical education coordinator, as well as the digital and interactive media teacher, for Roysse City High School. During the monthly Roysse City Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at the high school, she discussed the career and technical education career experiences classes offered to the students which include: web technology, culinary arts, finance, business management and administration, graphic design, fashion design, audio and video technology, animation and the principles of agriculture, food and natural resources.

In the field of public service, the internship program will offer health information management, nursing and possibly emergency medical tech (but not yet fully approved).

"This is the first time the internship program has been offered to the students," Smith said. "We hope to begin the internship the week after Spring Break or March 21. The students will only be available for about an hour a few days a week (two to three days, depending on the mentor). Our purpose for doing this is to allow our students the opportunity to see what is really like to work in the real world and get a feel of what will be expected of them in the future."

According to Smith, there were 35 business people, 20 students, seven administrators and three teachers in attendance at the luncheon. Each of the business people were given a packet that explained all the career opportunities for the students and a letter explaining the internship program for interested students.

Anyone interested in mentoring a student was encouraged to complete the letter and return to Smith as soon as possible. A student will be paired up with a professional, and they will work together several hours a week, learning how the business and professional world runs.

The meal was catered by the Roysse City High School Culinary Arts Department under the direction of Cindy Clark and sponsored by the Roysse City Independent School District.

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

## Rockwall County Obituaries

### Lynn Houston

Services for Lynn Houston, 81, of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 29, 2016, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Bill Cathey and Pastor Kip Brockway officiating. Burial was in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.



She died Feb. 24. Born May 29, 1934, in Dallas to Olen Appling and Virgie (Wrinkle) Holdren, she retired from J.C. Penney after many years of service in marketing. She was a member of Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall.

Survivors include her children, Richard Houston Jr., and his wife, Susan, and Cindy Oakes and her husband, Kenny; a grandson, Richard Lee Houston III; and good friends Tammy and Terry Triem. Her parents preceded her in death.

### Luncheon honoring first responders set

The Rockwall County First Responders Luncheon, organized by the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce, will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 16 at the Thomas H. Nalls Fire Station, 920 Rockwall Parkway.

Sponsorship opportunities also are available. For more information, visit [business.rockwallchamber.org/events/details/partnership-luncheon-first-responders-130754](http://business.rockwallchamber.org/events/details/partnership-luncheon-first-responders-130754).

### University Scholastics News

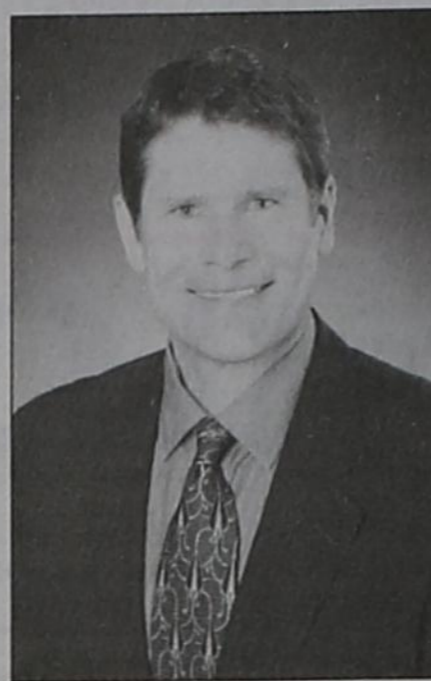
#### Miller accepted to McMurry

Jordan Miller of Heath has been accepted as a student to McMurry University in Abilene, according to a news release from the university.

Miller also has received a scholarship at the Scholarship Day competition on Feb. 15 at the university, according to a second news release. Scholarship Day awards, awarded to freshmen, are based on academic achievement and the "promise of continued academic excellence." Scholarship Day awards provide an annual stipend of at least \$8,000 and are renewable for up to eight semesters of full-time study.

### Karl A. Glastad

Services for Karl A. Glastad, 56, will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 5, 2016, in the Lake Pointe Church, 701 E. I-30, Rockwall with Pastor Greg Bradford officiating.



The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, March 4, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

He died in his sleep on Feb. 24. Born in Short Hills, New Jersey, in 1959 to Norwegian immigrants Karl and Johanne Glastad, he graduated from Baylor University, earned his medical degree at UT Southwestern Medical School and did his radiology residency and MRI fellowship at Baylor University Medical Center. He worked for American Radiology Associates for 26 years. As a skilled radiologist, he saved countless lives through his work and teaching. His legacy will be his unwavering commitment to patient care and education, both on and off the job.

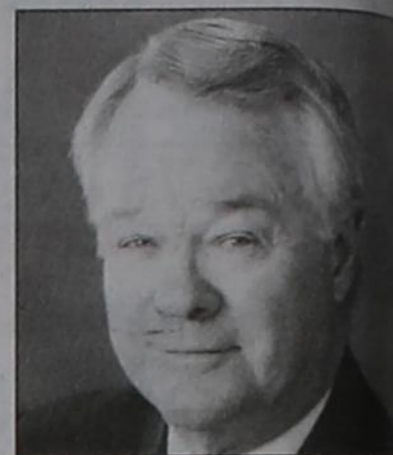
He married Allison Wilson on Feb. 23, 1991, in El Campo. An active outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, biking, sailing and sports. As a natural teacher, he turned every opportunity into a learning experience. His kids treasured his advice, wisdom and knowledge, and many were recipients of his generous spirit and humble heart.

He and his family enjoyed going to Norway for vacations each summer. Survivors include his mother; his sister, Joyce; his wife; their son, Karl Michael, and his wife, Christina, their daughter, Kristin, and her husband Lee, their son, Jacob, and his fiancée, Bailey, and their son, Luke.

His father preceded him in death. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that charitable donations be made to the Lake Pointe Church (designate Youth, Missions or Women's Ministry) at [lakepointe.org](http://lakepointe.org) or ask for the financial director at 469-698-2200 or Partners in Health at [donate.pih.org](http://donate.pih.org) (list [kglastad@swbell.net](mailto:kglastad@swbell.net) for honoree's email).

### James Stewart Loftis

A memorial service for retired medical doctor James Stewart Loftis, 85, will be conducted at a later date. Thompson's Harveson & Cole Funeral Home of Fort Worth is in charge of arrangements.



He died Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016, surrounded by his family, following a long battle with dementia.

Born in Roysse City on Dec. 3, 1931, he was the oldest child of Laborn Dudley and Mary Nell Loftis. He grew up in Rockwall County, attended Rockwall High and was starting quarterback for the Yellow Jackets. He attended Southern Methodist University where he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He attended Southwestern Medical School and graduated in 1956.

Following an internship at Methodist Hospital in Dallas, he served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He listed his top three choices for deployment as Hawaii, Germany or Japan and was sent to Lubbock.

After two years of service, he moved to Odessa where he began a successful private practice in family medicine in 1959. He moved to San Antonio in 1971, where he practiced until his retirement in 1998. Following his retirement, he returned to the Dallas area, living in several locations before spending the last seven years of his life at the Courtyards at River Park in Fort Worth, where he was known as "Trouble" with both affection and exasperation.

Survivors include his children, Amy Loftis Farrow (Edward) and Audrey Loftis Rogers (Jeff), and their mother, Carrie Jane Loftis Stewart Barton Loftis (Michelle) and Casey Loftis Merolla (Mark) and their mother, Carolyn Loftis Tracy; his grandchildren, Eva Farrow (Alexandra), Emily Farrow, Bess Farrow, Diana Rogers Abigail Loftis, Jonathan Loftis, Avery Merolla and Alexa Merolla.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Joe Loftis; and his wife, Guadalupe Loftis.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Abby Mask

A night of remembrance for Abby Mask, 47, of Roysse City was conducted Tuesday, March 1, 2016, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Royse City Chapel from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



She died Feb. 25. Born June 29, 1968, in Dallas to Charles Ray Mask and Peggy Jo VanCleave, she was a homemaker and a Methodist.

Survivors include her son, Charles Mask of Roysse City; her daughter, Lauren Wrye of Roysse City; her father, Charles R. Mask of Gilmer; her brothers, Charles C. Mask and his wife, Marguerite, and Andy Mask, all of Roysse City; her sister, Becky Toomey, and her husband, Mike, of Lucas; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her mother, Peggy Rowan.

## Children's programs set at county library

Several children's programs have been scheduled in coming days at the Rockwall County Library.

An overview of the programs, according to a library news release, is as follows:

- "The Tortoise and the Hare." S&D Puppetry - 11:15 a.m., Monday, March 7. Puppeteers Sandra McLean and Sandy Shroust will share the classic story to children ages 4-8.
- StoryART with Ann Marie - 11:15 a.m., Tuesday, March 8. Program for ages 4-8 will offer interactive and imaginative fusion of storytelling, theater and visual art.
- Journey with Max to "Where the Wild Things Are" with storyteller Dorayne Breedlove, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 8. The Caldecon classic will come alive for children ages 4-8 with wild things. Dance the wild rumpus dance to jungle music.
- Reading & Rhyming with Mother Goose, 11:15 a.m., Wednesday, March 9. Puppets, ventriloquism and stories designed for children ages 4-6.
- Storyteller Genie Hammel (aka the Magic Genie), 11:15 a.m., Thursday, March 10. Stories will come alive with "a bit of magic" for children ages 4-8.

### RISD trustees to meet March 21

The Rockwall Independent School District Board of Trustees will meet in regular session on Monday, March 21, in the district's administration building, 1050 Williams St., Rockwall.

Trustees will meet in public session at 7:30 p.m., according to a notice on the district website. The group will meet in executive session from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tell'em you saw it in the County News

### USAF Thunderbirds to perform at Fort Worth Alliance Air Show

The United States Air Force Thunderbirds will fly the North Texas skies Oct. 15-16 as the headliner of the not-for-profit 2016 Bell Helicopter Fort Worth Alliance Air Show at Fort Worth Alliance Airport.

Joining a developing cast of the nation's top performers and attractions, the USAF Thunderbirds will lead a full lineup to be revealed spring 2016.

## Rockwall County News Brief

(Continued from Page 1)

#### Rockwall's Got Talent auditions scheduled

Auditions for Rockwall's Got Talent will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 26 at the Rockwall Community Playhouse, 609 E. Rockwall (two blocks off the square in downtown Rockwall). Semi-finals are scheduled for April 8; finals will be April 15. For more details visit [rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org](http://rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org).

#### 'What's Your Superpower?' focus of conference

The Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Women's Alliance will play host to the What's Your Superpower Women's Conference & Business Expo on Friday, April 1, at The Castle at Rockwall, 2071 Clem Rd. Ext. The event, which will run from 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m., will focus on "innovative and effective ways that women can make a mark in all aspects of their lives from the office to home and their communities." Tickets cost \$3 for Rockwall Chamber partners and \$109 for prospective chamber members. For more details, contact the chamber at 972-771-5777 or visit [rockwallchamber.org/events](http://rockwallchamber.org/events) or [facebook.com/rockwallchamber](http://facebook.com/rockwallchamber).

#### RWL accepting grant requests from nonprofits

The Rockwall Women's League is accepting grant requests from nonprofit agencies that provide services to Rockwall County. To be considered, organizations must be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Grant requests should include program name, program description, program beneficiaries, amount requested. Grant requests should be submitted in writing and mailed to P.O. Box 383, Rockwall, TX 75087, attn.: Patti Poole contact Poole at 972-771-7343 or [ppoole@bjpoolelaw.com](mailto:ppoole@bjpoolelaw.com) for more details. Grant requests also may be emailed to Poole. Deadline submission is April 1.

(Continued on Page 4)

## Ask Dr. Danette

by Danette McNew, D.D.S.



### BRUSHING UP ON YOUR TECHNIQUE

While many people have been led to believe that they should brush their teeth with up-and-down motions, the proper way to brush is actually in circular motions. Not only does this way of brushing get tooth surfaces clean, but it also massages and stimulates the margins of the gums. For individuals with crooked teeth, it is important that they angle their brushes so that they can get into nooks and crannies that they might otherwise miss. As far as the amount of time needed to get teeth completely clean, it takes about two minutes. To make optimum use of this time, it helps to divide the mouth into quarters and spend at least 30 seconds brushing each quarter thoroughly.

Are you brushing your teeth, gums, and tongue correctly? When you understand the importance of optimum dental health, we can help you maintain a healthy mouth, as well as treat the causes and symptoms of any dental condition. At McNEW DENTAL, we're currently accepting new patients and welcome you to call 972.771.2213 to schedule an appointment.

We're located at 1300 E. Ralph Hall Pkwy., Suite 114.

P.S. The best time to brush teeth in the morning is before breakfast. Otherwise, acidic and sugary foods weaken enamel and leave it vulnerable to the erosive effects of brushing.

[www.mcnewdental.com](http://www.mcnewdental.com)

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### TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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ACROSS  
1 Bowie crossed the line on this (2 wds.)  
5 Texoma is largest man- TX lake  
6 TXism: "  
7 Steven" (all square)  
8 TX B.J. Thomas' "  
17 I Could Cry"  
18 Chester, TX was named for this Pres. Arthur (init.)  
19 TXism: "he blazes \_\_\_\_\_" (large)  
21 TXism: "costs \_\_\_\_\_ arm and a leg"  
22 pickle herb  
23 Texans dance \_\_\_\_\_-step  
24 TX London's role on "I'll Fly Away"  
29 rattlesnake caves  
30 TX Freeman "One Life to Live" character; \_\_\_\_\_ Hall  
31 TX "Cowpokes" artist Reid (init.)  
32 TXism: "down the road \_\_\_\_\_" (quite a distance)  
34 TXism: "a real go getter"  
35 previous name of Fox Sports SW  
36 way to get in film: "\_\_\_\_\_ for TX"  
38 video: "Nolan Ryan: Feel the \_\_\_\_\_"  
39 Carswell AFB once had a unit of the Strategic \_\_\_\_\_  
41 intended  
42 bath night (abbr.)  
43 pitcher from TX. Hooton  
44 "Deep in the Heart of TX" was performed in "How to \_\_\_\_\_ Millionaire"  
45 TXism: "beats \_\_\_\_\_ thing I ever saw"  
46 Dallas street where JFK was shot in '63  
47 "\_\_\_\_\_ makes waste"  
48 McDonald Observatory has a \_\_\_\_\_ telescope

DOWN  
1 TX Ferguson ran for president in '20 on this ticket (2 wds.)  
2 TX Quaid '81 film  
3 Midland's twin city  
4 1983 Bronson film: "\_\_\_\_\_ Midnight"  
9 Shirley Mac \_\_\_\_\_ of TX-made "Terms of Endearment"  
10 Rice mascots  
11 none  
12 TV Sullivan who showed TX talent  
13 a laying hen or an Irish dog  
14 TXism: "six of one, half a dozen of the \_\_\_\_\_"  
15 TV's talking horse  
16 TX rancher slogan: "\_\_\_\_\_ More Beef!"  
19 TXism: "if \_\_\_\_\_ better I couldn't stand it!"  
20 TX Sissy played this Lynn in "Coal Miner's Daughter"  
22 the month TX was admitted into U.S.  
24 Sha Na \_\_\_\_\_  
25 TXism: "a coon's \_\_\_\_\_"  
26 San Jacinto Monument has a 220- \_\_\_\_\_ star on top

33 TX-based Alon USA Energy, \_\_\_\_\_  
34 Tex Ritter's "Life Gets Teejies," \_\_\_\_\_  
35 user of ears \_\_\_\_\_  
37 describing recently laid eggs (2 wds.)  
38 TX Gene Tierney's "Leave \_\_\_\_\_ Heaven" (1945)  
40 \_\_\_\_\_ shoe, TX  
41 sail support \_\_\_\_\_  
44 jet speed word \_\_\_\_\_  
47 TXism: "if \_\_\_\_\_ giddyup, you better go!" (mean)  
49 TX carpenter's tool \_\_\_\_\_

### Culpepper guest at Friday Study Club

The Friday Study Club met Feb. 19, 2016, in the home of Mary Melton. The meeting was led by Pat Calhoun. Co-hostesses were Caroline Douthett, Sharon Shannon and Ruth Willis assisting. Guest speaker was Kenda Culpepper, Rockwall County District Attorney since 2008. Culpepper enlightened members about how to defend themselves from unscrupulous telemarketers and con artists. Club president, Kathy Melton, conducted the business meeting and presented a donation for the Rockwall County Children's Advocacy Center to Ms. Culpepper. The meeting was adjourned and the co-hostesses served refreshments.



The Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association met on Feb. 8 and Becky Ellison presented "Ireland Through the Eyes of Alice Taylor, Beloved Storyteller of Ireland." Hostesses, who are pictured above, were, from the left, Darlene Bealmeier, Becky Cecil, Mary Jackson and Ginny Progelhof. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

#### Christian political activism in America ... Liberty

Understanding the distinction between liberty that is declared and secured by people, and that which was secured by our Lord Jesus, should help many Christians approach political activism in America with prudence and a sound mind.

Let's start by identifying certain natural rights.

The natural rights of people are too numerous to annotate. The U.S. Constitution includes the Bill of Rights which list certain extremely important rights that go toward protecting the many other rights.

According to the American Declaration of Independence, life and liberty are among the rights. They are part of the longer list.

Other rights include religion, speech, press, assembly, petition, bear arms, quartering of troops, to be secure in our persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, warrants strictly being issued upon probable cause supported by oath or affirmation and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons and things to be seized, the right to not be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, the right to not face double jeopardy, to not be compelled to be a witness against one's self, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law, just to name those annotated in the Constitution. Search for them in God's word.



Rockwall County District Attorney, Kenda Culpepper (left), accepted a donation to the Children's Advocacy Center from Friday Study Club president Kathy Melton. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Hummingbird is volunteer at Azusa

Rockwall resident Jordan Hummingbird, a graphic design major at Azusa Pacific University, served in ministry through the Center for Student Action during the fall semester at Local Ministries, according to a news release from the Azusa, California, university. Throughout the year, students have opportunities to build relationships in Azusa, greater Los Angeles area and Mexico.

## ROCKWALL COUNTY CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Colossians 3:15

*"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

*"Have I not commanded you; be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee wherever you go."* Joshua 1:9

*"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."*  
Proverbs 18:7

*"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding;"*

*"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path;"*  
Proverbs 3:6

*"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known ..."*  
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Sons of the American Revolution East Fork-Trinity Chapter meets 6:00 p.m., second Thursday each month. 4881 Bass Pro Dr. Garland, Texas. Guests & family welcome. <http://www.txssar.org/> EastForkTrinity.

**Rockwall County Kiwanis Club**  
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All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law.  
c/o: **CRIS KIRKPATRICK**, Independent Executor, 307 Drew Lane, Heath, Texas 75032  
DATED the 26th day of

February, 2016.  
**Warren F. Nystrom** Attorney for Estate,  
State Bar No.: 00789522,  
1839 Ridgeview Street  
Mesquite, Texas 75149  
Telephone: (972) 285-2014  
Facsimile: (469) 854-2960

## Legal Notices

### Notice of Public Sale

of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale will be at **9 a.m. on March 15, 2016 at 1760 I 30 East, Rockwall, Texas 75087**. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants: **McLendon** - House Hold Goods **Yanger** - Household Goods **Knesek** - Household Items **Herod** - Furniture and Household Goods **Mastalarz** - Work Tools and Household Items **Smith** - Household Furnishings **Tell** - Household Goods  
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## SECTION-00 11 13 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

ROCKWALL COUNTY CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 will receive bids for the construction of **GRADING IMPROVEMENTS FOR WOODCREEK PHASE 2D1; ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS**. Sealed bids must be delivered to the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 1651 N. Glenville Drive, Suite 208, Richardson, TX 75081) no later than 11:00 AM, Monday, March 21, 2016. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time and place. Bids received after this time will be returned unopened.

The Developer, Bloomfield Homes, L.P. will be the Payor for Rockwall County Consolidated Municipal Utility District No. 1.

Plans, specifications and bid documents are available at <http://www.civcastusa.com>; Keyword: 03003-02D101. Contract Documents may be downloaded or viewed free of charge at this web site. It is the downloader's responsibility to determine that a complete set of documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders are received. Printed copies of the Contract Documents may be purchased at the website for the cost of printing. The cost for printed Contract Documents is non-refundable. This web site will be updated periodically with addenda, plan holders lists, bid tabulations, additional reports or other information relevant to bidding the Project.

Pre-bid conference for the project will be held at 10:00 AM, Friday, March 11, 2016 at the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER, and is not mandatory.

Bids must be accompanied by a cashier's check or a bid bond from a surety company holding a permit in the State of Texas for an amount equal to 2% of the amount bid. The amount of said cashier's check or bond will be forfeited to the OWNER and the bank or surety shall be liable to the OWNER for the amount in event the successful bidder fail or refuse to enter into a contract or furnish bonds as hereafter required within ten (10) days after the date of notice of award.

Performance and Payment Bonds are required.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities or irregularities in bidding in case of lack of clarity in stating prices. The OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or reject the bid.

## SECTION-00 11 13 NOTICE TO BIDDERS

ROCKWALL COUNTY CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 will receive bids for the construction of **WATER, SANITARY SEWER AND STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR WOODCREEK PHASE 2D1; ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS**. Sealed bids must be delivered to the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 1651 N. Glenville Drive, Suite 208, Richardson, TX 75081) no later than 11:30 AM, Monday, March 21, 2016. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time and place. Bids received after this time will be returned unopened.

The Developer, Bloomfield Homes, L.P. will be the Payor for Rockwall County Consolidated Municipal Utility District No. 1.

Plans, specifications and bid documents are available at <http://www.civcastusa.com>; Keyword: 03003-02D102. Contract Documents may be downloaded or viewed free of charge at this web site. It is the downloader's responsibility to determine that a complete set of documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders are received. Printed copies of the Contract Documents may be purchased at the website for the cost of printing. The cost for printed Contract Documents is non-refundable. This web site will be updated periodically with addenda, plan holders lists, bid tabulations, additional reports or other information relevant to bidding the Project.

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Performance, Payment and Maintenance Bonds are required.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities or irregularities in bidding in case of lack of clarity in stating prices. The OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or reject the bid.

## Rockwall County Entertainment

### StoryART, storytelling events set at library

An interactive and imaginative fusion of storytelling, theater and visual art will be offered by Anne Marie beginning at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8, at the Rockwall County Library. At 6:30 p.m., the Caldecott classic "Where the Wild Things Are" will come alive in a storytelling provided by Dorayne Breedlove. Both events are designed for children ages 4-8.

### Read, rhyme with Mother Goose on March 9

Reading and Rhyming with Mother Goose will be offered at 11:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9, at the Rockwall County Library. The show will include puppets, ventriloquism and stories for ages 4-6.

### Magic Genie to offer library storytelling

Genie Hammel, aka the Magic Genie, will use puppets and "a bit of magic" for a storytelling for children ages 4-8 at the library beginning at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 10.

### Tea Luncheon planned to benefit MOW

Meals on Wheels of Rockwall County will host its third annual Gardening Tea Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, March 18, at the Rockwall Golf & Athletic Club, 2600 Champions Drive, Rockwall. Cost is \$40 per ticket, which will feed one senior for a week. Tickets should be purchased by March 11 in person at 950 Williams St., Bldg. C or online at [rockwallmealsonwheels.org](http://rockwallmealsonwheels.org). Seating for this event will be limited.

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### Elections results ... (Continued from page 1)

- Railroad commissioner - Grady Yarbrough, 33.16 percent; Cody Garrett, 40.53 percent; Lon Burnam, 26.31 percent
  - Justice, Supreme Court, Place 3 - Mike Westergren, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - Justice, Supreme Court, Place 5 - Dori Contreras Garza, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - Justice, Supreme Court, Place 9 - Savannah Robinson, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2 - Lawrence 'Larry' Meyers, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5 - Betsy Johnson, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6 - Robert Burns, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - Member, State Board of Education, District 9 - Amanda M. Ruldolph, 100 percent (uncontested)
  - State representative, District 33 - Karen Jacobs, 78.38 percent; Cristin Padgett, 21.62 percent
  - Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 4 - Gena Slaughter, 100 percent (uncontested)
    - Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 7 - Dennise Garcia, 100 percent (uncontested)
    - Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 - Tim Wells, 100 percent (uncontested)
    - Referenda Item #1 - For, 92.89 percent; Against, 7.11 percent
    - Referenda Item #2 - For, 95.48 percent; Against, 4.52 percent
    - Referenda Item #3 - For, 95.34 percent; Against, 4.66 percent
    - Referenda Item #4 - For, 91.80 percent; Against, 8.20 percent
    - Referenda Item #5 - For, 83.29 percent; Against, 16.70 percent
    - Referenda Item #6 - For, 89.43 percent; Against, 10.57 percent
- A total of 2,914 ballots were cast in the primary, at 5.4% voter turn-out.

# Opinions

## Why we don't compromise? Part 6

by Jacob Hornberger

ature Freedom Foundation (fff.org) a few days after the 9/11 attacks, I was attending a big libertarian dinner at an area hotel. As I was walking out at the conclusion of the dinner, a longtime libertarian friend approached me and said in an approving voice, "The American people are now going to see what the American people had to do to deal with terrorism."

For me, that comment didn't bode well. I was familiar with the U.S.-supported military dictatorship of Chilean strongman Augusto Pinochet, whose national-security state forces, with the full support of the U.S. government, had rounded up tens of thousands of innocent people, incarcerated them without trial, tortured or raped them, and disappeared or executed thousands of them, all in the name of the war on communism and terrorism. I was also familiar with the history of U.S.-supported right-wing regimes in Latin America that were notorious for their secret death squads that engaged in kidnapping, torture, rape, disappearances, and assassination.

When, as I was waiting for my car, I asked another libertarian friend who was working at a conservative educational foundation, "So what do you think about all this 'war on terrorism' rhetoric?" He hesitating a bit, he responded, "We have immediately jumped all over this. We have all sorts of position papers coming out in favor of the war on terrorism and the measures that U.S. officials need to take to win it."

As I was driving home, it was becoming increasingly clear to me that the 9/11 would be a real dividing line for the libertarian movement. Some people in the movement, especially those who had come into it from the conservative movement, would become ardent supporters of the war on terrorism, the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, foreign interventionism, and an ever-expanding national-security establishment.

Others, including FFF, remained steadfast in their opposition to such things. Soon after the attacks, we were emphasizing what we had been saying before them: that they were a direct consequence of the interventionist foreign policy that the U.S. government had initiated in the Middle East, especially after the national-security establishment had lost its longtime Cold War enemies, the Soviet Union and communism, in 1989. We also emphasized that the war on terrorism would bring grave infringements on the freedoms of the American people as well as damage to our economic well-being through out-of-control federal spending and debt. None of this, we were saying, was consistent with the principles of a free society.

But we were facing a tsunami of public opinion against us, including from many of our supporters. People were viewing the 9/11 attacks like some sort of Pearl Harbor attack on the United States, one that, in their opinion, required the entire nation to band together to fight those who had attacked us out of hatred for our "freedom and values." They didn't want to hear about blowback from U.S. foreign policy or about how crises inevitably lead to a loss of liberty and economic well-being.

### The split

Those were difficult times for FFF. I have never seen more hate in all my life. We were accused of being unpatriotic, even traitors, haters of America, cowards, lovers of terrorism, and terrorist sympathizers. We lost much financial support, with many donors abandoning us, unable to comprehend our position or simply disagreeing with it.

Over time, many of our donors returned to us, especially as the occupations of Afghanistan and Iraq turned into deadly and destructive fiascoes and as our supporters saw the "war on terrorism" vesting U.S. officials, especially those in the national-security branch of the

government, with extraordinary and permanent emergency powers that were characteristic of totalitarian regimes, not governments in free societies.

Nonetheless, there is still a major split in the libertarian movement, with many libertarians reluctant to call for an end to the "war on terrorism" and, even more important, the dismantling of the entire national-security state apparatus that was grafted onto our federal governmental system at the end of World War II.

How did this split come about? In the past several years, especially as a result of Ron Paul's two campaigns for the Republican presidential nomination, the libertarian movement has been flooded by conservatives of all ages and from all walks of life. Disillusioned by the passion for socialist and fascist programs demonstrated by the conservatives, as manifested by their devotion to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, public (i.e., government) schooling, medical IRAs, farm subsidies, education grants, the Federal Reserve, and countless other statist programs, many conservatives have become attracted to libertarianism primarily because of libertarian economic principles, especially those of the Austrian school, as reflected in the works of Ludwig von Mises and Friedrich Hayek.

That migration into the libertarian movement has been, of course, a good thing. What is not good is that all too many of the new libertarians have been unable to let go of their conservatism in specific areas, such as immigration, where they continue to embrace the socialism of immigration central planning that comes with immigration controls, or in foreign policy, where they continue to support the enormous permanent standing army, the CIA, and the NSA, along with the war on terrorism, foreign interventionism, militarism, foreign wars, secret surveillance, and undeclared wars of aggression.

Libertarians who favor a large military establishment, the CIA, the NSA, and foreign interventionism have come to be known within the libertarian movement as "liberventionists." They support the continued existence of the national-security state as part of the federal governmental system but want to reform it by making it more efficient as well as by intervening overseas only when it is "in our interests," ignoring the fact that U.S. officials, who make the decisions on whether to intervene in a foreign country, always believe that their interventions are "in our interests."

What the interventionists fail to realize is that the continued existence of the national-security establishment means the continued loss of freedom for the American people. That's because the Pentagon and the CIA will do whatever is necessary to maintain a continued climate of crisis and war in order to justify their existence and the ever-increasing flow of taxpayer money to "defense" contractors. Those perpetual crises and wars, of course, are then used as the excuse for infringing on fundamental rights and liberties. In other words, freedom — genuine freedom — turns on dismantling, not reforming, the national-security apparatus that was grafted onto our original constitutional system at the end of World War II.

Knowing that some of their views are still conservative and not libertarian, many liberventionists remain silent and stay below the radar screen. Others, on the other hand, are constantly trying to subvert young libertarians into accepting their view favoring militarism, empire, and foreign interventionism. That's in fact one of the reasons that FFF focuses much of its attention on college libertarians — to counteract what they are being quietly but persistently told by liberventionists about militarism, empire, and foreign intervention.

### The greatest threat

As we study the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, as well as the events surrounding those three documents, one thing stands out above all else: Our American ancestors

were firmly convinced that the greatest threat to the freedom and well-being of the American people would be the federal government. That's why they took such care to strictly limit the federal government's powers to the few enumerated powers within the Constitution. It's also why they demanded the enumeration of the express restrictions on federal power in the Bill of Rights.

It's also why the Founding Fathers had such a deep antipathy toward standing armies. They knew that when governments do bad things to people, they use their troops to carry out those bad things. They also knew that when rulers have large military establishments at their disposal, they inevitably get the nation embroiled in expensive foreign wars and adventures that ultimately bankrupt a nation.

Prior to World War II, the enormous wartime military establishment was always demobilized at the end of a war, leaving a very small military force during peacetime. That changed after World War II, when America's federal governmental system was fundamentally altered by making an enormous military establishment, the CIA, and later the NSA a permanent part of the federal government. Given the enormous power of this national-security establishment, both in terms of military might and information gathering, it effectively became a fourth branch of the federal government, one to which the other three branches increasingly deferred during succeeding decades.

In 1961, in what is the most remarkable Farewell Address in U.S. history, Dwight Eisenhower observed that this national-security state apparatus — or what he called the "military-industrial complex" — constituted a fundamental altering of America's governmental structure as well as a grave threat to the freedom and well-being of the American people. Thirty days after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, former president Harry Truman wrote an op-ed in the Washington Post in which he stated that the CIA had become a sinister force in American life.

Some years ago, I was attending a libertarian function when someone approached me and asked, "What do you consider to be the biggest threat to our freedom today?" I didn't hesitate. I answered, "The U.S. national-security state."

That is what the liberventionists, unfortunately, do not understand. Having come into the movement owing primarily to an attraction to free-market, Austrian economics, they look on the military, the CIA, and the NSA as conservatives do — as a friend and protector of our rights and freedoms, when in fact they are, as our American ancestors understood so well, the gravest threat to our rights and freedoms as well as to our economic well-being.

Consider the fact that the president, the military, and the CIA now wield the omnipotent power to take any American into custody, incarcerate him indefinitely, torture him, execute him, or assassinate him, as a suspected terrorist. Deferring to the national-security establishment, the federal courts have upheld the power to do those things both to Americans and to others. Consider also the massive secret surveillance schemes, upheld by the secretive judicial court that deals with such things, by which the federal government monitors the most private aspects of people's lives.

There is no way to reconcile those things with a free society. They are antithetical to the principles of a free society. They violate the most fundamental of libertarian principles. It's not a coincidence that totalitarian regimes have national-security establishments as part of their governmental structure. It's the way they enforce their tyranny. Look at China. Look at Egypt. Look at Chile under Pinochet. Look at the Soviet Union. Look at Nazi Germany.

If libertarians want a free society, then it's not sufficient to simply dismantle the welfare state and adopt an economic system based on Austrian economics — not when government officials wield the totalitarian powers to detain, incarcerate, torture, execute, and assassinate anyone they want. A free society necessarily depends on dismantling both the welfare state and the warfare state.

The stakes are obviously extraordinarily high. The libertarian movement is the only hope that America has for achieving a free and prosperous society. The welfare-warfare state way of life that both conservatives and liberals have foisted on our nation has brought nothing but chaos, strife, conflict, crisis, misery, suffering, and impoverishment. It is only libertarianism that offers the way out of all this. Thus the fight is not only a fight for the heart and soul of the libertarian movement. It's a fight for the future of freedom for America and, indirectly, for the rest of the world.

### Conclusion

In the wake of the ongoing crises, fiascoes, and disasters in Social Security; health care; the drug war; immigration; federal spending; the national debt; fiat (i.e., paper) money; mortgage loans; public schooling; the drug war; and Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Yemen, every American should be asking himself the following important questions: What is the role of government in a free society? Should it be taking money from people to whom it belongs and giving it to others? Should it be punishing people for engaging in purely peaceful activity? Should it be owning and operating economic enterprises? Should it be engaged in invasions, occupations, wars of aggression, torture, rendition, and assassination; foreign aid; regime-change operations, coups, and partnerships with dictatorial regimes; empire; and foreign interventionism?

Additionally, every libertarian should be asking himself the following important questions: How much do you want to be free? Do you want freedom now or 40 years from now? What is the best way to achieve freedom — by leading people to question the moral and economic legitimacy of the welfare-warfare state way of life or simply by encouraging people to reform it?

Today, many older libertarians favor funding young libertarians because they're "the hope for the future." There is just one big problem with that concept: that's what older people said to me when I discovered libertarianism 40 years ago, when I was in my late 20s. "We have to invest in you young people," they said to us, "because you're the hope for the future." Well, we're the older people today and yet many of us are saying the same thing that the older people said to us when we were young: "We need to invest in young people because they're the hope for the future." Who's to say that today's young people, 40 years from now, won't say the same thing to the young people of their time, thereby making the achievement of freedom a never-never proposition?

I say: let's not wait for another 40 years to bring a free society to America. I say: Let's not be reformers of the status quo. Let's instead be dismantlers of the welfare-warfare state. Let's lead the world now to the freest, most prosperous, most peaceful, and most secure society in history.

Why don't we compromise here at FFF? Because we want to be free, because freedom is possible, and because achieving freedom depends on adhering to principle.

## State climatologist: Texas' record weather extremes may continue

Texas has experienced extreme weather over the past five years — from historic droughts to the wettest month in the state's history — and it's difficult to say if the pattern will dramatically change over the next few years, says a Texas A&M professor who also serves as state climatologist.

John Nielsen-Gammon, professor of atmospheric sciences and state climatologist since 2000, notes that Texas had one of its driest winters ever from 2010 to 2011, but 2015 was the wettest year ever and July of last year was the wettest month in the state's 171-year history, according to a TAMU news release.

So far, he said, 2016 has been very mild, and winter is probably our most of the state. But much of Texas has seen much-below-normal rainfall totals.

The current El Niño in the Pacific Ocean — when vast stretches of warm water influence weather patterns over much of the United States and even worldwide — is the culprit.

"This is the third strongest El Niño ever recorded," he said. "It has no chance of intensifying enough at this point to overtake either of the top two. Sometime over the next few months it will start wakening dramatically. Most likely, the tropical Pacific will transition to neutral conditions sometime in the summer."

Rainfall during Feb. 21-23 broke a near-record dry spell for much of the state, according to the release. Abilene was having its driest start to a year ever (with 131 years of data), and Austin was having its fourth-driest start to a year.

"It appears that Texas and the southeastern United States will be getting more El Niño-type storm systems tracking across Texas and the Gulf of Mexico starting next week, and the potential will be present for some heavy rainfall," he said.

"Some more frequent rainfall would help reduce the risk of wildfires, which has been running high because of all the dry grasses available to burn and the dry weather recently. I think Texas has actually been lucky that it hasn't experienced more wildfires so far this year."

For the most part, winter is over for Texas, and "it looks like most of the snow the rest of the year will be along the East Coast and in the western mountains, according to the release. The cold weather behind the most recent storm system might be as cold as we get from here on out."

The state has had abnormally high temperatures since the start of the year, he said, adding, "While there were definite signs that this winter might not be especially cold, we've been warmer than even the most optimistic forecasters would have predicted."

There's a 50-50 chance, he said that the current El Niño gradually will turn into a La Niña (colder water than usual in the Pacific) and if it does happen, it's likely that next winter could be even warmer than this one for Texas and also probably drier than this winter.

The outlook for the future?

"Texas has been going through a volatile stretch of climate. Just about everyone remembers 2010-2011, when Texas easily broke its record for driest 12 months on record," Nielsen-Gammon said.

"During 2015, Texas had its wettest calendar year on record, as well as its wettest month ever (May). Between the wet spring and wet fall, Texas had a brief but intense drought, and now we've had another unusual dry spell. Many other parts of the country are not so heavily influenced by El Niño and La Niña as it is in Texas, so their climate tends to be more regular from year to year."

### Hold government officials responsible for statutory violations

A widely recognized problem in Texas and local governments is selective compliance with state law (Texas constitution, public laws, state statutes and subordinate ordinances).

**Solution: Call on the House and Senate to amend Penal Code Section 39.02 Abuse of Official Capacity to:**

1. Remove "with intent to harm or defraud another;" and
2. Remove "intentionally or knowingly."

**Intent of the government officer logically goes to sentencing or punitive damages.**

**The Oaths of Office and Certificates of Commission are evidence of "knowingly."**

# Rockwall Lady Jackets defeat Lakeview and Rowlett in district soccer

Contributed by Ryan Robertson

Rockwall Lady Jackets traveled to Naaman Forest, Fri. Feb. 19, to take on the Lady Rangers for a district 11-6A match.

The Lady Rangers were in 4th place in District standings and needed a win to stay in front of Lakeview.

Rockwall pulled out a 1-0 victory to stay in reach of the district lead held by Sachse.

The game was very intense from the opening whistle with neither defense giving up much room.

Rockwall got on the board with 17 minutes and 53 seconds left in the half with a strong shot by Sophomore Lauren Baker.

The Lady Rangers had an opportunity early with a great shot from the left side of the field that looked to be heading to the outside corner of the goal, but Senior Kristina Patterson made a diving save to stymie the Rangers for any score.

The game turned into a midfield battle and stayed this way thru the entire second half as well.

The Lady Jackets had a couple of close opportunities with a

shot from Senior Bailey Wooten, that just barely missed wide another from Baker that the Ranger keeper stopped.

The defensive back line of the Lady Jackets, as well as the entire team, played with extreme pace and intensity in staving off Ranger threats and kept the score at 1-0 till the final whistle.

Next action will be Tuesday night as the Lady Jackets travel to Sachse to take on the undefeated and district 11-6A leaders on their home pitch.

The game is shaping up to most likely be the winner take all of the district 11-6A title

Despite the sideways rain, close to freezing temperatures near 25 mph winds, the Lady Jackets finished with a 2-0 win over Lakeview Centennial, Tues. Feb. 23, at Rowlett HS Stadium.

Rockwall scored first with about 8 minutes left in the first half when Junior Nicole Pugsley made a move to break in between Patriot midfielders to find space behind the defense. She ripped a long shot that sailed past the keeper to hit the back of the net.

The second half continued to be a defensive game, until about 15 minutes left in the game, when Baker got free on the sideline, crossed the ball into the Lady Patriots goal box, where it ricocheted out of the hands of the keeper and toward Rockwall Junior M Larkin, who blasted it to the back of the net for the 2-0 final score.

The Lady Jackets are scheduled to play Rowlett, 7:15 p.m., March 4, at Rowlett HS Stadium.

## Lady Hawks gymnastics finish 2nd at Trinity tournament

The Lady Hawk Gymnasts placed 2nd out of 8 teams with a 109.9, Thursday Feb. 18, 2016, at the Trinity HS Mark Williams Invitational.

According to Coach Jennifer Holden, the women started out strong on floor by breaking the RHHS school record with a 28.85.

The team finished the meet strong on beam.

"We have 3 weeks of training before our next meet. We look forward to continuing to get stronger and cleaning up our leaps, jumps and turns," said Coach Holden.

The next meet is March 17, at Heath, against Rockwall High School, which is also senior night.

Placing 1st was L.D. Bell with 113.35 points. Eules Trinity finished 34rd with 107.9 points.

### Individual

Spencer Ware (Fr), Floor (2) 9.75, All-Around (5) 36.55, Balance Beam 9.3, Vault (7) 9.0.

Rebekah Malone (Sr), FI (4) 9.6, Uneven Bars (10) 8.9, All-Around (12) 34.2.

Maddie Lundell (Sr), Balance Beam (3) 9.45 Floor (6) 9.5.

Bailey Daulong (Fr), Uneven Bars (7) 9.0, Vault (9) 8.8.

Peyton Moody (Fr), Uneven Bars (5) 9.2, Beam (8) 9.25.

Also competing were Alexis Spicer, Haley Gibson, Julia Shallow and Mickey Hughes.

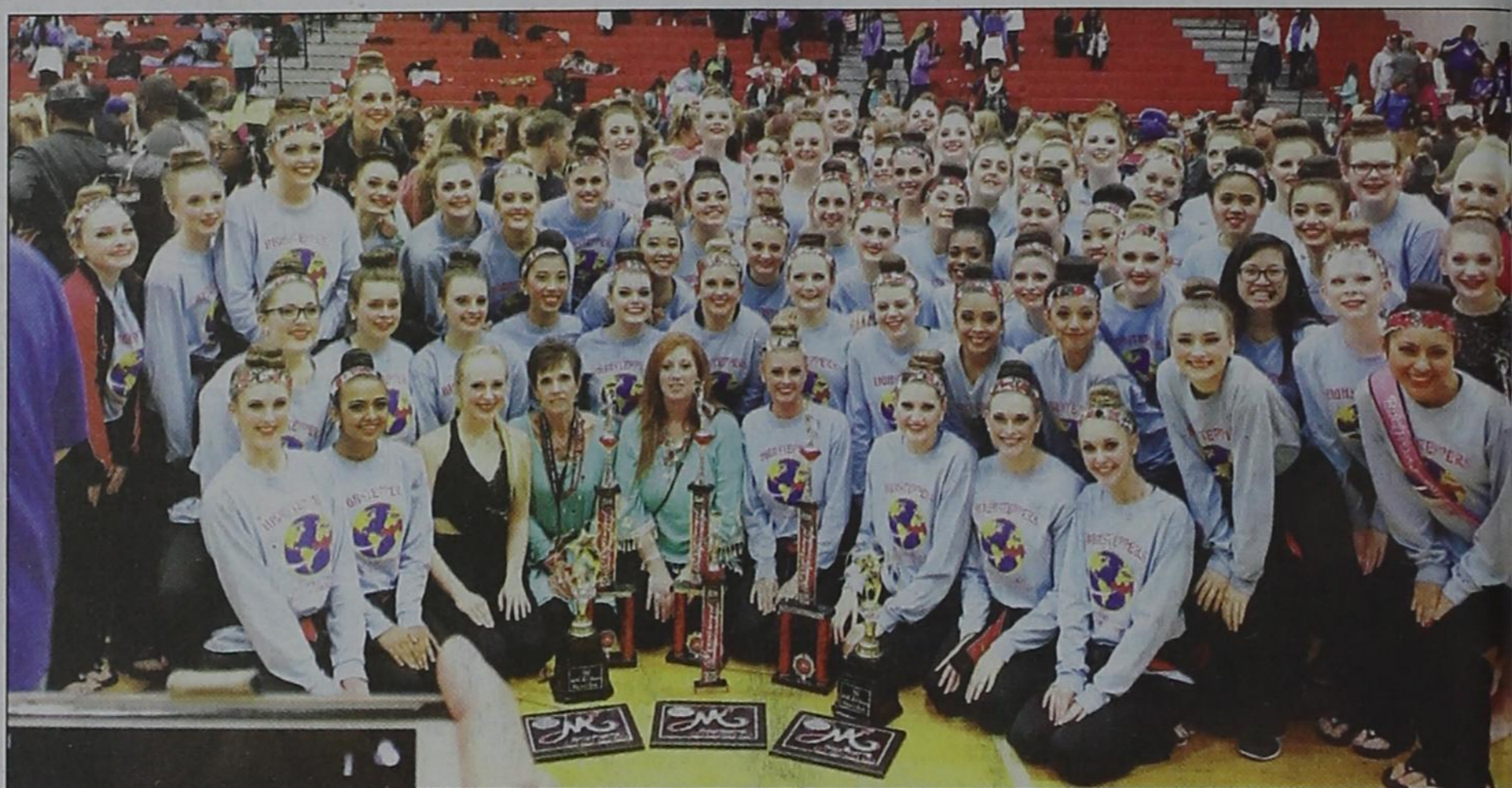
## Rockwall County Sports Notes

### Rockwall offers fitness/yoga programs

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will offer indoor and outdoor fitness/yoga programs this spring and summer. Classes in Zumba, Hot Hula, RIPPED, chair yoga, hiking yoga and parent/child yoga will be available. Visit playrockwall.com for more information on times, locations and fees.

### Heath details plans for Fun & Fit in the Park

The City of Heath's March 26 Easter Saturday celebration will include the Heart of Heath 5k and an enhanced one-mile Family Run. Specifics include a USATF-certified 5k course with chip-timed start and finish lines; 5k awards for the top three overall plus top three males and females in each age bracket; a one-mile Family Run integrated into the 5k course with awards for the top three boys and girls; long-sleeved Dri-FIT T-shirts for participants; giant-sized games (chess, checkers, Jenga and Connect 4); a kids' Easter craft; complimentary mini fruit smoothies and juice; prize drawings; and appearances by the Easter bunny. Rain or shine, the event will begin in Towne Center Park with an 8 a.m. warm-up. Register online by visiting heathtx.com.



The Rockwall-Heath Highsteppers team, elite team and officers, pictured above, attended the Marching Auxiliaries Dance Competition in Grapevine on Feb. 13. The Highsteppers team won Top Scoring team of all the teams that competed and received Super Sweepstakes, high point awards for each routine and also received choreography awards and technique awards for each routine in the kick, pom and contemporary genres. The elite team also won Super Sweepstakes, high point, choreography awards, and technique awards in each of their entered dances in the hip hop, jazz and contemporary categories. The Highsteppers officers won Super Sweepstakes, choreography awards in contemporary and jazz and technique awards in contemporary and open. They received 3rd place Winner's Circle against all other officers. Soloists also competed at this event and the Highstepper captain, Shawnee, Gillham, was awarded second runner-up in the Senior 17 category. Junior varsity officers Laura Bender and Marybeth Deren tied for second runner-up in the Senior 15 category.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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The Rockwall High School Stingerette competition team and elite dance team, the Stingerette Show Stoppers, members of which are pictured above, competed recently at the Crowd Pleasers Dallas Area Competition, where 76 teams competed. The Stingerette competition team won first place in the Pom Category. The Stingerette Show Stoppers competed in Jazz, Contemporary, Open and Novelty categories where they took first place in each category, as well as Overall Grand Champions. They also received Outstanding Choreography in Open, Novelty and Contemporary categories, as well as Best Precision, Best Overall Technique and the Crowd Pleasers Award for Great Artistry in the Open category. The Stingerette Show Stoppers also won Super Sweepstakes by earning above a 93 on all routines entered. The Stingerettes had three solo finalists, Cameron Ballenger, Brooke Peterson and Tatum Graham, with Graham taking home first place in her division.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Rockwall ISD high school baseball schedules

Rockwall	Rockwall-Heath	
3/4 Austin Westlake, TBA	3/3 12 p.m., Keller Timber	3/15 7:30 p.m. at Mesq. Pote
3/5 Plano West/Jesuit, TBA	Creek Flower Mound Tourney	3/18 7:30 p.m. Terrel (H)
3/10 Lovejoy/Woodlands, TBA	3/3 2:30 p.m., College Station at Flower Mound Tourney	3/22 7:30 p.m. at N. Forney
3/11 Prosper/Richland, TBA	3/4 12:30 p.m., Flower Mound at Flower Mound Tourney	3/24 4:30 p.m. West Mesquite at Tillery Field
3/12 Jesuit, TBA	3/4 5 p.m., Frisco Wakeland at Flower Mound Tourney	3/29 7:30 p.m. Forney (H)
3/15 7 p.m., North Garland at RHS Campbell Complex	3/5 Flower Mound Tourney	4/1 7:30 p.m. at Roysce City
3/18 7 p.m., at Lakeview	3/9 7:30 p.m., Plano at McKinney Boyd Tourney	4/5 7:30 p.m. S.Garland (H)
3/22 7 p.m., at Naaman Forest	3/10 2 p.m., Naaman at McKinney Boyd Tourney	4/8 7:30 p.m. Poteet (H)
3/24 7 p.m., Sachse RHS CC	3/10 4:30 p.m. McKinney Boyd at McKinney Boyd Tourney	4/12 7:30 p.m. at Terrell
3/29 7 p.m., at Rowlett	3/11 4:30 p.m., El Paso at McKinney Boyd Tourney	4/15 7:30 p.m. N. Forney (H)
4/1 7:00 p.m., Tyler Lee (H)	3/11 7:30 p.m., Allen at McKinney Boyd Tourney	4/19 7:30 p.m. W. Mesq. (H)
4/5 7 p.m., at Garland HS	3/12 3:30 p.m., Plano West at McKinney Boyd Tourney	4/22 7:30 p.m. at Forney
4/8 7 p.m. at N. Garland		4/26 7:30 p.m. Roysce City (H)
4/12 7 p.m. Lakeview (H)		5/29 7:30 p.m. at S. Garland
4/15 7 p.m. Naaman (H)		
4/19 7 p.m. at Sachse HS		
4/22 7 p.m. Rowlett (H)		
4/26 7 p.m. at Tyler Lee		
4/29 7 p.m. Garland (H)		

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