

Rockwall County News

Issue 22

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By Subscription

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

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Royse City ISD, Rockwall ISD, City of Rockwall Report No Swine Flu Cases

By Williams
A news release from the City of Rockwall, officials state that they are working closely with local health authorities to monitor the recent Swine Flu outbreak. There have been no confirmed or suspected cases of Swine Flu in Rockwall County as of Friday, May 1.

Rockwall County Emergency Management Office and the County Health Authority are monitoring the situation. The City of Rockwall will keep residents updated on developments.

Rockwall County Health Authority met with local health officials on April 27 to discuss Swine Flu preparations if necessary. Representatives from the Rockwall school district, hospitals and county volunteer organizations, along with health practitioners, attended the meeting.

The health authority recommends that residents follow these steps to limit or reduce their exposure to Swine Flu:

• Avoid contact with sick people, and keep your distance from them if you are sick.

• If you are sick to help prevent others from catching the virus, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing to prevent those around you from getting sick.

• Wash your hands often for protection from germs.

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when someone touches something that is contaminated with the virus and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.

• Practice good health habits: get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.

Rockwall will continue to work closely with local health authorities for the protection of residents. Please direct any questions to Rockwall County Emergency Management at (972) 972-7711.

Fowler, Executive Director, Communications/Public Relations for Rockwall ISD also issued a statement on behalf of the district concerning the safety of students.

"The well-being of our students is a top priority in Rockwall County. It is important for you to know that the district is closely monitoring the situation. Currently, there are no reported cases in the district. One student was sent home with all students today (Tuesday, May 5) due to parents current information regarding the international situation as well as general health tips and what to look for in their students."

Nancy Smith, Health Coordinator, has been working with county officials to coordinate local efforts regarding the situation were to escalate in Rockwall County. In addition, Smith is working closely with campus nurses to make sure personnel are on alert to recognize symptoms and to take precautionary measures are in place," Fowler said.

Concerning the Rockwall ISD approach to the flu outbreak, Fowler said, "I have been contacted by the flu outbreak at Rockwall ISD is also letting parents know that no reported cases of Swine Flu have come to its attention. Joe DiCristo, CISD Community Relations Director, said, "The district is taking extra care in their duties to make sure the district is extra clean. Parents can check the district's website for information and we will keep everyone posted if anything changes."

The district also has a school messenger system and we will immediately be needed to alert parents and faculty to any changes."

The district has complied with the UIL and cancelled all travel and field trips. As of Friday, May 1 all local events in the district were still scheduled to take place.

Parents were sent home with students explaining the importance of travel and to ensure families that the district is on top of the situation with the students' best interest in mind.

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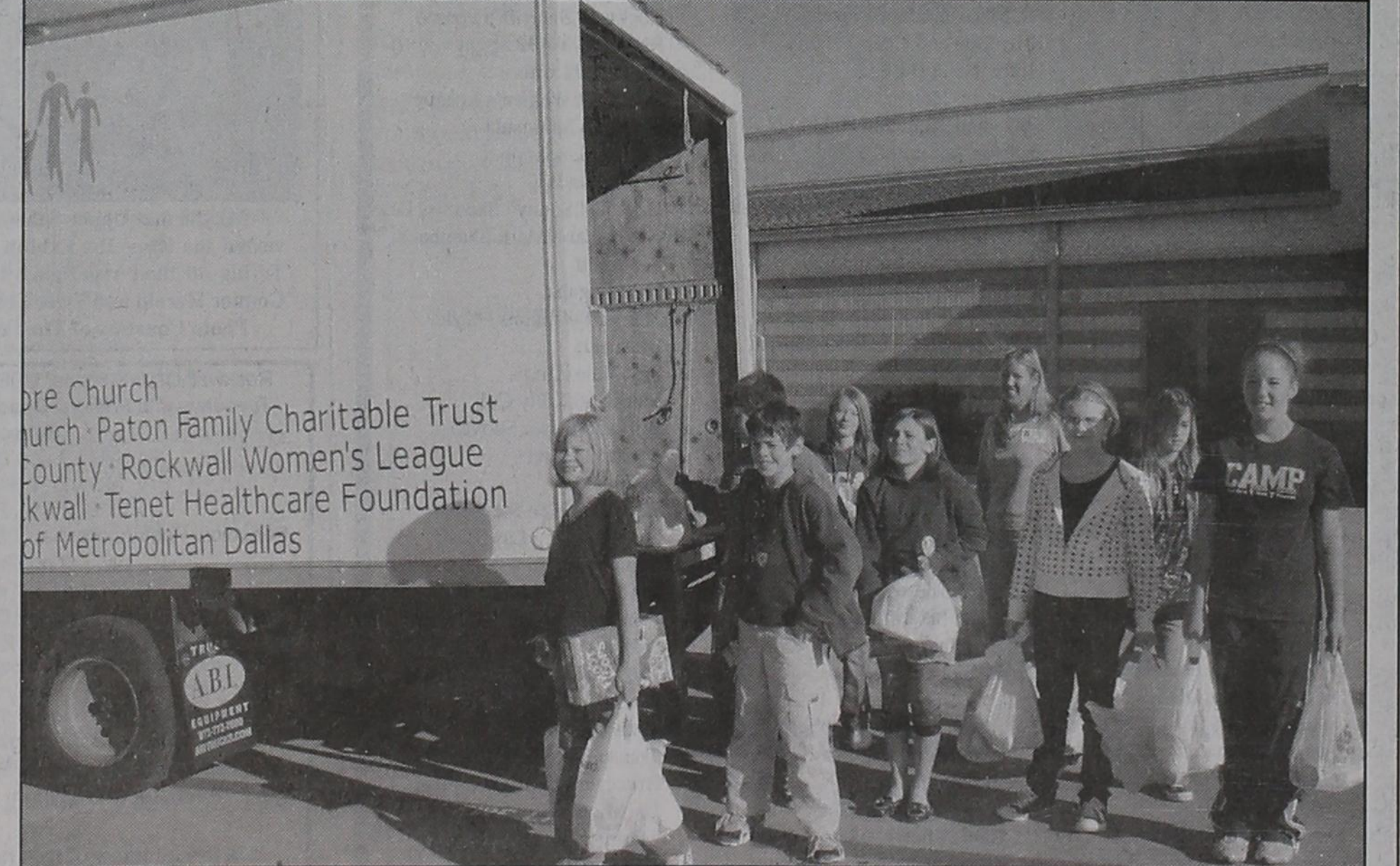
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Saturday's Rockwall Farmer's Market was a popular stop for area shoppers. Weather was pleasant until late afternoon when strong thunderstorms roared through the county.
Staff Photo by Tim Burnett



Royse City opened its first Farmers Market Saturday with a wide range of fresh, locally grown products available to shoppers. Florida Dias (left) assists Anna Evers (right) with produce purchase.
Staff Photo by Tim Burnett



Collecting food for Helping Hands
Students from Nebbie Williams Elementary are pictured loading food recently collected for the Rockwall County Helping Hands Food Pantry. Donations for the pantry and thrift stores are needed during these tough economic times, and financial contributions to the Helping Hands annual campaign, "The Season of Giving Isn't Over. It's All Year Long," are welcome. Visit rockwallhelpinghands.com to make an online donation or visit the Helping Hands facility at 950 Williams St. To schedule a food drive, contact Sherry Hamm at 972-771-HELP.

Today is final day to cast early vote

Early voting in Saturday's city and school district elections will end at 5 p.m. today.

Early ballots beginning at 8 a.m. at the following locations:

- City Election Office, 107 E. Kaufman
- North City Hall, 200 Laurence
- Royse City Hall, 305 N. Arch St.
- Community Center, 104 S. W.E. Crawford
- North-Chisholm - Chisholm-Chisholm City Hall, 1248

At Lake Pointe Medical Center, 6800 Scenic Dr.

Go to the polls to decide trustees for the Rockwall School District and council members for the cities of Rockwall, Fife, Fate and McLendon-Chisholm.

(Continued on Page 2)

Rockwall County Classified Advertising

For Lease

Warehouse/Office 1500 sq. ft. & up.

Near 1-30, reasonable rent, possible to finish out separate office & restroom. \$475 per month & up call
214-803-3108

Help Wanted

Teacher

Certified Kindergarten Teacher needed for 2009-2010. Send resume to: info@thefultonschool.org.

Full or part-time day care staff. Must be 18 yrs. or older, with a high school diploma. We will train. Monday through Friday. 972-772-0011.

Homes for Rent

Rent or Sale

Rent or Sale, 3/2 mobile home. Central air, carpet, 60 x 120 lot. Rockwall ISD. Owner terms. 972-771-0463.

Miscellaneous for Sale

Antique tea cart, antique maple bed, maple double bed, maple Jenny Lind baby bed, and porcelain for a china painter. Call 469-698-0905.

Pets and Supplies

Mini-Schnauzers

AKC Mini-Schnauzers, black, white, S&P. 2 year health guarantee. Pet Boarding, Grooming Station & Stud Service, 972-562-2575, or darlingspuppypatch.com.

Vehicles for Sale

02 Hyundai Accent. Auto Trans. Cold Air cond. \$2,999. 1-888-262-8981.

01 Ford Taurus SES. Auto. A/C. Runs Great. \$5,999. 1-888-262-8981.

97 Merc. Grand Marquis. One Owner. Only 60k miles. \$5,999. 1-888-262-8981.

02 Toyota Camry Sed. LE. One Owner. Cold A/C. \$6,699. 1-888-262-8981.

06 Hyundai Sonata GLS. I Owner. Auto Trans. \$8,999. 1-888-262-8981.

Commercial Property

Business Sites

13.3 Acres, fronts SH 66 in Rockwall County. Avia Realty. 972-772-0858.

Building for Rent

Building for Rent. 3200 sq. ft. \$800 mo. 972-771-5774.

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS

Request for Proposal
Sealed proposals addressed to the Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall will be received at City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas 75087 until 10:00 a.m. CST

on May 12, 2009 for Fire Station Alerting System for Station No. 3 and No. 4 and Alternate bid for the upgrade to the Dispatch Center. All submitted proposals duly received will be opened on May 12, 2009 at 10:00 am CST in the Rockwall City Hall Council Chambers. Liability and Workers Compensation insurances are required. Proposal packet may be examined and or obtained without charge at City of Rockwall Purchasing office, Finance Department, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087 972-771-7700.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Royle City I.S.D., on behalf of Rockwall County Municipal Utility District No. 7 will receive bids for the construction of the OFFSITE SANITARY SEWER LINE IMPROVEMENTS for the R.C.I.S.D. FATE SCHOOL SITE, located in FATE, TEXAS, Job No. 04022-11, at the office of the ENGINEER FOR THE DISTRICT (Petitt Barraza, LLC), 300 Municipal Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080 (214) 221-9955 until 11:00 a.m. local time on the date of Monday, May 11, 2009, at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. Any proposals received after the closing time will be returned unopened. The project includes an Offsite Sanitary Sewer Line for the Fate School according to the plans and specifications. A Pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. local time at the office of the ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 300 Municipal Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080). The Pre-bid conference is not mandatory.

Proposals must be accompanied by a cashier's check or a bid bond from a surety company holding a permit in the State of Texas for an amount equal to 2% of the amount bid. The amount of said cashiers check or bond will be forfeited to the OWNER for the amount in event the successful bidder fail or refuse to enter into a contract or furnish bonds as hereafter required within ten (10) days after the date of notice of award.

The successful bidder must furnish a performance bond and payment bond on the forms provided, each in the amount of 100% of the Contract price from a surety company licensed by the State of Texas. Copies of the Contract Documents, Technical Specifications and Plans are available at the office of the ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 300 Municipal Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080), (214) 221-9955. Copies may be secured from the ENGINEER for a \$100.00 non-refundable fee.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities or irregularities in bidding in case of lack of clarity in stating prices. The OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or reject the bid.

Royle City I.S.D., on behalf of Rockwall County Municipal Utility District No. 7.

Notice to Parents

Intent to Destroy Records
In compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34, Volume 2, the Royle 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.

Royle City ISD Child Find Policy

In accordance with Federal Regulations, Individuals with Disabilities Educational Act, Child Find Identification (34CFR section 300.125, 300.451), this is notification that Royle City Independent School District, Located at 810 E. Old Greenville Road, Royle City, TX has a child find system for identifying, locating and evaluating all children with disabilities, from birth through 21 years of age, residing in the district, including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, and who are in need of special education and related services.

If you have any questions please call the Special Services office at 972-636-9514.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: UNKNOWN FATHER, ADDRESS UNKNOWN CAUSE NO. 1-08-1013 GREETINGS:

"You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation, a default judgment may be taken against you. The

FIRST AMENDED GRANDPARENTS PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VISITATION RELATIONSHIP. County Court at Rockwall County, Texas, 20, 2009, against THER, Numbered in the MADISON R. RAINES, APRIL 17, WALL COUNTY, TEXAS.

The Court has the suit to render in the dren's interest that on you, including the determination of the appointment of a guardian authority to consent (children) adoption.

Issued and given seal of the Court of Texas, this 20th day of 2009.
KAY MCDANIEL
Clerk
Rockwall County Government Center
1101 Ridge Rd., Rockwall, Texas 75087
By:
ALVA CARAWAY
ROCKWALL COUNTY CLERK
107 BOURN AVE
WALL, TEXAS 75087
Issued at the request of
David E. Rohlf
P.O. Box 1137
Rockwall, Texas 75087
972-771-0054

Rockwall County Public Records

City of Rockwall Building Permits for March 2009 (Continued from Friday, May 1)

- Subtype: Fence
BLDG2009-0215 3/17/2009 Single Family 1646 Hickory Creek Hale, Willie & Amy JN Fence Company \$1,800 fees; \$35 6' Wood Fence with Metal Posts.
- BLDG2009-0219 3/19/2009 Single Family 2919 Goldenwave Fly, Erin Fly, Erin \$2,650 fees; \$35 6' Side & 8' Back (wood fence with metal posts)
- BLDG2009-0232 3/30/2009 Single Family 2507 Waterstone Ln Capital Plus, Inc. Precision Fence \$1,895 fees \$35 6' wood fence w/steel posts
- BLDG2009-0233 3/17/2009 Single Family 106 Southwood Cardenas, Antonio Jr. & Ju Cardenas, Antonio Jr. & Ju \$890 fees; \$35 Replacing wooden fence posts w/metal ones w/concrete.
- BLDG2009-0234 3/18/2009 Single Family 1682 Wildrose Simon & Melissa Lopez Trinity Fence Company, Inc. \$1,636 fees; \$35 6' wood fence w/ steel posts.
- BLDG2009-0236 3/16/2009 Single Family 503 Nash Lapidis, Patricia \$1,280 fees; \$35 6' wood fence and gates w/ steel posts.
- BLDG2009-0250 3/20/2009 Single Family 2571 Daybreak Grimes, Paget L. & Stephen Grimes, Paget L. & Stephen \$1,000 fees; \$35 6' Wood Fence with steel posts.
- BLDG2009-0254 3/30/2009 Single Family 608 Washington St. E. Mitchell, John P. & Tamre Mitchell, John P. & Tamra \$500 fees; \$35 8' Cedar Fence with Metal Post
- BLDG2009-0255 3/24/2009 Single Family 11845 Bay Hill Martin, C Ted & Rhonda K. Kenneth Brown \$1,500 fees; \$35 6' Wood Fence With Metal Posts.
- BLDG2009-0256 3/27/2009 Single Family 28169 Hampshire Renae Mills Renae Mills \$1,500 fees; \$35 6' Wood Fence w/steel posts.
- BLDG2009-0257 3/27/2009 Single Family 3076 Winecup McQueen, Guy F. & Dawn M. McQueen, Guy F. & Dawn \$1,800 fees; \$35 Replace backyard fence/6'6" wood fence with metal posts.

- BLDG2009-0260 3/27/2009 Family 875 Shores Street Cedar \$2,526 fees; \$35 w/ steel posts.
- BLDG2009-0270 Single 617 Norwood Peterson, Blackwell Fencing \$6,400 Wood Fence w/steel posts
- BLDG2009-0271 3/31/2009 Family 712 Hartman St. Robert W. Jr. & Per Ch Design, LL \$1,200 fees retaining wall behind garage
- BLDG2009-0278 3/27/2009 Family 3047 Deer Ridge Loatis H & Melba Bloss & Melba \$500 fees \$35 area of yard 16' on S side
- BLDG2009-0279 3/27/2009 Family 1602 Creekridge A NC Landscaping \$3,000 replace fence and extend approx. 31'
- BLDG2009-0282 3/27/2009 Family 905 Fannin Frasier A. ETUX Universal Fence \$5,000 fees: Replace fence with vinyl fence
- BLDG2009-0283 3/30/2009 Family 417 Miramar Dr. Weekley Homes Soak N6 fees: \$35 6' wood w/6" returns w/gates.
- BLDG2009-0284 3/30/2009 Family 775 Hanover Dr. Weekley Homes Soak N6 \$8% Temporary Fence @ Trailer.
- BLDG2009-0288 3/30/2009 Family 2501 Barksdale Douglas Newton, Aaron \$3,500 fees \$35 8' Cedar metal posts and electric
- BLDG2009-0291 3/31/2009 Family 3218 Burnet Cir. Weekley Homes T-Bar Fence \$6,018.15 fees: \$35 6' Wood 6' wood fence on metal posts
- BLDG2009-2095 3/30/2009 Family 1390 Whyte Carolyn B & Gab Whyte Inc. \$3,697 fees: \$35 8' w/ metal poles.
- Subtype: Interior
CO2009-0016 3/5/2009 Goliad St. N #103 Scott \$75
- CO2009-0019 3/9/2009 National Dr. Hill Tolbert Allstar Recovery, LLC.
- CO2009-0045 3/18/2009 Horizon Rd. #100 Rockwall LP Centerpoint Builders, \$75 Dr. Aldrich Office
- CO2009-0046 3/18/2009 Horizon Rd. #110 Rockwall LP Centerpoint Builders, \$75 Lake Pointe Orthopedic Medicine.
- Subtype: Interior Comp
BLDG2009-0093 3/3/2009 2850 Ridge Rd. #106 Knowledge Construction \$60,000 fees
- Knockouts-Interior Comp
BLDG2009-0174 3/4/2009 Family 3216 Burnet Cir. Homes Riverside Irrigation \$35 Irrigation system.
- BLDG2009-0201 3/11/2009 Family 2280 Garden Crest Maxwell Ducky's Sprinkler \$2,700 fees: \$35 Irrigation
- Bldg2009-0207 3/12/2009 Family 739 Black Oak Lk. Homes, LP M L Johnson \$3,000

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bhause@student-management.com 1-800-766-4656
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THE WORLD MUST KNOW WE DON'T TORTURE OUR ENEMIES.

(Continued from May 8)

2002

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city's first line of defense is not the law, police and moral values. Behavioral norms, mostly the word of mouth and religious teachings, represent the cover the ages through experience and trial and error. It is not that you should not murder, shalt not cheat, but they also include all those courtesies of gentlemanly conduct. The failure to fully transmit subsequent generations represents one of the failing of a generation.

As the norm today would have been seen as degrading television debt relief advertisements that promise to pay off half of what they owe. Foul language is spoken and sometimes to teachers and other adults. When you think of it, it is a means of foul language to an adult; it is a means of foul language to a child; it is a means of foul language to tell them that "time out" is a means of discipline held for unwed mothers. Yesterday, such an act would have been unthinkable.

When a woman or elderly person was standing in a wheelchair, it was a sign of disgrace. Today, in some cities there are ordinances that require a sign to be posted "Senior Citizen Seating" in common decency. Years ago, a young lady who allowed her rear pocket as they strolled down the street would have been addressed by first names was a sign of disgrace.

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Obama

the term "Bush Derangement Syndrome," which is a mental condition characterized by an irrational and obsessive hatred directed at the former president? Many people believe that he should have been impeached and tried for treason. He did not deserve to be the president of the United States. He did not deserve to be the president of the United States. He did not deserve to be the president of the United States.

FDR's Social Security Paradox

by Jim Powell

If Social Security is so wonderful, why were people forced to participate, why was it set up as a monopoly, and why did it dump ever-larger costs onto the backs of future generations?

There never was a popular demand for Social Security, even during the Great Depression. Few Americans were interested in the kind of government-run program that the German politician Otto von Bismarck had introduced in Europe. According to Social Security expert Carolyn Weaver, author of *The Crisis in Social Security*, in 1929 about 95 percent of senior citizens were self-supporting - an increasing number had private pension plans or annuities. Many seniors were helped out by family and friends.

Despite the shock of the Great Depression, private pension plans continued to perform well. "Industrial pension plans not only grew steadily," Weaver reports, "but also proved quite resilient, with certain features improving markedly.... The rate of failure for existing plans, moreover, was relatively modest. Of the systems operating in 1929, those that were discontinued, closed to new employees, or suspended by 1932 [a low point in the Depression] involved less than 3 percent of all covered employees." People lost pension coverage primarily because they lost their jobs - a consequence of misguided government policies that brought on the Great Depression and prolonged it.

By 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt embraced the German idea that there should be government-run "social insurance." That wasn't legitimate insurance, where participants have a contract, they pay premiums based on their life expectancy, the premiums are used to make productive investments that will cover the benefits, and the participants and their heirs have a property right to receive benefits that have been paid for. As the Supreme Court later affirmed in *Fleming v. Nestor* (1960), nobody has a contractual right to receive specific Social Security benefits - Congress can change benefit formulas at any time. Nobody has a right to pass on Social Security benefits to heirs, as is done routinely with private annuities, pensions, and life insurance.

Perhaps because Social Security promoters didn't have much confidence in it, they insisted that it must be compulsory. It was funded by collecting an excise tax on payrolls - initially, 1 percent from an employee and 1 percent from his employer. In fact, both portions of the Social Security tax came out of the employee's pocket, since they were part of total labor cost. Instead of going to an employee as additional wages, the "the employer's portion" went to the government.

There was considerable opposition to the proposed Social Security Act from both Democrats and Republicans. Sen. Bennett Clark of Montana proposed an amendment that would have enabled employers to opt out of Social Security if they had pension plans offering more generous benefits than Social Security. That would have meant freedom of choice for employers and employees alike, but advocates of Social Security were adamantly against freedom of choice.

Social Security promoters must have feared that private retirement plans would offer a better deal. Wisconsin's "progressive" Democratic senator, Robert M. LaFollette, fumed that the Clark amendment "would be inviting and encouraging competition with its own plan which ultimately would undermine and destroy it." Roosevelt threatened to veto the Social Security bill if it had the Clark amendment. Freedom of choice was eliminated during the House-House conference, and Roosevelt signed the Social Security law on August 14, 1935.

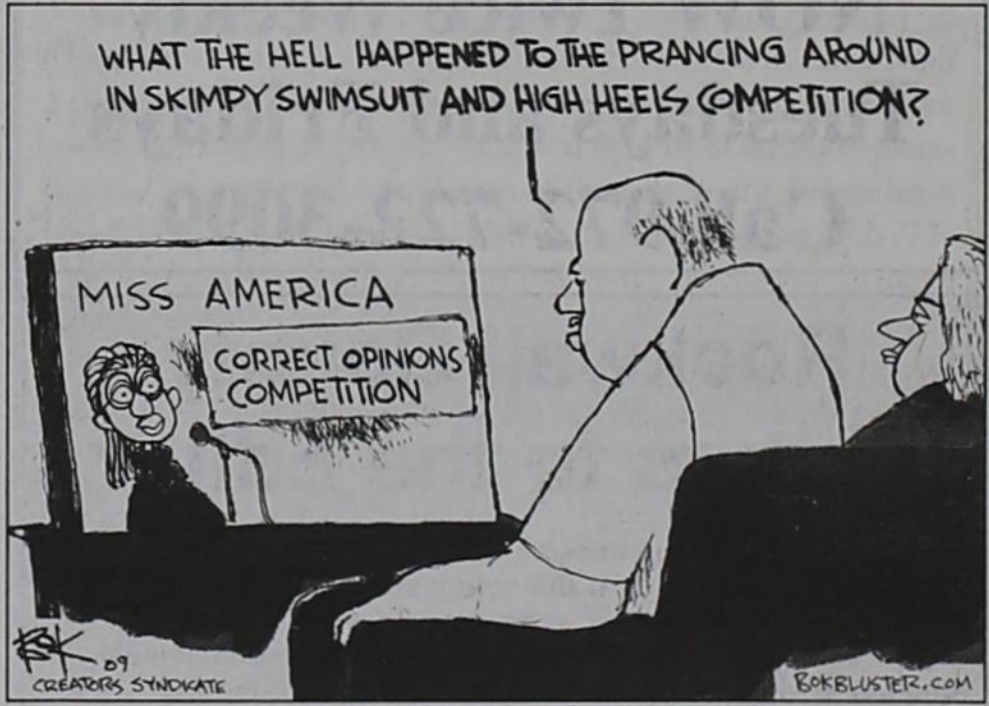
In case anyone doubted that Social Security was a monopoly, employers across America were required to display this notice: "Beginning January 1, 1937, your employer will be compelled by law to deduct a certain amount from your wages every payday. This is in compliance with the terms of the Social Security Act signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This is NOT a voluntary plan."

Originally, the idea was to have Social Security taxes accumulate in a fund from which at least some benefits would be paid. But incredibly, Social Security promoters were concerned that politicians would loot the fund. For instance, Abraham Epstein, who had led the lobbying effort for a government-run program, wrote in *Nation* magazine, "Experience everywhere indicates that politicians will hardly be able to keep their hands off such easy money."

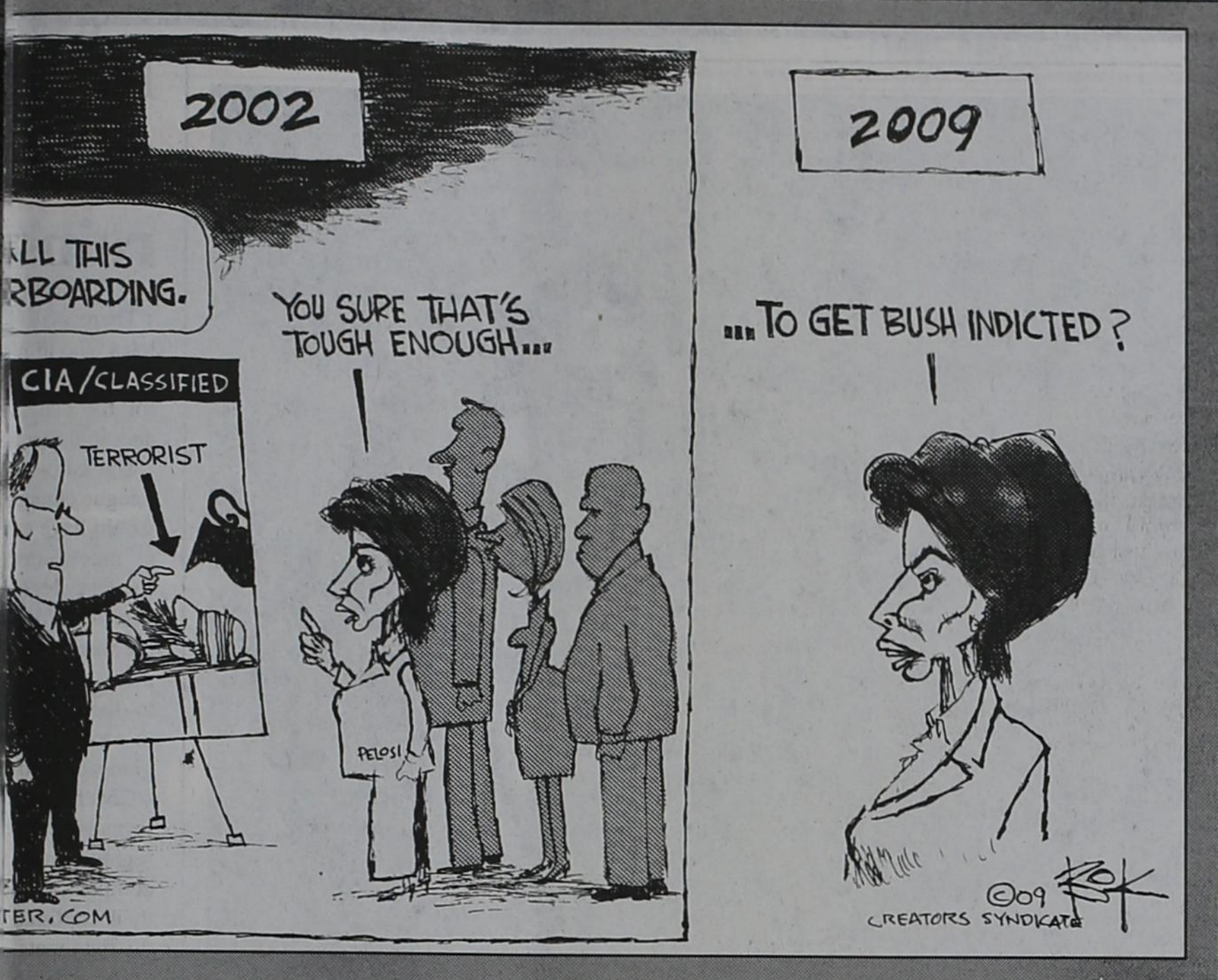
Accordingly, in 1939 Roosevelt turned Social Security into a pay-as-you-go system where current taxpayers funded the benefits of current retirees, and nothing was set aside to help take care of current taxpayers when they retire.

Roosevelt knew what he was doing. Edwin E. Witte, a University of Wisconsin economist whom he appointed to develop the original Social Security plan, warned that Social Security created unfunded liabilities "upon which future generations will have to pay large amounts annually." Witte got that right - tens of trillions!

Jim Powell is policy advisor to the Future of Freedom Foundation and a senior fellow at the Cato Institute. He is the author of *FDR's Folly*, *Bully Boy*, *Wilson's War*, *Greatest Emancipations*, *The Triumph of Liberty* and other books.



Opinions



Law vs Moral Values

Walter E. Williams
The society's first line of defense is not the law, police and courts, but traditions and moral values. Behavioral norms, mostly transmitted by word of mouth and religious teachings, represent a body of still-living values that have been passed on through experience and trial and error. They include such things as shalt not murder, shalt not steal, and shalt not covet, but they also include all those courtesies one might expect of a gentlemanly conduct. The failure to fully transmit values to subsequent generations represents one of the failings of the greatest generation.

During the 1940s, my family lived in North Philadelphia's Richard Allen housing project. Many families didn't lock doors until late at night, if ever. No one ever thought of installing bars on their windows. Hot, humid summer nights found many people sleeping outside on balconies or lawn chairs. Starting in the '60s and '70s, doing the same in some neighborhoods would have been tantamount to committing suicide. Keep in mind that the 1940s and '50s were a time of gross racial discrimination, high black poverty and few opportunities compared to today. The fact that black neighborhoods were far more civilized at that time should give pause to the excuses of today that blame today's pathology on poverty and discrimination.

Policemen and laws can never replace customs, traditions and moral values as a means for regulating human behavior. At best, the police and criminal justice system are the last desperate line of defense for a civilized society. Our increased reliance on laws to regulate behavior is a measure of how uncivilized we've become.

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

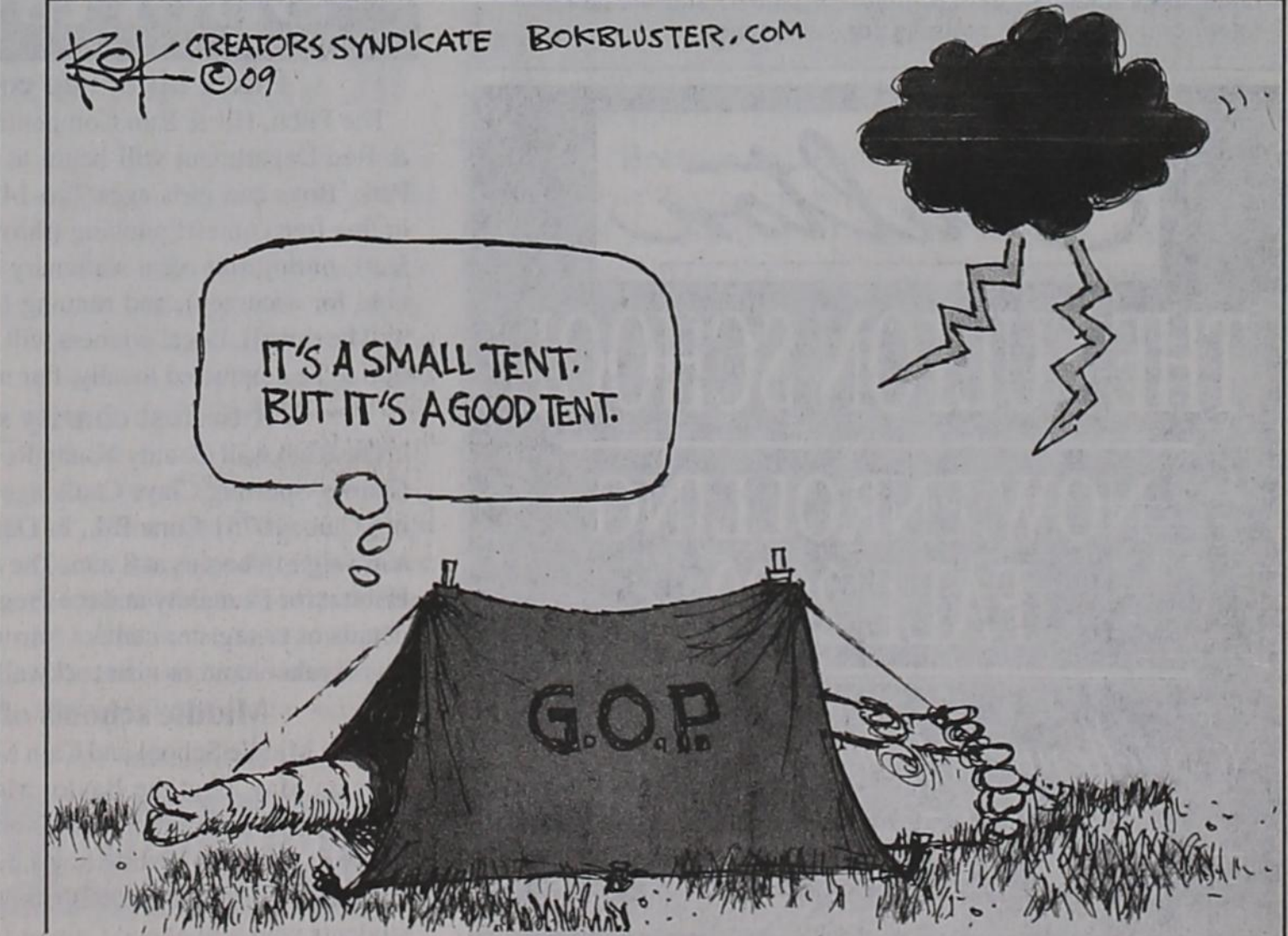
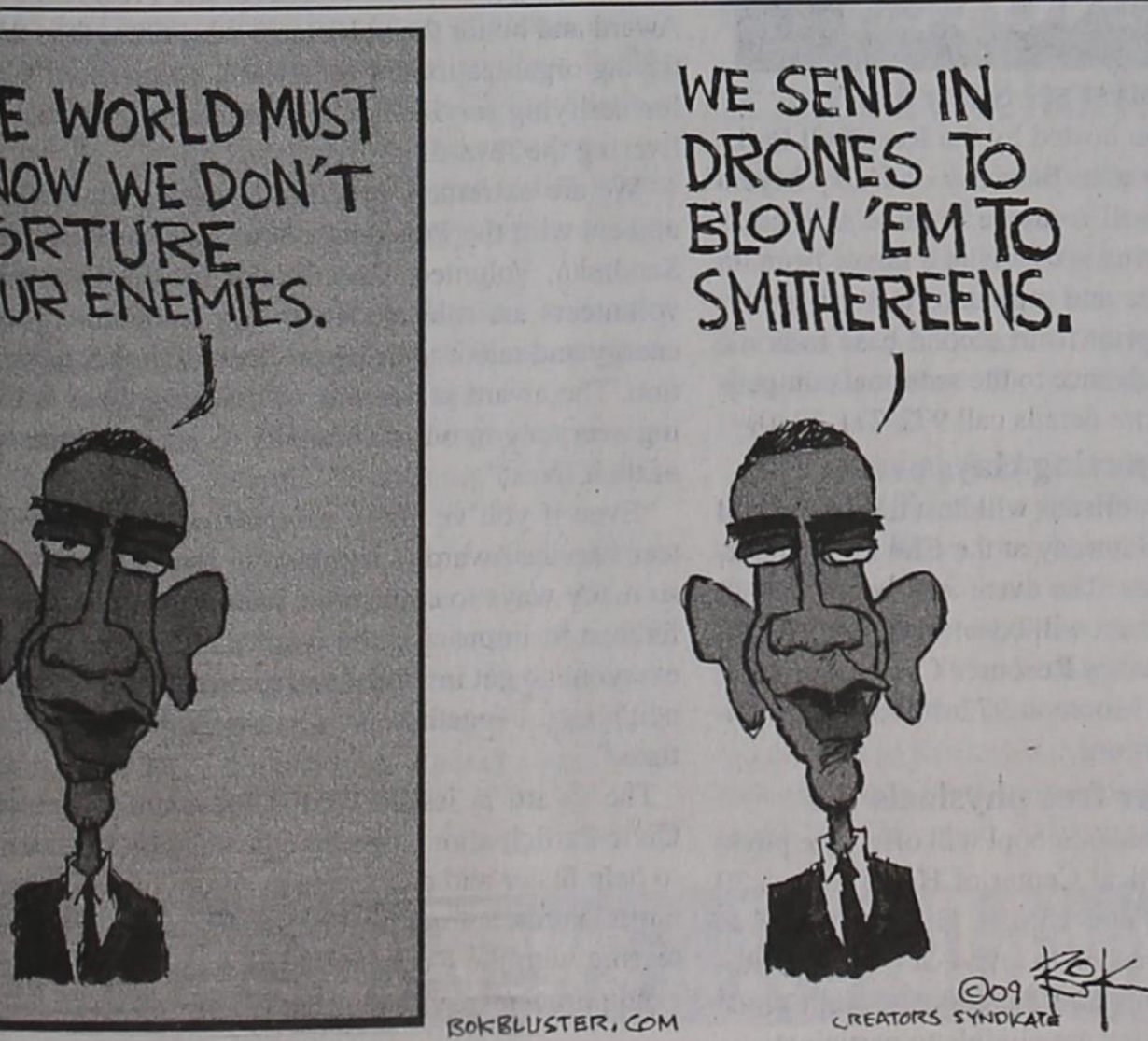
Obama Derangement

Ward Churchill. A man in Denver said I had lost my mind because Obama deserved "F's" across the board. Still another guy opined that the president had accomplished nothing and that I should be ashamed. So let me ask you, is ODS the same as BDS? I think it is. Fairness is a hallmark of America. Our legal system, with its appeals process and litany of rights for the accused, is a great example of that. Greatness of any kind cannot be achieved without being fair. Tyrants may rule for a time, but they are never great.

Holding sincere opinions is also an honorable trait. There are fair-minded Americans who simply do not believe Obama's liberal view of the world is good for the country. Fine, no problem with that. But everything the man does is not awful, and to assign him sinister motives is blatantly unfair -- the same kind of inequity we saw heaped upon President Bush.

President Obama may turn out to be a disaster, or he may rise to greatness. At this point, nobody knows what will happen. That is the great thing about democracy and capitalism. When done right, those things give people a fair chance to succeed, and there's nothing deranged about it.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com. COPYRIGHT 2009 BillOReilly.com.



Rockwall County Sports

Freshman Ariel Tidwell represents Lady Jackets' future at state golf

by Lary Bump

Rockwall has had girls qualifying for the state high school golf tournament, but hadn't had a freshman qualify.

Until now, that is. Ariel Tidwell is preparing for the state tournament Monday and Tuesday, May 11 and 12, at the Jimmy Clay Golf Course in Austin. She is the only freshman among the eight individual medallists across the state.

Joining Tidwell in Austin will be a small gallery of her own — her mother, grandparents, great-grandmother, Rob Sanders and Carrie Chambers, her coaches from The Shores Country Club and Chase Oaks Golf Club; RHS head coach Matt Claborn, and her teammates and close friends Hayley Bingham and Brittany Stansbury.

Claborn received special permission to take two teammates instead of the authorized one teammate. There's a good reason for that: Tidwell, Bingham and Stansbury, all freshmen, represent the future of Lady Jackets golf.

Claborn said, "If they're going to be leaders, I want them to know what they're going to expect. I want them to see that the teams are not that far from us in the way they play. I want them to see that it's not a tournament we can't get to and be competitive."

This was the seventh consecutive year RHS has qualified for the regionals, and the third-place finish was the highest in the team's history.

Before Tidwell, Rockwall's state qualifiers had been Stephanie Hwang, now playing at SMU, and Jordan Rose, a golfer at North Texas.

Bingham, Stansbury and the rest of this year's Lady Jackets just missed becoming the first Rockwall team in the state tournament. They finished one shot behind Frisco Wakeland, the second and last qualifying team from Region II.

Tidwell's 76 on the second day tied for the best round of that tournament tied and was the best ever by a Rockwall freshman. She knows it could have been better for her and the team if she had made a 4-foot putt while the team was rallying on the back nine. "I remember seeing the team standing there watching and thinking, 'This could be like to win it,'" she said.

That was one of the few times she faltered.

Claborn said, "Our three freshmen all stepped up and played real solid golf. The one who surprised me most was Ariel. The girl she was matched up with was the defending state champ in 3A, (Wakeland's) Taylor Newlin. Ariel just looked her right in the eye. I knew she would play her close. The round she had under pressure that last day and being able to control her emotions got her where she is."

Claborn had an inkling of how good Tidwell could be last summer. He said, "She was struggling to break 100 two summers ago, and last summer the majority of her scores were in the 80s. All three girls put time in last summer playing in tournaments, and improved quite a bit."

He might have seen the petite Tidwell coming from even farther away.

"I had my first lesson at The Shores when I was 6," she said. "I was kind of playing last summer when I started doing well. My game kind of all came together — hitting, chipping and putting."

Tidwell said she likes golf "kind of for the joy of being out there. It's not a joy when you're playing bad but it becomes exciting when you do well."

"I was kind of in shock when I qualified for the state. I didn't expect to do bad, but I really didn't expect it."

She's taking the same approach to Austin, which is "probably the biggest I've been in. I know it's a big accomplishment to go as a freshman."



Rockwall High School's Ariel Tidwell prepares for the state championship tournament. Tidwell is the first freshmen team member to qualify for state competition. Photo Courtesy of Trudy Tidwell

Regional track meet reinstated

There will be hope for athletes who thought they were eliminated from competing for the state high school track and field meet.

The University Interscholastic League changed its decision to cancel the meet, originally scheduled for last weekend, May 1-2, as part of the decision, a result of the threat of swine flu. The meet would have been held at the four best performing schools in each event from the region's eight districts.

Coaches argued that the regional meet without the top performers, expecting that the regional meet would not compete all-out, had not been their optimal performance district meets.

The UIL listened to the arguments and stated the regional meet for Region II-4A — which includes Rockwall, Rockwall-Heath, Royse City — the regional meet was postponed until Monday and Wednesday, May 11 and 12, at the University of North Texas Fouts Field in Denton.

None of the three Rockwall high schools expect to have more than two or three athletes competing at the regional meets. It's possible that the regional meet wouldn't give our schools additional state-meet opportunities at least all of the regional fiers will have a chance.

The state meet has been scheduled for June 5-6 at Myers Stadium at the University of Texas in Austin.

HCA girls place second in district track competition

Rockwall Heritage Christian Academy's girls placed second and its boys were seventh in the TAPPS 2A District 2 track and field meet Wednesday, April 22, at The The Brookhill School in Bullard. The Lady Eagles scored 126 points as the runner-up to champion McKinney Christian's 199. HCA's boys totaled 31 points in the meet led by Rockwall Christian's 164.

Three HCA athletes won individual events: Audrey Salter in the girls' 400-meter dash in 1 minute, 6.88 seconds; Jenna Huckabee in the girls' high jump at 4 feet, 5 inches, and Aaron Mateer in the boys' 3,200 run in 12:58.

Huckabee led the way for the Lady Eagles, qualifying for the regional meet in five events. Megan Trapani qualified in four and Salter, Ashley Whitby and Gabby Mezzarina in three each.

Huckabee also placed second in the 300 hurdles (55.09) and long jump (16-2 1/4), third in the triple jump (31-11 1/2) and ran on a relay team that qualified for the regionals.

Trapani finished third in the 100 (13.81) and long jump (14-7) and ran on two qualifying relay teams.

Whitby was third in the 100 hurdles (19.12), fourth in the 300 hurdles (55.81) and part of a qualifying relay.

Mezzarina placed third in the 400 (1:11.49) and ran on two qualifying relay teams.

Baye Cheek qualified in two field events, finishing third in the shot put (29-2) and discus (78-5 1/4).

The Lady Eagles' qualifying relay teams were the 4X100 (Jenna Huckabee, Audrey Salter, Gabriella Mezzarina and Mezzarina), second in 54.22; 4X200 (Jenna Huckabee, Audrey Salter, Ashley Whitby, and Gabby Mezzarina), second in 2:11.49; and 4X400 (Jennifer Gray, Monica Whitmire, Jordan Mezzarina, and Gabby Mezzarina), fourth in 5:22.

The other Eagles qualifying for the boys' regionals were Lyon, second in the 110 hurdles in 21.74, and the 4X100 relay (Josh Points, Chase Graham, Zach Read and Noah Ward) in 46.65.

Rockwall ISD Council of PTAs joins Council on Service to promote volunteerism

The Rockwall ISD Council of PTAs has teamed with the House to become a certifying organization for the President's Volunteer Service Award, a national program recognizing Americans who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service.

Established in 2003, the award was created by President George W. Bush to give presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet requirements for volunteer service, measure the number of service hours performed over 12 months.

The Rockwall Council PTA is one of thousands of organizations that have joined forces to deliver the President's Volunteer Service Award and honor the volunteers who strengthen the nation. The certifying organization for the award, each school's PTA is responsible for verifying service hours, nominating potential recipients and delivering the Award.

"We are extremely proud to recognize our most outstanding volunteers with the President's Volunteer Service Award," said Valerie Sandman, Volunteer Coordinator for the Council of PTAs. "Our volunteers are role models in our community, donating their energy and talent to bring us closer together as neighbors and citizens. The award is our way of thanking these volunteers and giving everyone in our community a chance to make volunteering a part of their lives."

"Even if you've never volunteered before, the President's Volunteer Service Award is within your reach," Sandman said. "There are so many ways to contribute, and every volunteer hour makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. We encourage everyone to get involved and to bring along your family, friends and neighbors. Together, we can strengthen America — one hour at a time."

The award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group convened by President George W. Bush to help foster and encourage a culture of volunteer service and participation among Americans. For more information about the award, contact Valerie Sandman at vsandman@rockwallpta.org or sandmom@msn.com or any PTA president.

Sports Notes

Pitch, hit & run contest set Saturday

The Pitch, Hit & Run Competition hosted by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday at Harry Myers Park. Boys and girls ages 7 to 14 will compete in three skill areas in this free contest: pitching (throwing six balls at a target from 45 feet); hitting (hit off a stationary tee and measured toward center-field for accuracy); and running (sprint from second base to home will be timed). Local winners will advance to the sectional competition to be conducted locally. For more details call 972-771-7740.

YR to host charity sporting clays event

The Rockwall County Young Republicans will host the 1st Annual Charity Sporting Clays Challenge Saturday at the Elm Fork Shooting Club, 10751 Luna Rd., in Dallas. The event will begin at 9:30 a.m.; sign-in begins at 8 a.m. The event will benefit Helping Hands, Habitat for Humanity and the Pregnancy Resource Center. For more details or to register contact Aaron Moore at 972-489-3648, amooeyr@yahoo.com or visit rockwallyr.org.

Middle schools offer free physicals

Utey Middle School and Cain Middle School will offer free physicals on May 27 at the Baylor Medical Center of Heath from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; doors will close at 7:15 p.m. Girls are asked to arrive at 5:30 p.m., while boys are asked to arrive at 6:15 p.m. Returning Cain Middle School students and incoming seventh grade students who will attend Cain or Utey are eligible to participate.

Rockwall County News

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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, as well as those promoting political candidates. Letters must be signed and include telephone number or address for verification.

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Issue 23

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Expo brought together restaurants and caterers
to showcase their unique services to the packed
Business Expo and Taste of Rockwall.
by Kathy Williams

Election Day

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• Place 3 - Craig Zur
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City Council
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* Try to avoid clos
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City officials will

Rockwall County Ne