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# Rockwall County News

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Friday, July 31, 2009

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# ty of Rockwall holds Town Hall Meetings Lake Rockwall Estates development

Williams

of Rockwall held the planned Town Hall n Thursday, July 23 its preliminary sugir improvements to vall Estates and hear rom residents and the ese ideas.

rity of homeowners at the meeting exncern with the posduplexes, tri-plexes exes being allowed he neighborhood, the vandalism, road deteused by large trucks ghborhood roads and ality of drinking wa-

aCroix, Director of the City of Rockwall, e suggestions made member city council ee, which worked in h city staff. He said e was to look at what ghborhood - houses, floodplains, and a and come up with an that will improve perty and quality of

said the first thing mittee had to do was area and break it vorkable parts. Area and west of the lake ominantly single fam-It is accessible from

Tubbs Drive and Horizon Road. Area 2, accessible from County Line Road, is south and east of the lake. It is a mix of mobile homes, manufactured homes and single family homes. Area 3 is the floodplain and open space around the lake. Although there are some homes existing in the floodplain, LaCroix said future construction of homes or businesses there would not be al-

He did, however, say the area could be used for park land, walking trails, sports fields and other recreational uses. He said the city hopes that as the existing homes become available, they could be removed to allow for more open space.

As far as developing zoning for Lake Rockwall Estates, the subcommittee proposed the creation of a Planned Development District, which is allowable under the City's codes. A PDD allows the city council to permit "combines uses" in an area, with both residential and business uses.

"The Planned Development District allows the city council to make certain conditions and regulations that they may not make in a normal zoning district. And, a PDD is a little more regulated and has more conditions that make them usually tighter as to what you can and cannot do in



The next Town Hall meeting to discuss new zoning proposals and improvements to Lake Rockwall Estates will be from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 6 at the Lake Rockwall Estates Community Center, 375 Eva Place. Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

them," LaCroix said.

#### Residential vs. Business

In light of the PDD consideration, LaCroix said the consensus of the subcommittee and city council is that "Lake Rockwall Estates was intended to be a residential development - not

business or commercial. It was intended to be for homes. We have designated the area as a residential district and will zone it as such."

LaCroix said there are businesses mixed in with the homes and those may be Grandfathered ordesignated"Non-Conforming" and may apply to continue to do business in the community. The proposed PDD does not allow for non-residential land use, with an exception for "Home Occupations." Home Occupations are defined in the city code as a residence having a personal office where business is conducted out of the home without the need for any special equipment; no employees other than family members; no advertisements or signs on the residence; clients do not come to the home; no delivery trucks in and out on a daily basis, etc.

"You could have clients come in occasionally, but it has to remain like a normal home. It doesn't look like a business," he

Homes that are used for institutional purposes, such as in-home day care centers, churches and schools, would need to apply for a Special Use Permit (SUP) from the Rockwall city council.

The city would consider "Grandfathering" existing commercial businesses in the neighborhood. LaCroix said they may develop a permit or application that will identify the business as having existed at the time of annexation by the city. He said the business will then be permitted to continue to operate as long as it conducts that same type of business and doesn't change to offer a new service. He also said any existing business within LRE that shuts down for more than six months would lose the right to reopen in the neighborhood.

#### SF7 Designation

All PDDs must have a base zoning in place and the city has designated Lake Rockwall Estates to be SF7 - Single Family residential dwellings, with '7' desig-

(Continued on Page 3)

# **Rockwall County News Briefs**

#### Farmers Market open Saturday

The Farmers Market in downtown Rockwall will be open from 8 a.m. to noon, offering fresh produce, toffee, salad dressings, gourmet food mixes, roasted coffee, local honey, plants and herbs. The market will be open each Saturday through September. For details call 972-772-6400.

#### Free immunization clinic scheduled

Get recommended immunizations, including newly required shots for first- and seventh-grade students, at a free clinic set for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane, Rockwall. Children to age 18 will be served; no appointment required, but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Immunization records will be needed. For more details visit carevan.org or call 972-689-8285.

#### Conservatives, coffee meeting slated

Rockwall County Conservatives and Coffee, a grassroots group of citizens dedicated to a belief in conservative values and the betterment of the community, will meet at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Texas Roast, 2435 Ridge Road, Rockwall. Sent. Bob Deuell will be on hand to discuss local, state and national issues with conservatives of all ages. For more information call 214-793-2923.

#### Geocaching class scheduled

A class on geocaching - high-tech treasure hunting done outdoors through the use of GPS devices - will be offered at 11 a.m. on Saturday. Cost to participate will be \$5 for Rockwall residents, \$8 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740 or visit rockwall.com/parks.

#### Learn outdoor cooking in Myers Park class

An outdoor cooking class will be offered beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday. Participants will learn simple ways to prepare food from propane cooking stoves to foil dinner packs with charcoal. Cost will be \$5 for Rockwall residents, \$8 for non-residents. To pre-register call 972-771-7740 or visit rockwall.com/parks.

#### Church to introduce new pastor

The First Presbyterian Church, Rockwall, is inviting the community to meet its new pastor, Cheryl Taylor, who will preach her first sermon during the 11 a.m. Sunday service. A reception will immediately follow. The church is located near I-30 and Ridge Road at 602 White Hills Drive. Call 972-771-5702 for more details.

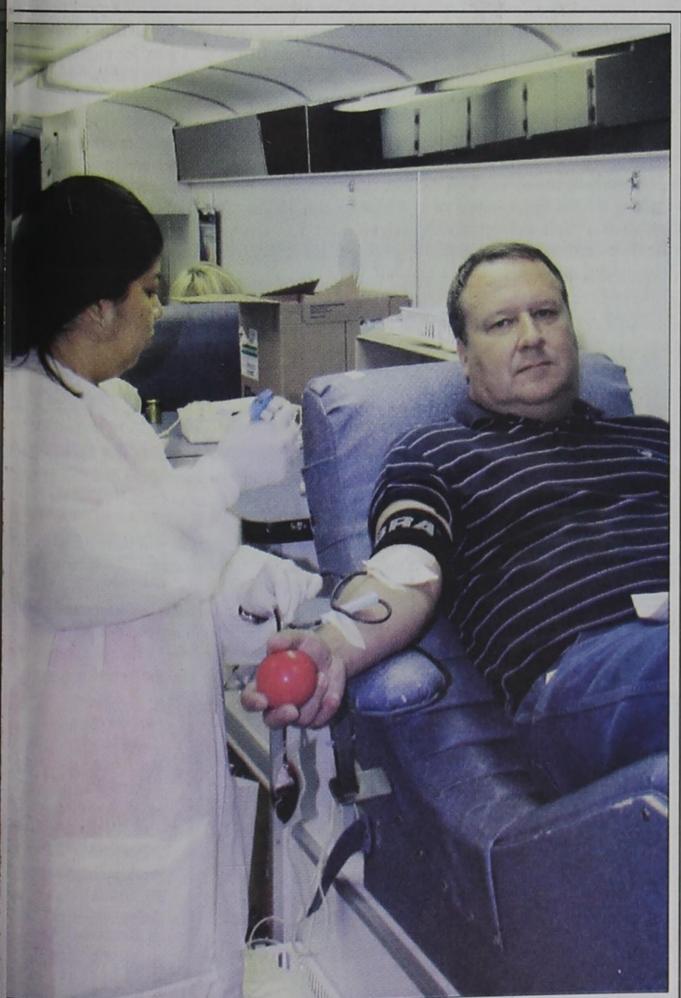
#### Deadline nears for goody bag contributions

Monday is the deadline for contributions for the goody bags to be distributed at the Aug. 14 New Teacher/Employee Breakfast to be hosted by the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce. Goody bag donations or prizes would be appreciated. Sponsorships are available. For information e-mail sharon@rockwallchamber.org.

#### Rockwall church plans SWIM

The First Christian Church, Rockwall, will host SWIM (Sensational Worship in Motion), a creative arts camp designed

**News Briefs Continued on Page 3** 



\* Blood Center phlebotomist Swuigly DeLeon takes a blood donation from Circle C Sales owner thon at the Monday, July 27, Alliance Bank of Heath blood drive benefiting their employee, thrie Thornburg, who is battling breast cancer. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in October has been undergoing treatment since then. It was recently determined she needed a blood on and may need another in the future. Anyone not able to make Monday's blood drive can te blood for Thornburg through the Carter Blood Care Life Plan Program by giving her patient SPONO48246. Response to the call for donations from Chamber of Commerce members and the ty was so great, Carter Blood Center sent not one, but two donation buses to the bank parking dle the work load. The blood drive was sponsored by Alliance Bank.

Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News ckwall County News ... It's All About Rockwall County, Now Twice Weekly **Marriage Dissolution Services** 

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# City of Heath DPS Sergeant Johnny Solis retires after 21 year

Contributed by The City of Heath

Johnny Solis had many career choices as a young man, but a desire to serve others led him to the City of Heath.

"I was going to college and running my own landscape company when I enrolled in the police academy in 1988," he said. "I kept up with my college and my business activities, but when I was offered one of the first full-time officer positions available in the City of Heath, the decision was easy."

Solis left college in his senior year to accept the job offer in Heath and served the growing community for the next 21

"My career in Heath has been wonderful," says Solis, who officially retired as a sergeant from the City on June 30. "It has been exciting to see the community go from fields where cotton grew to a town with streets, schools and parks. A lot of progress has been made, and there's going to be so much more in the next 10 years."

**Anniversary CELEBRATION** 

SHOP

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"We have been very fortunate emergency medical services. to have an officer of Johnny's caliber serving our community for over two decades," said Heath Mayor John Ratcliffe as the City Council honored Solis during a saving scores of lives and properties, he has been an integral part of the Department of Public or property. Safety's development."

"Johnny started his career in Heath while the department was still in its formative stages. He was a leader who made many contributions and earned numerous commendations," said Terry Garrett, chief and director of the Heath Department of Public Safety. "Johnny always took his service to the community seriously, and he was always striving to find the best solution to a problem."

Different structure than traditional Police and Fire Departments, Heath's Department of Public Safety combines fire rescue, police and

That change was made in 2000, and Solis was the first officer to become triple certified in all three disciplines. That meant when he arrived as a first responder to a recent council meeting. "While call for help, Solis was able to immediately begin doing whatever was required to save a life

> While Solis took his responsibilities to the community very seriously, he could always be counted on to lighten the mood when needed. Promoted to sergeant in 1991 and serving as interim Chief three times dur

ing his tenure, Solis will best be remembered by colleagues and residents for his jovial nature and amusing stories.

"Johnny's sense of humor was always a welcome part of what can be a difficult job," said Chief Garrett. "Nick-named 'Mr. Heath' by a former chief, he was a well-liked officer among his peers and a recognized personality in the community. Residents would often ask for him specifically when they needed assistance."

And that's what Solis will miss the most in his retirement. "It was very rewarding to get to

know and become so many people," I people of Heath r wonderful."

Raised in Row Rockwall resident Solis is now pursuin ness venture. He w more time for family cluding his sons' ba and his daughte CUTLINE:

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The City of H Heath Departmen Safety Sergeant Joh 21 years of service munity. Sergeant Sch retired June 30, 200



# Free, reduced-cost immunizati

families prepare for the upcoming school year.

Free immunizations will be offered for children through the age of 18 on Aug. 1 at the Methodist Church of Rockwall, 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. Provided by the Blue Cross and of Texas care van, vaccines will be made available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for eligible child accompanied by a parent or guardian. Parents should bring their children's immunization more details on this event, visit carevan.org.

Ct., in Rockwall from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 13 to offer free immunizations. Eligi s through the age of 18 will be served. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian tion records will be needed. Visit the Web site listed above for more information.

On Aug. 19, the Texas Department of State Health Services Region 2/3 Field Office will ( nizations at a clinic at Utley Middle School, 1201 T.L. Townsend Drive, in Rockwall. Par bring their children's immunization records and any letters from school outlining immunization Children must be accompanied by an adult.

## Physicals, shots offered by Helping Han

The Health Center of Helping Hands is offering \$25 school and sports physicals for all child

Vaccinations are also available at the center for children who are uninsured, on Medica families cannot afford insurance co-pays. Restrictions on shot recipients are dictated by fed tions tied to the Vaccine for Children Program that supplies the Health Center's vaccines.

Parents should take note that each student entering the seventh grade will be required to have gococcal vaccine and a second dose of chickenpox vaccine if these immunizations have not a

Also, if it's been more than five years since a seventh-grade student has had a tetanus booste tetanus/diptheria/pertussis vaccine is required. Previous boosters did not include pertussis. Kindergarteners will need two doses of hepatitis A and a second dose of the chickenpox va with all previous requirements. Children who have not previously had the hepatitis A vaccir

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offered at several locations

A series of free or reduced-cost immunization clinics have been scheduled for next month

The BC/BS of Texas care van will be at the Amanda Rochell Elementary School cafeteria,

Immunization fees for this clinic will be based on a sliding scale; Medicaid will be accepted The clinic at Utley will run from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

less of insurance or financial status.

Shots range in cost from \$14.85 for one to \$35 for five or more.

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The Health Center i the Reeves Service S. First St., Suite B, level. A sliding scale able for those who qu For more informa make an appointmen 772-8194.



FAX 972-722 email: rcn.news@yl web site: www.rockwallcountyr 107 E. Bourn Av P.O. Box 81

Rockwall, Texas

Splash Day Parks & Rec host its annual Day event from

2-6400

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#### FUMC Heath to host Bible school

United Methodist Church of Heath will host its vacation ol from 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 3-7. Sign-up sheets are availchurch office or at the church Web site: fumcheath.org, in costs \$15 per child or \$35 for three or more in the same polarships are available. For details call 972-771-6732.

#### VBS event set at Lavon FBC

Baptist Church of Lavon, 210 Main St., will host a vacaschool from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Aug. 3-7. Theme for the ch will be open to children ages three through sixth grade 1), will be Boomerang Express: It All Comes Back to Jeregister, visit fbclavon.org through Sunday; registration npleted at the door on the first evening. Call 972-843-3788 iformation.

#### Secret Agent Camp set

ned science activities will be offered in a Secret Agent youths ages 9-12. The event will run from 9 a.m. to noon 7 in the Rockwall ISD Education Center Gym. Cost will or Rockwall residents, \$210 for non-residents. For more it rockwall.com/parks.

#### Republican Lunch Bunch event slated

kwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 esday at Luigi's Italian Café, Rockwall. Cost will be \$10. lunch, beverage, tax and tip; pay at the door. No reservared for this informal social gathering of area Republicans. call Dalton Kennimer, 972-636-4034.

#### City to host neighborhood meeting

of Rockwall will host a meeting at the Lakepointe Church y Center, 375 Eva St. in the Lake Rockwall Estates, to residents and answer questions concerning the upcoming zoning for the neighborhood. Other development issues scussed. The meeting will run from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more details call 972-771-7700.

#### Jeanne Lay & Fat Tuesday to perform

ay & Fat Tuesday will perform at the free City of Rockwall the Lake Series event beginning at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at r Amphitheater, 2047 Summer Lee Drive. For details visit om/parks.

#### RHHS cheerleaders offer camp

kwall-Heath High School cheerleaders will offer a general p for youth ages 5 to 13 from 9 a.m. to noon on Aug. 7 at ist will be \$25 (cash or check); T-shirts will be available at i10. For more information contact Krissy Edwards, cheer hair, at 214-577-8623.

#### Health Fair set in Royse City

fair will be conducted in Royse City from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the City Hall, 305 N. Arch St. The free event will include ormational booths, food vendors, health screenings, speakasses. Carter BloodCare also will be on site for a blood more details e-mail robertr.montgomery@tenethealth.

#### Mental illness support groups to meet

e NAMI support groups - one for individuals with mental Room 121 and one for their family members in Room 123, g - will take place from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 8 at the ed Methodist Church, 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane in Rockdetails call Hal or Dee Whitfield, 972-412-6030.

#### Church to host program on finances

Crisis to Confidence: Seeking God's Guidance in Uncertain Times," an overview of the current investment climate and le can depend on God's faithfulness, will be led by George n American National Bank vice president and financial he event, hosted by First Christian Church, Rockwall, will d open to the public beginning at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 11 at the 375 Ridge Road. For more details call 972-771-5526.

#### ree Kindermusik preview class offered

kwall School of Music will offer a free Kindermusik pre-

for families with preed children beginning Aug. 12. Kindermusik al education music edlass for pre-schoolers. imited. To register call 874 or visit rockwall-

#### Lunch Bunch set Aug. 14

Out-to-Lunch Bunch at 10 a.m. Aug. 14 at ace. Cost will be \$7 wall residents, \$11 for ents. For more details, wall.com/parks.

#### Jays of Summer event set

Days of Summer event g. 15 on the south side irthouse on the downare from 8 a.m. until contests will include ume, Best Doggy Trick Smooch. Registration 8 a.m., contests at 8:30 will be \$5 per dog. the event, which will od vendors, prizes and Friends of Downtown. details call Bethany 372-772-6400.

#### gie Splash Day slated

ockwall Parks & Rec ent will host its annual plash Day event from

Weldon Collier, his sister Guyrene Randles and

niece Carolyn Bryan

## **Town Hall Meetings**

(Continued from Page 1)

designating the new minimum lot size of 7,000 square feet.

"The city recognizes that some lots may have been combined to make bigger lots, some may have been sold and some mobile home sites are odd sizes," LaCroix said. "The most equitable way to allow for lots that aren't the correct size is to have a minimum lot size of 5,000 square feet. It's less than the 7,000 square feet but it will avoid creating a Non-Conformity on a house or trailer on the lot."

The minimum suggested house size, which conforms with existing city regulations, would be 1,100 square feet. "We are going to maintain that same regulation at Lake Rockwall Estates of 1,100 square feet. There may be some houses out there already that are smaller and we will Grandfather those. It doesn't mean you have to change your home. For a replacement mobile home or manufactured home, that will be the standard you will want to use," LaCroix said.

Lot sizes will be standardized as much as possible, with a minimum lot depth of 100 feet, a minimum width of 50 feet, setback in front of 20 feet from the street right-of-way and a 10 foot rear setback. LaCroix said property owners will not have to change their lot size if it does not meet these specifications unless they choose to make changes or improvements to the lot or purchase a new lot.

The maximum height of a structure's roof pitch as measured from the center point will be 32 feet. Coverage of a building will be the same as is required throughout the city – any structure more than 120 square feet and 10 feet in height must be 80% masonry, which can include brick or stone, or Hardy Plank.

LaCroix said the subcommittee and city council recognize that the neighborhood comes with special circumstances and residents will need a way to go to the council "to be able to ask for things that are not normal to the rest of the city. We have existing homes that are too close to the lot lines, lots that are cut in strange configurations, a home that may sit over a lot line or the setback is off."

The subcommittee is working out a way for residents of Lake Rockwall Estates to go to the Planning and Zoning Commission and city council to ask for exceptions to rules if they are a hardship on the resident or the property. "If it's built wrong and you can't fix it, you will have to prove to the city council it's a hardship and ask for an exemption to the rules," he said.

#### **Rental Property**

In Area 2, some duplexes and tri-plexes already exist and LaCroix said the subcommittee suggested it may be advantageous to allow more of the homes, including even four-plexes, to be built. "This is only a recommendation. It hasn't been approved by Planning and Zoning or the city council. It was just a recommendation that we looked at it," he said.

Area 2, which has about 600 lots, could also accommodate townhomes and zero lot-line homes. LaCroix said the subcommittee recommended limiting the multi-unit dwellings to 250 units. A duplex would count as two units, a tri-plex would count as three, etc. and the larger square footage of the homes would require bigger lots. "Anyone building these types of units must get a Special Use Permit (SUP) from the city council to build. It would be a zoning request and they will send letters to neighbors surrounding the lot and public hearings will be held before they could be built."

Lake Rockwall Estates resident Cindy Ellis said allowing duplexes and tri-plexes would bring more people into the area than single family homes and "crowd it up." She also said she is concerned with the "character of people" who would rent the units. Ellis said her home has been vandalized and broken into several times and is concerned rental units would attract more crime to the area.

#### **Mobile Homes**

LaCroix said the replacement of older mobile homes within the neighborhood would have to meet certain criteria to allow for a new one to take its place. The city council currently does not allow for the replacement of mobile homes, but the subcommittee is proposing a one time replacement with the following conditions: The replacement home, whether new or pre-owned, must be habitable and HUDcoded for after 1976. In other words, it cannot be more than 33 years old and must meet updated post-1976 industry coding standards; it must be permanently attached to a concrete foundation, the roof pitch

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 15 at Myers Park Pool. Cost will be \$5 per dog; swimming pet owners will swim free of charge. All dogs must have proof of rabies vaccinations to be eligible to participate.

#### Cain plans barbecue event

A barbecue is planned at Cain Middle School from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 17 in the school cafeteria. Incoming seventh- and eighth-grade students are invited to attend to enjoy food, fun and games in celebration of the new school year. The new Cain principal, Jason Johnston, and other new teachers and employees will be on hand to meet the students. For more details call 972-772-1170.

#### Rockwall County News Friday, July 31, 2009 Page 3

should be 3 and 12 inches; a minimum of 90 percent of the exterior materials, including the skirting, must be Hardy Plank or lath siding. If the resident wants to use masonry siding, such as brick or stone, it must comply with the city's current code of 80 percent masonry coverage and the one-time replacement home must be newer than the home removed and must at least be as large and meet the proposed minimum home size of 1,100 square feet.

#### Sex Offender Monitoring

During the public hearing portion of the meeting, Lake Rockwall Estates resident Leslie Price asked if sex offenders in the neighborhood would be monitored by the police department. She said there are at least 15 sex offenders that she knows of in the neighborhood.

Assistant Police Chief Kirk Riggs said once Lake Rockwall Estates was annexed by the city in February 2009, all registered sex offenders in the neighborhood fell under the city's rules. He said a police officer is assigned to monitor those individuals and has visited with them since the annexation to inform them of the changes in their status. He said the officer continues to check up on those individuals, but "hopefully they will get tired of us and move on."

#### Vandalism and Curfews

Lake Rockwall Estates resident Joseph Hayes also commented on the increase in vandalism and said he would like to see stricter curfews for young people. Assistant Chief Riggs said since the annexation, curfews within Lake Rockwall Estates have been more strictly enforced. "Curfew calls have gone up considerably in Lake Rockwall Estates. Loud music calls have increased, too. If you need us, call us. It will take some time for everyone to make the changes, but give us a call."

Riggs said, "Vandalism isn't unique to Lake Rockwall Estates. We need neighbors to work together and call the police for help. The police have the knowledge and skills to help you, especially with our Crime Watch program.'

The City of Rockwall teen curfew restricts young people age 17 and under from being out without an adult between the hours of 11:01 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between 12:01 a.m. and 6 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. From June 1 to August 15, the time changes to 12:01 a.m. seven days a week. LaCroix said the curfew excuses any teens driving home from a job after the set hours.

#### **Next Town Hall Meeting**

The city has scheduled two additions meetings at the Lake Pointe Church Community Center in Lake Rockwall Estates, located at 375 Eva Place, to meet with residents and answer questions about proposed zoning for the neighborhood and to discuss other development

The second meeting was held on Thursday, July 30, and the third will be from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 6.





# **Could Someone You Know** Benefit from Assisted Living? We offer:

- · A caring 24 Hour Staff Assisting with Medications, Dressing, Bathing & More
- · Opportunities to Socialize with Others
- · Home Health Services
- · Our Pharmacy delivers meds daily
- · Wellness and Safety Checks
- · Transportation to Dr. Appointments
- · Large Selection of Apartment Sizes to Fit your Budget
- Chef Prepared Meals with Selections
- A Chance to Maintain Individuality and Independence
- Knowing That We Are Here to be of Service

Your pet can live with you!

## Summer Ridge Assisted Living and **Retirement Community**

License #030301 3020 Ridge Road Rockwall, Texas 75032 972.771.2800



# Rockwall Library planning week of celebration for first annivers

The Rockwall County Library is planning to celebrate its one-year anniversary in September with a week of fun activities for families. The celebration will take place Tuesday, September 8 through Saturday, September 12, 2009.

Children ages two through 12 can register that week for a chance to win a cuddly Facthound stuffed dog, along with a bag of books. The drawing will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12. You need not be present to win.

While the library will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7, for Labor Day, the rest of the week will be jammed packed with activities, shows and surprises to celebrate the library's first birthday in its beautiful new home.

The activities planned so far are:

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 11 a.m.: Our dear friend and popular puppeteer Sandy Shrout is back—this time with the story of "How the Dragon Got His Fire." For good listeners ages four and up.

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 11 a.m.: The Creature Teacher brings live animals for show-and-tell. For good listeners ages three and up.

Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m.: Stories with Head Children's Librarian Doreen Miller about libraries, followed by a scavenger hunt. Chil-

dren under the age of seven will need adult assistance w enger hunt.

this memorable event.

Friday, Sept. 11, 11 a.m.: Massai Maggie will be her "Wild about Reading." This 45-minute show of stori and surprises is fun for good listeners ages three and up Saturday, Sept. 12, 2 p.m.: Local storyteller Leslie Bu lightful story of the pleasures of summer, friends, and I After the story, join us as we say good-bye to summer

treat. The library staff invites patrons to bring the who

## Church assists in teac ESL, literacy classes

First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall has completed goals to teach Enlgish as a Second Language and advarclasses to individuals from four different countries.

This achievement is just one of many community s ects the church has been involved with over the years. previous minister, the Rev. Robert Reeves, helped cre Hands. The church's new minister, the Rev. Cheryl Ta dedicated to connecting the community through service vidual members and the church body has a whole have numerous outreach efforts.

With financial assistance from a Title III grant through t Independent School District; tutor and evaluator training Rockwall County Library; and assistance from the Grace FPC has entered a collaborative effort that has achieve nary results, according to a news release from the chi with the RISD, the library, Lake Pointe Church at Lak Community Center, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Chi First Methodist Church of Rockwall, FPC has contrib impact the community by contributing to the knowledg dents enrolled in the program.

Each month ESL network coordinators from various s exchange ideas and support and map out plans to presen in to more than 700 participants.

Classes vary in the days and hours offered, and the couis tailored to make the most of each student's learning Child care is available in the classes provided by the RI

On Aug. 29, individuals interested in participating in lated classes offered in the 2009-2010 school year can v Elementary from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for registration and Child care will be available for registrants.

## Emergency farm loan apps now being accept

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caus ing temperatures are being accepted at the Farm Service fice in Waxahachie, according to a news release issued t

Rockwall County is one of 265 Texas counties recent Secretary Tom Vislack as eligible for loans to cover part losses resulting from freezing temperatures.

Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent tual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain private commercial lenders, the interest rate will be 3.75

A farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss tion to be eligible for an emergency loan, according to FS Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance Proconsider proceeds from those programs in determining t Applications will be accepted through March 15, 2010

farmers should apply as soon as possible. The FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recog ers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who citizenship requirements and to farming partnerships, c or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements individuals holding a majority interest.

The FSA office is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. week For more details, visit disaster.fsa.usda.gov.

# Duke to address Gi Support Group

The Grief Support Group offered through Lake Poin Rockwall will host author Susan Duke at its Aug. 13 mee

Duke is a wife, mother, best-selling author, motivation and singer who has been involved in the writing of 15 bod ing hew most recent release, "Grieving Forward, Embi Beyond Loss." Her writing also has appeared in numeral cations, including Home Life, The Greenville Herald B Cross and Quill, Lifestream and two magazines, Country and Flowers are Forever.

She also is the founder of Grieving Forward outreach a

Duke uses humor, sensitivity, transparency and Biblic her messages to deliver her testimony of God's restorati ing tragedy.

The meeting will run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the

For more details contact the Lake Pointe Counseling C 698-2250 or visit lakepointe.org.

## Contestants needed Mrs. Rockwall Coul

Married individuals between the ages of 21 and 56 are apply for the title of 2010 Mrs. Rockwall County, who wil the area at the Mrs. Texas International Pageant in San

The woman selected to serve will be the ambassadol Rockwall County area, receiving an official title and sash Contestants will compete in personal interview, fitness evening gown. There are no talent or swimsuit competition

No prior pageant experience is required. The winner of the Mrs. Texas title will receive a priz valued at more than \$15,000, as well as the opportunity by at the 2010 Mrs. International Pageant in Chicago.

For an application, write Mrs. Texas International Pages Brookhollow, Suite 197, San Antonio, TX 78232; call 0589; e-mail Kristin@TexasInternationalPageants.com mrstexasinternational.com.

Form 50-211

(Rev. 05-06/8)

#### 2009 Property Tax Rates in Rockwall County

This notice concerns 2009 property tax rates for County of Rockwall, Texas. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

#### Last year's tax rate:

#### M&O and I&S Funds

| Last year's operating taxes | \$               | 19,953,072     |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Last year's debt taxes      | \$               | 4,505,717      |
| Last year's total taxes     | \$               | 24,458,789     |
| Last year's tax base        | \$ 6,189,736,924 |                |
| Last year's total tax rate  | \$ (             | 0.3750 / \$100 |

#### This year's effective tax rate:

| Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)              | \$   | 22,858,229    |
|--|------|---------------|
| Divided by this year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) | \$ 6 | 5,015,371,962 |
| = This year's effective tax rate   | \$ 0 | .3799 / \$100 |
| Total effective tax rate   | \$ 0 | .3799 / \$100 |

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)

#### This year's rollback tax rate:

| Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) | \$   | 18,352,301     |
|--|------|----------------|
| Divided by this year's adjusted tax base   | \$ 6 | ,015,371,962   |
| = This year's effective tax rate   | \$ ( | 0.3050 / \$100 |
| x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate  | \$ ( | 0.3294 / \$100 |
| + This year's debt rate  | \$ ( | 0.0781 / \$100 |
| = This year's rollback rate  | \$ ( | 0.4075 / \$100 |
| This year's total rollback rate  | \$ 0 | 0.4075 / \$100 |

#### Statement of Increase/Decrease

If County of Rockwall adopts a 2009 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$ 0.3799 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2008 taxes by \$ 734,837

#### Schedule A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

> Type of Property Tax Fund Maintenance & Operations (M&O)

Balance \$18,290,000

1,109,000

#### Debt Service (I&S)

Schedule B – 2009 Debt Service The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

| Description of Debt                               | Principal Payment | Interest Payment | Admin Fees | <b>Total Payments</b> |
|---|-------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| \$ 4,500,000 Law Enforcement CO 1998              | 240,000.00        | 118,802.50       | 1,000.00   | 359,802.50            |
| \$ 3,900,000 Land & Improvements PIB 2001         | 175,000.00        | 136,757.50       | 1,000.00   | 312,757.50            |
| \$ 850,000 Capital Projects LTN 2003              | 155,000.00        | 2,208.75         | 1,000.00   | 158,208.75            |
| \$ 950,000 Capital Projects LTN 2004              | 170,000.00        | 9,126.00         | 1,000.00   | 180,126.00            |
| \$ 550,000 Capital Projects LTN 2005              | 95,000.00         | 9,721.25         | 1,000.00   | 105,721.25            |
| \$11,500,000 County Library PIB 2007              | 400,000.00        | 472,605.00       | 1,000.00   | 873,605.00            |
| \$ 1,250,000 Land & Capital Projects LTN 2007     | 170,000.00        | 32,965.00        | 1,000.00   | 203,965.00            |
| \$30,000,000 Justice Center LTN Series 2008       | 845,000.00        | 147,500.00       | 1,000.00   | 993,500.00            |
| \$ 2,000,000 Whitmore Building LTN Series 2008A   | 260,000.00        | 65,644.50        | 1,000.00   | 326,644.50            |
| \$24,705,000 Courts Building LTN Refunding Bond   | 455,000.00        | 1,211,182.30     | 1,000.00   | 1,667,182.30          |
| \$10,620,000 Road Improvements UnlimitedTax Bonds | 185,000.00        | 539,097.92       | 1,000.00   | 725,097.92            |

| Total required for 2009 d                        | lebt service                 | \$<br>5,906,610.72 |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------|
| - Amount (if any) paid fro                       | m funds listed in Schedule A | \$<br>1,000,000.00 |
| - Amount (if any) paid fro                       | m other resources            | \$<br>0.00         |
| <ul> <li>Excess collections last year</li> </ul> | ear                          | \$<br>0.00         |
| = Total to be paid from tax                      | es in 2009                   | \$<br>4,906,610.72 |
| Amount added in anticip                          | ation that the unit will     |                    |
| + collect only 100.0% of its                     | s taxes in 2009              | \$<br>0.00         |
| = Total Debt Levy                                |                              | \$<br>4.906,610.72 |

#### Schedule D - State Criminal Justice Mandate (For Counties)

The County of Rockwall County Auditor certifies that Rockwall County has spent \$ 0.00 in the previous 12 months beginning January 1st, 2008 for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Rockwall County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

#### Schedule F - Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures

The County of Rockwall spent \$ 303,945.47 from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of decrease from last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$ 9,594.78.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 841 Justin Road, Rockwall, TX 75087.

Name of person preparing the data supporting this notice: Ray E. Helm.

Title: Chief Appraiser.

Date supporting data prepared July 27, 2009.

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# Rockwall County tters to the Editor

surage the submission of Letters to the Editor. The of letters is at the sole discretion of the editor and dited for brevity, grammar and accuracy. Letters considered libelous or an attack of an individual's will be rejected, as well as those promoting candidates. Letters must be signed and include number or address for verification.

#### Taking issue with Sen. Hutchison

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ointe Counseling

atives from across the D-FW Metroplex converged at the ce of Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. Approximately 300 citid to protest the socialization of healthcare and to oppose d-trade fuel tax. Handmade posters of every sort expressed ition. A continuous stream of supportive motorists honked waved to signal their agreement.

ew friend from Euless, arrived early to be told by Sen. 's office manager that she would accept only one visitor in reality, we collectively and separately chose this site for t, hoping for media coverage due to the senator's tentative iseat Gov. Rick Perry. We all knew Sen. Hutchison's posise two critical issues - unfortunately, she is apparently out ith her constituency.

ding manager called Dallas PD who quickly swarmed the stantial numbers to herd us like cattle away from the office the adjoining shopping center to the south. The building became very unhappy when I photographed her as we deproperty. "Why are you doing this?" she yelled.

explain our confusion over the hostile reception. We were te people who share organic common sense with respect to dering of our national treasury, the socialization of healththe one-sided so-called Cap-and-Trade fuel tax that will nanner of industry offshore to China, India and other nawill not participate in restriction of carbon emissions.

ear-old granddaughter Kristen worked the night before to veral protest posters for us to use and for sharing with othationed herself alongside the roadway under a very hot sun ipated in the democratic process. When I suggested she runder nearby shade, she refused its comfort and remained I sense a new generation of Esther, Josiah, Joash and Da-Praise the Lord.

tations with ACORN or other leftist organizations would 1 acceptable, even uneventful, reactions. As a whole, we rised by a triple whammy of hostility by the senator's ofed in participating is uilding manager and the Dallas Police Department.

with a senior Dallas police officer, asking why we were bedaway from the office building. He replied that "these are we put in place when (Cindy) Shahan was here." Perhaps las Police Department we were nothing more than a bunch

You know, I liked the America I grew up in better than what our country is becoming.

John N. White TEA Party Organizer, Rockwall

#### Royse City litter is a city problem

Recently, while I was reviewing various discussion threads on topix.com, something caught my eye. I noticed that the Royse City mayor, Jerrell Baley, posted comments pertaining to the handling of litter in Royse City. In that particular thread Mayor Bailey indicated that litter was not a government problem.

Our mayor may need to reorient himself with the Royse City code because litter is indeed a city problem and we have proactive measures in place that allow the city to enforce litter violators.

Additionally, could the littered landscape contribute to the lack of progress in retail, commercial and grocery stores? I am sure this is not the only factor, but it certainly would not entice one to invest

Enforcing our litter ordinance is quite simple, e.g., if a property owner has litter along their fence line, it is the owner's responsibility to abate it or the city can issue a notice of violation. If the local business, i.e., gas station fails to maintain their property from litter the city can take action to get it abated as well.

I have read numerous comment threads on topix.com from our mayor where he routinely criticizes citizens for bringing issues forward. For example, our mayor recently wrote he authorizes any Royse City citizen to drive the city and pick up trash that is located on private property. Well, the majority of us do our share for the benefit of the city; however, that is an inappropriate response to taxpayer concerns.

Many of us do not appreciate Mayor Bailey's approach to addressing public concerns. I am sure the person on the receiving end did not appreciate that type of response either.

Many of us are not satisfied with this type of response from a new administration. Our mayor is not fulfilling the role of a public official. Next time our mayor should obtain the necessary information from the concerned citizen, and, pass it along to the appropriate city staff. In dealing with litter it would easily be referred to a code inspector to investigate. The mayor should have tried to obtain as much information as possible instead of belittling a resident that cares who took the time to write.

f we can not get city to address something as simple as litter on private property then how will ever get them to address the properties in this city that are not up to code. For example, substandard structures, peeling paint, fences that are falling down, junk all over their property, high weeds and the list goes on.

Our mayor's response is for us to go around and clean up someone

Well, that's not what our mayor campaigned for during his campaign speech that many of us attended.

I close in saying that Royse City mayor should enroll himself in some basic 101 municipal customer service training and immerse

#### Rockwall County News Friday, July 31, 2009 Page 5

himself in it. Ray R. Irvine

Starlight Ranch Community, Royse City

#### Kiwanis Convention chooses Hilton Bella Harbor

Rockwall is well known as a friendly and helpful town. Aug. 6-9 it will host 1,000 visitors also known for their friendliness and helpfulness - Kiwanians. Those are the dates of the 2009 Texas Oklahoma Kiwanis Convention, headquartered at the Hilton Bella Harbor.

With this convention coming to town, it has led many to ask 'Just what is Kiwanis?'

To answer that question, look no further than the local Rockwall County Kiwanis. Chartered in 1998, the club currently has 50 members. These men and women come from a variety of backgrounds and professions, but one thing they all share in common is a heart for service. Their love for service is combined with wide ranging talents and good old fashioned hard work in performing service projects throughout the community.

Serving children is the primary mission for all of the Kiwanis Clubs, as exemplified by the projects performed by the Rockwall Chapter. Their roster of annual projects includes the Terrific Kids school recognition program, organizing the Rockwall Christmas Parade, mentoring a high school Key Club and operating both a fall and spring session of the Angel League. The Angel League is an organized baseball league for special needs children and young adults.

Not all of the projects involve children. Kiwanis also serve other members of the community. Recently the club has partnered with Texas Ramps to build wheelchair ramps for needy homes that require handicapped access. They have also been involved with support of other organizations like Helping Hands and Meals on Wheels.

Club members stay organized through weekly lunch meetings, held each Tuesday at noon. At these meetings, members stay up to speed on club activities and stay connected to the community by inviting speakers to address events, activities and needs in the community.

The local club is one of over 400 Kiwanis clubs throughout Texas and Oklahoma and 8,600 Kiwanis clubs around the world. With a combined total membership of over 600,000, you can find Kiwanians or Kiwanis projects in virtually every part of the world.

In this part of the world, you'll find them all over Rockwall on Aug. 6-9. When you bump into one, give them a warm Rockwall welcome and ask them about their Kiwanis experience. If you like what you hear and want to find out more about joining Rockwall's local club, visit www.rockwallkiwanis.org or call the club hotline at 972-722-6001.

Neil Turner

Rockwall County Kiwanis Publicity Chair

Just Say You Saw It In "The County News"

# **Rockwall County Health Matters**



#### Do you know someone who?

- Spends a great deal of time alone at home without much interaction with others?
- Forgets to take medications or get prescriptions filled?
- Has a hard time bathing and
  - getting dressed some days? Needs assistance with a loved one because you live
- in a different city? Needs help with the daily

activities of living?

Our Home Support Services can help provide the assistance you need. Call today for a no-obligation, in-home assessment.

1-877-MY NURSE (1-877-696-8773)

www.athomehealth.org

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#### T IS A DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE?

pathic Medicine is concerned with the prevention, diagnosis lment of human illness, disease and injury. The Doctor of thy, D.O., is a fully trained physician who prescribes drugs, surgery, and selectively utilizes all accepted scientific ies to maintain and restore health. Doctors of Osteopathic e practice a "whole person" approach to medicine. Instead of ting specific symptoms, osteopathic physicians concentrate ng you as a whole. The whole person concept makes D.O.'s ly skilled at preventing health problems from affecting other the body. This same approach is useful in recommending and changes in diet to help maintain overall health.

TIS A PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT?

American Academy of Physician Assistants defines a

Physician Assistants, PA, as a health care professional who is licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision. As part of their comprehensive responsibilities, PAs provide patients with services ranging from primary care medicine to specialized surgical care. PAs are often the first health care provider to examine patients. They perform a variety of tasks including collecting patient histories, performing physical examinations and ordering preliminary laboratory tests.

Working with the physician, the PA summarizes the information gathered and participates in formulating and executing a treatment plan to meet the patient's needs. Under physician supervision, the PA makes assessments and provides therapy for basic health-related problems. Also the PA can evaluate the psychological aspect of a patient's problems. With physician approval, the PA makes referrals when indicated. The PA can perform technical skills such as EKGs venipuncture, minor suturing, and giving injections.

WHAT IS A FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER? A Family Nurse Practitioner, FNP, has a Master's Degree in Nursing and is a registered nurse who has an advanced education and the clinical training necessary for the delivery of primary medical care The FNP can perform physicals, treat acute and chronic conditions order and interpret diagnostic tests, make referrals to other health care providers and prescribe medications and treatments. The FNF really cares about you as an individual, your health, your family and the community where you live. The FNP can perform technical skills such as EKGs, venipuncture, minor suturing, and giving injections.



Presbyterian Hospital of Rockwall

50 Horizon Road ckwall Texas 75032

469-698-1000 www.phrtexas.com

Our full service acute care hospital offers advanced medical technology and comprehensive services focused on quality patient care and service, close to home.

## **Hospital Services**

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Pain Management Physical & Occupational Therapy **Pulmonary Function Testing Spine Surgery** 

Weight Loss Surgery Women's Imaging Center

#### On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett For archives of On God's Word visit

What happened while Jesus was in the grave

Soon after our Lord Jesus died, a man named Joseph petitioned Pilate for his body. Joseph was a legal counselor and member of the Sanhedrin from the city of Arimathaea (Luke 23:50-51). He was noted to be a "good and just man" who did not vote with the others to condemn Jesus. We also learn from the above scripture that he waited on the kingdom of God.

From Mark's record we learn that Pilate wondered if Jesus were already dead. He sent a centurion to check on Jesus' status. God must have a special reason for including this information. It does seem to show that Pilate may have been surprised to hear of Jesus' death.

Later, Nicodemus joined Joseph in the task of burying Jesus' body. He carried a rolled up mixture of myrrh and aloes that weighed about one hundred pounds. He was the same man who came to Jesus during the late night hours with questions. Please note that both Joseph and Nicodemus followed Jesus secretly out of fear of the Jews, but boldly secured Jesus' body and buried it without fear. The amazing events that occurred during and after Jesus' death no doubt built up their hearts to the point that they no longer feared the Jewish leadership.

They wrapped Jesus' body in expensive fine linen along with the mixture of spices supplied by Nicodemus, and buried him in a grave that was near the place of his crucifixion (John 9:39-41).

While the two men took care of Jesus' body, two women watched closely from near-by to see how it was done. We don't know if the women watched in secret, but they apparently noticed that the men missed some important details. We know this because they later returned to finish the job. It is possible that the men intentionally left out some things because they expected Jesus to be resurrected from the dead.

According to Matthew 27:62-66, the chief priests and Pharisees assembled to make a request to Pilate. They told him that Jesus said he would be raised from the dead after three days and three nights, and asked him to post guards to secure the grave so that his disciples would not steal his body and deceitfully declare his resurrection. Pilate gave them the authority to secure it as best as they could, using Roman soldiers.

They went to such great lengths to secure the tomb. Yet we will learn later that after his resurrection, they paid the guards to say the body was stolen. This must have been very important because they would have known that posting soldiers at the tomb amounted to an official action that would go on the record. The soldiers' reports would have included the events surrounding the resurrection of Jesus. The fact that the soldiers had to be paid money to lie about what happened reveals that they might have known Jesus was alive

The chief priests and Pharisees reacted to the resurrection of Jesus with rebellious hearts toward God. In contrast, we can praise and glorify God for His power and love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior!

# Exclusively in the **Rockwall County News**

# Rockwall County Obituaries

#### Thelma Ann Chapman

Services for Thelma Ann Chapman, 92, of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Bradley Edge officiating. Graveside services were at 4 p.m. in the Ridgeway Cemetery in Ridgeway.

She died Monday, July 27.

Born Oct. 30, 1916, in Hopkins County to James Louis and Izella (Page) Griffith, she enjoyed gardening and cooking and was devoted to her church and family. She was a seamstress and a member of the Eastfield Baptist Church in Mesquite.

Survivors include her sons, Jerrel Chapman and his wife, Ann, of Rockwall and Orvie Don Chapman and his wife, Lucille, of Krum; a sister, Della Goldsmith of Sulphur Springs; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; her sisters-in-law, Jewel Martin of Sulphur Springs, Ruth Chapman and her husband, Dee, of Greenville, Wanda Eason and her husband, Rex, of Morgan and Ginny Chapman of Memphis, Tenn.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jacob Orvie Chapman; an infant son, J.E. Chapman; a sister, Lillie Mae Burks; and an infant brother.

#### Ray Engsberg

Services for Ray Engsberg, 83 of Rockwall will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. on Aug. 9, 2009, in the Out Savior Lutheran Church, 411 N. Town East Blvd., in Mesquite with Pastor John Schelter officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel will be in charge of arrangements.

He died June 2.

Born Aug. 9, 1925, in Jefferson, Wisc., to Reuben and Alice (Robbins) Engsberg, he was raised in Wisconsin and moved to Colorado in 1965 and

to Arizona in 1993. He settled in Rockwall in October 2006. He enjoyed painting, woodworking, creating sun catchers and working word puzzles. He was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church in

Survivors include his wife, Viola Engsberg, of Rockwall; his sons, Steven Engsberg and his wife, Ferne, of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Brad Engsberg and his wife, Kim, of Lamar, Colo.; his daughters, Connie Skyles, and her husband, Chuck, of Rockwall and Sheri Engsberg and her husband, Frank Martinez, of Arvada, Colo.; his grandchildren, Val, Joyce and Danny Engsberg, Brenda Hyatt, Erik Skyles and Cierra Martinez; his great-grandchildren, Evan Hoffman and Cade Hyatt; his sisters, Irene Biederman of Johnson Creek, Wisc., and Alice Mattoon and her husband, Dave, of Fort Atkinson, Wisc.; and his brothers, Gene Engsberg, and his wife, Marion, of Lake Mills, Wisc., and Merle Engsberg of Fort Atkinson.

He was preceded in death by his parents; an infant daughter, Trudy; and a sister, Margie Soellner.

#### Iberia 'Nana' Penabad

Iberia "Nana" Penabad, 81, of Royse City, previously of Miami, Fla., died Monday, July 27, 2009.

The family received friends on Wednesday, July Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. A Rosary wa

Born Oct. 13, 1927, in Cuba to Felipe and Carmen (R she was a Catholic.

Survivors include her sons, Luis Morato of Clairn Ed Penabad and his wife, Mary, of Weston, Fla.; dren, Christina Stratton, Angela Garcia-Lavin, Jessic Penabad, Leslie, Luis Jr., Gino and Amber Morato; grandchildren, Alyssa, Christopher, Alexus and Marce

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edgard and her brothers, Lorenzo and Oswaldo.



donated book at the Rockwall County Library. A local ide lawsuits and poorly picked out the book in early July after making a donat ton deregular folks. But I library and was concerned that the family would want | ne back. There are no identifying marks on the photo. The poki mint entanglement o titled "The End of the Road: The Story of a Place Whenhell hat no one can expla Ends and the Sea Begins," by Tom Bodett, spokesman Me Please contact the Rockwall County News at 972-722-3 the picture.

## Enrollment under wayf Citizens Police Academ

The Rockwall Police Department's fall Citizens Po : Ad Americans far more will run Sept. 1 through Dec. 8, and applications are v

Classes meet from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays.

Participants will learn about the daily operations of lav afor is the freedom fact and experience a ride-along. Topics covered in the aca my into have as much co History of Modern Policing, Criminal Gangs, Crim Communications, Criminal Investigations, DWI Enf er

Program graduates are eligible to join the Citizens Post Alumni Association and participate in numerous poli de volunteer programs, including Sky Watch.

Cost of the course is \$20.

Participants must be residents of or work in Rockwall Applications are available at the Rockwall City H, Police Department and the Community Services Of : Road. For more information, contact Sgt. Andy Vill 772-6718.

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Matthew 7:7

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Romans 10:13

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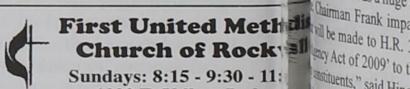
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"Therefore I say unto you, Whi soever ye desire, when ye pray, be ye receive them, and ye shall have

"That if you will confess with your m is Lord', and believe in your heart that Him from the dead, you will be saved.

"A fool's mouth is his destruction lips are the snare of his soul.'

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his would reduce pr BA representatives a d result in weakene The vote on H.R. nonth until after the additional discussion which included six be so met with Congress Edwards, Gene Gre

ohnson, Ralph Hall ly important that my a listen to the concer ou constituents. I wa a interest in H.R. 3 their ideas," conclu scrited Chairman Fra

posing the bill. greed to work with Lending disclos ations by requiring agement and all c

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# a to Felipe and Carmen (P. riday Opinions

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# t Barack Obama **To Understand** ut America

1g collapse in public opinion for President Obama's ian demonstrates a weakness in the president's overall rding to a new Gallup Poll, 55 percent of Americans Ohama is doing a poor job on health care reform, his ie. The main reason for this is that few understand what going on. I analyze the news for a living, and I can't the House bill would do. It's more than a thousand or crying out loud, and reading it could cause your head

elected Obama to change things that are failing. od tucked between the part but that the health industry is in chaos. Price County Library. Alocales olous lawsuits and poorly run hospitals all add to the the family world of the regular folks. But the president is not reforming, ing. He wants the government to set up a parallel health he Story of a Place When is, a giant entanglement of entitlements.

tion that no one can explain it?

ounty News at 972-722 m nly confusion that is causing Americans to bail on Most of us value freedom and have a healthy distrust nt. Time after time, we have seen the feds screw things trina, immigration, Vietnam, the war on drugs, public Inder Way list is endless. And we are going to put our troubled

ce Academ sident's plan were clearly presented with the costs I believe it would have a chance of passing. But just ody knows the USA might be facing bankruptcy, which ge Americans far more than a troubled health care 1 though he will not admit it, there is huge financial risk realth care vision, and Americans are starting to wise up

> here is the freedom factor. Your health is obviously u want to have as much control as possible when you get ida, where the government runs the health care industry. ting lists for treatment in some places and a shortage of hers. Americans fear that if medical choices are dictated hat kind of chaos will happen here.

> ral health care means all of your medical records are in the government. Do you want that?

surprised if the federal health care plan goes down in bama is dealt his first major setback. This whole thing ught out, rushed and full of peril.

t enough to make you sick.

Vnews anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show ly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out o find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by rs Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators eb page at www.creators.com. This column originates on www.billoreilly.com. HT 2009 BillOReilly.com.

I ACTED STUPIDLY. SCRAPE SCRAPE

# Exploiting public ignorance

by Walter E. Williams

How can political commentators, politicians and academics get away with statements like "Reagan budget deficits," "Clinton budget surplus," "Bush budget deficits" or "Obama's tax increases"? The only answer is that they, or the people who believe such statements, are ignorant, conniving or just plain stupid. Article I, Section 7 of the U.S. Constitution reads: "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other Bills." A president has no power to raise or lower taxes. He can propose tax measures or veto them but since Congress can ignore presidential proposals and override a presidential veto, it has the ultimate taxing power. The same principle applies to spending. A president cannot spend a dime that Congress does not first appropriate. As such, presidents cannot be held responsible for budget deficits or surpluses. That means that credit for a budget surplus or blame for budget deficits rests on the congressional majority at the time.

Thinking about today's massive deficits, we might ask: Where in the U.S. Constitution is Congress given the authority to do anything about the economy? Between 1787 and 1930, we have had both

mild and severe economic downturns that have ranged from one to seven years. During that time there was no thought that Congress should enact New Deal legislation or stimulus packages along with massive corporate handouts. It took the Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt administrations to massively intervene in the economy. As a result, they turned what might have been a two or three-year sharp downturn into a 16-year depression that ended in 1946. How they accomplished that is covered very well in a book authored by Jim Powell titled "FDR's Folly." Here's my question: Were the presidents in office and congresses assembled from 1787 to 1930 ignorant of their constitutional authority to manage and save the economy?

If you asked President Obama or a congressman to cite the specific constitutional authority for the bailouts, handouts and corporate takeover, I'd bet the rent money that they would say that their authority lies in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution that reads: "The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Impost, Excises to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States." They'd tell you that their authority comes from the Constitution's "general welfare" clause. James Madison, the father of our constitution, explained, "If Congress can do whatever in their discretion can be done by money, and will promote the general welfare, the government is no longer a limited one possessing enumerated powers, but an indefinite one subject to particular exceptions." He later added, "With respect to the two words 'general welfare,' I have always regarded them as qualified by the detail of powers connected with them. To take them in a literal and unlimited sense would be a metamorphosis of the Constitution into a character which there is a host of proofs was not contemplated by its creators." Thomas Jefferson said, "Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare, but only those specifically enumerated." That means only those powers listed.

The Constitution provides, through Article V, a means by which the Constitution can be altered. My question to my fellow Americans whether they are liberal or conservative: Has the Constitution been amended to permit Congress to manage the economy? I'd also ask that question to members of the U.S. Supreme Court. I personally know of no such amendment. What we're witnessing today is nothing less than a massive escalation in White House and congressional thuggery. Secure in the knowledge that the American people are compliant and willing to cast off the limitations imposed on Washington by the nation's founders, future administrations are probably going to be even more emboldened than Obama and the current Congress.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2009 CREATORS.COM

# tas bankers seek congressional p to protect traditional banking

ed by Olivia Carmichael Solis

ional leaders in Washington have responded to arguments vankers that traditional banks are the lifeblood of their es and the key to economic recovery.

E NATIONAL tatives of the Texas Bankers Association (TBA) told of the Texas Congressional Delegation that proposed would strangle the one part of the economy that is still help grow small businesses, promote homeownership t consumer spending.

s bankers had a positive meeting with Chairman Barney or of the bill, which was arranged by Congressman Ruben I believe that the meeting I arranged between myself and Bankers Association with Financial Services Committee Barney Frank was a huge success. I am very pleased with 1e. Chairman Frank imparted important information on Jnited Metho at will be made to H.R. 3126, the 'Consumer Financial ch of Rock Agency Act of 2009' to the benefit of Texas banks, and, y constituents," said Hinojosa

leaders presented discussion points that demonstrated tion, as it now stands, would result in increased costs to thus reducing consumer financial product choices. They nted out that H.R. 3126 would impose federally mandated and this would reduce product offerings to consumers. ly, TBA representatives argued the measure, as currently would result in weakened capital in an already capitaldustry. The vote on H.R. 3126 has now been postponed Dodson, his month until after the August Congressional recess to for additional discussion and debate.

e City, Texas ip, which included six bankers and two members of the also met with Congressmen Henry Cuellar, Silvestre et Edwards, Gene Green, Charles Gonzalez, Lloyd am Johnson, Ralph Hall and Al Green.

remely important that my colleagues and I in the House of atives listen to the concerns of organizations such as TBA ent our constituents. I want to reassure TBA and all banks with an interest in H.R. 3126 that my door remains open nd to their ideas," concluded Hinojosa. At the meeting, presented Chairman Frank with a letter signed by 510 kers opposing the bill.

kers agreed to work with Congress on issues that would ruth in Lending disclosures, which protect consumers ransactions by requiring clear disclosure of key terms of g arrangement and all costs, as well as other forms of credit disclosures and other issues of mutual benefit to banking services.

essman Hinojosa, a senior member of the Finance e, understands Texas bankers and our needs," said TBA Wes Hoskins. "He helped educate Chairman Frank and the Committee on our concerns with the bill, and he has

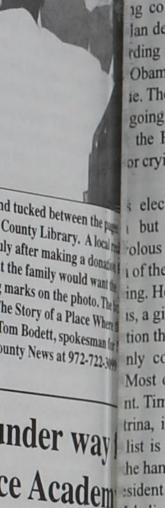
made his staff available to help us understand the process and the bill. He has done an outstanding job for Texas bankers."

Bankers attending the meetings included Hoskins, president and CEO of First Community Bank, Corpus Christi; TBA Past Chairman Vic Pierson, president of Moody National Bank, Galveston; Government Relations Council Chair Mike Mauldin, president and CEO of First Financial Bank, Hereford; Government Relations Council Vice-Chair Julie Cripe, president and CEO of OMNIBANK, N.A., Houston; Member-at-Large Eddie Aldrete, senior vice president, International Bank of Commerce, San Antonio; and American Bankers Association Board member Mike Hensley, chairman and CEO, Western Bank, Lubbock. TBA President and CEO Eric Sandberg and General Counsel John Heasley joined the bankers.

TBA represents the Texas banking industry -- with members ranging from the smallest bank in the nation to the largest bank in the nation. This includes 85 percent of Texas banks, 5,000 bank branches and 95 percent of deposits.

Texas Bankers Association 203 West Tenth Street Austin, Texas 78701 (512) 472-8388 Fax (512) 473-2560





ds on Wednesday, July vall Chapel. A Rosary

, Luis Morato of Clair Mary, of Weston, Fla ela Garcia-Lavin, Jessi no and Amber Morato opher, Alexus and Mar by her husband, Edgar

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**Legal Notices** 

PUBLIC NOTICE The following property

owners are hereby notified that their property contains a vacated structure and has been declared dangerous by the Building Official of the City of Rockwall. According to the Rockwall County Appraisal District, you are the registered owners of the following

Property owner: George Palin & Mary Ford; 199 Mohawk Trl; Point, TX 75472

Property address: 112 Chris, Rockwall, TX 75032 Legal Description: Rockwall

Lake Est. #2, Lot 984A

You are hereby ordered to appear before the City Council

the building or stru part thereof, should n demolished, or remo conclusion of the her Council may order repaired, demolished. the Council deems ne

United States Dis Northern Distric Dallas Divi

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The F/V Rosie "O 972203) was arrested Marshal on June 6, 20 United States Mar. Earl Cabell Federa

> 1100 Commerce Dallas, TX 75242 (214) 767-0836 Counsel for Plaint Michael P. Mentor

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#### **Legal Notices**

PUBLIC NOTICE

ROCKWALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ROCKWALL, TEXAS

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids addressed to the Rockwall Economic Development Corporation (RE ATTN: Ken Keeton, Project Manager, will be received at the REDC offices, 697 Interstate 30, Rockwall, Texas 75087 until 2:00 PM on Friday, August 21, 2009 annual Grounds and Irrigation System Maintenance in the Rockwall Technology All submitted bids duly received will be publicly opened and read aloud on Augu 2009 after 2:00 PM in the Rockwall Economic Development Corporation offices Liability and Workers Compensation insurances are required. The REDC reserve right to reject any or all bids, waive formalities, re-advertise, re-bid and consider advantageous bid thereof. The bid packet may be obtained without charge at the offices, 697 East Interstate 30, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The REDC phone numl 972-772-0025.

NOTICE TO OFFERORS

ROYSE CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pursuant to Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Royse City Independent School District (RCISD) hereby offers for sale an approximate 1.300 acre tract generally situated at 115 East I-30 Road; Royse City, Texas and more particularly described as:

115 East I-30 **BEING** a tract of land situated in the City of Royse City, Rockwall County, Texas out of the J.D.F. McCasland Survey, Abstract No. 150 and being part of Lot E, First Baptist Church Addition according to the plat thereof recorded in Cabinet F, Page 200, Plate Records, Rockwall County, Texas.

The precise acreage and boundaries will be determined by a current survey.

Bid packets may be obtained beginning 10:00 a.m., July 21, 2009 at the following location:

RCISD

Superintendent Office 810 Old Greenville Road Royse City, TX 75189

The property is sold subject to any conditions, covenants, easements, mineral interests and restrictions of record in the Deed Records of Rockwall, County, Texas. Conveyance of the property to the successful offeror shall be by a no warranty deed. The deed is subject to the approval of the Texas Education Agency. RCISD reserves the right to reject all bids. ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF SALE ARE CONTAINED IN THE EARNEST MONEY CONTRACT FORM AND BID PACKET MATERIALS.

Offers must be submitted in a sealed envelope and must be received at the Superintendent's office of the Royse City ISD located at 810 Old Greenville Road, Royse City, TX on or before 4:00 p.m., August 17, 2009. BID PACKETS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE AND TIME CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.

#### ROYSE CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### NOTICE TO OFFERORS

Pursuant to Section 272.001 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Royse City Independent School District (RCISD) hereby offers for sale an approximate .217 acre tract generally situated at 918 Old Greenville Road; Royse City, Texas and more particularly described as:

918 Old Greenville Road, page number 372, Volume 46, Deed Records of Rockwall County, Texas (Account #R12229), full legal description is as: .217 acre, more or less out of the W. H. Adams Addition, being the remainder of a .251 acre tract described in Volume 44, Page 40, Deed Records; save and except a .034 acre tract conveyed by Volume 46, Page 372, Deed Records of Rockwall County, Texas, (Account #R12229), A0185 J B Ratliff, Tract 6, acres 0.111, ADDITION to the City of Royse City, Rockwall County, Texas, as per the map or plat thereof on file with the County Clerk of Rockwall County, Texas, locally known as 918 Old Greenville Road, Royse City, Texas 75189.

The precise acreage and boundaries will be determined by a current survey.

Bid packets may be obtained beginning 10:00 a.m., July 21, 2009 at the following location:

RCISD

Superintendent Office 810 Old Greenville Road Royse City, TX 75189

The property is sold subject to any conditions, covenants, easements, mineral interests and restrictions of record in the Deed Records of Rockwall, County, Texas. Conveyance of the property to the successful offeror shall be by a no warranty deed. The deed is subject to the approval of the Texas Education Agency. RCISD reserves the right to reject all bids. ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS OF SALE ARE CONTAINED IN THE EARNEST MONEY CONTRACT FORM AND BID PACKET MATERIALS.

Offers must be submitted in a sealed envelope and must be received at the Superintendent's office of the Royse City ISD located at 810 Old Greenville Road, Royse City, TX on or before 4:00 p.m., August 17, 2009. BID PACKETS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE AND TIME CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.

won July \*PUBLIC AUCTIC

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JFW Metroplex and oproach 50 miles per l er from 7 a.m. to 2 p at Hwy. 276 and FM cause it is high speed ag consists of packs p course for 30- to NASCAR on bike o a press release, th ed by USA Cycling to erace for free. Plus for kids under 14, w geom and view the

produced by the Ro chib. Notably, in o sing Club has more ked as the #7 team is sponsored by th se is also made pos omic Developmen Rockwall, Davi Ybody Massage, ar

benefit the format

Air Force Airman 1st Class Matthew S. Porter is a crew chief

with the 90th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, Elmendorf Air Force

Base, Alaska. Porter recently participated in a massive American

military exercise called "Northern Edge," where more than 9,000

American military men and women sharpened their skills for re-

Photo Courtesy of Air Force Senior Airman Christopher Griffin/

sponding to crises throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

# **Rockwall County** assified Advertising

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(Continued from Page 8)

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**Rockwall County News** 

The Only Newspaper in **Rockwall County qualified** to publish legal notices

OF PUBLIC AUCTION of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Public sale oust 12 at 10 am at 2740 St. Hwy 276, #100, Rockwall Tx. 972-772operty auctioned to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves right to not bid and to withdraw property from sale. Auction will include contents of following tenants: JIM ANDERSON - misc. garage items, golf xes, sports equip. / STU HARVEY - small boat motor, truck tool box, 1 table, furniture, boxes / MISTY RODRIGUEZ - misc. bags / DELMER BY - portable air compressor, misc. boxes, tool boxes, ladder, garage at / AMANDA WEATHERS - misc. household items

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

wall County Commissioners Court invites on-line bids to purchase surplus t. Equipment to be sold includes but is not limited to the following: equipment including voice mail and 1992 Ford Tractor (1). Equipment d "AS IS" with no warranty written or implied.

e items will be available for inspection by appointment only. To make an ent, please call John A. Blackwood in the County Auditor's office at 3333 Lee Par 77 6050.

> vill take place via the internet by logging on to www.govdeals.com. New nust register online to bid. Search by Zip Code 75087, then click on County, Tx. Bids must be submitted on or before Wednesday, August 12, e specific times designated on the Govdeals website.

County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

ER OF THE SIONERS COURT County, Texas Blackwood **County Auditor** 

#### **Advertisement for Proposal**

of Fate, Texas will accept, at the City Hall Office, 105 E. Fate Main te, TX. 75132, sealed proposals for Employee Group Health and Dental Coverage, until 10:30 A.M., August 6, 2009. Late proposals will not be and will be returned unopened.

copies of the sealed proposals will be accepted until the date and local ed. Each proposal must be in a sealed envelope and labeled with e Group Health and Dental Insurance" on the outside of the envelope.

copy of Specifications and any other Request for Proposal documents obtained on or after Friday, July 24, 2009 from the City Hall Office, 105 Main Place, Fate, TX. 75132.

I award by the City Council, the City of Fate reserves the right to reject I proposals, waive minor technicalities or to proceed otherwise when in nterest of the City.

lirect all inquiries to: Joe A. McFadin, LHIC, Wellspring Insurance Inc., 817-430-7102.

City of Fate, Texas

# Rockwall native Matthew Porter serving in Alaska with U.S. Air Force

by Michael Tolzmann

Joint Hometown News Service Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska - When the son of a Rockwall couple steps outside, inhaling crisp air on a base surrounded by mountains and pristine wilderness in America's "last frontier," he is far more likely to run into a bear or moose than an enemy of the United States.

But Air Force Airman 1st Class Matthew S. Porter, son of Russell and Melinda Porter of Harlan Drive, Rockwall, and the rest of his colleagues, are strategically as close to North Korea as they are to Washington D.C.

Porter recently participated in a massive American military exercise called "Northern Edge," where more than 9,000 U.S. service members sharpened their

skills for responding to crises throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Porter is a crew chief with the 90th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. "I maintain our F-22 aircraft. My duties are to maintain the Raptor to its highest potential, so it can provide air superiority for the United Stâtes of America," said Porter, a 2004 graduate of Rockwall High School.

Rockwall County News

Military maneuvers over the Gulf of Alaska and areas of the Alaskan wilderness, in an area the size of New Mexico, allowed for aircraft to conduct maneuvers in ways that cannot be done anywhere else.

Air Force, Navy, Army, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel participated with aircraft flying in simulated air combat, many times flying in excess of the speed of sound, a restriction found nearly everywhere else in the United States. Naval warships and land-based forces also synchronized with aircraft in creating a large combined force.

For Porter, this important exercise provides an opportunity for his unit to better itself in combat situations and in working with other American military services.

"This exercise was important for us to keep the Raptors fully functional, so the pilots can keep their important training and missions," said Porter.

With Alaska situated between Russia and Canada, and within a good part of the Arctic Circle, the region provides a unique setting for both professional and personal experiences.

"I like Alaska's summers. It's just like any other place, except that it's colder in the winter," said Por-

Porter's personal military background illustrates why his experience is ideal for military operations in

Alaska, such as this one "I have been in the military for a year and a half, but have not served in a war zone yet," said Porter.

With the sounds of jet aircraft screaming overhead, wildlife such as moose and bears are undeterred from randomly appearing at this frontier base. But with vigilance found by service members serving in this geographically important location, their efforts will help keep the region's greater threats at bay.

## Elvis Tribute debuts in Rockwall

by Kat Donnell

Kenny King was recently hailed as "Elvis Fans' #1 Tribute Artist" by Boss 95.5 radio. The popular Elvis tribute has been in the area for the past couple of years and has garnered an impressive following. From favorite tunes such as "A Big Hunk O' Love to Can't Help Falling in Love," the audience becomes a part of the energy that flows from the stage.

"The energy that I get back fuels my enthusiasm," said Kenny. "To be able to re create an Elvis show from the jumpsuits and body movements to the electrifying sound enables me to put on a vigorous per-

Kenny King started preparing for the stage at age 13, when he recognized his calling to honor Elvis. Honing his craft took many years and included playing the trumpet in his high school and church bands, performing in retirement centers, private parties, weddings and holiday parties. He has been known, on more than one occasion, to bring the elderly and those who are ill, out of their wheelchair and rooms when he is around. He brings great joy to all he encounters and has also been known to give scarves, teddy bears and necklaces as keepsakes of a wonderful evening. Between Oklahoma and Texas, he has performed at state fairs, clubs and restaurants. In early fall, he will be performing on an evening cruise

on Lake Lavon. On August 6, Kenny King will be performing at local Rockwall hotspot, Scoreboard.

"We are looking forward to bringing this talented tribute to Elvis to our club," said Scoreboard owner Loretta McGee. "What a fitting way to honor the King during the anniversary month of his death."

Scoreboard is located at 2410 S. Goliad. The show will be from 8pm-midnight. There is no cover, but you can reserve a seat by calling 972-771-4201. For more information visit www.kennyastheking.com.

# h speed bicycle ing comes to ekwall August 9

lists are gearing up to compete against riders from )-FW Metroplex and the state in a "crit" race, where approach 50 miles per hour. The Sunday, August 9 race ace from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Rockwall Technology d at Hwy. 276 and FM 549.

is the most popular style of bicycle racing in the Unitccause it is high speed and easily viewable by spectacing consists of packs of 40-80 riders racing each other loop course for 30- to 75 minutes per race. Some have as "NASCAR on bikes."

to a press release, this is believed to be the first crit ned by USA Cycling to be held in Rockwall. Spectators he race for free. Plus, there will be a free "Kids Lap" 1. for kids under 14, with medals for all finishers. For nation on the race or to register for the race, visit www.

cling.com and view the "Rockwall Crit Race" page. is produced by the Rockwall Cycling Club, an official ig club. Notably, in only its second year of existence, yeling Club has more than 50 race team members and ranked as the #7 team in Texas road racing by the Texas

ing Association. ace is sponsored by the local bike shop, Rockwall Cyrace is also made possible thanks to support from the conomic Development Corporation, Chiloso Mexican ico of Rockwall, David McGaffin DDS, Alliance Bank, verybody Massage, and others.

to benefit the formation of the youth/juniors cycling kwall.



Rockwall's DC Kings placed fourth out of 96 teams in the Prime Time Sports 2009 National Championship held at several sites around the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex July 23-26. The team competed in the Seventh Grade Boys Division. Prime Time Sports is a youth sports organization founded by former Dallas Cowboys player Deion Sanders and encourages teamwork, skills improvement and professionalism in youth sports. Team members are (back row from left) Coach Jeff O'Dell, Junious Clark (JC), Noah Westerfield, Austin Enloe, Seth Jackson, and Coach Jeff Hoy, (front row from left) William Butter, Jordan Hoy and Bruce Brookins. Not pictured are Austin O'Dell, Justin Peters, Xavier Castille and Luke Ramirez.

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# Rockwall County Sports



Riders participated in the 2008 Rotary Hot Rocks Bike Race, winding their way through the streets of Rockwall. The 2009 Race is set for August 8.

### New club swim team to organize locally

A new club swim team will organize locally in coming weeks to coincide with the opening of the new Rockwall Independent School District natatorium.

The team, Rockwall Aquatics, has named Olympic medalist Neil

Walker as its head coach. Walker coached Austin's Longhorn Aquatics, one of the nation's

most successful club swim teams. Rounding out the coaching staff will be current Rockwall and Heath high school coaches and former University of Texas swimmers Tommy Sacco and Paul Wallace, as well as former Rockwall YMCA swim coach Tom Applegate. Also joining the staff is Rockwall ISD aquatics director Mike Sorrels, a well known Texas high school swim coach and recipient of the Theron Pickle Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Texas Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association.



Neil Walker

Tryouts for the Rockwall Aquatics team will be conducted at the natatorium in the first few weeks of the new school year. For more details and tryout information, visit the Rockwall ISD Web site at rock-

# Rockwall Riptides place second at Lone Star meet

The Rockwall Riptides placed second in a two team contest at the Lone Star YMCA State Championships, coming in behind the Coppell YMCA Cruisers. The Riptides sent 91 swimmers. Teams from across the state competed in the meet.

High Points Trophy Winners were:

Girls:

rockwallirish.

6 & Under-Sam Wang, second place; 9-10-Brooke Arnold, second place; 11-12-Raena Eldridge, first place; 13-14-Haley Brenchley, first place; 15 & Up-Aly Heuer, first place.

Boys: 13-14-Justin Tokuz, third place; 15 & Up-Ryan Lang, first place.

At least 11 meet records were set, including 11 individual team records, three relay team records, seven new TAGS times (Texas Age Group Swim), four new AAA times, 12 new AA time, 21 new A times, 33 new BB times and 53 new B times. Seventy percent of the swims were best times.

To understand the time system, B times are better than average, BB is better than B and A is next level up to AAAA.

Riptides coach James Hummingbird said the team is still in training and is already looking forward

to regaining the title next year. "We, the coaches, would like to thank everyone for an exciting Lone Star meet. We were very proud of the way our kids swam and handled themselves. We would also like to thank all the parents that

#### helped volunteer." Fighting Irish 9U Baseball tryouts set

The Rockwall Fighting Irish baseball team will be holding tryouts to fill its roster for the 9- and Under team. Tryouts will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 3, 4, and 5 at Harry Myers Field.

Player's birth date must be after May 1, 2000 to be eligible.

The coaching staff teaches the players solid fundamentals, respect for the game, and excellent sports-

manship through positive reinforcement and encouragement. For more information, contact Billy Nies @ thenies6@sbcglobal.net or visit www.leaguelineup.com/

## Texans Red soccer is national runner-up

The Dallas Texans Red 15-and-under girls soccer team, featuring Rockwall High School's Shelby Soldat, placed second in the US Youth Soccer championships.

Texans Red held the San Diego Surf scoreless throughout the final game, including two overtime periods, but it remained a scoreless tie. The California team then scored on six penalty kicks to Texans Red's five to take the title.

YMCA Sports: Focused on Character Development

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  - Flag Football
- Tackle Football
- Cheerleading
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and the state of t

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Soldat played defense for a team that allowed just two goals in four games. Texans Red outscored its opponents 3-2 while compiling a 2-1-1 record.

# Hot Rocks Bicycle Ra takes off August 8 Rockwall Rotary's 23rd Annual Hot Rocks Bicycle Race and Ride is scheduled for Aug. 8 forms are available on the Rotary web site at www.rockwallrotary.org.

This year's race chairman is Tim Hartley.

Proceeds from the ride benefit Rotary college scholarships. According to the Rotary web attracts all levels of riders, from aggressive to children and offers 10, 20, 43, and 57-mile The Ride will start and end at Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, located at 1201 T.L. Towns Rockwall. A route map is on the Rotary web site.

Volunteers provide rest stops every eight to 10 miles, serving drinks, ice and fruit. All ent a T-shirt and lunch.

The top three male and female finishers of the 57-mile ride receive cash awards, inclufirst place, \$175 for second place and \$100 for third place. There will also be gift certificates for the top three finishers in the family races, including

a male rider under age 14, and families with a female rider under age 14. The first 600 registrants to pick up their ride packets will be given a 24 oz. custom water b

by Ride sponsor Rockwall Cycling Club. Early packet pickup and registration will be from Noon to 7 p.m., Friday, Aug. 7, at Rock

located at 832 Steger Towne Drive. For the past few years, Ride routes have been interrupted by and detoured around road

but this year's Ride committee says the route will finally be construction free.

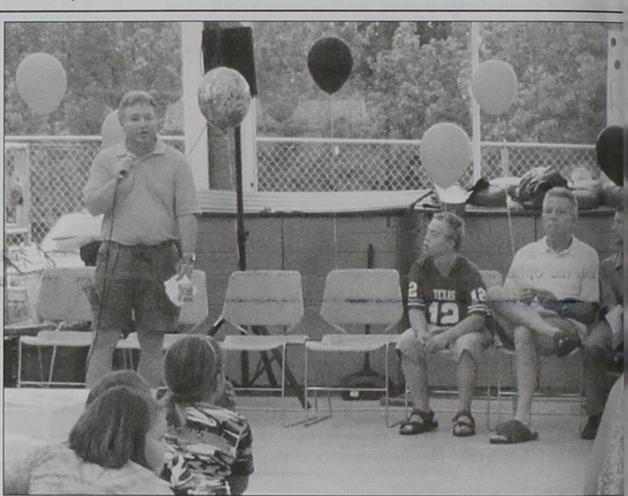
This year's race start time has been moved up to 7:30 a.m. to take advantage of cooler r peratures. Another change for 2009 will be Staged Start Waves.

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who protarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill the world. In more than 160 countries worldwide, approximately 1.2 million Rotarians be than 30,000 Rotary clubs.

The main objective of Rotary is service-in the community, in the workplace and through Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical is children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence.

They also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchain dents, teachers, and other professionals, and vocational and career development. The Ro Service Above Self.

For more information on the 2009 Hot Rocks Bike Ride, contact race chairman Tim Ha prides himself plis 754-4844 or tlhartleylaw@aol.com. Information can also be found on the Rockwall Rotar rockwallrotary.com.



Rockwall Riptides swimmer Shannon Lockhart snaps a picture of (left-right) team Jim Hummingbird; Special Olympics swimmer Mason Sevier and his father, Rockwall Cit, member Cliff Sevier; and Council member Mark Russo at a Thursday, July 22 pep rall Riptides. The pep rally was held at the Rockwall YMCA in preparation for the 2009 Lonesta State Championship last weekend. The pep rally was organized by Hummingbird and spot Wal-Mart of Rockwall, Ability Services Network and the Rockwall YMCA. The Riptides we for their eighth straight state championship but were edged out by the Coppell team and close second at the Lone Star meet. "It was somebody else's turn this year," Hummingbird Photo by Elizabeth Fudge/Rockwall County News

#### Christian schools open football practice Mon

With August comes the beginning of high school football practice. For players, the openin practice means the dreaded two-a-days.

Texas teams can begin their practices as early as Monday, and work out in pads for t

New Rockwall Christian Academy head coach Caleb Palmer said he expects as many a for his team's first practice Monday at 8 a.m. The Warriors will work on the field from 8 have a one-hour chalk-talk session, take an hour off and hold the second of their two-a-d from noon to 2 p.m.

Heritage Christian Academy also will begin its preseason practices Monday.

"We expect the players to come into two-a-days in shape," said Robert Huckabee, head six-man team

Most players have been working out informally or in more structured conditioning progra their school. Huckabee said those sessions help the coaches maintain contact with their pla "We'll have them lift weights and get acclimated to the heat. They'll come in and play st games outside."

Rockwall and Royse City high schools will begin their practice sessions Monday, Aug. 1



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mis Unlimited will offer a, 18 and older, at 9 a. ejaning this week. Ba tembership not required 8 for four clinics or \$ J.R. Rahmanzadeh at orglobal.net. Archery class set at adly class on archer ets Park. Participants v intunity to practice wh The \$5 for Rockwall r required by calling 9 thing Irish to conduc

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Fighting Irish baseb sinder team roster from ednesday at Harry My May 1, 2000, to be elig solid fundamentals, r positive reinforcer mact Billy Nies at th om/rockwallirish. amp to focus on agili and Conditioning ation Center Gym. AAug. 10-14, 10 a.m. 4,11 a.m. to noon. Co sidents \$225. For mo

Triples Tournam as Unlimited will he n Aug. 15 at Rockw If pre-registered (\$2 ce T-shirt to those r as are welcome to pa etourney. Players ca names will be drawn or call J.R. at 972net. For more detail (all 972-722-7848) farent/athlete meet/

dent/athlete meeting erls' athletic policie Aug. 20 in the CM A participating in a d attend.

# me Reading for the Dog Days of Summer

ibrarian unty Library s of summer betearly September d the "dog days Our recent hot, was the perfect stay indoors in is scheduled for Am ioning and read

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oloy the boy-loa 24 oz. custom was saves-boy, dogele. I don't like Friday, Aug. 7, at Roo after I come to and I've learned Iren feel the same rarely appreciate e advantage of cook nding.

1 "A Dog on His ted worldwide whom he ry Jane Auch, a nd help build good for children and 2 million Rotanas unny books I've past. "A Dog workplace and through tells the story of f today's most critical d because he is a r canines.

and international relations rt survivor, K-10 development. Telest . rs running away ne and doing time in race chairman To letter He prides himself on the Rockwall Raine ndence from huother dogs. scapes from the

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of an expert: a real, live juvenile reader! I happen to know a few. I asked Sarah McCulley, an animal lover and seventh grader, to read "A Dog on His Own" and give me her take on the story.

Sarah recently emailed me, "I liked this book because it is really funny. It is from the dog's point of view and lets you see what life as a dog would be like.

The book reminds you that you have to work to get what you want. And it has a happy ending, which you don't find very often in dog books! I recommend it for anyone who likes funny books or books about animals."

There you have it: the thumbsup from an actual young reader. Enough said!

The second book I read, "Tango: The Tale of an Island Dog" by Eileen Beha, was the most complex and would be best for readers ages 10 and up. Although the author's liberal use of metaphors and similes was a bit overdone, Tango was a good

Tango, a pampered and adored Yorkie from New York, falls overboard in a storm while sailing with his wealthy owners but miraculously washes ashore in a village on Prince Edward Island. Tango, bedraggled, scared, and confused, wants nothing more than to return home.

But how can a little dog accomplish such a feat? Ms. Beha's others characters, a mysterious island fox, a three-legged cat fallen on hard times, a brokenhearted widow, and a runaway girl searching for a permanent home of her own, are all well-developed and it wasn't long before I cared about all of them.

The ending has drama as well as a few surprises but is entirely satisfying.

My favorite of the three books was "The Dog Days of Charlotte Hayes" by Marlane Kennedy, o get the opinion perhaps because I could easily

identify with Charlotte, the main character.

Charlotte's father buys a purebred Saint Bernard puppy on a whim because he gets a really good price which he can never resist.

By her own admission, Charlotte doesn't dislike dogs; she just doesn't see why everyone loves them so much. But Charlotte has a tender heart and compassion for the drooling dog named Beauregard who spends lonely days chained up in the backyard.

She sets out to "rescue" her family's dog and find him a better home. After a few unsuccessful schemes, Charlotte makes a deal with her father, promising to earn the money to purchase the dog from him for \$325 before a new year's dead-

How Charlotte earns the money and grows along the way is entirely believable and heart-warming. Does Charlotte find the perfect home for Beauregard?

The book doesn't turn out as you might expect but the conclusion is happy for dog lovers and those like Charlotte, kids with big hearts for all creatures.

If these books are out when you visit the Rockwall County Library, look for some of my other favorite dog stories including "Robert and the Great Pepperoni" by Barbara Seuling,

"The Green Dog" by Suzanne Fisher Staples, "Angus and Sadie" by Cynthia Voight, and "Tornado" and "Wanted...Mud Blossom" by Betsy Byars.

And if you've never read "Because of Winn Dixie" by Kate DiCamillo, don't miss it it really is better than the movie. All of these stories are full of w insome dogs, interesting human characters and all have happy endings. I promise!

everyday!

# Rockwall County **Book Review**

**Exclusively in Your Hometown Newspaper** 



Doreen Miller

## **Sports Notes**

RCISD season ticket renewals begin

se City ISD season ticket holders can pick up their 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through today at the RCISD adminis-New group reserved seating ticket sales will run from n. Aug. 3-7. New season reserved seating ticket sales 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 10-28.

Free physicals offered at RHS

igh School will offer free physicals from 8:30 a.m. to turday for all RHS students and incoming freshmen. will be offered in the Williams Middle School gym, nformation on the Rockwall ISD Web site.

Adult tennis lessons offered

nnis Unlimited will offer an adult beginner's class for en, 18 and older, at 9 a.m. on Saturdays at Rockwalleginning this week. Basic strokes and rules will be nembership not required, but available upon request. 48 for four clinics or \$15 for individual clinics. For t J.R. Rahmanzadeh at 972-771-8883 or e-mail rahsbcglobal.net.

Archery class set at Myers Park

iendly class on archery will be offered at 9 a.m. yers Park. Participants will learn safety and proper use portunity to practice what is learned. Supplies are proill be \$5 for Rockwall residents, \$8 for non-residents. on required by calling 972-771-7740 or visit rockwall.

ghting Irish to conduct baseball tryouts

all Fighting Irish baseball team will conduct tryouts d-under team roster from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday at Harry Myers field. A player's birth date May 1, 2000, to be eligible. The Irish coaching staff ers solid fundamentals, respect for the game and sportsugh positive reinforcement and encouragement. For contact Billy Nies at thenies6@sbcglobal.net or visit com/rockwallirish.

Camp to focus on agility, conditioning

ity and Conditioning Camp will be offered in the ucation Center Gym. Weeklong camps for 10- to set Aug. 10-14, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and 13- to 15-year--14, 11 a.m. to noon. Cost for Rockwall residents will residents \$225. For more details, visit rockwall.com/

Triples Tournament at RTU

ennis Unlimited will host a Triples Tournament from n on Aug. 15 at Rockwall-Heath High. Open to RTU \$15 if pre-registered (\$20 day of the tourney), the event 1 free T-shirt to those registered and paid by Aug. 5. iends are welcome to participate -- \$20 pre-registered, f the tourney. Players can sign up in groups of three or se, names will be drawn. To register visit rockwalltencom or call J.R. at 972-771-8883 or e-mail rahmanzabal.net. For more details contact Joe Taylor at lamajo@ or call 972-722-7848.

Parent/athlete meeting set at Cain

y parent/athlete meeting to discuss the 2009-2010 Cain ol girls' athletic policies, workouts and schedules will m. Aug. 20 in the CMS gym. Parents who have stued in participating in a sport at Cain during the coming hould attend.

# **ATTENTION Rockwall** County schools and school organizations!

Call 972-722-3099 for details on this fantastic fund-raising campaign for your school or organization

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# Laptop program merges technology and learn

By Maura Metcalf-Kelly

At the start of the 2008-2009 school year, each of the 1600 students at Williams and Cain Middle Schools received a \$499 Intel Companion PC laptop computer to aid them in their studies. An even larger scale project kicks off in August, when each of the two high schools in the Rockwall Independent School District will receive 600 Apple laptop computers for project-based learning, creating a ratio of three students to one computer.

The RISD is purchasing the laptops thanks to its 2006 bond issue, which included \$15.3 million for technology upgrades and improvements.

"Every campus has been touched by this money," said Donna Fisher, Director of Instructional Technology. "We want all secondary students to have one-to-one access to a computing device within the next five following year. For example, years. We wanted to start small we thought middle school would be a good place."

According to Chris Gasaway, head of the RISD technology department, the middle-school

trial is actually the most recent of five years' worth of trials, all gauging the benefits of incorporating technology as an educational aid into the curriculum of all RISD students. The decision to implement the laptops at the high school level was also based upon three years of experience with the "inspired classroom," in which each classroom with students in grades three through six was allotted five computers.

"When we first put this [idea] out, we told the public that this was a pilot, and that the success or failure of the pilot would help us determine how we were going to roll it out into grades nine through twelve," Gasaway said.

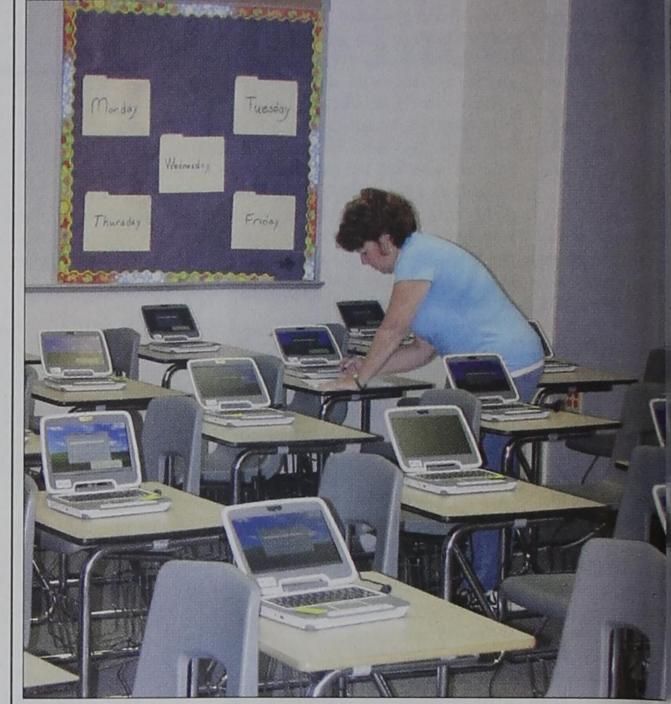
The middle school trial benefited the students themselves and helped to reveal flaws that would require modification before implementing the larger-scale program at the high school level the the filtering software on the computers, while successfully preventing students from downloading unapproved programs, ran slowly and still permitted students to upload instant messaging programs on pin drives. In January of 2008, administrators recalled and re-imaged all of the students' computers to ensure that only approved systems would be able to run-even when uploaded. Thanks to Citrix Virtual Desktop, an application that students' laptops will be equipped with in the 2009-2010 school year, the boot time for the computers will be more reasonable, and the memory space will be doubled.

RISD's technology department anticipated encounters with broken hardware and created a system in which all files are saved to one server. If a student's laptop broke, he or she was able to simply accept another laptop and submit his or her own to be fixed, with projects still intact and accessible in cyberspace.

Fisher and Gasaway both emphasized the importance of the laptops both as learning tools for students' current studies and in preparation for their job success in a technology-driven world.

"The ultimate goal here is to prepare our students for the workplace in the 21st century,"

10-5



Cathy Crouch, campus technologist and grade book administrator at Cain Middle School, I program updates on laptop computers that will be given to high school students in Rockwall fall. Students at Cain and Williams Middle Schools used laptops last year in a trial to merge with learning.

Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

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this laptop program, we are attempting to give students the skills they will need when they go to college, [and will need] in the business world."

"We don't look to technology as something separate [from education] because in the real world, you don't view technology as something separate," Gasaway said. "Technology complements what you are doing; it is not so-

mething extra." According to Fisher, results from 2008 show that 80 percent of RISD students are "technology-literate." Gasaway claimed technology plays a crucial role in the lives of teenagers and that because of this, the use of laptops in high school and middle school students' education will enhance their academic experience, as it will allow them to use tools they

are already comfortable with. "They don't even consider computers [to be] technology," Gasaway said. "To them, technology is a Wii or a PS2, or something that's new to them. But computers are just a part of their life. They accept it, and as a result, they are not scared of it... Kids are used to using computers-so why would we bring them into the classroom and not

let them use these tools?" In the coming school year, each of the RISD's two high schools will receive 600 Apple laptop computers, running both Apple and Windows operating systems. The three-to-one student to laptop ratio was determined as a result of the middle school trial

Fisher said. "We feel that with and the inspired classroom in elementary schools.

> "We took a hybrid of both ideas-the inspired classroom and the one-to-one-and came in with three-to-one, and that's what we're doing in high school as a step towards one-to-one," Gasaway said.

Using Citrix Visual Desktop, students will be able to run both Windows and Apple operating systems; they may operate Windows while Mac is running in the background. When students save documents, they will be automatically saved to both the Mac and the Windows operating systems, making it easier to switch between the two. Gasaway said there is value in students having easy access to both operating systems at all time, because the operating systems are superior in different

Before the 2008-2009 school year came to a close, every high school teacher received his or her own Macbook; during the summer months, middle school and high school teachers will attend workshops in computer development.

The Macbooks will be purchased with a four-year warranty under Apple's warranty program, AppleCare, until RISD technicians become Apple certified, at which point the high schools will have their own authorized Apple repair centers. When a warranty issue with a laptop arises, RISD technicians will be able to fix the laptops themselves—and Apple will pay them to do it. What ma-

kes the prospects of pair center for the even more exciting tunity for student While RISD middle dents can currently certified-that is, co computers runnin operating systemsstudents will be abl come Apple certifier re, students who are careers in fields of will be able to becor certified on both or tems before they gi high school--a des tion to a resume fo a job. RISD technic benefit from beco certified; the RISI stipend raises to en every certification tl

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by Elizabeth FudgelR

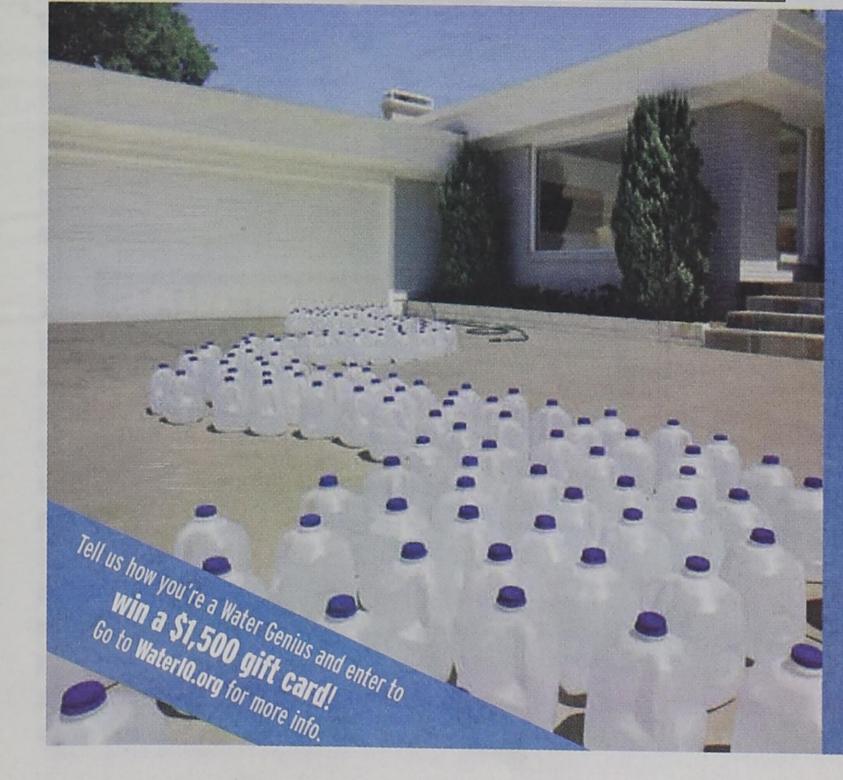
Avall School of Music observe an open ho

themed snacks.

Both Fisher and ( thrilled at the enorm of the trials, and are a continued positive RISD's future.

"I have seen an proficiency in the whole. I have seen all what students can do and the complexity jects has increased over the years," Fish

"Rockwall School District is make a name for its nology," Gasaway don't think the way a they are wired diffe multitask, their worl of what we could co fusion, but given the they can far surpass



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