at TISP giled Subscribers in North Texas Counties of ollin, Dallas, Hunt, Kaufman and Rockwall

# Rockwall County News

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A team of volunteers with Operation Elevation (wearing red shirts) assist in clean-up efforts, Tuesday Dec. 29, 2015, at the intersection of Linda Vista Drive and Luna Drive (just west of Dalrock Road) in Rowlett, following the Sat. Dec. 26 tornadoes that destroyed many homes in Garland and Rowlett. Under the direction of Elevate Life Church in Frisco, Texas, the team arrived on the scene, Sun. Dec. 27, and began to assist the home-owners. According to the church's website, another team will arrive later in the week to assist in clean-up and serve where needed. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

# owlett church punched by "EF3" rnado, responds with relief effort

Nelson was in the church building where he pastors, when, e evening of Saturday Dec. 26, 2015, he felt a tornado hitting back of the building that faces south.

In The City, located at 6005 Dalrock Road in Rowlett, e path of a tornado that blasted the south wall of the main

he tornado continued in its north-easterly path, Nelson led n patching up damaged areas and preparing for relief efforts n the next day (Sunday).

onday, the church began receiving donations, including food, toiletries, mattresses, blankets, and other necessities,

o preparing for building repairs. h volunteers went to the damaged areas with supplies, and

e word about what was available at the church.

urch connected with several churches in Rockwall, Sachse, nd other cities.

Notable organizations working with the church in the effort included Reconcilliation Outreach, Cross Roads Church, Oasis Church, New Horizon Church, Corner Stone Church, Stillwater (Waterview), The Mount (off Highway 66 in Garland) and Gale Fields Recreation Center located off of Dairy Road.

The church's efforts were also closely united with the Red Cross and The Pantry (Salvation Army), the City of Rowlett. According to Pastor Nelson, the church will also be a location for affected people to apply for federal vouchers.

The Volunteer Coordinators are church members Kristian and Monika Baker.

Soon after Church In The City was hit, another member of the same church was at work in the Tom Thumb Shopping Center, watching the same tornado bear down on different nearby businesses.

Charis Gilbert, of Rowlett, said that around 7:00 p.m., the ground

began to vibrate under her feet and the business's windows shook hard as she and others watched the tornado briefly stop its forward motion. She described how the tornado was lit up by electric sparks from power lines.

Ms. Gilbert said she and co-workers calmly escorted customers to a

safe place in the building. According to her story, as the tornado continued past the church building, it appeared extremely big and seemed to be moving straight toward her location. Looking back on the event, she questions the "EF3" categorization, and believes it was closer to EF4.

She was unsure if the tornado hopped over the shopping center or skirted around it, but she described how it began to move in a semicircular-like motion, then continued forward motion toward the housing development just behind the Tom Thumb Shopping Center.

In her estimation, the tornado took about 3 minutes to pass. The City of Rockwall is providing assistance after Rowlett sustained a direct hit from a large tornado on Saturday, Dec. 26, at about 7 p.m. Significant damage occurred in a large area, but the most seriously damaged areas were in the southeastern quadrant of the city, according to information by Rowlett city officials.

The National Weather Service has classified the tornado that struck Rowlett as an EF3, according to a City of Rockwall news release.

Rockwall Police and the Rockwall Fire Department provided assistance immediately after the tornado struck, and the police department continued to provide assistance over the weekend, according to a Rockwall news release.

As of Monday evening, Rowlett emergency services personnel and related agencies were winding down their efforts. Property assessments have been completed by the Texas Task Force Team and the Citizens Emergency Response Teams.

"We are cautiously optimistic that there are no other residents trapped or injured," the news release, which contained information (Continued on Page 2)



### Today is deadline for plan input

Rockwall County is seeking public input on a Hazard Mitigation Action Plan being developed to address natural hazards that affect the county. FEMA defines mitigation as "sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their effects." To participate in the survey, visit surveymonkey. com/r/rockwallcountyHMAP or, for Spanish, surveymonkey.com/r/ condado\_de\_rockwall by Dec. 31.

City of Rockwall announces holiday schedule

City of Rockwall offices will be closed on Friday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. Garbage and recycling collection will be moved to Saturday, Jan.



(Continued on Page 2)

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Church In The City member, Antony Artega Smith Jr. assists by carrying donated items into the church gym, Tuesday, Dec. 29, on Dalrock Road in Rowlett, during the church's tornado relief efforts. Artega works as an Assistant Coach at Texas A&M Commerce and works with church youth basketball skills in the Team First program. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

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Rockwall County New

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Rockwall

### **Rockwall County Obituaries**

Lyle Crosby Arthur Jr.

Lyle Crosby Arthur Jr., 90, of Garland died Dec. 15, 2015. No services will be conducted. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-

Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Born July 24, 1925, in Chicago, Illinois, to Lyle Crosby Arthur Sr. and Grace Margaret (Carlson) Arthur, he was a member of the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. A graduate of DePaul University with an accounting degree, he held a bachelor's degree from VOP. He was a master chess player and a member of MENSA. He also was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Tucson Chapter.

Survivors include his daughter, Jade Marie Arthur; his grandsons, Kevan E. Arthur and Joseph Michael Arthur and his wife, Kim Nusbaum; his granddaughter, Kathryn Rose Thompson, and her husband, Patrick; his great-grandsons, Patrick J. Thompson and Max Arthur; his great-granddaughters, Natalie Rose Thompson and Ali Arthur; and a sister, Gloria Hamre.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sons, Terrence Michael Arthur and Brian Jeffrey Arthur; and a daughter, Lynn Marie Arthur.

Donna Rene Hudson

Memorial services for Donna Rene Hudson, 56, of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Jason Bearden officiating.

She died Dec. 21.

Born July 16, 1959, in Terrell to Paul Wayne and Evelyn Ann (Kvapil) Foster, she enjoyed country and western dancing, shopping, the beach, jewelry and gambling. She

had a fondness for decorating and arts and crafts and had a love for animals.

She had lived in Rockwall for 15 years.

Survivors include her husband of 35 years, Greg Hudson; her children, Brandon Foster, and his wife, Tami, Shannon Branch and her husband, Michael, and Katie Hudson; her grandchildren, Colten Smith, Chase Smith, Lexi Hudson, Garrett Pruitt, Kaden Foster, Kyndal Foster, Bailey Foster and Ireland Edrington; her sisters, Soozi Makin, Barbara Blunt, Paula Gillispie and Linda Dickerson; and her brothers, Danny Foster and Eric Foster.

She was preceded in death by her parents.



### details or to make a lunch reservation, call Barbara a

1057 or Cathy at 942-400-9934; reservations are due by Ja newcomersrock.com for more details. Christmas tree drop-off site offered City of Rockwall residents can drop off live Christmas tree Tuttle Sports Complex parking lot, 1550 Airport Rd., three 11. All ornaments, lights and stands should be removed in

prior to drop-off. Drop-offs from commercial operations will

Rockwall County News Br

The Rockwall County Newcomers & Friends have plan

monthly luncheon at Occasions at Stone River in Royse Cin

14. Guest speaker will be Gayle Brink, who will provide:

presentation of her novel "Saving Cee Cee Honeycutt."

Newcomers & Friends plan Jan. 14 luncheon

(Continued from Page 1)

allowed.

### **Rockwall County Entertainment**

'Cinderella' to be staged by RHHS

Rockwall-Heath High School's Theatre Department will musical, Rogers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella," at the Period Arts Center, 801 Laurence Dr., in Heath at 7:30 p.m. Jan and 16. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for students citizens and children. For each adult ticket purchased, one be admitted free of charge. Tickets may be purchased 30, prior to show time. Photos also may be taken with Cinderellass prince at each show's completion.

Tickets available for Daddy/Daughter Dance A Daddy/Daughter Dance, sponsored by the Rockwall-P Recreation Department, will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on & Jan. 23, at The Hilton Bella Harbor. Each participating receive a flower at the end of the evening. Light refreshment be served. Cost is \$99 or \$65 for Rockwall residents (\$25) additional child). A limited number of tickets are available registration is required. For more details visit rockwall.com

### **Area News Briefs**

Rubber Stamp, Scrapbook Show set

A Rubber Stamp & Scrapbook Show is set for Jan 23-21-Plano Centre, 1000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano. Participal : learn to make their own greeting cards and scrapbooks. Atwill cost \$7 at the door, which will be good for entry on bot children under 12 will be admitted free of charge. The event from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first day and from 10 a.m. to 3 the show's final day.

#### Want more copies of the Rockwall County No **Purchase at the following locations**

- Rockwall Krogers, Scotties Exxon, Waln Chevron (Ridge Rd. & I-30), Gateway (Hwy 276), Downtown on the square (coin ra
- Rowlett Walmart Neighborhood (Dalrock Hwy 66) • Royse City - Tiger Mart, Main Street (a)
- rack) • Fate - Fate Grocery Store.

## Rockwall one of four counties in governor's disaster declaration

of the proclamation.

Rockwall County was one of four counties included in a disaster declaration made by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Sunday, Dec. 27, according to information on the governor's website.

Rockwall, Collin, Dallas and Ellis counties were declared as being in a state of disaster after the governor received a briefing at the Department of Public Safety's State Operations Center Sunday afternoon.

The declaration was the result of the severe thunderstorms and tornadoes that impacted North Texas on Saturday, Dec. 26.

### Tornado relief efforts...

(Continued from Page 1)

from a Monday night update from the Rowlett city manager, said. "As a result, we continue to report only 23 injuries and no

According to the Rowlett city manager, Brian Funderburk, 1,000 homes had been assessed as of Monday evening, with 854 impacted. Although not every property assessed is listed below, the following findings have been made, according to the city's website:

• Affected – 220 • Minor -- 298

• Major – 188

• Homes "totally destroyed" – 148

Additionally, 43 businesses were impacted, with 38 sustaining "minor" damage, five sustaining "major" damage and 23 that have since "ceased operations," according to the website.

As of 4 p.m. Monday, approximately 6,000 homes, primarily on the eastern side of Rowlett, still were without power, according to a news release from the city manager. Oncor had teams in the city working on restoring power.

A curfew was enacted in the affected areas, allowing only emergency personnel and residents in the area. Non-emergency personnel were being asked to stay clear of the city to keep roadways "clear for emergency operations," according to the news release.

The City of Rowlett has received "considerable requests" about where donations might be sent to assist families affected by the storm. Currently, the American Red Cross has established a location at 3700 Chaha for affected families to receive assistance. Those interested in donating should contact the ARC at redcross.org.

There also are several local churches collecting donations, including the First United Methodist in Rowlett, Lakepointe Church, Rockwall, and Church In The City in Rowlett.

The Rowlett Animal Shelter, 4402 Industrial, is open and accepting displaced pets through Monday evening. Citizens who have lost an animal or found one are encouraged to call 972-412-6219 for information. Additional updates are provided throughout each day by email, on the website and on social media platforms.

Rockwall County Helping Hands is coordinating with the Emergency Management team to provide essential items such as clothing, toiletries, temporary housing, and food. The organization encourages people in need of help to call 972-771-4357.

Invite your friends and family to Call 972-722-3099 for their new subscription to **Rockwall County News!** It's still only \$40 per year. Mailed to homes by USPS

### can to assist in the challenges our citizens are currently facing. I want to thank the first responders and local officials on the ground and strongly encourage all Texans to heed their warnings in the coming the days." RSM gears up for

The disaster declaration authorizes the "use of all available

resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are

reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster," according to the text

"Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to those Texans who

have been affected by this severe weather," Abbott said, according

to the website. "Please be assured that Texas is doing everything it

busy 2016 season Rockwall Summer Musicals is preparing for a big season in the

coming year. RSM will stage the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Carousel" June 24-26 and July 1-3 and Disney's "Mary Poppins" Aug. 12/14 and 18-20, according to a recent news release.

An evening of romance, music and fine dining is planned for Friday, Feb. 12.

Corporate sponsorships are being accepted. Benefit packages include tickets to shows, mentions from the stage, advertising perks and other special privileges.

Jeff McKenzie has been named the City of Heath's Employee of the Year for 2015, according to a release from the city.

McKenzie, who holds current TCEQ water and wastewater licenses, was hired as construction in for the city in 2014. He previously worked for the City of Commerce and the City of Greenville. "Jeff grew up in the construction industry," said David Herbert, director of Public Works grandfather and father owned and operated the McKenzie Asphalt Co., located in Greenville, primarily constructed highways for TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation).

"As a teenager, Jeff could be found working on projects and driving tanker trucks to transport petro materials for their company. After his schooling, Jeff managed construction crews all or northeast Texas area."

McKenzie's knowledge of road construction is valuable to the city, according to the news release Heath continues an extensive road repair program and works with TxDOT representatives to many FM 740 widening project.

Departmental Employees of the Year included Tara Plexico, Administrative Services; John Land Public Works; and Officer Brandon Seery, Public Safety.

The employees were selected for the 2015 awards based on on-the-job performance, cut service, cooperation, integrity, dependability, judgment, initiative and workplace knowledge, as a "noteworthy achievements within the year," according to the news release.

"The closest government to the people that exists in the world is city government, as we are set cities around us respond to the overwhelming needs in their communities following the tornadoes Ed Thatcher, city manager. "That's why I appreciate not only these award-winning staff members," of our staff members who are always willing to do whatever is necessary to care for our citizens.



The City of Heath recently recognized employees for their outstanding performance in 2015, including, from the left, Employee of the Year Jeff McKenzie and Departmental Employees of the Year Brandon Seery, DPS; Tara Plexico, Administrative Services; and John Langstaff, Public Works. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Heath's McKenzie is Employee of Year

**Hudecek** named to **OSU Honor Roll** 

University

Scholastics Honors

Caitlin E. Hudecek, a freshman biology major from Heath, was named to the B-plus Scholastic Honor Roll following the fall term at Oregon State University, according to a university news release.

Almost 4,000 students were named to the B-plus Honor Roll.

Be kind one to another with tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:23

55 transport to DFW

46 TXism: "he could shoot **ACROSS TEXAS** by Charley & Guy Orbison 7 do it quickly (abbr.) 50 support board for 8 cloistered religious older beds 51 Valentine flowers woman 9 TX intoxication 52 Alamo daughters (abbr.) 53 TXism: "bright as \_ offense (abbr.) 12 TX Hagman 1972 TV film: "Getting Away From 17 past title of TX LBJ. 32 33 34 GHWB, & GWB: commander \_ 19 Clyde football class 54 catcher's 21 TXism: "in 56 Cowboys were with" (associated) great in the Santa," Johnson Holy Week 23 channel 8 in Dallas 57 TX film critic, Reed 58 this defense P-1252 28 UT Heisman RB. program was Campbell 12 TX Jenkins book called "Star Wars" 29 nat'l workplace "Life \_\_\_ Ownself" DOWN safety agcy. 13 1980 action film by 34 "woe \_\_ me" 30 1978 TV film: "See TX rancher Norris 1 1988 book shunned 36 Abilene Univ. Runs" 14 "brazos," south of by Ayatollah 37 military beds 31 space between the border Khomeini 38 "I'm cowhand roof and ceiling 15 1962 Roy Orbison 2 he pitched for the from the Rio Grande 35 60 Minutes helped ballad about this girl Astros in 1990-93 39 TXism: "fat as a exonerate this TX 3 this county was 16 this Guerrero was boardinghouse cat" Lenell in 1983 named after fierce 1st woman on TX 26 TX Gary Busey 40 regenerate 36 TXism: "happy as Railroad Comm. 1971 biker film: 41 TXism: "\_ "Angels Hard 18 subdivision assoc. on the hog" (rich) 20 De Leon h.s. class Come" under your hat" 43 "\_ \_ Siecke 42 TX-born Debbie 27 TXism: "beats a 23 this Huddle painted 9 name in fashion: State Forest" Reynolds 1961 film: "Surrender of Santa Christianpoke in 45 1960 All-AFL Oiler 10 growers with Anna" (init.) with a sharp stick" FB, Smith (init.) 32 Cowboy objective irrigation? (2 wds.) 24 really low cloud 47 dressed up 33 TX Detmer who won 44 TXism: "drawing \_ 11 "no \_\_\_, ands, or 25 TXism: "mad as 48 "I smell \_ \_\_ hen" Heisman at BYU

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Rocky ed from Page 4) easier access to the 1

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2014 unrestricted ge and liquidity also re eneral operational sp nigher than budgeter onservative spendir nitially budgeted le maintaining \$16 e \$29.3 million 201 trends remain in line

ebt levels remain hig cal 2014, reflective of ated from continued and population gai amortization of the ditional transportati round \$10 million) AV gains have allow promised voters. I annual reimbursem on projects. The rein al debt service (AI) ntal needs appear m of a new courthouse

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# pinions

# hat are the chances for peace in 2016

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s Briefs

ore than one trillion dollars goes up in smoke. More accurately, it is stolen from the middle lasses and shipped off to the one percent. I am talking about the massive yearly bill to IS empire. Washington's warmongers have sold the lie that the military budget has been resident Obama, but even when the "Sequester" was in effect military spending continued ily the pace of increase was reduced, not actual spending.

trillion dollars taken from us is spent to keep us safe, despite what politicians say. In fact, ff actually makes us less safe and more vulnerable to a terrorist attack thanks to resentment interventions and to the blowback it produces.

is spent to maintain existing conflicts and to create new areas of conflict overseas that in demands for more military spending. It is an endless cycle of theft and deceit.

## e fear of terrorism is troying our freedom

Ebeling

dom Foundation

at is just closing, 2015, has been full of events that continue to dominate the news, including I tensions on the streets of American cities, growing fears about terrorist attacks on the United States, and one of the most fear-focused presidential campaign seasons in living

all there is one underlying thread that is not always given the attention it deserves: the ical straightjacketing and threatened loss of individual liberty.

ank. Race relations may not be what they were, say, fifty or sixty years ago, but it remains sions and conflicts still abound in the interactions between people of differing racial and Parkway, Plano, Pricks and in the U.S.

ards and scrapbook\_Leg es of Collectivism

of cultural, social and economic history dies hard, and this is true not only for the United free of charge. The but und the world. For thousands of years people everywhere lived their lives in often tightly ay and from 10 ambal a collective groups with narrow definitions of group identity.

noti of freeing ourselves of many aspects of these tribal and collective identities is a relatively t is really only about three or four hundred years old in terms of having a manifested impact Rockwall Countains iety. And it started in only one corner of the world, in parts of Western Europe, where the llowing location phil ophical and political individualism slowing began to take hold.

otties Exxon, indi ual came to be seen as the central character of human existence, and not the feudal estate, s order, or the nation-state. The individual before this was viewed as someone whose role, I-30), Gatewery stence, was as an entity to work, obey, sacrifice, and if necessary die for the collective to the square (one be nged. His interests were considered subservient to and always in potential conflict with the hborhood (Daler co ctive good.

vidus sm, Individual Rights, and the Free Society

eme ing philosophy of individual rights turned collectivism on its head. The premise of this lart, Main Strea , of course, captured in the American Declaration of Independence, when it spoke of the ual alienable right to his life, his liberty, and his pursuit of happiness.

> triber group was not seen as an ethereal entity with an existence separate from and independent and a lals who made up some society. Society slowly came to be seen as the short-hand summary the interconnected associations and relationships of individual human beings as they went aceful, honest and productive everyday activities of attempting to improve their own lives it of ners than may care about.

ar for 2015, accorded a always appreciate the radicalness of this idea. The individual is not the property, the slave, icial animal of a group that may do virtually anything it likes with him when it serves the hired as constructed "ner purposes" and "needs" of that group. He owns himself. He lives for himself. He finds the City of Greene, maning, value and happiness for himself.

(Continued in the Thurs. Jan. 7, 2016 edition)

### Rockwall County AA rating ...

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ortation).

ording to the new leng asier access to the MSA, which in turn, has spurred further residential and attendant retail/ representatives where evelopment. Fitch believes it is feasible that this TAV trend can be sustained in the neariver irious residential and retail/commercial projects underway throughout the county, which tive Services; John ts magement's projections of 3 percent to 4 percent TAV annual gains over the near term.

Solid Reserves, Liquidity Maintained

e-job performance come 's financial profile is strong. Roughly 80 percent of general operating revenues come from s and the county continues to maintain a relatively low and stable total tax rate of just under 0 TAV as of fiscal 2016, which provides a measure of revenue flexibility to the county. The vernment, as we'll fur has generated surplus operations over the past six fiscal years (fiscals 2009 - 2014). Sizeable or pay-go capital occur periodically. Management has typically maintained reserves well in blished policy (no less than four months of annually budgeted spending) that provides the ignificant financial flexibility.

2014 unrestricted general fund balance totaled \$18.6 million or nearly 73 percent of spending nd liquidity also remained strong at \$20 million in cash and investments, equaling over 9 neral operational spending.

gher than budgeted fiscal 2015 revenue performance in conjunction with management's onservative spending practices are projected to soften the \$5 million drawdown (15 percent initially budgeted for pay-go capital. Management presently expects a \$2.6 million use of e maintaining \$16 million (unaudited) or 50 percent of spending in reserves at fiscal 2015 \$ \$29.3 million 2016 operating budget was adopted as balanced; year-to-date revenue and rends remain in line with budget according to management.

Overall Debt High;

### Other Long-term Liabilities Moderate

bt levels remain high at approximately \$6,875 on a per capita basis and 8.3 percent of market I 2014, reflective of the area's rapid growth. Fitch anticipates the overall debt burden will ed from continued, growth-related capital and debt needs of various local governments that and population gains made over the near to intermediate term.

amortization of the county's outstanding direct debt is average with 55 percent retired in ditional transportation projects are planned in the near-term as the county expects to issue ound \$10 million) of its remaining ULT road bond authorization, although stronger than V gains have allowed the associated anticipated tax rate increase to remain at about half promised voters. In addition, management indicates the county remains on track to begin annual reimbursement from the state (TxDOT) in fiscal 2018 based on previously completed 1 projects. The reimbursement is expected to total no less than \$1 million and subsequently al debt service (ADS) repayment on the ULT road bonds.

tal needs appear manageable partially due to the county's use of pay-go capital, including

f a new courthouse and a radio inter-operability system in fiscal 2015.

### Well-funded Pension

are provided through the Texas County and District Retirement System. The county's funded iis statewide, agent multi-employer plan was strong, reported at 99 percent as of the most 1, 2013 actuarial valuation date. This is largely a result of management's historical practice ts funded position with additional lump sum contributions in excess of the annual required (ARC). The county's funded position remained sound at an estimated 89 percent when itch to reflect a more conservative investment rate assumption of 7 percent.

t-employment benefits (OPEB) are largely associated with retirees' participation in the -insured health care plan and are funded on a pay-go basis. The unfunded liability for the B totaled less than 1 percent of market value. Carrying costs for debt service, pension, and totaled a moderate 14 percent of governmental spending in fiscal 2014 and they are expected main derate despite rising debt service through fiscal 2018.

Billions were spent not long ago overthrowing an elected government in Ukraine and provoking Russia. A new Cold War is a bonanza for the military industrial complex, the pro-war think tanks, and the politicians. NATO is on the move in eastern Europe, placing heavy weapons right on Russia's border and then blaming the Russians when they complain about the rising militarism. NATO military exercises on Russia's border have increased and become more confrontational.

In the Middle East, more billions have been spent attempting to overthrow the secular government of Syria over the past five years. The big winners in this grand scheme have been the Islamist extremists, who are funded directly and indirectly by the US and its allies. NATO is planning to go back into Libya, an admission that its 2011 "liberation" of that country has been a disaster.

In Asia, the US empire challenges and provokes China, sending military ships and aircraft into territory China claims in the South China Sea. How much will they continue to escalate before China gets fed up?

The more money sent to the Pentagon and other parts of the Washington war apparatus, the more danger we are in.

Meanwhile, almost all of the presidential candidates promise more military spending and more war if they are elected. Did no one tell them we are broke and making enemies fast with our interventions? Do they think Fed-created money will really continue to fuel the US empire indefinitely?

What are the prospects for a u-turn toward peace and prosperity in 2016? We must be realistic. Presently the numbers are not on our side. But the good news is we do not need a majority to succeed in our fight for peace and liberty. We need only a dedicated and uncompromising critical mass to make great headway.

What can we do to work for peace in 2016? First we must tune out the lying propaganda served up by the US mainstream media. We must educate ourselves so that we can help educate others. We can be sure to tune in and support alternative sources of news and analysis like the Ron Paul Liberty Report, LewRockwell.com, Antiwar.com, and many others. We can tell others about the wealth of truth available to those who seek and question. We must not compromise and never accept the lesser of two evils.

If the people demand peace, the politicians will follow. Let's demand peace in 2016!

### Be an informed electorate and Grand Jury

TWC's over-expanding enforcement of the Unemployment Compensation Act is in direct violation of:

#### **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.

The act of forcing any business and natural person to purchase any kind of insurance for others, who render services, constitutes "impairing obligation of contracts."

The exception is for Federal Instrumentalities engaged in statutory "employment" on the soil of Texas. See Tx. Labor Code Section 201.101 & 26 U.S.C. 3306 (c) (g) and (j)(1 & 2).

### **Rockwall County Classified Advertising**

(Continued from Page 4)

### **Legal Notices**

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT COLUMBIA COUNTY SUMMONS Real Estate Mortgage Foreclosure Case No: 15 CV 343 Honorable Alan White Case Code: 30404

Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"), a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America

PO. Box 2008

Grand Rapids, MI 49501

Plaintiff Vs.

David E. Aussicker 204 Summit Ridge Drive Rockwall, TX 75087

Tresa D. Aussicker W6109 Ridge Road Pardeeville, WI 53954

Unknown Spouse of David E. Aussicker 204 Summit Ridge Drive Rockwall, TX 75087

Unknown Spouse of Tresa D. Aussicker W6109 Ridge Road Pardeeville, WI 53954 Defendants

### THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

To the following party named as defendant herein: David E. Aussicker and the Unknown Spouse of David E. Aussicker.

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served upon you, states the nature and basis of the legal action. Within 40 days after December 24th 2015, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Court, whose address is:

Columbia County Clerk of Circuit Court 400 Dewitt Street PO Box 587

Portage, WI 53901-0587 And to James Peterman/J Peterman Legal Group Ltd., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is: J Peterman Legal Group Ltd. 165 Bishops Way, Suite 100

Brookfield, WI 53005 You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within 40 days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property. Dated this 11th day of December, 2015

James M. Peterman/J Peterman Legal Group Ltd. State Bar No. 1016476 165 Bishops Way, Suite 100 Brookfield, WI 53005 262-790-5719

J Peterman Legal Group Ltd. is the creditor's attorney and is attempting to collect a debt on its

Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

TS#: FEI # 1075.00094 12/24/15, 12/31/15, 1/07/16

### Some info available about Sabine Creek shelter, but questions rem

by Millie Jean Coppedge

In August 2014, Ed Walker, owner of the Sabine Creek Ranch in Rockwall County, offered the federal government a temporary home for 300 of the more than 2,000 illegal minors flooding in from the southern border into the United States. Weeks after an approval visit to the camp, at which time it seemed the Walker's camp passed all the federal standards, the government did not follow through in a timely manner, so Walker was forced to withdraw his offer in order to keep his commitments to groups who already had scheduled camp stays.

Walker was pastor of Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall from 1999 until 2011. The more than 250-acre Sabine Creek Ranch hosts summer day camps, a variety of other types of camps for adults and children, and retreats for various organizations.

Now once again, the camp has been selected to house individuals being called "unaccompanied minors" from Central America.

The young people, reportedly ages 12-18, are classified as an "atrisk" population of minors and are reportedly being sent to the ranch to be housed for 21 days until they can either be placed with relatives or sent back to their homeland.

In 2014, when Walker was preparing the camp for the illegal

information of the upcoming arrival of the young people.

When a call was placed on Dec. 26, however, a prerecorded message from Walker advised callers to go to the camp's website at sabinecreek.com and click on "unaccompanied minors crossing the border" for updates on the minors' arrival and stay. His message states that if the caller needs more information than the site provides to leave a message and he will get back to them as soon as possible.

As of press time, Walker had not returned the RCN's call for more information.

The website stated that attempts to answer a question most asked is how the camp will be paid.

Knowing that the approximately 200 minors would be needing clothes, food and medical care, the site states that the camp will be paid \$60 per person (assuming per day, but not stated). This will cover meals, snacks, night security personnel meals, an extra cook and kitchen crew at time-and-a-half pay, and an extra college crew called in to help.

The site also states, "Some people have heard media reports of the

minors, he gave the Rockwall County News a phone interview with millions of dollars spent on the temporary shelter and was all coming to the camp."

The BCFS Health and Human Service Emergency Division is a non-profit corporation that responds on federal, state and local governments and businesses in disaster and will be assisting in the cost of housing the

According to the information on Walker's site, the the majority of that money to pay their staff, tempor transportation and other costs unrelated to Sabine Co thankful to full occupancy during this otherwise slows paying staff, utilities, food and other expenses, this income us to repair the roof on our dining hall, which has been need with the fall rains we've experienced, and make improvements for our regular camp and retreat guests."

Inquiries to various federal agencies by the Rockwall revealed a number of discrepencies in information.

The original letter from HHS, and subsecquent rel referred to the "unaccompanied children" as "refugees"

In response to a detailed list of questions, USCIS Pu Officer Arwen Consaul (Homeland Security Department Region), insisted that the unaccompanied children are ne but are instead "asylum seekers."

She further clarified, "there have not been any asylu from these unaccompanied minors."

The HHS has not answered the RCN's inquiry into how the federal government will account for the number of De shelter, nor have they demonstrated plans to account fore and total number of people, from the point of the bord the shelter, and how they will account for and monitor release.

The original number of people going to the Rockw shelter, quoted by HHS, was aproximately 300. Later t provided to Rockwall County officials changed to approxi people. The federal agencies have not explained the sudd change, and how they accounted for the missing 100 peop

Although the federal government refers to the "unaccompanied" minors, the RCN continues to wait forex into how the minors made there way from Central Ame Texas border without being accompanied by third par inquiry includes questions designed to learn exactly who company, transported them to the Texas border, and whet them were heard speaking languages other than Spanish



The above photo taken by HHS, in the Sabine Creek Ranch facility, reveals the sheltered people are able to pass through the metal fence as shown by the person at far left who was able to squeeze through the fence to retrieve a soccer ball.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Water plan approved for North Central Texa

The Region C Water Planning Group, the group responsible for development of the long-range water plan for North Central Texas, approved the 2016 Region C Water Plan at a public meeting on Nov. 9. The final plan and Region C's prioritization of the nearly 600 recommended water management strategies were subsequently submitted to the Texas Water Development Board, which now begins the process of reviewing plans from regions across Texas and combining them into the 2017 State Water Plan, according to a RCWPG news release.

The RCWPG is one of 16 regional water-planning groups selected by the TWDB to help develop a comprehensive state water plan for Texas through 2070. Each water-planning group is responsible for preparing and adopting a regional plan for its area.

The RCWPG is made up of 22 members representing 12 different interest groups. Region C, as designated by the TWDB, covers all or part of 16 counties in North Central Texas, including Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Freestone, Grayson, Henderson (Trinity River Basin portion), Jack, Kaufman, Navarro, Parker, Tarrant, Wise and Rockwall counties.

In 1997, the Texas Legislature enacted Senate Bill 1, comprehensive water legislation that called for the development of a State Water Plan to address Texas' growing water needs. SB 1 outlined a bottom-up, regionally driven planning process and created regional water planning groups across the state. These groups began planning in 1997 and submitted their initial regional water plans, covering needs for the next 50 years, to the TWDB in 2001. The TWDB incorporated those plans into a comprehensive State Water Plan in 2002.

After two more five-year planning cycles, from 2002-2007 and 2007-2011, the RCWPG and other regional water planning groups are now completing their fourth planning cycle, which will ultimately result in the production of the 2017 State Water Plan by the TWDB.

According to the news release, water planning in North Central Texas is critical to prepare for the contingencies of the future:

 Texas is prone to severe droughts, as witnessed in the 1950s and in very recent years

• The population of Region C is projected to more than double over the next 50 years, from nearly 6.5 million in the year 2010 to over 14.3

million by 2070

· As a result, water demands in dry years will grow tremend just over 1.5 million acre-feet in 2011, to 2.9 million acre-fee

 Currently available water supplies for the region are only million acre-feet per year

 Consequently, Region C faces a potential shortage of l. acre-feet per year by 2070 if new supplies are not developed If no new supplies are developed, the TWDB calculates to year of severe drought could have significant, adverse society impacts on Region C, including:

Regional income would be reduced by \$34.6 billion

 Regional employment would be reduced by over 373,000 Regional population would be reduced by nearly 70,000 pr It is important to note that this socio-economic impact and considers a severe drought occurring in a single year. A drog years long would have an even greater impact on the region.

To meet projected, future shortfalls, Region C's 2016 W includes recommendations for a variety of water management to be implemented between now and 2070.

Of the water supplies available by 2070 under the plan:

 More than one-third would come from currently supplies (including surface water and groundwater)

 More than one-quarter would be developed from water com and reuse strategies - perhaps the most ambitious conservational effort in the entire state

 About one-fifth would be provided through the development reservoirs and run-of-river projects

 The remainder would come from establishing new come existing water supply sources

Major new reservoirs recommended in the plan are the lo d'Arc Creek Reservoir, Lake Columbia, Lake Ralph Tehuacana and development of Sulphur River Basin supplies,

including the Marvin Nichols Reservoir.

Most recently, the TWDB determined that a potential confi between the draft 2016 plans for Region C and Region D Texas), with respect to allocation of Sulphur River Basin su a result of this finding, representatives of the two groups came and jointly negotiated a resolution that was subsequently ratife planning groups. Under that agreement, Region C will for reallocating flood storage to conservation storage in the exist Wright Patman, with proposed development of the Manual Reservoir deferred until the year 2070. Region C also will be water suppliers from seeking permits for new reservoir development Region D over the next five years, and will support Region to request state funding for further study of reservoir alternation the same time, Region D has agreed not to challenge designation Marvin Nichols Reservoir's unique reservoir site over the next Regions C and D have further committed to work more coop in the next round of regional water planning, to develop 1 beneficial plan for Sulphur River Basin water use.

The total projected cost of implementing the reco water management strategies in the plan is \$23.8



A select group of Honors Band students from Williams Middle School performed Christmas carols at Liberty Heights Retirement Center on Sunday, Dec. 6. Pictured at front, from the left, are Korie Rose, Benjamin Branks, Kaitlyn Niesen, Lindy Sachse, Alexis Trail and Benjamin Vazquez. At back are Evan Rohde, Devon Alsobrook, Sean Clements, Garrett Sutherland, Bao-Andrew Nguyen, Alyssa Murphree and Lauren Rohrig. The band was under the direction of Ryan

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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