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Rockwall County News

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RHS yearbook earns national recognition

Rockwall High School's yearbook, The Yellowjacket, recently was recognized for excellence and featured in the 2016 Jostens "Look Book," which celebrates the best in yearbook design and coverage. The "Look Book" is a collection of spreads and photos from yearbooks and their creative themes, covers, designs, relevant images, storytelling copy and photography. It recognizes the important role well-crafted yearbooks play in helping schools chronicle the experiences, stories and achievements most relevant to students and that academic year," according to a Rockwall Independent School District news release.

The Yellowjacket was created by the 2015 yearbook staff comprised of Savannah Franks, Kinsey Jamison, Nina Patton, Claudia Tello, Mia Cummings, Garrett Dennard, Haley Evans, Trinita Fisher, Kayla Hagan, Alex Hubenak, Jake Hyvl, Walker Knight, Emily Klee, Kacey Miller, Peyton Mills and Aubree Turner under the direction of Jessica Applegate, RHS yearbook adviser.

The Yellowjacket was one of only 494 yearbooks selected from approximately 3,000. The 2016 panel of judges, comprised of nationally recognized scholastic journalism professionals and award-winning yearbook advisers, selected the best examples of yearbook spreads and covers to make up the 320-page 2016 "Look Book."

"It was a wonderful surprise," Applegate said. "This is just the beginning of the great things to come from our yearbook staff."

"Yearbooks are unique, limited-edition books created by students to capture the stories and events for all of the school's students and staff. We are proud to celebrate the yearbook tradition and the 494 yearbooks selected for the 2016 Jostens 'Look Book,'" said Gary J. Jorgensen, the Jostens book editor. "Today's yearbooks are very sophisticated in terms of visual presentation and the relevant and creative content that is featured."

Applegate and her yearbook staff received a copy of the 2016 Jostens award and a certificate from Jostens to recognize their achievement.



The Rockwall High yearbook, The Yellowjacket, recently was recognized in the 2016 Jostens "Look Book" publication, which celebrates the best in yearbook design and coverage. Yellowjacket staff members, from the left, include Brittany Ables, Jacey Johnson, Claudia Tello, Nick Sanchez, co-editor Nina Patton, Grayson Green, Kathleen Marlett, Danite Mengesha, Alissa Martin, Morgan Richmond, Savannah Franks, co-editor Kinsey Jamison, Simon Nguyen, Sophia Acosta, Brette Thornton, Giao Nguyen and Jessica Applegate, adviser.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Dobbs' Jay Fisher tapped as Excellence in Education finalist

Howard Dobbs Elementary teacher Jay Fisher recently was named a regional finalist for the Excellence in Education Awards.

Fisher will advance to the statewide competition in the Rising Star Elementary division of the competition, which is sponsored by H-E-B, according to a news release about the awards. The state contest and awards banquet will take place May 12-13 at La Cantera Hill Country Resort in San Antonio.

Fisher is one of five finalists vying for the award.

To determine winners, a panel of judges visits each district, early childhood facility and school board, tours campuses and talks with administration, staff, parents and community members, according to the news release. A separate panel of judges chooses teacher and principal winners based upon interviews conducted in person on May 12.

H-E-B launched the Excellence in Education Awards program in cooperation with the Texas Association of School Administrators in 2002 as a way to support public education in Texas. It has become the largest

monetary program for educators in the state, spotlighting best practices and celebrating the passion and creativity of Texas educators.

H-E-B asks customers, employees and community members to nominate teachers, principals, districts, early childhood facilities and school boards in Texas. Each nominee is sent an invitation to complete an application online and is asked about their professional experiences, educational philosophies and achievements both in and out of the classroom, according to the news release. A team of judges reviews the applications, narrowing the field to semi-finalists. From that pool, five regional judging panels comprised of former winners, administrators, and university and community leaders not affiliated with H-E-B select 40 teacher and principal finalists.

The Rising Star Award honors teachers with fewer than 10 years of experience. These winners each will receive a \$5,000 check for themselves and a \$5,000 grant for their schools.

5 RHS Jazz Band members take TCU festival honors

The Rockwall High School Jazz Band participated in the 39th Annual TCU Jazz Festival on Saturday, March 19, and five RHS Jazz Band members were selected as Outstanding Musicians.

Honorees included Alex King, trumpet, Nathan Mathura, guitar, Nick Messick, piano, Ryan Rohde, trumpet, and Noahie Valk, tenor saxophone, according to information on the Rockwall Independent School District website.

The band heard the TCU Jazz Lab Bands perform with famous jazz organist Joey DeFrancesco.

The RHS Jazz Band will perform at the Collin Jazz Festival at 3:45 p.m. on Saturday, April 2.

University scholastic honors

Green named to OCU Dean's List

Christopher Green of Rockwall was named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Ohio Christian University's College of Adult and Graduate Studies.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade-point average of 3.5 or better and be enrolled in at least 12 graded semester hours, according to a news release from the Circleville, Ohio, university.

Rockwall County News Briefs

'What's Your Superpower?' focus of conference

The Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Women's Alliance will play host to the What's Your Superpower? Women's Conference & Business Expo on Friday, April 1, at The Castle at Rockwall, 2071 Clem Rd. Ext. The event, which will run from 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m., will focus on "innovative and effective ways that women can make a mark in all aspects of their lives - from the office to home and their communities." Tickets cost \$89 for Rockwall Chamber partners and \$109 for prospective chamber members. For more details, contact the chamber at 972-771-5733 or visit rockwallchamber.org/events or facebook.com/rockwallchamber.

New RISD student registration slated

Online registration of new Rockwall Independent School District students will begin April 1. Fill out the necessary paperwork through the online portal at rockwallisd.com/newstudent before coming to the campus in order to save time. Registration is not complete until all required documents are uploaded and the parent/guardian brings to the campus a valid Texas driver's license or state ID and a registered birth certificate of the child being enrolled.

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Jay Fisher, a teacher at Howard Dobbs Elementary, recently was recognized as a regional finalist for the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards. Fisher, at center, is pictured above with members of his class and several school officials. He will advance to the state competition in the Rising Star Elementary division, which is set for May 12-13 in San Antonio.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Burkey and Maynard tapped for promotion at Rockwall Area Chamber

Darby Burkey has been promoted to the new role of vice president of partnership engagement within the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center.

Burkey will oversee marketing communications, events, sales and business development for the chamber, according to a news release issued last week. She will continue to be responsible for the chamber's marketing and communication strategy and sales-related functions, including sales engineering. She also is responsible for the website and partnership directory and buyers guide, as well as overseeing the weekly and monthly partner communications.

"Since joining the chamber, Darby has made numerous positive changes within the organization, including improving the events and promotional aspects for our partners offering better recognition and community exposure," Dana K. Macalik, chamber president, said in the news release. "The revised and improved sponsorship and marketing programs have helped to support the sales organization designed to fuel growth for the foreseeable future. While there will always be new challenges to overcome, I am thrilled with the progress she has made and our recent financial results speak to those accomplishments."

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Rockwall County Obituaries

Doyle Cook

A memorial service for Doyle Cook, 74, of Mesquite was conducted at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 28, 2016, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

He died March 24. Born Oct. 9, 1941, in Rockwall to Roy and Maddie (McFarland) Cook, he served in the U.S. Navy. He had been a Mesquite resident for 31 years.

Survivors include his wife, Anna Cook of Mesquite; his children, Russell Cook, and his wife, Janet, of Rockwall, Ronnie Cook and his wife, Glenda, of San Antonio, Alisa Campbell of Ennis, Christie Gail Cook, Sherri Suttle and her husband, Greg, of Mesquite and Bobby Don Wilson of Mesquite; his brother-in-law, Tom Pullen, and his wife, Diana, of Conroe; his sister-in-law, Sue McDonald, and her husband, Jerry, of Yantis; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

His parents and two brothers, Billy Ray and David Cook, preceded him in death.



Linda Janelle Hengst

Graveside services for Linda Janelle Hengst, 63, of Rowlett were conducted at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2016, in the Rest Haven Memorial Park Garden of Prayer. Memorial services followed at 11 a.m. at the Calvary Lutheran Church in Dallas with Pastor John Hering and Pastor John Koelpin officiating.

She died March 21. Born May 9, 1952, in Valentine, Nebraska, to William Dew and Arlene (Schmidt) Dew, she was a teacher for 29 years. She taught in Nebraska and Oklahoma, as well as in Texas at Friendswood and most recently in Dallas at Calvary Lutheran School.

Following her retirement, she was a member of the Divine Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Garland.

Survivors include her husband, Gary Hengst of Rowlett; her son, Aaron Hengst of Willis; her father of Cheyenne, Wyoming; her siblings, Charlene Dew of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, Kristi Dew of Cheyenne, Janet Davis and her husband, Mike, of Cheyenne and Will Dew and his wife, Fonda, of Chelsea, Michigan; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Her mother preceded her in death. The family has suggested that as an alternative to flowers, donations may be made in her memory to Calvary Forward in Christ at Calvary Lutheran School, 9807 Church Rd., Dallas, TX 75238.



Janice Lecretia (Farmer) Taylor

Services for Janice Lecretia (Farmer) Taylor, 69, of Hurst were conducted at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2016, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Lance Rogers officiating. Burial followed in the Heath Cemetery.

She died March 22. She was born July 7, 1946, in Hugo, Oklahoma, to Hank and Zadie Ella (Robins) Farmer. She retired from American Airlines, where she was a supervisor over registrations.

She was a member of the First Christian Church.

Survivors include her husband, Mack Taylor; her children, James Taylor of Midland and Paula McQuien and her husband, James Keller; her brothers, Cletus Farmer of Snyder and Donald Farmer of his wife, Janetta, of Palestine, Texas; and her grandchildren, Megan and Tara Taylor and Nick, Nate, Greg and Brandon McQuien.

Her parents preceded her in death. The family has suggested that as an alternative to flowers donations may be made in her name to the Texas Stroke Institute at 1600 G Rd., Suite 104, Plano, TX 75075.

Sharon Marie Yoder

Memorial services for Sharon Marie Yoder, 77, of Quinlan will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2016, at the Ingram Funeral Home in Quinlan with Tracy Griffin officiating.

She died Sunday, March 20, in Royse City.

Born in Rockwall on Dec. 4, 1938, to Obed Scott and Mary Herbert Scott, she was raised and attended school in Rockwall, graduating from Rockwall High.

She worked as an assembler for Texas Instruments in the Metroplex area for 30 years, retiring in 1996. She moved to the Quinlan area in 2000.

She enjoyed garage sales, crafts, playing cards and people watching on Saturdays at Wal-Mart.

Survivors include her daughter, Linda Joyce of Quinlan; her son, Scott Seabolt of Quinlan; and a grandson, Joseph Scott Joyce, of Quinlan.



Rockwall mayor presents Rapattoni with key to city

Dalton Rapattoni, a top-four finalist in the "American Idol" television singing competition and a local music teacher, was in Rockwall Saturday and received a key to the city for being an ambassador for Rockwall.

Starstruck fans gathered to catch a glimpse of Rapattoni, who was in town as part of the TV show's Hometown Visit feature, according to City of Rockwall news release. Rockwall Mayor Jim Pruitt presented the singer with a key to the city.

Crowds started gathering in downtown Rockwall's historic San Jacinto Plaza at about 10 a.m. The house band from the School of Rock in Dallas performed as everyone waited for his arrival. His sister is a member of the band and sang several songs with their parents looking on. Rapattoni arrived with an "American Idol" production crew in a stretch limousine, which he exited with cameras rolling.

As Pruitt gifted him with the key, the singer reacted with surprise, humility and gratitude.

"I've never gotten a key to anything before," he said, according to the news release.

Many in the crowd of hundreds were family, friends and students from the School of Rock, anxious to see their teacher since his successful stint in Hollywood. The 20-year-old Rapattoni was all smiles as he interacted with fans, took selfies with them and treated the crowds to a brief, impromptu performance.

Rapattoni finished his Rockwall visit with a tour of the School of Rock, reminiscing with family and friends. After the Rockwall event, the "American Idol" caravan headed across the lake to Sunnyvale, his hometown, for a scheduled parade and concert later in the day.



Dalton Rapattoni, one of four "American Idol" finalists and a local music teacher, received a key to the City of Rockwall before a crowd of the TV show's fans Saturday. Making the presentation was Mayor Jim Pruitt, pictured at left.

Photo courtesy of City of Rockwall/Rockwall County News

Local Children's Advocacy Center to open this year

by Millie Jean Coppedge

The Children's Advocacy Center for Rockwall County was the topic presented by Kenda Culpepper at the Wednesday, March 23, Chamber of Commerce luncheon conducted at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City.

Culpepper serves as the Rockwall County criminal district attorney.

The facility to house the Children's Advocacy Center for Rockwall should open in the fall at 1350 E. Washington, Rockwall. The center will be "a nonprofit organization that will provide a multi-agency coordinated approach to the investigation, prosecution and treatment of child sexual and physical abuse," according to Culpepper. "The CAC will provide specialized forensic interviews, therapeutic recovery services, medical evaluations and case management."

Child abuse victims currently have to travel to the Collin County CAC for services.

Culpepper explained the need for an organized process in which to investigate allegations of child abuse, which will be referred to the

center by law enforcement officials or Child Protective Services.

The center will make the process of the investigation easier on the children involved by conducting forensic interviews in child appropriate rooms by trained professionals. One of the goals is to subject the child to as few interviews and interrogations as possible. Special trained practitioners conduct the medical exams.



Kenda Culpepper, Rockwall County criminal district attorney, recently spoke at the Royse City Chamber of Commerce luncheon on the topic of the Children's Advocacy Center. The nonprofit CAC, which is expected to open later this year, is designed to work with victims of child sexual and physical abuse.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

Rockwall Chamber promotions

(Continued from Page 1)

"Darby's collaborative leadership has led to a new chamber marketing engagement function, featuring better training, tools and accountability," Donna Roland, the chamber's vice president of operations, said. "This approach has quickly improved and identified new revenue streams based on innovative approaches while offering a better promotional approach to our members. Darby is exploring new partnerships that can help us expand our marketing and networking opportunities."

Burkey joined the chamber in July 2014 as director of marketing. Since that time, the organization, according to the news release, has:

- Set a new record for the best revenue in 2015, beating the previous year record;
- Achieved record attendance, participation and partner engagement in four of the five key-sponsored events;
- Supported a reached 23 percent year over year growth in membership retention and 36 percent year over year growth for partner dues revenues.

Burkey also was instrumental in the development and implementation of the sponsorship package as a part of annual partnership development according to the news release.

Burkey has 15 years of small business experience where she is responsible for marketing and sales and event management. She is a graduate of University of North Texas where she received a bachelor's degree in marketing and management.

Stacy Maynard will return as the marketing manager of Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, the community's largest membership based organization focusing on economic development, tourism and quality of living.

According to a news release issued last week, Maynard now will serve as the marketing manager within the chamber's marketing communications department.

Maynard originally joined the chamber in May of 2014 as a communications specialist. In her new role she will direct and execute the marketing, communications and event promotion efforts of the chamber.

"This is Stacy's second tour of duty with us and we are thrilled to have her back," Dana K. Macalik, chamber president, said. "She is results-oriented and highly collaborative, which makes her a great fit to our team. Stacy brings a wealth of experience coordinating and directing marketing programs and projects."

Later this year, chamber officials plan to apply with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for national chamber accreditation. Maynard's previous experience with the Plano Chamber should prove beneficial in this project, according to information in the news release.

"I am thrilled to be back at the Rockwall Area Chamber," Maynard said. "I have the unique perspective of having worked on accreditation program with the Plano Chamber as part of a service learning program at Collin College, so I know firsthand what will be expected for our recognition. I am looking forward to working with the community and to continue making everyday extraordinary business while maintaining the hometown feel."

Maynard has supported corporate business operations since 1994 where she has been responsible for marketing, communications and community-wide event planning. An Air Force veteran, she holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and recently completed both a marketing degree and a Certificate in Business Management at Collin College.

Rockwall County News Brief

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RWL accepting grant requests from nonprofits

The Rockwall Women's League is accepting grant requests from nonprofit agencies providing services to Rockwall County. Organizations must be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Requests should include program name, description, beneficiaries and amount requested. Written requests should be submitted mailed to P.O. Box 383, Rockwall, TX 75087. Patti Poole or contact Poole at 972-771-7343 or ppoole@jpoolelaw.com for more details. Grant requests also may be emailed to Poole. Deadline for submission is April 1.

(Continued on Page 4)

"The Leah Belding Show"

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ACROSS

- seat of Oldham Co.
- Burl of film "The Big Country" with TX Chuck Roberson
- Brown won '55 Pulitzer for reporting in Alice Daily Echo
- univer. subject
- play on words
- TX pro wrestler, Kerry (init.)
- TXism: "big as the side of _____"
- held royal office
- TX gunman John Wesley Hardin was killed in one
- TX capitol architect
- TXism: "loose as _____"
- homo sapiens
- portent
- TX Mac Davis hit: "Baby, Don't Get Hooked"
- TX B.J. Thomas '76 album: "Home Belong"
- TXism: "she could talk the legs _____ an iron stove"
- TX Billie Sol was convicted of this
- TXism for "about" (3 wds.)
- a gurney is one with wheels
- TX Johnny Horton hit: "The Battle of Orleans" (1959)
- perennial found in TX: H. _____
- TXism for "skinnny" (3 wds.)
- nothing worse than _____ neighbor
- Dan Patrick is the _____ Gov. of TX
- 50 gear's teeth
- 51 gentlemen for short
- 52 Plainview FM station
- 53 words of understanding (2 wds.)
- 54 TXism: "got the morals _____ alley cat"
- 56 TXism: "_____ it in the bud"
- TX McConaughy film "We _____ Marshall"
- TXism: "you're pulling my _____"
- LBJ to JFK (2 wds.)
- TXn who leaves the coast for weather
- this Apache chief was held in TX after his 1886 surrender
- TX George W. has two daughters, but not _____
- TXism: "_____ slapper" (funny)
- originally called: _____
- Junior College"
- TX Perot's old co.
- TXism: "high _____ cat's back" (costly)
- TXism for _____
- TX-based petroleum co. "_____ USA Energy"
- TXism: "lots of breathing _____" (spacious)
- Doc Holliday met wife "Big _____ Kate" in TX
- site of h.s. basketball games
- dir. to Wichita Falls from Clyde
- longtime Dallas DA, Wade (init.)
- frequencies 'tween 300 MHz & 3 GHz
- NASA's Mars rovers (abbr.)
- teenager's room: "_____ nest"
- relating to the nervous system
- Santa _____ TX
- dancer Astaire (init.)
- another cowboy state (abbr.)
- TXism: "exciting _____ at the IRS office"
- TXism for "against"
- TXism: "got knocked down _____ or two"

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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Farmers Market opens May 7 in Rockwall

The Rockwall Farmers Market's 2016 season will run from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday May 7 through Sept. 24.

The pet-friendly farmers market, established in 2008, will take place in the historic downtown Rockwall square, according to a news release from volunteer organizers. More than 30 vendors are expected to participate, offering fresh produce, grass-fed meats, fresh-baked artisan breads, farm eggs, seafood, honey, jams, pasta, tamales and other goods. Local talent also will provide live music each week.

For more details, visit rockwallfarmersmarket.org.

Be kind one to another with tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.
Ephesians 4:23

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Christian rights, Love ... Part 4

Having been filled and sealed with the Holy Ghost, God's beloved children have the inherent right to truly love.

God's word is packed with instructions and examples of love.

It speaks of the burning love between the man and woman, brotherly love, and love from God Himself through the living Messiah, who is our Lord Jesus.

It says, "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loves is born of God, and knows God" (1John 4:7).

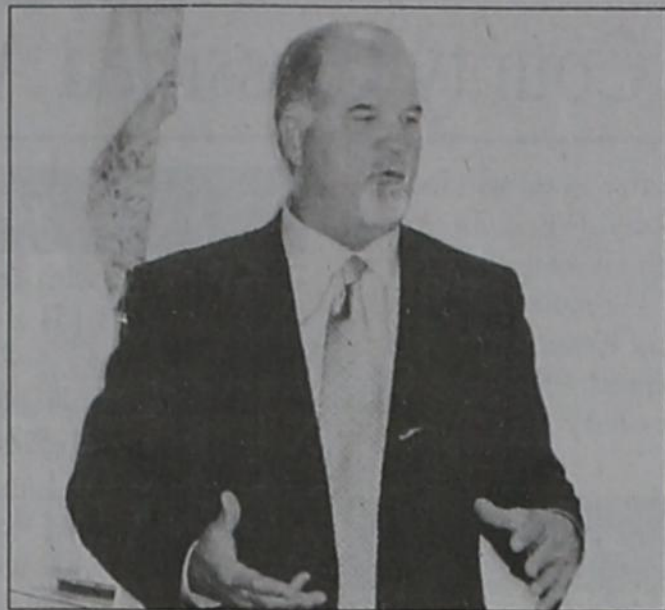
This is the true love from God that can be share with others.

"Not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1John 4:10).

God's love is unto true healing, salvation and everlasting life through and in our Lord Jesus the Christ who is alive and in heaven, seated at God's right hand of all authority.

In preparing his disciples, Jesus said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, an pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matthew 6:44).

In the Epistles it says, "If your enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for in so doing you shall heap coals of fire on his head" (Romans 12:20). God's love truly warms the enemies heart.



Chuck Walton speaks to members of the Friday Study Club, March 18, 2016, in the home of Carolyn Duckworth. Walton is the owner and operator of Walton's Garden Center, located across from the Dallas Arboretum.

Club President, Kathy Melston, presided over the business meeting. Final plans were announced for the Spring Luncheon.

Refreshments were served by co-hostesses Fraya Fisk and Katherine Stevener.

Photo by Ruth Willis/Rockwall County News

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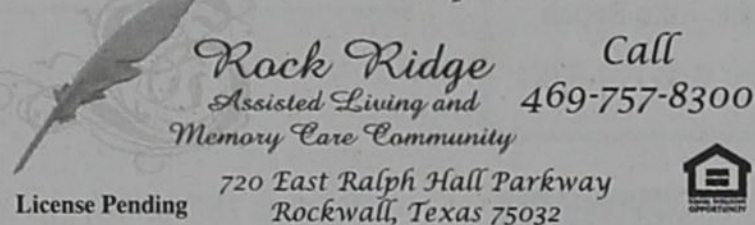
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"Let the peace from God rule in your hearts, to the which also you are called in one body, and be thankful ..."
Colossians 3:15

"Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."
Psalm 150:6

"That if you will confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10: 9-10

"Have I not commanded you; be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."
Proverbs 18:7

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding;"

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path;"
Proverbs 3:6

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known ..."
Proverbs 3:6

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First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall

Feel the love. Be the love.

"God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." 1 John 4:16

Looking for a warm, welcoming family of faith that is dedicated to embodying God's love in Rockwall and beyond? Then join us this Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, located at 602 White Hills Dr., under the water tower and across from the entrance to Walmart.

Sunday School starts at 9:45 a.m., with worship led by Pastor Cheryl Taylor at 11 a.m. For more information, call 972-771-5702, or check out our website at www.firstpresrockwall.org



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McLendon-Chisolm 75032

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FM 3097

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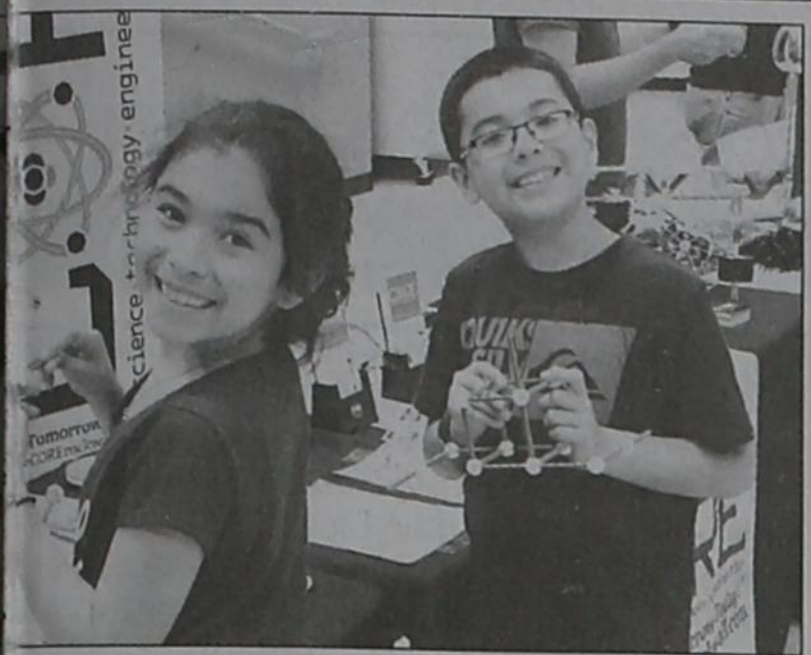
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MESSIANIC

BEIT OR MESSIANIC CONGREGATION

houseoflight.org 116 Kenway, Rockwall



Lucia Mejia (left) and Diego Mejia (right) enjoy activities from the CORE Rockwall. Several Cullins Elementary students and their families participated in the recent PTA-sponsored Perot Science Night. Perot Museum representatives came to the school, bringing several hands-on stations that focused on nano-science. The stations were designed for family learning and explored the areas of alternative energy, understanding the carbon cycle, investigating the microscopic world of plants with a digital microscope, and discovering the energy around us. The CORE Center of Rockwall also brought several hands-on activities for students, and families had the opportunity to learn about how a drone and sphero work.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Master Gardeners plan Spring Plant, Seed Swap

The Rockwall County Master Gardeners will host their Spring Seed Swap from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (or until the plants/seeds run out) on Saturday, April 9, at the Discovery Garden, 875 Riding Horse Blvd. Participants need not bring plants or seeds to participate; gardeners always want to share. Those who want to share should bring plants/seeds in bags or plastic pots. Identification of plants is required.

The event is free and open to the public and will be conducted rain or shine. Plants/seeds will go fast as this is a great way to find out what is successful in the area and learn from Master Gardeners.

Help Needed



On September 9, 2014, nineteen months ago, citizen-activist and Heath resident 81-year-old Mrs. Joan Ream, was forcefully ejected from a Heath City Council public meeting. She attempted to ask a procedural question during a hearing to rezone and approve development of a 43 -acre parcel at Terry Lane & Smirl Drive.

Mrs. Ream was seriously injured. Anyone who witnessed or has information regarding this incident is asked to please contact: Susan Hutchison: hutch@hsjustice.com 817-820-0100

The "County News" - Your Hometown Community newspaper

Rockwall County News

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Mission Statement

The

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Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous, 24 hour help line, 800-503-8602.

AA Meetings

Rockwall, 7 days a week, Big Book Group, 213 Rusk St., 972-722-6366.

Al-Anon Meetings

Call for information and locations in Dallas area, 214-363-0461.

Al-Anon Garland

Meetings Monday & Friday, 8 p.m. at 2206 South Jupiter St., Suite 130, Garland.

Sons of the American Revolution East Fork-Trinity Chapter meets 6:00 p.m., second Thursday each month, 4881 Bass Pro Dr. Garland, Texas. Guests & family welcome. <http://www.txssar.org/EastForkTrinity>.

Rockwall County Kiwanis Club
Meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel,

203 S. Fannin. For more information call 972-772-6001

Senior Services

If you are interested in delivering weekday meals to homebound seniors in Rockwall County, we will be holding volunteer training sessions the second Wednesday each month at 1 p.m. Please call 972-771-9514 for location.

24 Hour Help Line for substance & mental health counseling, 800-662-4357.

NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) meets second Saturday monthly. We offer support and education for families and individuals affected by mental disabilities. For more information call the Dallas office at 214-341-7133.

Everyone is invited to attend the "SAVING AMERICA THROUGH PRAYER" event, on the second Sunday of each month, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at Heritage Christian Academy - 1408 S. Goliad St., Rockwall,

Texas. The free event will include guest speakers. This is not church affiliated, and is open to everyone interested. For more information contact Mike Kennedy (972) 998-2680 or Kenneth Shores (214) 334-1206 or Jerry Minx (972) 896-7081

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Rockwall County Entertainment

HATS to host book review

The Heath Area Terrific Seniors will host a book review of "Miriam: Prophetess, Leader of the Hebrew People - Only a Sister" by author Wanda Vassallo. The author will act out a couple of scenes and involve the audience in what goes into writing a novel based on only 24 Bible scriptures. Interested individuals are encouraged to join the event beginning at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, at the Heath United Methodist Church's Fletcher Hall for the event and light refreshments. Call the church office at 972-771-6732 for more details.

Area News Briefs

Free Water Efficient Landscape course set April 2

Texas A&M AgriLife will offer free courses in Water Efficient Landscape in Dallas and Terrell. A course will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon on April 2 at the Dallas Center, Bldg. E auditorium, 17360 Coit Rd., Dallas. In Terrell, the event will be conducted at the same time on April 9 at the City of Terrell Service Center, 400 Industrial Blvd., Terrell. Register online at Dallas.TAMU.edu/courses for either location.

Want more copies of the Rockwall County News?
Purchase at the following locations

- Rockwall - Krogers, Scotties Exxon, Walmart, Walmart Neighborhood, Gateway Shell (Hwy 276), Downtown on the square (coin rack), Chevron at intersection of Ridge Road and I-30.
- Royse City - Tiger Mart, Main Street (coin rack), McDonald's (coin rack).
- Fate - Fate Grocery Store.

Legal Notices

In compliance with Tex. Occ. Code Ch. 2303.151 a second notice is hereby given on abandoned vehicle 2001 Nissan Altima Vin 1n4d101dx1e16245 towed from 3501 Lancaster Hutchins Hutchins, Tx. Now located at Dallas Towboys VSF Lic 0628232, 291 National Dr. Rockwall, Tx 75032, vehicle may be claimed by owner/lienholder upon receipt of the storage and tow fees accrued to date which are \$743.00 and increase \$21.65 daily until 45 days at which time all rights/ownership shall be forfeited of said vehicle which will be sold at a public auction if not claimed on or before April 21, 2016.

Legal Notices

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a BF Beer Retailer's Off-Premise and Q Wine Only Package Store Permits R AND MINA ENTERPRISES, INC., d/b/a HEATH MARKET PLACE, to be located at 460 LAURENCE DR., HEATH, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TX 75032. Officers of said corporation is HOSSAIN MAKVANDI, PRESIDENT/SECRETARY, CLARITA MAKVANDI, TREASURER.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a BF Beer Retailer's Off-Premise and Q Wine Only Package Store Permits HOMEBOY ENTERPRISES, INC., d/b/a HOMEBOY GROCERY, to be located at 2975 HWY 66, FATE, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TX 75087. Officers of said corporation is HOSSAIN MAKVANDI, PRESIDENT/SECRETARY, CLARITA MAKVANDI, TREASURER.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, The Vault Self Storage located at 1280 E. Ralph Hall Parkway, Rockwall, Texas 75032 will hold a public auction of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 AM, April 15, 2016, at The Vault Self Storage, 1280 E. Ralph Hall Parkway, Rockwall, Texas. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash only. All successful bidders will remove the contents immediately and leave unit clean. A refundable cleanup deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces of the following tenant(s):
Eleana R. Wolford: Carseat, stroller, crib mattress & boxes
Contact The Vault Self Storage, 1280 E. Ralph Hall Parkway, Rockwall, Texas 75032, (972) 771-1105.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 253 of the Texas Transportation Code that the Rockwall County Commissioners Court, Rockwall County, Texas, will hold a public hearing on April 2016, at 9:00 a.m. to receive public comments on:

- (1) proposed improvements to substandard roads including Alexander Lane, McKinley Lane, Reagan Court and Hamilton Court located in the Alexander Ranch subdivision;
- (2) the assessment of the total costs of the improvements pro rata against the owners of property within the Alexander Ranch subdivision; and
- (3) the collection of the assessment over a five-year period.

The Public Hearing will be held in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Rockwall County Courthouse (third floor), 101 E. Rusk St., Rockwall, Texas 75087.

Royse City Police Blotter

March 18-24

- **Friday, 18 March:** Accident, 100 block E. I-30 NSR; Burglary of a residence, 300 block W. I-30 NSR; Theft, 100 block E. I-30 NSR; City Ordinance violation, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Medical assistance, 700 block FM 2642; Alarm, 1300 block Waco Turner Drive; Rockwall Police Department warrant arrest, Area of Main Street and Houston Street; Possession of drug paraphernalia arrest, 100 block W. I-30 NSR; Kaufman County Sheriff's Office warrants arrest, Area of FM 548 and Lakes Drive
- **Saturday, 19 March:** Public intoxication arrest, 700 block Oak Grove Lane; Accident, Area of 548 and Cookston Lane; Alarm, 1000 Hidden Creek Drive; Suspicious vehicle, 300 block E. Main St; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; Disturbance, 1000 block Pullen Road; hang up, 600 block Center Street; Suspicious person, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; Noise disturbance of Northwood Lane; Possession of drug paraphernalia arrest, Area of North Houston Street and C Line Road
- **Sunday, 20 March:** Assault arrest, 800 block E. Old Greenville Road; Reckless driver, East on I-30 near Erby Campbell Boulevard; Suspicious vehicle, I-30 SSR near the 82-mile marker; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; City ordinance violation, Area of Kelly Lane and Erby Drive; Suspicious vehicle, 1300 block Hwy 66; Welfare concern, 400 block W. I-30 NSR
- **Monday, 21 March:** Noise disturbance, 400 block Northstar Drive; Alarm, 2800 block FM 2642; Criminal mischief, 700 block FM 2642; Burglary of a residence, 300 block Hidden Court; Welfare concern, 100 block Singleton Drive; Suspicious person, 500 block S. Elm Street; Criminal mischief, 100 block Hafner Drive; Suspicious person, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Henderson County Sheriff's Department warrant arrest, 200 block Lynn Street; Theft arrest, 400 block W. I-30 NSR
- **Tuesday, 22 March:** Disturbance, 2800 block FM 35; Disturbance, 900 block Walnut St; Accident, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Criminal mischief, 700 block FM 2642
- **Wednesday, 23 March:** Accident, I-30 westbound near the 77-mile marker; Criminal mischief, 2600 block Marsha Lane; Theft, 700 block FM 2642; Public intoxication arrest, 100 block W. I-30 NSR; Medical assistance, 1000 block Walnut Street; 911 hang up, 1400 block Erby Campbell Boulevard; Welfare concern, 1500 block Hafner Drive; Public intoxication arrest, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; Assault, 800 block Meadowdale Drive
- **Thursday, 24 March:** Suspicious vehicle, I-30 westbound near the 80-mile marker; Welfare concern, 900 block W. I-30 SSR; Medical assistance, 200 block W. I-30 SSR; Alarm, 3400 block Spruce St; Medical assistance, 1100 block Walnut Street; Assault arrest, 2600 block Spencer Circle; Rockwall Police Department warrant arrest, 300 block W. County Line Road; Rockwall Police Department warrant arrest, Area of Lakes and Brazos Court; Possession of dangerous drug arrest, I-30 westbound near the 75-mile marker

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from page 2)

Democratic Men plan April 2 meeting

The Democratic Men's Group of Rockwall County will meet for a luncheon on Saturday, April 2, at Arboledas' Mexican Grill, 1103 Ridge Rd., Rockwall. The group meets for lunch at noon on the Saturday of each month at various local restaurants. Open-minded progressive men concerned with the future direction of Texas and Rockwall County are invited to attend.

Newcomers & Friends to meet

Rockwall County Newcomers & Friends will host its April luncheon and program beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 14 at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City. Dave Tanner, who has performed for European royalty and three U.S. presidents, will sing Broadway's greatest hits and reveal the stories behind the songs. Join in the fun; RSVP by April 4 by calling Barbara at 972-771-1057 or Cathy at 942-400-9934 or newcomersrock.com.

RISD to host Kindergarten Round-Up

The Rockwall ISD's Kindergarten Round-Up will be conducted April 7. Incoming K students can meet their principals, tour their schools and meet their teachers. Parents should check with their students' principals to determine times and other details. Online registration, which begins April 1, should be completed prior to going. To register online, visit skystu.rockwallisd.org/scripts/wsisa.dll/WService=wsEskystenroll.

Fundraiser for WIN set April 7

A fundraiser for Women in Need will be conducted from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, at the Rockwall Country Club, 513 E. I-30, Rockwall. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this event will benefit WIN and its clients. Light snacks will be provided; attendees are invited to bring the beverage of their choice. The event will be open to the public. For more details or to reserve a seat visit paintingwithatwist.com/events/viewevent.aspx?eventID=469616.

Texas History in 1861 is topic of April 8 event

To secede or not to secede was the question posed by Gov. Sam Houston (aka Mike Donegan) in his Texas Ranger John Salmon "Rip" Ford (aka Jay Webb), which will be explored April 8 at the Stodghill Lecture Series presented by the Rockwall County Historical Foundation and the Rockwall County Historical Commission from noon to 1 p.m. in the third floor in the historic downtown courthouse. The presentation will explore the cultural, economic and political issues driving forces during the time period.

(Continued on page 5)

Opinions

Fascism, American style

John W. Whitehead

Freedom Foundation (fff.org)

We define an American fascist as one who in case of conflict puts money and power ahead of human beings, then there are undoubtedly several million fascists in the United States." □ Henry Wallace, 33rd Vice President of the United States

This is an indictment of every politician who has ever sold us out for the sake of money and power, it is a condemnation of every politician who has ever lied to us in order to advance their careers, and it is a denunciation of every political shill who has sacrificed our freedoms on the altar of Corporate America.

They're all fascists.

Donald Trump is a fascist—as nearly half of Americans surveyed believe—then so is every other politician in office or running for office in America who has ever prioritized money and power over human beings.

Only, apart from Trump's virulently bombastic comments and his rhetorical willingness to spit in the wind in order to garner media coverage and notoriety, how is he any more of a fascist than Hillary Clinton and the millions she has amassed from the financial sector? How is Trump any more of a fascist than Barack Obama, whose willingness to march in lockstep with the military industrial complex has resulted in endless wars, covert drone strikes that have killed hundreds of civilians abroad, and militarized police who have killed thousands of American citizens here at home?

How is Trump any more of a fascist than Congress, the majority of whom are millionaires and who are more inclined to do the bidding of their corporate sponsors and benefactors, all the while remaining deaf to their less affluent constituents?

For that matter, how is Trump any more of a fascist than the Supreme Court, whose decisions in recent years have been characterized most often by an abject deference to government authority, military and corporate interests?

Writing for the New York Times in 1944, Vice President Henry A. Wallace noted that "American fascists are most easily recognized by the deliberate perversion of truth and fact. Their newspapers and propaganda carefully cultivate every fissure of disunity, every crack in the common front against fascism. They use every opportunity to impugn democracy. They use isolationism as a slogan to conceal their own selfish imperialism. They cultivate hate and distrust..."

Wallace concluded, American fascists are not pro-Constitution:

"They are patriotic in time of war because it is to their interest to do so, but in time of peace they follow power and the dollar wherever they may lead... They claim to be super-patriots, but they would destroy every liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. They demand free enterprise, but are the spokesmen for monopoly and all Police Department vested interest. Their final objective toward which all their deceit is directed is to capture political power so that, using the power of the state and the power of the market simultaneously, they may keep the common man in eternal subjection."

Polyester wars

Jill Pertler
Voices of Life

Laundry's never been my thing, even though I've had more than my fair share of experience with the spin cycle. Lord knows I've tried, but despite a decades-long love affair with bleach, my kids were always the ones with the grayish, never-quite-perfectly white socks. I finally figured out the black athletic socks don't show dirt like the white ones do, so now I try to buy those.

I may have scored a small triumph over the socks, but every laundry CEO understands you can't avoid white completely. My current battle involves a long-sleeved white polyester T-shirt. It belongs to my son and was a special birthday gift he picked out for himself. It is embellished with the correct and trendy logo favored by those who wish to score high on the cool-meter.

Let me tell you a little something about polyester. It's the fabric of choice for stylish sports-oriented kids and yoga-pant wearing muses. According to my extensive Internet research, polyester is a synthetic polymer, which is a fancy term for plastic in disguise. It resists wrinkles, fading, shrinking and is form fitting, durable and pretty darn comfortable. It's also troublesome for laundry-challenged folks like myself.

That's because oil and polyester do not mix.

Polyester is touted as an easy-to-care-for fabric. Unless you get an oil stain. My son got an oil stain.

Unfortunately, as the laundry guru I've already established myself to be, I did not notice the stain or pre-treat the stain or otherwise attend to the stain in any manner or fashion until after the (nearly

We are being played for fools. Again.

The United States of America, that dream of what a democratic republic ought to be, has become the Fascist States of America. We have moved beyond the era of representative government and entered a new age. You can call it the age of authoritarianism. Or fascism. Or oligarchy. Or the American police state.

Whatever label you want to put on it, the end result is the same.

Driven by our fears, we have entered into a corporate-controlled, militaristic state where all citizens are suspects, security trumps freedom, and the U.S. government does not represent the majority of American citizens but instead is ruled by the rich and powerful.

Any semblance of constitutional government that we might still enjoy today is a mere shadow, a mockery of what the founders envisioned. Constitutional government today—much like the farcical circus that purports to be the presidential election—is a sham, a hoax, an elaborate ruse maintained by the powers-that-be to mollify us into believing that we still have a say in the workings of our government. We do not.

Shortly after World War II, historian William L. Shirer predicted that America may be the first country in which fascism comes to power through democratic elections.

Former presidential advisor Bertram Gross also warned that we would not recognize fascism when it took over:

"Anyone looking for black shirts, mass parties, or men on horseback will miss the telltale clues of creeping fascism... In America, it would be supermodern and multi-ethnic—as American as Madison Avenue, executive luncheons, credit cards, and apple pie. It would be fascism with a smile. As a warning against its cosmetic facade, subtle manipulation, and velvet gloves, I call it friendly fascism. What scares me most is its subtle appeal."

They were both right.

However, what we failed to realize is that the fascist coup took place long ago. It was that subtle and that incremental.

We are now ruled by the velvet-gloved, technologically savvy, militarized iron fist of what Gross termed "friendly fascism" or fascism with a smile. Having studied Shirer and Gross, tracked the rise of fascism in past regimes, and assimilated the necessary ingredients for a fascist state, I can attest to the fact—as I document in my book *Battlefield America: The War on the American People*—that the parallels to modern America are impossible to ignore.

Under fascism, the government:

is managed by a powerful leader (even if he or she assumes office by way of the electoral process)

assumes it is not restrained in its power (this is authoritarianism, which eventually evolves into totalitarianism)

ostensibly operates under a capitalist system while being undergirded by an immense bureaucracy

emits powerful and continuing expressions of nationalism through its politicians

has an obsession with national security while constantly invoking

new, favorite) shirt went through the entire laundry cycle – including the dryer. I can hear your gasps of horror and disbelief, and I do apologize.

That was two weeks ago. We've been at war ever since – me versus the shirt. What started as a small grease stain has morphed into a larger area, probably because of my attempts to remove the stain with any number of concoctions that were not Google-approved. (I started this fight as a lone soldier. I've since gone online for expert reinforcements, which have, regrettably, also proved unsuccessful.)

In the process, the shirt seems to have taken on a dingy, grayish tint that I'm determined to correct. I've tried every remedy outlined online by my allies – laundry kings and queens who actually blog about the topic. Right now the little bugger is soaking in a mixture of vinegar, lemon juice, hydrogen peroxide and hot water. I think/hope it's looking whiter. The whole experience has left me exhausted and smelling like pickles.

I am tempted to take the shirt out of the soak and put it through another wash cycle, but I'm afraid of my adversary's next move. Still, I remain determined. Although the shirt has proven a worthy opponent, failure and defeat are not in this warrior's vocabulary.

A tiny grease spot on a favorite shirt has grown into something bigger than any shirt or stain or laundry-crusading mom. It is about relentless pursuit of the enemy, endurance during combat, conquering the opposition and claiming victory over the polyester. No surrender. No retreat.

Mark my words: The. Shirt. Will. Not. Win.

terrifying internal and external enemies

establishes a domestic and invasive surveillance system and develops a paramilitary force that is not answerable to the citizenry and its various agencies (federal, state, and local) develop an obsession with crime and punishment (this is overcriminalization)

becomes increasingly centralized while aligning closely with corporate powers to control all aspects of the country's social, economic, military, and governmental structures

uses militarism as a center point of its economic and taxing structure and is increasingly imperialistic in order to maintain the military-industrial corporate forces.

Compare that to America today where, as economist Jeffrey Tucker rightly observes, "every industry is regulated. Every profession is classified and organized. Every good or service is taxed. Endless debt accumulation is preserved. Immense doesn't begin to describe the bureaucracy. Military preparedness never stops, and war with some evil foreign foe, remains a daily prospect."

Fascism thrives by hiding behind the entertainment spectacle that is partisan politics. As Tucker points out, "It's incorrect to call fascism either right wing or left wing. It is both and neither... fascism does not seek to overthrow institutions like commercial establishments, family, religious centers, and civic traditions. It seeks to control them... it preserves most of what people hold dear but promises to improve economic, social, and cultural life through unifying their operations under government control."

In this way, American-style fascism is deceptively appealing.

It appears friendly.

The news media covers the entertainment and political trivia. The basic forms of government remain intact. The legislators remain in session. There are elections.

Consent of the governed, however, no longer applies. Actual control has finally passed to the oligarchic elite controlling the government behind the scenes.

Yet the most crucial ingredient for fascism to succeed in America is that the majority of the people would have to agree that it's not only expedient but necessary for the government to assume greater powers in order to keep them safe and secure, whether it's by militarizing the police, stripping them of basic constitutional rights, criminalizing virtually every form of behavior, or spying on their communications, movements and transactions.

Sound familiar?

When you really drill down to what the various presidential candidates believe about the issues that will impact the future of our freedoms long-term—war, surveillance, civil liberties—you'll find that most of them support the government's position, which conveniently enough, profits the corporate sector.

This is not freedom.

It is despotism, which Gross refers to as "faceless oligarchs [who] sit at command posts of a corporate-government complex that has been slowly evolving over many decades." Gross explains:

In efforts to enlarge their own powers and privileges, they are willing to have others suffer the intended or unintended consequences of their institutional or personal greed. For Americans, these consequences include chronic inflation, recurring recession, open and hidden unemployment, the poisoning of air, water, soil and bodies, and, more important, the subversion of our constitution. More broadly, consequences include widespread intervention in international politics through economic manipulation, covert action, or military invasion...

It is, in Gross' words, "pretended patriots who desecrate the American flag by waving it while waiving the law".

I see at present members of the Establishment or people on its fringes who, in the name of Americanism, betray the interests of most Americans by fomenting militarism, applauding rat-race individualism, protecting undeserved privilege, or stirring up nationalistic and ethnic hatreds.

It is, concludes Gross, Big Business and Big Government in bed together:

In this present, many highly intelligent people look with but one eye and see only one part of the emerging Leviathan. From the right, we are warned against the danger of state capitalism or state socialism, in which Big Business is dominated by Big Government. From the left, we hear that the future danger (or present reality) is monopoly capitalism, with finance capitalists dominating the state. I am prepared to offer a cheer and a half for each view; together, they make enough sense for a full three cheers. Big Business and Big Government have been learning how to live in bed together and despite arguments between them, enjoy the cohabitation. Who may be on top at any particular moment is a minor matter-and in any case can be determined only by those with privileged access to a well-positioned keyhole.

When the votes have all been counted, "we the people" will be the losers.

The joke will be on us. Whether we ever realize it not, the enemy is not across party lines, as they would have us believe. It has us surrounded on all sides.

Even so, we're not yet defeated.

We could still overcome our oppressors if we cared enough to join forces and launch a militant nonviolent revolution—a people's revolution that starts locally and trickles upwards—but that will take some doing.

It will mean turning our backs on the political jousting contests taking place on the national stage and rejecting their appointed jesters as false prophets. It will mean not allowing ourselves to be corralled like cattle and branded with political labels that have no meaning anymore. It will mean recognizing that all the evils that surround us today—endless wars, drone strikes, invasive surveillance, militarized police, poverty, asset forfeiture schemes, overcriminalization, etc.—were not of our making but came about as a way to control and profit from us.

It will mean "voting with our feet" through sustained, mass civil disobedience. As journalist Chris Hedges points out, "There were once radicals in America, people who held fast to moral imperatives. They fought for the oppressed because it was right, not because it was easy or practical. They were willing to accept the state persecution that comes with open defiance. They had the courage of their convictions. They were not afraid."

Ultimately, it will mean refusing to be divided, one against each other, as Democrats versus Republicans, and instead uniting behind the only distinction that has ever mattered: "we the people" against tyranny.

Free online tool help locals know how much to water

The North Texas Municipal Water District urges homeowners to set their sprinkler systems to manual, not automatic, to help conserve water and curtail water bills.

North Texas residents may think they are saving water by pre-setting their sprinkler systems to run at certain times; however, they actually could be using 35 percent more water than those who operate their sprinklers manually, according to a district news release.

To help manage watering schedules, the NTMWD is encouraging customers to use WaterMyYard.org, a free online tool that can help people determine how much water their lawn needs on a day-to-day basis. Water My Yard uses real-time local weather information based on the user's ZIP code. It also takes into account each person's lawn type and brand of sprinkler system. Customers who sign up can

receive text messages or email recommendations on how much to water their lawns.

"The use of irrigation or sprinkler systems has a dramatic impact on total water consumption," Denise Hickey, the NTMWD's water resource program and public education manager, said. "Operating sprinklers manually can ensure that residents water only when necessary."

According to a recent survey conducted by Baseline and Associates Inc., nearly 8 out of 10 North Texas residents mistakenly believe they use more water inside their homes than they do outside. In fact, most water gets used outside the home during summer months. Watering a lawn for just 30 minutes consumes the same amount of water as a four-hour shower.

TWC's over-expanding enforcement of the Unemployment Compensation Act is in direct violation of: Texas Constitution Article 1, Section 16

No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, retroactive law, or any law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall be made.

The act of forcing any business and natural person to purchase any kind of insurance for others, who renders services, constitutes impairing obligation of contracts." It's for this reason that Texas never passed an unemployment TAX.

The Texas Workforce Commission exists solely to enforce the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (26 USC 3306 (g) and (j)(1))

Lady Jackets take Bi-District against Copperas Cove

The Rockwall Lady Jackets (Overall 16-3-4, District 11-2-1) dominated Copperas Cove thru-out the Bi-District round playoff game, Thurs. March 24, 2016, with a 5-1 win at Lumpkins Stadium in Waxahachie.

Lauren Baker scored the first three goals, with assistance from Kayla Campbell, Bailey Wooten, and Ariell Hopkins.

With about 9:45 left in the first half, Wooten took a shot from close range for a 4-0 lead, after a blocked attempt.

About three minutes later, Copperas Cove put a point on the score board.

Soon after the start of second half play, Katie Givens scored from the left side with assistance from Campbell.

The Lady Jackets protected the 5-1 lead until the end of the game.

Rockwall is set to play against Mesquite Horn, 6:30 p.m., Fri. April 1, at Sunnyvale High School.

Royse City Bulldogs baseball update

Royse City baseball (Overall 7-8-1, District 2-2)

District

Began District play with 7-1 loss to Forney at home.

The Bulldogs started with a hit by Courtland Vance during the 1st inning. Later, Mark Trejo got the RBI that drove Vance in for a score.

Forney took command of the 2nd inning with 6 runs against Bulldogs pitcher Montana Sims. Later in the 5th inning, Forney scored one more run.

On Fri. March 18, the Bulldogs traveled to North Forney for a 11-6 win.

Drayton Harris pitched 5 innings and logged 9 strikeouts and 10 first pitch strikes. After allowing 4 runs in the 1st inning, Harris held Forney to 1 run in the 2nd inning.

Landon Roberts finished the game allowing 1 run in the 7th inning, logging 3 strikeouts.

Roberts got 2 Runs, 1 Hit, 1 RBI out of 5 At Bats.

Other RC individual stats

Kelton Ward, 2 runs out of 3 At Bats; Antonio Carrillo, 1 R, 1 H, 2 RBI, 2 AB; Trejo, 1 R, 1 H, 2 RBI, 3 AB; Josh Owen, 2 R, 3 AB; Grant McKee, 1 R, 2 H, 5 AB; Vance, 1 R, 1 H, 3 AB; Dillon Carter, 1 H, 1 RBI, 3 AB; Jeremy Beavers, 1 R, 3 AB.

North Forney stand-outs

Kyle Hogwood, 1 R, 1 H, 3 AB; Garret Morris, 1 R, 1 H, 3 AB; Ricardo Pena, 1 R, 1 H, 3 AB; Jordan Taylor 1 R, 1 H, 3 AB.

Pitching for North Forney were Ricardo Pena in the 1st two innings; Noah Griffin innings 3 thru 5; Anthony Villarreal finishing the game.

On Tues. March 22, the Bulldogs traveled to Garland for a 12-2 win against South Garland.

William Snowden pitched the first three innings for Royse City, allowing no runs, 3 hits, and earning 2 strikeouts. Montana took the mound during the 4th inning logging 3 strikeouts, and allowing 2 hits and 1 run. Dillon Carter finished the last two innings with 3 strikeouts, and allowing 1 hit and 1 run.

The Bulldogs scored 2 points in the 2nd inning, 4 in the 3rd inning, and 5 in the 4th inning, and 1 in the 6th inning.

Leading on offense was Carter with 1 run, 2 hits, 4 AB and 3 RBIs.

Royse City individual stats

Carrillo, 2 R, 2 H, 2 AB, 1 RBI; Grant McKee, 3 R, 1 H, 2 AB; Harris, 1 R, 1 H, 1 RBI, 3 AB, 1 Strikeout (K); Vance, 1 R, 1 H, 1 RBI, 2 AB; Trejo, 2 R, 2 AB; Grayson Laster, 1 R, 1 H, 1 AB; Brett Mentel, 1 H, 1 AB; Connor Fain, 1 R, 1 RBI, 2 AB; Jeremy Beavers, 1 RBI, 1 AB.

The Bulldogs returned home, Thurs. March 24, for a 10-3 loss to Mesquite Poteet.

Royse City will play Terrell, 7:30 p.m., Thurs. March 29, at Gill Park.

The team will return home 7:30 p.m., Tues. April 1, to play Rockwall-Heath.

Vendors sought for June 4 Country Fair

The Rockwall Soroptimists are accepting applications for booth and food vendors for their third annual Country Fair on Saturday, June 4. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 1111 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. Admission will be free. Tickets will be sold for vintage game play, rides and beverage purchases. Proceeds will fund the Soroptimists' ongoing projects.

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Rockwall Lady Jackets Lauren Baker takes aim for a shot to the goal against Copperas Cove, Thurs. March 24, 2016, during the Bi-District playoff game at Lumpkins Stadium in Waxahachie. The Lady Jackets went on to win 5-1 in the game.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News



Lady Hawks Sophomore Natalie Farrington (7) battles for control of the ball against a Newman Smith player, Fri. March 25, 2016, during the Bi-District game at Wildcat/Ram Stadium in Richardson. Rockwall-Heath won 3-1 in the game.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Lady Jackets gymnastics take 2nd in District 11-6A

The Rockwall Lady Jackets gymnastics team place 2nd, during last week's District meet held at the Brandenburg Middle School gym.

Gymnast, Katie Weidman returned with the District Championship medal in the Bars.

The ladies are scheduled to compete at the Regionals meet Tues. April 5 and the 6th at Rockwall-Heath High School main basketball gym.

Team results

1st Heath 224.85
2nd Rockwall 218.55
3rd Lakeview 215.70

Individual

Vault - 3rd - Kennedy Shelton
Bars - 1st (District Champion) - Katie Weidman; 7th - Jamie Hall
Beam - 2nd - Kennedy Shelton; 8th - Katie Weidman
Floor - 4th - Kennedy Shelton

One American Soldier is May 13 lecture topic

The May installation of the Sheri Stodghill Lecture Series, presented by the Rockwall County Historical Foundation and the Rockwall County Historical Commission, will focus on an encore recorded presentation focusing on the service and capture of Weldon Mellody, World War II soldier from Royse City, as shared by his daughter-in-law, JoNell Mellody. The May 13 event will run from noon to 1 p.m. in the third floor in the historic downtown courthouse.

Lady Hawks defeat Newman Smith in Bi-District soccer

The Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks soccer team (Over all 16-3-4, District 10-3-1) defeated Newman Smith, Friday March 25, 2016, Bi-District, at Wildcat/Ram Stadium in Richardson.

The Lady Hawks scored first with a goal from Sophomore Natalie Farrington assisted by Freshman Mackenzie Stricklin, with minutes on the clock.

Nearly 5 minutes later, Newman Smith tied it up from an own goal by the Lady Hawks, off a corner kick.

With about 22 minutes left before halftime, Mackenzie Stricklin scored a header off a cross-pass from Natalie Farrington, putting the Lady Hawks up 2-1.

The final goal in the first half came from a surprise long shot by the goal from Freshman Martha Gudino. When she took the shot Newman Smith had been trying to clear her out of their half of the field.

No goals were scored in the second half, with the successful defense by Emelie Ramirez, Carmen Herndon, Kaymi Wheeler, and Taylor Esch.

In the goal-keeper position, Freshman Savannah Hall took the place of injured starter Sadie Danna.

The Lady Hawks will take on Frisco HS this Friday 6pm at Lovejoy HS for the Area playoff game. This winner from this match will be on the winner of the Wylie East/Forney game.

Rockwall Yellowjackets win District in gymnastics

The Rockwall Yellowjackets gymnastics team place 1st at District meet, March 24-25, at the Brandenburg Middle School gym.

According to Coach Cameron Sweny, this is the 7th consecutive year the team has claimed a district championship.

The regional championships will be at Rockwall-Heath High School's main basketball gym, on April 5th, and 6th.

TEAM results

1st - 327.35 Rockwall
2nd 323.15 Lakeview
3rd - 312.10 Heath

INDIVIDUAL (Top 10)

All Around - Adam Alford (only 0.15 away from 1st place), 2nd 111.50; Mckay Larman 4th - 104.70; Jake Hodges 6th - 88.70

Floor - Alford 1st - 19.10; Hodges 4th - 18.30; Sean Denny 9th - 17.15.

Pommel horse - Zach Dougal (tie) 2nd - 18.80; 2nd - Larman (tie) 18.80; Chad Singer 7th - 17.90; Alford 9th - 17.80.

Rings - Alford 1st - 18.50; Hodges 3rd - 18.00; Larman 7th - 16.30; Singer 8th - 16.50; Ryan Szafran 9th - 15.70.

Vault - Alford 1st - 19.10; Connor Campbell 6th - Larman 18.70; 7th - Aaron Cory 18.20; 9th - 17.90.

Parallel Bars - Alford 3rd - 19.00; Preston Gage 4th - 18.20; Larman 5th - 17.70; Hodges 7th - 17.50.

High Bar - Alford 3rd - 18.00; Campbell (tie) 5th - 16.60; Aaron Cory (tie) 5th - 16.60; Larman 7th - 16.30; Kyle Ziegler 8th - 16.30.

Lady Hawks gymnastics take 1st in District 12-5A

The Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawk gymnastics team placed 1st at the District Meet, Thurs. March 24 - 26, at the Brandenburg Middle School gym.

According to Coach Jennifer Holden, this year is the team's 3rd District Championship.

Freshman Spencer Ware placed 1st in the All-Around with 74.5 and on the Floor with 19.3 points. Freshman Bailey Daulong placed 1st on the Vault with 19 points. Freshman Peyton Moody returned with a 1st place finish on the Balance Beam.

Region 1 Championships are set for Tue. April 5 - 6, at Rockwall-Heath main basketball gym. Men's start time will be 12 p.m. and the women start at 4:00 p.m.

Team Results

1st Heath HS 224.85
2nd Rockwall 218.55
3rd Lakeview 215.7

Individual

Spencer Ware (Fr), 1st in the All-Around 74.5 and on Floor 19.2 and on Uneven Bars 18.75, 4th on Vault 18.1, and 5th on Beam 18.35

Bailey Daulong (Fr), 1st on Vault 19.0 and 3rd on Uneven Bars 18.45 and on Floor 19.2.

Rebekah Malone (Sr), 3rd in the All-Around 73.25 and on Uneven Bars 18.45, 5th on Vault 17.9, 6th on Balance Beam 18.2 and Floor 18.7.

Darion Mellom (Sr), 3rd on Balance Beam 18.5, and 5th in the All-Around 71.85 and on Vault 17.9, and 8th on Floor 18.55.

Maddie Lundell (Sr), 2nd on Floor 19.25, 3rd on Balance Beam 18.5, and 8th on Vault 17.4

Peyton Moody (Fr), 1st on Balance Beam 19.05 and 6th on Uneven Bars 18.25.

Alexis Spicer (Fr), 7th in the All-Around 69.6, 8th on Uneven Bars 18.1 and 9th on Floor 18.4.

Rockwall County News Brief

(Continued from Page 4)

RISD to host April 9 job fair

The Rockwall ISD will host its annual job fair from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 9, at Rockwall High. Representatives from each campus and administrative department will be on site. Job applicants may bring resumes and fill out online applications at rockwallisd.com/event/job-fair.

Democrats plan monthly meeting

The Rockwall County Democratic Party will host its monthly meeting at 9 a.m. on April 16 at the Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington, Rockwall. Those attending will receive a report on the recent Rockwall County Democratic Convention and introduced to delegates who will attend the Texas State Democratic Convention. A continental breakfast will be served.

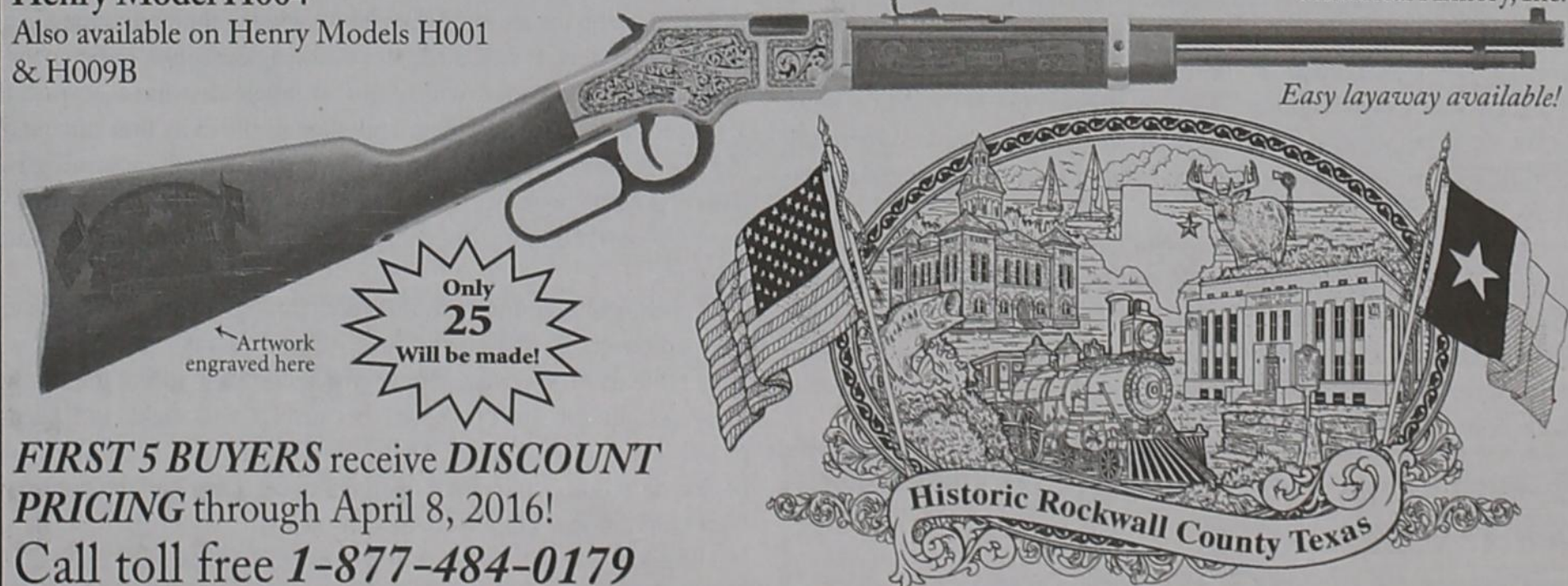
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