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Rockwall County News

Issue 33

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Friday, June 12, 2009

Copyright Rockwall County News



Rockwall County Sheriff's Deputies investigate a fatal accident on I-30 at Mile Marker 73 in Fate last Monday, June 1. A Winnsboro man and his dog were killed after striking the back of a parked tractor trailer rig. Traffic on eastbound I-30 was backed up through Rockwall towards the Hubbard bridge for most of the afternoon.
Photo by Tim Burnett

Winnsboro man killed in I-30 accident near Fate

A 31-year-old Winnsboro man and his dog were killed in a truck accident on Monday, June 1. The white vehicle struck the back of a parked tractor trailer at Mile Marker 73 exit ramp on I-30. The accident resulted in at least two fatalities: Carl Sutton, Sr., 31, of Winnsboro, and his dog, a 9-month-old Ram 2500 pickup truck. The truck was left as if trying to turn right off the highway at approximately 12:30 p.m. The tractor trailer was parked on the exit, a tractor trailer driver, Donald C. Comero, IA, had already backed away from the back of the trailer and was not injured.

from his truck, his dog was also found deceased in the front seat. Roysie City Animal Services was called to remove the dog.

After being released from the scene of the accident, Greene presented himself to the Rockwall County Sheriff's Office, requesting a blood specimen be taken from him. Sheriff's Deputy Kinsey transported Greene to Rockwall Presbyterian Hospital where a blood sample was taken and sent to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) in Austin for analysis.

Rockwall Sheriff's Office deputies investigating the accident were able to contact Sutton's daughter, Teresa Chapman, after finding her phone number on his

cell phone. She advised deputies that her mother, Helen Sutton, was visiting family in Utah and she would contact her mother about the accident. Deputies eventually spoke with Helen

Sutton and provided details about her husband's accident.

Services for Alton Sutton were held Saturday, June 6 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Winnsboro.

Overtaken truck backs up I-30 for more than five hours

A Pilgrim's Pride semi-truck hauling several hundreds crates of live chickens left the highway near FM2642 in Roysie City early Monday morning, dumping its load along the service road and tying up west bound traffic for more than five hours.

According to Roysie City Police Chief Tom Shelton, the cause of the accident is still under investigation.

The drive of the truck reportedly veered off the highway at 4:30 a.m. Monday, June 8, and overturned in the grassy median. Shelton said about half of the chickens were killed in the accident and many more were set loose on the roadway when their crates broke open. He said the truck driver was not

(Continued on Page 3)

News Briefs

Out-to-Lunch Bunch meets today

The Out-to-Lunch Bunch meets on the second Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at various restaurants. Today's location is the Cracker Barrel. Cost is \$7 for Rockwall residents, \$11 for non-residents. For more details, visit rockwall.com/parks.

HCA parking lot sale planned

The Heritage Christian Academy, 1408 S. Goliad St., will conduct a parking lot sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Funds generated by the sale will help support a team of HCA students and adult sponsors that will travel to Ghana, West Africa, as part of the school's missions program.

RHS alumni event is Saturday

The 58th Annual Rockwall High All-Class Alumni Banquet is set for 6 p.m. Saturday in the RHS cafeteria. Tickets cost \$15 at the Community Bank and American National Bank or e-mail rockwallhighschoolalumni.com. Reserve space by calling Mary Grace Frasier, 214-863-6960. Tickets or reservations required.

Pirate Island Art Camp slated

An art camp with a pirate theme will be offered for children ages 3-6 at the Harry Myers Community Center from 9 a.m. to noon June 15-19. Cost will be \$139 for Rockwall residents, \$194 for non-residents. For more details, visit rockwall.com/parks.

RS Chamber plans Breakfast Club

The Roysie City Chamber of Commerce will conduct its Breakfast Club event from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Wednesday at the Holiday Inn Express in Roysie City. A light breakfast will be served for a \$3 donation. Participants are urged to bring a business card to be eligible for the door prize. Call 972-636-5000 for more details.

Women's summer Bible study offered

The First United Methodist Church of Heath will offer a women's Bible study, Vertically Inclined-Climbing Higher with God, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday. The seven-week Wednesday study will be based on Phillipians 3:14 and was created by the author who penned "Conversation Peace."

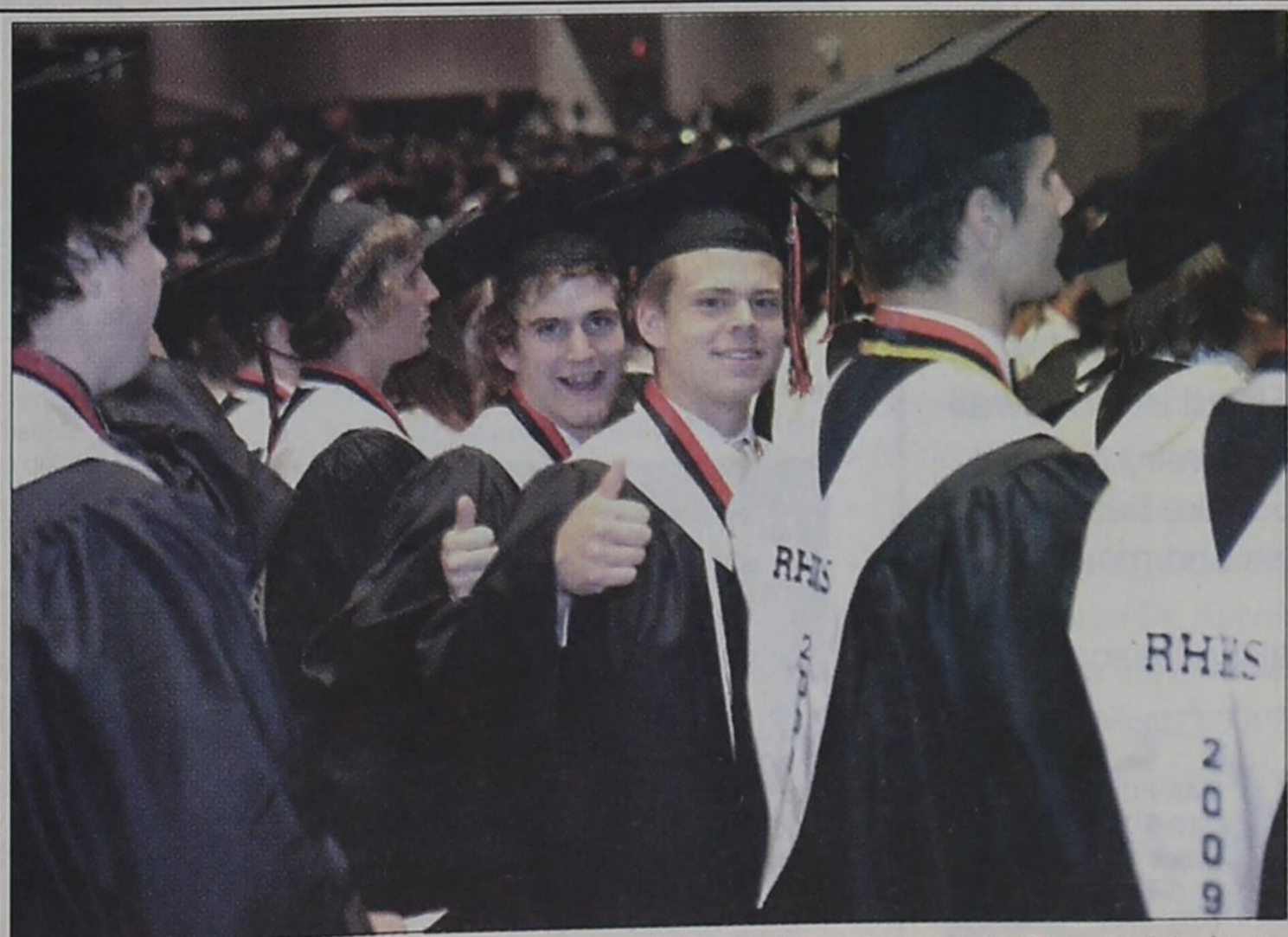
Event organized to benefit Lovell family

Peggy's Feed & Tack will host a June 20 event to benefit Roysie City resident Patricia Lovell and her children who lost their home recently in a fire. A trail ride will run from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., followed by an auction from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served, and live music is planned. The event will take place at 3218 S. FM 548 in Roysie City. For details or to help sponsor the event call 972-635-9508.

Drama camp set June 22-26

"Once Upon a Time" Drama Camp will be offered to youths ages 6-10 at the Harry Myers Community Center. Campers will explore characters from storybooks. Camp will run from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. June 22-26. Cost is \$150 for Rockwall residents, \$225 for non-residents. For more details, visit rockwall.com/parks.

News Briefs Continued on Page 3



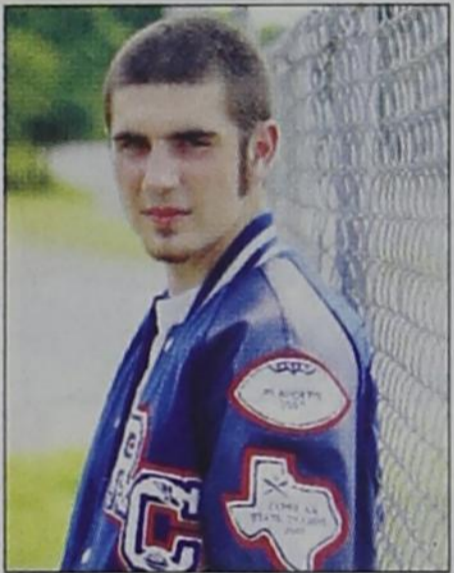
Rockwall-Heath High School seniors Wyatt McGee (left) and Cameron McClung (right) give a thumbs-up as they wait to receive their diplomas at the school's graduation ceremony last Friday, June 5 at Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall. All county schools, including Rockwall High School, Roysie City High School, Heritage Christian Academy, The Fulton School, Poetry Community Christian School and Rockwall Christian Academy, have completed graduation ceremonies for the spring, with hundreds of fresh graduates preparing to now take on college, the military and new careers.
Staff Photo by Carl McClung

Area schools name 2008-2009 Valedictorians, Salutatorians



Betty Boban
Rockwall Christian Academy

The Rockwall Christian Academy Class of 2009 Valedictorian is Betty Boban. She plans to attend the University of Texas at Dallas in the fall, with a major in finance. In addition to being named class valedictorian, Boban is a member of the National Honor Society, participated in the TAPPS 2007-2008 Choir Competition, was named Scholar of the Year for 2005-2006, was the Algebra II Outstanding Student in 2006-2007, Pre-Calculus and Spanish II Outstanding Student for 2007-2008, received the 2008-2009 Outstanding Student Awards in Anatomy, Spanish III, Government, Bible, Health and Calculus, and was the 2009 Cut Above Student. Boban is the daughter of Oonunny and Darly Boban.



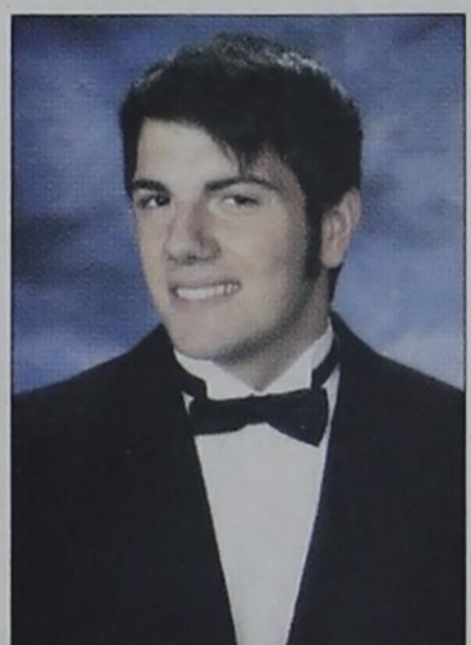
Landry Lee
Rockwall Christian Academy

The Rockwall Christian Academy Class of 2009 Salutatorian is Landry Jonathan Lee. He plans to attend Baylor University in Waco in the fall, with a major in law, business or sports management. In addition to being named class salutatorian, Lee is a member of the National Honor Society, the RCA Student Leadership Council, was named the 2008-2009 Warrior of the Year, received the 2008-2009 Iron Man Award, was a member of the 2007 TAPPS 2A State Championship Baseball Team and the 2008 TAPPS 2A Regional Football Champions. He also received the 2008-2009 Football Warrior Award, the 2007-2008 Basketball Warrior Award, was named 2008-2009 TAPPS 2A Basketball 1st Team All-District and was the 2008-2009 Basketball Offensive Player of the Year. In track, he was the TAPPS 2A Shotput District Silver Medalist in 2007, 2008, 2009, the TAPPS 2A Shotput Regional Bronze Medalist in 2009 and the TAPPS 2A Shotput State Bronze Medalist in 2009. Lee is the son of Tina Lee and Jon Lee.



Mackenzie Turner
Royse City High School

The Royse City High School Class of 2009 Valedictorian is Mackenzie Michelle Turner. She plans to attend Rice University in Houston in the fall, with a major in Biology. In addition to being named class valedictorian, Turner is a National Merit Commended Scholar, received the DAR Award and is a member of the 2008-2009 State OAP All-Star Cast. Turner is the daughter of Michele Dry and Michael Turner.



Austen Sharp
Royse City High School

The Royse City High School Class of 2009 Salutatorian is Austen Ray Sharp. He plans to attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock in the fall, with a major in Civil Engineering. In addition to being named class salutatorian, Sharp is a 2008-2009 State UIL Prose Silver Medalist and 2008-2009 State UIL OPA Honorable Mention All-Star Cast member. Sharp is the son of Garry and Debi Sharp.



Roxanne Lamarre
Heritage Christian Academy

The Heritage Christian Academy Class of 2009 Valedictorian is Roxanne April Lamarre. She plans to attend Baylor University in Waco in the fall, from which she has received a scholarship in the amount of \$32,000. In addition to being named class valedictorian, Lamarre is an Academic All-Star, a member of the National

Honor Society and is graduating with honors. She is an ACSI Distinguished Christian High School Student, receiving an award for academics. Her senior year, she lettered in volleyball and softball. Lamarre is the daughter of Jacques Roy and Louise Lamarre.



Kevin Prater
Heritage Christian Academy

The Heritage Christian Academy Class of 2009 Salutatorian is Kevin Donald Prater. He plans to attend Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, LA. in the fall. He has received a scholarship from LTU in the amount of \$35,600. Prater was also accepted to Howard Payne University, the University of Nebraska, Texas A&M College Station and Oklahoma Baptist University, with significant scholarships offered by each school. In addition to being named class salutatorian, Prater is an Academic All-Star, a member of the National Honor Society and is graduating with honors. He is an ACSI Distinguished Christian High School Student, receiving an award for academics and leadership. His senior year, he lettered in football and baseball. Prater is the son of Ken and Delores Prater.



Amanda Bellinger
The Fulton Academy

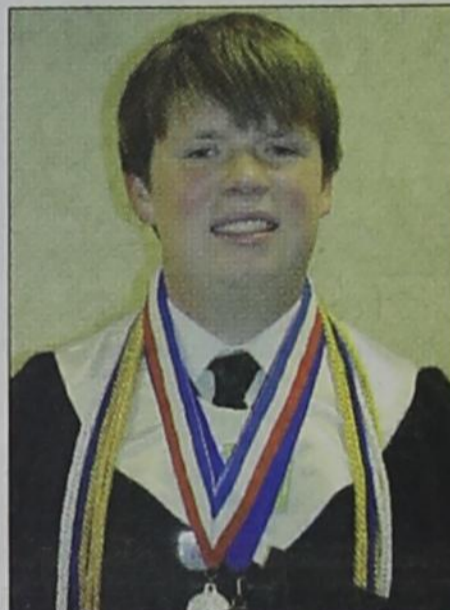
The Fulton School Class of 2009 Valedictorian is Amanda Kristie Bellinger. She plans to attend the University of Texas at Tyler in the fall, majoring in music with a minor in education. In addition to being named class valedictorian, Bellinger has participated in the Talent Show, Community Clean-up, Yearbook Staff and has been a Teacher's Aide. She earned a TAPPS First Place Award in State 1A for the 2008-2009 State Yearbook competition, Second Place in the Rotary 4-Way Test Speech Competition and was recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution for citizenship, patriotism and leadership. Her community activities include the Rockwall

Strings Orchestra, Rockwall Community Band and she is a member of the Irish band Paddy Gone Wild. She has received an SMU Engineering Scholarship. Bellinger is the daughter of Dr. Richard and Patricia Bellinger.



Garret Burch
The Fulton School

The Fulton School Class of 2009 Salutatorian is Garret Malcolm Burch. He plans to attend the University of Texas at Dallas in the fall, majoring in business. In addition to being named class salutatorian, Burch was selected by the City of Rockwall to be on the Youth Advisory Council. He received a TAPPS First Place Award in State 1A for the 2008-2009 State Yearbook competition. He has been recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution and was a starter on the inaugural Varsity Fulton 6-Man Football Team. He said he "would like to surpass the impossible." Burch is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Burch.



Gregory Fox
Rockwall High School

The Rockwall High School Class of 2009 Valedictorian is Gregory Chandler Fox (Gregg). He plans to attend Baylor University in Waco in the fall, with a major in Cell Biology and a minor in Medical Humanities. In addition to being named class valedictorian, Fox is a National Merit Scholar and a Baylor University Honors College Robinson Scholar. Fox is the son of Rick and Lindy Fox of Rockwall.



Miguel Chavira
Rockwall High School

The Rockwall High School Class of 2009 Salutatorian is Miguel Angel Chavira. He plans to attend Rice University in Houston in the fall, with a major in English. In addition to being named class salutatorian,

Chavira received the Trustee Distinguished Scholarship, is a National Merit commended student and National Merit Hispanic Scholar, is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, AP Scholar with Honors and was recognized by the City of Rockwall for leadership and service. He was an Academic Decathlon state qualifier in grades 11 and 12, placing third at State his senior year, earned the Lantern of Knowledge and Presidents Award from the Academic Booster Club and advanced to State in Literary Criticism. Chavira is the son of Ricardo Chavira Jr. and Joni Chavira.



Krista Heinrich
Rockwall-Heath High School

Rockwall-Heath High School Class of 2009 Valedictorian is Krista Marie Heinrich. She plans to attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock in the fall, with a major in pre-pharmacy. In addition to being named class valedictorian, Heinrich is a member of the National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Varsity Soccer team, Texas Scholar and recipient of the Texas Tech Tommy Hooper Memorial Scholarship. She also received the AMICA Scholarship, KOC Clayton Bennett Scholarship, ABC Scholarship, President's Volunteer Service Award and the Texas Tech Presidential Endowed Scholarship. Heinrich is the daughter of Trish and Randy Heinrich.



Adrienne Bowyer
Rockwall-Heath High School

The Rockwall-Heath High School Class of 2009 Salutatorian is Adrienne Elizabeth Bowyer. She plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin in the fall, where she will major in Business Honors Program. In addition to being named class salutatorian, Bowyer was President of National Honor Society, a member of the Spanish National Honor Society, Art National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta,

was named to Among American Youth Inaugural member of the team, Fellowship Athletes and President's Volunteer Award. Bowyer of Kit and Janet I



Joshua Bantsev
Poetry Christian

The Poetry Christian Salutatorian is Joshua Bantsev. He is the son of missionary Ilya and Janet Bantsev. Bantsev placed first for State in multiple events offered by the Association of Parochial Schools, receiving the State I this year. He attended music school and has composed classical piano works. He plans to attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock in the fall, with a major in pre-pharmacy. While his senior year in Russia, Bantsev Poetry with Ted Barlow. Because the Barlow's forking advanced through the community district. This fall to a four-year university strong program in sciences, such as

June 20

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A day of family

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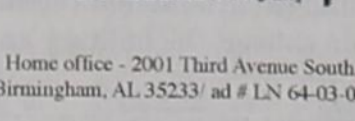


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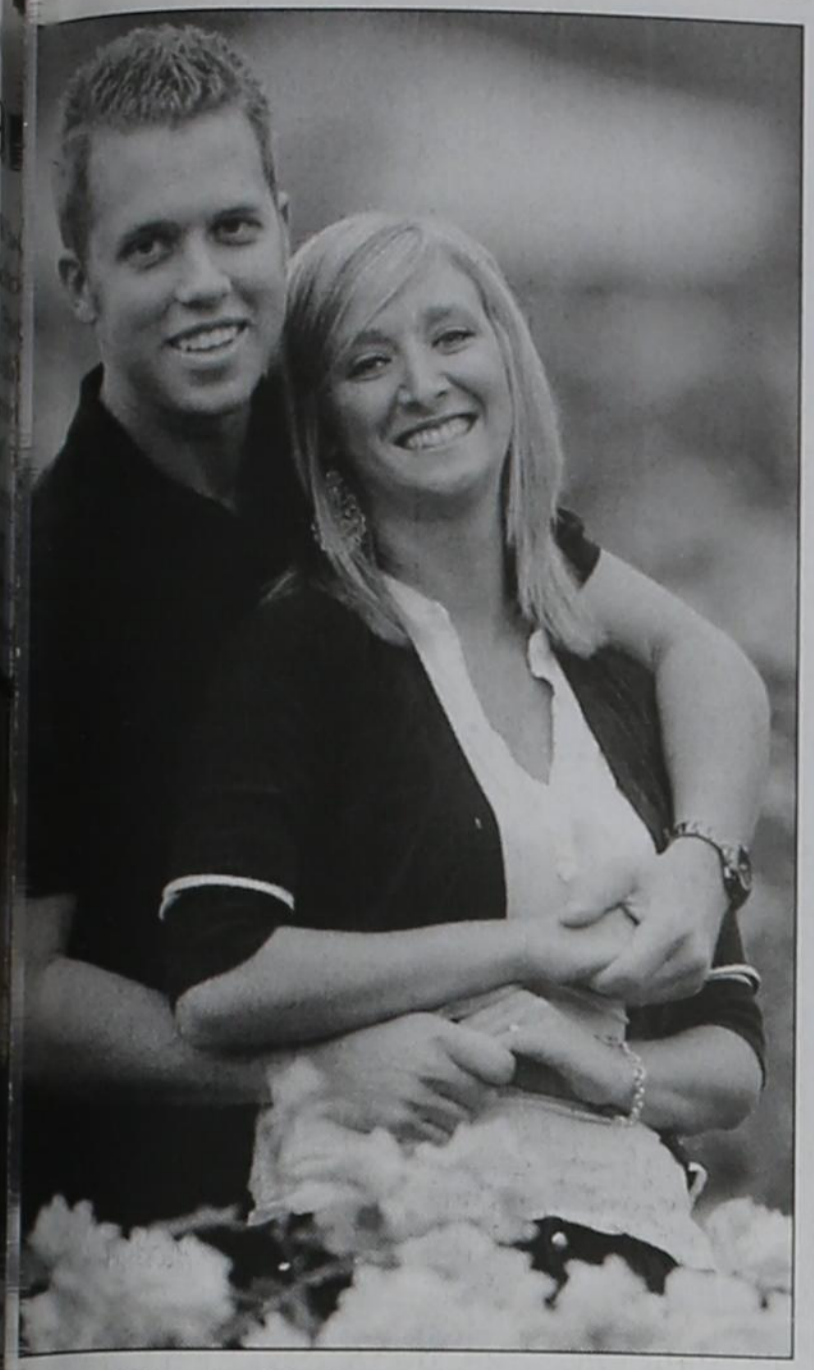
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Callie Hand and Brandon Scott

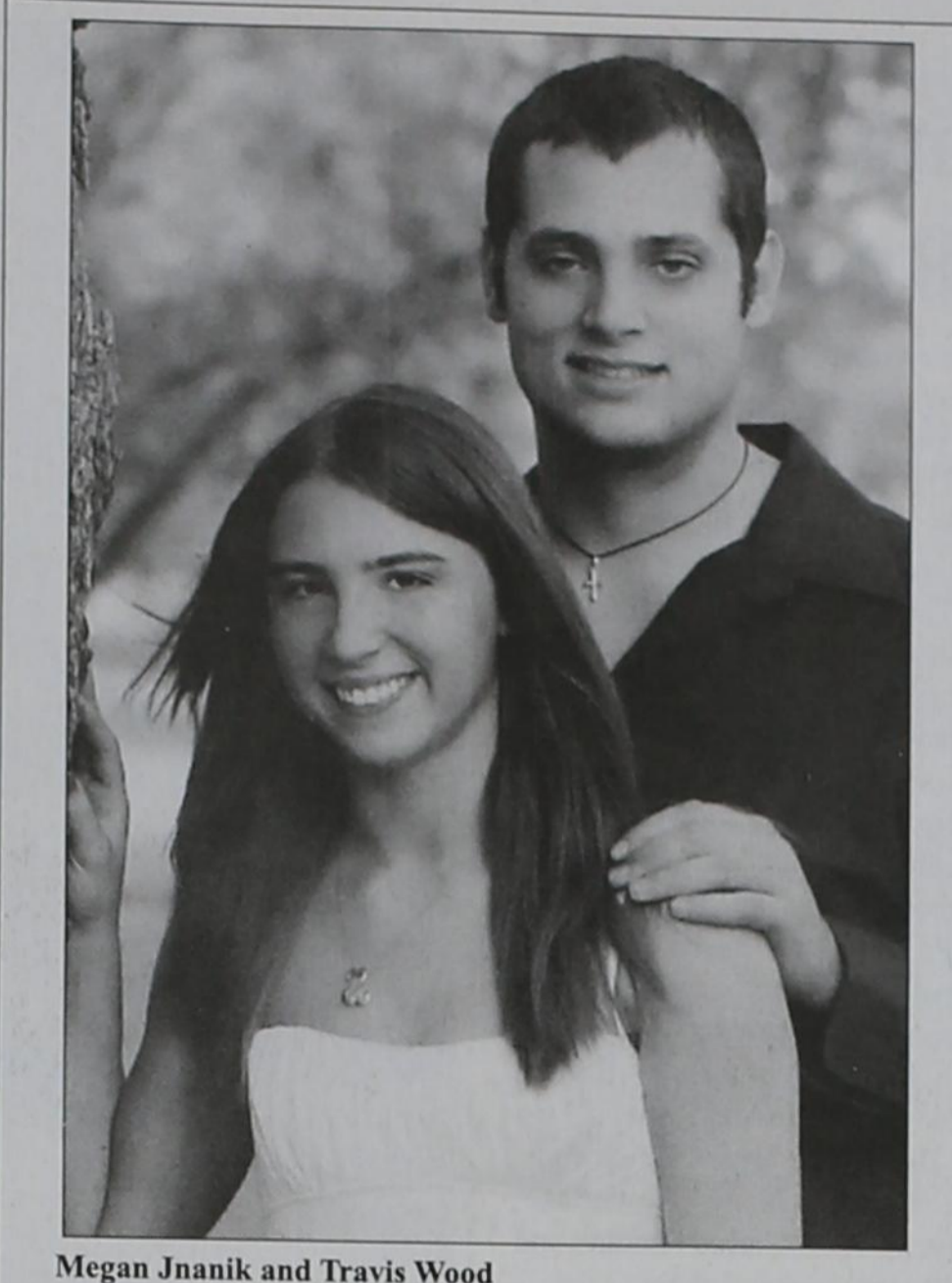
**Wilson, Brandon
 set June 27 wedding**

Mrs. Robert E. Wilson of Rockwall are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Callie Hand, to Brandon Scott Hand, son of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Hand.

Callie is the granddaughter of Edith Lovell of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burch of Fort Worth. She is a graduate of North Mesquite High School and the University of North Texas, where she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and is currently employed as a third grade teacher with the Tyler Independent School District.

Brandon, the prospective bridegroom, the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Starley Starley and Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt McFarlin of Van, is a Tyler graduate of Van High School. He is employed at Dealers Supply in Tyler.

The wedding on June 27, 2009, at the First Baptist Church in Tyler.



Megan Janik and Travis Wood

**Megan Janik, Travis Wood
 plan June 20 wedding**

Diane Janik of Rockwall and David Janik of Lewisville are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Megan Elizabeth Janik, to Travis Burdett Wood, son of Travis and Barbara Wood of Rowlett.

The bride-elect and the prospective bridegroom are graduates of Rockwall High School. Both are employed at Impressionist Portraits.

A 6 p.m. ceremony on June 20, 2009, at the Christ the Redeemer Church in Garland is planned.

News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Stingerette Summer Camp scheduled
 Children in grades kindergarten through the eighth grade are invited to participate in the Rockwall High School Stingerette Summer Camp, July 21-24 at Williams Middle School. Activities will run from 8 a.m. to noon; check-in will be at 8:30 a.m. on July 21. Cost of camp (through June 29) is \$70 or \$80 at the door on July 21. For details contact Claire Shippy, cshippy@rockwalltx.com or call 972-816-8857.

Art camp set
 Art camps will be offered to youths ages 6-13 on June 29 and July 20-23. The event will run from 2 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Cost will be \$120 for Rockwall residents, \$180 for non-residents. For more details, visit rockwall.com/parks.

City of Heath offices to mark holiday
 City of Heath offices will be closed July 3 in observance of Independence Day holiday. Normal business hours will resume on July 4.

Parade, Popsicles in the Park set
 The City of Heath Independence Day Parade and Popsicles in the Park will take place July 4. The parade will begin at 9 a.m. at Heath Elementary. After the parade, free popsicles will be served through the Towne Center Park Pavilion behind City Hall. For details visit heathtx.com or call 972-771-6228.

Parade to host July 4
 The Rockwall Town Rockwall Food Association and Rockwall Wal-Mart Supercenter will host the annual Fourth of July Parade at 11 a.m. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. in the Rockwall area, followed by a picnic at the Rockwall football stadium. A fireworks display is set for 9:15 p.m. For details visit rockwall.com or call 972-636-5000; participants must register in advance.

Fest planned in Royse City
 Royse City's 4th Annual Independence Day Parade and Festival will be held on July 4. The parade will begin at 6 p.m. in the Royse City area, followed by a picnic at the Royse City football stadium. A fireworks display is set for 9:15 p.m. For details visit roysecity.com or call 972-636-5000; participants must register in advance.

Shows show at Harry Myers Park
 Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department sponsored fireworks and a picnic at Harry Myers Park on July 4. The fireworks will be set off at dusk on July 4. Picnic baskets, FM radios and lawn chairs are encouraged.

**Royse City
 accidents ...**

(Continued from Page 1)
 seriously injured.

In another Royse City accident on Monday, a motorcyclist was involved in a collision with a car at approximately 1:15 p.m. near Ford Elementary School. Shelton said the victim was evacuated by Care-Flite with serious injuries, but no further information was available pending a continuing investigation by the Royse City Police Department.

Rockwall County News

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John Lennon project brings music education experience to Rockwall

by Kathy Williams

Nine Rockwall high school students got the opportunity of a lifetime Monday to experience the music business first hand and work side-by-side with industry professionals writing a song and producing a music video.

The students from Rockwall High School and Rockwall-Heath High School were selected by their teachers and principals to participate in The John Lennon Educational Tour Bus program, a non-profit outreach program that offers students a chance to express themselves through music and video production.

RockwallISD became involved in the program at the suggestion of representatives from Apple Computers, which partners with RISD to provide laptops and other computer equipment to the district, according to Donna Fisher, RISD's Director of Instructional Technology. "(RISD Superintendent of Schools) Dr. Gene Burton is always interested in activities that will enrich students," she said, which led him to inquire about the program.

Chris Gasaway, RISD Director of Technology/Information Systems, said the students selected were musically and technologically inclined and had expressed an interest in a career in the mu-

sic or video production industry.

The Rockwall High School participants were senior Chris McGill, senior Heather Dawe, senior Rachael (last name withheld by request), sophomore James Trammell, junior Greg Witwer and senior Timmy Clark. Rockwall-Heath High School students were junior Connor French, junior Austin Cuny and senior David Contreras.

The program was established 12 years ago by John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, as a "living legacy to John's passion for musical expression and artistic freedom."

The bus travels the United States for 10 months of the year, visiting schools, music and technology conferences and events offering students interested in a career in the music or video production field the opportunity to create their own recordings. The bus is outfitted with state-of-the-art recording and video production equipment, musical instruments and recording booths.

Music producer Doug Larsen from Akron, Ohio and one of three staff members on the bus said the students receive instruction in songwriting, music recording and video production. The students write a song, record it using the on-board equipment create a storyboard outlining

their concept for a music video, then produce, film, dance and act in the video.

The other two engineers on the bus, in addition to Larsen, are Seamus Harte and Ben Hazen.

The Rockwall participants chose as their theme, "Life is a story you never stop telling." Their finished product, as well as all videos produced by participants, can be viewed on lennonbus.org, itunes, youtube, facebook and myspace.

Professional musicians who have offered their expertise to the Lennon Bus project in the past are Don Felder of the Eagles, Macy Gray, LeAnn Rimes, Mary J. Blige, The Black Eyed Peas, Al Jarreau, Justin Timberlake, Wyclef Jean, Carlos Santana and will.i.am, among others.

Timmy Clark from Rockwall High School said the experience was "the best thing ever. It helped with learning the recording technology and was a great hands-on experience."

Saturday sale to benefit HCA missions program

A parking lot sale set to run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Heritage Christian Academy parking lot, 1408 S. Goliad St., will benefit the school's missions program.

HCA plans to send a team of students and adult sponsors to Ghana, West Africa, to engage children in the Sankpem village in Bible storytelling. The team will do crafts and teach songs and games, much like the activities conducted as part of vacation Bible school. The team also plans to make a visit to an orphanage where many of the children are sponsored by individuals from the United States.

The Ghana trip is part of the HCA's overall missions program. Mission HCA offers students the opportunity to give to others the love and truth they have received and to expose students to community, national and global needs. The trip is designed to allow students to discover and utilize their spiritual gifts and temperaments in a variety of ministry opportunities.

During the school year, the HCA student body raised funds to build a church for the Dagomba tribe in the Kushibo village.

To learn more about the HCA's mission activities, visit heritagechristianacademy.org/missions.



Participants in the John Lennon Bus Tour experience were (left to right) Rockwall HS McGill, RHS senior Heather Dawe, RHS senior Rachael (last name withheld by request), RH James Trammell, Rockwall-Heath HS senior David Contreras, RHS senior Timmy Clark, F Connor French and RHHS junior Austin Cuny. (Not pictured is RHS sophomore Greg Witwer) Staff Photo by Kathy Williams



Rockwall-Heath High School ninth grade theater students (left to right) Nick Record, Ja and Anne Bowen created a living sculpture depicting the Anita Russellman bronze "Discover celebrates the founding of Rockwall, at the city's May 30 Founder's Day celebration. Ru sculpture also celebrates and supports the arts in Rockwall. To create the living version of Russellman, who serves on the Arts Commission, contacted RHHS theater instructor Leigh V ing for volunteers. The students shown, along with ninth graders Ricky Flood, Abby Br Jackson Currie, tenth graders Shelby Litt and Makynzie Stevens and eleventh grader Mari took shifts during the day-long event recreating the piece and celebrating the 155th birthday of Rockwall. Staff Photo by Roy Heath

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Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

Please direct the submission of Letters to the Editor. The Editor's discretion is at the sole discretion of the editor and is not to be held by request. Letters are considered libelous or an attack of an individual's character and will be rejected, as well as those promoting products or services. Letters must be signed and include a phone number or address for verification.

Volunteers needed for city readiness team

The City Readiness Initiative was formed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the purpose of providing training to communities for the distribution of Strategic National Stockpile and vaccines.

The H1N1 pandemic flu outbreak is providing lessons and the need for community preparedness through volunteer awareness and exercise training. Dependent upon the progress of the current pandemic flu situation and production of vaccines, the Cities Readiness Initiative may be called upon for distribution and administration of preventative mea-

It Means to You - bt.cdc.gov/stockpile/
 Cities Readiness Initiative - bt.cdc.gov/cr/qa.asp
 Since 2001 has provided a strong understanding of volunteer participation is crucial for community preparedness through public health education, exercise training and volunteer work everyone can assist in protecting our community. Functional exercise has provided an introduction to the "drive-through POD site. A Regional CRI Point of Distribution Exercise is scheduled on Oct. 24. Volunteer teams are being planned and group training for the upcoming event are greatly needed to act as clients. Please forward your name to the network of friends and neighbors.

We would like to sincerely thank all those who have supported the Rockwall County Cities Readiness Initiative, and we continue to build our network of trained volunteers. If you would like to participate in the planning of training exercise.

Healthy and safe summer.
 Dr. Mark Wartz, DPM, RPh
 & Training Coordinator
 Sheriff's Office
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Rockwall seniors honored for Older Americans Day

More than 150 people from all over Rockwall County gathered on Friday, May 29 to celebrate and honor area senior citizens who have made outstanding contributions to their community. The event was held in conjunction with national Older Americans Month, celebrated each May.

This year's theme was, "Living Today for a Better Tomorrow." Thirty-three elder Rockwall residents were selected to receive these awards based on the impact they have had in Rockwall through volunteer work, program and Community Development.

Nominations were made by county and city officials. The celebration was held in the meeting room at the Rockwall Public Library. Speakers at the event included Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil and Roysse City Mayor Jerrell Bailey, Heath City Councilman Bob Hille, Rockwall County Commissioner David Magnus and U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall.

The 2009 Rockwall County honorees were Tom Norris, Bill Sinclair, May LaCroix, Dorothy Ramsay, Leslie Buie, Emily Shrum, Ted Scherbel, J.B. Anders, Barbara Batemen, Jim Allan, Jerrell and Ouida Bailey, Bill and Ginny Gorman, Leigh Plagens, Martha Sue Keegan, Dale Stroope and Frances Stroope, Vivian Hicks, Delores Ballard, Albert Meyers, Betty Irwin, Ed Smith and Sue Smith, Wanda Roy, Peggy Garrett, Ruth Peck, Rosemary Franklin, Bill Cecil, Tom Crowley, Dewayne Cain, Claudette Hatfield, Tom and Ginny Ryan, Ralph Yoas, Ginny Progelhof and Clarissa Russell.

Awards were presented by Rockwall County Committee on Aging Executive Director Margie Verhagen.



Rockwall County Committee on Aging Executive Director Margie Verhagen (left) and Roysse City Zaneer Robison Museum Curator Annie Cornelius (center) present Barbara Bateman (left) with an award for outstanding service to the community. The awards ceremony was part of a national recognition of May as Older Citizens Month.

RCAA membership drive under way

The Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts, a nonprofit organization that provides Open Door Grants to local arts groups, is conducting its annual membership drive.

Some of the groups funded by the RCAA include the Rockwall Community Playhouse, Lakeside Civic Chorus, Rockwall Children's Chorus, Rockwall Historical Foundation and MusicFest. The alliance also provides art-related scholarships to Rockwall Independent School District students.

Contributions may be sent to RCAA, P.O. Box 204, Rockwall, TX 75087. (Some donor's contributions were returned by the postal service, and the RCAA regrets the confusion. The problem has been resolved, however, and mailed contributions now will be directed to the RCAA.)

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Dental Implants are the "Gold Standard" for replacing missing teeth

When considering the choices for replacing a failing or missing tooth, put dental implants at the top of your list. Dental implants are considered the "Gold Standard" for replacing missing teeth. One key advantage dental implants offer that no other restorative option gives is preservation of the facial bones. The bones hold the tooth roots in place. When teeth are missing, the bone that supports the tooth goes away, causing premature aging of the face and loss of function. Dental implants preserve the bone by replicating the tooth root.

For oral and maxillofacial surgeons, Dr. Kevin Pollock and Dr. Ketan Parekh, the procedures to rebuild facial bones are commonplace. Our surgeons use advanced reconstructive techniques such as bone and soft tissue grafting to rebuild lost natural form when necessary, allowing precise placement and enhancing the esthetic outcome. Because both Dr. Pollock and Dr. Parekh are trained in IV anesthesia, the surgical experience is stress and pain free.

Another huge advantage dental implants have is that they can last a lifetime. Conventional tooth replacement such as bridges can fail because of the decay that occurs where the crown meets the tooth. Dental implants do not decay and have a 98 percent success rate in non-smoking patients.

How does a dental implant work?
 The first step in the treatment sequence is careful planning. Thanks to recent advancements in implant techniques, most people with missing teeth qualify as candidates for implant treatment. Once you and your doctor have determined a dental implant is the right choice, your doctor will take x-rays and make models of your mouth in order to determine the best plan of treatment for your situation.

The next step is placing the implant in the jaw using a gentle surgical procedure. Many patients report having a dental implant placed is less traumatic than having a tooth removed. Healthy bone forms a strong bond to the implant after 6-12 weeks, providing a solid foundation for attaching a replacement tooth (called a crown). Because dental implants usually are not covered by gum during this step, the gum tissue and bone reshape and heal around the implant at the same time.

After the bone has bonded with the implant, the next step is to create the crown. In a few appointments, your dentist will attach a post (called an abutment) to the implant, take impressions of your teeth, and check for proper fit and color of the crown.

Dr. Kevin Pollock, Dr. Ketan Parekh and the entire staff at Rockwall Oral & Facial Surgery strive to make sure every step of your dental implant procedure is a safe, comfortable and worry-free experience. When having an oral surgery, such as a dental implant it is important that the procedure is performed in an oral surgery facility under the care of a board certified specialist.

The offices of Rockwall Oral & Facial Surgery are equipped for both safety and comfort. Our building is designed specifically to support the needs of our patients as they receive surgical treatment. Qualified staff members are ready to serve our patients whether it is during a surgical procedure or assisting with financial and insurance arrangements.

For more information please contact Rockwall Oral & Facial Surgery. We are conveniently located in Rockwall at 960 West Ralph Hall Parkway. We also have offices in Wylie and Canton. Call today to schedule your complimentary dental implant consultation. Our staff will be happy to assist you when you call 469-698-9800 or find us on the web at www.dentalimplantsurgery.com

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On God's Word

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

The cross Jesus carried ...

In our brief study on the cross that Jesus Christ carried, we intend to examine some of the uses of the word "cross" in all the Gospel records in order to understand better what "cross" he carried.

The accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke give the same information about what happened as Jesus was led to the location of his crucifixion. Matthew's account says, "And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. It was him they compelled to bear his cross" (Matthew 27:32). According to the above scripture, as Jesus was led out, the soldiers compelled another man to carry the cross for Jesus.

God's word gives detailed information about the man who carried Jesus' cross. His name was Simon and was from a place called Cyrene. According to Mark 15:21 Simon was passing through, and he was the father of Alexander and Rufus. The record in Luke 23:26 does not provide any new information.

The Rufus of Romans 16:13, and the Alexander of Acts 19:33 are two remotely possible candidates for Simon's sons. God's word does not provide any new details about them, but He has a reason for honoring them with their father, Simon.

Let's turn to John's record of the cross that Jesus carried "And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called, 'the place of a skull,' which is called in the Hebrew, 'Golgotha.'" (John 19:17). Three of the Gospel records clearly have another man carrying Jesus' cross behind him as he walked toward Golgotha. Yet John's record has Jesus bearing a cross. Why the apparent contradiction?

The word "cross" comes from the Biblical Greek word "stauros" which meant an upright stake, especially a pointed one. The use of this word in the first three Gospel records must be understood literally. They clearly refer to Simon carrying a pointed stake on behalf of Jesus.

Let's learn about the cross that Jesus carried. Go to Colossians 1:20 where it says, "And having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself..." and again in Colossians 2:14 it says, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that were against us, which were contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross."

According to an old eastern tradition, when any person carried a debt that could not be paid, the elders would post his name with the names of the creditors and the amount of the debt, on the city's entrance gate. If another person passed by and decided to pay the debt, the posted debt was doubled or folded up so it could not be seen, and nailed to the gate. This meant the debt was paid in full and the person was free from the debt.

Jesus paid the full price for the debts of sin. And in so doing, the law that was against mankind was symbolically folded up and nailed to his cross. We were freed from the bondage of the letter of the law. This was the symbolic cross that Jesus carried for all of mankind.

Simon of Cyrene involuntarily carried the literal cross on behalf of Jesus. Jesus the Christ voluntarily carried the true symbolic cross on behalf of mankind according to the will of his Father in heaven.

Rockwall County Obituaries

Dr Edwin Earl Davis

Dr. Edwin Earl Davis, PhD, age 78, formerly of Rockwall, died Sunday, May, 24 2009 in Marietta, Georgia. A graveside service with full military honors was held Saturday, May 30, at Cheatham Hill Memorial Park in Marietta.

Dr. Davis was retired from the U.S. Navy where he achieved the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer and served on the USS Tunny out of Pearl Harbor. After retiring from the Navy, Dr. Davis obtained his PhD in education and became a Professor of Criminal Justice at Brenau College in Gainesville and was the former Director of Campus at Fort Gordon. He was also a former employee with the state of Florida HRS Department.

He was of the Christian faith. Dr. Davis is survived by his son, Jeff Davis of Cumming; daughters, Sharon Vitale of Marietta and Shawn Ball of Woodbridge, CA; brothers, Robert Davis of Garland, TX and Ernest Davis, Jr. of Garland, TX; sister, Betty Wright of Elbert, CO; grandchildren, Chandra Vitale of Smyrna, Amanda Kallam of Gilbert, AZ, Alex Davis of Cumming and Nicolas Davis of Cumming and 2 great-grandchildren.

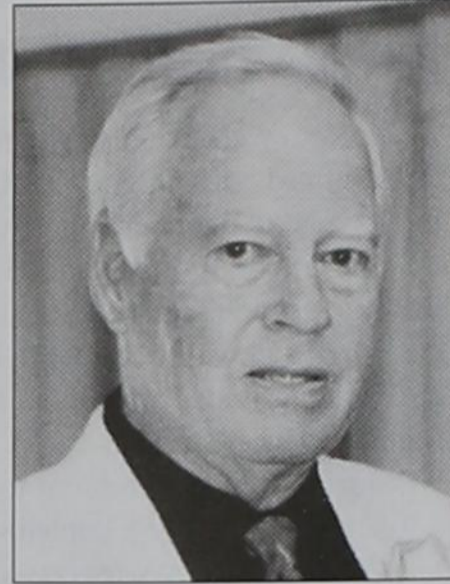
Wilbur Lee 'Will' Hicks

Services for Wilbur Lee "Will" Hicks, 83, of Rockwall were conducted at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 11, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Bro. Ed Jolley officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He died June 6. Born Mary 6, 1926, in Plant City, Fla., to Dr. Wilbur Lee Hicks Sr. and Elizabeth (Yancey) Hicks, he was an Eagle Scout and served as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army during World War II. He retired from Manatee Community College in Bradenton, Fla., after serving 38 years as a tennis, track and backpacking coach. His teams earned several state championships in both tennis and track and field. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Rockwall.

Survivors include his wife, Geraldine Hicks of Rockwall; his daughters, Glenda Kelldorf and her husband, Mark, of Heath and Cheryl Estes and her husband, Keith, of Rockwall; his sisters, Betty Philpot of Orlando, Fla., and Virginia Zinner of Plant City; one brother, Stuart Hicks and his wife, Kathy, of Plant City; his grandchildren, Koli and Ryan Lee of Forney, Kay-Lee and Kylie Kelldorf, both of Heath, and Klayton, Savannah and Garrett Estes, all of Rockwall; and one great-grandchild, Kiaya Lee of Forney.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to the Ridgeview Youth Fund, 1362 E. FM 552, Rockwall, TX 75087.



Dora Templeton

Services for Dora Templeton, 87, of Rockwall were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 10, 2009, in the Elmwood Funeral Home in Abilene with Bill Luttrell officiating. Burial followed in Memorial Park in Abilene.

She died June 7. Born April 1, 1922, in Erath County to D.J. and Richardson, she taught school for many years and was a Christ member.

Survivors include her sister, Wanda Rogers, and Wayne, of Rockwall and a nephew, Mike Rogers, his wife, and their son, Ari, also of Rockwall.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James, and Jimmy Templeton.

Mark Lee Schultz

Services for Mark Lee Schultz, 39, of Rockwall were to be at 3 p.m. today, June 12, 2009, with Dr. Gary W. Johnson officiating. Burial was to follow in the Hamilton-Beeman Cemetery. The Corley Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

He died Sunday, June 7, from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident.

Born in Houston on Dec. 9, 1969, he was a general contractor. He enjoyed motor cross racing, camping and spending quality time with his family. He was a master craftsman. A devoted father, fiancé, son, brother and friend to many, he possessed an innate ability to warm and make others smile.

Survivors include his four children, Trey, Tiffany, Dustin; his parents, Rinert and Kathryn Schultz; his fiancée, Avery; his sister, Marilyn Barclay, and her husband, I. his sister, Margaret Gavin, and her fiancé, Scott Wallace; his sister, Michael Sanders, and his wife, Jennifer Sanders; his nieces, Hallberg Stephens and Meghan Garvin; his nephew, K. and many other family members.

Pallbearers were to include Dean Barclay II, Dustin I. Holloway, Austin Jaminet, Jerry Jaminet, Kenny Stal Srianekkul and Johnny Avery.

An online guest book is available at corleyfuneralhome.com for the Mark Lee Schultz obituary. Visit his memorial Web site at pathytree.com/markschultz.



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2. Print the name of your "best" choices legibly with black ink pen.
3. Your "best" entries must be operated and located in Rockwall County.
4. Mail to Rockwall County News, P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087 or
5. Bring the entry form the office at 107 E. Bourn
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"Best of Rockwall County" winners announced July 10, 2009
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Rockwall County News

2009

Friday Opinions

Terrorism Is a Crime

by Sheldon Richman

Contrary to the U.S. government's position, acts of terrorism are crimes that have little in common with acts of war. The terrorists whom Americans worry about are not trying to overthrow the U.S. government or conquer and occupy the United States. Instead, they are trying to obtain vengeance for U.S. government intervention in the Middle East. Historically, terrorism has been the tactic of the weak against the strong.

A military response is both disproportionate and unnecessary — and it inflicts suffering on innocents. Occupying and bombing a country because a group of terrorists might have plotted there is itself terrorism. Moreover, when the government assumes a war footing, it flings the doors open to violations of domestic liberty. "No nation can preserve its freedom in the midst of continual warfare," James Madison said.

The Obama administration's early signals on these matters have not been encouraging. The president is escalating in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and his intention to close Guantanamo is undercut by his plans to continue military commissions for terrorist suspects in lieu of real criminal trials and to seek authority for indefinite preventive detention of suspects whom the government fears could not be convicted.

However, the administration has now indicated that the normal criminal justice system may play more of a role in investigations of terrorism. A report in the Los Angeles Times states, "The FBI and Justice Department plan to significantly expand their role in global counter-terrorism operations, part of a U.S. policy shift that will replace a CIA-dominated system of clandestine detentions and interrogations with one built around transparent investigations and prosecutions."

"Under the 'global justice' initiative, ... FBI agents will ... expand their questioning of suspects and evidence-gathering to try to ensure that criminal prosecutions are an option, officials familiar with the effort said."

It's too soon to know how much of an improvement this policy will be over the Bush administration's war policy, but if the government is thinking more in terms of traditional criminal trials, with the presumption of innocence and the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, that is indeed an improvement.

Of course former Vice President Dick Cheney wouldn't approve. He recently said the Clinton administration wrongly treated the 1993 World Trade Center bombing as a crime. The government tried some of the suspected bombers, won convictions, and imprisoned the offenders for life. Cheney pointed out, however, that since the Twin Towers were brought down some eight years later, the criminal-justice approach to terrorism was an obvious failure. As he put it in a recent speech,

"The first attack on the World Trade Center was treated as a law enforcement problem, with everything handled after the fact — crime scene, arrests, indictments, convictions, prison sentences, case closed."

"That's how it seemed from a law enforcement perspective, at least — but for the terrorists the case was not closed. For them, it was another offensive strike in their ongoing war against the United States."

But Cheney left out an important part of the story. One of the planners of the 1993 bombing, Ramzi Yousef, explained that the 1993 bombing was a response to the decades-long U.S. interventionist foreign policy in the Middle East. While that policy cannot justify attacks on innocents, Yousef was right to object to the intervention.

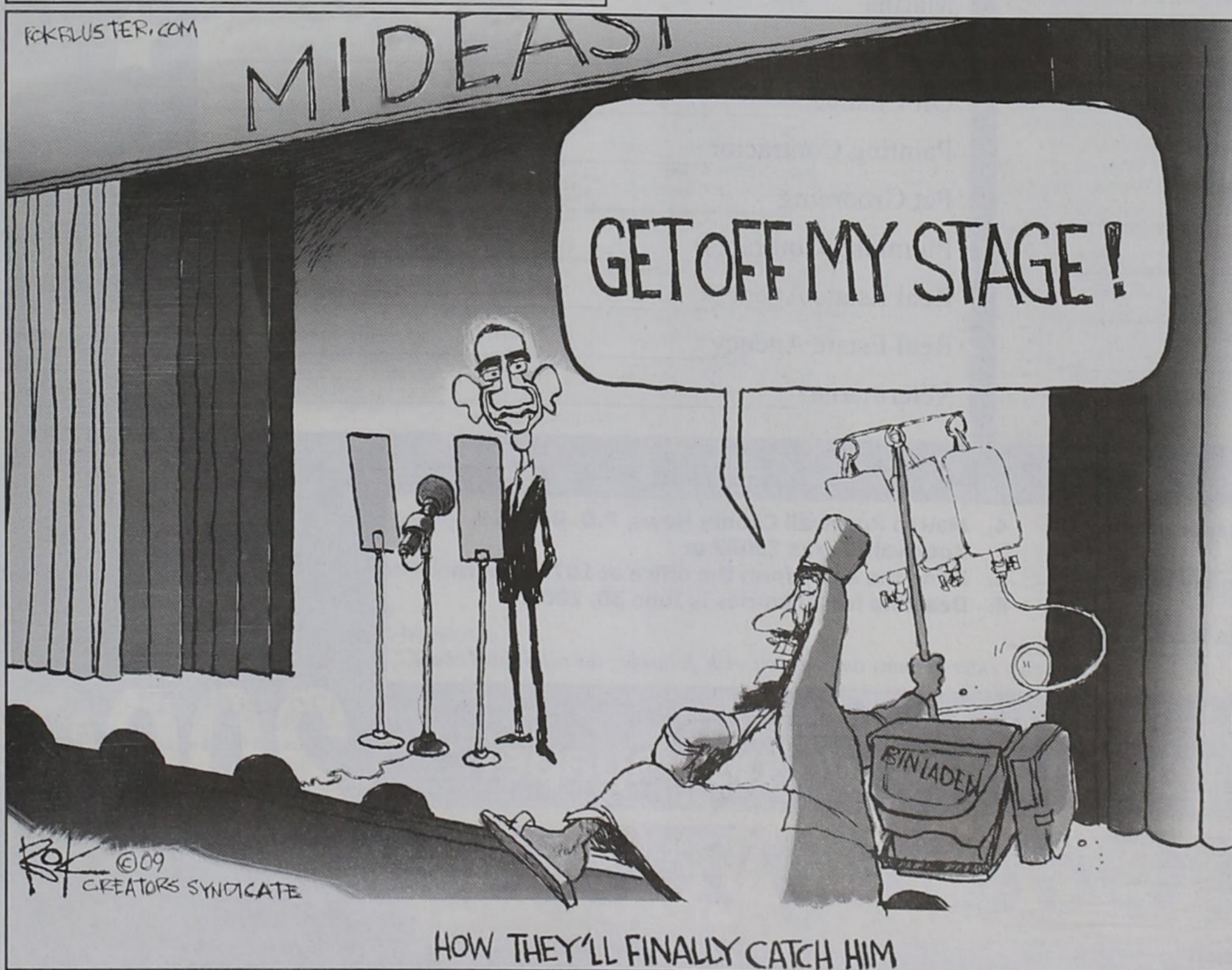
For decades the U.S. government has supported Middle East despotisms (sometimes instigating coups) and unconditionally supported Israel against legitimate Palestinian grievances. In the 1990s the U.S. embargo on Iraq took the lives of hundreds of thousands of children, while American bombings terrorized the Iraqis. And the U.S. military kept troops near holy Islamic sites in Saudi Arabia.

The U.S. government acknowledges that such conduct created Muslim resentment. Yet that aggressive policy did not change after the 1993 bombing — quite the contrary. So Cheney cannot reasonably conclude that it was the criminal-justice approach to terrorism that failed. Rather, continued intervention produced "blowback" on 9/11.

Sooner or later, all empires are targets of terrorism. If Americans are really serious about keeping safe, the first step must be to renounce interventionism and adopt a foreign policy of peace and free trade. Treating terrorism as a crime is consistent with that policy.

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.sheldon-richman.com.

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HOW THEY'LL FINALLY CATCH HIM



Americans Love Government

by Walter E. Williams

Philosopher Bertrand Russell suggested that "Men are born ignorant, not stupid. They are made stupid by education." And, it was Albert Einstein who explained, "Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." So which is it — stupidity, ignorance or insanity — that explains the behavior of my fellow Americans who call for greater government involvement in our lives?

According to latest Rasmussen Reports, 30 percent of Americans believe congressmen are corrupt. Last year, Congress' approval rating fell to 9 percent, its lowest in history. If the average American were asked his opinion of congressmen, among the more polite terms you'll hear are thieves and crooks, liars and manipulators, hustlers and quacks. But what do the same people say when our nation faces a major problem? "Government ought to do something!" When people call for government to do something, it is as if they've been befallen by amnesia and forgotten just who is running government. It's the very people whom they have labeled as thieves and crooks, liars and manipulators, hustlers and quacks.

Aside from the general level of disgust that Americans have for congressmen, there's the question of whether there is anything that Congress does well. What about Social Security and Medicare? Congress has allowed Social Security and Medicare to accumulate an unfunded liability of \$101 trillion. That means in order to pay promised elderly entitlement benefits, Congress would have to put trillions in the bank today earning interest. Congressional efforts to create "affordable housing" have created today's financial calamity. Congress props up failed enterprises such as Amtrak and the U.S. Postal Service with huge cash subsidies, and subsidies in the forms of special tax treatment and monopoly rights. I can't think of anything that Congress does well yet we Americans call for them to take greater control over important areas of our lives.

I don't think that stupidity, ignorance or insanity explains the love that many Americans hold for government; it's far more sinister and perhaps hopeless. I'll give a few examples to make my case. Many Americans want money they

don't personally own to be used for what they see as good handouts to farmers, poor people, college students, senior citizens. If they privately took someone's earnings to give to a student or senior citizen, they would be hunted down as this off to jail. However, they get Congress to do the identical taxing power, and they are seen as compassionate and caring. People love government because government, while having no constitutional authority, has the legal and physical might to take of one American and give it to another.

The unanticipated problem with this agenda is that as Congress might to take what belongs to one American to give to another, Obama calls "spreading the wealth around," more and more want to participate in the looting. It will ultimately produce some of us wants: absolute control over our lives.

The path we're embarked upon, in the name of good, is the unspeakable horrors of Nazism, Stalinism and Maoism of the '30s and '40s with the men usually associated with those horrors were simply the end result of a long evolution of the consolidation of power in central government in the name of the People and the Nation and, after all, who could be again relieve distress? Decent but misguided Germans, who would at the thought of what Nazi Germany would become, succumb to charisma.

Today's Americans, enticed, perhaps enchanted, by charisma are ceding so much power to Washington, and like yesteryear building the Trojan Horse for a future tyrant.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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The killing of George Tiller

by Bill O'Reilly

The liberal outcry over the murder of George Tiller, the late-term abortion doctor from Kansas, demonstrates exactly where American discourse is going. Shot dead in a church by an anti-government militant, Tiller did not deserve his fate. Even though the man destroyed an estimated 60,000 fetuses that could have lived outside the womb, he was an American citizen entitled to protection. No matter what you think about abortion, it is a sad day for the country when vigilantism takes a life.

It took just minutes after the report of Tiller's murder for the to hit the websites. Postings on Daily Kos and The Huffington immediately blamed Fox News and me for inciting Tiller's killer. I reported on the doctor honestly, the loons asserted that my analysis was "hateful."

Chief among the complaints was the doctor's nickname: "the killer." Some pro-lifers branded him that, and I reported it. So did other news sources. But the bigger picture here is the glorification of the doctor.

The uber-liberal New York Times led the way, editorializing in principled devotion to women's health and constitutionally protected Dr. Tiller was the target of protests at his clinic, his house and his church.

The Times made Tiller out to be a hero. The paper's editorialization that he aborted fetuses after 21 weeks, when they could live in a mother's womb. The Times opinion also did not mention that a millionaire doing this, or that only three late-term abortions occur in the entire country. Nor did the editorial writer put forth that 36 late-term abortions without violating the Constitution.

As usual, The New York Times editorial page failed to tell the whole story.

But that was nothing compared to NBC News, which went firing pundits for the death of Tiller. NBC anchorman Brian Williams, overseeing a report that emphasized the verbal criticism of the militancy of the person who shot him. NBC pundits fit with slanderous wails against those who opposed Tiller's death.

But behind all the bluster was a well thought out, coordinated effort. By exploiting the death of Tiller, the far left is seeking to silence those who are appalled at late-term abortion. By demonizing people believe that terminating viable fetuses must only be done with catastrophic health ramifications, pro-abortion zealots are trying to dissent on the abortion issue in general.

That's the same tactic in play on gay marriage: Oppose it as homophobic. The far left well understands that the media will play the same tactics and shove them down the throats of the American people.

The debate in America is no longer about rational points of view about the strategy of destruction. The murder of Dr. Tiller, as he was, can never be condoned.

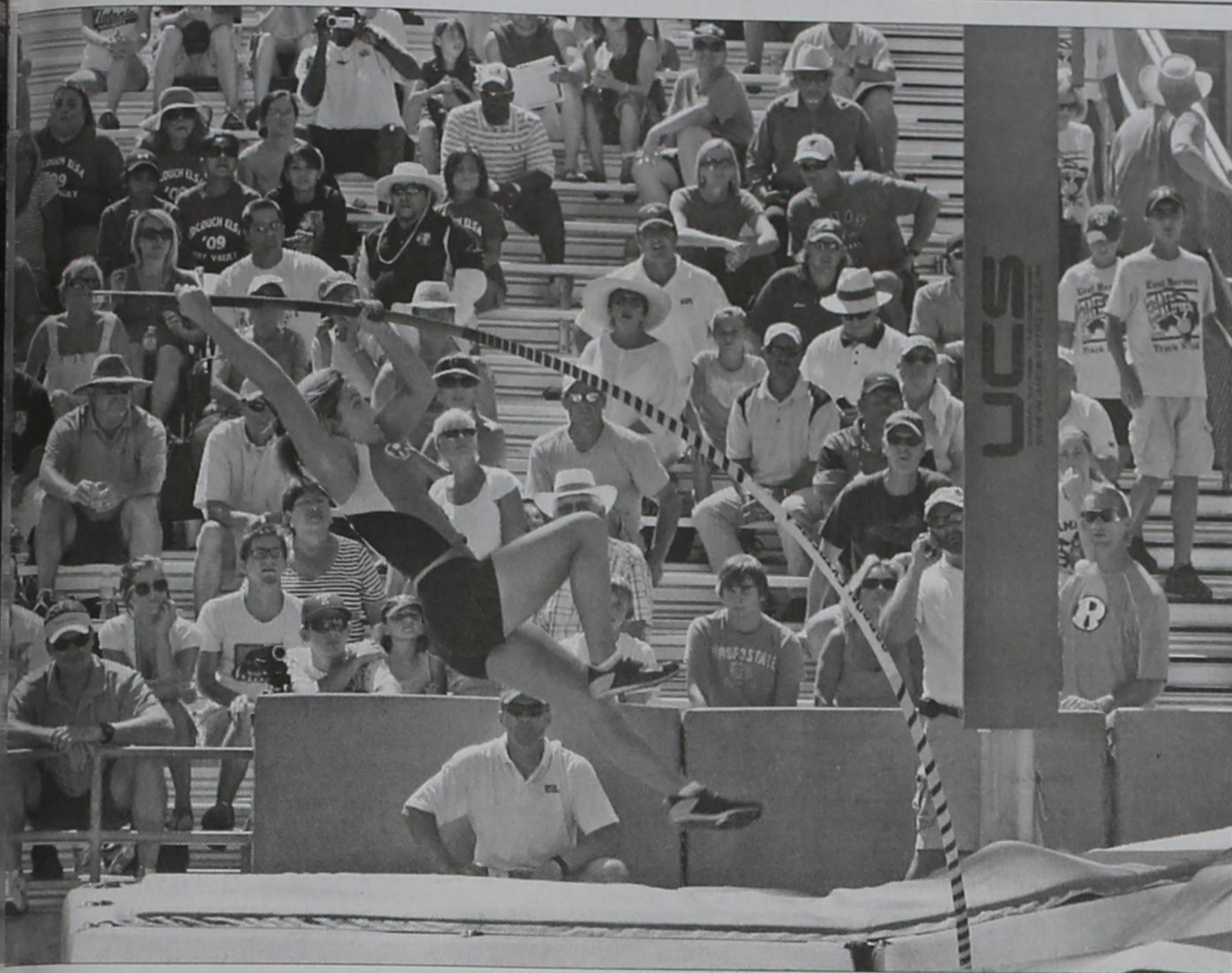
But neither can the hateful, dishonest tactics of the far left.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News "O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out for Me?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com.

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

Rockwall County Sports



Shelby Kennard in the UIL State Track & Field Pole Vault

Shelby Kennard launches into a second place finish in the ladies' Pole Vault event during the Saturday, June 5 UIL State Track & Field Championships at Myers Stadium, University of Texas Austin. Kennard earned the Silver Medal with a clearance of 11' 9".

Photo by Tim Burnett

Brookhaven College coach to conduct volleyball camp in Royse City

by Lary Bump

Royse City ISD's summer sports camps are beginning Monday, June 8, with the baseball and girls' basketball camps.

Those are two of seven sports in which Royse City coaches will conduct camps.

Highlighting the summer camps are the MTXE Skills volleyball camp July 13-15 for students entering grades 9-12. MTXE stands for Mental Toughness, Extra Effort. Conducting the camp are Jason Hopkins and his team from Brookhaven College, which has won three National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championships.

The MTXE camp, one of three volleyball sessions, will cost \$80.

Each camp fee includes a T-shirt, but in some sports the T-shirt wouldn't be available after the deadline for early registration.

Here's a rundown of the camp schedules - with dates, times, fees and age limits. Grade levels listed are for the 2009-2010 school year.

Baseball, June 8-10. Grades 1-5 and 6-9, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Girls' basketball, June 8-11. Grades 8 and 9 at noon-1:30 p.m. and grades 9-11 at 2-4 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.

Boys' basketball, June 15-18. Grades 2-5 and 6-9, 8:30-11:30 a.m., \$45.

Boys' and girls' tennis, June 15-18. Grades 6-9, 8:30-11:30 a.m., \$35.

Football, July 27-29. Grades K-9, 6-8 p.m., \$40.

Volleyball, grades 7-8, July 27-29, 8:30 a.m.-noon, and grades 4-6, Aug. 10-12, \$30 each.

For detailed information and online applications, check the RCISD web site at <http://www.rcisd.org/summer-sports-camps/>



Alicia Janke in the UIL State Track & Field Pole Vault

Alicia Janke points her feet to the sky for a third place finish in the ladies' Pole Vault during the UIL State Track and Field Championships at University of Texas' Myers Stadium in Austin. Janke's Bronze Medal was earned after clearing 11' 6".

Photo by Tim Burnett



Megan Frausto in the UIL State Track & Field 800M Run

With an improved sprint time in the last 100 meters, Royse City Lady Bulldogs' Megan Frausto (center, 2456) pushes to the finish line in the 800M Run during the UIL State Track and Field Championships on Saturday, June 5 in University of Texas' Myers Stadium at Austin. Coming into the meet seeded eighth, Frausto slashed 4.5 seconds off her personal best time to return with the Bronze Medal. Staff photo by Tim Burnett



Jasmine Williams in the UIL State Track & Field 100M Dash

Jasmine Williams (center) races against strong opposition for a third place finish in the 100M Dash during the UIL State Track and Field Championships on Saturday, June 5 in Myers Stadium at University of Texas Austin. The Lady Hawks speedster returned with the Silver Medal after clocking in at 11.93 seconds. Staff photo by Tim Burnett

Rockwall County News

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Stephen Nelson, a freshman at Rockwall-Heath High School, finished third in the 2009 No Coast Championship, an International Laser Class Association, North American regional event, which was worth 25 points in the ILCA-NA Grand Prix rankings. The regatta, held on May 23-24 at Grapevine Sailing Club in Grapevine, was Nelson's first foray into competing in the Olympic class "standard rig" which features 75 sq. ft. of sail area on the 13ft, 10 in. hull. Thirty-one sailors from California to Connecticut competed in the regatta. World-class Laser sailor Doug Peckover of Dallas won the standard-rig event. Second place belonged to District 15 Secretary James Freedman of Fort Worth. Nelson, #186546 in center, shown here heads upwind through downwind traffic after rounding a marker during the race. Courtesy photo provided by www.soulfulheartphotography.com

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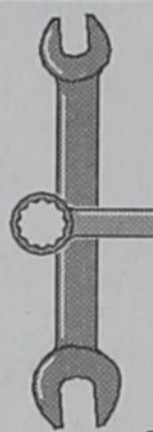
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Garage Sales

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Landers tells Afghanistan experience to Royse City Earlybird Rotary

A correspondent for the Morning News Bureau, was the at the May 28 Earlybird Rotary meeting. His topic was American involvement in Afghanistan.

Landers said his ability to speak to the Afghan people are still very unpredictable. He stated the need for better supplies for the Afghan police, as well as continued training, including imbedded American troops with the police force to offer on-the-job support. Landers supported his discussion with a Powerpoint slide show helped to illustrate the challenges facing U.S. soldiers.

Landers also said he believes that America was losing the "information war" in Afghanistan. He said there is frequently false information spread about the outcome of fighting between Americans and the Taliban. He mentioned how one group of soldiers had been promoting the idea of handing out hand-cranked radios, which require neither household current nor batteries, to the Afghan people. One soldier said each Afghan who received a radio would be a friend for life.

The Royse City Earlybird Rotary Club meets at the Royse City Senior Citizens Center.

Rockwall County Book Review

Contributed by Laurie Lynne Smith
Library Assistant

Sally's offers hope with the hash browns, and companionship with the coffee, with its sit-down meal for the homeless. Those in-the-know have given the Salvation Army in Bremerton, Washington its affectionate moniker, Sally's.



Richard LeMieux was introduced to Sally's when he found himself living in his van with his precious dog, Willow, having no money and no prospects for the future. In his book, "Breakfast at Sally's," LeMieux shares with readers his own experiences with homeless people and those who give diddly-squat about them.

What a ride this book took me on as I followed this once happily married man, father, and successful businessman through his adventures in homelessness. Gas money in his pocket promised the equilibrium he sought day-to-day. It meant freedom to move about this small town, to find a safe parking lot for the night, to give rides to fellow vagabonds like himself. He even resorted to panhandling, a great descent for a man who once traveled the world, drove high-end cars and owned a home boasting more than 5,000 square feet.

While LeMieux delivered chapters devoted to his new acquaintances, I found myself wanting to know more about how he arrived at this low echelon of our society. He shared those few details sparingly throughout the book. I wanted much more but perhaps that's for another book.

I now have it on good account that some of my assumptions about the homeless are right on. For the most part, the homeless are society's throw-a-ways due to mental disabilities. I have always felt that our government should offer more to help these people. This responsibility has fallen to churches and other non-profits like the Salvation Army. LeMieux never got on a soap box about this; however, through his narration he provokes the reader to question what a single person can do to help.

There were three nuggets of insight I took from "Breakfast at Sally's":

The homeless, having very little, will help a fellow down-and-outer who needs companionship, food, shelter, money or clothes. They are acutely aware of basic necessities and what it means to be lacking in any category. They are truly generous.

While some of us fear them, they seek safety from those who would do them harm, namely, those outside of their commune of homelessness. They know of people like them who have been tormented due to their similar circumstances.

When a successful businessman can fall from a rung high on the ladder to the lowest rung, all within a year, then many of us are more vulnerable than we thought.

Do I recommend this book? Did I thoroughly enjoy it? Yes and no. While there was some light-heartedness, it was still tough to read at times. Underneath the light tone presented in this book detailing the humanity of the homeless, I felt an undertow of discomfort. I wanted all the characters to end up well. Not all did. Call me Pollyanna. What I did find endearing were those who did give a diddly-squat about these people. God bless 'em.

So you must be wondering what precipitated LeMieux's slip and what his plans for the future are after the debut of his book. Dear reader, I must leave something for you to discover.

You can find this title in the "New Books" section at the Rockwall County Library.

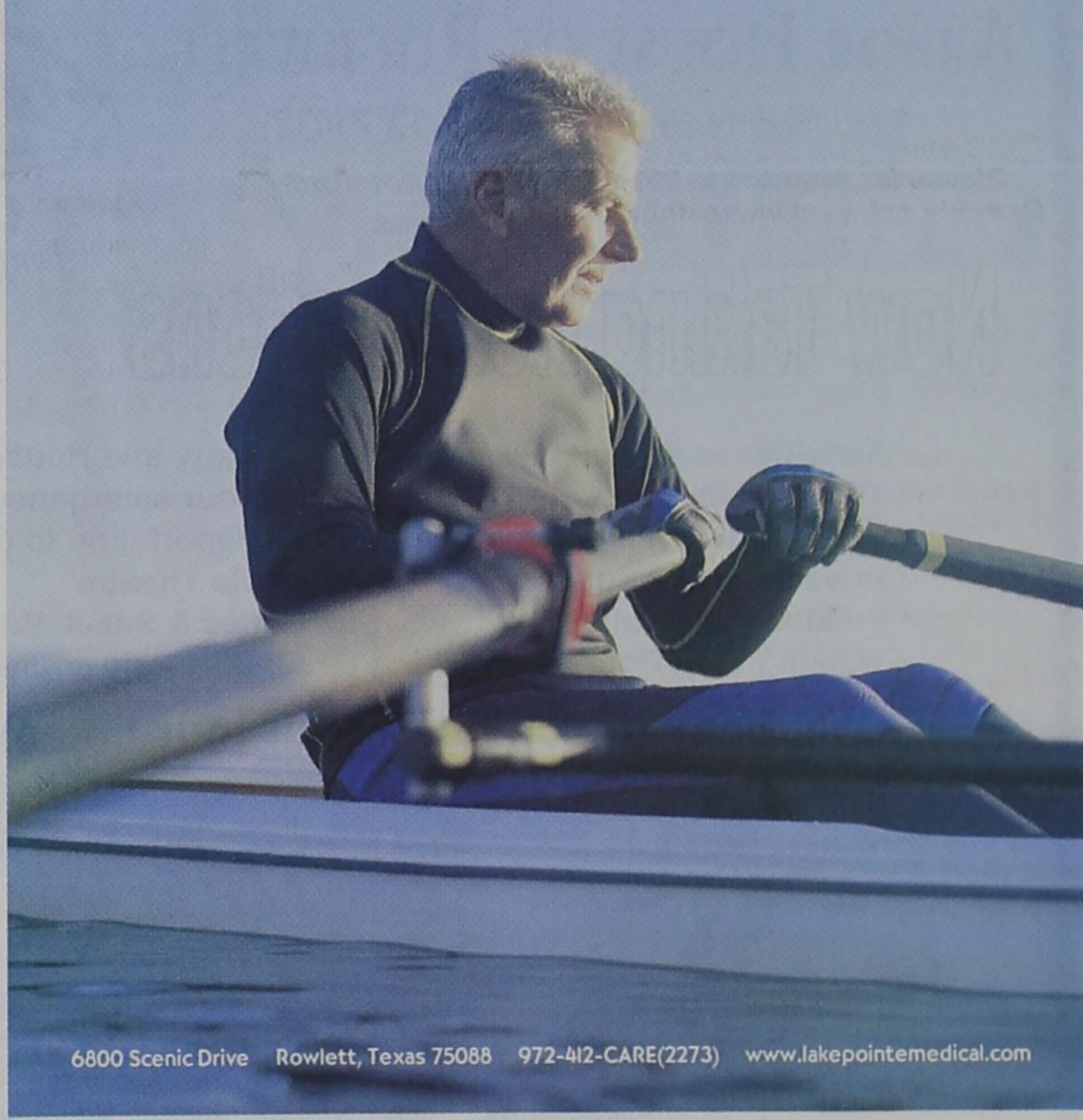


Pictured are the newest elected members of the Rockwall ISD Education Foundation's board of directors, Cindy Tayem of Oncor Electric Delivery and Alanna Childers of Accenture Solutions. Shown are Cindy Benefield; Childers; Karan Clements, foundation president; Tayem; and Dr. M. Joan Terry, the foundation's district administrator. The new members attended the foundation's annual meeting on May 6.

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of Representatives y voice vote resolution authored man Ralph Hall

expressing support nation of Feb. 8, Scouts of America of the scouting or- 00th anniversary.

uced the resolution 3 original co-spon- ited John Jarvis of Scout leader with rea Council and a Troop 16, for the

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Reinhardt Elementary fifth grade students filled Harry Myers Park on June 2 as they took on a variety of educational tasks. Students were given directions and coordinates to locate "buried treasure" using a GPS; studied examples of erosion, the food chain and the ecosystem; and participated in a physical science Olympiad. Students moved between stations creating contraptions such as air cannons, catapults and marble mazes that slowed the pull of gravity. Pictured above are Jacob Hillman, Alex Beard, Emily Huckaba, Ashleigh Letlow, Gabby Ryan and Shelbi Court attempting to keep their contraptions afloat. The Rockwall Education Foundation funded grants that provided materials used for the day.



Joseph G. Proffitt, a former Rockwall resident, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., on May 22 with a degree in political science with a special interest in international relations. He and his fellow classmates received their degrees from President Barack Obama. Proffitt's first two years at the academy he played football; during the final two he worked as a private pilot's license while continuing to help with the football team. He obtained three bow ties during his tenure. Proffitt has been accepted into the flight program and will report to Pensacola, Fla., in July to begin a three-year flight training. He is the son of Gary and Becky Proffitt.

Notice to Parents Intent to Destroy Records

In compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34, Volume 2, the Royse City Independent School District plans to dispose of confidential records for students that were in the Special Education Program that were dismissed, graduated, moved, or were assessed but did not qualify for the 2000-2001 school year. If your child was served through Special Education and you desire copies of the records, please notify the Special Services office at 972-636-9514 by August 3, 2009.

The records will be destroyed after the week of August 24, 2009.

Howard Dobbs Elementary alumni who are now graduating seniors at Rockwall High School were recently invited back to Dobbs for a reception to celebrate their graduation. Pictured are (front row) Daniella Arzola, Mandy Adams, Sam Garner, Jack Hammond, Lauren Bushnell, (middle row) Uriel Maltos, Katie Baker, Jaymee Strange, Emily Moffatt, Zach Hill, Chris Carter, Rolando Berumen, Jessica Kearby, Erin Eicher, (back row) Alan Watts, Rachel Knight, Kinsey Nichols, Clint Ritchey and Wil Larson.

Photo Courtesy of Lisa Costello



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The Rockwall County Historical Foundation has completed the first phase of its Farmstead Project with the marking of the county's oldest continuously operated farms. Pictured from left are Evan Tate, Garvin Tate and Stanley Springer placing the farmstead sign at the Griffith League at 12508 FM 5 Bluebonnet Ridge and High Points Ranch. A marker for Caddenhead Propane and the Community Baptist Church was placed across the highway from the property. The Griffith League was founded in 1872, while Caddenhead Propane and the Community Baptist Church were founded in 1876. Partial funding for the project was generated by the annual Cotton Pickin' Party, which will be held on Oct. 4 this year at Harry Myers Park.



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