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Rockwall County News

Volume Number 31 • Issue Number 22 • USPS 002-495 • Thursday, June 1, 2017 • Single Copy Price 75 Cents • Copyright 2017 Rockwall County News

Saluting the PCCS Class of 2017 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



Mackenzie Buhr

Valedictorian
Poetry Community Christian School
Class of 2017

Mackenzie Buhr is the 2017 valedictorian at Poetry Community Christian School with a GPA of 4.34. She has attended PCCS for nine years. Buhr has been an active member on the Student Council throughout high school, serving as president this year. Additionally, she is historian for the National Honor Society and was team captain for the varsity volleyball team for the past three years. She further pursued her love for volleyball by playing as libero for Blaze Volleyball Club. She has received many leadership awards and participated in three missions trips with PCCS during high school. She is currently coaching a LakePointe youth soccer team. She plans to attend Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, this fall where she will major in nursing. She plans to become a nurse practitioner.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

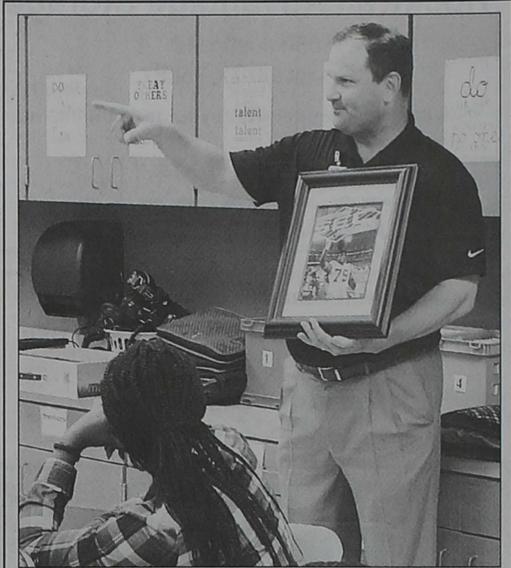


Trisha Gracy

Salutatorian
Poetry Community Christian School
Class of 2017

Trisha Gracy is the 2017 salutatorian at Poetry Community Christian School with a GPA of 4.23. She has attended PCCS for 10 years. Gracy joined the National Honor Society in 11th grade and is president of the organization. She was also inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa honor society sponsored by Trinity Valley Community College. On the PCCS campus, she has been involved in the Student Council for several years, serving as chaplain of the student body. She was a part of the varsity volleyball team and has a strong passion for martial arts. She earned her black belt in the Christian Soldiers karate program under an accelerated four-year schedule. She plans to attend Dallas Baptist University next fall to obtain a master's degree in business administration with a double minor in Spanish and healthcare management.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Rockwall ISD Athletic Director Russ Reeves speaks to a sixth grade class at Springer Elementary School during the recent Career Day event. The students learned about how to get started in a career, heard interesting stories. Guest speakers included, Reeves; Paul Leighton - KC Railroad Train Engineer; Jay Webb - owner Dalrock Homes; Ryan Lee and Dave Smith - Attorneys at Law.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

University scholastic honors

Locals named to Belmont Dean's List

Several local residents were among students named to the Dean's List at Belmont University for the spring semester, according to a news release from the Nashville, Tennessee, university.

Honorees include Hayley Baker of Rockwall, Raquelle Blackwood of Rockwall, Tyler Draehn of Terrell and Macy Hatfield of Rockwall.

Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade-point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Anderson, Goodwin take SOSU honors

Two Rockwall residents were among the 1,410 students named to honor rolls at Southwestern Oklahoma State University for academic work during the spring 2017 semester on the Weatherford and Sayre campuses, according to a university news release.

Named to the President's List was Mary Katherine Anderson of Rockwall, according to the news release. An undergraduate student who earns all A's in 12 or more hours during a semester qualifies for this recognition.

Named to the Dean's List was Jessie Ray Goodwin of Rockwall. An undergraduate who completes 12 semester hours with a GPA of 3.5 or higher with no grade lower than a C qualifies for the Dean's Honor Roll, according to the release.

Local students earn UNT honors

Several local residents earned academic honors following the spring semester at the University of North Texas.

Named to the President's List were Loalisha Lorraine Bradley, Kaitlyn Bliss Dotson, Rachel A. Duffy, Sara Marie Guerrero and Christopher A. Orozco of Fate and Elizabeth Arnee Hill, McKenna Troi Johnson, Reyna Guadalupe Munoz Martinez, Gregory Alexander Newman, Alexandra Catherine Schunk, Alexis Breanna Sepulveda and Meredith Caroline Tempio of Roysse City.

Rockwall honorees included Milena G. Benford, Ivana Biliskov, Alexandria Jennifer Bridenbaugh, Collin W. Britton, Lauren Leigh Britton, Margaret Brookshire, Michaela Kristen Cashion, Connor Ian Cohen, Amberly Kay Colwell, Brooke Alyse Combs, Roni Jean Fraser, Selena Yesenia Garcia, Alessandra Gonzales, Haafiz B. Hashim, Samantha Lynette Kats, Hayley M. Knight and Anna Marie McKeel.

Also, Kelsey Lee McKey, Jennifer Ortiz Suchil, Virginia Powell, Jenna Mykel Sady, Thomas Mitchell Sanders, Summer Dymond Sherrod, Katherine Ann Snelling, Brice Patrick Thomas, Monica Rubi Vargas, Michael D. Vu, Jennifer Leigh Weber, Colten Garrett Whitaker, Reign Whitby, Analsia Elizabeth White, Sydney Page Wilburn and Zina Nicole Zarzycki.

To be named to the President's List, undergraduates must complete at least 12 academic hours with a perfect grade-point average of 4.0.

Named to the Dean's List were Huynh Ngoc Phuong Do of Fate; Jamison Justice and Paola M. Seger-Torres of Heath; and Jada Delynn Cox, Alexandra Suzanne Shanafelt, Nicole Marie Spears and Sean Alexander Van Zanden of Roysse City.

Also, Carly Marie Bader, Alexander Michael Bogdan, Gemma Faith Brazell, Kira Nicole Bruner, Noree June Cospier, Hayden Bryce Doggett, Caleb Emblem, Hayley N. Graham, Jonathan Michael Griffin, Garrett Reece Hammonds, Joe Michael Hawes Jr., Nicholas Edward Hayes, Austin T. Hendren, Elizabeth Mary Hull, Hena Husain, Marissa Ann Kates, Timothy Luke Ketchum, Mackenzie Christian Logan, Joanna Andrea Martinez and Sydney Merrell of Rockwall.

Other Rockwall honorees included Herbert Daniel Moran, Bryan Ray Neal, Hyebin Oh, Augyl Allannurovna Porsyeyeva, Jonathan Reasor, Marissa Darian Rodriguez, Shelby Gage Rogers, James L. Sims, Tunisia Deshay Smith, Jordan R. Stutz, Guadalupe Tello, Luis Torres, Keren Khanh Tran, Maria Lizet Triana, Emily Anne Velez, Lauren Desiree Windsor, Zachary Kingpi Yau and Crystal Lillian York.

To be named to the Dean's List, an undergraduate must complete at least 12 academic hours with a grade-point average of 3.5 to 3.9.

Country Fair slated June 10 at courthouse

The Rockwall Soroptimists 4th annual Country Fair is set for Saturday, June 10, at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 111 E. Yellow Jacket Lane.

The event, which will feature more than 120 vendors, will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Admission and parking will be free.

The event will include live music and entertainment, food trucks, a silent auction, beer and wine.

Children can play in the kid zone; \$10 wrist bands are available. Activities will include a zip line, bounce houses, a petting zoo, the

rock wall climb, basketball hoops, a maze, the Big Tex Express train ride and more.

Nonprofits will be on hand to provide vintage games such as face painting, cake walk, balloon pop and other activities at a cost of \$1 per try.

Pony rides and a photo booth also will be offered at a cost of \$5.

Rockwall shirts will be introduced at the fair.

Proceeds will benefit the Soroptimists' ongoing projects benefitting women and children, including the Children's Advocacy Center for Rockwall County.

Miller nominated for 2016 County Clerk of the Year

Rockwall County Clerk Shelli Miller was honored this month by Region V of the County and District Clerk's Association of Texas.

According to a press release, Miller was elected by a unanimous vote of her peers to represent Region V as their nominee for the statewide "2016 County Clerk of the Year Award."

The award honors extraordinary dedication and commitment to the profession.

According to the release, Miller has worked diligently to bring innovation and technology to her office while protecting the integrity of the county's records.

Rockwall County is considered a leader in the state due to her efforts to preserve the county's historical records.

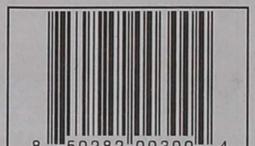
The public official was elected as the Rockwall County Clerk in November 2010 and re-elected in November 2014.

"I am both honored and humbled to be recognized in this way by my colleagues and friends," said Miller.



Students from Nebbie Williams Elementary School receiving recognition for their performance during the recent Dallas Stock Market Game are (second from left left, to right) Jashon Bell, Alex Fredieu, Hadley Roberts, Karsten Schaffhauser and Adele Roorda, who are pictured above receiving recognition from the regional representative for the Dallas Stock Market Game. The team members were the third-place winners of the Dallas Stock Market Game. The students competed for 10 weeks in the annual competition and took third place in the regional contest of more than 400 teams. Heather Caldwell, S.A.G.E. teacher at Nebbie Williams, coached the fifth-grade team.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



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Nebbie Williams Elementary second grade teacher Holly Sandford participated in the recent Bike Rodeo. Officer Curtis Bennet, SRO officer for Nebbie Williams, organized the event to promote bicycle safety in the student body. The event drew nearly 40 students who participated with their parents. The rodeo featured a station for properly fitting bike helmets, a bike-check station, a bicycle course and more.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News


 Rockwall Summer Musicals
Presents Summer Camps

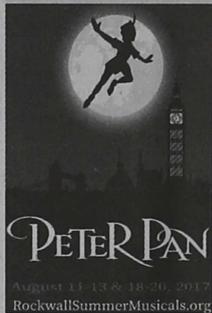
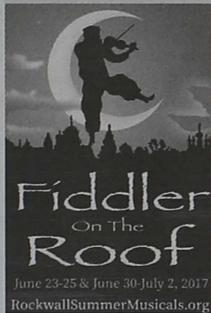
FOR YOUNG MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMERS
AGES 5-18

CAMP DATES

JUNE 26-30
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
AUGUST 14-18
PETER PAN

CAMP TIMES

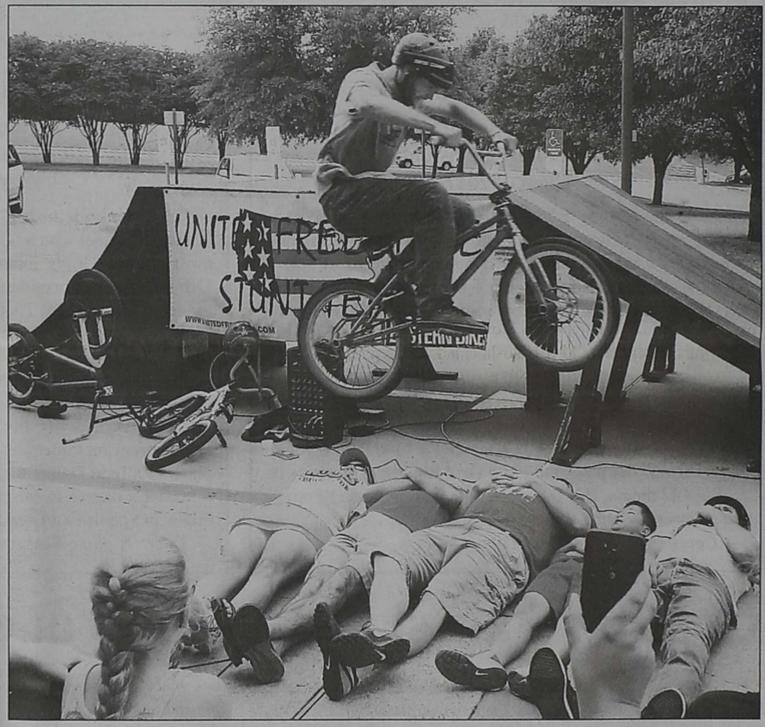
ALL CAMPS
9 AM - 12 PM
AGES 5-7
1 PM - 4 PM
AGES 8-18



YOUR INSTRUCTORS:



Register Now at:
www.RockwallSummerMusicals.org



The recent Bike Rodeo, held at Nebbie Williams Elementary School, included Stuntmen who performed various bicycle routines including jumping over people as shown above. The Bike Rodeo event was organized by SRO officer Curtis Bennet for the purpose of promoting bicycle safety. Nearly 40 students participated in the Rodeo event.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

YMCA offers use of facilities to vets, military

Active military personnel, veterans and first responders and their families can enjoy free access to the J.E.R. Chilton YMCA facilities through Friday by presenting a valid military ID. The Memorial Week Open House event began Monday and is designed to thank these individuals for their service.

Democratic Men plan June 3 meeting

The Democratic Men's Group of Rockwall County will host its next luncheon at noon on Saturday, June 3, at Cole Mountain Barbeque, 1407 S. Goliad, Rockwall. The group meets for lunch on the first Saturday of each month at various local restaurants. Open-minded, progressive men who are concerned about the future of Rockwall County and Texas are invited to participate.

Republican Lunch Bunch to meet June 7

The Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 7, at Luigi's Italian Café, Rockwall. Cost will be \$10, which includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip. Pay at the door for this informal social gathering open to all area Republicans. No reservations required. For more details call Dalton Kennimer at 972-636-4034.

Sign-ups underway for RSM Summer Camps

Sign-ups for the Rockwall Summer Musicals 2017 Summer Camps are underway. The "Fiddler on the Roof" Summer Camp will run June 26-30 from 9 a.m. to noon for youths ages 5-7 and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for those ages 8-18. The "Peter Pan" Summer Camp will run Aug. 14-18, from 9 a.m. to noon for youths ages 5-7 and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for those ages 8-18. Registration includes the workshop, a final performance, a ticket and a T-shirt. For more details or to register, visit rockwallsummermusicals.org/season/summer-camps-2017/. Scholarships are available; contact rockwallsummermusicals.org/contact/.

(Continued on Page 3)

Rockwall County Entertainment

4th annual Country Fair set June 10

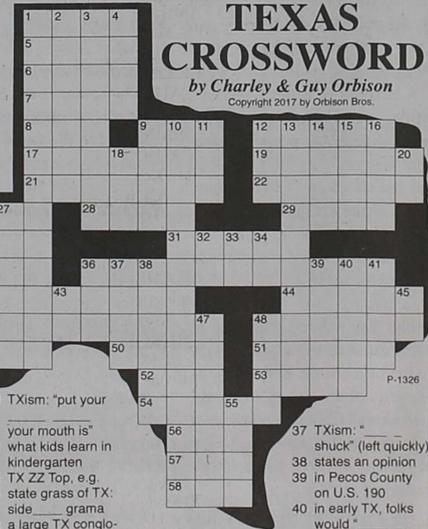
The Rockwall Soroptimist will host its 4th annual Country Fair from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 111 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. The event will include live music and entertainment, vendors, food trucks, a silent auction, and beer and wine. A kid zone will be featured; kids can ride and play all day with a \$10 wrist band. A zip line, bounce houses, petting zoo, rock wall climb, basketball hoops, a maze, a train ride and other activities are planned. Nonprofits will be on hand to provide vintage games at a cost of \$1 a try. Pony rides and a photo booth will be offered. Proceeds will fund the organization's ongoing projects benefitting women and children, including the Children's Advocacy Center. Visit rockwallcountryfair.com for more details.

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

ACROSS

- 1 Gulf crustacean
- 5 assistant to a senior military officer
- 6 bright star that slowly fades
- 7 an ____ smasher was never finished near Waxahachie
- 8 this Holiday was a dentist in Dallas and Fort Griffin, TX
- 9 TXism: "sack" (burlap bag)
- 12 Sen. Al D' ____ lost 1993 Super Bowl bet to Sen. Phil Gramm
- 17 TXism: "dancing like a bobber ____"
- 19 TX saying: "____ just fact"
- 21 stinging hair plants
- 22 stir up
- 23 online service for freelance jobs
- 28 wicked
- 29 TX Vikki Carr 1988 album: "____ Hombres"
- 30 TX Ginger Rogers' "Fifth ____ Girl"
- 31 Cinco de Mayo is "fifth ____"
- 35 tiny amount
- 36 what a husband wants (3 wds.)
- 42 unofficial capital of Austin's colony in 1824
- 44 TX ____ Perot
- 46 heavenly
- 48 Waco's "____ Texas Fair & Rodeo"

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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P-1326

DOWN

- 1 TXism for "no" (4 wds.)
- 2 "One ____"
- 3 supporter of a particular cause
- 4 TX Simone Biles won 2016 bronze on the balance ____
- 9 TX Kenny sang "Can Make It on My Own"
- 10 TX Tanya Tucker 1986 country hit in 1824
- 11 this Studi was in 2003 film "The Lone Ranger"
- 12 a cuckoo bird
- 13 TXism: "put your ____ your mouth is"
- 14 what kids learn in kindergarten
- 15 TX ZZ Top, e.g.
- 16 state grass of TX: side ____ grama
- 18 a large TX conglomerate (1961-2000)
- 20 large American conglomerate
- 23 movie studio started in 1919 (abbr.)
- 24 TX Audie Murphy's beginning rank in WWII (abbr.)
- 25 TX-filmed "Pee ____ Big Adventure"
- 26 ____ play
- 27 Cowboys' Ezekiel Elliott, e.g.
- 32 "Star Trek" genre: sci- ____
- 33 TX "Monkee" Nesmith (init.)
- 34 Ken Paxton (abbr.)
- 36 Lou Gehrig's disease (abbr.)
- 37 TXism: "shuck" (left quickly)
- 38 states an opinion
- 39 in Pecos County on U.S. 190
- 40 in early TX, folks would "____ posse"
- 41 TXism "____ bien" (good)
- 43 boot width
- 45 "and ____ forth"
- 47 TXism for "leave it alone" (3 wds.)
- 48 TXism: "got ____ a mind to"
- 55 baby horse

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

True love is giving of self ...

Jesus' suffering unto death was an example for all to learn from.

When people devote themselves to the Creator and Father of the Lord Jesus, the living Messiah, they will see many opportunities to bear witness of the truth. But there is a hard truth that must be faced. The world and its god, the devil or Lucifer, will focus more attention on disrupting and silencing people who stand for true love and righteously expose wrong-doing and the wicked.

Jesus' ministry while on earth was the absolute highest example of facing the world as the first-born son of the Creator.

There is another important thing to learn from Jesus' suffering and death -- he did so as giving his life for others -- he loved with the love from his Father.

John 3:16 says, "Hereby do we perceive the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

Notice the reference to us walking with love, just as Jesus walked with love.

It's important to understand that the words "of God" are set in italics because they were not in the ancient texts. Without those words, the sentence would read, "... perceive the love, because he laid down his life for us ..." Jesus, the son of God, laid down his life for us. This is the underlying essence and meaning of true love.

Do not be misled into thinking that we are called to die for the same purpose as Jesus, who, as the true and final Passover Lamb, allowed himself to be killed. Now, God's beloved saints and children are called to be living sacrifices, to give their lives with true love through the authority given to the living Messiah, Jesus.

The context of John's letter was the born-again children of God, who know they are born of God, and thus, the whole world lies in wickedness (1John 5:9). Yet the wicked one cannot touch them.



Reinhardt Elementary students recently had the opportunity to speak with Thomas Pesquet, a member of the International Space Station for expedition 50/51, about his life in space. Reinhardt is one of 12 U.S. schools chosen by the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. The students had roughly 10 minutes to ask their questions while the ISS was in range. One student asked, "What happens when you cry in space?" Pesquet's answer was met with laughs from Reinhardt students. "When you're crying in space, your tears just stick to your eyes and form a bubble," said Pesquet. "It's really uncomfortable so it's best not to cry." Local amateur radio operators in California used their equipment and skills to track the ISS as it passed overhead. Pictured at front, from the left, are Ryan West, Molly Spivey, Jadon Lyons, Shreeja Gurawale, Juliette Ackerman and Richard Santos and, at back, Caprice McGuckin, Reagan McCampbell, Abigail Bacon, Landry Hoffman, Charlot Cooper, Jack Rice and Carmen Almazan-Briones.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Mission Camp offered by First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall will offer an alternative to vacation bible school called Mission Camp, June 12-14, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Children who have completed kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to be the "hands and feet of Christ" by participating in meaningful activities. The children will visit a fire station, police station, retirement home, work in the community garden and take donations to Helping Hands.

In addition, they will travel to Harry Myer's Park to play and eat popcorn at the splash park, get ice cream at Dairy Queen and bowl at Shenaniganz with the children from the Boys and Girls Club.

Registration forms are available at: firstpresrockwall.org. People interested in the Mission Camp may call 972-722-5702 for more information. First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall is located at 602 White Hills Drive.

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 2)

Auditions for RCP production slated

Auditions for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," a Rockwall Community Playhouse production, will take place at 9 a.m. June 17 and 7 p.m. June 18. The RCP is located at 609 E. Rusk, two blocks off the square in downtown Rockwall. Participants should bring music, resume and a headshot and be prepared to sing one upbeat and/or one ballad that depicts vocal range and ability. Bring your own accompaniment (Bluetooth or audio). You may be asked to do some choreographed movement, so wear appropriate attire. Cold readings will be conducted from the script. For more details call 972-722-3399.

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

Psalm 150:6

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

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ChristChurchRockwall.org
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Publisher: Timothy W. Burnett
Publisher address: 107 E. Bourn Street
Rockwall, Texas 75087
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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals,
guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American
Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership
of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. The sole purpose
of government is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we
hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable
to that standard.
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Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous, 24 hour help line, 800-503-8602.

AA Meetings

Rockwall, 7 days a week, Big Book Group, 213 Rusk St., 972-722-6366.

Al-Anon Meetings

Call for information and locations in Dallas area, 214-363-0461.

Al-Anon Garland

Meetings Monday & Friday, 8 p.m. at 2206 South Jupiter St., Suite 130, Garland.

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

Meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, 203 S. Fannin. For more information call 972-772-6001

Senior Services

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

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

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

Everyone is invited to attend the "SAVING AMERICA THROUGH PRAYER" event, on the second Sunday of each month, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Rockwall Bible Church located at the corner of Hwy 66 and Zion Circle, west of FM 3549, in Rockwall. The free event will include guest speakers. This is not church affiliated, and is open to everyone interested. For more information contact Mike Kennedy (972) 998-2680 or Kenneth Shores (214) 334-1206 or Jerry Minx (972) 896-7081

Required Notices

TABC Notices

Renewal application has been made for a Private Club Registration Permit for Scoreboard located at 2410 S. Goliad Street, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas 75032 said application made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provision of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code. An unincorporated Association of Persons:

**Cody Wayne Dotson – Director/President
Leanne Rachelle Smith – Director/Secretary**

Award of Federal Funds Notices

The Rockwall County Local Regional Emergency Food and Shelter board #8332-00 HAS BEEN AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS)/ FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY UNDER THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM.

Rockwall County has been chosen to receive \$29,270.00 in Phase 34 funding to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county. The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the

Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America; The Salvation Army; and, United Way Worldwide. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of Rockwall Ministerial Alliance, Red Cross, United Way, Catholic Charities, Rockwall Indigent Health Care, Salvation Army, et al., will determine how the funds awarded to Rockwall County are to be distributed among the emergency food shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds made available under this phase of the program. Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible

to receive Federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply. Rockwall County Local Board 8332-00 has distribute Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with the Rockwall County Committee on Aging participating. This agency was responsible for providing Emergency Food Boxes to 170 families in September. Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Local Board chair Mark Irons at 3375 Ridge Road, Rockwall Texas, 75032 for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is July 1, 2017.

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TWC malenforcement of Unemployment Compensation Act

The below information is offered for all people, and/or companies created under the laws of the 52 states, targeted by the Texas Workforce Commission related to an alleged "State" Unemployment Tax.

Texas Constitution Article 1 Section 16

No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, retroactive law, or any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be made.

Federal Unemployment Tax Act

The TWC's enforcement scope is narrowly limited to underlying scope of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. The scope of the federal tax is limited to entities that are required by District of Columbia Law, Common Wealth of Puerto Rico Law, Virgin Islands Law, to make payment into an unemployment fund. See Tx. Labor Code Section 201.101 (federal conformity clause) & 26 U.S.C. 3306 (c), (g), and (j)(1 & 2). The narrow scope of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act may be found by applying the definitions of the terms "State" and "United States" found in subsection (j), to the respective definitions in (c) "employment" and (g) "contributions."

All people are encouraged to contact their Texas Senator and:

1. Demand a full and exhaustive Legislative investigation and Attorney General Assessment of the Texas Workforce Commission to determine whether the agency has repeatedly engaged in illegal malenforcement practices against people and companies that do not fall within the narrow scope of the federal act, in direct violation of Texas Constitution Article 1 Section 16; and
2. Demand the Texas Governor to appoint a special Texas Rangers Task Force to launch a criminal investigation of each Commissioner, Lary Temple (Director), Lasha Lenzy (Director Unemployment Compensation), and all state officers in the Tax and Regulatory Integrity Divisions, under Texas Penal Code Chapter 39 Official Oppression, Abuse of Official Capacity.

Royse City Police Blotter

May 19-25

- Friday, 19 May: Welfare concern, 300 block Medina Court; Burglary of habitation, 300 block West Creek Drive; Alarm, 1600 block Brandon Drive; Disturbance, 800 block N. Josephine Street; Medical assistance, 400 block E. Lamar Street; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound from the 73-mile marker; Theft, 1700 block Colonial Drive; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; Medical assistance, 100 block W. I-30 SSR
- Saturday, 20 May: Medical assistance, 3100 block Spruce Street; Assault arrest, 800 block N. Josephine Street; Possession of drug paraphernalia, Area of S. Erby Campbell Boulevard and Ame Lane; Possession of drug paraphernalia, 500 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, 700 block FM 2642; Medical assistance, 600 block West Creek Drive; City ordinance violation, 500 block Autumn Trail; Credit/Debit card abuse, 1300 block Evergreen Street; City ordinance violation, Area of Englewood Drive and Timberhaven Trail; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77B exit; 911 hang up, 1300 block Waco Turner; 911 hang up, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Reckless driver, 3000 block Spruce Street; City ordinance violation, Area of May Street and E. Lamar Street; Suspicious person, 300 block E. I-30 NSR; Noise disturbance, Area of FM 35
- Sunday, 21 May: Driving while license invalid arrest, I-30 westbound near the 75-mile marker; Two possessions of drug paraphernalia, 800 block E. I-30 NSR; Noise disturbance, 200 block Brookhaven Circle; Medical assistance, 1500 block Hafner Drive; Alarm, 1600 block Lesli Drive; Accident, I-30 westbound near the 76-mile marker; Criminal mischief, 500 block E. County Line Road; Accident, 200 block W. I-30 NSR; Criminal mischief, 1600 block Brandon Drive; Alarm, 2500 block Marsha Lane; Alarm, 500 block Howard Street; Welfare concern, 1500 block Redman Drive; Noise disturbance, 3100 block Overstreet Lane; Criminal mischief, 200 block Ame Lane; Threat, 700 block FM 2642; Disturbance, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard
- Monday, 22 May: Criminal trespass, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Assault, 1600 block Audrey Drive; Criminal trespass, 800 block FM 2453; Medical assistance, 400 block Pin Oak Lane; Disturbance, 500 block W. I-30 NSR; City ordinance violation, 1200 block Northwood Lane; Suspicious person, Area of S. Erby Campbell Boulevard and Dyann Drive; Suspicious person, 800 block E. I-30 NSR; Accident, 900 block S. Erby Campbell Boulevard
- Tuesday, 23 May: Three curfew violations, Area of I-30 SSR and Pullen Street; Manufacture/Delivery of controlled substance/Unlawful carry of a weapon, I-30 eastbound near the 77-mile marker; Bosque County Sheriff's Office warrant arrest, Area of Hwy 66 and County Line Road; Disturbance, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Arlington Police Department's warrant arrest, I-30 westbound near the 75-mile marker; Driving while license invalid/Colleyville and Hurst Police Departments' warrants arrest, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 800 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, 1200 block Houston Place; Suspicious person, 1700 block Anthem Drive; Disturbance, 300 block Starlight Lane; Disturbance, 5400 block CR 2526; Alarm, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; Suspicious vehicle, 200 block Audubon Lane; Suspicious person, 700 block Valley Court; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound from the 73-mile marker; Reckless driver, I-30 westbound from the 83-mile marker; Suspicious vehicle, 900 block Center Street
- Wednesday, 24 May: Possession of marijuana arrest, Area of Hwy 66 and Houston Street; Noise disturbance, 1000 block Caddo Court; City ordinance violation, 500 block Ame Lane; Reckless driver, I-30 westbound near the 80-mile marker; Alarm, 600 block McKamy Boulevard; Welfare concern, 700 block FM 2642; Suspicious person, 700 block FM 2642
- Thursday, 25 May: Evading arrest/Driving while license invalid, I-30 eastbound near the 76-mile marker; Welfare concern, 300 block N. Houston Street; Open container, 300 block Medina Court; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; Reckless driver, Area of I-30 eastbound near the 76-mile marker; Accident, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 1100 block Oak Grove Lane; Welfare concern, 1100 block N. Houston Street; Suspicious vehicle, 3400 block Taylor Drive; Suspicious vehicle, Area of Rolling Meadows Road

Rockwall County News legally qualifies for publication of required notices for all government units located in Rockwall County as a newspaper of general circulation under Texas Gov. Code Section 2051.044, 2051.045, 2051.046 and 2051.048.

Texas Government Code Section 2051.044

(a) The newspaper in which a notice is published must:

- (1) devote not less than 25 percent of its total column lineage to general interest items;
- (2) be published at least once each week;
- (3) be entered as second-class postal matter in the county where published; and
- (4) have been published regularly and continuously for at least 12 months before the governmental entity or representative publishes notice.

(b) A weekly newspaper has been published regularly and continuously under Subsection (a) if the newspaper omits not more than two issues in the 12-month period.

Sec. 2051.046. NOTICE OF COUNTY

- (a) A notice of a county shall be published in a newspaper published in the county that will publish the notice at or below the legal rate.
- (b) If no newspaper that will publish the notice at or below the legal rate is published in the county, the notice shall be posted at the door of the county courthouse.

Sec. 2051.048 NOTICE OF OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

- (a) This section applies only to a political subdivision other than a county or a conservation and reclamation district under Section 2051.047.
- (b) A notice of a political subdivision shall be published in a newspaper that is published in the political subdivision and that will publish the notice at or below the legal rate.
- (c) If no newspaper published in the political subdivision will publish the notice at or below the legal rate, the political subdivision shall publish the notice in a newspaper that:
 - (1) is published in the county in which the political subdivision is located; and
 - (2) will charge the legal rate or a lower rate.

Opinions

The Russian obsession goes back decades

by Jacob Hornberger

Future of Freedom Foundation

Just consider the accusations that have been leveled at the president:

He has betrayed the Constitution, which he swore to uphold.

He has committed treason by befriendng Russia and other enemies of America.

He has subjugated America's interests to Moscow.

He has been caught in fantastic lies to the American people, including personal ones, like his previous marriage and divorce.

President Donald Trump?

No, President John F. Kennedy.

What lots of Americans don't realize, because it was kept secret

from them for so long, is that what Trump has been enduring from the national-security establishment, the mainstream press, and the American right-wing for his outreach to, or "collusion with," Russia pales compared to what Kennedy had to endure for committing the heinous "crime" of reaching out to Russia and the rest of the Soviet Union in a spirit of peace and friendship.

They hated him for it. They abused him. They insulted him. They belittled him. They called him naïve. They said he was a traitor.

All of the nasties listed above, plus more, were contained in an advertisement and a flier that appeared in Dallas on the morning of November 22, 1963, the day that Kennedy was assassinated.

Ever since then, some people have tried to make it seem like the advertisement and flier expressed only the feelings of extreme right-

wingers in Dallas. That's nonsense. They expressed the deeply held convictions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the CIA, the conservative movement, and many people within the mainstream media and Washington establishment.

In June 1963, Kennedy threw down the gauntlet in a speech he delivered at American University, now entitled the "Peace Speech." It was one of the most remarkable speeches ever delivered by an American president. It was broadcast all across the communist Soviet Union, the first time that had ever been done.

In the speech, Kennedy announced that he was bringing an end to the Cold War and the mindset of hostility toward Russia and the rest of the Soviet Union that the U.S. national-security establishment had inculcated in the minds of the American people ever since the end of World War II.

It was a radical notion and, as Kennedy well understood, a very dangerous one insofar as he was concerned. The Cold War against America's World War II partner and ally had been used to convert the United States from a limited-government republic to a national-security state, one consisting of a vast, permanent military establishment, the CIA, and the NSA, along with their broad array of totalitarian-like powers, such as assassination, regime change, coups, invasions, torture, surveillance, and the like. Everyone was convinced that the Cold War — and the so-called threat from the international communist conspiracy that was supposedly based in Russia — would last forever, which would naturally mean permanent and ever-increasing largess for what Kennedy's predecessor, President Dwight Eisenhower, had called the "military-industrial complex."

Suddenly, Kennedy was upending the Cold War apple cart by threatening to establish a relationship of friendship and peaceful coexistence with Russia, the rest of the Soviet Union, and Cuba.

Kennedy knew full well that his actions were considered by some to be a grave threat to "national security." After all, don't forget that it was Guatemalan President Jacobo Arbenz's outreach to the Soviets in a spirit of friendship that got him ousted from power by the CIA and presumably targeted for assassination as part of that regime-change operation.

It was Cuban leader Fidel Castro's outreach to the Soviets in a spirit of friendship that made him the target of Pentagon and CIA regime-change operations, including through invasion, assassination, and sanctions.

It was Congo leader's Patrice Lumumba's outreach to the Soviets in a spirit of friendship that got him targeted for assassination by the CIA.

It would be Chilean President Salvador Allende's outreach to the Soviets in a spirit of friendship that got him targeted in a CIA-instigated coup in Chile that resulted in Allende's death.

Kennedy wasn't dumb. He knew what he was up against. He had heard Eisenhower warn the American people in his Farewell Address about the dangers to their freedom and democratic way of life posed by the military establishment.

After Kennedy had read the novel *Seven Days in May*, which posited the danger of a military coup in America, he asked friends in Hollywood to make it into a movie to serve as a warning to the American people.

In the midst of the Cuban Missile Crisis, when the Pentagon and the CIA were exerting extreme pressure on Kennedy to bomb and invade Cuba, his brother Bobby told a Soviet official with whom he was negotiating that the president was under a severe threat of being ousted in a coup. And, of course, Kennedy was fully mindful of what had happened to Arbenz, Lumumba, and Castro for doing what Kennedy was now doing — reaching out to the Soviets in a spirit of friendship.

In the eyes of the national-security establishment, one simply did not reach out to Russia, Cuba, or any other "enemy" of America. Doing so, in their eyes, made Kennedy an appeaser, betrayer, traitor, and a threat to "national security."

Kennedy didn't stop with his Peace Speech. He also began negotiating a treaty with the Soviets to end above-ground nuclear testing, an action that incurred even more anger and ire within the Pentagon and the CIA. Yes, that's right — they said that "national security" depended on the U.S. government's continuing to do what they object to North Korea doing today — conducting nuclear tests, both above ground and below ground.

Kennedy mobilized public opinion to overcome fierce opposition in the military, CIA, Congress, and the Washington establishment to secure passage of his Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

He then ordered a partial withdrawal of troops from Vietnam, and told close aides that he would order a complete pull-out after winning the 1964 election. In the eyes of the U.S. national-security establishment, leaving Vietnam subject to a communist takeover would pose a grave threat to national security here in the United States.

Worst of all, from the standpoint of the national-security establishment, Kennedy began secret personal negotiations with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev and Cuban leader Fidel Castro to bring an end to America's Cold War against them. That was considered to be a grave threat to "national security" as well as a grave threat to all the military and intelligence largess that depended on the Cold War.

By this time, Kennedy's war with the national-security establishment was in full swing. He had already vowed to tear the CIA into a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds after its perfidious conduct in the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

By this time, he had also lost all confidence in the military after it proposed an all-out surprise nuclear attack on the Soviet Union, much as Japan had done at Pearl Harbor, after the infamous plan known as Operation Northwoods, which proposed terrorist attacks and plane hijackings carried out by U.S. agents posing as Cuban communists, so as to provide a pretext for invading Cuba, and after the Cuban Missile Crisis, when the military establishment accused him of appeasement and treason for agreeing not to ever invade Cuba again.

What Kennedy didn't know was that his "secret" negotiations with the Soviet and Cuban communists weren't so secret after all. As it turns out, it was a virtual certainty that the CIA (or NSA) was listening in on telephone conversations of Cuban officials at the UN in New York City, much as the CIA and NSA still do today, during which they would have learned what the president was secretly doing behind their backs.

Kennedy's feelings toward the people who were calling him a traitor for befriendng Moscow and other "enemies" of America? In response to the things that were said in that advertisement and flier about him being a traitor for befriendng Russia, he told his wife Jackie on the morning he was assassinated: "We are heading into nut country today."

Of course, as he well knew, the nuts weren't located only in Dallas. They were also situated throughout the U.S. national-security establishment.

For more information, attend The Future of Freedom Foundation's one-day conference on June 3, 2017, entitled "The National Security State and JFK" at the Washington Dulles Marriott Hotel.

Are we fighting terrorism, or creating more terrorism?

by Ron Paul

Ron Paul Institute for Peace and Prosperity

When we think about terrorism we most often think about the horrors of a Manchester-like attack, where a radicalized suicide bomber went into a concert hall and killed dozens of innocent civilians. It was an inexcusable act of savagery and it certainly did terrorize the population.

What is less considered are attacks that leave far more civilians dead, happen nearly daily instead of rarely, and produce a constant feeling of terror and dread. These are the civilians on the receiving end of US and allied bombs in places like Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Somalia, and elsewhere.

Last week alone, US and "coalition" attacks on Syria left more than 200 civilians dead and many hundreds more injured. In fact, even though US intervention in Syria was supposed to protect the population from government attacks, US-led air strikes have killed more civilians over the past month than air strikes of the Assad government. That is like a doctor killing his patient to save him.

Do we really believe we are fighting terrorism by terrorizing innocent civilians overseas? How long until we accept that "collateral damage" is just another word for "murder"?

The one so-called success of the recent G7 summit in Sicily was a general agreement to join together to "fight terrorism." Have we not been in a "war on terrorism" for the past 16 years? What this really means is more surveillance of innocent civilians, a crackdown on free speech and the Internet, and many more bombs dropped overseas. Will doing more

of what we have been doing do the trick? Hardly! After 16 years fighting terrorism, it is even worse than before we started. This can hardly be considered success.

They claim that more government surveillance will keep us safe. But the UK is already the most intrusive surveillance state in the western world. The Manchester bomber was surely on the radar screen. According to press reports, he was known to the British intelligence services, he had traveled and possibly trained in bomb-making in Libya and Syria, his family members warned the authorities that he was dangerous, and he even flew terrorist flags over his house. What more did he need to do to signal that he may be a problem? Yet somehow even in Orwellian UK, the authorities missed all the clues.

But it is even worse than that. The British government actually granted permission for its citizens of Libyan background to travel to Libya and fight alongside al-Qaeda to overthrow Gaddafi. After months of battle and indoctrination, it then welcomed these radicalized citizens back to the UK. And we are supposed to be surprised and shocked that they attack?

The real problem is that both Washington and London are more interested in regime change overseas than any blowback that might come to the rest of us back home. They just do not care about the price we pay for their foreign policy actions. No grand announcement of new resolve to "fight terrorism" can be successful unless we understand what really causes terrorism. They do not hate us because we are rich and free. They hate us because we are over there, bombing them.

PCCS Valedictorian Speech

by Mackenzie Buhr

Class of 2017

Poetry Community Christian School

Good evening ladies, gentlemen, teachers, faculty, families, and most of all the graduating class of 2017. It is such an honor to be able to come and give a speech tonight in recognition of my graduating class. Tonight is the night my classmates and I have all been dreaming of for the past four years, and we've made it. Here we are. Take a moment to soak all of it in. Just yesterday, we were high school seniors sitting in class, and tonight we are here to walk across the stage to graduate and take on the next stage of our lives. In the nine years that I have attended Poetry, I have gotten to know many people very well and have learned that our school slogan "Keep Poetry Weird" is very true. At our little private school in the country, you never know what to expect on a day. A horse may come walking into your room, a bluegrass band may come perform, or Sarah, a fellow graduate, may fly over the school in her airplane. Every day at Poetry is its own exciting adventure, and I can honestly say that many of my favorite memories in life took place at our school. I will sincerely miss Poetry, my classmates, and the many memories we have made, but I am so excited to see all of the amazing things the future holds for everyone here tonight.

I would just like to take another moment to brag on PCCS, and thank the people in it who have made such an impact on my life. After having the same teachers and the same students in my classes for so many years, we have gotten to know each other on a personal level and sometimes learn more about each other than we actually want to know. Despite the fact that we occasionally may get on each other's nerves, we are always there for each other like family when it is needed most, and this is what makes Poetry so special. I will never forget the time my family was in a roll over car accident my freshman year of high school and how supportive everyone was through it all. I remember hearing that the waiting room at the emergency room was so full of people from the school that there was no more seating space left. I truly believe that the prayers of the school families helped carry us through and greatly improved our outcomes. The people and families at the school constantly amaze me; thank you to all of the administration, board members, teachers, families, and faculty who have selflessly given up your time to teach us and make our school so great.

Dr. Horan, thank you for having the vision to open a little private Christian school in the middle of a pasture years ago and for sacrificing so much of your time and care to make our school what it is today. Thank you Mr. Beaumont for teaching English and dual credits at our small school and for giving us such a good education when you could be teaching anywhere; I will never forget the literary jokes our class made or the clever fictional nicknames you gave my classmates. Mrs. Williams, thank you for sharing your love for history with all of us and making us enjoy learning; your selfless and caring attitude towards every student in the school provides a great example of the type of person I hope to be someday. Mr. Lewis thank you for diligently teaching us math even when it came to difficult "bearing problems" or "sine functions"; I will never forget that "fractions are our friends." Also, I am so honored that my class will be the last senior class you will ever teach, as you retire this year. Mr. Harrell, thank you for being so passionate about Science, for making us comprehend what we learn, and for answering our frequent totally off topic science-related questions or simply giving us advice for our lives. Mrs. Perez, we all know we will be thankful in college that writing now comes so easily to us—thanks to you. Mrs. Phillips, you are the best Student Council and yearbook advisor I could imagine—thank you for selflessly giving up your time to help make our school events so great. It has been such a joy to work with you. Finally, thanks to all of my coaches over the years; each one of you has not only taught me how to play sports, but have taught me many life lessons that I believe will lead me to success. Specifically, thank you Coach Heather for pushing me to my limits this year and for showing me that I can achieve anything if I work for it. Thank you to all of my teachers for everything you have taught us academically, spiritually, and for the positive influence you have made on our lives. Some of you will probably never understand the real impact that you have.

Lastly, thank you to my family for making me into the person I am today, for always believing in me, for attending all of my events, and for

teaching me to pursue big goals. Thank you mom and dad for raising me and for being great examples throughout my life; you always put me and my sisters above yourselves and managed to participate in all of our activities and help us when needed, while still both working full time. I completely appreciate the weekends you gave up to attend my many sports games, banquets, and other extracurricular activities through the years; I understand that raising me with the many activities I decided to pursue was a full time job in and of itself. Megan, thank you for being such a loving older sister and for always being there for me when I needed someone to talk to; honestly if it were not for you I do not know if I would be up here tonight. You have not only been one of the biggest-role models in my life, but also my best friend. Finally, Mikayla, thank you for being so cute and such a joy in my life; anytime I had a bad day, I could always rely on you to make me laugh and smile. Being your big sister is one of the best things that has ever happened to me, and I cannot wait to see the amazing things you are going to do in life.

To my fellow graduates, thank you for a great four years of high school. I will never forget the times in class where we could not stop laughing after Daniel shoved a whole fruit in his mouth, the many times we sporadically broke out into the song "Everything is Awesome," or the free periods when the whole class would play their ukulele and sing in harmony. Most of us have seen each other every day for almost every class for four or more years now; we know each other better than most people, and though I know some of you cannot wait to move on to the next stage of your lives, I hope you can always look back at high school and remember the good times we had through the years. Even though so many people label high school as the best four years of our lives, I believe that they are only the best years of our lives at the moment. There are so many exciting adventures ahead of each of us, and I believe that the best is still yet to come.

Tonight, when we step off this stage, we begin our lives in the real world. From this point forward, it is our decision on how we live our lives. The choices we make from here on will dictate the type of lives we live. I know each and every one of you has so much potential and are so talented in your own ways, and I look forward to hearing in the future the exciting things each of you takes on. I expect to hear news one day saying Sarah Horan has won a gold medal in the Olympics for track, Sydney Hefley's music career has taken off and all of her albums are sold out, Elisabeth Barbee has created a world renown invention, and Micheal McCord has built the world's largest amusement park. I could go on and on. Each one of you are so talented in your own ways and have so much potential. I encourage you to pursue your greatest dreams, and do not let fear of failure or what other people tell you keep you from achieving your dreams. I believe that with God's help, every one of you can achieve anything you put your mind to, so do not get discouraged along your path. Deuteronomy 31:6-8 emphasizes this by saying "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." As we go off to college and part ways, I hope we can all remember this scripture and pursue greatness, even when times get hard.

Many of us will be away from home for the first time this fall; this is one of the most exciting but also most nerve-racking changes we have made in our lives thus far, and I ask that you all please remember that we always have God to rely on when we face the new challenges that arise. We can take on the next stage of our lives in peace, because we are never alone. We have shared so many memories and laughs from the past four years, and now it is time to write our new stories and live out our next stage of life. Congratulations to all of you for making it here tonight; it's a big achievement and only one of many in your lifetime. I want to end with this powerful quote from Steve Jobs, "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most importantly, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition." The education we received from our school, God at our side, and support of our families have more than prepared us for our future. Now, let's go pursue greatness and take on the next stage of our lives with confidence. The best is yet to come!

Thank you and congratulations to the graduating class of 2017!

RISD's College, Career Academy named for former superintendent

On Monday, May 15, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Rockwall Independent School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name the College and Career Academy after longtime Rockwall ISD Superintendent Gene Burton.

Burton served in public education for 33 years with 16 of those years in Rockwall ISD, according to a district news release.

The College and Career Academy was Burton's vision in 2004 in the pursuit of furthering career and technology programs for the benefit of students and the economic development of Rockwall County. That vision will become a reality as a result of the 2015 bond program.

A sub-committee of the Board of Trustees considered options based on community input and presented its final recommendation to the board on Monday evening.

Burton and wife, Julie, were present to receive the honor. After the board voted to approve a resolution naming the new school, Burton was presented with a plaque of the resolution to commemorate the occasion.

The Gene Burton College and Career Academy is scheduled to open in the fall of 2018 and will serve high school students from both Rockwall High and Rockwall-Heath High in an expanded offering of career and tech courses, according to the news release.

Burton attended Irving public schools and graduated from Irving Nimitz High School in 1972. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Christian University. As a baseball player for TCU, he received many awards and honors, including being named All Southwest Conference. He earned both his master's degree and his doctorate degree in Education Administration from Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Prior to serving in Rockwall ISD, Burton spent years as a teacher and coach in the Waxahachie Independent School District and as superintendent of the Frost and Giddings school districts, according to the news release.



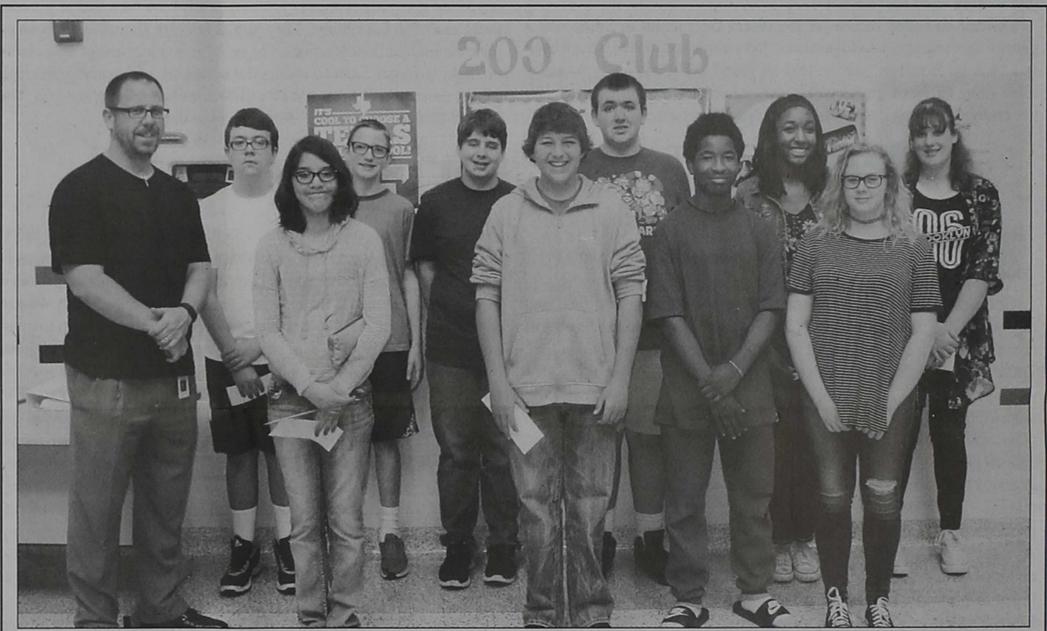
The Rockwall Independent School District recently voted to name the College and Career Academy after longtime RISD Superintendent Gene Burton. Pictured, from the left, are Leigh Plagens, John Villarreal, Stephanie Adams, Gene Burton, Julie Burton, Christopher Cuny, Linda Duran, Jon Bailey, Russ Childers and Jim White.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



U.S. Air Force Airman Alex Flores recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio. The airman completed an eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Flores is the son of Alejandro and Helen Flores of Rockwall. He is a 2014 graduate of Rockwall High.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Pictured above is the latest round of Williams Middle School Principal's 200 Award recipients. At front are Hannah Dennard, Alex Christiansen, Keandre Thompson and Aidan Crawford. At back are Dane Steinberger, Aiden O'Neill, Abe Smith, Michael Collins, Scott McDowell, Yasmine Gambrell and Katie McMahan.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Honeybees, Rockstars win volleyball championships

The spring volleyball season came to a close last month for the JER Chilton YMCA with championship games at the Rockwall Independent School District Administration building on Saturday, May 20.

The Honeybees were the winners for third/fourth grade division with a final record of 6-2. The Rockstars won the fifth/sixth/seventh grade division with a final record of 8-0.

According to the press release, The Rockstars made it to the final round for the past two prior seasons. This was their first championship win. Rockstars coach Brandon Ashcraft said the team was "ecstatic and a little relieved."

"We have only lost one game during the regular season in our three years, but we lost two championship games," Ashcraft said. "To finally break through and win was awesome. The girls left with tears in their eyes the last two seasons, so to see their smiling faces on Saturday was priceless."

During off-season months, the girls will continue finding ways to develop their skills and enjoy the game they love, the coach said.

"Our girls love to play sand volleyball over the summer with each other and their families," Ashcraft said. "We also get together and go to volleyball clinics at different volleyball clubs during the summer and fall to work on skill development. Our parents also spend a lot of time in the driveway with their daughters working on getting better."

Adam Wilkinson, who has coached the Honeybees team for the last two seasons, said they too have come close to previous championship wins and the game last weekend was "very emotional."

"We had the same team as the previous three seasons, and we have been close a number of times," Wilkinson said. "This has been a great moment for them, as it should be."

For Wilkinson's team, this year marks an especially emotional transition. Of the 12 girls on the Honeybees, all but two will be old enough to advance to the next age category next season. This could mean big changes for the team in the future.

"Our girls really enjoy spending time with each other," Ashcraft said. "The girls push each other in practice and have a great time working hard."

Triathlon draws athletes to Rockwall

The Y Rock Spring Triathlon, sponsored by the Sports Medicine Center at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall, will take place Sunday, June 25, in Rockwall.

The event will begin with a 6 a.m. practice, with the race to begin at 7 a.m.

This year's courses will be on-road.

Each participant will receive a finisher medal, water and a free meal.

Awards will be presented at 9:30 a.m., and the course will officially close at 11 a.m. for all participants.

In addition to the regular trio of challenges, a 5K and one-mile fun run also are planned under the sponsorship of Modern Woodmen. To sign up for these events, visit playtri.com/yrockrun.

Registration for the triathlon is underway at playtri.com/yrock, where additional details about the event and bike and run course maps also may be found.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the J.E.R. Chilton YMCA, the mission of which is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirits, minds and bodies.

A Y Rock Training Program has been underway since May 15 to help prepare race participants. The program includes indoor cycling, running and swimming (Mondays, 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., swimming; Wednesdays, 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., running; Fridays, 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., indoor riding).

Each participant will receive a free bike tune.

For more details about the training program, race sponsorship opportunities, volunteering or other information related to the race contact John Ibrahim at 972-772-9622 or jibrahim@ymcadallas.org.

Region 2 Semi-finals baseball results

Rockwall v. Pflugerville Hendrickson

Game 1
Thursday, 5/25, 10-3 (Loss).
Diego Muniz pitched 6 innings with 10 First Pitch Strikes and 1 Strike Out.

Will Frizzell finished the game with 7 FSP and 2 SO.

Game 2
Friday, 5/26, 4-2 (Loss)
Brooks Helmer pitched 6 innings, with 17 FPS and 7 SO.
Muniz finished the game with 2 FPS and 1 SO.

Rockwall-Heath v. Round Rock

Game 1
Friday, 5/26, 3-0 (Loss).
Kaden Krowka pitched 6 innings, with 15 First Pitch Strikes and 3 Strike Outs.

Game 2
Friday, 5/26, 7-0 (Loss)
Chandler Mauldin pitched 7 innings and logged 6 Strike-outs and 23 First Pitch Strikes.

Rockwall County Sports Notes

City of Rockwall to offer swim lessons

The City of Rockwall will offer swim lessons in coming weeks. The program places children in leveled lessons based on their performance in a swim evaluation by experienced instructors. Classes are provided at a reduced cost for Rockwall residents and are taught at the Harry Myers Pool. The first session will begin June 5. Evening sessions also will be offered this year. Space is limited, so visit playrockwall.com to check class times or to register.

Y Rock Spring Triathlon set June 25

The Y Rock Spring Triathlon is scheduled for Sunday, June 25. A 5K and 1-mile run also are scheduled. Activities will kick off at 6 a.m. with a practice, followed by the race at 7 a.m. Awards will be presented at 9:30 a.m. The on-road courses will close at 11 a.m. for all participants. Proceeds will benefit the J.E.R. Chilton YMCA. Registration is underway at playtri.com/yrock, where more information and course maps also may be found.

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