

Rockwall County News



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ing County Readers in • Fate • Heath • McLendon-Chisholm • Rockwall • Rowlett • Royse City

County holds the line on tax rate

Rockwall County News Exclusive
...for a slight tax increase in this week's meeting, Commissioners voted to propose maintaining the current...
...meeting, discussion continued on finding every...
...in order to do so.
...per \$100 assessed valuation, was the subject of...
...proposed rate to about a penny, to bring in an...
...revenue overall. The court expressed concern about...
...while expenses continued to rise.
...with proposing an increase, public hearings would...
...the final vote. Since the proposed tax rate remains...
...2011, Judge Jerry Hogan said, the process will...
...vote by the court on Sept. 13.
...posed this week, Hogan said, cannot be raised for formal...
...me.
...ed last week, providing a breakdown of the rates...
...but the community was encouraged to call to request more...
...desired.

"On the operating side, we've still got a \$440,000 difference," said Hogan. "We haven't stopped this budget cutting exercise, and it's not a pleasant experience. It will require a degradation of services, we will have to wait longer for some things, and perhaps some things that are being done now, won't be done."
With pass-through financing returning from the State of Texas over the next 10 years and about 3/4 funds remaining of the \$100 million road bond, the court expressed confidence that, despite operational cost issues, necessary road improvements would be maintained.
Hogan expressed confidence that Rockwall would continue to grow more than most other places, even when "things are flat," so the county has a priority to get the roads finished.
Commissioner Lorie Grinnan, though supportive of keeping the current tax rate, pointed out additional obstacles more budget cuts might create.
"We need to consider severance procedures... that could be a substantial hit, depending on how many people you're reducing," she said.
Human Resources would need more than two weeks for a reduction in force process, Grinnan said, so position cuts should be determined well in advance of the Sept. 30 budget year end. Grinnan proposed holding a special meeting, to be scheduled as a priority, to decide such personnel matters, in-

cluding cost of living pay increases.
"I do want to stay committed to continue to cut the budget where we possibly can," said Grinnan. "We've got to provide some room for growth in the next couple of years."
The court will conduct a meeting to formally adopt the proposed 2011 tax rate at 9 a.m. Sept. 15. An order was issued for public notices, and the meeting will be carried live via streaming audio on the county's website.
Hogan said he would like to present and vote on a third draft of the budget by that time, which he hoped would finally mark the end of the budget process.

Armed robbery failure reported at Ridge Road store

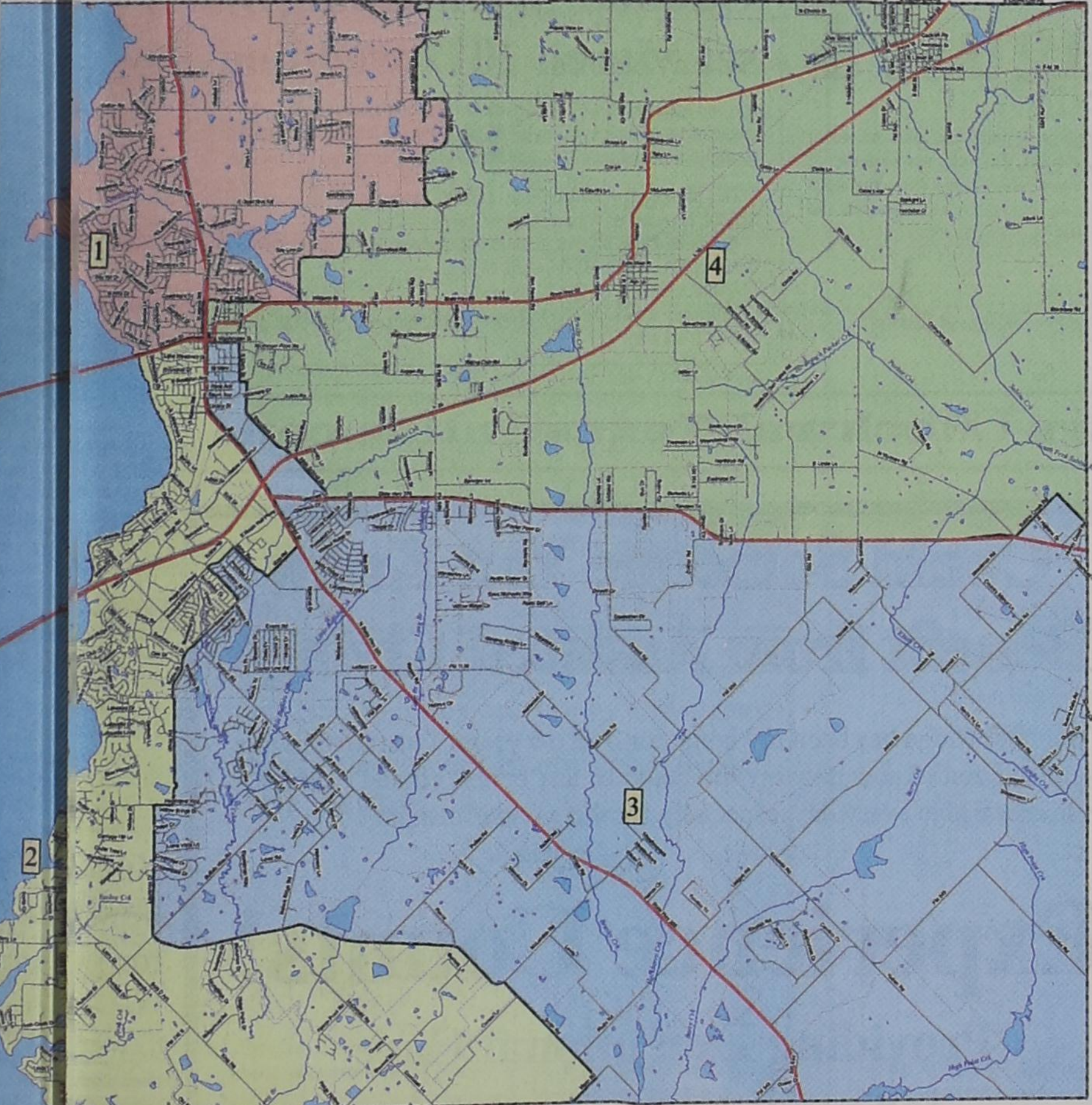
by Jana Edwards • A Rockwall County News Exclusive

Details on Page 3



"Cheer" time in Rockwall County

The Rockwall-Heath High School cheerleaders and mascots hosted a youth camp for 150 Heath Hawks Community Athletics youth cheerleaders Aug. 1-4. Camp participants, ranging from kindergarten-aged to sixth grade, learned cheers, chants and a dance routine during the training sessions conducted at Cain Middle School. The event culminated with a "show-off" performance for the youngsters' parents.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



SB 100 implementation challenges county municipalities

by Timothy Downs • A Rockwall County News Exclusive

The Heath City Council met July 19 and discussed requirements of SB 100. According to Texas Legislature SB 100 relates to the adoption of certain voting procedures and to certain elections, including procedures necessary to implement the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, deadlines for declaration of candidacy and dates for certain elections, and to terms of certain elected officials.
Heath resident and Rockwall County elections administrator Glenda Denton explained how the bill may affect municipalities within the county. The bill effects voting date changes, runoff elections and office terms. Voting equipment could be rented and shared with the school district, if elections date coincides.
"I'm curious about how other cities within Rockwall County and throughout the state handle this, whether elections are better for voters in November or May," said Mayor John Ratcliffe.
The council had an open discussion regarding attendance and length of office.
Denton urged the council not to decide on terms of office or election dates until further researched.
Staff recommended and council approved Resolution 110719A authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with JPMorgan Chase as depository for banking services.
Texas statute requires local governments to have a depository agreement with a banking institution for any period up to five years.
According to chief accountant Berna Fitzpatrick, the current agreement with American National Bank expires Sept. 30. The city transmitted 11 requests for proposals and received two submissions. They included processing of cash, check, electronic funds transfer, payroll, accounts payable and account reconciliation.
Selection was based on "best value" including cost, earnings, rates, funds availability, technology, and safety.
"Of course, we wanted processing of cash and checks," said Fitzpatrick, "but also electronic remote deposit capture and mechanisms for processing payroll and accounts payable that protect against fraud."
JPMorgan Chase was awarded the agreement based on its strength, ability to meet the city's requests and by having a much lower minimum requirement than American National Bank. The agreement will end April 30, 2013, and have three additional one-year extensions. The city will have an opportunity to test the banking relationship and reduce end-of-year, labor-intensive paperwork, in the event banking institutions are changed.
"Notwithstanding our longstanding relationship with American National Bank, we have an obligation to do what makes the most economic and financial sense - the most fiscally responsible decision for everyone," said Ratcliffe.
Staff members were commended for their work and ability to handle the process in-house, thereby saving the city thousands of dollars.
The council took action on Resolution 110719B to adopt a fund balance

New county precinct lines

...of public hearings, workshops and meetings on the matter, Rockwall County Commissioners voted and unanimously approved...
...three final...
...restricting plans on Tuesday, July 26. Plan 3 was selected, primarily due to its minimal disruption of seats and polling places, accord...
...ions exp...
...sed by Commissioners in the final public hearing. The new configuration will require two more Justices of the peace and two more...
...les. Detai...
...d more information, including a downloadable map, are available online at www.rockwallcountytexas.com. Rockwall County...
...ll provide...
...going coverage of the next stages of the process, as election plans are developed.

(Continued on Page 3)



Hawkins tapped as chief nursing officer at Texas Health Rockwall

Tami Hlus-Hawkins, RN, MSN, NEA-BC, recently was promoted to the position of vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall, according to a hospital news release.

Hawkins most recently served the hospital as the director of emergency

services and critical care for the past four years.

"The medical staff leadership is very pleased with the choice of Tami as our new CNO," said Dr. Gary Bonacquisti, medical director. "We have the utmost confidence in her abilities and are excited about her expanded leadership position at Texas Health Rockwall."

As a registered nurse, Hawkins has experience in clinical care and has been employed by the Rockwall hospital since December 2007. Prior to her position at Texas Health Rockwall, she worked as a flight nurse with CareFlight, eventually moving into the role of clinical operations. Additionally, she has worked as an emergency shift supervisor and a pediatric/neonatal nurse in several Dallas hospitals. During her leadership the Texas Health Rockwall emergency department expanded to better accommodate patients and their family needs, ultimately reduce patient wait time. Hawkins also implemented an advocate position, which gives the patient a personal contact person while they are in the emergency room.

Hawkins was instrumental in coordinating a transfer program at Texas Health Dallas Cath Lab to expedite stabilized ER patients who require interventional cardiac care resulting in exceptional outcomes for those patients. Currently she is overseeing a new accreditation for which the hospital is in the process of being accredited.

"Over the past four years I have witnessed Tami's leadership skills. Ken Teel, hospital president. "She has demonstrated a hard working attitude, superior knowledge and a penchant for making sound decisions in a very complex profession. Based on the above, I expect Tami to achieve excellent results."

Hawkins, who lives in Heath with her husband, Doug, and daughter Hannah, is active in Rockwall area schools as a Risk Watcher and hospital coordinator of the local "Shattered Dreams" at Rockwall High. She has received a variety of commendations during her career, including being named Director of the Quarter and Director of the Year at Texas Health Rockwall and recipient of the Presidential Leadership Award for 2010.



Tami Hlus-Hawkins, Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, Texas Health Rockwall

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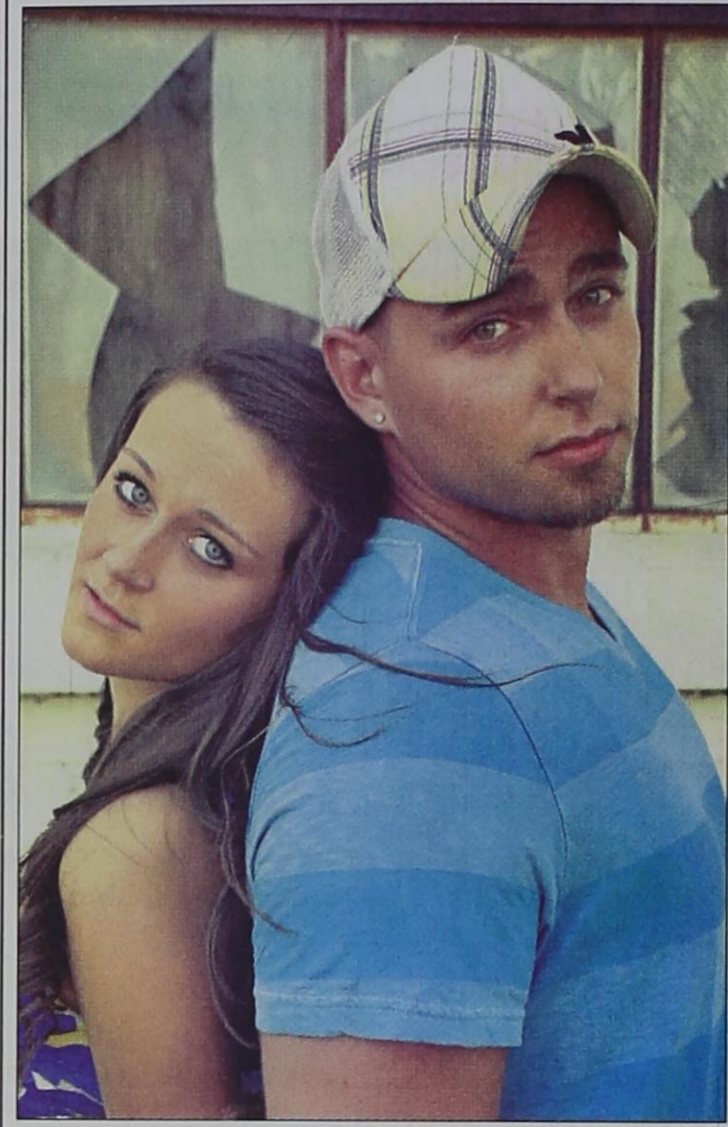
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Rockwall logs record water usage August 1

The City of Rockwall posted record water use on Aug. 1 at 20,787,634 gallons (topping the 2008 record of 20,114,986), the same day Stage 2 Water Conservation Measures were initiated, according to a city news release.

The city joined the North Texas Municipal Water District in implementing the region-wide Stage 2 restrictions as a result of the temporary loss of 22.5 percent of the Lake Texoma raw water supply due to invasive zebra mussels and continued drought conditions, with peak water usage at 554 million gallons per day.

- Under the conservation measures, residents are asked to:
- Restrict landscape and lawn irrigation from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
 - Wait until the current drought has passed before installing new landscaping;
 - Help reduce water usage by 5 percent
- For information and tips on water conservation, visit wateriq.org.



Taylor Wynn, Jessica Cummings Cummings set March 2012 wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Erich Wynn of Heath are proud to announce the engagement of their son, Taylor Miles Wynn, to Jessica Christine Cummings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Cummings of Quinlan.

The prospective bridegroom, a 2006 graduate of Rockwall High School, is owner of Xtreme Green Chemical Co.

The bride-elect, a 2008 graduate of Quinlan High, is employed as a dental assistant with Bishop Arts Dental.

A March 2012 wedding is planned. Following a honeymoon to Nassau, Bahamas, the couple plans to reside in Rockwall.



Cassandra Almaraz

Armando Jr. and Melissa are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Cassandra Almaraz, at 10:24 a.m. July 29, 2011, at Texas Health Presbyterian Plano.

The infant weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches at birth.

She was welcomed by her brothers, Javier and Jose. Grandparents are Monica Rauhauser and Maria Almaraz of Rockwall and late Armando Almaraz.



Myra Ann Colvin

Desiree Reynolds and Brandon Jackson Colvin are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Myra Ann Colvin, on Aug. 6, 2011, at Rockwall Hospital, Rockwall, Texas.

The infant weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces at birth.

She was welcomed by her brother, James Clark Colvin, and 4 months old.

Grandparents are Colvin of Rockwall.

Great-grandparents are Bernard Shadoin and Patricia of Benson, La., and Colvin of Benton, La.

Rockwall to purchase trailer for pet adoption

Rockwall City Council gave the go-ahead to purchase an 8'x13' 12-kennel mobile stand-alone trailer for use by Animal Services to enhance its adoption events at Farmers Market and other community events.

"Its colorful presence and additional customers to wonderful animals so our adoptions will continue to grow," said Jeffrey Widmer, director of animal services, in a release issued this week.

The brightly-wrapped trailer will have air conditioned kennels and wastewater systems, controls and full lighting.

City officials announced the trailer enhances the pet adoptions.

The trailer should be delivered in October.

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Lucile Tate with her son Garvin Tate

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McLendon-Chisholm City Council approves proposal on new website

A Rockwall County News Exclusive
 McLendon-Chisholm City Council meeting, Glen Farris proposed to members using an iPad. The recom-
 site for ease of use, accessibility and search opti-
 the city may create additional pages, along with posts
 are fully customizable and modified easily. Login
 contain site administrators and different levels access.
 in and hierarchical structure, the city secretary could
 manager approval as administrator, said Farris.
 available for various needs including search optimi-
 as Google, YouTube and Bing. City departments may

have separate pages including a unique sidebar. Current information is used to develop the site. Information will reside on offsite servers, backed up and portable," he said.
 Included in the proposal were monthly hosting, two hours of training, email accounts and Facebook and Twitter accounts.
 "Explain why we would need Facebook and Twitter accounts," council member Lee Nichols said.
 "You will want to communicate by whatever means your citizens want, including social media platforms," Farris said.
 Council voted and approved Farris's proposal.
 SB 100 was discussed relative to the city's election process. According to Texas Legislature SB 100 relates to the adoption of certain voting procedures

and to certain elections, including procedures necessary to implement the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, deadlines for declaration of candidacy and dates for certain elections, and to terms of certain elected officials.
 According to city manager Dave Butler, various options exist regarding election dates and equipment. The easiest is to move all elections to November, which coincides with other elections and equipment rental. In order to change office terms, citizens must vote; however, changing election dates may be accomplished by a resolution.
 "Rockwall County Elections Administrator Glenda Denton has been very good about working with the cities and school board to keep costs down as much as possible," Butler said.
 Council approved resolution to move elections to November.
 Several citizens addressed council for addition to Aug. 9 meeting agenda regarding allegations of an illegal home business. There was no discussion by council. According to state law, council comments and discussions are limited to agenda items.

Police investigate possible connections in wheel thefts

A Rockwall County News Exclusive
 Rockwall Police took a report of SUV wheels stolen in The Shattered Dreams neighborhood found yet another
 PD described the two thefts as similar, both occurring late at night, leaving the same types of wheels from the vehicles, leaving
 hitting inter-market wheels and higher-end stock wheels on certain streets," said Sgt. Ray Fitzwater of Rockwall's Criminal Investigation
 targeted are Escalades, GMC Denalis and some Denali SUVs with 20 inches or larger chrome wheels.

Fitzwater said the wheels are easy to steal and quick work for the experienced thief. Also, wheels don't bear any unique identification numbers that would make them traceable. After a quick getaway, the thieves are able to sell the wheels at local tire shops, swap meets and flea markets.
 The most recent capture of a wheel thief in the Rockwall occurred several months ago near Hwy 276. Fitzwater attributed the arrest to a homeowner who was awakened by noise outside and looked out to see a man taking the wheels from his Denali. He immediately called 911 and stayed on the phone with police, enabling them to identify the thief as he left in his pickup with the homeowner's chrome wheels in the back. Following a short pursuit, the suspect was taken into custody and the wheels were returned to their owner.
 Fitzwater said that's the kind of response it's going to take to put an end to the rash of wheel thefts — "somebody seeing, hearing it, giving us a call and letting us get out there and get them into custody."

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Store clerk ignores robbery suspect

A Rockwall County News Exclusive
 Edward... defense for a drug store employee faced with an... after 6 a.m. Aug. 1. The robbery attempt occurred at... Ridge Road in Rockwall, according to police reports.
 a man entered the store, wielding a handgun, and tried... was unsuccessful after the employee he confronted im-... the store, escaping harm. After lingering in the store a... t the store empty-handed — without any cash or mer-
 in the... rob the place, and it just didn't work out for him," said...
 police... Jeff Welch.
 reports.com, the resource Rockwall PD utilizes to pro-... to public, this is the sixth reported robbery in the vicinity... since February. The robberies are not known to be con-...
 the suspect was trying to commit a theft and that he... that he failed to take anything would not prevent the...
 felony case, Rockwall County D.A. Kenda Culpepper...
 it's... in the statutes, it would still be robbery," said

That particular crime appeared to be isolated, with no connection to any other incidents yet, said Fitzwater.
 The best possible prevention Fitzwater said he could recommend, besides alert neighbors, would be a double-lock system on the wheels. Most vehicle owners install a single lock on each wheel, but Fitzwater said this mechanism can be broken. However, having a second lock on each wheel would be a deterrent.
 "If it's that much of a hindrance to them," said Fitzwater, "if it's going to take that much time, they just might move on to another SUV's wheels — they might not take yours."
 Another factor the thefts have in common is situations where the thieves can work in concealment. In most cases, the targeted vehicles were parked in rear driveways. Even in the case of the large volume of wheels stolen from a Rockwall car dealership a few weeks ago, the wheels taken were from cars parked along the dark side of the building, shielded from the view of the service road.
 Rockwall Police investigators could not yet report any promising leads on the car dealership theft, but said they don't believe there is any connection between that incident and the residential thefts that have occurred sporadically around town — including the county — for the past couple of years.
 "Those kinds of things float around the Metroplex," said Lt. David Davis, supervisor over field operations for Rockwall County Sheriff's Department. Davis reported that these kinds of thefts are common from time to time, with no known connection to other such thefts in the area.
 "These people move around a lot," said Davis. "They may hit Sherman, Denton or Greenville next."

described as a black male, approximately 5 feet 11 inches tall, wearing a green hoodie and a black turtleneck under-
 investigation Division is reviewing evidence and state-
 anyone with information regarding this incident call
 Department at 972-771-7721 or Rockwall County
 972-771-TIPS.

Heath tapped for Scenic City designation

The City of Heath has been awarded the Scenic City Certification by Scenic Texas, an organization dedicated to supporting and recognizing Texas municipalities that implement high quality scenic standards for public roadways and public spaces.
 "Our citizens have always known that Heath is a very special and beautiful community, but earning this certification promotes the message throughout the country that our city is an attractive place to live and work," said John Ratcliffe, mayor.
 The Scenic City application process contains 73 possible criteria points, including a percentage of park and open space, implementation of multi-use trails and recreation areas, strong litter enforcement laws, street light standards and utility line management.

Notice of Public Hearing on ROCKWALL CAD Budget

The ROCKWALL CAD will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2012 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on Aug. 16, 2011 @ 7:30 at 841 Justin Rd

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.	\$ <u>1,188,300.00</u>
The total amount of increase over the current year's budget.	\$ <u>-23,785.00</u>
The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.	<u>12</u> <i>(full-time equivalent)</i>
The number of employees compensated under the current budget.	<u>12</u> <i>(full-time equivalent)</i>

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT:
 ROCKWALL CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT
 841 JUSTIN ROAD
 ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087
 AUGUST 16, 2011 AT 7:30 PM

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

ROCKWALL CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT
 841 JUSTIN ROAD
 ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087
 972-771-2034

City Council ...

(Continued from Page 1)
 finance director Laurie Mays, the policy is required in
 generally accepted accounting and financial reporting
 Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The GASB Statement
 has a 1 balance — classification hierarchy based on the extent
 and to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the
 a governmental funds. Categories are rated from most
 restrictive.
 of this is Terry Park," said Mays. "We would spend grant
 most restrictive and general fund cash last which is least
 es a goal of 25 percent least restrictive funds balance,
 at 20 percent. The council approved the policy with the
 regarding concern at 20 percent, agreeing that maintain-

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ANNUAL COMPENSATION FOR COUNTY AUDITOR, ASSISTANT AUDITORS, AND COURT REPORTERS, AND THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE OFFICE OF COUNTY AUDITOR

ROCKWALL COUNTY TEXAS
 COUNTY OF ROCKWALL

whereby given that the District Judges of the 382nd and 439th Judicial District of Rockwall County, Texas, will conduct a public hearing at 8:00 a.m. on the August 12, 2011, in the 382nd District Courtroom located in the Rockwall Government Center at 1101 Ridge Road in Rockwall, Texas.

The purpose of this public hearing is:

- to receive public comment on the proposed annual compensation for the County Auditor, Assistant Auditors, and Court Reporters, and on the proposed budget for the Office of County Auditor for the budget year ending September 30, 2012.
- to set the annual compensation for the County Auditor, Assistant Auditors, and Court Reporters, and set the budget for the Office of County Auditor for the budget year ending September 30, 2012.

Comments received prior to the public hearing will become part of the record. The public is invited to attend and make comment.

Rockwall County News

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

The gospel of Jesus Christ emphasized, 1Corinthians 15:3-11

In his letter to the Corinthian believers, Paul re-emphasized the basics of the gospel of Jesus Christ as seen in 1Corinthians 15:3-11, "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (verses 3-4). "The scriptures" refer to the Old Testament scriptures that prophesy of the coming Messiah who is our Lord Jesus Christ. Paul pressed the truth that they were fulfilled. There are certain gift ministries that are best suited for certain people. But there is one ministry that is given to all believing Christians. That is the ministry of reconciliation (see 2Corinthians 5:18). The ministry involves understanding and being willing to share the simple gospel of Jesus Christ. As we continue, it will be seen that the Corinthian believers were getting off track with their understanding of the same gospel.

What is the simple gospel of Jesus Christ? That he died for our sins, was buried, and rose again, and that we are redeemed from all unrighteousness, and purified unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. The simple gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news that God has forgiven our sins, and that he has given us a new life in him. The simple gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news that God has forgiven our sins, and that he has given us a new life in him. The simple gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news that God has forgiven our sins, and that he has given us a new life in him.

Concerning sins in action, we have this promise, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1John 1:9). Christians are not commanded to confess their sins to anyone but to God. The forgiveness is already inside through our Lord Jesus Christ. It is up to us to confess our wrong actions to God in heaven. It involves the denial.

Jesus Christ died for our sins. He was buried. And God raised him from the dead three days and three nights later, according to the scriptures. This is the simple ministry that is given to all Christians that so powerful and yet simply beautiful!

Paul shared about the different people who saw the risen Jesus. Jesus was seen of over 500 people at one time. This must refer to the presence of over 500 people as he often did prior to his death. And last of all, he was seen of Paul as recorded in Acts 9:3-4.

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 900 Pullen Street
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 114 East Main St., Royse City

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 FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) of Rockwall
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 Corner of Front & Bell streets, Royse City

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 Proverbs 18:7

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Rockwall County Obituaries

Shonda Vice Gaylord



Funeral services for Shonda Vice Gaylord were conducted at 2 p.m. on August 9, 2011, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with the Rev. Dan Powell officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

Survivors include her husband, Ernestine (Ernie) Trammell of Rockwall; their children, Mike Trammell, Kyle Trammell and his wife, Lauriann, Lisa Trammell, Tammy Oates and her husband, Ben Oates, and Connie Farrell and her fiancé, Steve Lewis; two sisters, Mary Brinlee and her husband, Bobby Don, of Rockwall and Dawn Payne of Rockwall; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and other family members.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Lee Trammell; his mother, Ethel Alderson Kay; his sister, Margo Collett; and a nephew, Mark Brinlee.

He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant son, Craig Warmann.

Elizabeth 'Lisa' Trejo



Services for Elizabeth "Lisa" Trejo were conducted at 10 a.m. Aug. 6, 2011, in the Laurel Oaks Funeral Home in Mesquite with Pastor Joel Gonzalez and Pastor Juan Limones officiating. Burial was in the Laurel Oaks Memorial Park.

She died July 31 in Mesquite. Born Feb. 22, 1985, in Mesquite to Nicolas and Mindy Trejo, she had a love for butterflies.

Survivors include her daughter, Ariela Deseree Velasquez; her parents; her brothers, David Trejo and his wife, Jessica, and Josh Trejo; her niece, Annette Trejo; and her grandfather, Senobio Rodriguez.

Webb, Hawkinson attend Honors Symposium

A pair of local high school students attended the Honors Symposium at Harding University in Searcy, Ark., according to a recent university news release.

Since 1993, the Honors Symposium has welcomed high school juniors to a two-week academic program at the university. The number of participants has grown from fewer than 50 to 200. Students from 40 states and six countries have participated in recent years.

Lauren Webb of Rockwall and Kay-Lee Hawkinson of Royse City are part of this



year's group of participants. Students participate in lectures, discussion groups and interactive classes, as well as evening activities designed to allow them to form friendships with their peers. Students who successfully complete the program earn three hours of transferable university credit.

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Andrew William Hoedebeck

Funeral services for Andrew William Hoedebeck, 26, of Rowlett were conducted at 10 a.m. on August 10, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with the Rev. Dan Powell officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

Survivors include his mother, Jayne Hoedebeck of Rowlett; his father, Bill Hoedebeck and his wife, Karen, of Rowlett; his grandparents, Luke and Doreen Hoedebeck of Rowlett, Joy Adams of Garland and Dwain and Diane Spring; his sister, Peyton Hoedebeck of Rowlett; his brother, Andrew Hoedebeck of Rowlett; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

His parents, Bill and Linda Hoedebeck, preceded him in death.

Julia M. Sullivent



Funeral services for Julia M. Sullivent, 96, of Rowlett were conducted at 2 p.m. on July 28, 2011, in the First Assembly Church in Royse City with the Rev. Dan Powell officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

Survivors include her husband, Earnest Franklin Sullivent; her children, Vita Deramo and Elizabeth Stewart; her brother, Joe; her sister, Effie; and one grandchild, Judy Chesser.

James Taylor Trammell

Funeral services for James Taylor (J.T.) Trammell, 73, were conducted at 2 p.m. on July 28, 2011, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

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2011 Property Tax Rates in CITY OF MCLENDON-CHISHOLM

This notice concerns 2011 property tax rates for CITY OF MCLENDON-CHISHOLM. 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:

Last year's operating taxes	\$164,255
Last year's debt taxes	\$0
Last year's total taxes	\$164,255
Last year's tax base	\$168,466,875
Last year's total tax rate	0.097500/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$164,381
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$166,990,355
= This year's effective tax rate	0.098400/\$100

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)	\$164,381
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$166,990,355
= This year's effective operating rate	0.098400/\$100
× 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	0.106200/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	0.000000/\$100
= This year's rollback rate	0.106200/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If CITY OF MCLENDON-CHISHOLM adopts a 2011 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of 0.098400 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2010 taxes by \$ 4,536.

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	Balance
M & O	0
I & S	0

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 this notice: RAY E. HELM
Title: CHIEF APPRAISER
Date prepared: August 4, 2011

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Rockwall ISD steps up truancy intervention, enforcement

by Jana Edwards • A Rockwall County News Exclusive
With school dropout rates climbing across the nation, the Rockwall Independent School District, the justices of the peace and district attorney's office are plunging into another school year of coordinated efforts to address the issue.

At the RISD Board of Trustees meeting Aug. 15, Pct. 1 JP Jack James and Pct. 2 JP Nancy Beaty will receive special recognition for their success in abating a problem that is just as much a criminal issue as a family problem.

According to a recent study by Northeastern University on the effects of dropping out of school, one in every 10 young male high school dropouts is in jail or juvenile detention, compared with one in 35 young male high school graduates.

Texas state law (Texas Education Code Section 25.085) provides that if a student is absent from school without parental consent for any portion of the school day for three days in a four-week period or for 10 or more days in a six-month period, the student and the student's parent or legal guardian are subject to prosecution for truancy.

Sara Bosner, assistant superintendent of Student and Family Services, said the district is in the process of re-establishing relationships with the court system, to get help for students so they can graduate from high school on time.

"Really, that's the ultimate goal — intervention on that level," said Bosner. "When everything the school has done doesn't make a change, you have to go to the courts."

The program's goal is to improve attendance and, consequently, the graduation rate. RISD credits its success to the added support of Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Barnes, who also had a hand in achieving the goal.

The Rockwall ISD, said Bosner, made a commitment to would intervene at every level: teacher, school administration and central office administration, prior to taking any family into the courtroom.

The court's committed, in turn, families who wound up in court would be availed of all the resources at their disposal to try to help student become successful at school.

One program that had a maximum impact on high school students with attendance issues last year was the Truancy Intervention Program, or TIP. This intervention tool involved a partnership with Volunteers of North Texas as a way to offer intervention to high school students. If student at high school level met the threshold for truancy, rather than taking the youths to court, they would go into the TIP program.

The free program involved presentations and meetings every other week, with volunteers talking about the importance of finishing school on time. The program also involved that the students complete community service.

Last year, 65 students completed early intervention truancy program and 1,625 hours of community service in Rockwall, rather than being sent directly through the courts. Only student from the TIP program actually ended up in truancy court, while others were addressed with various types of internal intervention.

By the time students are sent to court, said Bosner, the judges know they have some real concerns.

"We were very successful and helped salvage some of the kids," said James.

Of the students RISD actually filed truancy cases against, the child's average rate of attendance would have plummeted to 45 percent. After being addressed by the JP courts in Rockwall, however, the average would increase to 70 percent for such students.

On average, the court's intervention resulted in a 24 percent improvement in attendance for the children charged with truancy. RISD officials indicated they are pleased with such a change in only one semester.

Bosner said the school district is grateful to members of the community like the JPs who initiated the project as recently as January, but James said it was more important to take the recognition as an opportunity to draw the community's attention to the problem of truancy.

"We want to hit the ground running when school starts," said James, "making the kids and parents aware that we will be closely monitoring school attendance."

Rockwall County Entertainment

Royce City Chamber plans Casino Night

The Royce City Chamber will present its annual Casino Night and Silent Auction beginning at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 12 at Occasions at Stone River. A \$35 ticket will include dinner and drinks, gaming tokens, live and silent auctions and entertainment. For more details visit roycecitychamber.com or call 972-636-5000.

Cajun/Zydeco concert to end season

Ponty Bone, a Cajun/Zydeco band, will give the final performance of the Concert by the Lake 2011 series at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18 at the Harbor Amphitheatre. Admission will be free.

Rockwall County News Briefs

MOW has shortage of volunteers

Meals on Wheels is experiencing a "drastic shortage of volunteers" according to a recent news release. Anyone interested in helping Rockwall's senior citizens should call 972-771-9514 or visit mow.com for more details.

RSVP now for RC Chamber luncheon

The next Royce City Chamber luncheon will take place at 11 a.m. in the Melody Room at City Hall, Royce City. Featured speaker will be Eric Evans of Lake Pointe Health Network and Sue Goodson, Fair of Texas. The meal will be catered by Carino's. Cost is \$15 payable at the door, or \$15 for individuals without reservations. Contact Julia Bryant by Aug. 12 at 972-636-5000.

Habitat workday planned

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department has extended a special invitation to female volunteers to come out and help at the latest Habitat for Humanity Colony. Male volunteers, too, will be welcomed. Roof work will be the next task on hand is that of insulation installation. Work will begin at 7 a.m. before temperatures get too high. Plans call for work before lunch, but that will depend on the number of volunteers. Volunteers should bring gloves.

Doggie Splash Day set Aug. 13

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host its annual Doggie Splash Day at 10 a.m. Aug. 13. A swimsuit contest, dog-puddle retrieving contest will be conducted for dogs. Cost will be \$5 per dog. Dog owners will be admitted free of charge. Owners must have rabies vaccinations for their pets to be allowed entry. For more details call 972-771-7740.

Tri-County Veterans plan dinner/meeting

The monthly dinner/meeting of the Tri-County Veterans Association will be held at 6 p.m. Aug. 16 at the Royce City Senior Center. Dinner will be followed by a short meeting at 7 p.m. All veterans are invited. For more details or to RSVP contact Gene Allen at 972-633-9232.

Spay/neuter shuttle scheduled

The next monthly low-cost spay/neuter Rockwall PAWS will depart at 7:30 a.m. Aug. 18 from the I-30 Wal-Mart parking lot. Pets will return to the same location at 6:30 p.m. after work is completed. Dogs must be on leashes, cats in secure carriers. For more details call 1-972-472-3500 (habalamos Español) or see prices at rockwallpaws.org. Upcoming shuttle dates are Sept. 22 and Oct. 20. For more details call Rockwall PAWS at 972-310-1354. To help continue the program, donations to Rockwall PAWS, P.O. Box 44, Rockwall, TX 75087, rockwallpaws.org.

Spirit Night for RHHS

The RHHS cheerleaders and mascots will host a Spirit Night at 8 p.m. Aug. 18 at Chick-fil-A. The cheerleaders and mascots will be on hand to take pictures with RHHS fans.

Meet the Teacher set at May Vernon

Meet the Teacher night for May Vernon Elementary will be held at 6 p.m. Aug. 18. Incoming kindergarten and first grade students and their parents will come between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., while students in second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and their parents are scheduled to drop in between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Pre-K students and their families will observe conference presentations.

Cherry plans Meet the Teacher event

Cherry Intermediate will host a Meet the Teacher event from 6 p.m. Aug. 18, according to the RCISD website. Registration is open to new to the school will run Aug. 1-19.

Jones sets Meet the Teacher night

Meet the Teacher night for Jones Elementary has been set for 6 p.m. Sept. 1. To find a list of school supplies in both English and Spanish, visit rockwallisd.com/Default.aspx?alias=rockwallisd.com/Jones.

RCRW planning Aug. 20 tea

The Rockwall County Republican Women are planning a tea at 2 p.m. Aug. 20 at Holy Trinity by the Lake Fellowship Church. Guests will include Rep. Jodie Laubenberg, speaker, and Nancy Mowbray will give a one-woman show, "Rosemary Memories." Congresswoman Hall also will be a guest speaker. Tickets will cost \$25 and can be purchased at rcrw.org, at GOP headquarters or by calling 972-771-7761.

Final VIP day of the year planned

The final Volunteer Park (VIP) summer workday in Rockwall will be Aug. 27 at Harry Myers Park, 815 E. Walnut. The volunteer effort will run from 9 a.m. to noon. Individuals are invited to participate. For more information contact the Parks & Rec Department at 972-771-7761.

Some animal adoption rates reduced

All cats and dogs that have been at the Rockwall Animal Adoption Center for 60 days or more will see their adoption fees reduced by 50 percent. The Summer of Love event at the Rockwall Animal Adoption Center, 1910 Airport Rd., through the month of August. Dogs will cost \$25 and cats \$15. For more information visit rockwallpets.com.

Registration open for YMCA cheerleading

Registration is under way for YMCA cheerleading for children ages 8-12. Cost is \$35 for YMCA family members and \$90 for non-members. The season will begin Sept. 10. Additional details and registration information is available at rockwallymca.org.

CASA volunteer info sessions slated

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Volunteer Information Sessions will be conducted at 7 p.m. Sept. 8 at the CASA office, 1641, Forney, in Rockwall and at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 12 at C/Life Church, 1641, Forney. For more information call 972-772-5858, email lonestarcasa.org or visit lonestarcasa.org.

Aspasians arts, crafts fair slated

The Aspasians Fall Arts and Crafts Fair will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 17 in the Historic Downtown Rockwall Square. The event will feature jewelry, gifts, fine artists, fashion apparel, purses, food, children's activities and more. All proceeds from booth rentals will help fund school supplies for Rockwall and RHHS graduated seniors. For vendor information call 972-0212 or visit aspasians.com.

Volunteer park cleanup set Sept. 30

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department is organizing a volunteer cleanup of Hickory Park at 1910 Walnut Ridge from 9 a.m. to noon Sept. 30. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to join the effort. For more information call 972-771-7765.

Texas Night Out set Oct. 4

The anti-crime campaign Texas Night Out will be observed from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 4 in Rockwall. To schedule an event in your neighborhood call 972-771-7765.

RHS groups needs vendors for craft fair

The RHS Band/Senior Class will host a craft fair Oct. 8 at the RHS. Types of parking also will be available. The fair also will include a silent fundraiser — a haunted house game booth event. Contact Lisa Taylor at 972-772-1846 for more details.

Rib Rub & Run slated Oct. 15

Rockwall's 3rd Annual Rib Rub & Run, which will feature a 5K run, a 10K run, a 5K walk, a 10K walk, a food and beer festival and a silent auction, will be held on Oct. 15. For more details visit mainstreetrockwall.com.

Royce City Trick or Treat on Main Street

Royce City's Trick or Treat on Main Street will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Oct. 26, according to information in the RC Chamber's e-newsletter. The event is hosted by local merchants, civic organizations and RC Chamber and is free to the public; no pets will be allowed.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The _____ Royce City I.S.D. will hold a public meeting at _____ 6:30pm, August 29, 2011 in _____ Epps Education Center Board Room, 810 Old Greenville Rd., _____ Royce City, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$ 1.17	/ \$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ 0.44	/ \$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters		

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	% increase	or	1.948	% (decrease)
Debt service	% increase	or	5.102	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	% increase	or	7.050	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,268,079,767	\$ 1,222,078,827
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 46,934,863	\$ 32,963,316
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 1,083,684,124	\$ 1,060,818,526
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 39,057,184	\$ 32,545,090

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(2)(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 113,250,794

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 6-06/2) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.17	\$.39 *	\$ 1.56	\$ 3,828	\$ 5,434
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.2017	\$.4759 *	\$ 1.6776	\$ 3,919	\$ 5,641
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.17	\$.44 *	\$ 1.61	\$ 3,847	\$ 5,083

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 146,977	\$ 142,474
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 131,845	\$ 127,237
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.56	\$ 1.61
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 2,056.78	\$ 2,048.52
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (8.26)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.6459. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.6459.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 6,622,851
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,042,588

Royse City News

RCISD earns 'acceptable' rating from state

District and campus ratings were released July 29 by the Texas Education Agency for the eighth and final year of TAKS testing.

According to a news release from the Royse City Independent School District, the district's test scores remained similar to those from last year and even showed some improvement in some areas, in spite of the increase in the number of students.

The 2011 ratings will stay in place for the next two years to give schools a chance to adjust to the new STAAR testing system, which will be implemented in the coming school year.

Changes to the system will include:

- The elimination of the Texas Projection Measure, which was used for the 2009 and 2010 ratings. The TPM calculated student performance on future tests based on a campus-wide average.
- Number of base indicators has increased from 35 to 40 (four new measures for commended performance and one new measure for English Language Learners).
- Two new base indicators – commended performance scores included economically disadvantaged and all students in rating recognized and exemplary campuses, and English Language Learners progress (must be 60 percent for recognized and exemplary ratings).
- TAKS indicator now includes TAKS-M and TAKS-ALT for all grades and subjects for students receiving special education services.
- The completion rate methodology for the 2010 graduating class has changed, resulting in more high schools receiving a completion rating.
- TAKS indicator standards for academically acceptable increased for math and science five points each.
- The standard for the annual dropout rate grades 7-8 decreased from 1.8 percent to 1.6 percent.
- Standard for Gold Performance Acknowledgments (GPA) increased to include TAKS-M and TAKS-ALT performance.
- The college-ready graduate indicator increased from 35 percent to 40 percent.

Even with the increase in measures, students from across the state have continued to increase their test scores.

The increased measures did result in significant drops in ratings. Across the state, Exemplary campuses dropped from 19.5 percent to 5 percent, Recognized from 49.1 percent to 34.4 percent and Acceptable rose from 27.6 percent to 53.3 percent. Unacceptable campuses climbed from 3 percent to 7.2 percent.

"That despite the fact that fewer schools achieved the high categories, the school system as a whole is strong and parents should feel confident that the ratings are absolutely real and valid," said Robert Scott, Texas Education commissioner, in the news release. "Communities should be very proud of these high-performing schools that are meeting these new rigorous standards."

The accountability rating for the RCISD is Academically Acceptable, with the following campus ratings:

- Davis Elementary – Recognized
- Anita Scott Elementary – Recognized
- W.R. Fort Elementary – Exemplary
- Miss May Vernon Elementary – Exemplary
- Ruth Cherry Intermediate – Academically Acceptable
- Harry H. Herndon Intermediate – Exemplary
- Royse City Middle School – Academically Acceptable
- Royse City High School – Academically Acceptable
- H.H. Browning ALC – AEA: Academically Acceptable (highest rating allowed for this campus, according to the news release)

"The district achievement levels were not lower; however, the increased standards changed our ratings. Standards for accountability are moving targets, with the criteria changing from year to year, and our district will plan and adapt to meet those changes," said Randy Hancock, superintendent of schools. "Overall we are pleased with the results. We will continue to work on areas that we can improve and it is important to remember that test results are just one piece of determining our overall success."

"Royse City ISD students and teachers celebrated great success last year, with our best ratings and test scores ever, our Destination Imagination teams competing for the first time at the national level and the high school speech and debate competitors advancing to nationals, just to name a few. Education is more than testing, but testing is a part of the educational experience and our district has been working and planning to make sure students and teachers are ready for the newest state testing standards."

Royse City Police Blotter

July 29- Aug. 4

- Friday, 29 July: Medical assistance, 1000 block Courtney Drive; Alarm, 100 block E. Main Street; Reckless driver, 6500 block E. I-30; Medical assistance, 1600 block Nevers Drive; Suspicious vehicle, 800 block Mackenzi Drive
- Saturday, 30 July: Driving without drivers license arrest, I-30 at the 77 mile marker; Possession of drug paraphernalia, I-30 at the 78 mile marker; Driving while license invalid/City of Dallas warrants arrest, Suspicious activity, 200 block Hidden Creek Court; Suspicious vehicle, 1500 block Sam Circle; Medical assistance, 900 block Live Oak Street; Reckless driver, 300 block Regal Court
- Sunday, 31 July: Medical assistance, 700 block Lula; Suspicious activity, Corner of Sandy Lane and Ellis Lane
- Monday, 1 August: Possession of marijuana/Bexar County warrant arrest, E. I-30 at the 77 mile marker; Suspicious activity, 1400 block W. Main Street; Reckless driver, 400 block E. I-30 SSR; Accident, 6900 block W. I-30
- Tuesday, 2 August: Public intoxication arrest, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; Reckless driver, I-30 at the 77-mile marker
- Wednesday, 3 August: Disorderly conduct, 200 block Hidden Creek Court; Theft, 700 block S. Bulldog Boulevard; Driving while intoxicated arrest, 100 block E. I-30 NSR
- Thursday, 4 August: Assault, 300 block N. Houston Street; Alarm, 100 block E. Main Street; Alarm, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; Alarm, 1400 block W. Main Street; Suspicious person, 3000 block Spencer Circle



Peggy Wesberry's home, 608 Center St., was selected as the Royse City Chamber's Yard of the Month for August. The purpose of the program is to "recognize Royse City citizens who demonstrate above-average efforts in maintaining their property, thereby contributing to the overall appearance of the community at large," according to a chamber news release.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Bird Rotary Club member Bill Ellis is shown presenting Literacy Fellow Award to Becky Gilbert Aug. 4 potluck dinner for the organization at his home. Gilbert won her work with literacy programs for adults and children.

This Week in Royse City

A Rockwall County News Exclusively

Baker
I. Hope all you are doing OK. I talk about the weather anymore. I'm kind of burnt out, aren't you? When I look out on my land, I am "The Lion King." In the beginning of the movie, the lions, lived in Pride Rock, which was lush and beautiful. Scar, killed Mufasa in order to gain a dead, Scar took over Pride Rock. Soon the land here was a huge drought, taking the beauty, food and forming "Elephant Graveyard." Remind you of anything? When I was bemoaning the fact that July had already gone. Here it is August and it seems like our little tivity. So, here we go.

Water conservation

Important thing I want to talk to you about today is effective Aug. 19, Royse City was upgraded to Stage Drought Emergency Plan. We can do to limit the amount of water we use. For we don't want to wash our driveways or other paved treated water really shouldn't be on until the drought the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. will ensure the waporate quickly as watering after 10 a.m. It's just too hot. y of the plan by contacting City Hall.

New water tower

Have you all seen the new water tower over in the area? It's beautiful. The tank is expected to be up and running on to drop in the November.

New police officer

of the Royse City Police Department has announced the of Keith Short. Officer Short has kept citizens of Hunt County safe. He has a total of 54 applicants. After agility tests, an check and interviews, Short proved to be the best for the job.

Library news

unteer is Payetan Smith, 13, who has worked in the library for many years. Her favorite thing about volunteering is helping the people and being around books. She has lived in Royse City and loves the growth of the town. Not surprisingly, she is reading, writing and social studies. Help, Payetan. You're awesome. We are having a book sale during library hours. This is a great opportunity and you can check them out (get it?) Monday through Saturday. It's always fun to shop for books and the best books are available.

osting a back-to-school special Aug. 15-31. What's new? Well, how do waived overdue fines sound to you? Make sure you take advantage of this opportunity for a free pass.

Royse City museum

know, the Zaner Robison Museum is located at 1000 W. Washington St. from Thursday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Admission is free and you're bound to learn something new. Cornelius is happy to have a prize saddle by Billy Seaman, a Royse City saddle maker. It should be a sight to see. It's such a talent. I would venture to say each saddle is unique. We will be taught during a tea at the museum Aug. 17. I can't wait to see you, you'll love it. Dress in your Sunday best and if you have them. Call Cornelius regarding reservations at 972-816-6006. You'll be glad you did.

Pets are people, too

our pets well watered and shaded while triple-digit temperatures continue. Although pets are indeed, animals, most of them are people. They are, after all, our best friends. Give them the help they need to survive this heat, so please look out for them because they are people, too.

Early Bird Rotary Club

meeting of the Early Bird Rotary meeting Thursday. The meeting opened his home to members for a potluck dinner. Some enjoyed the desserts more than others (you know you are).

eracy Fellow Award was presented to Becky Gilbert for her outstanding work in literacy programs for children and adults.

Volunteers needed

Many opportunities are available for you to lend your talents to the community. Some of the opportunities include: Royse City Museum, Royse City Chamber of Commerce, Royse City Public Library, Royse City Police Department, Royse City Fire Department, Royse City Parks and Recreation, Royse City Senior Center, Royse City Youth Center, Royse City Chamber of Commerce, Royse City Chamber of Commerce, Royse City Chamber of Commerce.

Back to school
The new school year rolls around and it's time to get ready for the start of the school year.

Prayer requests

This week, we want to remember the Navy Seals who were killed in Afghanistan when their Chinook was downed. We don't want to forget to add their families and friends who are left to grieve.

We also want to pray for the injured, our city, relief from this heat wave and for our government officials. Remember to pray for your friends and family.

That's all the news I have for this week. There was so much to write about. If I have inadvertently left someone or something out, please forgive me and don't hesitate to send an email. I would like to encourage you all to stay out of the heat as much as possible, keep hydrated and watch your pets and children. Be careful as you go.

You may contact me at rcn.paula@gmail.com or 469-464-8735.

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Rockwall County News RockwallTexasOnline.com Daily Local News

Linda Traphagen

"I had given up hope until we brought Mom here. The therapists are like little angels from God."

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RockwallTexasOnline.com

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A Rockwall County News Exclusive

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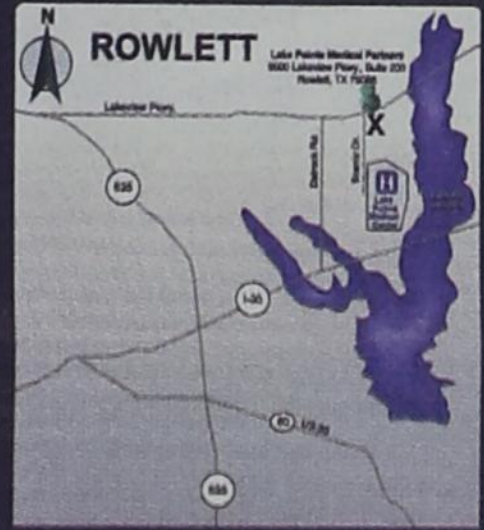
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Heath News



The Rockwall-Heath Highsteppers drill team attended the American Dance/Drill Team Line Camp July 29-31 in Richardson. The members worked on team-building exercises, worked with choreographers from the Dallas area and took a master class from the Mavericks Dancers' director. They also completed in several routines and earned several awards, including Super Sweepstakes, All-Team of the Day, Gussie Nell Davis Team of the Day, Gussie Nell Davis Team of the Week and Best Overall Precision. All-American Company awards were given to Tori Carney and Breelan Statham. All-American recipients were Madison Mills, Statham, Carney and Smith. Honorable mentions went to Erin Shaw, Kurstin Hill, Kayla Bender, Victoria Pulley, Alyssa Powell and Karee Turner. Smith was presented with the Outstanding Performers Award. Pictured are, at back, manager Heather Crawford, Powell, Shelby Carrel, Woodward, Shannon Lovelady, Lacey Smith, Rebecca Allen, Ebony Estrada, Leslie Allen, manager Shaunna Fao, Courtney Brice, Bosante, Carney, Aylana Alvarez and Kreena Mehta. On the third row are Christina White, Vlada Filic, Kalyn Jones, Cheyenne Brice, Pharon Davidson, Patricia Berrera, Anna DiGirolamo, Alyssa Mastronardi and Maddie Lovett. Second row, Kayla Stubbs, line officer; Rebecca Powell, line officer; Turner, line officer; Macy Christian; Jennifer Stubbs; Haylee Mullett, line major; Tori Bryant; Allie Brice, line officer; Savannah Meler; and Katelynn Redding, line officer. Shown at front are Statham, junior lieutenant; Bender, junior lieutenant; Lindemann, lieutenant; Erin Shaw, lieutenant; Pulley, first lieutenant; Monica Lyon, director; Rachel Smith, captain; Kristina Statham, lieutenant; Hill, lieutenant; and Mills, junior lieutenant.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

This Week in Heath

by Darcy Rocha

Heath is spectacular in many ways, but after living here four years I think the part I like best of all is the good folks that are never short a smile, a hello or a kind word. That got me thinking about some of our local residents who are doing some pretty exciting things. Perhaps you knew them already, but if not, there's always an opportunity to make a new friend. I know I did.

Zumba master delivers Latin flavor, flash mob

Zumba, the Latin dance-infused group fitness class, has gained national appeal over the past few years and Buffalo Creek resident Chely Smithgall has harnessed that energy to share with others right in our won community. A Heath transplant

from McAllen, she saw a great opportunity to help promote this fun area. Not only is she a certified Zumba instructor at 24 Hour Fitness and a Zumba Connection, she has led regular Zumba classes at Pullen Elementary School.

With incredible passion, as well as warmth and kindness, Smithgall and others in her community get fit, have fun and gain more confidence. Her fitness and commitment to helping others in our community is readily apparent. She has attended one of her high-energy classes, as is her signature move.

Saturday, Smithgall and fellow Zumba instructors Gracie Whelan and McIlwain, also of Heath, organized a flash mob at Kroger. Shoppers who were short of stunner when dance music suddenly began playing and some shoppers stepped away from their carts and started dancing. (See the walltexasonline.com.)



Chely and Ed Smithgall with their sons, Nicholas and Michael, are shown at home in Heath.
 Photo courtesy of Chely Smithgall/Rockwall County News

It was all in good fun and even the store's employees were taking part in the music. As I watched the scene unfold I overheard a fellow shopper with the bananas. Well how about that?

Smithgall and her husband, Ed, have two children - Michael and Nicholas. If you want to see what this Zumba craze is all about, check out videos and class info on Facebook at "Zumba with Chely."

Local TV celebrity filming show on veterans

Heath resident John McCalmont already may be a household name on his show "Sliced" that aired on The History Channel and the popular "Champs" celebrating its 10th season on the World Fishing Network.

Turning his focus towards a project of a different flavor, McCalmont is busy this week on-location in Florida filming 8 new episodes of "Designing Spaces" called "Designing Spaces of Hope: Project Military Makeover." In cooperation with the non-profit group Operation Homefront - who provide emergency financial and other assistance to the families of injured and wounded warriors - the show will follow the home renovation of military families as a loved one transitions back home after being deployed. Designing Spaces Dream Team features expert designers from around the country who have come to Florida just to help out these families, including installing an injured veteran as he works toward recovery.

"I love giving back whenever I can, especially to anyone who has served our country," said McCalmont, via a phone interview on location in Florida.

The show will air on Lifetime, debuting Sept. 8 in conjunction with the anniversary of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

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"Designing Spaces" team member Cindy McKenzie, military officer Traci Caicedo, host John McCalmont and design team member Edward Cardimona are shown on assignment in Florida filming "Designing Spaces of Hope: Project Military Makeover."

Photo courtesy of John McCalmont/Rockwall County News

A Rockwall County News Exclusive




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Heath eyes Stage 2 water conservation

The Heath City Council has approved a mandatory Stage 2 water conservation measures according to a new ordinance. The city, is expected to meet the requirements on August 15. Under the Stage 2 plan, water use throughout the city will be reduced by 10 percent.

The implementation of Stage 2 is being considered as a result of the loss of water supply thanks to the mussels, continued droughts and high water usage. "Not only are we facing the driest summers in years but with the zebra mussels off our Texoma supply," said Jim Parks, NTMWD District director, "we have a year's peak, which was not until late August..."

If the Stage 2 measures are implemented, City of Heath residents will be required to take the following actions beginning August 19:

For more details on water conservation, visit ntmwd.com

Rockwall County Sports

Walters takes 6th place in Southern Zones swimming

A group of four Rockwall Aquatic Center of Excellence (RACE) swimmers in the Southern Zones Age Group Championships in North Carolina, rallying to finish sixth in the 100-meter butterfly. RACE teammates Jeremiah Kim, Emily Manly and Raena Eldridge, along with coach Tom Applegate. The four swimmers were among 48 – eight boys and eight girls in each of three age groups – representing the North Texas Local Swimming Committee. The Rockwall team finished 12th among 14 teams.

Walters, swimming in the 15-18 age group, was making her second trip to the Zones Championships. She also competed in 2008 in Houston. Walters qualified for the finals by finishing eighth in the preliminaries, then moved to the 100 butterfly in the 13-14 age group. She also improved her 50 freestyle time by .05 second to take the 100 free relay team that finished eighth.

Kim was 18th in the 200 breaststroke and 27th in the 200 individual medley in 2:23.68. Eldridge was 10th in the 100 free and 29th in the 100 breaststroke in the 11-12 girls age group.

The Southern Zones Championships will take place at the Rockwall ISD Aquatic Center, which this weekend is hosting the 2011 A/BB Championships through Sunday. Open tryouts will be Aug. 24 and 25 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.



Rockwall RACE swimmers departing to North Carolina for the recent Southern Zones Age Group Swimming Championships are (left to right) Jeremiah Kim (14), Emily Manly (12), Raena Eldridge (14), Claire Walters (16) and Coach Tom Applegate. Photo courtesy of Barbara Tokuz/Rockwall County News

Warriors' Coach Palmer 'excited' about this season

Rockwall Christian Academy head coach Caleb Palmer revise his estimate of the team's season outlook began Tuesday, Palmer had said. "We may not be able to block or run over people, but we'll be able to outpace them. The coach's upgrade went this way: "We can be good up front. We have kids on the offensive line that are good. They've got speed."

John Edwards is the offensive line's leader. Palmer also pointed out Zack Hudson, who moved into the lineup at the highest of any O-lineman over the Warriors' final three games. "That was after the third-year head coach's initial assessment included this as exciting as I've been since I've been here."

Palmer had a strong running game for RCA last year, sending the Warriors to four consecutive losses to end their season with a 4-7 record. Daniel Ruiz and Daniel Ruiz are back in one piece, and Palmer hopes to have additional help for the running game. Ruiz received All-State Honorable Mention last year.

The team has one transfer likely to start in the backfield. That's freshman quarterback Austin Dean. "He's a great player. He was the Most Valuable Player for Sachse's 8th grade A team last season, according to his new coach. Dean will start on offense for the third year. A broken hand last season, but the coach said Sharpless worked out the hardest of any Warrior in the weight room last season.



Head Coach Caleb (at back) Palmer prepares the Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors team for the upcoming football season. Photo by Brittany Williams/Rockwall County News

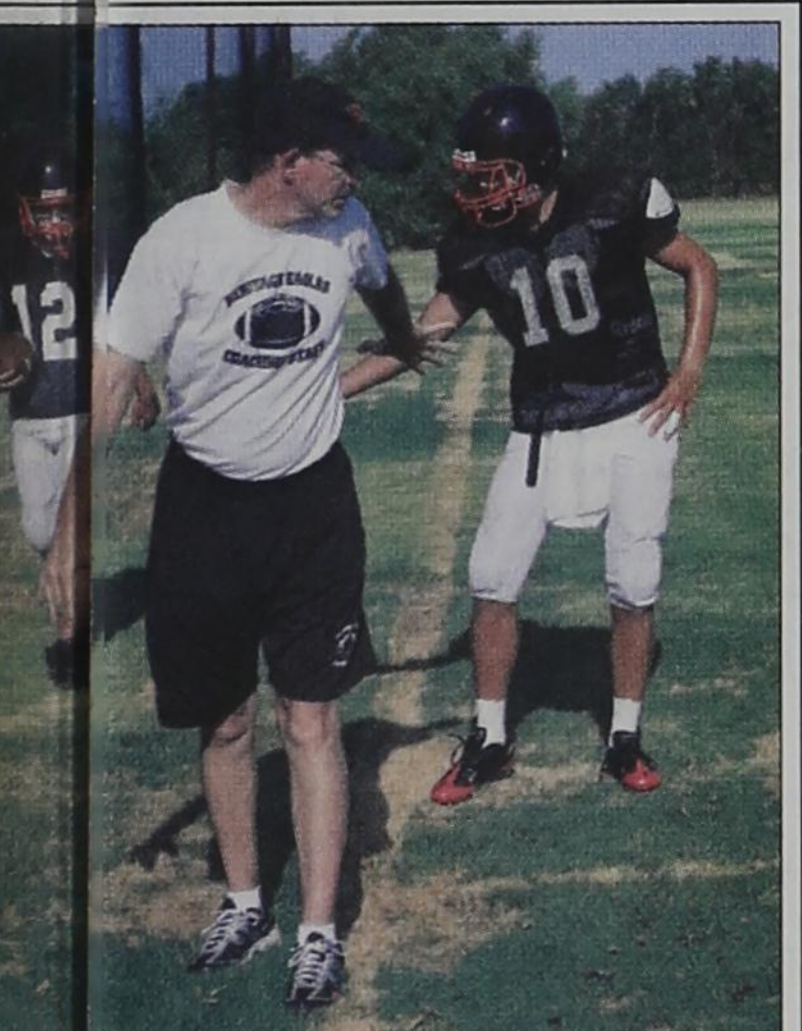
Rockwall Christian Academy Football schedule

Fri., Aug. 19	Fort Worth Southwest (scrimmage)	Fort Worth Southwest
TBA		
Fri., Aug. 26	Dallas HSAA @ Dobbs Field, 7:30	
Fri., Sept. 2	Cumby @ Cumby, 7:30	
Fri., Sept. 9	Off	
Fri., Sept. 16	Off	
Fri., Sept. 23	Irving The Highlands School @ Irving The Highlands, 7:30	
Fri., Sept. 30	Fort Worth Lake Country @ Fort Worth Lake Country, 7:30	
Fri., Oct. 7	*McKinney Christian Academy @ Dobbs Field, 7:30	
Fri., Oct. 14	*Dallas Lakehill @ Dallas Lakehill, 7:30	
Fri., Oct. 21	*Garland Christian Academy @ Garland Christian, 7:30	
Fri., Oct. 28	*Richardson Canyon Creek Christian @ Dobbs Field, 7:30	
Fri., Nov. 4	*Waco Texas Christian @ Dobbs Field, 7:30	
Fri., Nov. 11	TAPPS IV Bi-District Playoff	
	*-TAPPS District 2-IV games	

Heritage Christian Academy is big in size and numbers

Heritage Christian Academy is big in numbers on the varsity football team. Head Coach Robert Huckabee welcomed the new season with a message of optimism. "We have a lot of talent and we won't have any problems with our freshmen," he said. "We have good kids coming back, and some younger kids. They're ready physically, but some don't have game experience. They worked really hard over the summer, and this fall we'll be zero in on positions for them."

HCA finished 2010 with a 9-3 record. The Eagles finished second in TAPPS 6-Man District 2-I to eventual state champion Dallas The Covenant School. Heritage narrowly missed a trip to the state semifinals after putting a scare into Bulverde Bracken Christian. "We played with Bracken as well as anybody else," Huckabee said.



Heritage Christian Academy Head Coach Robert Huckabee teaches technique for Eagles' Jake Edge (10) and Blake Black (12). Photo by Tom Burnett/Rockwall County News

Heritage varsity football schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Aug. 13	Crowley Nazarene	scrimmage @ Crowley Nazarene	8 a.m.
Aug. 20	Dallas Academy & Lewisville Temple	@ RISE	10:30 p.m.
Aug. 26	Waco Christian	@ Hobart Wisdom Field	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 2	Madonia Fannindel	@ Fannindel	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 9	Abilene Christian HS	@ Elmer Gray Stadium	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 16	Trutviale	@ HWF	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	Wakwood (Homecoming)	@ HWF	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 7	Waco Vanguard Preparatory	@ HWF	7 p.m.
Oct. 14	Watauga Harvest Christian	@ Watauga	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 22	Dallas The Covenant School	@ Covenant	2 p.m.
Oct. 28	Greenville Christian	@ HWF	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 4	Mansfield Fellowship Academy	@ HWF	7:30 p.m.
TAPPS 6-Man District 2-I games			
	Hobart Wisdom Field, next to Howard Dobbs Elementary School		

Only in Your Hometown Newspaper!

The Eagles have enough talent and experience to take them back to the elite level of TAPPS six-man football. There are some questions to be answered and issues to address.

Junior Nathan Mateer, who started at quarterback the last two years, has decided to concentrate on basketball this year. Senior Quincy Terrell and junior Jake Edge are the leading candidates to replace Mateer.

"We don't know yet," Huckabee said of the team's starting quarterback. "We'll see after the scrimmages where we are. They're both doing a good job and getting it down."

The coach summed up last year's biggest problem in one word: Mistakes. "We lost three ballgames, and we can attribute it all to mistakes. We didn't execute well and broke down mentally. We want to limit mistakes physically and handling the ball. On defense we want no mistakes with breakdowns. We want to take care of the ball."

One way to take care of the ball is to control it with a running game. The

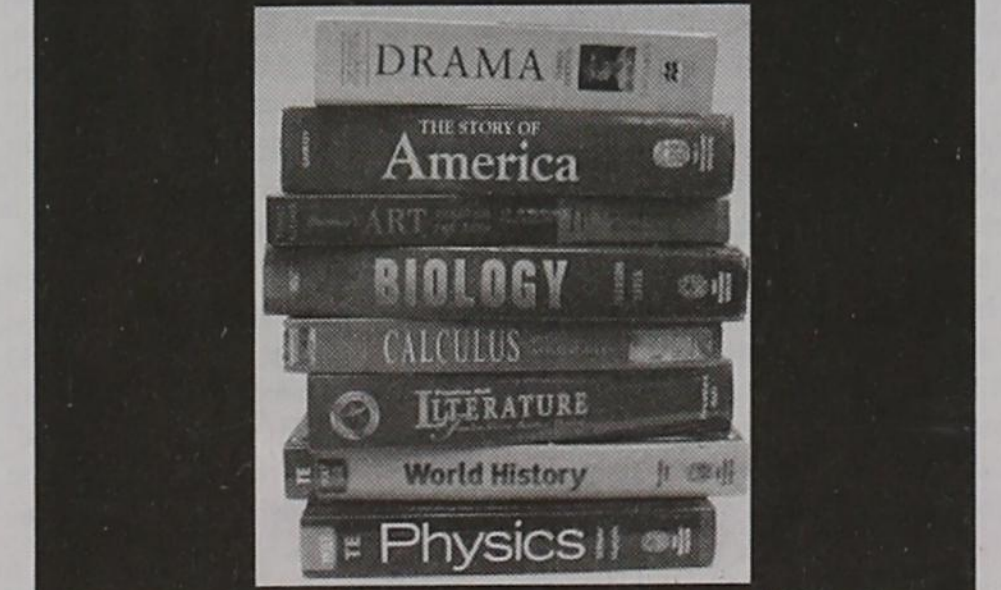
Lady Jackets sweep 2

Rockwall went to North Mesquite Tuesday night to open the volleyball season, and came back with two wins after sweeping both matches.

The Lady Jackets (2-0) won three relatively close games over Forney 25-20, 25-20, 25-21.

RHS had an easier time in the first game against Potett (0-2). Rockwall won that one 25-15, but had to battle to win the second two games 25-22 and 27-25. The Lady Jackets next will play in the Garland Varsity Tournament Friday and Saturday. Friday's pool-play opponents at Rowlett will be South Garland, Cedar Hill and DeSoto.

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Rockwall County Sports

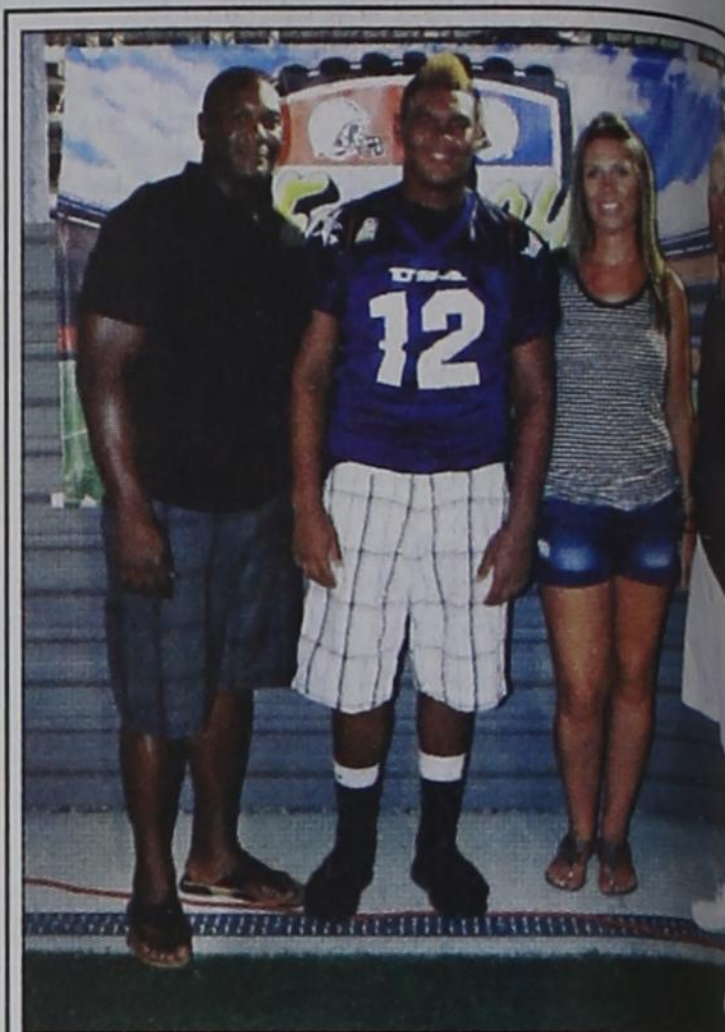
Veasley to play for U.S. under-15 team vs. Canada

Jaylen Veasley of Rockwall has been selected to play for the USA under-15 football team against Canada in the fourth annual Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl in January.

Veasley's performance at Football University's April camp in Dallas earned him a trip to the TOP GUN all-star camp July 21-23 in Williamsburg, Va. His play at that camp distanced himself even from the elite competition there, earning him an invitation to the Jan. 8 All-American Bowl. That game is played in conjunction with the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio for the nation's top high school players.

"Jaylen is a strong, agile lineman who can play guard or center for the U-15 USA team," said national bowl director Erik Richards. "He comes from the talent-rich hotbed of Rockwall, Texas, where they have an extremely talented rising class of 2015 athletes."

During the bowl week, Veasley will take part in practices, a skills competition and break-out sessions with football Hall of Famers, celebrities and current and former NFL stars. The Youth All-Americans also will have VIP access and will be honored at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl Jan. 7.



Celebrating Jaylen Veasley's selection to play for under-15 football team against Canada in the Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl in January, with his parents Veasley, Amy Veasley and National Bowl Director Erik Richards.
Photo courtesy of All American Games/Rockwall County News

Lady Hawks start season with 3 match wins

It was three up, three down as Rockwall-Heath opened its volleyball season.

First came Monday's home match against 5A Sachse, which finally succumbed in five games after battling back twice to even the match. The final score was 25-19, 15-25, 27-25, 19-25, 15-10. The difference was the hitting

of RHHS sophomore Regina Tillis, who led the young Lady Hawks in kills.

Tuesday's two matches at Mesquite Potet were easier for RHHS. The Lady Hawks defeated the home team in four games - 25-10, 25-17, 18-25, 25-19 - and swept Dallas Conrad 25-5, 25-17, 25-4.

Royse City Lady Bulldogs outlast Little Elm

Already battle-tested after three hard-fought scrimmages during Saturday's Royse City Bulldog Play Day, RC held off Little Elm to win Tuesday's season-opening match over Little Elm.

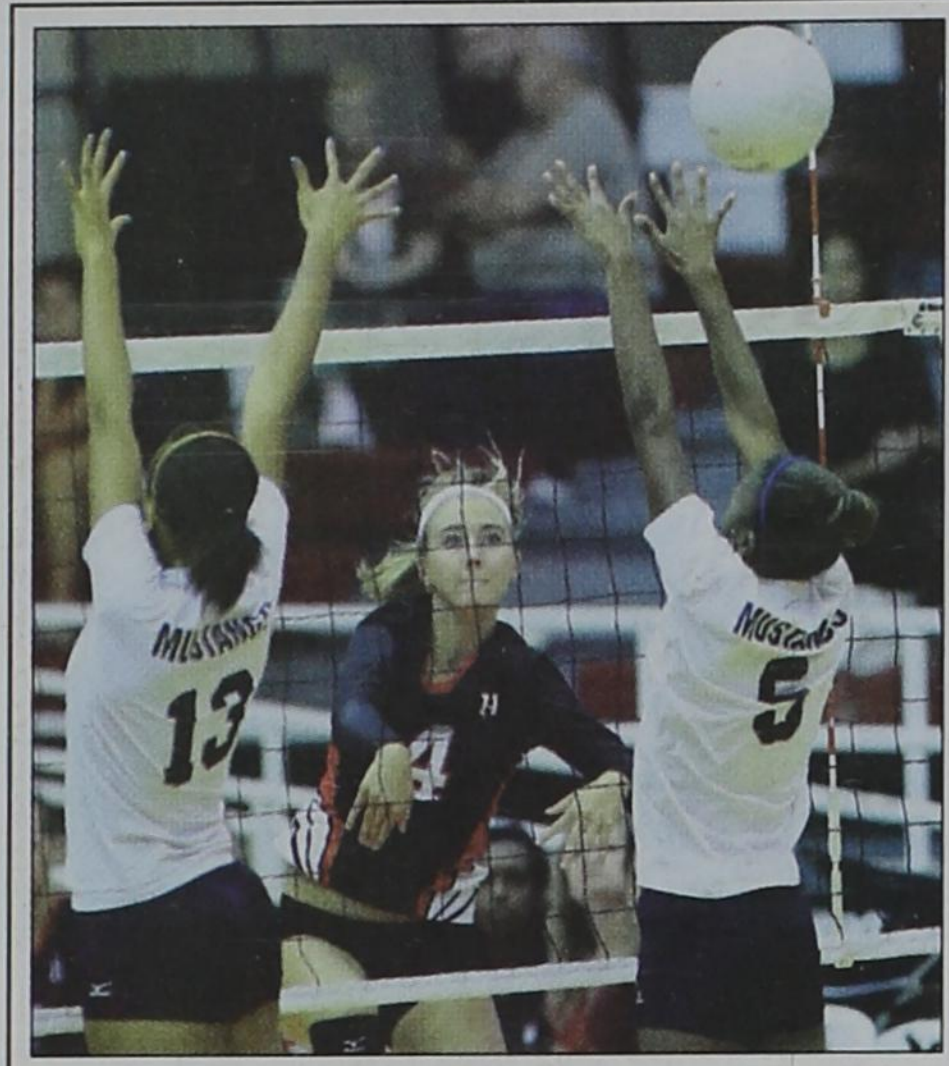
The Lady Bulldogs bounced back to take two games after Little Elm won the first game 25-13. The Lady Lobos then evened the match by winning the fourth game, and forced Royse City to work overtime in the fifth.

The result was a 13-25, 25-19, 25-19, 22-25, 16-14 victory for the Lady Bulldogs.

Royse City started well in Saturday's first scrimmage, holding the upper hand over Kaufman.

RC continued strong against Emory Rains, but the Lady Bulldogs' serving problems helped the visitors seize control to take the second of two games 25-19.

The final scrimmage was virtually even. Royse City outscored Crandall 24-17, but the Lady Pirates came back to close the day with a 25-19 advantage in the second game.



Lady Hawks' junior Molly Nelson strikes the ball past the hands of Sachse defenders during Monday night's scrimmage in the Rockwall-Heath gym.
Photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News



Sarah Verhagen and Autumn Quinn defend the Lady Bulldogs against a Kaufman attack during Saturday morning's scrimmage in the Royse City High School gym. Ready to assist at back is Erika Poe.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

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Fulton football schedule

Day/Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Fri., Aug. 12	Dallas Academy (scrimmage)	Dallas Academy, TBA	
Sat., Aug. 20	TBA (scrimmage)	Rockwall-Heath (RHHS), TBA	
Fri., Aug. 26	Irving Faustina @ (RHHS)		7:30
Fri., Sept. 2	Fort Worth Hill @ (RHHS)		7:30
Sat., Sept. 10	Wylie Preparatory @ Wylie Preparatory		2:00
Fri., Sept. 16	Bloomburg @ Bloomburg		7:00
Fri., Sept. 23	Phoenix Charter @ RHHS		7:30
Fri., Sept. 30	Open		
Fri., Oct. 7	*Tyler Street Christian @ RHHS		7:30
Fri., Oct. 14	Community Christian @ RHHS		7:30
Fri., Oct. 21	Grand Prairie Eagle Advantage @ RHHS		7:30
Fri., Oct. 28	*McKinney Cornerstone Christian @ RHHS		7:30
Fri., Nov. 4	*Killeen Memorial @ Killeen Memorial		7:30
Fri., Nov. 11	TAPPS 6-Man I Bi-District Playoff		

*TAPPS 6-Man District 2-II games

Rockwall County Sports Notes

Hot Rocks bike event set Aug. 13

The Rockwall Noon Rotary Club will host its 25th annual Hot Rocks Bike Race and Ride Aug. 13. The race will start and finish at Wilkerson/Sanders Memorial Field, 1201 T.L. Townsend Road, Rockwall. All levels of riders traditionally participate in the event, which will offer 13.5-, 43- and 57-mile courses. Top three finishers, both male and female, in the longest race will receive cash prizes; each participant will receive an event T-shirt and lunch. Registration and check-in on race day will begin at 6 a.m.; start time is 7:30 a.m. Pick up a registration packet after noon on the Friday prior to the event at Rockwall Cycling, 832 Steger Towne Road. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund college scholarships for local graduating seniors.

RACE Swim Team tryouts slated

Tryouts for the Rockwall ISD Aquatic Center's RACE Swim Team will run from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Aug. 24-25 (participants can come either day; no need to attend both days). Each participant should bring a swimsuit, towel and, if already available, cap and goggles. There is no cost associated with tryouts. RACE is a year-round competition team led by Olympic gold medalist and head coach Neil Walker. To try out, a swimmer must be able to swim 25 yards of freestyle and backstroke. For more details contact the Aquatic Center at 469-698-7410 or visit rockwallaquatics.com.

Triathlon set Oct. 2 at The Harbor

The Toyota U.S. Open Triathlon, the final event in the Race to the Toyota Cup series, will be hosted by the City of Rockwall Oct. 2 at The Harbor. The three-event race will feature a swim event, followed by a cycling and a running event. The swim event will begin at 7 a.m., and the last runner should finish at about 2 p.m. To avoid traffic problems experienced last year, a new bike route has been designed. More than 1,000 athletes competed last year.

Williams, Jones, Carter take sailing races

Robert Williams' "Hotter Tuna" proved to be too hot for the sailboats in Race 6 of the Summer Wednesday Night Series Hubbard Wednesday, Aug. 3.

Williams' boat recorded the best time - 7 minutes, 50.36 seconds. A Fleet over a course 4 nautical miles long. In second place in "Swale" - followed by David Carter, third in "Geronimo" and fourth in "Soap Opera."

Mike Jones flew to first place in the B Fleet in "Wings." Kasey second in "Joint Venture."

In Race 6 of the Saturday Night Series, Carter was the winner with Dan Malak and "Orion" in second place.

Rockwall County Sports Schedule

The Fulton School Falcons

Friday, Aug. 12 - Varsity football: Scrimmage with Dallas Academy, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 13 - Middle school football: Scrimmage Nazarene Christian, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 20 - Varsity football: home scrimmage vs. Eagle Advantage and Marshall Christian Academy, Rockwall School, 9 a.m.

Middle school football: home scrimmage vs. McKinney Christian, Rockwall-Heath High School, 10:30 a.m.

Heritage Christian Academy Eagles

Saturday, Aug. 13 - Football: Scrimmage at Crowley Nazarene Christian, 8 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 20 - Middle school football: Home scrimmage vs. Calvary, RISE, 9 a.m.

Varsity and JV football: Home scrimmage vs. Dallas Lewisville Temple Christian, RISE, 10:30 a.m.

Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors

Friday, Aug. 19 - Football: Scrimmage at Fort Worth Southern Baptist, 7 p.m.

Rockwall High School Yellowjackets

Friday, Aug. 12 - Varsity volleyball: at Garland Varsity Rowlett, vs. South Garland 10:10 a.m., vs. Cedar Hill 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 13 - Varsity volleyball: at Garland Varsity Rowlett, vs. South Garland 10:10 a.m., vs. Cedar Hill 12:30 p.m.

Freshman A volleyball: at Crandall Freshman Tournament Monday, Aug. 15 - Tennis: home vs. Duncanville, Rockwall School, 4 p.m.

Volleyball: at Sachse, JV and Freshman A 5:30 p.m. and Freshman B 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 16 - Tennis: home vs. Arlington Martin, Rockwall School, 4 p.m.

Volleyball: home vs. Mesquite, JV and Freshman A 5:30 p.m. and Freshman B 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 19 - Football: scrimmage at Denison, freshman A 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Volleyball: home vs. Emory Rains: Freshman A 5:30 p.m. and Freshman B 6:30 p.m.

JV volleyball: at McKinney JV Tournament

Saturday, Aug. 20 - Varsity tennis: with Kilgore and Longview Heath, 9 a.m.

JV volleyball: at McKinney JV Tournament

Rockwall-Heath High School Hawks

Friday, Aug. 12 - Varsity volleyball: at Garland Varsity Sachse, vs. Garland 9 a.m., vs. Dallas Skyline 11:20 a.m. and Horn 2:50 p.m.

JV volleyball: Home vs. Richardson Berkner, 5:30 p.m.

Freshman A and B volleyball: at Dallas Bishop Lynch Tournament

Saturday, Aug. 13 - Varsity volleyball: at Garland Varsity Rowlett, vs. South Garland 10:10 a.m., vs. Cedar Hill 12:30 p.m.

Freshman A and B volleyball: at Dallas Bishop Lynch Tournament

Tuesday, Aug. 16 - Volleyball: home vs. Mesquite Horn, JV and Freshman A 5:30 p.m. and varsity and Freshman B 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 18 - Varsity volleyball: at Lewisville Tournament

Friday, Aug. 19 - Football: home scrimmage vs. Rowlett, freshman A 6 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Varsity volleyball: at Lewisville Tournament

Saturday, Aug. 20 - Varsity tennis: home vs. Rockwall, Longview, 9 a.m.

Varsity volleyball: at Lewisville Tournament

JV Volleyball: at McKinney JV Tournament

Royse City Bulldogs

Saturday, Aug. 13 - Varsity volleyball: at Carthage Tournament

Freshman volleyball: at Crandall Tournament

Tuesday, Aug. 16 - Volleyball: at Denton Guyer, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 18 - Varsity volleyball: at Lewisville Tournament

Colony

JV volleyball: at Crandall JV Tournament

Friday, Aug. 19 - Football: home scrimmage vs. Little Elm, man 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Varsity volleyball: at Lewisville Tournament, The Colony

Saturday, Aug. 20 - Varsity volleyball: at Lewisville Tournament

Colony

JV volleyball: at Crandall JV Tournament

Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

We encourage the submission of Letters to the Editor. The publishing of letters is at the sole discretion of the editor and may be edited for brevity, grammar and accuracy. Letters which are considered libelous or an attack of an individual's character will be rejected. Letters must be signed and include telephone number or address for verification.
Email rcn.news@yahoo.com
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Debt reduction, not deficit reduction

All the deficit reduction plans being proposed by both Democrats and Republicans are designed to reduce the deficit to some degree. They have various plans of closing tax loopholes, reducing the rate of growth of some programs, winding down the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and myriad other proposals. The problem with every plan is that they all increase the national debt.

The federal government's incoming cash this year will be about \$2.2 trillion. This year's federal expenditures will be in the neighborhood of \$3.8 trillion, a deficit of \$1.6 trillion. That deficit will be added to our existing national debt of \$14.3 trillion. If we continue to accrue deficits at the current rate, at the end of 10 years our national debt will be \$30.3 trillion.

The plans currently being proposed will reduce the deficit (not the debt) by \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion over the next 10 years. In the best-case scenario of the current deficit reduction plans, our debt will stand at \$28.3 trillion (factoring in the proposed deficit reductions) at the end of the decade. When we talk about deficit reduction, we are saying that we are continuing to increase the debt, albeit at a slower rate. \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion in deficit reduction is what needs to occur next year, not sprinkled over the next 10 years.

Interest on the debt is already the largest expense of the federal government. Think of the interest expense if the debt is more than twice its current size, particularly if interest rates rise from the historic lows that we are currently enjoying.

It is gut-check time for our political leaders. They need to find some courage, grow a backbone, cowboy up and deliver some real debt reduction. Not a reduction in rate of growth of some programs over the next 10 years; they must pass actual spending cuts next year that will put us on a track to, not deficit reduction, but to debt reduction.

Dick Demien, Rockwall

Watch what your children are drinking

I have finally had time to somewhat digest a forbidden incident that happened last week (July 29) I wish to share. Our mission is not to badmouth a particular establishment as mistakes can happen (because we are human), but to raise awareness to a situation that has oddly been in the news recently and has now occurred again.

Certain mistakes should never happen, like serving alcohol to 12-year-olds. Yes, while at a "family" resort and restaurant for a birthday party for my daughter and another friend (and their friends), they were encouraged to order Peach Slushies that we found later to be Peach Margaritas, having alcohol in them.

This was not a single mistake; there were a total of five drinks brought and served with alcohol to a table entirely of 12-year-old girls. We were sitting at the table next to the girls when this happened. Fortunately, after only a few sips had been digested, they notified us that the drinks tasted odd. They also made the wait staff aware who told them to stir it up.

If this party of 12-year-olds had enjoyed the taste and drank the entire drink, this serious situation could have followed with much sickness or other severe reactions.

We are now aware that most establishments do not distinguish a non-alcoholic drink from an alcoholic drink by using a significant rule of glass choice or any other means yet. It is critical that as parents we are aware that this can and probably will happen again unless this behavior is changed.

Martha Eason
MACI - Mothers Against Child Intoxication, Rockwall

The Constitution of most of our states (and of the United States) assert that all power is inherent in the people; that they may exercise it by themselves; that is their right and duty to be at all times armed and that they are entitled to freedom of person, freedom of religion, freedom of property and freedom of press.

Thomas Jefferson

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

Opinions

Defending individual rights in a world full of tyranny ...

Federalist Papers: An Introduction

Texans are awakening to the power and security of the Constitution, and in order to better inform our readers about the constitution, its purpose and scope, we are offering a series of "The Federalist Papers," explanations provided to the adoption of the U.S. Constitution. We offer our special thanks to the Gutenberg Association and Founding Fathers web site for making the thinking of America's founding fathers. We pray our elected government officials will study these writings and defend the liberty and security of individual rights for which they were constructed.

The Federalist Papers were written and published during the years 1787-1788 in several New York State newspapers to persuade New York to ratify the proposed constitution.

The Federalist Papers consist of 85 essays outlining how this government would operate and why this type of government was the best for the United States of America. All of the essays were signed by the actual authors of some are under dispute, but the consensus is that Alexander Hamilton wrote 52, James Madison 29, and Jay contributed the remaining five.

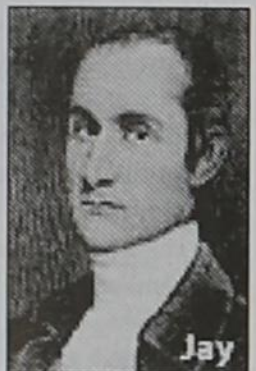
The Federalist Papers remain today as an excellent reference for anyone who wishes to understand the U.S. Constitution.

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FEDERALIST No. 2

Dangers from Foreign Force and Influence
The Independent Journal.

People of the State of New York: We have seen the people of America reflect that they are engaged to decide a question, which, in its nature, is one of the most important, and which, in its consequences, is one of the most extensive, as well as a very serious, and one which will be permanent.



It is not less their inclination than their duty to recommend only such measures as, after the most mature deliberation, they really thought prudent and advisable. These and similar considerations then induced the people to rely greatly on the judgment and integrity of the Congress; and they took their advice, notwithstanding the various arts and endeavors used to deter them from it. But if the people at large had reason to confide in the men of that Congress, few of whom had been fully tried or generally known, still greater reason have they now to respect the judgment and advice of the convention, for it is well known that some of the most distinguished members of that Congress, who have been since tried and justly approved for patriotism and abilities, and who have grown old in acquiring political information, were also members of this convention, and carried into it their accumulated knowledge and experience.

It is worthy of remark that not only the first, but every succeeding Congress, as well as the late convention, have invariably joined with the people in thinking that the prosperity of America depended on its Union. To preserve and perpetuate it was the great object of the people in forming that convention, and it is also the great object of the plan which the convention has advised them to adopt. With what propriety, therefore, or for what good purposes, are attempts at this particular period made by some men to depreciate the importance of the Union? Or why is it suggested that three or four confederacies would be better than one? I am persuaded in my own mind that the people have always thought right on this subject, and that their universal and uniform attachment to the cause of the Union rests on great and weighty reasons, which I shall endeavor to develop and explain in some ensuing papers. They who promote the idea of substituting a number of distinct confederacies in the room of the plan of the convention, seem clearly to foresee that the rejection of it would put the continuance of the Union in the utmost jeopardy. That certainly would be the case, and I sincerely wish that it may be as clearly foreseen by every good citizen, that whenever the dissolution of the Union arrives, America will have reason to exclaim, in the words of the poet: "FAREWELL! A LONG FAREWELL TO ALL MY GREATNESS."

PUBLIUS.

It has been a received and uncontradicted opinion that the people of America depended on their continuing firmly united. Prayers, and efforts of our best and wisest citizens have been constantly directed to that object. But politicians now appear, who, in their opinion is erroneous, and that instead of looking for happiness in union, we ought to seek it in a division of the States into separate confederacies or sovereignties. However extraordinary this may appear, it nevertheless has its advocates; and certain persons who were much opposed to it formerly, are at present of the contrary opinion.

What may be the arguments or inducements which have produced this change in the sentiments and declarations of these gentlemen, we cannot pretend to conjecture. It is not to be wise in the people at large to adopt these new tenets without being fully convinced that they are founded in truth and in justice.

It is a pleasure to observe that independent America was never divided into detached and distant territories, but that one connected, united country was the portion of our western sons of liberty. A particular manner blessed it with a variety of soils and climates, and watered it with innumerable streams, for the delight and satisfaction of its inhabitants. A succession of navigable waters formed its borders, as if to bind it together; while the most fertile and fertile world, running at convenient distances, present them with the easy communication of friendly aids, and the mutual exchange of their various commodities.

It is not to be wondered at, that a government instituted in such a manner, should on experiment be found greatly deficient and inadequate to the purpose it was intended to answer. It is not to be wondered at, that a government instituted in such a manner, should on experiment be found greatly deficient and inadequate to the purpose it was intended to answer.

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"Shared Sacrifice": Obama's Socialist Demagoguery

by Sheldon Richman

The most offensive claim made during the debt-ceiling controversy is that there's a moral equivalence between cutting government spending and raising taxes. President Obama asks for "shared sacrifice" to reduce the budget deficit. In his view, if the government spends more than it takes in - it currently borrows more than 40 cents of every dollar spent - the "balanced" approach is to "cut" spending and raise taxes.

There are quotation marks around "cut" for a good reason. No one - Republican House Speaker John Boehner included - wants to cut spending in the commonsense meaning of the term: namely, reducing government spending from today's level (\$3.8 trillion). No, in Washington-talk, to cut a budget is merely to reduce the rate of increase that would have occurred in the future if current law were left unchanged.

If the politicians were honest - and reporters committed to telling the public the truth - they would talk about smaller increases in spending, not "cuts," but even that wouldn't be entirely truthful, because in many cases the reduction in future increases itself is an illusion. It involves merely canceling the authority to spend money that no one expects to actually be spent.

As noted, the so-called balanced approach to deficit reduction sees a moral equivalence between any reduction in spending (even from future increases) and raising taxes. Some people go further and treat government's abstention from taxation as spending in itself. Think about that: If the government, in its mercy, decides not to take \$10 from you, that is an expenditure. By that logic, if the politicians change the law and take the \$10, that's a spending cut! Only in Washington ...

Bluntly put, there can be no moral equivalence between government's spending people's money and abstaining from taxing that money. To believe otherwise is to believe that the government owns all income and wealth - which would be equivalent to believing that the government owns us!

In a fully free society - which the United States more assuredly is not - people would be at liberty to earn income through voluntary exchange (without anti-competitive privilege or subsidy) and to keep what they legitimately acquire. Taking someone's belongings without consent would be regarded as theft. That would go for politicians as well as anyone else.

All transfers of wealth and income would have to be accomplished through persuasion and consent. Physical force and fraud would be forbidden. Taxation, in the words of a great libertarian, Frank Chodorov, is robbery.

Thus the government's decision not to tax cannot be a form of spending, and it cannot be equated with a refusal to sacrifice in behalf of fiscal integrity.

That is not to deny that in our corporate state, large incomes can be acquired through government-granted privilege and other political machinations. But the way to deal with that is to end all privileges. Politicians are hypocritical when they call for higher taxes on all people making more than \$200,000 a year - even those who earned it without political favor - while leaving the system of privilege essentially intact.

Part of the political game now being played is assigning blame for the growing debt and deficit. The Democrats, the more openly big-government side (Republicans are for big government too but are more covert about it), say that the deficit is attributable as much to the failure to tax - through the tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 - as to the propensity to spend. Even a former Reagan and George H.W. Bush official, Bruce Bartlett, agrees. They claim that the government's fiscal condition would have been far better had those cuts not been enacted, particularly considering that George W. Bush launched two wars and enacted a Medicare drug program. It's certainly true that big expenditures without revenues to cover them created the deficit - but the moral course would not have been to abstain from cutting taxes or to raise them. It would have been to not spend the money. The wars were immoral (though profitable for the well-connected), and the drug program was an expansion of the welfare state, which forcibly distributes other people's money.

A humane society does not require robbery and political corruption. It requires freedom for people to earn, to keep what they earn, and to help each other through mutual aid.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation, author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*, and editor of *The Freeman* magazine. Visit his blog "Free Association" at www.sheldonrichman.com.

Rockwall County Classified Advertising

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT TEXRON ENERGY LLC DBA TJ'S ONE STOP HAS FILED A WRITTEN APPLICATION DATED THE 14TH DAY OF JULY, 2011 TO BE ISSUED A WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT, AT 715 W. RUSK STREET, ROCKWALL, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS. MEMBER OF THE COMPANY IS ANDREW ARTERBURN. IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 61.38 OF THE "TEXASALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE," SAID APPLICATION WILL BE HEARD BEFORE THE HONORABLE JERRY HOGAN, COUNTY JUDGE OF ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS, LOCATED A 101 EAST RUSK STREET, 3RD FLOOR, IN ROCKWALL, TEXAS ON THE 18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2011 AT 9:00 O'CLOCK A.M. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE THIS 26TH DAY OF JULY 2011. SHELLI MILLER, COUNTY CLERK, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS.

Legal Notices

Notice of Public Sale

of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale will be at 9 a.m. on August 23, 2011 at 1760 I-30 East, Rockwall, Texas 75087. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants:
Anita E. Brown - furniture, file cabinets, and lots of boxes. **Sam W. Lund** - trailer, construction tools equipment **Paul M. Ragsdale** - household items and boxes **Michael Lettieri** - Desk, shower counter tops and file cabinet **Alan Eugene Gayford** - ladders, and lots of tools **Lanika T. Lawler** - Baby Furniture and household goods **Sheila Deason** - household furniture (sofa, dressers, mattress bed, washer and dryer and **Selene Martinez** - gutter material and boxes.
 contact **Mary Lou Garza**
 972-771-0138 Rockwall Mini-Storage
 1760 I 30 E, Rockwall, TX 75087

Call 972-722-3099
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Homes for Rent

1/1 Luxury Condo
 /Signal Ridge in Rockwall. \$800 monthly 1 yr. lease: 469-767-3760.

Apartments for Rent

One bedroom, one bath upstairs garage apt. Quiet country neighborhood, washer and dryer connections, Range and refrigerator furnished. No pets, no smoking, \$700 plus \$500 deposit. You pay electric. References required. (214) 534-7549.

Apts. for Rent

Move-In Special: 1 bedroom \$599, 2 bedroom \$699. 972-273-9300.

Miscellaneous for Sale

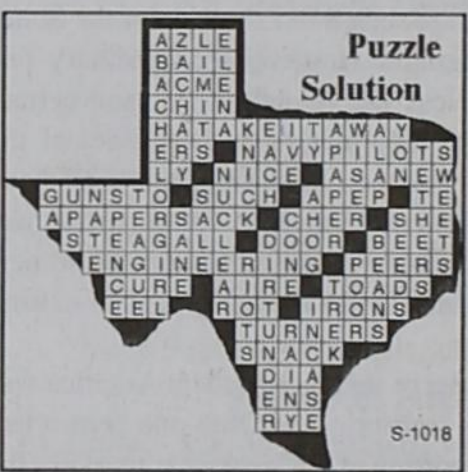
30 inch white GE Built-in stove. GE Vent-a-hood, 23.6 cubic foot GE refrig, all in good condition. 972-771-5761.

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
 City of Rockwall requests formal proposals from qualified insurance brokers/consultants who are interested in providing brokerage and consulting services for the City's Employee Benefit Program. Proposals shall be accepted until 5:00 p.m., September 9, 2011 by the City's Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The City of Rockwall reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of the proposal, waive technicalities or informalities, and award the proposal that best serves the interests of the City. Contact Lea Ann Ewing, 972-771-7700 x 6418 for proposal packet.

Classified Advertising
972-722-3099



PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
 City of Rockwall requests sealed proposals from qualified companies who are interested in concession services at the Complex. Proposals shall be received until 3:00 p.m., August 19, 2011 by the City's Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The City of Rockwall reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of the proposal, waive technicalities or informalities, and award the bid that best serves the interests of the City. Contact Lea Ann Ewing, 972-771-7700 for proposal packet.

ROCKWALL COUNTY EFSP BOARD REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS BEEN AWARDED FUNDS

Rockwall County local Food and Shelter Program has been chosen to receive supplemental programs in 2011. The selection was made by the Board that is chaired by the Mayor of Rockwall, Texas, and the County Board of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The Board consists of representatives from the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, and United Way of America. The local Board was charged to help expand the capacity of shelter programs in high-need areas around the country. A Local Board, chaired by the County Sheriff's Office, Vice Chair Mark Irons of the Material Alliance and representatives of many local churches, civic and environmental agencies will determine how the funds awarded to the County are to be distributed to the local service agencies. Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies to receive funds must: 1) be a voluntary non-profit or a 501(c)(3) organization, 2) have an account with a bank, 3) practice non-discrimination, 4) have demonstrated the ability to deliver emergency food and shelter programs, and 5) if they are a voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Public or private volunteers interested in applying for funds must contact Mark Irons at 972-5526 for an application. The deadline for applications is August 12, 2011.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rockwall County invites sealed bids on the following:
Moving Services
 Bid specifications are on file in the Rockwall County Auditor's office, 101 East Rusk Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087. Bids must state a lump sum price for all services and be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Bids for 11-07-007 Moving Services." The bids will be opened on Friday, August 19, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom. Rockwall County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Upon acceptance of bid and award of a contract by Rockwall County Commissioners Court, remittance shall be made through invoicing at the sum price.
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
 Rockwall County
 Lisa Constant
 Rockwall County Auditor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the Letters Testamentary for the estate of Robert Cook, Deceased, were issued on August 1, 2011, in Cause No. PR11-411 in the County Court at Law of Rockwall County, Texas, to Alicia Cook. All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 c/o: Alicia Cook
 % Wheeler & Wheeler, P.C.
 965 W. Ralph Hall Pkwy., Suite 100
 Rockwall, Texas 75087
 DATED the 4th day of August, 2011.
 Keith P. Wheeler
 Attorney for Estate
 State Bar No.: 21257525
 965 W. Ralph Hall Pkwy., Suite 100
 Rockwall, Texas 75087
 Telephone: (972) 771-8515
 Facsimile: (972) 771-4815

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rockwall County invites sealed bids on the following bid numbers for road construction materials for the Road & Bridge Department:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Bid 11-08-015 Hot Asphalt Concrete | Bid 11-08-019 Flex Base |
| Bid 11-08-016 Asphalts & Emulsions | Bid 11-08-020 Corrugated Metal Pipe |
| Bid 11-08-017 Gas and Diesel | Bid 11-08-021 Lime Slurry |
| Bid 11-08-018 Aggregate for Surface Treatment | Bid 11-08-022 Aggregate Hauling |

Bid specifications are on file in the Rockwall County Auditor's office, 101 East Rusk Street, Room 101, Rockwall, Texas.

Bids must state a unit price for the materials and be submitted in a sealed envelope marked on the outside with the appropriate Bid Number and Product Name, to Lisa Constant, Rockwall County Auditor, 101 East Rusk Street, Room 101, Rockwall, Texas 75087, on or before Friday, August 26, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. The bids will be opened on Friday, August 26, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Upon acceptance of bid and award of a contract by Rockwall County Commissioners Court, remittance shall be made through invoicing at the awarded unit price.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
 Rockwall County
 Lisa Constant
 Rockwall County Auditor

PUBLIC NOTICE

The County of Rockwall is soliciting proposals for individual specific stop loss reinsurance in conjunction with its self-insured group medical benefit plan. An electronic request for proposal is available at the office of The Director of Human Resources located at: 101 East Rusk - Room 200, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The County of Rockwall will solicit direct proposals net of commission from the following carriers:

- HCC
- Sun Life
- ING
- HM Insurance
- Majestic (MGU)

Insurance agents interested in providing proposals for reinsurance should solicit proposals from companies other than these designated markets. If commissions are to be included in the pricing for proposals provided through insurance agents, such commissions must be fully disclosed as part of the formal response.

The County of Rockwall will only consider those proposals which include an unconditional stipulation that there will be no "lasering" or individually specified deductible assignments initially or at each subsequent renewal period.

The effective date of reinsurance coverage is to be October 1, 2011. Proposals must be delivered to the office of The Director of Human Resources by 1:00 pm CDST on Friday, August 26, 2011. Proposals must be sealed and contained within an envelope marked by the following designation:

"Individual Specific Stop Loss Reinsurance Proposal for the County of Rockwall Due 1:00 pm CDST on Friday, August 26, 2011"

Any questions or requests for additional information should be directed via email to:

Jocelyn Houck
 Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.
 Jocelyn_houck@ajg.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The County of Rockwall is soliciting proposals for Basic Life/AD&D insurance, Voluntary Life/AD&D insurance, and Voluntary LTD. An electronic request for proposal is available at the office of The Director of Human Resources located at: 101 East Rusk - Room 200, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The County of Rockwall will solicit direct proposals net of commission from the following carriers:

- OneAmerica/AUL
- ING
- Lincoln Financial
- Standard Insurance
- American General
- Mutual of Omaha
- MetLife
- Unum

Insurance agents interested in providing proposals for these benefits should solicit proposals from companies other than these designated markets. If commissions are to be included in the pricing for proposals provided through insurance agents, such commissions must be fully disclosed as part of the formal response.

The effective date of reinsurance coverage is to be January 1, 2012, and should include a 2 year 9 month rate guarantee. The renewal anniversary will be October 1. Proposals must be delivered to the office of The Director of Human Resources by 1:00 pm CDST on Friday, August 26, 2011. Proposals must be sealed and contained within an envelope marked by the following designation:

"Life/AD&D/LTD Insurance Proposal for the County of Rockwall Due 1:00 pm CDST on Friday, August 26, 2011"

Any questions or requests for additional information should be directed via email to:

Jocelyn Houck
 Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.
 Jocelyn_houck@ajg.com

Services and Repairs

Tree Work
 Do you need help with your tree work? Call 214-478-9269.

Help Wanted

Local Distribution Company seeks individual for various duties: shipping, cable assembly, and some customer service. Part Time to start with Full Time Potential. Send Resume to CRFshipping@yahoo.com

Nursery Worker

Rockwall church is needing a nursery worker for Sunday mornings. During the Sunday School time, the nursery worker will conduct a lesson for 2-4 year olds, lesson and resoures provided. Some weeknights might require help as well. If interested, please email your resume to jobchurch@hotmail.com

Help Wanted

Park Avenue Cleaners
 Full time counter-assembly person needed.
 Will train.
 Starting \$9 per hour, Mon.-Fri.
 Apply in person!
 2910 Ridge Rd., Rockwall

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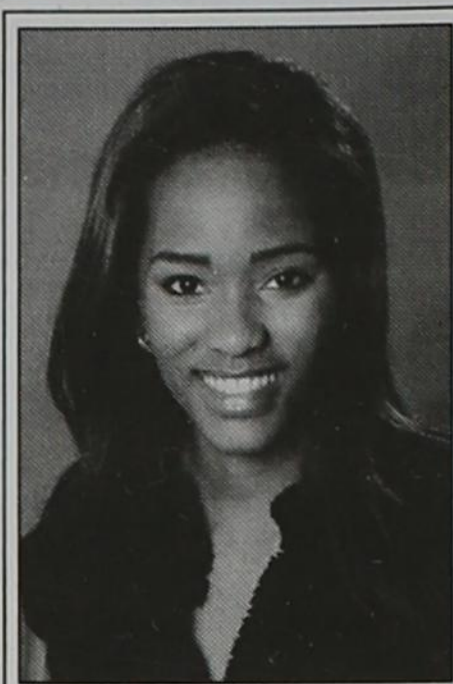
Santina Mendolia
 Owner/Stylist

Rockwall resident completes ExxonMobil summer internship

Briana Darensburg of Rockwall was one of 60 college students selected to participate in the 2011 ExxonMobile Community Summer Jobs Program in Dallas.

The program, administered by the Volunteer Center of North Texas, provides exemplary students with eight-week paid internships at local nonprofit agencies.

Darensburg, a senior journalism major at Southern Methodist University, spent the summer interning with The Family Place, which has a goal of eliminating family violence through intervention, proactive prevention, community education, advocacy and assistance for victims and their families. To help achieve this



Briana Darensburg

mission, Darensburg worked on the "Be Project" public relations campaign, creating video messages, managing the organization's social media activity, developing a Web marketing plan and assisting with community relations.

In addition to their daily internship duties, students developed vital career skills during professional development seminars and collaborated to plan and implement an intern-led community service project benefiting the Creative Arts Center of Dallas.

Three locals earn degrees at WGU

Three area residents were among the recent graduates from Western Governors University in Salt Lake City, Utah, according to a university news release.

Rick Rickabaugh of Rockwall received a bachelor's degree in information technology, Donna Boback of Rockwall earned a bachelor's degree in nursing and Joanna Kestler of Royse City was the recipient of a bachelor's degree in nursing.

The university conducted its semi-annual commencement ceremony on July 23, with 1,972 graduates participating.

Applicants sought for Rockwall YAC

The Rockwall Youth Advisory Council now is accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year, according to a news release issued this week.

Open to all high school students who are residents of the City of Rockwall, the YAC is designed to provide participation by local youth in municipal government.

Applications must be turned in by Aug. 31.

For more information visit rockwall.com/youthcouncil or contact Kristy Ashberry, city secretary, at 972-772-6406 or email kashberry@rockwall.com.

Heat impacts FM 740 project

Extreme temperatures are impacting the road expansion project under way on the northern section of FM 740, according to news releases issued by the City of Rockwall and the City of Heath.

Concrete cannot be poured and meet the Texas Department of Transportation's standards once the outdoor temperature hits a pre-determined point, according to the Heath news release. As a result, the project contractor, Ed Bell Construction Co., requested and received a temporary waiver to noise ordinances issued by the City of Rockwall and the City of Heath. The company plans to pour concrete during the cooler part of the day than the typical work hours.

Temporary hours approved for the work, which includes the preparation and pouring of concrete, run from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m., in addition to regular daytime hours, according to the Heath news release. The temporary hours will be limited to a time period from Aug. 21 to Sept. 1.

"The contractor will make every effort to use low-noise equipment and vehicles and direct lighting away from residential areas and towards the construction areas," the Heath news release states.

Company officials plan to have personnel working between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. because cooler temperatures will allow the concrete to cure faster and the work to be completed more quickly, according to the Rockwall news release. The road will be paved in two passes, with each pass requiring three to five days to complete.

"Because pouring concrete is a moving operation, there should be minimal impact on individual properties as the equipment passes by for a limited time," the Rockwall release states.

The work area stretches from Smirl Drive in Heath to Rockwall's Horizon Road. A map of the affected area can be found at heathtx.com under the FM 740 update or contact Kerry Lively, TxDOT project manager, at 972-962-3617 or Chuck Todd, Rockwall city engineer, at 972-771-7746 for more details.

Holiday decorations needed by Helping Hands

Helping Hands is hoping area residents will get an early start on the holiday season by cleaning our seasonal decorations and directing unwanted items to the agency.

Melody Hail, coordinator of Helping Hands' Nov. 5 Home for the Holidays fundraiser, said the agency is in need of "gently used decorations" for use in decorating trees and tabletop creations for the gala.

"We have some really creative people at Helping Hands led by thrift store director Melody East," Hail said, "so please take the time to sort through your Christmas treasures and share some with Helping Hands."

Donations may be dropped off at the Rockwall Thrift Store, 950 Williams St., or at the Royse City store, Centisble.

For more details about Helping Hands, call 972-771-HELP. To learn more about Home for the Holidays, visit rockwallhomefortheholidays.com.



Kirkwood selected by Helping Hands to receive scholarship

Kenna Kirkwood is ready to set sail on Lake Ray Hubbard. She is one of 14 youths selected by Helping Hands to receive a scholarship to the North Texas Sailing School at Rush Creek Yacht Club. North Texas Sailing and Rush Creek have provided tuition-free sailing to Helping Hands for children who would not normally have the opportunity to participate in sailing.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall Police Blotter

2900 block Ridge Rd., 6:12 a.m.
 800 block Bay Line Dr., 8:45 p.m. – simple/misdemeanor assault
 900 block Clear Creek, 10:52 p.m.
 100 block Ridge Rd. – Credit Card Abuse
 100 block E 10, 10 p.m.
 100 block Stinger Towne Dr., 10:00 a.m.
 100 block Ridge Rd., 6:25 p.m.
 100 block S. Goliad St., 3:00 a.m.
 100 block S John King Blvd., 10:43 p.m.
 1100 block E 130, 11:51 p.m.
 100 block Hill Dr., 9:30 p.m.
 100 block Woodhaven Cir., 11:00 p.m.
 100 block 1276, 8:48 p.m.

Theft, 700 block I30, 11:10 a.m.
 Aug. 5
 Family Offense, unspecified, 300 block National Dr, 10:40 p.m.
 Burglary of a motor vehicle, 400 block I30, 3:50 p.m.
 Burglary of a motor vehicle, 400 block I30, 5:00 p.m.
 Aug. 6
 Possession of Marijuana, 1100 block Horizon Dr.
 Burglary of a motor vehicle, 900 block Yellow Jacket Ln, 11:30 a.m.
 Burglary of a motor vehicle, 1200 block Horizon Rd, 12:10 a.m.
 Theft, 900 block I30, 12:25 p.m.
 Aug. 7
 Assault, 2500 block Eastwood Dr.
 Public Intoxication, 2000 block Summer Lee Dr.
 For daily crime updates on the Rockwall area, visit crimereports.com.

Lone Star CASA in need of additional volunteers

Lone Star CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), which serves children in Rockwall and Kaufman counties, hopes to beef up its volunteer roster as students prepare to return to the classroom.

According to a CASA news release, the reopening of schools can mean a spike in the number of reports of child abuse.

"It isn't unusual for there to be an increase in reports of suspected abuse when school resumes," said Lucille Bell, CASA's executive director. "In the summer, many children have less interaction with adults outside their families, adults who might see signs of abuse or neglect."

For CASA, an increase in reports of abuse translate to a greater need for volunteers to work on behalf of children who enter the foster care system, Bell said.

CASA is a volunteer-based program designed to represent each child's interests and find him/her a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible.

"Every eight minutes a child is a victim of abuse and neglect in Texas," said Bell. "Problems of abuse and neglect don't just happen elsewhere, they also happen in Rockwall and Kaufman counties. These are children in our community, and we need to keep them safe."

Almost 140 children in these two counties were removed from their homes in 2010 because of abuse and/or neglect, Bell said.

It is CASA's goal to have a CASA volunteer for each and every child.

"When children are removed from a home because of evidence of abuse and neglect, they enter the child welfare system and are often uprooted from everyone and everything that is familiar to them. That is often a traumatic and scary event that no child should go through alone," said Bell. "Our children in foster care need a CASA volunteer to speak up for them. CASA volunteers learn about the children they represent to make informed recommendations to the court about their needs. They meet with the children at least once a month to find out what the children want and need. This relationship gives a child another chance to meet an adult and learn about his or her own potential. CASA volunteers are regular people who have chosen to speak up for abused and neglected children in their community."

For more information on CASA visit lonestarcasa.org or becomeacasa.org.



nda Smith is shown delivering melons, okra and other vegetables grown in the Eastridge Church of Christ's community garden and donated to the Helping Hands Food Pantry. Smith and Clyde started the garden with the help of Glenon, a Master Gardener. Through the garden, the church is donating more than 2,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables to the pantry annually.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Registration from Reading For Adult classes is under way at the Rockwall County Library. The program provides free educational support in four areas: English as a Second Language, or ESL; GED preparation; U.S. citizenship preparation; and adult literacy. Pictured from the left are Reading For Adult Class students Diana Mejia, Claudia Schwalm and Carlos Lopez, along with volunteer tutor Jerry Rubush. Classes are conducted throughout the year in both the morning and afternoon. Registration for GED classes should be completed this month; students will need to visit the Literacy Center for testing. ESL class registration and evaluation should be completed prior to August 20, as student registration for citizenship classes. For more details on classes or schedules or for information on becoming a tutor or donor, call 972-204-7705 or click on the Adult Literacy Center tab on the Rockwall County Library website.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Just Say You Saw It In "The County News"



Rockwall Chamber of Commerce members celebrated the recent grand opening ceremony for Cummings Air, available at 214-280-3035.



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Women and Infants | Women's Imaging and Breast Center | Childbirth Education | Breastfeeding Assistance