

# Rockwall County News

Number 23 Issue Number 78 USPS 002-495 Friday, November 20, 2009 Single Copy Price 75 Cents Copyright 2009 Rockwall County News

## Zoning approved for Kingsbridge tennis center

**Shayna Matejka**  
Residents seeking to build a tennis center country club facility on the former McClendon-Chisholm property received a green light from the city council this week. Council members acted unanimously with two members abstaining to approve zoning changes for the building of the office complex and a tennis center in the originally proposed site for the second phase of the Kingsbridge development. The project was given a rezoning without reservation from the city planning and

zoning board and was lauded by community members who attended the public hearing. Before their vote, council members sought further clarification on the developers plans for traffic management, sewer service and water flow. According to developers, Texas Department of Transportation recommends a left-turn lane to access all three planned entrances for the community, the tennis center and the office park. TXDOT also recommends a right-turn deceleration lane for the entrance to the office park. The developers would be responsible for the roadway changes.

To ensure fire safety, the facilities will have sprinklers installed to compensate for a possible deficiency in water flow. Sewer service will be managed with an underground septic system. Council members approved a change in the planned density of the remainder of the residential development from the initial 2-acre lot size to an average 1.3-acre lot size which is in line with the first phase of the development. With the land rezoned, developers will move on to their next steps of finalizing construction plans and seeking permits. Developers showed council members a concept-drawing of the tennis center facade which shows a glass-fronted building set back by trees. The final project would be a 25-acre tennis center/country club with multi-purpose event facilities and a restaurant/bar. Developers hope to break ground in December and open the center by June 1.



Veterans Day ceremony at Summer Ridge Assisted Living & Retirement Center honored the 11 resident veterans. Special music was provided by Heritage Christian Academy's Fourth and Fifth grade students (top, right) with Christy Oliver directing. Resident veteran Ed Crump (right) presented a historical review of Veterans Day. Resident veterans are Navy: Wayne Rogers, Ed Crump, L.C. Goodman; Army: Bob Chapman, Clarence Benton, Bazil Williams, Weldon Collier, Fritz Van Doran, Joe Burkett; Air Force: Steve Karbowski, Alvin Trammel Mays and Marine: Betty Flatten. Photo by Tim Burnett Rockwall County News

## Rockwall County News Briefs

**Bally Bead plans workshop today**  
Bead, located at 2304 Ridge Road in Rockwall, will host a Metal Clay Workshop from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today. Participant will complete two pairs of earrings and a pendant of the workshop. Cost is \$100, with separate costs for materials and tools. To register or for more details call 972-771-1111 or e-mail ballybead@sbcglobal.net.

**'Willy Wonka Jr.' performances set at CMS**  
In the spirit of "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," students of Cain Middle School will offer "Willy Wonka Jr." performances on today and Saturday in the CMS cafeteria. Performances will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at \$3 for children under 5. For more details contact Shayna Matejka at smatejka@rockwallisd.org, or Rachel Fuller, rfuller@rockwallisd.org.

**Health fair, blood drive slated**  
Rockwall County Health Fair & Blood Drive will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Lake Pointe Church (use south entrance). Walk-ins will be welcomed, but individuals with appointments will be taken first. For more details contact Cathleen Lewis at 972-893-9925 or cathleenlewis@tx.rr.com, or Mike Hester at 972-771-0031 or thisbloodsaves@sbcglobal.net.

**Stingerettes plan holiday dance clinic**  
RHS Stingerettes will conduct their 3rd Annual Holiday Dance Clinic Saturday in the Williams Middle School gym. The Stingerettes will instruct dance technique and a dance routine to students in grades K through fifth grade. Games, crafts, photos, refreshments and story time with Santa also are planned. The clinic will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (8:30 a.m. check-in); cost is \$45 and includes T-shirt, craft frame and photo with Santa. For more details contact Claire Shippy at 972-816-8857 or e-mail cshippy@sbcglobal.net.

**'Empowering the People' set Saturday**  
Rockwall County Republican Women will host a free event titled "Empowering the People," with registration/refreshments beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in the Rockwall County Library. The session will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will include the presentation of the new RCRW Executive Board and information on current state and federal legislation, earning the media's attention and tips for successful communication with lawmakers. To register, send name and e-mail address to rcrwtexas@gmail.com and indicate "November Training Session."

**Feral Friends joining in Rowlett parade**  
Keeping with the Texas Christmas theme, Feral Friends will be participating with the Texas cat herders in the 10 a.m. Saturday Downtown Rowlett Christmas Parade. After the parade, visit the Rowlett PetSmart store to adopt a cat or kitten. Adoption hours will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Church plans celebration, breakfast**  
FaithBridge Church, a United Methodist Community, will host a Thanksgiving celebration and potluck breakfast Sunday. The church will be open to the public and will begin at 9 a.m., with the potluck at 10:30 a.m. Participants are encouraged to bring their favorite covered breakfast dish to share; however, this is not required. FaithBridge meets at Celia Hays Elementary in north Rockwall each Sunday.

**Library to be closed for Thanksgiving**  
The Rockwall County Library will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays on Nov. 26-27. The facility will reopen on Nov. 28.

**Heath holiday schedule told**  
In celebration of Thanksgiving, the municipal offices for the City of Heath will be closed on Nov. 26-27. Trash and recycling will be collected on residents' regular pick-up days during the holiday week.

**RC Lions plan help for Head Start**  
The Roys City Lions Club is accepting donations to help support the Dec. 4 Winter Wonderland Party for Roys City Head Start.

## Helping Hands to offer H1N1 clinic Dec. 1

Helping Hands will offer an H1N1 clinic for Rockwall County residents from 7 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 1, at the Rockwall Community Center in Harry Myers Park. Those wishing to receive the immunization must show proof of residency, such as with a driver's license, utility bill or tax statement. Inoculations will be available only to high-risk groups identified by the Center for Disease Control, which are:  
\* Pregnant women because they are at higher risk of complications and can potentially provide protection to infants that cannot be vaccinated.  
\* Household contacts and caregivers for children under 6-months of age because younger infants are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and cannot be vaccinated. Vaccination of those in close contact with infants younger than 6-months old might help protect infants by "cocooning" them from the virus.  
\* Health care and emergency medical services personnel because infections among health care workers have been reported and this can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism in this population could reduce health care system capacity.  
\* All people from 6-months through 24 years of age:  
Children from 6 months through 24 years of age because cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza have been seen in children that are in close contact with each other in school and daycare settings, which increases the likelihood of disease spread.

Young adults 19 through 24 years of age because many cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza have been seen in these healthy young adults and they often live, work and study in close proximity and they are a frequently mobile population.  
\* People 25 through 64 years of age that have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza. The vaccine is free, but there will be a \$10 administration fee. Please call 972-771-8194 for further information.

## City office to be renamed for Fitzwater

The City of Rockwall Police Department's Community Service Office, located in the Brookshire's Shopping Center, is slated to be renamed in honor of the late John Fitzwater. The request to rename the center was made by the Rockwall Police Officers Association and approved by the City Council. Fitzwater spent numerous hours volunteering with the police department, beginning in 1998 when he attended the Citizen Police Academy. He joined the Citizens on Patrol organization and became a police department volunteer.

(Continued on Page 3)



Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" takes on a whole new look in the Rockwall High School Spotlight Production presentation of "The Shakespeare Project," which runs at the school this weekend beginning Friday, Nov. 20, Saturday, Nov. 21 and Sunday, Nov. 22. Members of the cast are Blair Belt (Katherina #2, on stool at left), Isaac Niems (Petruccio #1, pinned to mat), Dejana Neskovic (Katherina #1, doing the pinning), James Hoover (referee), Jack Eidson (Petruccio #2, at right); (spectators in background left to right) Lorenne Tellia, Roy Samra and Kaiti Ahmann. For complete show details, including show times and ticket prices, see page 15. Staff Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

More News Briefs on Page 5

## Yarn, needles needed for children's program

The Royse City High School Art Club is offering a knitting/crochet project to allow local youths to make scarves and mufflers to donate to the Royse City Police & Firefighters Holiday Outreach Program.

The project began Thursday and will run each Thursday through Dec. 17 beginning at 4 p.m. at Royse City High School, Room B-123.

The club is in need of yarn and knitting and crochet needles for use in the program. Also needed are adults interested in helping to teach the new crafters how to knit and/or crochet.

For more information, contact Renee Wallace at 972-636-9991, ext. 2532 or wallacer@rcisd.org or Kimberly Meadows, ext. 2536, or at bradshaw@rcisd.org.

## ATTENTION SHOPPERS:

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The residents at Rockwall's Arbor House Assisted Living Center have caught recycling fever and more than beautiful results. Several of the ladies who decorated pumpkins for Halloween have re-used and added new, festive decorations for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. From left to right: Fern Woodall, Virginia Vaughn, Frankie White and Bernice Rodgers put their own touch to the pumpkins, donated by Sandy McKenzie, LVN, of Home Care Management, which is in the lobby at Arbor House.

Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News



The families of the Highlands of Heath neighborhood recently celebrated a Fall Festival, with children invited to participate in a costume contest, pumpkin painting and carving and a neighborhood-wide scavenger hunt. The event was organized by the Highlands of Heath Home Owners Association.

Photo Courtesy of Darcy Rocha/Rockwall County News

# HOLIDAY

*at Park Place*

## DECEMBER 3, 2009

3:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

1034 ST. THOMAS COURT · ROCKWALL, TX 75087

Fabulous Vendors... Purses, Jewelry, Candles, Food, Tee Shirts and More!

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Grace Hartman Elementary PTA Magician Cody Fisher dazzle the crowd with a bit of sleight of hand for the first PTA meeting of the new school year on Sept. 17. Jamal Williams, Hartman first grade parent, pictured choosing a volunteer for one of Fisher's magic tricks.

Photo Courtesy of Lamberth/Rockwall County News

## Health fair, blood drive set Saturday

Lake Pointe Church will host a health fair and blood drive from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Health and medical booths will be set up to provide information to help families become healthier. Also planned are blood pressure testing, cholesterol testing, vascular screening and other activities. Services include Texas Baseball, CareFlight Helicopters, Rockwall Crime Prevention, Rowlett Fire Department, sage therapy, dental care, Helpers, Ridge Pointe Club, MADD and other organizations.

Children's event includes bounce houses, face painting and balloon art.

The event will be held in Room C100 of the church.

## Pusch named to Dean's list

Alexander Pusch of Rockwall was named to the Dean's List at Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Ga., for the summer quarter.

Full-time undergraduates who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or above each quarter receive the recognition, according to a news release from the college.

Pusch is an industrial engineering major.

Say You Saw It In The County News

# Summer Ridge Assisted Living Community

Invites You to

## Come Home for the Holidays

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 3020 Ridge Road,  
 Rockwall, Texas 75032

Residents will open up their homes for you to tour!

Refreshments will be provided. Please come and enjoy our beautiful home that has been serving Rockwall Seniors for the last 10 years.

Please RSVP by calling 972-771-2800

Attendees will receive a coupon for \$1000 off the 1st months rent and up to \$400 off moving expenses.

## Competition at local business leads huge windfall for area food banks

Wrote by John Ramsey, Gas, K.E. Andrews & Company in Rowlett. The drive was organized as a friendly competition among the three offices of K.E. Andrews & Company in Rowlett, quite the "Can Drive" and the benefactor of the local Rockwall shelters and food banks. Andrews & Company and CEO Mark and this 1900 Dalrock suggested that the organize a can drive less fortunate during season and a goal tire company was set cans. As an incentive drive along, Andrews free lunch to the floor tributed the most cans ve. With the competi-

tive nature of the staff of K.E. Andrews & Company, this was all that was required to ensure a successful project – but no one knew how successful it would eventually turn out to be. Challenges between the floors and emails poking fun at each other became the norm over the next several weeks. As the deadline for the drive approached, the challenges, fun poking and new even trash talking escalated at a feverish pace, but more importantly, so did the can count. After the 2 p.m. deadline on Thursday, Nov. 12, the final tally came in and the company had collected a total of 7,172 cans to be donated. Many of the area grocery stores were utilized but the Albertson's in Rowlett deserves special recognition. Assistant

Store Manager Tonya worked with the company in a last big push during the waning hour of the drive and allowed the employees to purchase over 1,000 cans from her store. The manager of the Garland Albertson's, Donna, also allowed employees special access to the store for the food drive. K.E. Andrews & Company Director of Human Resources Camille Rowe said the employees also have a toy drive each year to benefit Helping Hands. "The toy drive for Helping Hands is one way we can really give back and have an impact on the community where most of us live." As far as the competition and the battle of the K.E. Andrews floors, there were no losers... only winners.



More than 7,000 food items were collected by the employees of K.E. Andrews & Company in Rowlett to benefit several Rockwall County shelters and food pantries, including Rockwall Helping Hands. Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News



Setting the pace at the Saturday, Nov. 7 Hays Elementary School Husky Fun Run were #492 Fulkerson, Rockwall High School tennis coach; #642 Lanny Norman; #457 Ryan Basel, Hays Elementary 1st grade teacher and #454 Melissa Kemp, Hays Elementary Literacy Coach. More than 100 runners turned out for the Fun Run, which raises money for school programs and supplies. Race results were:  
 Youth 1 Mile: Derek W - 6:57; Dustin M - 7:08; Aidan H - 7:21.  
 Youth 1 Mile: Carol Pavik - 9:12; Adam Salter - 9:26; David Rakow - 9:42.  
 Youth 5K: Sawyer K - 21:27; Spencer M - 22:18; Ryan R - 22:27.  
 Adult Men 5K: Ray Courtin - 20:46; Brent Yost - 20:59; Phillippe Seminet - 21:57.  
 Adult Women 5K: Julie Puckett - 22:13; Mary Courtin - 24:54; Dondi Hampton - 25:01.  
 Hays has set next year's Husky Fun Run for Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010.  
 Staff Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

## School club collecting new shoes for Orphan Souls Program

Williams Elementary's (Kindness and Compassion) collecting new shoes for Orphan Souls, will run through Dec. 4. Anyone interested in donating may bring their donation of new canvas or leather tennis shoes, shoelaces and socks to the school, located at 350 Dalton Road, Rockwall. Items should be sizes suitable for children and teens. Because of customs regulations, all items should be new. Donated items will be sent to children in need throughout the world. The KC Club is focusing on one on-campus service project and one off-campus service project each month. For more information about this project, contact Kim Gammon, school counselor, at 972-772-0502.

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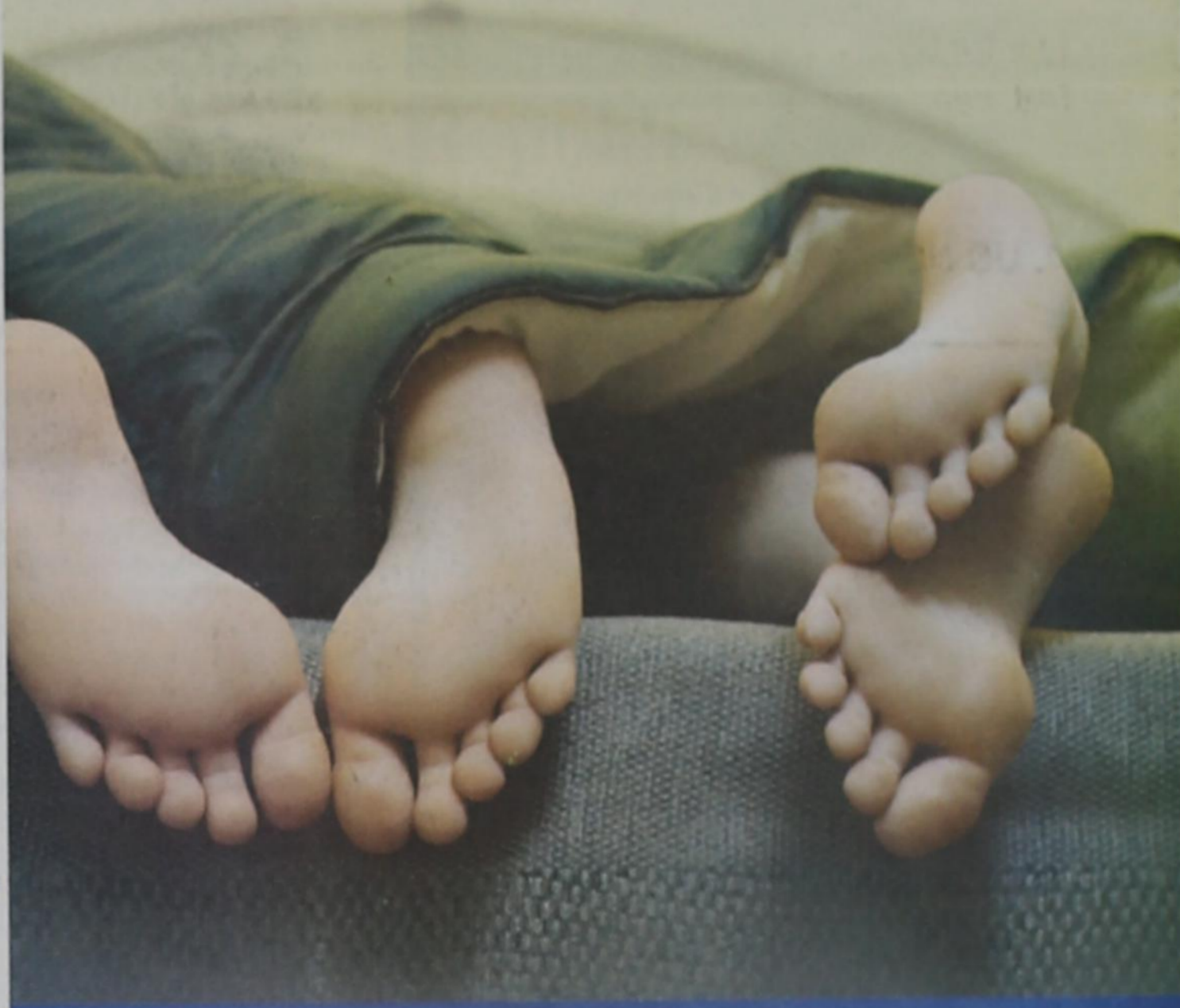
## New signal light activated at Ralph Hall Pkwy & Market Center Drive

City of Rockwall recently activated a new signal light at the intersection of Ralph Hall Parkway and Market Center Drive. The signal light became active on Nov. 12. News release issued earlier this week, city officials said they wanted to alert motorists about the new light.

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## Building named ...

Continued from Page 1)

water logged 724 documents, community service hours, hours volunteered that were documented. He performed shows for children's patrolled neighborhoods, businesses and trained new members on how to operate a patch, which he delivered and set up. He also held the office of the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association from January 2008 until his resignation on Sept. 19. Fitzwater was an outgoing citizen who spent his hours in selfless service to both the community and the women of the Rockwall Department," said Chief Moeller. "I believe this is a fitting tribute to a man who put himself before himself."

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## Great News for Buyers and Sellers!

# Tax Credit Extended for Home Buyers

**\$8,000.00** First time Home Buyer Tax Credit has been extended until **April 30, 2010.**

**New \$6,500.00** Current Homeowner Tax Credit until April 30, 2010.

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## Just Say You Saw It In "The County News"

# Texas Trailblazer: Twenty-first Century Impact Auditor John Blackwood, Rockwall County

Contributed by Ann Cornelius, Freelance Writer

Many people think of auditors like John Blackwood, former Rockwall County Auditor, as one of the quiet professionals who double-check the work of "bean-counters" to make sure that all the beans have been counted correctly. This concept underestimates the impact of a forward thinking auditor in the risk-management leadership of an organization.

John Blackwood is the quintessential representation of this new breed of auditor. Financial disasters such as Enron and the current near-collapse of the global financial system might have fared differently with more auditors like Blackwood in place.

One of Blackwood's major accomplishments as County Auditor was enlarging the audit footprint of the County Auditor's office in both scope and size. He increased the number of traditional "cash counts" and "inventory audits." Then he increased the scope of oversight by auditing contracts for the level of quality and adequacy in regard to their legal obligations. These effective measurable improvements reached down to simple tasks, such as comparing the costs of personnel turnover relative to different pay levels.

When Blackwood assumed the office of County Auditor in 1997, there



were 24 different audit exercises conducted by the Auditor's office. By 2007, Blackwood had expanded the menu of different audit interventions by 65 – bringing the total arsenal of distinct, regular audit exercises to 89. Importantly, the specific audit exercises that led to the identification of malfeasance by two elected officials – the County Treasurer and the County District Attorney – had not existed prior to Blackwood's administration.

With limited audit resources available, Blackwood made the hard choices as the location of risk continued to change with the

growth of the County. Shifting the resources to protect against the greatest risks was imperative and went beyond prosaic "bean counting."

"County assets can be threatened by poor strategic and operating decisions, failure to comply with the legal and regulatory infrastructure and other types of management underperformance – as much or more than by improperly managed financial transactions," Blackwood said. "One example – poorly written contracts between the County and vendors can deliver a more punishing blow to County assets than infrequent inventory counts or the failure of other historical audit activities."

By this rendering, lobbying County management for compliance with "best practices" and enforcing their consistent utilization became a vital part of Blackwood's regimen.

"Ray Sumrow, the previous District Attorney, may be remembered for his acts of malfeasance that led to his criminal convictions," Blackwood noted. "Arguably, Sumrow's greatest damage to the county was not about the dollar value of his malfeasance; in fact, restitution was made such that the County lost no money from his criminal activity."

"The greater damage to the County during Sumrow's tenure, in my opinion, was his relative incompetence at constructing and/or reviewing contracts to which the County subsequently became a party. The quality of county contracts generated without the contribution of a competent legal adviser was miserably poor. The financial exposure and legal liability of these contracts could easily summate to millions and millions of dollars every year."

It was through Blackwood's audit controls that the malfeasance of the County Treasurer was identification in 2006, and in 2008, that of the District Attorney. In both cases, the referenced elected officials restored the funds, but were prosecuted and removed from office.

His diligence was not always appreciated. In the early years of his service as County Auditor, Blackwood refused to approve contracts that were poorly conceived, sloppily drafted or that inadvertently created collateral liability for the County. His stubborn insistence on requiring that contracts be of threshold quality frequently brought him into conflict with the District Attorney as well as with some Commissioners.

In one instance, the Court got Blackwood's permission to move ahead with a project if the D.A. would write a legal opinion about the matter upon which Blackwood "could rely." When Blackwood subsequently read Sumrow's "legal opinion" – Blackwood rejected it because the opinion, while the opinion of a lawyer, made no reference to any statutes or prior cases or to formal Attorney General opinions, nor did he cite any

legal reasons or principles, thus failing the criteria for a true "opinion."

Eventually Blackwood's business acumen convinced the sioners Court to allow the Auditor involvement in the business construction, negotiation and approval process. This may have most important achievement – given the dollar value of ambient accrues to the Court via its contracts with vendors, government and other government jurisdictions. If a disgruntled employee office chair or a computer – the loss is small and usually insurance. If a sloppy contract bleeds \$6,000 a month for the \$216,000 loss is significant and uninsurable.

The appeal to management to use shortcuts is always an issue. Drawbacks are not always immediately apparent. Being ever the letter of the law, Blackwood took the position that it would for the County to accept State grant funds to purchase new vehicles to meet clean air standards. The problem with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) program was that the agency's destruction of surplus property – which, based on the contract, is an unlawful act.

He was informed that many other Counties were participating in the Clean Air Grant and did not hesitate to use the funds to purchase new vehicles and destroy the old County vehicles. Although the County lost the grant money if Blackwood held to the legal issue, he thought that Rockwall County was not justified in participating just because other Counties did not understand or chose to ignore the contract.

TCEQ then gave Blackwood the option of declaring the vehicles "plus" and then retagging them as "salvage" in order to legalize them. For Blackwood, this was nothing more than switching the illegal act. Again, the procedure did not satisfy the law, but continued to rebut the various "alternatives" proposed by TCEQ. None of them could accommodate existing state law. Ultimate resolution was proposed by which the County could trade in the old cars for new vehicles and receive as trade-in a value equal to the cost of the new vehicles. Now the auto dealer, under direction of the State, could destroy the old cars. Blackwood believed that this problematic but asked Kendra Culpepper, Criminal District Attorney for the County, for a legal opinion and to rework the document to protect the County's interests.

Blackwood's steadfast commitment to play by the rules of the political costs was apparently noticed by someone in the legislature – which led to authorship of House Bill HB3089, by Co-Marc Veasey and David Leibowitz. Ann Hagen, General Counsel of the House, requested Blackwood testify before the House County Affairs at the State Capital. Following Blackwood's testimony the bill passed the House Committee and was subsequently passed by the Legislature and made into state law. Blackwood's insistence on "right" resulted in a change in the controlling law. This law was signed into law on June 19, 2009 by the Governor for the County to destroy vehicles when required.

Now that he has left office after 12-plus years of service, the County owes a debt of gratitude to John Blackwood for his commitment to excellence and his forward thinking practices. The Auditor's Office of Rockwall County. And beyond the County, citizens everywhere should hope for more Blackwoods in audit and oversight functions of the economy.

Good luck and Godspeed to a superior public servant.

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Verhagen Insurance 972-771-7373 (Rockwall)



Amy Parks-Heath Elementary sixth grade student Sam Selle recently was recognized by the Noon Rotary Club as a Student of Honor. The recognition was made at the organization's Nov. 11 meeting. Selle was selected for the award by his sixth grade teachers, who describe him as an "out-thinker" who is innovative in his work. The youth also is a Rachel's Challenge model student with a motto of "others before self." Pictured with Selle are his principal, Dan Crawford, at left, and Russ Rotary Club president.

Photo courtesy of Mary Thacker/Rockwall County News



The Rockwall-Heath High School theater students recently staged a production of Neil Simon's show, "Fools." The cast of the Oct. 22-24 production included Tyler Russell as Miskin; Ryan Slovich; Rachel Hilton, Cow; Markam Khan, Make up; Jesse Kizewski, Counte Gregor; Zane Leon Tolchinsky; Jackson Currie, Snetsky; Sydney Allen, Lights; Jennie Eilts, Cow; Evan Bru Dr. Zubritsky; Jeremy Skinner, Counte Gregor; Sara Woodard, Sophia Zubritsky; Alex Cas Zubritsky; Angela Bello, Snetsky; Hannah Kennedy, Stage Manager; Andee Aulbaugh, Magist Sommers, Crew; Makynzie Stevens, Yenchna and Mike Lossing, Crew.

Photo Courtesy of Dawn Cass, Publicity Chair/Rockwall County News

## Just Say You Saw It In "The County News"

# News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

at Anita Scott Elementary. Seventeen children and their families are expected to participate. Sponsors are needed to provide pizza, decorations, as well as children's gifts (clothing, toys and stockings for youths ages 3-5 are suggested). Anyone interested in donating should notify Andrea Chandler at 214-287-1656 or e-mail [eliteprintmanagement.com](mailto:eliteprintmanagement.com). Deadline for donations is Nov. 30.

## Drive Concert set at Southern Junction

Southern Junction, Platinum 96.7 FM and the Hilton Bella Harbor will present Vance & the Valiants in a special Toy Drive Concert on Dec. 5 at the Hilton at 10 a.m. to collect for underprivileged Rockwall County children. For every donation, unwrapped toy the donor will receive a discount coupon to use at the concert at Southern Junction. Toys also may be brought to the concert that night for the discount. Toys will be distributed by the office to local families in need.

## Tree of Hope program offered at PetSmart

Friends will display the Tree of Hope on adoption weekends at locations in Richardson and Rowlett from Nov. 28 through Jan. 1, an opportunity to provide much-needed gifts or monetary donation for a cat or kitten or the foster program. Stop by and select a PetSmart feralfriends.org and click on donation info (choose Tree of Hope). All donations are tax-deductible.

## Gingerbread Junction entries due Nov. 30

Rockwall County Master Gardeners are inviting local residents, clubs and groups to construct gingerbread houses and participate in Gingerbread Junction, the first event of its kind in the county. Village houses, schools and other gingerbread buildings will be accepted at Rockwall County Extension Office until Nov. 30. The structures will be on display at the Rockwall County Discovery Garden Dec. 5 through Dec. 8. On Dec. 5, gingerbread cookies, cider and hot chocolate will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to mark the grand opening. Visit [rockwall.com](http://rockwall.com) for more details.

## Newcomers plan holiday luncheon

Rockwall Newcomers Club's holiday luncheon meeting will take place on Dec. 10 and will feature "A Christmas Fantasy" by the Broadway group of fifth and sixth grade students. Reservations for the luncheon should be made by Nov. 30 by calling Kitty Colquhoun at 972-771-7740. The meeting will take place at Occasions at Stone River, 1250 Royse City.

## Daddy/Daughter Dance tickets available Dec. 1

The 12th Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance will go on sale Dec. 1, hosted by the Rockwall Parks and Recreation Department, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 30 at the Hilton Bella Harbor. Cost for a resident couple, \$10 per additional child, and \$67 for non-resident couple, \$10 per additional child. Cost includes photo by a professional photographer, so come dressed to impress. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Spots are limited. Call 972-771-7740.

## Spring Registration Fling scheduled

Spring Registration Fling, an opportunity to sign up for the spring season offered by the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department, will be on hand for participants to meet, and other activities, including face painting, demonstrations by class instructors and refreshments will be offered.

## 'Tis Christmastime events slated

Rockwall County will host 'Tis Christmastime at the historic county square on the square from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 1. Santa will be listening to children's wishes, along with a professional photographer to snap photographic memories. Horse-drawn carriage will be available through Old Town Rockwall, refreshments will be provided and Christmas music will be provided by several local groups. Businesses will be open to accommodate early holiday shopping.

## Tree Lighting Ceremony set for Rockwall

The public is invited to the City of Rockwall's 26th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 3 at City Hall. Santa will be on hand and his workshop will be open for children's crafts projects. The event will include hot chocolate, cookies and caroling.

## RCHS play offered Dec. 3, 4

Royse City High School Theatre Company will present its first production of the school year, "You Can't Take It With You," at 7 p.m. Dec. 3 and 4 in the high school's Fine Arts Center. The comedy performance will run for approximately 90 minutes with a single 10-minute intermission. Cost \$2 for students, \$4 for adults.

## Heath Holiday Tour of Homes scheduled

Heath Holiday Tour of Homes will be offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 4 - one day only - as a fundraiser for the RHHS Senior Class and after-prom activities; tour locations TBA. Advance tickets purchased for \$15 apiece through Dec. 3 at Bella's House on the square in Rockwall or at the RHHS front office. Tickets at the door will be \$20.

## Canton shopping day set for seniors

Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will organize a day trip to Canton, Texas, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 4. Participants can plan on doing holiday shopping at one of the state's best-known outdoor shopping stops. Cost \$7 for residents, \$11 for non-Rockwall residents. For more details call 972-771-7740 or visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

## Holiday tree lighting

### slated in Rockwall

The 26th annual official holiday tree lighting in Rockwall will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 4 on the square at City Hall. Live entertainment, crafts in Santa's workshop, hot chocolate and coffee and visits with Santa will be offered. For more details visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

## Heath tree lighting set

### Dec. 4

City of Heath will host its annual tree lighting in the Park event beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 4 in the Towne Square at Park Pavilion behind City Hall, 200 Laurence. Elementary school students will perform holiday songs and complimentary hot chocolate, wassail and cookies will be served. Miniature train and visits with Santa also will be offered. Canned food donations for Helping Hands will be accepted. For details contact City of Heath at 972-771-6288 or visit [heath.com](http://heath.com).

## Holiday Ballroom Dance Party planned

A Holiday Ballroom Dance Party will run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 4 at The Center, 108 E. Washington. Light refreshments will be served and door prizes will be given away. A mini lesson also will be featured. For more details, contact the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department at 972-771-7740.

## Church group to host Brunch with St. Nicholas

The Catholic Mothers Council of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church will host Brunch with St. Nicholas from 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 5 at the church, 1305 Damascus Road, Rockwall, behind Heritage Christian Academy. The event will include a breakfast taco buffet by Chiloso Mexican Bistro; pictures with St. Nick; a dress-up nativity scene; arts and crafts activities; games; prizes; and a silent auction. Proceeds will benefit the parish's children's ministry and vacation Bible school. Tickets can be purchased at the door at a cost of \$7 per person (maximum \$28 per family - parents and their children). For more details call 214-771-1035.

## Cowtown Christmas offered at BGC

Families are invited to come out for a Cowtown Christmas at the Boys and Girls Club immediately following the Dec. 5 Rockwall Christmas Parade. The fun-filled event will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with Christmas cookie decorating, ornament making, photos with Santa and face painting. Cost will be \$3.

## Photos with Santa Claws offered

Area pet owners and their pets can have holiday photos taken with Santa Claws on Dec. 6 and 13 at the PetSmart location in Rowlett and Dec. 19-20 in Richardson. Santa will have photos taken with cats, dogs, frogs, hamsters, guinea pigs and "any pet you love." Cost is \$10 per photo, with proceeds benefiting PetSmart Charities. Feral Friends is a PetSmart Charities member.

## 'Christmas Blessings' concert slated

The Lakeside Civic Chorus will host their "Christmas Blessings" concert beginning at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 6 at the First Christian Church, 3375 Ridge Road, Rockwall. Tickets, which will be available at the door, will cost \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors; students will be admitted free of charge.

## FOL Christmas luncheon planned

The 7th annual December Lunch Basket, set for noon Dec. 8 at The Center, is a fundraiser sponsored by Friends of the Library benefiting the Rockwall County Library. To make reservations call 972-771-8976.

## Event to focus on gingerbread houses

A gingerbread house-building event will run from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 9 at The Center. Sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, the event will be open to youths ages 5-12. Cost is \$15 for residents; \$23 for non-residents. Each participant should bring a bag of candy to use to decorate gingerbread houses. For more details visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

## Out-to-Lunch Bunch traveling to McKinney

The next Out-to-Lunch Bunch event for seniors ages 50 and older will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 11 at The Pantry in McKinney. Cost will be \$7 for Rockwall residents, \$11 for non-residents; cost covers transportation only. For more details on this Rockwall Parks & Rec Department program, which takes place the second Friday of each month, visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

## 'Cocoa and Carols' set Dec. 11 in RC

The Tri-County Choral Society will present its first "Cocoa and Carols" event beginning at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11 in the Melody Room of City Hall in Royse City. The program will include some traditional holiday favorites, as well as inspiring new music. Admission will be free. For more details contact Amy McLeroy at 469-723-3021 or Annie Cornelius at 972-816-9626.

## Snake Encounters planned at BGC

Snake Encounters will be offered from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Boys and Girls Club next to Dobbs Elementary. Open to the community, the event will offer comedy, education, magic tricks and snakes. Admission will be \$5; have a photo made with a giant boa constrictor for \$3.

## Have breakfast with Santa Dec. 12

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host Breakfast with Santa beginning at 9 a.m. Dec. 12 in the RISD Education Center gym. Doughnuts and orange juice will be served, and activities are planned prior to the arrival of Saint Nick. Cost will be \$10 for Rockwall residents; \$15 for non-residents. A Polaroid picture of your child with Santa is included in the cost. For more details visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).

## RC to host holiday parade, festivities

The Royse City Chamber and Main Street program will co-host the annual Nighttime Christmas Parade & Festivities on Dec. 12. Vendors will be invited to set up along Main Street while Santa greets children and Mrs. Claus reads them stories. Local businesses will offer holiday refreshments and specials. E-mail Kari Hollifield, Main Street director, at [edcassistant@roysecity.com](mailto:edcassistant@roysecity.com) if interested in vendor space. Contact Kate Tyre, parade chair, at [irishkatetx@att.net](mailto:irishkatetx@att.net) to participate in the parade. Visit [roysecitychamber.com](http://roysecitychamber.com) for more details.

## RARTA meeting to feature musical program

The Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association's Dec. 14 meeting will feature a musical program, "Winter Song," presented by the Royse City Bulldog Choir from Miss May Vernon Elementary. The meeting will take place in the RISD Administration Complex at 1:15 p.m. All retired school personnel and their guests are invited.

## Santa's Workshop event slated

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department's Santa's Workshop event will run from 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 19 at The Center. Youths ages 5-10 to make holiday crafts. Cost is \$20 for Rockwall residents; \$30 for non-residents. For more details visit [rockwall.com/parks](http://rockwall.com/parks).



Eddi Dagley, membership chairperson for the Rockwall Newcomers Club, is shown with members of the Broadway Babies who are scheduled to perform at the club's Dec. 10 holiday luncheon meeting at Occasions at Stone River, 1250 FM 2453 in Royse City. Seated from the left are Colleen Breen, a 12-year-old sixth grade student at Nebbie Williams; Lucy Ragsdale, an 11-year-old fifth grade student at Howard Dobbs; and Nicole Tompkins, a Dorothy Smith Pullen fifth grade student who is 11 years of age. Joining them for the performance will be Meridith Bennett, Amy Adams and Sarah Olsen (not pictured) as they present "A Christmas Fantasy." The group has performed at the Aspasians Arts & Crafts Fair, in the Rockwall Community Playhouse's "The Music Man," "Annie Jr.," and "Seussical Jr.," as well as singing the "National Anthem" at a Texas Rangers baseball game. To make reservations for the meeting, contact Kitty Colquhoun at 972-722-5569 by Nov. 30.

## Republican Women host Saturday training

The Rockwall County Republican Women will host a training session entitled "Empowering the People" on Nov. 21 at the Rockwall County Library, 1215 E. Yellow Jacket Lane, Rockwall.

Registration/coffee will begin at 10:30 a.m. The session will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Following the election of the 2010 RCRW Executive Board, the session will cover the following topics:

- How to Follow Texas and U.S. Legislation
- Earning Free Media: Letter to the Editor, Opinion Pieces and Press Releases
- Tips for Successful Communication with Elected Representatives

Advance registration is appreciated to ensure seating. To register, send name and e-mail address to [rcrwtxas@gmail.com](mailto:rcrwtxas@gmail.com) and indicate registration is for 'November Training Session.'

There is no charge to attend the event.

## Heath FUMC outlines December events

The December calendar for the Heath First United Methodist Church includes a mission trip to Terrell State Hospital to provide Christmas dinner to patients on Dec. 5 and a lifeline screening at the church on Dec. 7.

The holiday Advent events are scheduled as follows: children's Christmas program, 11 a.m. service, Dec. 6; Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata with orchestra, Dec. 13; FUMC 2nd Annual Christmas Dinner & Play, Dec. 18; and the "Home for Christmas" candlelight services at 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Dec. 24.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the church weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 972-771-3438 or visit [fumcheath.org](http://fumcheath.org).

## Fall Arrivals

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## SUFFERING FROM NECK OR BACK PAIN?

Spine Team Texas will be presenting the latest treatment options for neck and back pain on Tuesday, December 1st at 6pm.



**Anthony Berg, M.D.**  
Anesthesiologist  
Fellowship-Trained in spine



**Scott McPherson, D.O.**  
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Specializing in spine



**Michael Musacchio, M.D.**  
Neurosurgeon  
Specializing in minimally invasive spine surgery

## FREE Seminar and FREE MRI Review

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1st

### WHERE:

Spine Team Texas  
3142 Horizon Road, Suite 100  
Rockwall, Texas 75032

### TIME:

6:00pm

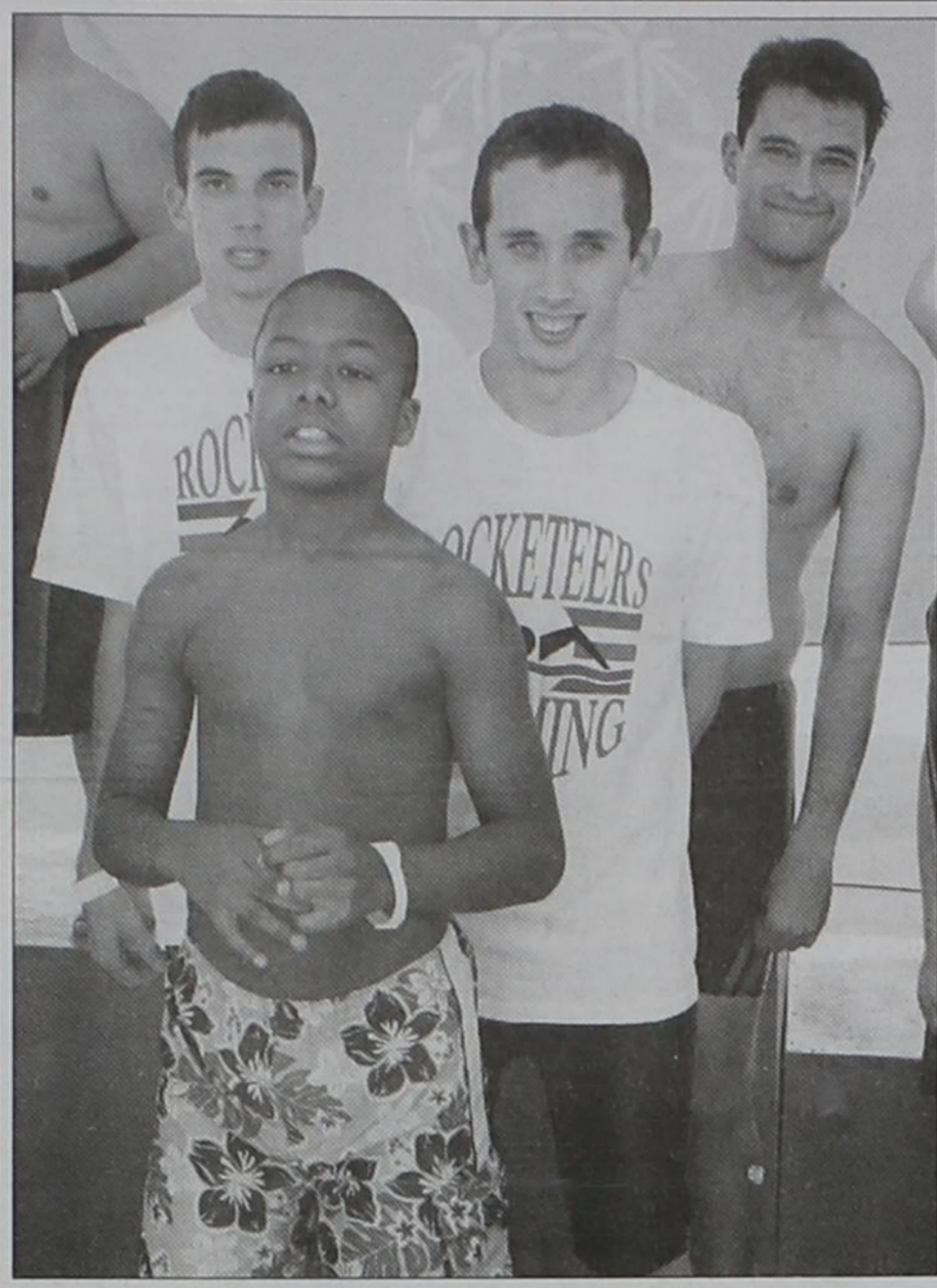
RSVP Today for FREE seminar and/or FREE MRI review at 972.772.9600 ext. 318



You **MUST** reserve your spot for a **FREE MRI Review** or to attend the **FREE Seminar** at: 972.772.9600, ext. 318  
Please visit: [www.spineteamtexas.com](http://www.spineteamtexas.com) for more information about neck and back pain.

## Rockwall Special Olympians shine at Fall Classic

Two teams from the Rockwall area competed the weekend of Oct. 23-25 in the Special Olympics Fall Classic at Texas A&M, bringing home medals of all colors. Members of the Rockwall Rocketeers Swim Team, winners of the Gold medal in the 4 x 50 freestyle relay, were Scott Wendt, Jordan Paul, Cole Randolph and Daniel Hettinger. At the swim meet, Wendt won three gold medals and one silver; Hettinger won one gold, two silver and one bronze medal; Randolph won three gold and one bronze medal and Paul brought home one gold, one silver, one fourth place and one fifth place. Andrew Sauerwein, who is not pictured, swam for one bronze medal. The team is coached by Christy Wendt, with Assistant Coach John Michael Baker.



The bocce team returned from College Station with three Gold and one Silver medals. All four players had excellent matches during the tournament. Members of the bocce team were Jason Edwards, Jamie Wylie, Lenard Davis and Matthew Bendorf. The more than 1,400 Special Olympians competed in aquatics, bocce, golf, softball and triathlon at the Fall Classic. Events took place on the Texas A&M campus and in the cities of College Station and Bryan. Olympians also took part in the traditional Opening Ceremony, complete with Parade of Athletes, Athlete Oath and lighting of the Special Olympics torch. A Victory Dance took place after the opening ceremonies.

Submitted by Jerry Fisher/Rockwall County News

## 4-H youth team penning and ranch sorting clinic coming Dec. 19

A variety of offerings are on slate at the 2009 Annual Bar S Arena 4-H Youth Team Penning and Ranch Sorting Clinic set for Saturday, Dec. 19. Whether you are new to penning/sorting or are an old hand, this is the must attend working-cow seminar of the year.

**Team Penning:** Cattle are numbered in groups of three and are herded to one end of the arena. Teams of three riders cross a start line as the announcer calls out a number. The team then separates those three numbered cattle from the herd, pushes them to the other end of the arena and herds them into a small square pen. The team with the fastest time wins.

**2-Man Ranch Sorting:** Two round pens are connected with a 12'-16' opening between them. Twelve head of cattle are in one pen numbered 0-9 and two are "no tags." Within a specified time, the two riders must move the cattle from one pen to the other in numerical order. If any numbered animal touches the line at the gate out of numerical order, a

"no tag" touches the gate or any animal returns from the other pen, the team is disqualified. The team with the most cattle moved to the opposite pen in the fastest time wins.

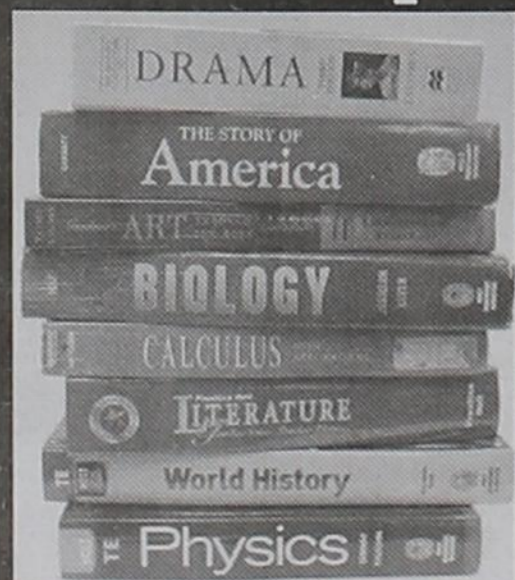
The goal of this educational event is to have horse and rider learn to work as a team with others and feel comfortable in their abilities working cattle. Topics to be covered include basic rules of team penning and ranch sorting, learning to work cattle on foot by controlling rather than chasing cows, teaching your horse how to respond when working a cow, positioning your horse to turn and move cattle where you choose, working with other riders, learning where to position each rider, what to do when things go wrong or right and most importantly, working together as a team.

This clinic is open to all 4-H, FFA and interested youth riders ages 9-18. The cost is \$50 per youth and \$100 per adult. There are a limited number of horses available to rent for \$25 per horse. The Bar S Arena has indoor and outdoor riding ven-

ues, therefore the event will proceed rain or shine. The clinic will begin promptly at 9 a.m. and conclude around 5 p.m., with a short break for lunch. Reservations are highly recommended, as this tends to be a very popular event. Please contact the Bar S Arena at 972-636-1422 or sykes@barsarena.com for more information.

[www.rockwallcountynews.com](http://www.rockwallcountynews.com)

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## McLendon-Chisholm still unsure about agreement on Koch Property

by Jo Anna Matejka

In hashing out a developer's agreement with United Engineering Group over 1200-acres known as the Koch property, members of the McLendon-Chisholm city council have struggled with numerous unanswered questions about utility service and population density for months and tabled that discussion at their regular meeting this week.

At issue was whether the city can include the development in an access agreement for use of its sewer-trunk line shared with Forney, Heath

and Rockwall.

The city has already negotiated access to that trunk with developers of the Triple Creek and Sonoma Verde properties.

According to city manager Dave Butler, considering the final-20-year-projected build out of the Koch development along with other developments already promised access by the city the trunk capacity would be close to tapped.

"You can sewer all three [developments] and maybe a Brookshire's, but that's it," Butler said. "These

numbers are at build-out

knows when that will be. With that in mind, council members questioned whether to put other, lagging development notice that trunk capacity be available as other development's sewer need fill-out more quickly.

The city and Koch developers have already the use of on-site facility development's sewer need.

"I still feel I don't have information to make a council member Patrick

## Group seeks application for Richardson Award

Soroptimist International of Rockwall, a volunteer organization for professional women and businesswomen, is accepting applications through Dec. 1 for the club's Violet Richardson Award.

The \$1,000 award is named for the president of the first Soroptimist Club who was committed to helping young girls and dedicated to volunteer action.

Applicants must be female, between the ages of 14 and 17, and volunteer in their community or school. Each applicant should demonstrate initiative in both identifying a problem and working to resolve it; she should "see challenges instead of obstacles and believe in the power of volunteer action," according to the club's news release. "Whether these efforts are fighting against

drugs, crime and violence, or being up the environment to end discrimination, they are actions that make a difference in the world in which to live."

For more details or application, contact Lesa lesacwalker@yahoo.com or 972-965-9819.

## Rockwall Trade Days: Bringing Economics to Life at Cullins-Lake Pointe

Do you enjoy going to First Monday Trade Days at Canton? Do you look forward to making choices about what you are going to buy when you go shopping at the mall? The third grade students at Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary School will get to do just that and more as they watch economics come to life by engaging in the hands-on activities of running a business at the Rockwall Trade Days. Every student will participate in the opening, operating and advertising of a classroom store.

Shops will include Beverage Stand, Snack Shop, Creative Artistry, Greeting Card Shop, Board Game Hall and Trash to Treasures. These shops will provide the opportunity for students to have real world experiences with concepts such as goods, services, profit, loss, free market and many more. Classrooms will be split into groups so that all children have time to work at their stores and also visit each Trade Days booth. Money will be earned for spending at the booths by using Microsoft Publisher

to make cards for the Gift Shop and store business by creating Movie Make-cials to advertise their booth. Other third grade classes completing engaging activities out the unit; and by working assigned shifts at their booths. The third grade received a grant in the amount of \$1,452.01 from the Rockwall Education Foundation to fund the project.



Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary School Third Grade Teachers are (left to right) Joyce Horton, Angela Born, Principal Cory White, Chelsea Worrell, Tracy Harmon and Kimberly Kern.

Photo Courtesy of Debra Tuttle, A/P Secretary, C-LP/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall RACE swimmers place well in first meet

The new USA Rockwall RACE club swim team swam their first short-course meet at the "A" ATAC Your Times Short Course Invitational in Southlake on Nov. 6-8. Head coach Neil Walker, along with assistant coach, Tom Applegate, were on hand to coach the A-level swimmers at the meet.

In the 15 & Over Boys Division, Sean Eldridge, 16, dropped five seconds on his 500-yard free to log 5:19.76, and dropped seven seconds on his 400-yard Individual Medley, coming in at 4:51.09, for two 15th-place finishes at the Friday night events.

The high schoolers swam a UIL high school meet on Saturday at the Rockwall Aquatics Center.

On Sunday, Jonathan Walters, 17, finished 5th in his specialty, the 200-yard breaststroke, with a time of 2:22.32 and finished 23rd in the 100-yard butterfly in 59.51.

Coral Davenport, 18, swam the 100 backstroke in 1:05.57 for 19th place, a 20th place 100 fly in 1:05.20, and the 200 free in 2:09.42 for 34th place in the Girls 15 & Over category on Sunday.

William Rapp, 12, swam all three days and had two 1st place finishes in the 11-12 Boys 50 free, 25.54 and the 100 free, 56.18. He finished 2nd in the 50 backstroke with 31.14, and the 100 IM at 1:05.76. In the 200 back, he finished 3rd with a 2:18.78. He had two 5th place finishes in the 200 free, 2:06.27 and the 100 back, 1:06.40. He swam a 5:11.06 in the 400 IM to finish 6th and swam to a 9th place finish in the 200 IM with a 2:30.64.

Claire Walters, 14, swam personal best times in almost every event on Saturday and Sunday and finished with two 4th places in the 13-14 girls 100-yard free with a time of 56.71 and the 200-yard fly, clocking a 2:21.02. She finished 15th in the 200-yard free, 2:05.69.

Brooke Arnold, 10, took off a full minute in the 10 & Under 500 free for a 15th-place finish in 6:52.29 on Friday evening. She finished 7th in the 50 fly with 33.86, 12th place in the 50 free, 31.33, and 13th place in the 100 IM, 1:21.07.

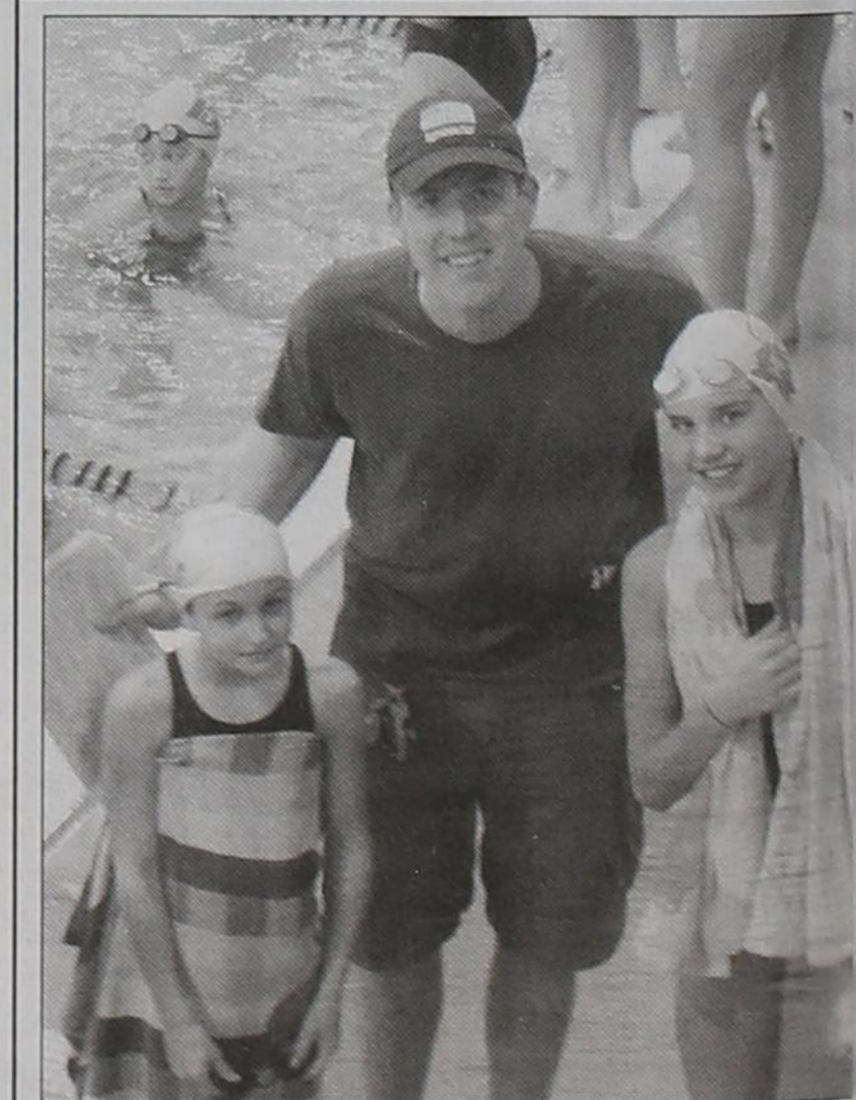
Rachel Hyvl, 10, finished in 13th place on the 50 fly, 35.48, and 15th place in the 50 back, 37.63, as the highlights to her weekend.

Raena Eldridge, 13, swam the 400 IM in 5:09.17 for 12th place in the girls 13-14 division on Friday evening. She finished 8th in the 50 free with a time of 26.41, 14th in the 200 back, 2:21.14. She finished 20th and 21st in the 100 free, 59.06 and 200 IM, 2:26.71 on Saturday. On Sunday, she competed in a Rockwall Tridents water polo competition in Denton.

Justin Tokuz, 14, swam for 10th place in the 200 back 2:22.35, dropped

five seconds to place 13th in the 100-yard backstroke with a personal best time of 1:03.80, and 22nd in the 100 free in 56.92, in the boys 11-12 division.

Emily Manly, 11, finished 13th in the 100-yard Individual Medley with a personal best time of 1:11.35, 24th in the 200 back 2:34.65, and 25th in the 200 free, 2:18.25, in the girls 11-12 division.



USA Rockwall RACE swim team head coach Neil Walker is shown with swimmers (left) Brooke Arnold and (right) Emily Manly.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

# Royse City News

## Credit Recovery: A Technology-Based Intervention for At-Risk Students

intervention program, in the credit recovery program Browning Alternative Center, has been implemented at Royse City High School. The program is based on self-paced, delivered instruction using Advanced Learning System to enhance students' learning.

is an intensive program to regain lost credits and accelerate the earning of remaining credits toward graduation. It is a highly focused program that is strongly goal directed with a continuous emphasis on graduation. Students who enroll in the A+ program are in danger of not graduating on time for a variety of reasons. These students may fit one or more of the following descriptions:

Senior at Risk, Transfer from another state (criteria), Truancy case, Visual learner, Low academic achievers.

**Organization and Administration**  
The A+ program is a school within a school at RCHS. It consists of two classrooms with 24 computers in each room. The program forms a smaller learning community within RCHS. The staff ratio is planned at approximately 20 to 1 with a core teacher, in each respective subject. The program emphasizes personal responsibility and is fair but uncompromising in its requirements.

Students are referred to the A+ program by the school counselors, based on student progress in their core subjects.

**Service Delivery/Instruction**  
All of the students' courses are delivered through instructional technology in the form of the A+Software from The American Education Corporation. The instructional staff provides mentoring support as the student works through lessons delivered on the computer. Students know and understand the objectives of the program: to learn, to pass the state required exit examination, and to earn credits to graduate. The learning is self-paced. Students understand that when they complete a course, they receive credit for that course (no higher than a 70) unless a student is a transfer from another state or from a home school situation, and they move on to the next course. So, feedback and reinforcement (earning the credit) is immediate. Students attend the program from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. (breakfast hour) or 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (twilight hour)

**Instructional Content/Curriculum**  
As noted above, The American Education Corporation delivers instruction primarily through the A+Software. It provides a complete range of high school level courses in the four main subjects: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The software is characterized by direct instruction that

is clear, uncluttered, and highly focused. It provides immediate feedback as students are learning the material and provides a comprehensive management system so that instructional staff can use data to inform instruction and make individualized modifications to student assignments as needed.

Finally, the students are encouraged to take notes as they take lessons using the A+Software. There are two reasons for this practice. First, it appears that students who take notes while they are learning are more efficient and have better retention of what they have learned. The second, the student who takes courses in a standard education environment will be better prepared to be successful in that learning environment.

In short, the entire approach of the A+ program is to teach students to be learners and help them acquire the skills to be successful in life.

**Statistics for the program:**  
Active students enrolled (some in more than one course): 63  
Electives (Economics): 1  
Language Arts: 9  
Mathematics: 46  
Social Studies: 2  
Sciences: 5  
Total number of students completing credit for 1st weeks: 54



Royse City Police Officer Michael Baley, who served in the National Guard and was deployed from D-FW Airport last year, took advantage of the airport's United Through Reading program before leaving the country to record himself reading a book to his son, shown here with him picking his favorite from the many titles.

Photo Courtesy of Michael Baley/Rockwall County News

## Military personnel and families 'United Through Reading'

Contributed by Debra George Librarian, Davis Elementary School Royse City school librarian Debra

George recently discovered the United Through Reading program during a trip to Dallas-Fort Worth Airport to help feed the troops that were deploying that day. The USO's event coordinator at the airport told her about a special reading room set up at the airport with decorations and recording booths. Each service member that has a child/children can go in, select a book for each child, and then record themselves on a video DVD reading the book to their child. The book and DVD are then sent to the child.

As a librarian, George said she was totally intrigued by the program. Not only does it encourage reading and the love of reading, but it also provides the children of service men and women a wonderful gift – the ability to see their parents every day while they are gone. Letters from parents who remain behind are filled with gratitude for these DVDs and books. It means so much to them as well as the children. Just to be able to see their parent talking and reading is a true blessing.

Currently, the USO is deploying approximately 400 troops a month, which requires the organization to gather as many new children's books as possible. Sue Clayton, librarian at Royse City's C.F. Goodwin Public Library, along with the Friends of the Library are helping to advertise for this project, and several of the school librarians in the Royse City ISD are also sponsoring events to gather books. Anyone interested in supporting this project can bring a children's book to either the C.F. Goodwin Library, Davis Elementary, Scott Elementary, Fort Elementary, Vernon Elementary or Ruth Cherry Intermediate School. Monetary donations will also be accepted at Davis Elementary for the purchase of books. Checks should be made out to Davis Elementary in order for the librarian to purchase books at a discount price.

## Chamber, Main Street planning holiday events

The Royse City Chamber of Commerce and the Royse City Main Street program will co-sponsor the annual Nighttime Christmas Parade and Festivities on Dec. 12.

During the day, vendors will be invited to set up along Main Street while Santa greets visitors and Mrs. Claus reads stories to children. Local businesses also will offer yuletide refreshments and specials throughout the day and into the evening.

For more information on vendor space, e-mail Kari Hollifield, Main Street director, at edcassistant@roysecity.com. Contact Kate Tyre, parade chair, at irishkatetx@att.net for details on the parade.

For more information on the event as a whole, visit roysecitychamber.com.



Vernon Elementary School in Royse City had a couple of very special visitors on Friday, Nov. 13, as Two Fairy Special People rolled a cart filled with snacks around the campus to give staff a special treat and let them know they are appreciated. The Fairy Special People were Assistant Principal Shannon Hayes and Counselor Tonya Hodges. Shown is Fairy Special Person Shannon Hayes, Assistant Principal, delivering treats to the Fairy Special Staff at Vernon.

Mechele Buckels, Campus Technologist/Campus Webmaster Rockwall County News



Teams from various cities in the East Region gathered to enhance and improve their Destination Imagination skills on Saturday, Nov. 14 at Royse City's Vernon Elementary School. Two hundred and fifty-eight students participated in sessions designed to give them tips regarding make up, costumes, props, script building and team building. DI teams work hard during the year to complete a challenge, which can require technical skills, theatrical presentations, building skills and real world problem solving. Each team will compete at the Regional Competition on Feb. 27, 2010, at Mesquite's Potet High. Royse City ISD has 44 teams that will participate in the competition. Competitions are held at three different levels: Regional, State, and Global, which is held at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Photo Courtesy of Jo Nell Melody/Rockwall County News



Girl Scout Service Unit 170 performed the flag ceremony at the Soroptimists' meeting with guests Congressman Ralph Hall, Governor Diane Dewey and Rockwall Mayor Bill Cecil. Junior Troop 2890 was represented by Sara Brandow and Brownie Troop 8977 was represented by Ana Wallace. The girls were nervous in the beginning but after meeting some of the Soroptimist members, who were so nice to them, and rehearsing, they had fun and didn't want to leave.

Photo Courtesy of Ami Brandow/Rockwall County News

## RCHS Theatre Company presents "You Can't Take With You" Dec. 3-4

Royse City High School Theatre Company presents its first production, "You Can't Take it With You," on Thursday, Dec. 3 and Friday, Dec. 4 at the school's Fine Arts Center. Showtime both nights is at 7 p.m. This year this Pulitzer Prize winning comedy is one of the most produced by high school and community theatre groups. Each performance is approximately 90 minutes, with one 10-minute intermission. Tickets will be \$2 for students and \$4 for adults. This timeless classic from the Golden Age of Broadway is sure to entertain the entire family this season – make plans to attend!



Royse City High School Interact Club President Brittany Rogge, center, received the Club's charter from Interact Sponsor Rebecca Wallace and Royse City ISD Superintendent Randy Hancock, right. She is also a Rotary member. The Royse City Early Bird Rotary Club held a Charter Banquet for the Interact Club and presented the students with their official Rotary banner, gavel and bell. Interact officers were installed and each member received their membership pin.

Photo Courtesy of Jo Nell Melody/Rockwall County News



Members of the Rockwall High School and Rockwall-Heath High School Family, Career, Community, Leaders of America chapters met in a joint leadership workshop in October. Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

## Rockwall high school leaders come together for joint leadership workshop

The Family, Career, Community, Leaders of America chapters of Rockwall-Heath High School and Rockwall High School came together on Friday, Oct. 23, for the second annual Fall Leadership Workshop. Chapter Presidents Kameron

Svoboda and Emily Irvine organized and implemented the workshop for their peers to become more involved in FCCLA. The ladies spoke about the importance of volunteering and being involved in our community.

Jeff Bailey, Rockwall ISD Deputy Superintendent, greeted the 250 students that attended the meeting on behalf of RISD administration. The students were then divided into five rotating break out sessions. The sessions were designed to meet the needs of the students' futures.

Dr. Leta Durrett, CTE coordinator for RISD, presented a breakout session called, "The Future of Learning." In this session, students were able to learn about high demand careers. Dr. Nabi, a member of the RISD Career and Technology Advisory Council, presented a breakout session on "Money Matters," where students learned about investing and saving money. Dr. Joan Terry, Assistant Superintendent of Rockwall ISD's Department of Policy, Planning, and Research, presented a session on "Etiquette."

FCCLA Star Events was presented by Rowlett High School members to teach RISD members about FCCLA competition. Chef Cody Hayes from the Rockwall High School Culinary program presented "Teas & Scones," and Zach Leuer, Mitchel Howell, and Austin James from the Rockwall-Heath High School Chapter organized a "Team Building" session to teach students to work together and communicate effectively.

RHHS Student Alexa Morton said, "The FCCLA Fall Leadership Workshop was a fun way to learn about the purpose and goals of the FCCLA organization."

## Community Notes

### Habitat returning to Royse City

Habitat for Humanity is in need of families, businesses or organizations interested in providing lunches, breakfast or bottled water, sports drinks or sodas for volunteer workers. Food is needed for 20 to 40 workers, depending on the workload, on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Construction will run through March 2010. For more details call Mike Humphrey at 972-978-4143 or e-mail volunteer.coordinator@yahoo.com.

### Library collecting items for food bank

The Rockwall County Library is working in conjunction with Helping Hands to collect food for the North Texas Food Bank. Non-perishable food items may be dropped off in the box near the library's information desk.

### Health Center seeks volunteers

The Health Center of Helping Hands is in need of volunteers, including bilingual volunteers, to help answer phones and handle filing. The Health Center offers quality health services to those with Medicaid, Medicare and no insurance coverage or deductibles they cannot afford. Nurse practitioners, along with volunteer doctors, provide time and services. The program is designed not to compete with doctors, but help those who cannot afford routine healthcare. For more details call 972-772-8194.

### Boys, Girls Club needs volunteers

The Rockwall County Boys and Girls Club needs volunteers and office help. Applications and resumes are being accepted from individuals interested in serving on the organization's board of directors. For information contact Brenda Keilers, 214-500-6332.

### Food Pantry needs items

The Helping Hands Food Pantry has a shortage of staple food items: oil, flour, peanut butter, jelly, sugar and canned goods. Items may be dropped at Helping Hands' Building A on Williams Street or the Rockwall County Library food drive box in the lobby.

### DAR selling pecans for fundraiser

The Rock Wall Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution is selling one-pound packages of Texas Durham-Ellis pecans as a fundraiser. Whole pecans and pecan pieces are available at a cost of \$8 per package. Money raised will be used in the DAR's scholarship fund. Each year the chapter gives a \$1,000 scholarship to a student selected from area high schools. Contact Faye Heil at fsheil2004@sbcglobal.net or call 972-771-3033 to place an order.

## Rockwall County Responders

### Royse City Police Blotter

Nov. 6-12

• Friday, 6 Nov: Welfare check, 700 block Meadowdale Lane; theft, 900 block W. I-30; alarm, 1400 block W. Main Street; criminal mischief, 300 block Charles Street; suspicious activity, 1700 block E. Main Street; reckless driver, 100 block W. I-30; Reckless driver, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; accident, 2800 block FM 1138

• Saturday, 7 Nov: Theft, 300 block Cookston Lane; criminal trespass, 400 block E. I-30; medical assistance, 200 block Lynn Street; criminal trespass, 1400 block N. Josephine Street; medical assistance, 1500 block Redman Drive; burglary, 200 block Texoma Court; medical assistance, 800 block E. Old Greenville Road; noise disturbance, 500 block Timberhaven Trail; suspicious person, 900 block W. I-30 SSR

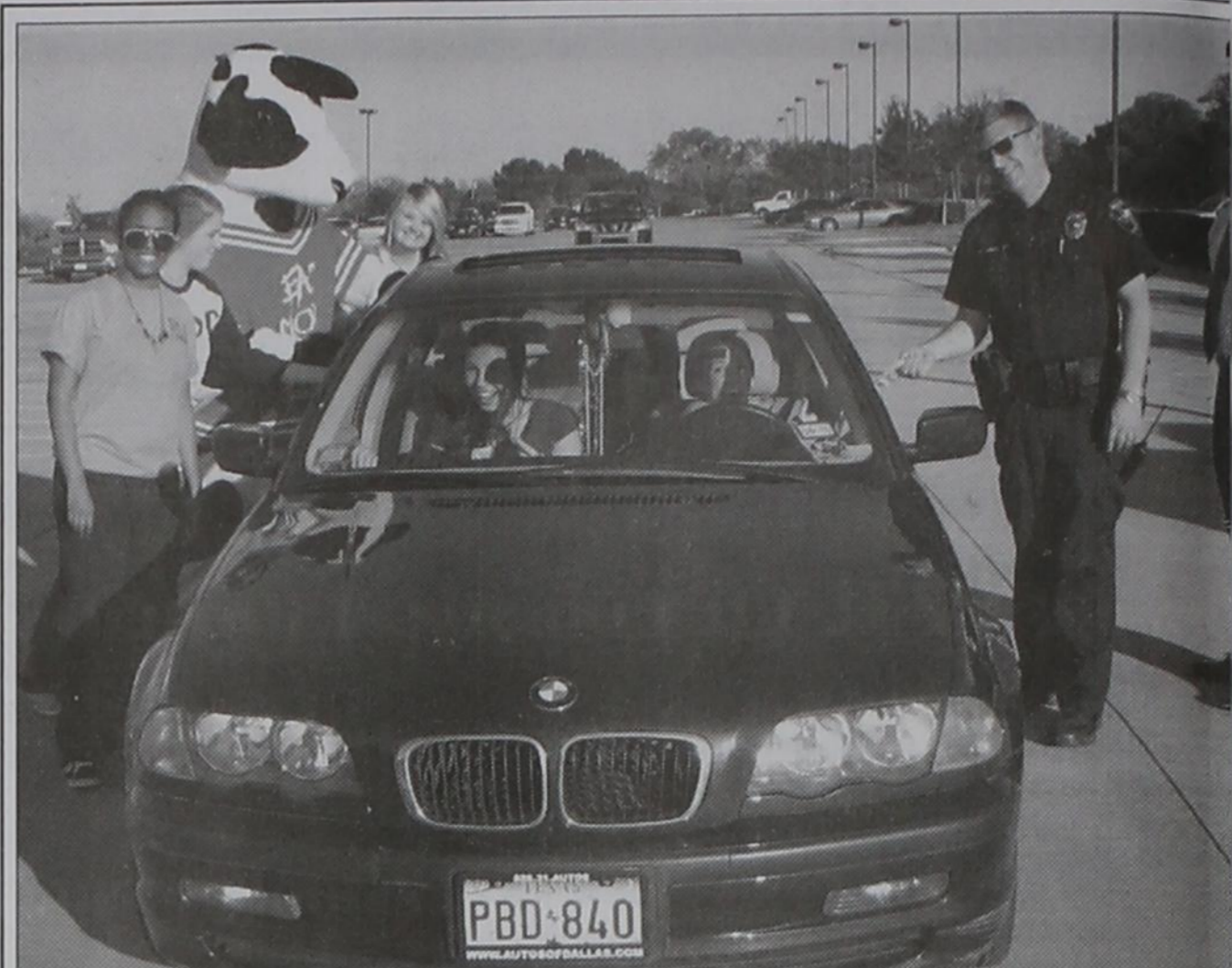
• Sunday, 8 Nov: Welfare check, 2500 block Marsha Lane; suspicious person, 1700 block FM 2642; criminal trespass, 200 block W. I-30 SSR; domestic disturbance, 1600 block Bob Drive; public intoxication arrest, 100 block I-30 SSR; drug paraphernalia/public intoxication arrest, 100 block I-30 NSR

• Monday, 9 Nov: Reckless driver, I-30 near the 79 mile marker; alarm, 1500 block Sam Circle; verbal disturbance, 1200 block Mexia Court; welfare check, 2500 block FM 35; suspicious person, 1500 block Redman Drive; alarm, 200 block E. Main Street; alarm, 1500 block Sam Circle; verbal disturbance, 100 block E. I-30; suspicious activity, 600 block Preston Drive; burglary of motor vehicle, 300 block Autumn Trail; suspicious activity, 1000 block Pullen Street; marijuana possession/public intoxication arrest, 200 block College Street; theft, 1300 block Texoma Court

• Tuesday, 10 Nov: Criminal mischief, 500 block I-30 NSR; suspicious activity, Circle Lane; suspicious activity, 1100 block Autumn Trail; noise disturbance, 400 block Autumn Trail; public intoxication arrest, 800 block N. Josephine Street; assault, 700 block S. FM 2642; Collin County warrant arrest, FM 548

• Wednesday, 11 Nov: Criminal trespass, 900 block Live Oak Street; suspicious person, I-30 at the 78 mile marker; reckless driver, I-30 at the 77A mile marker; alarm, 100 block W. Main Street; domestic disturbance, 400 block Briar Oaks Drive

• Thursday, 12 Nov: Medical assistance, 1700 block Sam Circle; suspicious person, 100 block I-30 NSR; medical assistance, 1000 block I-30 NSR; burglary of motor vehicle, 400 block Welch Road; burglary of motor vehicle, 500 block Welch Road



Pictured are Rockwall-Heath High students receiving recognition for wearing their seatbelts while driving. The Rockwall-Heath High School Family, Career, Community Leaders of America group the Heath Police partnered with the Rockwall Chick-fil-A to organize the Teens in the Driver's Seat program at the school. Pictured from the left are Yodit Zelelew, Jenni Hunt, the Chick-fil-A manager Tiler Bates; in the vehicle, Kirstin Hill, Erin Shaw and Amanda Davis; and at right, Officer Mike Heath of the Heath Police Department and Tim Moseley, owner/operator of Chick-fil-A. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Dobbs fifth grade students Kevin Fragoso, bottom left; Zola Bell, bottom right; Citlalli Gonzalez, left; and Ally Deitelbaum are shown with replicas of the early English colonies of Jamestown, Roanoke the students created recently for a class. The projects were the culmination of a research unit, "Why Leave England?" Librarian Norma Terrell, who is pictured with the students, worked with teacher Denise Hammond and instructional technologist Lisa Costello guided the group through the lesson, which was designed by Dobbs' fifth grade faculty members. Photo courtesy of Lisa Costello/Rockwall County News

## Lt. Col. Max Corneau is speaker for DAR gathering

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Max Corneau was guest speaker at the Rock Wall Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution National Defense Brunch conducted Saturday.

Members and their guests heard Corneau speak of freedom, nation and duty.

## Heath Holiday Tour of Homes set as RHHS prom fundraiser

The Heath Holiday Tour of Homes will be offered from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – one day only, Dec. 4 – as a fundraiser for the RHHS Senior Class prom and after-prom activities.

Tour locations will be announced closer to the date of the event.

Beth Bailey and Janet Smith are serving as chairpersons.

Advance tickets may be purchased for \$15 apiece beginning Monday through Dec. 3 at Bella's House on the square in Rockwall or at the RHHS front office.

Tickets will cost \$20 at the door.

## Cats available for adoption during ASPCA Senior Pet Month

Camden is an unusual female cat, due to the fact that at least 80% of orange tabby cats are male. This pretty girl was obviously loved during her life as she is very sweet and affectionate with her humans.

She is very laid back and gets along with everyone. She was apparently abandoned in the country, as she came upon a home where many stray cats and dogs find themselves after no one seems to want them any longer. The very nice family that found her provided food and shelter and called rescue to help. When Camden was first received at Feral Friends, she was very thin and frail. Over time with good food, continued shelter and lots of love, she has blossomed into a wonderfully sweet and loving cat who is trusting of humans.

Camden is about 8 years old. She is spayed and front paw declawed. She has been diagnosed with FIV or feline Aids. This is a condition that is only transferred through deep bite wounds from other cats who carry this disease. It is believed that she was infected after being attacked by an infected feral cat after being left to fend for herself. Luckily for Camden, she is expected to live a normal life as long as she is cared for and loved as any cat should be.

Camden would be very happy living with a senior who is home more than not. She will do fine in an apartment situation and as an only cat or with another laid back cat friendly cat. Won't you give Camden a chance? This sweet girl deserves a permanent loving home after all she has been through in her life.

Adoptions held every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at PetSmart in Rowlett, located on Hwy. 66 at Liberty Grove Road, near Super Target, and at the PetSmart in Richardson at Coit & Campbell.

The mission of Feral Friends is to actively assist the community in reducing feline overpopulation. To accomplish this mission, Feral Friends has three vital programs that work in unison to offer assistance to the cats and kittens in the community, Race to Reduce Litters (feral), Rescue and ReHome (Adoption) and Lost Cat Recovery.

Feral Friends is currently looking for volunteers to assist in cage cleaning, kitty laundry, adoptions and fostering. For more information about Feral Friends Community Cat Alliance or to make an online donation, please visit: www.feralfriends.org or email info@heralfriends.org or call 972-671-0429.

He asked that everyone present remember the officers and men of the Fort Hood.

Corneau is a 24-year Army veteran of the Persian Gulf War and other operations in which he piloted a variety of surveillance and reconnaissance airplanes, including the OV-1 Mohawk and RC-12 Guardrail. As a deputy crew commander on the Air Force Joint STARS J-133 aviator and senior space operations officer, he served throughout his career and has flown more than 3,000 hours as a pilot, with more than 200 hours in combat.

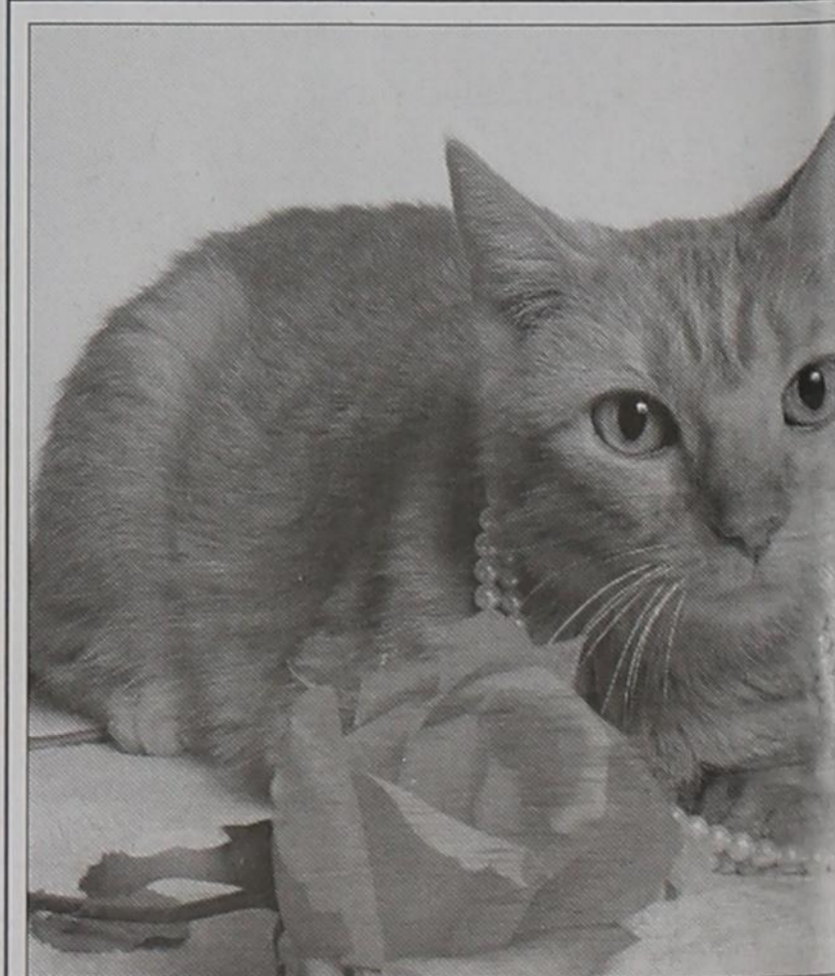
After serving 16 years on active duty, he left the Army and joined the family to Rockwall, becoming one of the first employees of a new defense contractor, ComCept. He returned to active duty after 2001, and served through May of this year as a senior space operations intelligence officer.

Corneau was decorated for actions in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He served in the Pentagon and worked at the highest levels of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, advising the President's National Security Council on matters of space and intelligence. In his last assignment Corneau was senior field representative for one of the agencies in the Nation's Community, opening the agency's first such field office at Fort Worth, one of the nation's largest FBI field offices.

Corneau holds more than 30 awards and decorations including the Medal, Joint Meritorious Service Medal and multiple service medals. He earned the Master Army Aviator Badge, Senior Army Aviator Badge and an Army Parachutist Badge.

Since retirement he returned to ComCept and works as in the defense industry. He is a Master Astronomer and NASA JPL Solar System Ambassador.

For more information about DAR, contact Faye Heil at fsheil2004@sbcglobal.net or visit the national dar.org.



Camden is just one of many older, loveable cats available for adoption through Feral Friends during November's ASPCA Senior Pet Month. Photo Courtesy of Elise Bissell/Rockwall County News



# Rockwall County Sports

## Summit hammers Heritage Christian in playoff game

Bump  
 's playoff game was a  
 than Heritage Christian  
 trip to Leander to play  
 es left Rockwall Friday  
 and apparently left their  
 nd.  
 time they scored, Cedar  
 mit Christian Academy  
 lead. The situation be-  
 a little better after that.  
 Eagles won 56-8 for the  
 if victory in its history.  
 feat came on the heels  
 loss a week earlier in a  
 could have given HCA a  
 e TAPPS 2-1 6-Man title  
 ile Christian, the state's  
 t team.  
 were the same, but  
 all Eagles' play wasn't  
 e to the same in their  
 ss, according to HCA  
 h Robert Huckabee.  
 't say much about the  
 bably because he didn't  
 in good to say.  
 been a little banged  
 e didn't even show up.  
 (Christian) didn't do any-  
 weren't prepared for."

It didn't look that way at Rouse High School in Leander.  
 The Central Texas Eagles might have surprised HCA (4-6) on their first possession, when Jonathan Andrews threw a 47-yard touchdown pass to Devin Cortez. Or possibly on their next possession, when Andrews himself ran 55 yards to score.  
 Such plays soon became commonplace. Summit led 32-0 at the end of the first quarter after Samuel Castello's touchdown passes to Cortez and Andrews, and Cody Meldeu's third and fourth two-point conversion kicks.  
 Heritage Christian's first drive in the second quarter took the Eagles within 25 yards of Summit's end zone, but the other Eagles intercepted Nathan Mateer's pass.  
 Joe McConnell got the ball back on the next play with his own interception. Following two penalties, Austin Pettit ran 21 yards for a touchdown and Aaron Mateer kicked a conversion to pull HCA within 32-8.  
 Any euphoria was short-lived. Eleven seconds later, Castello threw to Cortez for a 49-yard touchdown. Another interception gave Summit

the ball, and on the first play from scrimmage Andrews escaped a tackle in the backfield and went 60 yards for another score.  
 A fourth-down sack ended HCA's next drive, and Summit drove to Castello's third touchdown pass, a 14-yarder to Meldeu 2:03 before halftime.  
 With a 48-point margin, the question wasn't who would win the game but whether it would end at halftime because of six-man football's 45-point mercy rule.  
 Heritage Christian showed some spark, with two pass plays taking the ball in to Summit's 15. From there, Nathan Mateer rolled out and threw into the end zone, but the pass was intercepted.  
 "We turned the ball over and didn't stop them on defense," Huckabee said. Those were understatement. While Summit (9-2) was scoring on seven of eight possessions, HCA was losing the ball on five turnovers.  
 The show still had to go on. But by the time the HCA Rhythm Dancers did their halftime routines to the theme from "Fame," the Eagles' season was up in flames.



Among those finishing the 8th grade boys' cross country race Nov. 10 at Harry Myers Park were (from left) Williams' Spencer McKee, Cain's Ian Zurutuza and the Wildcats' Justin Tokuz (wearing a medal for finishing first), Angelo Arzola, Colt Ramsey and Ben Hill. Tokuz's winning time over the 2-mile course was 12 minutes, 6 seconds.

## Weak offense, Rockwall boys lose opener at Terrell

Bump  
 't worth the wait for the  
 boys' basketball team's  
 game.  
 look has been optimistic  
 year's Yellowjackets dur-  
 ing months since they last  
 floor in a playoff loss to  
 Nine players return from

bound a minute into the game. The Jackets didn't score again until Hunter Jorgensen hit a 3-pointer for a 5-5 tie with 3:09 remaining in the first quarter. Luke Wardell's foul shot and another basket by Jorgensen built Rockwall's three-point lead.  
 The Tigers came out in the second quarter to score eight points in less than two minutes for a 13-8 advantage they never lost. It was 19-14 at halftime and 32-23 after three quarters. Jorgensen scored his game high of 15 points through three quarters, but didn't score after that.  
 "Defensively, we played well. We

gave up 19 points at halftime, and basically 19 in the second half," Simmons said.  
 "In our scrimmages, we scored more in transition, but I don't remember us scoring on a fast break tonight. They got back and did a good job defensively against us.  
 "We're going to play games in the 40s. We're capable defensively of doing that, and until we prove we can score more than that, that's where we'll be."  
 The Jackets will have a chance to score more Friday when they play at North Mesquite at 7:30 p.m. - or at least earlier than 8:48.

## Amarillo Arbor stops Rockwall Christian 41-18 in Bi-District

For 15 minutes, each team neutralized the other's star in an even, scoreless game Saturday night.  
 Then Amarillo Arbor Christian Academy's Tyler Puschman broke through for three second-quarter touchdowns and the Lions went on to a 48-18 Bi-District playoff victory over Rockwall Christian.  
 Puschman intercepted a pass from RCA star Stephan Turner to set up Puschman's 6-yard touchdown run with 8 minutes, 58 seconds remaining in the second quarter. Five minutes later, he took a pass from Sheldon Wilson for a 51-yard score.  
 The Warriors (4-7) cut their deficit to 13-6 on Turner's 43-yard pass to Charlie Wilson 32 seconds before halftime.  
 They didn't get into the locker room down only one score, however. Arbor Christian (6-3) increased its halftime lead to 15 points on a 21-yard Sheldon Wilson-to-

Puschman pass and Puschman's two-point conversion run with time expired.  
 The third quarter brought another three touchdowns by the home team to one for RCA. The Lions' three scores were all on running plays. They finished the game with 290 rushing yards on 43 carries - including 14 carries and 162 yards by Josh Thomason, who scored from 28 yards out in the third quarter and added a 3-yard touchdown run in the fourth.  
 Turner threw 7 yards to Charlie Wilson for the Warriors' third-quarter touchdown. Sherman Peoples ran 32 yards to end the scoring in the third quarter.

Arbor Christian seemed to use the same approach Irving The Highlands had in RCA's final regular-season game: Stop Turner's running.  
 He had a little more success on the ground (19 carries, 99 yards) than he had in the 20-19 win over The Highlands. As a team, the Warriors ran for about 100 yards more in Saturday's game, but Arbor held Turner to about 100 fewer passing yards and intercepted three of his passes.  
 It was mistakes that killed Rockwall Christian's season. The Warriors turned the ball over five times without taking it away from the Lions, and committed 87 yards' worth of penalties.

## Hawks' rally falls short against Grace Prep

A disastrous third quarter put the Rockwall-Heath boys' basketball team behind by seven points entering the final eight minutes Tuesday, and the Hawks lost at home despite a furious fourth-quarter rally.  
 Arlington Grace Prep, a small school with big players, held off R-H 46-44 in the opening game for each team. The 6-foot-3 Jamal Branch led the Lions with 14 points. Rockwall-Heath held 7-footer Isaiah Austin to six points.  
 Senior Preston Wynn led the Hawks' balanced offense with 11 points.  
 The game see-sawed through three quarters. The visitors led 9-5 after the first quarter, but R-H rallied for a 23-19 halftime lead. The Lions then outscored Rockwall-Heath 14-3 in the third period to go ahead 33-26.  
**Jackets alumni lead Midwestern to playoffs**  
 Midwestern State University owes a large portion of this season's football success, which included a berth in the NCAA Division II playoffs, to its Rockwall High School connection.  
 Junior quarterback Zack Eskridge, RHS Class of '06, passed for 3,295 yards and 29 touchdowns in 12 games for the Mustangs (9-3). The transfer from TCU set a Division II record with 24 completions in 25 attempts (96 per cent) against Texas A&M-Kingsville.  
 Many of Eskridge's passes went to his Yellowjackets teammate, senior Andy Tanner. He led MSU in receiving for the second consecutive year with 75 catches for 1,186 yards and 12 touchdowns, and scored a team-leading 76 points. His younger brother, Matt Tanner, caught eight passes for 99 yards. Matt graduated from Rockwall-Heath in 2008.  
 The Mustangs' ground game received a boost from junior Marcus Mathis, RHS '07. He was their second-leading rusher with 480 yards, and scored three touchdowns.  
 Midwestern's defense also had a Rockwall look. Junior Ryan Craven and sophomore Ty Duncan each intercepted a pass, and Craven led the team with 74 tackles.

goal is to give up no more points, and except for some points - at the end, we did not. RHS head coach Alan [unclear] were only 8-for-30 on [unclear] field goals) and 3-for-24 on [unclear] not going to beat anybody like that."  
 [unclear] might have wanted into the stands and call on [unclear] - visiting from Texas [unclear], where he's likely [unclear] as a freshman on the [unclear]. Sandlin, who led the [unclear] Jackets with 19 points per [unclear] watched his brother Blake [unclear] for Rockwall.  
 [unclear] coach said, "Nine guys [unclear], but they're all in differ- [unclear]. We're trying to identify [unclear]. We lost our leading [unclear]. We've got more depth and [unclear] guys who can score. We're [unclear] to shoot like that every

all scored just 8 points [unclear] quarter, but had an 8-5 [unclear] a similarly cold-shooting [unclear] Tigers.  
 er, the Jackets never [unclear] up, and lost going away [unclear]  
 goal is to give up no more [unclear] points, and except for some [unclear] - at the end, we did [unclear] RHS head coach Alan [unclear] were only 8-for-30 on [unclear] field goals) and 3-for-24 on [unclear] not going to beat anybody [unclear] like that."  
 [unclear] might have wanted into the stands and call on [unclear] - visiting from Texas [unclear], where he's likely [unclear] as a freshman on the [unclear]. Sandlin, who led the [unclear] Jackets with 19 points per [unclear] watched his brother Blake [unclear] for Rockwall.  
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## HP, Boyd edge Lady Jackets in Rockwall Invitational

Ariel Tidwell tied for the best score among 63 individuals, which was almost enough to take Rockwall to the team title in Monday's Rockwall Fall Invitational golf tournament at Waterview Golf Club.  
 Sophomore Tidwell shot 82, and was awarded second place behind medalist Chantry McMahan of Kaufman. RHS' A team finished in third place at 360, just two shots behind Highland Park A and McKinney Boyd, which tied for the team title.  
 The Rockwall B team, led by Cindy Cho's 96, finished eighth at 406. Katie Lamond shot 103 to help Rockwall C to a 450 total and 11th place.  
 For the Lady Jackets' A team, Brittany Stansbury tied for sixth individually with 88, and Hayley Bingham tied for 10th at 89. Dana Cappello also scored with 101, and Ashlyn Southerland finished at 107.  
 Backing Cho on the B team were Shelby Vaughn 102, Sara Clark 103 and Danielle Terry 105. Aly Heuer shot 108.  
 The C team's other scorers were India Spencer 109, Emma McPhail 118 and Elise Bentley 120. Mary-Leigh Winkler finished at 121.  
 The Lady Jackets' own tournament concluded their fall season. Coach Matt Claborn had three words for his team: "Great job, ladies!"

The Rockwall-Heath girls' swimming team split dual meets against three opponents Saturday - defeating Rockwall 46-40, tying Frisco Centennial 41-41 and losing to Frisco 63-25 at the Rockwall ISD Aquatics Center.  
 In the boys' swimming event, also hosted by RHHS, the Hawks lost to Frisco 48-38, Centennial 52-34 and Rockwall 58-31.  
 Rockwall-Heath took second place overall in three events. For the girls, Coral Davenport swam the 200-meter individual medley in 2 minutes, 23.97 seconds, and the 200 medley relay team of Morgan Madrid, Jacey Hodan, Davenport and Katie Langdon was the runner-up. The boys' 400 freestyle relay team - Brandon Bamburg, Chris Bowyer, Jack Strickland and Cole Perlitz - finished second in 4:00.02.  
 Finishing third were Davenport in the girls' 100 backstroke (1:05.50), Hodan in the girls' 100 butterfly (1:05.80), Langdon in the girls' 100 free, Breana Williams in the girls' 500 free and Tyler Fasset in the boys' 500 free (5:44.21).  
 The Hawks' fourth places were by Jonathan Sherwin in both the boys' 200 IM (2:23.14) and 100 back (1:09.99), Casey Hamilton in the boys' 200 free (2:08.87), Strickland in the boys' 100 free (58.44) and the boys' 200 freestyle team of Bowyer, Bamburg, Nick Eskalis and Sherwin, who finished in 1:46.91.  
 Davenport, Hodan and Sherwin have achieved individual qualifying times for the TISCA state 5A meet Friday and Saturday at Loos Natatorium in Addison. They will travel to the meet under the guidance of head coach Tommy Sacco.  
 Includes information provided by Jan Miller.

Lady Hawks swimmers defeat RHS, tie Centennial  
 The Rockwall-Heath girls' swimming team split dual meets against three opponents Saturday - defeating Rockwall 46-40, tying Frisco Centennial 41-41 and losing to Frisco 63-25 at the Rockwall ISD Aquatics Center.  
 In the boys' swimming event, also hosted by RHHS, the Hawks lost to Frisco 48-38, Centennial 52-34 and Rockwall 58-31.  
 Rockwall-Heath took second place overall in three events. For the girls, Coral Davenport swam the 200-meter individual medley in 2 minutes, 23.97 seconds, and the 200 medley relay team of Morgan Madrid, Jacey Hodan, Davenport and Katie Langdon was the runner-up. The boys' 400 freestyle relay team - Brandon Bamburg, Chris Bowyer, Jack Strickland and Cole Perlitz - finished second in 4:00.02.  
 Finishing third were Davenport in the girls' 100 backstroke (1:05.50), Hodan in the girls' 100 butterfly (1:05.80), Langdon in the girls' 100 free, Breana Williams in the girls' 500 free and Tyler Fasset in the boys' 500 free (5:44.21).  
 The Hawks' fourth places were by Jonathan Sherwin in both the boys' 200 IM (2:23.14) and 100 back (1:09.99), Casey Hamilton in the boys' 200 free (2:08.87), Strickland in the boys' 100 free (58.44) and the boys' 200 freestyle team of Bowyer, Bamburg, Nick Eskalis and Sherwin, who finished in 1:46.91.  
 Davenport, Hodan and Sherwin have achieved individual qualifying times for the TISCA state 5A meet Friday and Saturday at Loos Natatorium in Addison. They will travel to the meet under the guidance of head coach Tommy Sacco.  
 Includes information provided by Jan Miller.

## Rockwall boys triumph in HP tournament

Rockwall varsity Orange [unclear] team rallied in the second [unclear] knocking 14 strokes off its [unclear] from the first 18 holes, but still [unclear] just 10th in the Highland [unclear] Cup Monday, Nov. 8, at [unclear] Country Club.  
 Yellowjackets had rounds [unclear] and 336 for a 686 total. [unclear], led by Kolton Crawford's [unclear] score of 71-72-143, won [unclear] event at 302-301-603.  
 Manis had Rockwall's best [unclear] 83-80-163, to tie for 35th [unclear] among individuals. The [unclear] other scores were Teal [unclear] 86-81-167, Nick Ziebell [unclear] 77, Tyler Wimpee 105-82- [unclear] Austin Cain 97-94-191. [unclear] as a medalist, Shane [unclear] shot 96-86-182.

Rockwall took a 2-0 lead when [unclear] corner, sophomore center [unclear] Davis, put in his own re-



Todd Franza (33) takes a rebound for the Rockwall-Heath Hawks varsity basketball team in its recent shoutout with Arlington Grace Prep.  
 Staff photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News

## Lady Bulldogs explode in 2nd half for big win

Head coach Dallas Bookout must have given a very inspiring halftime speech to the Royse City girls' basketball team Tuesday night.  
 The Lady Bulldogs were clinging to a 12-11 lead at the time. They left the locker room and outscored Frisco Centennial 21-6 in the third quarter and 17-5 in the fourth for a lopsided 50-22 victory.  
 Sophomore Tayler Young again led RC with 16 points. Senior point guard Maci Newton added 10.  
 The Lady Bulldogs will play at home again Friday at 7:30 p.m. against Lovejoy, which won its first two games.

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# Rockwall County Sports

## RHS boys' swimming team defeats 2 of 3 opponents

Rockwall's boys defeated Rockwall-Heath and Frisco Centennial, but lost by nine points to Frisco on Saturday's quadrangular swimming meet at the Rockwall ISD Aquatics Center.

The RHS girls dropped close decisions to Rockwall-Heath and Centennial, but were further behind Frisco's team.

Rockwall had four first-place finishes.

The boys' 400-meter freestyle relay team of Nathan Eldridge, Sean

Eldridge, Matt Lang and Jared Tokuz won in 3 minutes, 46.43 seconds. The Yellowjackets' best individual event was the 100 backstroke, with Alex Fontenot placing first in 1:01.27 and Jonathan Walters third in 1:04.98. In the 100 free, Sean Eldridge had a first-place time of 56.29 and John Kimmel was 10th in 1:05.01.

The only girls' first place was Mallory Harvey's 59.94 clocking in the 100 free, with teammate Aly Heuer third in 1:02.40.

RHS' five other relay teams all placed third.

The girls' 200 medley relay of Rebekah Yount, Aly Heuer, Shannon Lockhart and Harvey finished in 2:08.02. Their 200 free relay of Harvey, Heuer, Caitlin Williams and Yount had a 1:56.87 clocking, and the 400 free relay of Courtney Bolin, Allison Kimmel, Lockhart and Williams finished in 4:45.39.

For the boys, the 200 medley relay of Fontenot, Nathan Oakes, Walters

and Lang was timed in 1:51.59, and the 200 free relay of Ryan Walters and Nathan Eldridge finished in 1:38.51.

Individual boys' places included Walters' second in the 1:00.80, with teammate Oakes fourth (1:05.75). Oakes also placed fourth (1:12.44), with Nathan Eldridge fourth (1:12.73) in the 100 Tokuz was fifth in the 500 free (5:51.85) and ninth in the 200 free (2:14.96). In the 50 freestyle, Sean Eldridge was third (25.78) and Kimmel 11th (28.44).

For the Lady Jackets, Harvey also placed fifth (27.47) in the 50 free, with Allison Elsey 13th in that event. Lockhart finished third in the 100 breaststroke and fourth in the 500 free (6:15.68). Yount placed sixth in the 100 butterfly (1:15.76), ahead of seventh-place Bolin (1:16.89), and 100 backstroke (1:10.86), with Heuer 1:15.82. Isabeau Vermeir also was sixth in two events, the 200 medley (3:00.45) and 100 breaststroke (1:31.19). In the 200 free, Doyle was eighth (2:41.68) and Williams ninth (2:56.34).

The RHS boys had been undefeated until Texarkana Texas defeated the Yellowjackets and Hawks in a triangular meet Nov. 7 at the Aquatic Center.

Ryan Lang had Rockwall's only first place, finishing the 100 backstroke in 1:01.27. He also had one of the Jackets' 10 third-place finishes in the 100 backstroke (1:01.88).

The only individual second-place finish was by Walters in the 100 backstroke (1:00.80), ahead of Fontenot in third place (1:00.45). Two boys placed second - Fontenot, Oakes, Tokuz and Sean Eldridge in the 100 backstroke, and Walters, Oakes, Matt Lang and Sean Eldridge in the 100 butterfly.

Girls placing third were Harvey in the 50 free (27.08), Heuer in the 100 back (1:09.99) and Lockhart in the 100 breaststroke (1:20.42).

Three RHS relay teams finished third - Yount, Lockhart, Heuer in the girls' 200 medley; Allison Kimmel, Heuer, Vermeir in the girls' 200 free, and Nathan Eldridge, Ryan Lang, John Tokuz in the boys' 200 free.

Having completed seven meets, the Yellowjackets don't have a scheduled meet until Dec. 10. They will be training hard until then at the TISCA state 4A meet, which runs through Dec. 12. The next meet will be Jan. 19 against McKinney.

Includes information provided by Deva Fontenot.



Happy "Sweet 16"  
Brooke Baird  
We are so proud of you and love  
you very much.  
Mom and Dad



Yellow Jackets' Junior Kyle Killion competes in the 100 Breaststroke during the Saturday, November 7 triangular meet against the Heath Hawks and Texarkana, Texas High School.  
Photo by Carol Killion/Rockwall County News



### Dorothy Pryor

Using a cane, Dorothy left the center in just five weeks -- three weeks earlier than expected. Today she is fully mobile and enjoys a full life.

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Wearing gear from the college they'll attend next fall are RHS seniors (from left) Peyton, Missouri-Kansas City basketball; Amanda Harmon, Oklahoma Baptist softball, and Maggie, Notre Dame volleyball. On Wednesday, Nov. 11, they all signed national letters of intent for scholarships for their sport.

Photo Courtesy Rockwall High School/Rockwall County News

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Shelly Scanlon, co-owner of Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory in Rockwall, shows off the chocolate Santa Claus that will be given away in a drawing on Monday, Dec. 21 at the location at The Harbor, Suite 103. To enter the drawing a new toy for the Helping Hands Christmas Toy Drive Chocolate Factory by Dec. 10. The 3-foot, 36 pound made in the store's Durango, Colorado factory - is all milk chocolate. Helping Hands will distribute the donations to low-income families in Rockwall County that qualify for the agency's Christmas program. For more information about the non-profit critical assistance agency, please call 972-771-1100. Stop by the Chocolate Factory to enter the contest and some of their delicious confections.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

# Liberty's win replaces Hawks this year's playoff surprise

**Bump**  
Heath fans sat in the bleachers Friday night. They were in the same place earlier, when the Hawks scored a successful run through the playoffs with a 49-14 blowout of Centennial.

That foreshadowed bigger problems, but there was still no panic. Again the Hawks responded with a tying touchdown. Two long gains on pass plays set up Rodgers' 8-yard scoring pass to Tyler Harding for a 14-14 tie.

Brotzman, whose 37 passes went for 349 yards.  
Moss insisted that Liberty's passing game was not a surprise.  
"We knew they were going to put number 12 (Brotzman) at quarterback, and use 2 (Hill) as a receiver and 1 (Ajayi) as the tailback. We knew number 12 is very talented."  
"We were a little shorthanded, but our kids were doing a great job, the best they can try to cover some receivers."  
Turnovers stopped the Hawks' offense, but Moss said, "I don't want to dwell on that."  
The result was that Liberty, with the first playoff win in its history, is in the position Rockwall-Heath occupied last year.



Rockwall-Heath's Clark Pope (8) is forced out of bounds by Frisco Liberty's Izaiah Robinson (84) at the 4 yard line at the end of a first-quarter 37-yard pass play. Pope's catch and run set up Kevin Rodgers' game-tying touchdown pass to Tyler Harding two plays later.  
Staff photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News

Each Mickey Moss didn't play their hearts wasn't our night." It wasn't began with the opening kick-off by Lawry running for six plays were two passes, a punt, an in-pass by Liberty, Brandon's swing pass that took 34 yards and Jay's 2-yard touchdown run up in a minute and a half into the Redhawks led 7-0. It was just a minor shock.

That confidence level rose exponentially after Drew Baxter's interception led to Rodgers' tying 10-yard touchdown run, and the Hawks' defense forced a punt.  
That confidence was shaken when the Redhawks recovered Lawry's fumble at the RHHS 37 yard line and regained the lead on Ajayi's 5-yard touchdown run.  
Again the Hawks tied the game, on Rodgers' 1-yard scoring run with 3 minutes remaining in the third quarter.  
However, it took Liberty just four plays to regain the lead on Perese Joas' 1-yard run, set up by a 63-yard pass from Brotzman to Brown.  
The Hawks didn't match that score.  
On their next possession, Rodgers threw an interception. They received a break when a bad snap ruined Liberty's field goal attempt, but Rodgers gave the advantage back with another interception. Jake Weddle ran that pick in to the RHHS 9, and Brotzman threw his third touchdown pass on the next play, and the deficit grew to 49-35.  
Next possession for Rockwall-Heath: interception. The game was as good as over then.  
Rodgers accounted for all five Hawks touchdowns, but also for four of the Hawks' five turnovers.  
Instead, the game belonged to

## Ready Lady Hawks defeat Richardson

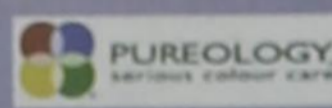
Heath spotted Richardson an 18-13 first-quarter lead, then tightened defense to defeat the Lady Eagles 59-41 in a girls' basketball game Friday night at Richardson.  
The Hawks scored 13 points in each of the first three quarters. At the end of the third quarter, they yielded fewer points to Richardson in each quarter.  
The team still led 27-26 at halftime, but R-H went ahead 39-35 after the third quarter. The Lady Hawks picked up their production in the fourth quarter when they outscored Richardson 20-6.  
Lowrance paced Rockwall-Heath with 21 points.  
The Hawks have a good idea of where it stands among the area's best teams when the Lady Hawks play Thursday-Saturday in the talent tournament.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Heath	13	13	13	20	59
Richardson	18	9	8	6	41

## Rockwall Hawks swimmers defeat RHS, tie Centennial

Rockwall-Heath girls' swim team split dual meets against Centennial Saturday - defeating Centennial 46-40, tying Frisco 41-41 and losing to Richardson 32-25 at the Rockwall ISD Center.  
The boys' swimming event, hosted by RHHS, the Hawks defeated Frisco 48-38, Centennial 52-40, Rockwall 58-31.  
Heath took second overall in three events. For the boys, Coral Davenport swam the 100-meter individual medley in 1:23.97 seconds, and the boys' relay team of Morgan Jacey Hodan, Davenport and Tyler Fasset in the run.  
The boys' 400 freestyle swim - Brandon Bamburgh, Jack Strickland and Wylitz - finished second in the boys' 400 freestyle.  
The boys' 100 backstroke (1:05.50), the girls' 100 butterfly (1:01.14), Langdon in the girls' 100 freestyle (5:44.21), and Tyler Fasset in the boys' 200 free (5:44.21).  
The boys' fourth places were taken by Sherwin in both the 200 IM (2:23.14) and 100 freestyle (1:09.99), Casey Hamilton in the boys' 200 free (2:08.87), and in the boys' 100 free and the boys' 200 freestyle.  
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travel to the meet under the guidance of head coach Tommy Sacco. Includes information provided by Jan Miller.



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Weldon Collier, his sister Gyrene Randles and niece Carolyn Bryan

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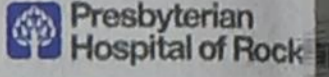
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Recent events have made us realize the high price we must pay for our freedom. The tragic loss of life in Killeen only makes this more evident. Our troops have been putting their lives on the line for each one of us every single day. They not only protect our freedom but they also preserve our way of life, "they keep us in all of our ways."

Today, one soldier in particular is special to our Senior Care Lake Pointe family. US Marine Cpl. Angel Harrison is Head Machine Gunner stationed in Afghanistan. Angel's Mom is Kerry Tibbs a nurse here at Senior Care Lake Pointe. Kerri and the entire team are gathering a good will package for Angel and the fellow marines in his company.

If you would like to help Angel and let him know how much we love and appreciate what he and his unit are doing on our behalf, please bring your items to Senior Care at Lake Pointe 6700 Heritage Pkwy Rowlett Texas, 75087.

The troops need things like baby wipes (in the field they are not always able to take a bath). They also need travel size hygiene items, tooth brushes, toothpaste, etc... They love beef jerky, Vienna sausage in a can, flavor drink packets like Gatorade for water bottles, hard candy, and any kind of snacks that will not melt.

Let's do more than keep Angel in our prayers let's give them the love and support they deserve.



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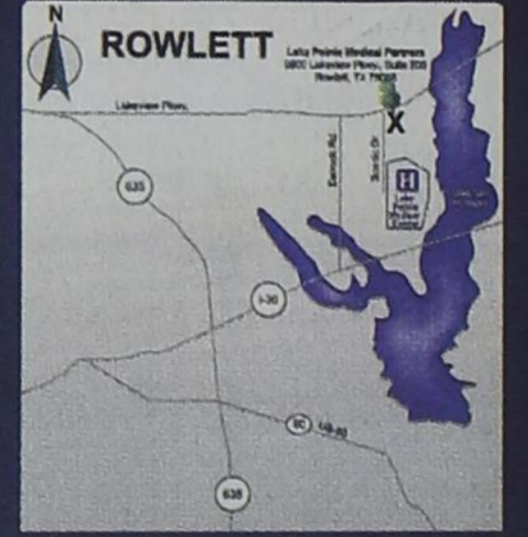
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# On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

## Receive the Holy Ghost...Acts 8:15-17

Week we studied Acts chapter 2 and showed that Peter's statement "receive the gift of the holy ghost" referred to speaking in tongues. The next area that uses the word receive in the context of the gift is found in Acts 8:15-17. "Who when they came down, that they might receive the holy ghost. For as yet he was fallen upon none of them. They were only baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." They were only baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. They were only baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. They were only baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

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When they received (dehomi) God's word about Jesus Christ with a favorable frame of mind they were filled with holy spirit. Then they received (lambano) the holy ghost when they started speaking in tongues. Next week we will look at Acts 10-11 and see clearly how speaking in tongues was directly related to receiving the holy ghost.



# Rockwall County Obituaries

### Gerry Don Boren Sr.

Memorial services for Gerry Don Boren Sr. of Fate were conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009, in the First Baptist Church in Fate. The Heavenly Gate Funeral Services in Garland was in charge of arrangements.

He died Nov. 9.

Born Jan. 16, 1942, he was employed by Oak Farms Dairy of Dallas. He previously had worked for Wonder Bread in Dallas.

Survivors include his soul mate, Gayle Grattan; his parents, Derwood and Louise Boren; his twin brother, Terry Boren, and his wife, Mary; his sister, Sue Lemons; seven children, Gerry Jr., Ricky, Russell, Cherrie, Rodney, Terry (Bubba) and Perry Boren; 19 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Patsy Lovell; his brothers-in-law Don Lovell and Loyd Lemons; and one great-grandson, Adam.

### Bobby Joe Kelley

Services for Bobby Joe Kelley, 56, of Rockwall were conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 16, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Steve Stroope officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He died Nov. 13.

Born July 5, 1953, in Dallas to Laverne Thomas Kelley and Hazel Ludene (Weems) Kelley, he was involved in motocross and motorcycle racing in his early years, once riding all the way to California on a Triumph motorcycle to land a job at a record company. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, boating, skiing, golfing and flying. He earned his private pilot's license and owned several of his own aircraft. His love for planes prompted him to undertake the two-year restoration of a 1958 Aeronca Champion, one of only 25 produced. He attended numerous air shows and entered his retired Champion in several air show competitions.

He worked as a skilled union carpenter, a career that allowed him to showcase his woodworking skills. He started a small commercial cabinet business, fabricating cabinetry for high-end homes and commercial businesses. He later obtained an associate's degree in computer-aided design/engineering. He worked as a project manager, estimator and fabricator.

He was involved in numerous fundraisers, including St. Jude's, the Boo Benefit for burned children in Louisiana and a motorcycle ride he organized to raise funds for breast cancer awareness on behalf of a friend. He was a member of the Rockwall Renegades, a motorcycle group where he was known as Bobcat because he was considered the leader of the pack. He contributed annually to the Dallas Life Foundation where he delivered goods and items personally around Christmastime.

Survivors include his wife, Carol Kelley of Rockwall; one daughter, Delana Brooke Kelley of Garland; his mother, Hazel Kelley of



Midlothian; a brother, Tommy Kelley, and his wife, Claire, of Frisco; his sisters, Shirley Watts and her husband, Mort, of Oklahoma and Carolyn Sink and her husband, Newell, of Midlothian; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis, 1659 Branham Lane, Suite F, No. 227, San Jose, CA 95118-2291.

### Rebeca Maldonado

Services for Rebeca Maldonado, 84, of Rockwall were conducted at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with the Rev. Monsignor Robert M. Coerver officiating. Burial followed in the Rockwall Memorial Cemetery.

She died Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Born Dec. 3, 1924, in Mexico to Alberto and Maria (Garza) Garcia, she lived in Rockwall for 40 years, was a homemaker and a member of the Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church.

Survivors include her children, Magda and Joel Gutierrez of Rockwall, Edith and Hector DeLeon of Rowlett, Mireya Rios of California, Esther and Manuel Martinez of Rowlett, Odeith and Jack Pillow of Rockwall, Roberto and Gerarda Maldonado of Garland, Leticia and Jose Herrera of Rockwall, Carlos and Maria Maldonado of Rockwall, Teresa and Cenovio Ortiz of Rockwall and David and Maribel Maldonado of Rockwall; one sister, Raquel Maldonado and her husband, Humberto, of Monterrey, Mexico; 29 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Carlos Maldonado, and one son, Jesus Maria.

### Ronnie Glen Wood

Services for Ronnie Glen Wood, 64, of Royse City were conducted at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009, in the First Baptist Church in Royse City with the Rev. George McCain officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Royse City was in charge of arrangements.

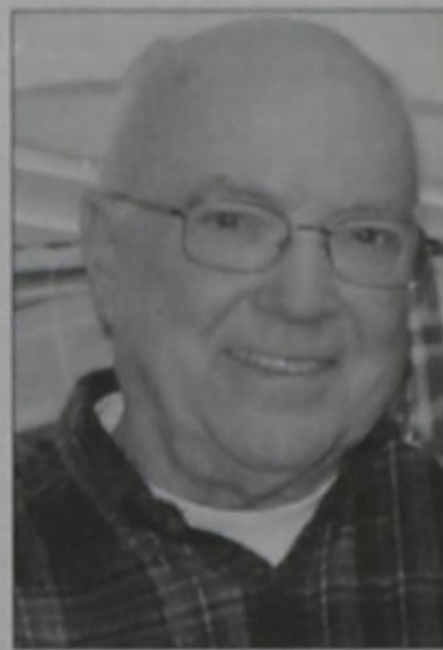
He died Saturday, Nov. 14.

Born July 2, 1945, in Oklahoma City, Okla., to Ernest Ray and Louise Erna (Geiger) Wood, he served in the U.S.

Army and worked as a school principal. He was a mentor for children and enjoyed fishing, watching high school sports and hunting for arrowheads. A member of the First Baptist Church of Royse City, he loved his family and the Lord.

Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Dianne (Hepler) Wood of Royse City; his daughter, Melissa Dianne Olson and her husband, Scott, of Tallahassee, Fla.; one son, Kelly Wayne Wood and his wife, Patricia Ann, of Fort Worth; one sister, Ranette Larsen and her husband, Ron, of Fate; his grandchildren, Madeline Ye Wood, Nathan Joseph Pedneault, William Reese Olson, Teagan Rex Olson and Rebekah Wei Wood; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his grandparents, aunts and uncles.



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 1 Livingston is seat of this county  
 5 actor Ladd of "The Carpetbaggers" with TX Martha Hyer  
 6 Ditka, a Cowboy player & coach  
 7 days before X-mas & New Years day  
 8 zodiac sign of TX born Steve Marth  
 9 Rangers & Astros at the plate  
 16 "Texas Fine Association"  
 18 TXism: "if the saddle paid for" ain't  
 21 "Ah \_\_\_!"  
 22 large coffee makers  
 23 "neither's" sidekick  
 24 TXism: "nervous \_\_\_ in a room of rocking chairs"  
 30 granite pluton in Llano Co. "\_\_\_ Rock"  
 34 elected county crime fighter (abbr.)  
 35 Marcelo drafted by Houston Rockets, but who never played in TX  
 36 "Just Walkin' Out The \_\_\_" by TX Willie Nelson  
 37 rational thought  
 39 TXism for "married woman" (2 wds.)  
 43 a cowboy hat material  
 44 avid fan of "Star Trek" created by TX Gene Roddenberry  
 45 "\_\_\_ way, Jose!"  
 46 Dallas-based "\_\_\_ hound Lines" bus company  
 47 pecan is the state  
 48 Cowboy Herschel won the Heisman in this state (abbr.)  
 50 Mavs, Spurs, & Rockets foe: Los \_\_\_ Lakers  
 53 long-time Speaker of U.S. House, "Mr. Sam" (init.)  
 54 TXism: "good \_\_\_ boy"  
 55 TXism: "\_\_\_ eyeful" (saw a lot)  
 56 across border from Eagle Pass: \_\_\_ Negras  
 59 cow away from the herd  
 60 No. Atlantic fish  
 61 TXism: "it don't \_\_\_ up"  
 62 16-across was founded in honor of this sculptor, Elisabet  
**DOWN**  
 1 actress Tiffin of TX-filmed "State Fair"  
 2 Ranger knuckleball pitcher ('80-'90): Charlie Hough  
 3 in Marion Co.: "\_\_\_ Pines"  
 4 Fairfield FM  
 9 an A&M deg. (abbr.)  
 10 in San Marcos: "\_\_\_ Center"  
 11 TXism: "\_\_\_ about is fair play"  
 12 camping shelter  
 13 artist frames  
 14 founder of TX King Ranch (init.)  
 15 nat'l identifier (abbr.)  
 17 Duval Co. seat  
 19 compounds of iodine & another element  
 20 this TX-born Needham was Lt. Meg Austin in "JAG"  
 24 TXism: "he's big enough to shade \_\_\_ elephant"  
 25 Caesar of "Vegas Vacation" with TX Randy Quaid  
 26 Jim Bowie's Alamo bed (2 wds.)  
 27 legal web site: "Texas \_\_\_ Online"  
 28 actor Eddie in "The Longest Day" with TX Steve Forrest  
 29 TXism: "chin wagger"  
 31 chili \_\_\_ came  
 32 "LaSalle County Wild \_\_\_ Cook Off & Fair"  
 33 this Fairbanks, Jr. was in "Ghost Story" with TX Tim Choate  
 38 this TX Pete was U.S. Sec. of Army  
 40 "\_\_\_ out a living"  
 41 TX is about 257 times bigger than this state (abbr.)  
 42 "Ding \_\_\_ From Dumas"  
 49 ski co. is building the "Texas \_\_\_" in Grapevine  
 51 showing bloodshed  
 52 Hobby & Love abbr.  
 57 "\_\_\_ only get better"  
 58 TX beaches into the Gulf

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## LCC members perform in Gorham-Bell home

Members of the Lakeside Chorus provided an event-filled evening in the home of Shelba Gorham-Bell on

Nov. 8.

The event featured musical performances by Jennifer Sanchez and the hostess, as well

as a silent auction and wine tasting.

Gorham-Bell sang two German art songs and a pair of

songs by American composers Paul Bowles and John Duke. Sanchez sang "Quando m'en vo soletta" from Puccini, La Boheme and "Ah, fors'è lui" from Verdi's La Traviata.

James Williams performed Broadway tunes, including "Ol' Man River," "Somewhere Out There," "I Got Plenty of Nuttin'" from Gershwin's Porgy & Bess and "They Call the Wind Mariah."

As a finale, Williams and Sanchez joined for a duet of "All I Ask of You" from Phantom of the Opera.

Silent auction items included goods donated by Rockwall's Cake Factory, Ava's, Zanata's, Starbucks, Dr. Holly Britt, San Martino Winery, Flower Box, Brinker Corp., Main Street Antiques in Farmersville and Lots of Chocolate. Highest bidders also received a one-week stay at a Costa Rican vacation home; an 1870 pine cabinet; and two stained-glass windows.

Goodies in Dallas donated the wine. Ken Frerichs contributed the food. Proceeds benefited the chorus.

The LCC will present its holiday concert, "Christmas Blessings," at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 6 at the First Christian Church, Rockwall. For more details, visit lakesidecivicchorus.org.



The Lakeside Civic Chorus performed in the home of Shelba Gorham-Bell on Nov. 8. The event featured musical performances by Jennifer Sanchez and the hostess; a silent auction; and wine tasting. Shown at the event are, from the left, LCC director David Bush; LCC accompanist Ken Frerichs; and LCC board president Maurice Thompson.

## RHS Spotlight Productions opens tonight at 7:30 p.m.

The first production of the year by Rockwall High School's Spotlight Productions is a night of Shakespeare offered in most unusual ways. For "The Shakespeare Project," the Spotlight class members have researched, designed, and rehearsed to prepare for the adaptation by James Zager from William Shakespeare, which is a play that consists of monologues, duets, and group scenes spoken in the traditional Shakespearean language but set in contemporary times.

The balcony scene from "Romeo and Juliet" is set as a late-night phone call; the witches from "Macbeth" are bag ladies; the wooing scene from "The Taming of the Shrew" is a wrestling match, with more to provide an evening of enlightenment and entertainment.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, in the RHS Theatre.

Admission is \$5 at the door.

The class/cast includes: Seniors Blair Belt, Arielle Engle, Nicol Kaun, Brittany Kindred, Rachael Teague and Hannah Walker; Junior Kaiti Ahmann, Jack Eidson, Blake Hollowell, Kyla Motley, Dejan Neskovic, Isaac Niems, Emily Ragsdale, Paige Roberts, Roy Samri and Lorenne Tellia, and Sophomores James Hoover, Bryan Oliveiri and Krystal Warren.

Directors are Becky Henderson and Matt Mitchell.

Be sure to also mark your calendars for the following future RHS Theatre Arts events:

- Dec. 5-Ho! Ho! Ho! Christmas Improv Show.
- Jan. 12-Public Performance of Children's Play (TBA) (changes from original date)
- Feb. 4, 5, 6, 7-Winter Production (TBA)
- Feb. 18-Senior Directed Duet Acting Scenes
- March 25-UIL One Act Play Public Performance
- May 15-RHS Theatre Arts Banquet

## Rest Haven Funeral Homes prepare for holiday program with Tree of Remembrance

In its 16th year, the Rest Haven "Tree of Remembrance" offers a special way to recognize personal loss and pay tribute to loved ones. A bare Christmas tree will be placed in the foyer at each of the Rest Haven Funeral Homes located in Rockwall, Rowlett and Royse City. Beginning Monday, Nov. 23 through Monday, Dec. 21, area families are invited to stop by one of the locations, personalize an ornament, and place it on the "Tree of Remembrance." Ornaments will be available for personalizing Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rockwall and Rowlett locations; and at the Royse City Chapel from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. Monday through Friday.

These special commemorative ornaments will adorn the trees in preparation for Rest Haven Funeral Home's annual community-wide holiday music program, "Sounds of the Season." The program will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Rockwall Chapel. This year's musical performance will be presented by The Luckey Family, a very talented local family ensemble including sisters Lisa Brown, Tina Luckey, Lynae Mestellar and mom, Sarah Luckey.

There is no charge and the event will be a special holiday outing for the entire family. Rest Haven Funeral Home Rockwall is located at 2500 State Hwy. 66 East, approximately two miles east of downtown Rockwall. Please call 972-771-8641 for more details.

## Rockwall County Classified Advertising

### Legal Notices

An Original Application has been made for a Private Club Registration Permit for Arboleda's Private Club Inc. d.b.a. Arboledas Mexican Club located at 138 E. Main St. Suite A, Royse City, Rockwall County, Texas

Application made in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

Texas Non-Profit Corporation:

Arturo Santana Vasquez - President / Director  
Virginia May Stephens - Secretary / Director  
Stephanie Renae Hayes - Director

### BILL BELL FAMILY LAW PRACTICE

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- \* Criminal Trial Services
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- \* Durable Power of Attorney (From \$100)
- \* Real Estate Documents (From \$125)
- \* Occupational Driver's License (From \$350 and court costs)

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STATE OF TEXAS

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

County Court At Law (district) OF  
ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: 1-09-678

DEFENDANT: RICKI MILES, ADDRESS UNKNOWN

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If your 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 forty-two (42) days after you were served this, before the Honorable County Court At Law (district) of Rockwall County, Texas, at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road, Suite 209, Rockwall, Texas, a default judgment may be taken against you.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition, at or before ten o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the date of issuance of this Citation, on MONDAY, 21ST DAY OF DECEMBER AT 10: 00 A.M. before the Honorable County Court At Law (district) of Rockwall County, Texas at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road of said County in Rockwall, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition, was filed in said Court on JULY 7, 2009, A.D., in this case numbered 1-09-678 on the docket of said court, and styled, THE AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF TEXAS vs. RICKI MILES AND SHARON MILES.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: SUIT ON NOTE

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT AT Office, this the 9th day of November, 2009.

KAY MCDANIEL, District Clerk  
Rockwall County, Texas  
1101 Ridge Road, Ste. 209  
Rockwall, Texas 75087

By: *Alva Caraway* Deputy  
ALVA CARAWAY

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWSPAPER, 107 E. BOURN AVENUE, P.O. BOX 819.  
ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087 (Newspaper)

Issued at the request of:

David L. Renshaw  
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P.O. BOX 21  
GREENVILLE, TX 75403  
903-454-6050

DEFENDANT

SERVED  
DATE 11-16-09  
TIME 9:10 AM  
BY JMS 523  
DEPUTY SHERIFF

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## Rockwall County News

### 2009 Holiday Schedule

- Wednesday, Nov. 25  
(Deadline Friday, Nov. 20)
- Friday, Dec. 4  
(Deadline Tuesday, Dec. 1)
- Wednesday, Dec. 23  
(Deadline Friday, Dec. 18)
- Thursday, Dec. 31  
(Deadline Monday, Dec. 28)
- Friday, Jan. 8  
(Deadline Monday, Jan. 4)

## Rockwall County News

# In Our Opinion

## Government

### Statistics and Lies

by Ron Paul  
 There has been a lot of talk in Washington recently about senior citizens, mostly about how various healthcare reform models would help or hurt them. But there is another critical issue that has quietly devastated seniors financially over the last few decades. It concerns how the cost of living is calculated. How does the administration justify not giving a cost of living increase to Social Security recipients this year?

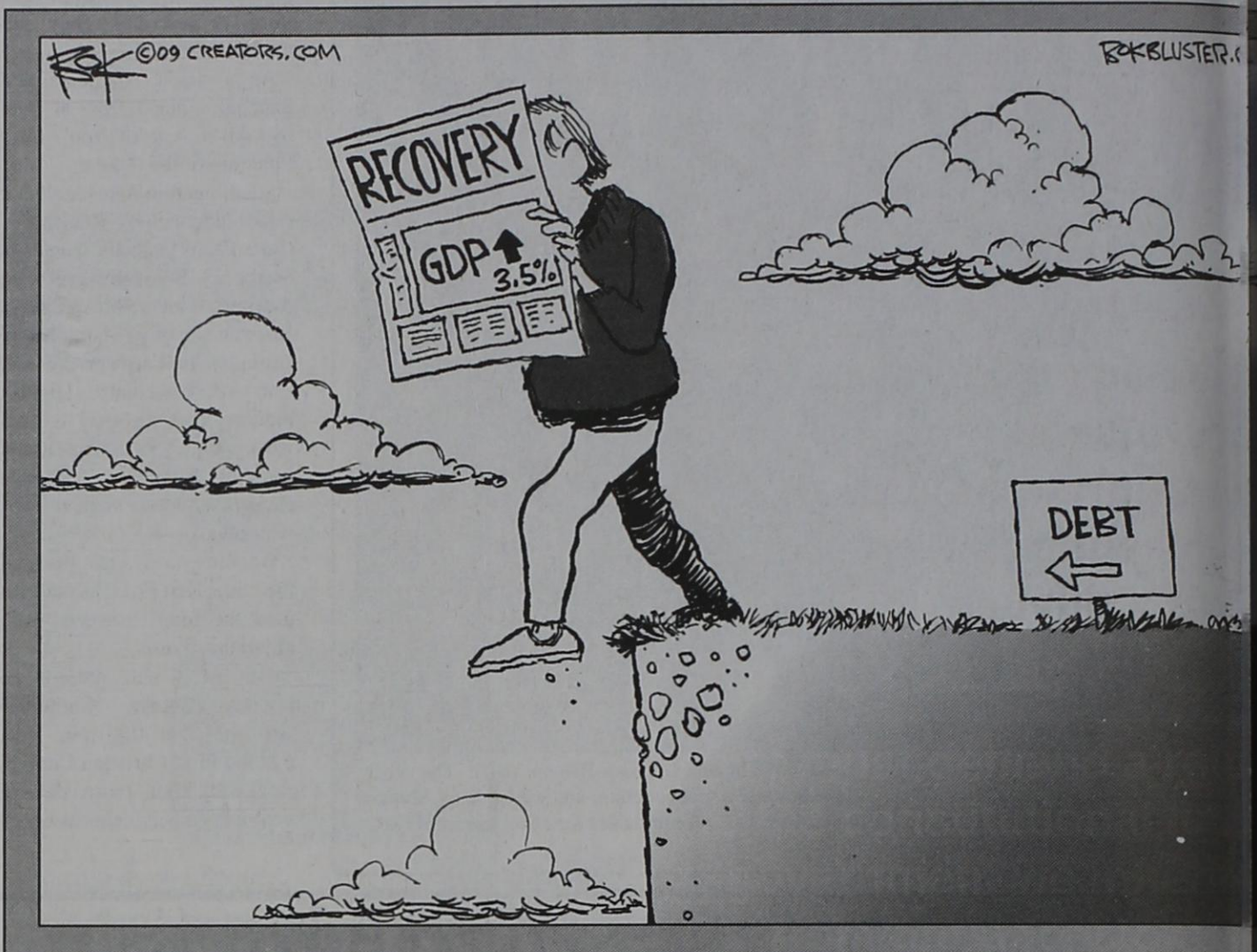
According to the official Consumer Price Index calculation, life has gotten cheaper for the first time in decades. If the government can show statistically that the cost of living has gone down, not up, then they can make the case for not giving a cost of living increase to social security recipients. But does this match reality? Using older calculations of CPI, the cost of living has actually increased - by roughly 5 percent!

The CPI (Consumer Price Index) is a calculation based on the average price of a fixed basket of goods that was initially designed to help businesses adjust for inflation. The government eventually started using it to determine cost of living adjustments for entitlement programs. Couple that with politicians' discovery that they could raid the social security trust fund to pay for new spending programs, and you have a perfect storm to deny seniors what they were promised, while hiding the true size of the deficit. For politicians, it is a win-win.

For seniors, it is a different story. Economist John Williams of Shadow Government Statistics has estimated that if the original methodology of CPI had not changed, Social Security checks would be nearly double what they are today. This represents a lot of money that politicians have been able to literally steal from seniors, to spend on their own wasteful programs. One example of how they do this is to substitute hamburger for steak, which lowers the average price of that basket of goods. But living on hamburger, or maybe dog food, instead of steak does not represent a constant standard of living. This renders the measurement virtually meaningless, even though politically it comes in very handy.

I have introduced legislation to keep politicians in Washington from ever raiding the Social Security trust fund again. HR 219 The Social Security Preservation Act would assure that all monies collected by the Social Security Trust Fund would only be used in payments to beneficiaries, or be placed in interest bearing certificates of deposit. This would at least stop the bleeding of the fund, and take away some incentive to tease and torture the numbers in order to give seniors the minimal amount. This would also cut off a source of funding for government growth, so it is not likely to get easy support from many politicians.

It is bad enough that Washington imposes high payroll taxes on American workers. The least Congress could do is use the tax dollars for their stated purpose. Instead, seniors will have a harder and harder time trying to survive on a fixed income in an economy based on variables and deception. For them, it is too late to start over. Today's young people will be forced to pay into the system for years to come. The first step towards solving the impending crisis facing Social Security is to stop politicians from raiding the trust fund and to significantly cut federal government spending.



## Economic Myths and Irrelevance

by Walter E. Williams  
 Steve H. Hanke is a Professor of Applied Economics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C., and writes frequently for Globe Asia and Forbes magazine. Professor Hanke starts off his "Hu versus Sarkozy" article (Globe Asia, November 2009) with a warning. There is no more reliable rule than the 95 percent rule: 95 percent of what you read about economics and finance is either wrong or irrelevant. The article contrasts the Chinese versus the French responses to the financial crisis but the major focus is on economic myths.

Hanke says that the most repeated statement about the cause of the U.S. Great Depression is that it was caused by the October 1929 stock market crash. How could that be? By April 1930, the stock market had recovered to its pre-crash level. What is not taught in history books is the Great Depression was caused by a massive government failure. The most important part of that failure were the actions by the Federal Reserve Bank that led to the contraction of the money supply by 25 percent. Then, the name of saving jobs, Congress enacted the Smoot-Hawley Act in June 1930, which increased U.S. tariffs by more than 50 percent. Other nations retaliated and world trade collapsed. U.S. unemployment rose from 8 percent in 1930 to 25 percent in 1933. In 1932, the Herbert Hoover administration

and a Democratic Congress imposed the largest tax increase in history, raising the top tax rate on income from 25 percent to 63 percent. The Roosevelt administration followed these deflationary policies with New Deal legislation that massively regulated the economy and extended the Great Depression to after World War II.

Have today's politicians and their economic advisers learned anything from yesteryear's policy that turned what would have been a short, sharp downturn in the economy into a 16-year affair? The answer is very little. Professor Hanke argues that the chief cause of both the Great Depression and our latest economic downturn is the Federal Reserve Bank, who sees itself as America's financial risk regulator. This is the world upside down, Hanke explains. The Federal Reserve is the systemic risk.

How about a bit of history? Between 1787 and 1930, our country has seen both mild and severe economic downturns, so-called Panics, that have ranged from one to seven years. During that interval, there was no thought that Congress or the president should intervene in the economy to enact stimulus packages, jobs programs or massive corporate handouts. Probably, the reason that we thought to do so was that there was no constitutional authority to do so. It took the Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt administrations to massively and unconstitutionally intervene in the economy with the help of a frightened, derelict U.S. Supreme Court. There might have been a two- or three-year sharp downturn into our own Great Depression.

Professor Hanke says that the lesson to be drawn from this cycle history is that, if left to run their natural course, economic downturns are followed by rapid snapbacks. The 1921 recession is a good example where wholesale prices, industrial production and manufacturing employment fell by 30 percent or more and then recovered their low in mid-1921. There was little government intervention. By early 1922, it had fully recovered and the nation was enjoying the Roaring Twenties.

The bottom line is that the idea that government bureaucracy have enough knowledge to manage an economy well is the height of conceit -- what Nobel Laureate Friedrich Hayek called "fatal conceit."

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams or to read his features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).  
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## Visiting the White House

by Bill O'Reilly  
 The day before Halloween, the White House released a partial list of visitors since Jan. 20 of this year. The list is fascinating and highlights exactly what kind of house the Obamas are running.

Topping the visitor chart is Andy Stern, president of the far-left Service Employees International Union. Stern has been received by the Obamas 22 times. Wow. He must be quite a guy. In fact, shouldn't he be getting frequent stayer points like they give in hotels?

Kim Gandy, president of the National Organization for Women, clocks in with 14 visits. This has to be a Michelle Obama play. I know the president is a sensitive guy, but hanging around with Gandy that much is incomprehensible unless she plays basketball, which I believe she does not.

John Podesta has visited 17 times. He used to advise Bill Clinton and now runs some wacky far-left organization that specializes in vile personal attacks against conservative Americans. Podesta is one mean motor scooter. I hope he's not scaring the Obama kids.

Showing up for six visits while keeping hope alive was Jesse Jackson. I'm not sure what the reverend is offering the Obamas, but they seem to like him more than Al Sharpton, who's visited the White House twice.

The late Sen. Ted Kennedy chalked up seven visits. You have to assume they were about health care. The liberal lion was a prime backer of Obamacare, which is shaping up to be an absolute disaster.

General Electric CEO Jeffrey Immelt was chauffeured to the White House five times. As you may know, NBC News, owned by GE, has been extremely generous to Obama, and now GE is hot on the trail of government contracts for environmental work. This has the appearance of a quid pro quo, and NBC News has one of the best investigative reporters in business: Lisa Myers. I hope she looks into it.

Radical-left financier George Soros showed up to see the Obamas four times. This is a tough one to figure out. Word on the street is that Soros has been shorting the U.S. dollar, which is not a good thing for the economy. Soros is a slippery guy who once nearly ruined the British pound and was convicted of a felony in France. But, hey, those incidents could make for some great storytelling, and perhaps that's why Soros is a repeat visitor.

Al Gore must miss the White House. He's been back four times courtesy of the Obamas. I understand why Al was a guest. Here's a guy who has made a reported \$100 million from global warming projects and investments. Certainly the Obama administration, which is running up deficits in the trillions, could use a little savvy financial advice. So you go, Al.

Finally, Oprah has visited the Obamas twice. This is nice. Oprah is basically responsible for Obama's fame, and now she is being warmly received. I like this. I like loyalty to friends.

By the way, your humble correspondent has not been invited to the White House -- yet. But I am thinking about shorting the U.S.

dollar, so anything could happen.  
 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](http://www.creators.com). This column originates on the Web site [www.billoreilly.com](http://www.billoreilly.com).  
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## Communist national socialist "health care"

The following is quoted directly from the legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Saturday, November 7, 2009. A majority of 225 approved the clearly unconstitutional act:  
 H.R.3962

**Affordable Health Care for America Act (Introduced in House)**  
 SEC. 321. ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF A PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION AS AN EXCHANGE-QUALIFIED HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN.

(a) Establishment- For years beginning with Y1, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this subtitle referred to as the 'Secretary') shall provide for the offering of an Exchange-participating health benefits plan (in this division referred to as the 'public health insurance option') that ensures choice, competition, and stability of affordable, high quality coverage throughout the United States in accordance with this subtitle. In designing the option, the Secretary's primary responsibility is to create a low-cost plan without compromising quality or access to care.

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