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Rockwall County News

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Rockwall council denies rate increase to Atmos Energy

Brittany Williams
brittany@yahoo.com
During their regular meeting on Monday, May 5, the Rockwall City Council unanimously approved to deny a rate increase request by Atmos Energy. The request was first presented on April 30, sent to council from Director of Internal Affairs explaining the request by Atmos and the city's background involvement in the Atmos Cities Steering Committee. According to their website, The Atmos Cities Steering Committee is a standing coalition of more than 150 Texas cities that has been organized through council resolutions, to represent the interests of residential consumers in gas utility regulatory matters. The City along with approximately 164 other cities served by Atmos Energy's Texas Division is a member of the Atmos Cities Steering

Committee ("ACSC"). On or about February 28, 2014, Atmos Mid-Tex filed with the City an application to increase natural gas rates pursuant to the Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") tariff renewed by the City in 2013 as a continuation and refinement of the previous RRM rate review process. This is the second annual RRM filing under the renewed RRM tariff," Boyd said in the letter, "The Atmos Mid-Tex RRM filing sought a \$45.7 million rate increase system-wide based on an alleged test-year cost of service revenue deficiency of \$49 million. Of the total amount requested, almost \$37 million is attributable to the affected cities. The City worked with ACSC to analyze the schedules and evidence offered by Atmos Mid-Tex to support its request to increase rates."

"This is an item that I voted against when it came up last year when they approved the rate increase," Councilman Jim Pruitt said, "I think we are in a situation where we're doing exactly what we should have done

last year, to deny their rate request to have it go up."

Unanimously, council voted to deny the rate increase.

Other items on the agenda were:

A proclamation was read by Mayor David Sweet congratulating the Heath Highsteppers on their Grand Champion title at the HTE Texas State Dance Team Championships. Mayor Sweet proclaimed May 5, 2014 as Rockwall-Heath Highsteppers Day.

Mayor Sweet and Mayor Pro Tem White will be presenting recognition certificates to each graduating senior of the Youth Advisory Council, which includes the following students: Eric Jones (Chair, 2013-2014), Aylana Alvarez, Kennedy Burge, Doug Yancy, Samantha Lopez, Michael Dawe, Ali Stricklin, Sharon Maguire, and CJ Chidozie. The next Rockwall City Council meeting is scheduled for May 19.



Rachel McMillan of Lakepointe Church led those in attendance in a hymn during the Annual National Day of Prayer Breakfast.

Photo by Brittany Williams/Rockwall County News



A group of Ouida Baley's close friends gathered May 3 to plant a pair of magnolia trees in her memory at the Old City Jail Park in Royse City. Each tied ribbons in her favorite color - lime green - on the trees. Glenda Arnold read some of Baley's favorite Bible scriptures and Jerrell Baley, Ouida's husband, read her favorite verse. Through tears and laughter, each shared memories of some of the special times they each had spent with her. She died in February 2014. Pictured left to right are Judy Haggard, Debbie Summers, Elaine Flowers, Linda Joslin, Vickie Edge, Jo Nell Melody, Shirley Magness and Glenda Arnold. Butch Howell and Jerrell Baley, to the right, are kneeling, tying ribbons on the tree.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

'Butterfly' vocalist shares anti-bullying message with Royse City students

Country singer Lizzie Sider's anti-bullying program at Ruth Cherry Intermediate School last week with a hug, an autographed picture and a one-sentence message: "Nobody has the power to ruin your

day." To the delight of Lizzie's audience, the 15-year-old country singer from South Florida also performed "Butterfly," a song she wrote about her own experiences of being bullied.

As a young child, Lizzie told the students during an assembly on April 30 that she would be excluded from games at recess.

"They wouldn't let me sit with them at lunch," she said. "They would laugh at me."

While other kids were playing games at recess, Lizzie said, she would

walk around the playground, singing quietly to herself.

One day, she said, some of the other children asked her to sing a song for them.

"I thought that maybe this time they were actually being nice to me," Lizzie said, "but when I started to sing for them, they started to laugh at me and ran away. It was a very hurtful time to get through. I would come home crying every single day."

One day before leaving for school, she said, her dad told her, "Nobody has the power to ruin your day."

"When my dad first told me this," she said, "I really didn't understand what he meant by that. After thinking about it awhile and after my parents continuously told me that every single day, I really realized that we're the ones to decide whether or not someone else's words or actions get us down and make us feel any less about ourselves."

"Butterfly," she said, is a song she wrote about her experiences of being bullied -- "about what that was like, about how hard that was, but also how I overcame it."

But the song isn't just about Lizzie.

"It's about all of us students and our teachers, other adults," she said. "It's about our family. It's about everybody in the world really because each and every one of us is different. We're all special. We're all unique. And we're all beautiful."

"And you know what? No matter what someone may say to us, no matter who might try to change us, forever we have that strength in ourselves to always believe in ourselves, to always just spread our wings and fly like a butterfly."

Here are some of the lyrics from "Butterfly."

"In shades of gray, I'd spend my days/so invisible because/they'd always put me down/yeah, I let 'em keep me down."

"But look at me now, look at me now/finally comin' out and I'm wantin'

to fly/gonna spread my wings, bright and colorful things/let 'em take me up and touch the sky/they thought they knew me plain and shy/but all along I was a butterfly."

Lizzie told the students that the pain of being a bullying victim can stay with some people a very long time.

"I can tell you guys that the scars from bullying don't just last for a day. They don't just last for a week," she said. "The scars can last for years, and I'm still dealing with some of mine."

"So, we really, really have to be careful, and not only should we not bully each other, but we should be each others friend, be supportive of each other."

Lizzie urged the students to think about coming to the aid of bullying victims.

"I know that sometimes it may not seem like it's the cool thing to do, to go up to the person being bullied and to help them out," she said.

"There are times I've seen it happen. I've seen someone being bullied and I didn't do anything about it, but I wish I had. Other times I did something about it. I didn't get all mean or start a fight, but I went up to that person and I defended that person."

"I pulled them out of the situation and then I put my arm around them and told them that it's going to be OK. I told them how great they are and you know what? I felt really, really good about myself after."

Lizzie stood at the door after her program and greeted every student that passed through. Along with giving hugs and autographed pictures, she posed for pictures with many of the students.

Her father, Don, also attended the program. He said she had already presented 85 programs in California and 100 in Florida. She will end the school year with 70 programs in Texas.

After the Ruth Cherry program, she went next door for a presentation at Davis Elementary School.

Polling places named for May 10 election

Polling locations for the upcoming general election have been determined, according to information provided recently by the county elections administrator.

The following polling places will be utilized from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on May 10:

- Fate - Fate Community Center, 104 S. W.E. Crawford, Fate
- Heath - Heath City Hall, 200 Laurence Drive, Heath
- McLendon-Chisholm - Chisholm Baptist Church, 1388 S. SH 205, McLendon-Chisholm

- Rockwall - Utley Middle School, 1201 T.L. Townsend, Rockwall
- Rowlett - Cullins Lake Pointe Elementary School, 5701 Scenic Dr., Rowlett
- Wylie (Wylie residents only) - Southfork Mobile Home Community Clubhouse, 216 Southfork Blvd., Wylie
- Wylie (Wylie residents only) - First Baptist Church Events Center, 200 N. Ballard, Wylie

Rockwall County News Briefs

CARGO Gun Club to meet at Soulman's

The Rockwall CARGO Gun Club will meet at 6 p.m. at Soulman's Bar-B-Que in Rockwall. Firearms professionals, law enforcement officers, attorneys and certified CHL instructors will discuss a broad range of topics germane to gun ownership. There are no fees or dues; participants are asked to go through the serving line prior to joining the meeting. Weapons brought to the meeting for display must be unloaded; no loose ammunition should be brought. Concealed firearms are welcome, but must remain concealed. For more information contact CARGO. rockwall@gmail.com.

May 8 food drive to benefit food banks

Food donations for the Helping Hands food bank, Northeast Texas Food Bank via Lake Pointe and the Royse City Pantry will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. May 8 in front of the new Trend Tower building. The event, dubbed Red Day, is open to anyone who wants to participate by bringing a bag of food. Drop-off locations until May 8 include Maurice's, Dress Barn, KE Cellar Winery and Christian Brothers

Car Center; call 972-772-7000 for an updated list of drop-off locations.

Healing conference to be offered May 9-10

Transformation Anglican Church and its OS� chapter will host a healing conference featuring the Rev. Jack Sheffield, national director of the Order of St. Luke the Physician, at Heritage Christian Academy, 1408 S. Goliad St., Rockwall. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. May 9 and 9 a.m. May 10. Cost is \$15 each or \$25 per couple; cost includes a light continental breakfast and lunch on May 10. For more details visit transformationac.org or email Sharon Parker at shparker@swbell.net.

RARTA plans May 12 meeting

The Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association will meet at 11:30 a.m. May 12 for its annual spring luncheon at the Royse City First Baptist Church, 900 Pullen, Royse City (south of I-30 on the

(Continued on Page 3)



Johnston tapped for H-E-B Excellence award

Johnston, principal at Maurine Cain Middle School in Rockwall, is named one of the statewide winners of the 13th annual H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards distributed May 3 at a banquet at the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

Winning principals received \$10,000 in cash and a \$25,000 grant for their schools.

Johnston won the award for the secondary-school level.

Winners were selected from a pool of 58 finalists by judges who include teachers, parents, school administrators, and university and community leaders.

Brookmaster Tom Brokaw delivered the keynote address to a ballroom packed with hundreds of educators, elected officials, community leaders and H-E-B employees.

Tea, fashion show a big hit as museum fundraiser

by Millie Jean Coppedge
rcn.millie@yahoo.com

Fancy hats, a good cup of tea and great conversation started off an exciting event not seen much in this day and age – unless you live in Royse City, that is.

The Friends of the Museum hosted its fourth annual Keep the Cup -- Tea and Fashion Show May 3 at the First United Methodist Church. Tickets cost \$10, with proceeds going to help with needs of the Zaner Robison Historical Museum.

The tables were set with beautiful decorations and a cup and saucer at each setting. Each participant chose a cup and saucer, and at the end of the program, the cup and saucer was theirs to take home.

More than 50 ladies enjoyed a variety of teas, a luncheon provided by the Arbor House and door prizes.

After lunch, with Annie Cornelius as the master of ceremonies, the style show organized by Mary Johnson provided entertainment for everyone, not to mention lessons on how to combine styles,

accessories and jewelry. Walking the runway with fashions provided by LaRue Chic Boutique, Lyndie's Unique Boutique and Helping Hands of Rockwall were Janet Nichols, Janice Enloe, Mary Johnson and Jill Vestring.

The Zaner Robison Historical Museum, located at 124 south Arch St., is open from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Admission to the museum is free, but donations are accepted.

Clark tapped for \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship

Cullen Burns Clark of Rockwall a student at Rockwall-Heath High School, was named as the recipient of a \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship, according to a news release issued earlier this week.

Clark was selected from a pool of more than 15,000 finalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship program.

Finalists in each state are judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills and potential for success in college studies. The number of winners named in each state is proportional to the state's percentage of the nation's graduating high school seniors.

The scholars were selected by a committee of college admissions officers and high school counselors who appraised a substantial amount of information submitted by both the finalists and their high schools: the academic record, including difficulty level of subjects studied and grades earned; scores from two standardized tests; contributions and leadership in school and community; an essay written by the finalist; and a recommendation letter written by a high school official.



Kathy Medici smiled throughout the Keep the Cup Tea and Fashion Show. Everyone complimented her on how beautiful she looked in her red dress and the Southern belle-style hat. Medici is new to Royse City.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

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culpeppersteakhouse.com
*All dates are subject to change



The Rockwall County Historical Foundation's April Brown Bag program, Reflections of Rockwall County, was presented by JP Nancy Beaty and Assistant DA Craig Stoddard. The past and present were compared through the use of old record books and tales of the way business was handled years ago. The final Brown Bag program before the summer break will take place at noon May 9. Jo Nell Melody will share the program, One American Soldier, which is the story of her father-in-law from Royse City and his service during World War II. The meeting will be free and open to the public on the third floor of the historic downtown courthouse.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Air Force Airman Brian Hicks recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, according to a military news release. The airman completed an eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfighting principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. He is a 2012 graduate of Rockwall-Heath High School.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Joyce Jackson and her Son Charlie Roach

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Air Force Airman Hunter D. Kern, pictured above, recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, according to a military news release. The airman completed an intensive eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfighting principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Kern is the son of Jeff A. Kern of Rockwall and Mary B. Wicks of Bullard.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

A study on salvation and liberty ... Part 1

Filled with holy spirit and receiving the Holy Ghost

One distinctly possible candidate for what people must do to get born-again and saved can be seen in Acts 2:4.

Let's dive into different verses about receiving the Holy Ghost and being filled with the Holy Ghost, starting with the first time people accomplished both.

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4).

It's important to understand the chronology of events in Acts 2:4. They were first filled with the Holy Ghost, and started speaking in tongues. The vision of fiery cloven tongues was simply God's green light to start speaking in tongues. Afterward, there is no record of God giving visions to people to start speaking in tongues. Instead, they went out and helped others to start speaking in tongues.

There are some records of the apostles helping others to start speaking in tongues, and the term "receive the Holy Ghost" is used in the context of speaking in tongues. Likewise, there are other verses that refer to being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in the context of being filled with the Holy Ghost.

The fact that the two are used separately and distinctly in the vari-

ous records should tell us that they are not the same thing. Being filled with the Holy Ghost is not the same as receiving the Holy Ghost.

The first verse that refers to this is Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.'"

At first glance it would appear that being baptized results in the spiritual experience of receiving the gift. But a study of the earliest known text reveals a different picture. The words "ye shall" were not in the earlier text. By removing the words "ye shall" the same Acts 2:4 chronology can be seen, "Repent, and be baptized...for the remission of sins, and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Considering Peter was talking to everyone in the room on the same day as the Acts 2:4 record, it stands to reason that Peter was teaching the right information and instructions so that everyone else could be filled with the Holy Ghost and start speaking in tongues.

In Acts chapter 8, Philip was in Samaria teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to verse 12, "when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized..." At this point in time, they were baptized (filled with the Holy Ghost), but had not yet received the gift.

It continues, "Now when the apostles...heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John; who...prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost. (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them; only they were baptized in the

name of the Lord Jesus.) (Acts 8:14-16).

"Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Ghost" (verse 17)..

Based on Acts 2:38 and Acts 8:14-17, God is clearing emphasis on the importance of receiving the Holy Ghost.

In the Acts chapter 8 record, the word receive is translated two different earlier known words. To "receive" the word was Greek word dechomai which meant to mentally receive information favorably. Whereas, to "receive" the Holy Ghost was the Greek word lambano, which meant to lay hold of or seize unto it, with a permanent ownership.

Please note the common chronological thread found in Acts 2:38 and 2:4. All records involve two distinctly different things occurring chronologically one before the other.

Alas, we come to Acts 19:1-7 where Paul came to Ephesus. He found certain disciples and said, "Have you received the Ghost since you believed?" Paul's question perfectly fits with the chronology of Acts 2:4, 2:38 and chapter 8. Romans 10:9-10 more information about the role of believing. With the heart believes that God raised Jesus from the dead into righteousness.

Based on this information, we know that the people in Acts 19 were already believing with their hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead. And when God poured His spirit out into the world, along with the place they were at, all the disciples would have immediately been filled with the Holy Ghost.

Paul knew exactly what to ask the Ephesians, "Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed" [with your hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead unto righteousness]?

The Ephesians had never heard about the Holy Ghost. They knew about John's baptism, which involved water. When they heard the truth, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. In Acts 19, they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Next Paul helped them receive the Holy Ghost which "came on them" when they spoke in tongues! The term "came on them" means to permanently press downward (see also Acts 2:3 about the vision of cloven tongues "sitting upon" each of them).

Photo fundraiser to benefit Women in Need

A Mom & Me Portrait Fundraiser, benefitting the local nonprofit Women In Need, will be offered May 18.

A local salon and photography studio have teamed up for the Mother's Day special event. Photo sessions will be available between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Appointments may be made at sarahduckworthphotography.com. Once an appointment is booked, a confirmation email will be sent as a reminder.

Women In Need is a domestic violence shelter that provides free services such as emergency shelter, crisis intervention, 24-hour hotlines, legal advocacy, counseling and education to residents of Rockwall and Hunt counties. In the past year, the nonprofit agency has provided services to more than 800 families and has reached more than 2,500 students in local health classes where students are learning what healthy relationships look like and how to identify early warning signs in their relationships.

For God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we are awake or asleep, we should live together with him in glory. 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

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Psalm 150:6

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Proverbs 18:7

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First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall

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"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



Royse City schools pilot program deemed a success

By Millie Jean Coppedge
mjcoppe@rockwallcountynews.com

The pilot program that involved using Amplify Tablets to take the place of pencil and paper started at the beginning of this 2013-2014

According to Zach Snow, Royse City Independent School District technology coordinator, the tablets were purchased for an eighth grade middle school science classroom and selected high school anatomy courses.

"The pilot program will be continued for next year in the same classes with a different group of students," Snow said. "We do feel the pilot program has been successful so far."

Donald, also of the RCISD technology department, said the first 310 of the Amplify Tablets to start off the year. Insurance cost \$79. If a student's tablet is stolen or becomes damaged it would be replaced at no cost to the student or his family. He said there will be a meeting in the next couple of weeks to discuss how they will expand the program.

With a couple of parents it seems as if the students in the classroom are learning, completing homework and communicating with the teacher.

Dusek said her son, Joshua Dusek, "absolutely loves his tablet. It provides him with a great resource for school and a way to stay on top of his assignments. We like the convenience of the tablet in his hands. In addition, by having the rules and privileges of a tablet clearly stated and have made the students more accountable for their actions. It's been a very useful tool."

Parent, Kellye McCoy said, "The tablets have been good for assignments and technology in the class, when they work. Reaching Wi-Fi is often, difficult since our server is not always on. The idea of the tablet seemed cool at the beginning of the year, but the students have been really restricted in what all they are able to do. Better than books, maybe in some regards ... but when the needed for the assignment can't be accessed, not so much. The rooms makes it difficult to see the screen too. Students don't use the tablets well -- dropped often."

McCoy said her daughter, Meredith, replied 'It's OK' when asked if she liked the tablet.

Shelli Holmes, the eighth grade science teacher, conducted

an in-depth science experiment with her students called the Lego Communication Challenge. Holmes created a pattern before class began using Legos and put one into each of four plastic boxes. Each pattern was different.

She divided the students into groups, then spread each group out into certain sections of the room and headed toward the back of the room. Then she gave instructions to the students as to how the challenge would be carried out. The first person in each group would raise the lid of the box, study the pattern, then walk to the second person in his group. Without using any hand motions, he would softly tell that student what the color the bottom layer was and what the pattern looked like. The second person would go to the third person in their group and repeat what he was told. Finally, the third student would go to the last person, who, according to the instructions, would build that section of the pattern.

Then the first person would look at the pattern again, this time for the second layer of Legos and start the process again. This was done about four times or until the last person in the line had built the same shape as the one in the box. Whenever a group thought they had built the same pattern as contained in the box, that group would raise their hands to let the teacher know their pattern was ready to be checked for correctness.

A couple of times during the game, the teacher rang a bell and had some of the students in each group change places, but stay in their same group.

The students were serious-minded, working diligently to enhance their creative thinking, listening and communication skills.

At the end of the challenge, the students were instructed to write a summary on their tablet for homework, telling about the Lego Communication Challenge, including what they learned from working in groups with this type of oral communication, was it harder or easier than they thought and did they like the project/class assignment.

Holmes told the students they could add a picture to their summary, do a PowerPoint, complete a Word document, make a video or either of a couple of other ways she explained to them.

She told them that they had a few minutes before the bell rang to change classes and they could get started on their summary. Almost before she completed the instructions, many of the students already had their tablets out and were working to get their thoughts -- no, not on paper, but typed into their tablets. Busy little fingers were flying.

A smile came across Holmes' face as she watched them work. She

said that when the students complete their homework and send it to her, it tells what time they completed it. Thus if they complete their homework in, say, math class, just before coming to her class, it will show the time and she will know when they completed their homework. The tablet teaches the students accountability in many ways, all the time, having fun in learning.

In asking several of the students how they liked the Amplify Tablet or if they liked the book-way of learning, not one student in Holmes' classroom said they liked the books, pencil and paper method better.



Victoria Aguilera, an eighth grade student at Royse City Middle School, works on her Amplify Tablet after a class experiment. She is in the science class of Shelli Holmes, one of the classes chosen for the pilot program to help the district decide if they want to stay with books, paper and pencil for the classroom or purchase tablets for all classrooms.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

Appraisal notices mailed out May 5

The Rockwall Central Appraisal District mailed its 2014 Appraisal notices on May 5, according to a news release issued this week.

The appraisal will reflect the market value on Jan. 1. Visit the Appraisal District's website at rockwallcad.com after May 15 to review values of properties in the neighborhood.

Anyone who doesn't agree with the Appraisal District's determination of value should contact the district by the protest deadline indicated on the

appraisal notice.

Appraisal districts are also the agency that administers property tax exemptions. If the property is a principal residence, check the exemption portion of the notice to ensure the exemptions qualified for have been granted.

Local entities have authorized homestead exemptions that reduce the taxable value of a residence. Additional exemptions have been authorized

for homeowners who are disabled or over 65 years of age. There are also exemptions for veterans with service connected disabilities. These exemptions must be applied for at the Appraisal District office. Contact the office with any questions about qualifications or the application process.

Anyone who needs explanation regarding any portion of your notice should contact our office. Because appraisals are based on a mass appraisal technique, there may be some properties that warrant a value adjustment.



Staff of Pregnancy Resource Center from left to right Joanne Vuckovic, Michaela Matjeka, Shannon Weishuhn, Mary Vestal, and Laura Grey.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



More than 75 young people and adults poured through the doors at Ruth Cherry Intermediate School in Royse City on May 4, getting ready for the annual 1.2-mile CROP (Community Responding Over Poverty) Hunger Walk. The walk helps the community understand that people in other countries have to walk long distances, often many, many miles just to get water and food, and often in hot, humid weather. The Hunger Walk also accepted donations and raised about \$300 and many canned foods donations to be given to the Royse City Food Bank. The Intermediate 6th Grade Band entertained at the end of the walk, and the Ruth Cherry Student Council and Royse City churches assisted in the event. The organizers for the event were the Ruth Cherry Student Council, whose sponsors are Melissa Campbell, Michelle Dusek and Richard Pease.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

Royse City Police Blotter

April 25-May 1

• Friday, 25 April: City ordinance violation, 200 block Hidden Creek Drive; Medical assistance, 1300 block Hwy 66; Disturbance, 700 block Nancy Drive; Medical assistance, 200 block Lynn Street; Suspicious person, 320 block Overstreet Lane; Threat, 600 block Rowdy Drive; Driving while license invalid w/out insurance, 1-30 westbound near the 79-mile marker; Possession of drug paraphernalia, I-30 westbound near the 77-mile marker

• Saturday, 26 April: Suspicious vehicle, Area of Cooper Lane and Erby Campbell Boulevard; Driving while intoxicated arrest, 3000 block FM 548; Driving while intoxicated arrest, 6800 block E. I-30; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77B exit; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; Threat, 100 block Rowdy Drive; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77A exit; Assault, 500 block Cherrywood Drive; Public intoxication arrest, 1000 block E. I-30; Suspicious person, 2300 block I-30 NSR; Alarm, 800 block Rowdy Drive

• Sunday, 27 April: Noise disturbance, 3100 block Overstreet Lane; Alarm, 2500 block Circle Drive; Noise disturbance, 400 block Ame Lane; Welfare concern, Area of FM 2642 and I-30 NSR; Accident, Intersection of Hwy 66 and Dean Drive; City ordinance violation, 1500 block Redman Drive; Alarm, 2200 block E. County Road 11; Driving while intoxicated arrest, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Suspicious person, 800 block FM 2453; Alarm, 100 block Overstreet Lane; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 78-mile marker; Theft, 1000 block Odo Court

• Monday, 28 April: Possession of drug paraphernalia, I-30 NSR near the 81-mile marker; Suspicious person, Area of Rustic Grove Lane; Forgery, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Accident, 100 block Josephine Street; Driving while license invalid w/previous conviction arrest, Area of I-30 NSR and Elm Street

• Tuesday, 29 April: Alarm, 1800 block Hwy 66; City ordinance violation, 100 block E. I-30; Medical assistance, 3000 block Spencer Circle; City ordinance violation, 1600 block Kelly Lane; City ordinance violation, 200 block Cookston Lane; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77-mile marker; Medical assistance, Area of Perdenales Drive; Alarm, 100 block I-30 NSR; Threat, 700 block Rowdy Drive; Disturbance, 200 block Odo Court

• Wednesday, 30 April: Accident/No driver's license arrest, 2300 block Hwy 66; City ordinance violation, 100 block E. Church Street; Assault, 100 block E. Hwy 66; Criminal mischief, 1300 block E. Hwy 66; City ordinance violation, Area of Annahlee and Lynn Street; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; Alarm, 2300 block I-30 NSR; Disturbance, 400 block Welch Road; Disturbance, I-30 eastbound near the 77B exit; Identity theft, 1500 block Sams Circle; Rockwall County Sheriff's Office arrest, Area of May Street and Lamar Street

• Thursday, 1 May: City ordinance violation, 200 block Sandy Lane; Alarm, 300 block Green Terrace Drive; Alarm, 1200 block Industrial Drive; City ordinance violation, 100 block W. Church Street; City ordinance violation, 200 block Starlight Lane; City ordinance violation, 900 block Meadowdale Drive; City ordinance violation, Area of Marsha Lane and New Lane; Medical assistance, 1300 block E. Hwy 66; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77A exit; Reckless driver, I-30 westbound near the 78-mile marker; Threat, 100 block Singleton Drive; Noise disturbance, 100 block West Creek Drive; Suspicious vehicle, 2300 block I-30 NSR; Suspicious vehicle, 2300 block I-30 NSR

Keep It Local Keep It Conservative Vote for Chad Higbee

This Saturday May 10th the citizens of Rockwall have the opportunity to make a difference in the future of the Rockwall Independent School District.

In our distinguished community there is not a greater responsibility than to cast your vote for a political representative that is fore most Trustworthy, Honest and unencumbered with political favors.

Let us be Texas bold and vote for a candidate that will protect our tax dollars, the interests of our children and be a taxpayer advocate. The classroom is not meant to be a profit center for corporatists and high paid consultants. Our classrooms should remain centers for the love of learning and the development of life long learners.

Keep it local!

On May 10th - Vote for Chad Higbee for Rockwall ISD Place 7.

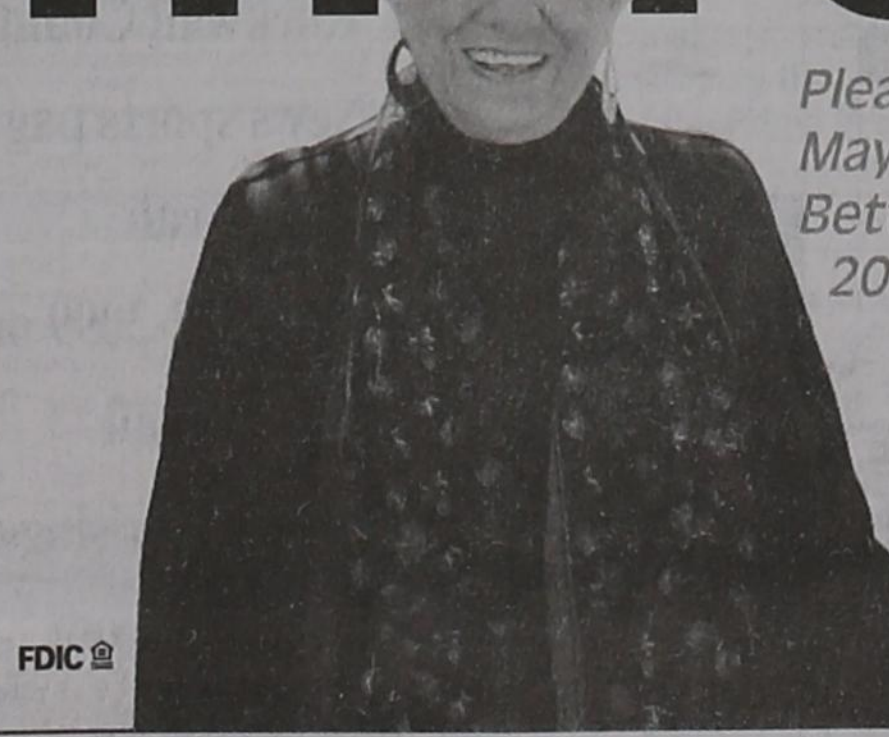
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Opinions

Separation of Church and State (1st Amendment)

(History of our Forefathers) From American History Part 4

by Kenneth Shores
Rockwall, Texas

Explanation of Separation of Church and State (Amendment 1). Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

You will not find anywhere in the United States Constitution or Bill of Rights the term "Separation of Church and State". On February 10, 1947 the Supreme Court used the term in a decision of a New Jersey law suite "Did the New Jersey statute violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment as made applicable to the states through the Fourteenth Amendment?" To read about the whole case go to website http://www.oyez.org/cases/1940-1949/1946/1946_52. The supreme Court Justices used the phrase as derived from correspondence between President Thomas Jefferson and the Baptist Association of Danbury, Connecticut in 1801. For detail information go to website

<http://www.wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=123> The Supreme Court Justices are to interpret all decisions based on the U. S. Constitution, the Laws of the United States as stated in Article 3 section 2 of the Constitution.

Adding the new phrase "Separation of Church and State" now implies the following. If the church is separated from the state that implies that one is not to interfere with the other one, such as rules, laws etc. First, does that mean that each one is responsible for what they represent? If that is the case, then the government has no right to apply their laws and regulations on anything the church stands for and the church likewise must do the same. If that is true, then how do you resolve a situation like the state allows abortion and the church does not, the state allows same sex marriages and the church does not, and so forth? According to that definition one side would need to change their rules or regulations to agree with the other one, or the people who make up the church would live differently than the people of the state. The true meaning of what was written, according to my research is to

prevent forming any religion within the government like common law England, which was the governing country of this land before the American Revolution. Amendment 1 as written will not be allowed to interfere with anyone's religion or their choices regarding religion. Pastors, Priest, Rabbi's and other heads of religious organizations also should be given total freedom of speech when addressing their followers. This is why "In God We Trust" and other items of religious products that does not promote anyone religion has been allowed on government property in the past. People have the right to accept objects like this as either meaning something special to them or have little or no meaning. My conclusion is that there will be a challenge presented to the Supreme Court to revisit the decision of the 1947 decision of the Supreme Court to redefine the meaning of the 1st Amendment as our forefathers had written. For more information visit Wallbuilders.com.

How well do election candidates follow simple instructions Part 2

by Timothy W. Burnett

Counties, cities, school districts and other local government units have a direct impact on the people.

The same government units must make decisions that directly affect others in the local communities, including their neighbors, local friends, families and church families.

Local elected officials and appointed officers are given power from the State government to seize money from the people and businesses.

To be blunt, let's say they are given the power to "rob from the people and businesses" and to "control the people and businesses."

This understanding helps toward deciding what kind of people to vote for.

When recruiting, most companies look at whether the people are able to follow simple instructions. It is reasonable to assume that anyone who has a history of not following simple instructions may continue to do so in the future.

Let's briefly look at whether the potential elected government officials follow simple instructions found in the Texas Constitution and the controlling statutes.

In last week's edition of Rockwall County News, we briefly examined the City of Heath's graffiti law, the Knox Box 'Security Breach Mandate' being implanted by various cities including Rockwall, the General Election process in comparison with the controlling statutes, Municipal Courts' fictional procedures designed to enforce fictional laws, and the practice of law enforcement officers parking the cars at extremely dangerous points on the interstate such as entrance and exit ramps.

Cities and other local government units are not authorized to pass ordinances that are in violation of the Constitution and controlling statutes.

This is why we ask whether elected officials are willing and able to follow simple instructions in the law.

Regulation of travel

Most cities pass ordinances regulating people who travel in automobiles within the city limits.

For example, the State speeding statute does not designate speeding as a misdemeanor criminal offense punishable by fine. "Speeding" is commonly treated as a fictional criminal offense.

All license/registration/inspection mandates fall within the narrow scope of the Transportation Code. How many people traveling around in Rockwall County are using the roads and highways for the purpose of transportation? A small percentage might be a reasonable guess.

As an example, read the statute that requires a "driver's license." Apply the definition of the term "driver's license" in the statute that requires a driver's license. All people are free to read the Constitution and statutes. They can be found online by searching "Texas statutes." Look for Section 521.021 License Required. Next read the definition of "driver's license" found in Section 521.001 (a)(3). Finally ask whether you are required to hold a "temporary license or instruction permit, and an occupational license."

The driver's license requirement reveals the scope of the Transportation Code is limited to companies that use the roads and highways of Texas for transportation purposes. It's an "occupational license." In reality, it is legally an "operator's license."

How many elected officials actually read the state statutes they call on officers to enforce?

The Texas legislature initially understood the basic right of the people to travel freely on the roads and highways of Texas without being regulated and punished. They also understood that a posted speed limit may be prima facie evidence in all legal hearings that involve accidents.

Yes, the speeding statute actually says the posted speed limit is prima facie evidence of a violation. But it does not make the conduct of driving faster than a posted speed limit a misdemeanor criminal offense punishable by fine. Yet, many people are stopped for speeding and forced to enter a plea before a municipal or justice of the peace court and either make fine payment or go to trial.

Most elected city officials have voted in favor of controlling the speed of the traveling public in direct violation of the State Transportation Code.

Local curfew

If it's difficult to see the transportation issues, others may recognize the Constitutional violation of curfews.

In short, a curfew is in essence discriminatory Marshal Law passed and implemented at a local level. Elected officials have argued that the city represents all families in its responsibility to the communal family as a whole, and therefore is authorized to force people of certain age groups to stay in their respective home properties during certain time periods. Moreover the cities punish parents and/or guardians with fines.

This subject should be a 'no-brainer,' 'slam-dunk' case of not following simple instructions in the law.

Most interesting is the elected officials are not held legally responsible or accountable for the actions of the enforcement officers. It can be said that municipalities are limited liability corporations designed to rule over the people who live within their boundaries.

Mal-enforcement of laws against the people may be treated as Official Oppression and/or Abuse of Official Capacity under Texas Penal Code Chapter 39.

Anytime officers "stop" others, they in essence unleash the full power of the State with a custodial arrest action. This is why the people require officers to give an Oath of Office and be certified and commissioned to enforce the statutes.

Publication of required legal notices

The people of Texas have the right to due process of law. Due process of law includes the right to be notified of certain actions by government units such as municipalities, counties, and various districts.

In Rockwall County, the cities of Heath, Fate and Roysse City have historically violated Government Code Section 2051.048 (c) related to the publication of required legal notices.

To quote the statute, "If no newspaper published in the political subdivision will publish the notice at or below the legal rate, the political subdivision shall publish the notice in a newspaper that: (1) is published in the county in which the political subdivision is located; and (2) will charge the legal rate or a lower rate."

During the past five years the City of Heath has used a daily newspaper published in Dallas County. During the past two years

Fate has used a newspaper published in Hunt County. During the past 10 years or more, Roysse City has used a newspaper published in Hunt County.

Are the candidates willing and able to follow simple instructions found in the controlling statutes? The legal notice issue provides voters opportunity for an answer.

During year 2012, the Rockwall County News filed a Declaratory Judgment suit against the cities of Heath and Roysse City.

The suit asked the court to determine whether past notices published in accordance with the law, and to issue an order to the city to choose a newspaper that meets all the statutory qualifications for publication of required legal notices.

Roysse City filed a motion for dismissal for lack of jurisdiction based on the claim that the plaintiff did not name an officer of the city in the suit. The 382 District Court granted the motion and dismissed the case. Judge Brett Hall was the presiding judge.

Roysse City's basic claim related the legal notice issue was because the city line extends into Hunt County, the city is located in Hunt County, and therefore authorized to use a newspaper published in Hunt County.

The Rockwall County News later confirmed with the Texas Secretary of State's office that the City of Roysse City is not located in Hunt County. It is located only in Rockwall County.

As of the date of this publication, all three cities have continued to use newspapers published in other counties for required notices.

Why is the legal notice issue important? Legal notices inherently fall within the constitutional right of due Process of Law.

It is the right of the people to be duly notified of certain actions in accordance with the controlling statutes established by the people through their representatives.

Moreover, publishing required legal notice in violation of the statutes, puts the government units in a weak position.

They become vulnerable to law suits by adversely affected parties either among the people, home-owners, contractors, developers, other parties involved in or affected by actions.

Are the local election candidates willing to follow simple instructions? Will they actually read the controlling statutes to what they are authorized to pass? Or will they blindly rely on government attorneys for advice?

Another question to consider is related to character. Are the election candidates meek and humble to the people? Or do they desire to control and punish their neighbors, friends, families, fellow church members?

Rockwall County News Letters to the Editor

We encourage the submission of Letters to the Editor. The publishing of letters is at the sole discretion of the editor and may be edited for brevity, grammar and accuracy. Letters which are considered libelous or an attack of an individual's character will be rejected. Letters must be signed and include telephone number or address for verification.
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The new kid on the block got reeeeeeeally lucky and got to call all his chips.

Not only did CVS get to locate on a parcel of land that was originally zoned agricultural, but it got an alcohol variance as a winner's bonus.

At the Heath City Council meeting on April 22 the mayor and council voted unanimously to allow CVS to build their new store a mere 100 feet from the property line of the Fulton School. The city ordinance reads that businesses must be a minimum of 300 feet from a property line if they sell alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption.

Oddly enough, the trustees of the Fulton School, located directly across the street, said they supported this close proximity arrangement. No immediate-area residents were present to protest. Also kinda odd.

So now this "aren't we lucky to have them" retailer can sell its beer and wine up until 10 o'clock at night to accommodate drivers who need to whet their nighttime whistles.

Oh, and for that person at the meeting (me) who dared to question about the possibility of CVS staying open all night and the representative replying that "they haven't decided yet?"

That question was answered by Kim Dobbs, Heath's director of business development, who said it was already permissible just a few months ago.

Winner take all -- again.
Joan Ream
Heath

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2014 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS

- paper based in Pearsall: "
- Nueces Current
- long period of time
- this Lawrence moved Exxon HQ from NY to TX
- 21-across recorded a version of Ray Charles' hit "What'd I Get"
- dip in gravy
- TXism: "
- irons in the fire"
- sidekick of Crackle and Pop
- the 2nd bullet to hit JFK entered the back
- this TX Roy sang in 4-octave range (init.)
- TX Kenny Rogers sang "Can't Make it on My Own"
- TXism: "table grazed"
- TX Tech grad Demetrio Lakas was pres. of this Central America country
- star actress in 1990 "Leatherface: The Texas Chainsaw Massacre III"
- 47 assault rifle
- gourd that has tasty fruit (2 wds.)
- what's left after eating an apple
- TXism: "la vista" (see ya later)
- TXism: "half" (zebra)
- 1937 Hop-a-long Cassidy film: "Texas"
- TX Tommy Lee Jones is one in "The River Rat"
- MLB league for Astros and Rangers (abbr.)
- "out on a"
- George W. to George H.
- nat'l gun group
- genus of moths
- boot width
- TX actress Duncan (init.)
- TXism: "the town" (celebrate)
- collection of historical TX info.
- this is low among Cowboy fans
- TX Ted Poe's work time zone (abbr.)
- home of the Ozona Lions (abbr.)
- TXism: "false-alarm chili"
- this Monty played for the Rangers in 1991-92
- TX Charley Pride's "I've Just Found Another"
- "For Loving You"
- in Wichita Co. on hwy. 370
- hit of 21-across: "the Lonely"
- TXism: "You Asked Me"
- Highlands: "Jacinto"
- state where Emmitt is enshrined
- TXism: "for sore eyes"
- first colony to break with England (abbr.)
- affirmative vote in the TX legislature
- illegal deer hunters
- TX Tanya sang "One Love"
- Bowie Co. birthplace of Bonanza's "Hoss"
- nickname of TX's 26th gov., Ferguson
- rock guitarist need a Gulf tide
- TX Sunset Carson film: "Billy the Kid" (1946)
- "M" of TX "MD Anderson" center
- "San"
- ex-Cowboy Jones was "Tall"
- to do this is human
- this TX Brown won '60 shot put bronze
- New Orleans team
- Paso, TX
- rattlesnake casa
- TXns see these big mammals at the zoo
- and Eve
- "Bum" Phillips
- TXism: "does a bull milk?" (no)
- cowboy contest
- and burn"

Rockwall County Classified Advertising

Meetings

Anonymous, 24 hour
503-8602.

Meetings

7 days a week, Big
213 Rusk St., 972-366-

Meetings

information and loca-
214-363-0461.

Meetings

Monday & Friday, 8
South Jupiter St., Suite

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, and we
recently added an evening meeting
on the first Tuesday of each month at
7 p.m., also at the Rockwall Wedding
Chapel, 203 S. Fannin. For more in-
formation call 972-772-6001

Senior Services

If you are interested in deliver-
ing weekday meals to homebound
seniors in Rockwall County, we will
be holding volunteer training ses-
sions 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 Satur-
day monthly. We offer support and
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For more information call the Dallas
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Legal Notices

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TO ALL PERSONS
INTERESTED IN THE
ESTATE OF BRENNEN
CHASE TEEL, Deceased
CAUSE NO. PR14-50
COUNTY COURT AT LAW
OF ROCKWALL COUNTY,
TEXAS

The alleged heir(s) at law in the
above numbered and entitled
estate filed an APPLICATION
TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP
AND APPLICATION
FOR INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATION
AND LETTERS OF

ADMINISTRATION
PRUSUANT TO SECTION
401.003 OF THE TEXAS
ESTATES CODE in this estate
on April 16, 2014, requesting
that the Court determine who
are the heirs of BRENNEN
CHASE TEEL, deceased, and
their respective shares and
interests in such estate.

Said application may be heard
and acted on by said Court at
any call of the docket on or after
10:00 A.M. on the first Monday
following the expiration of ten
days from date of publication
of this citation, at the Rockwall
County Courthouse, 1111 E.
Yellowjacket Lane, Suite 403, in
Rockwall, Texas.

All persons interested in said
estate are cited to appear before
said Honorable Court at said
above mentioned time and
place by filing a written contest
or answer to this application
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Shelli Miller, County Clerk
Rockwall County, Texas
By: Sandy Montanez, Deputy

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Dorothy L. King,
Deceased, were issued on April
7, 2014, in Cause No. PR14-30,
pending in the County Court
at Law, ROCKWALL County,
Texas, to: Larry D. King and
Gilbert M. King.

All persons having claims
against this Estate which is
currently being administered are
required to present them to the
undersigned within the time and
in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: James R. Alexander
Attorney at Law
10440 North Central
Expressway, Suite 1040
Dallas, Texas 75231
DATED the 6th day of May,
2014.

James R. Alexander
Attorney for Larry D. King and
Gilbert M. King
State Bar No.: 00993000
10440 North Central
Expressway, Suite 1040
Dallas, Texas 75231
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Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Sealed submittals for Engineering Services addressed to Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall, will be received at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, Texas 75087 on May 15, 2014 at or before 11A.M., CST. Qualified firms interested in providing engineering design services for the paving and drainage improvements for the Westbound IH30/Ridge Road Entrance Ramp in the City of Rockwall should contact Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Office 972-771-7700 x 6418. RFQ packet is available on the city's website at www.rockwall.com. The City reserves the right to reject any or all submittals, waive formalities, re-advertise, and consider the most advantageous submittal thereof.

CITY OF ROCKWALL ORDINANCE NO. 14-18

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE [ORDINANCE NO. 04-38] OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, AS HERETOFORE AMENDED, BY AMENDING SECTION 6.1, NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS, OF ARTICLE II, AUTHORITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS ORDINANCE NO. 14-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN CHAPTER 30 PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE I IN GENERAL, SECTION 30-2. REGULATED ACTIVITIES IN PARKS TO AMEND THE POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AT HARRY MYERS PARK; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR REPEALING, SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL

ROCKWALL HEATH HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT ADDITION PROJECT CSP 14-050-01

COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS FOR, ROCKWALL HEATH HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT ADDITION PROJECT, CSP 14-050-01 for the Rockwall Independent School District will be received at the Rockwall Independent School District Purchasing Department, 1050 Williams St, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

Beginning, May 01, 2014, Prime Proposers may obtain Proposal Documents from Reographics Consultants, 325 North Saint Paul, Suite 275, Dallas, Texas 75201, 214-540-3957. Prime Proposers will be supplied one (1) full set of documents at no expense. Each set consists of one (1) set of drawings and one (1) set of specifications. **Additional sets requested by the Prime Proposers may be obtained but will be at the sole expense of the Prime Proposer paid directly to the reproduction company.** Partial sets of Proposal Documents will not be available. The additional complete sets may be obtained by request through the Architect.

Proposal documents should be submitted in a sealed envelope to the attention of the Rockwall Independent School District, Director of Purchasing and marked with the CSP number and "ROCKWALL HEATH HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT ADDITION PROJECT" as well as the name of respondent. Proposals will be received until 10:00 AM (local time) on May 20, 2014 at the Administration Center located at 1050 Williams Street, Rockwall TX 75087 at which time said responses will be publicly opened but not read. Proposals received after 10:00 AM (local time) TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014 will be rejected.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any irregularities, technicalities or informalities in any proposal or the CSP process.

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Hawks and Jackets baseball sweep Bi District round

by Ryan Garrett

Heath and Rockwall, the top two teams in District 12-5A, both went 2-0 in their best-of-three series last weekend to open baseball playoffs. Heath soared past the Garland Owls and the Yellowjackets downed Naaman Forest to advance to the Area round next week.

It was the Owls' first playoff appearance in 42 years. Prior to the start of Thursday's game in Garland, Rockwall-Heath coach Greg Harvey, a 1986 Garland High graduate, threw out the first pitch to former teammate and current Owls coach Nick Siratt.

The Hawks opened the series with a 9-2 victory Thursday, scoring six runs in the first three innings. Dylan Lewis led the way with two triples and Ryne Randle went 4-4. In Friday's game at RHHS, Heath coasted to a 10-0 win aided by a seven-run first. R.J. Williams, Matt Wood, Lewis and Tyler Ivey combined for seven hits and four RBI.

Heath will face McKinney Boyd in the Area round, beginning 7:30 Friday at Heath HS. Game two will be played Saturday at Boyd at 1 p.m., and if necessary, game three will start 30 minutes after.

Rockwall will play Dallas Jesuit in a three-game playoff beginning at 7:30 Thursday at Rockwall's Campbell Complex. Game two will be 7:30 Friday at Dallas Jesuit, and if needed, game three will be Saturday, 11 a.m. at Dallas Jesuit.

Cole Ballew blasted a three-run homer in the fifth inning and Carter Lilly tossed a solid game as the Jackets defeated Naaman Forest 12-2 in Thursday's game one.

Rockwall put the series away Friday in a 3-1 victory over the Rangers. The Jacket defense came up with two bit stops in the first two frames as Naaman threatened with runners in scoring position. Scoreless through three, RHS broke through with RBIs in the fourth and sixth by Gary Burton and Trey Ochoa.

Naaman threatened again in the seventh with a leadoff double, single, and an RBI double, but Christ Glover ended the rally with three strikeouts as Rockwall claimed the Bi District title.

Lady Jackets advance in playoffs, Heath battles but falls short

by Ryan Garrett

The Rockwall Lady Jackets continued their playoff journey Friday in the Area round, defeating the Plano East Panthers 13-4 in a one-game playoff at Wylie East High School.

Rockwall will play McKinney Boyd in the UIL Quarterfinals in a best-of-three series beginning 7 p.m. tonight at Boyd High School. The series will continue 7 p.m. Friday at Rockwall's Campbell Complex, and 1 p.m. Saturday if needed.

The Lady Hawks fought hard but couldn't break through, dropping in the one-game playoff with Plano West 2-0 Friday at Wylie High School.

Rockwall got off to a quick start, scoring four runs in the second off a two-run single by Mallory Taylor, and two more RBIs from Alyssa Henry and Bailey Wallace. Kindal Sauter knocked in a two-run home run in the third to lead Plano East 6-0.

The Lady Panthers weren't silent long as Destiny Garza cut the lead in half with a three-run homer. Plano East only got one more run in the game as the Rockwall defense held them to just seven hits.

Peyton Mills smacked a three-run triple, Shelbi Court hit an RBI sacrifice fly, and Henry and Dani Greenlee scored two more to hold on to the victory.

The Heath Lady Hawks held a defensive stand against a strong Plano West team. In the first two innings, the Lady Wolves had runners at the corners and Rockwall-Heath's defense pulled through. Freshman pitcher Cami Duffey got her first strikeout to get out of the first, and junior shortstop Katie Webster made a tremendous diving catch to close the second.

The Lady Hawks threatened in the fourth with a leadoff single by Webster and two stolen bases, and Macy Wilson knocked a double in the sixth, but Heath couldn't bring home a run.

Though the Lady Wolves outhit Heath 9 to 4, Plano West's only scores came in the third with a sacrifice groundout and in the fourth off a double. The Wolves left seven runners stranded, and Duffey struck out four.

Pasadena eliminates Heritage Christian from playoffs

Heritage Christian Academy's softball season ended Tuesday, April 29, with a 12-0 TAPPS 1A/2A playoff loss to Pasadena First Baptist Christian Academy.

Pasadena (17-3-1) held the Lady Eagles' offense to two walks and only one hit.

HCA's Conally Webb completed a promising freshman season. She was the losing pitcher, despite allowing just five hits. Webb struck out six.

The Lady Eagles finished second in TAPPS District 3-1A/2A with a 4-2 record. They were 7-7 overall.

"I am very proud of how these young ladies gave 110 percent over the season," HCA head coach Rick Trapano said.

"We are a young team and full of talent, especially with only two seniors departing. I look forward to moving up to TAPPS 3A in 2015, and watching these young ladies perform to a higher level. I am honored to have coached the 2014 Lady Eagles."

Rockwall Christian Academy lost its final district game to Greenville Christian School, ending the Lady Warriors' chances to qualify for the playoffs.

District 3-1A/2A received just two baseball playoff berths. HCA (3-5 in the district) and The Fulton School (2-6) missed qualifying by placing third and fourth.

Hunke wins twice in Wednesday sailing

Chris Hunke guided "Swale" to victory in two consecutive sailboat races in the Spring Wednesday Night Series on Lake Ray Hubbard.

In Race 5 April 30, Hunke's boat paced a field of five in the A Fleet, with a two-minute margin of victory over runner-up Jeff Willis in "Chaos Theory." Kathy Kuipers was third aboard "Rij Jik of Jik Ik."

A 12-mph north wind provided the power for the two fleets. Mike Jones and "Wings" dominated the six-boat field in the B Fleet. David Lawson sailed "Respite" to second place, with "Wind Song" finishing third.

A 15-mph south wind had attracted 15 boats to Spring Wednesday Night Series Race 4 April 23.

"Swale" paced nine entries in the A Fleet, finishing at 7:32:33 p.m. for a 2:14 advantage over Kuipers and "Rij Jik of Jik Ik" in second place.

Chris Nelms placed third aboard "Silver Wings," with George Conklin and "Audacity" fourth and Don O'Grady and "Déjà vu" fifth.

In the B Fleet, Jones brought "Wings" home in first place. "Blue Odyssey" placed second, with Keelan Manuel's "Joint Venture" third.

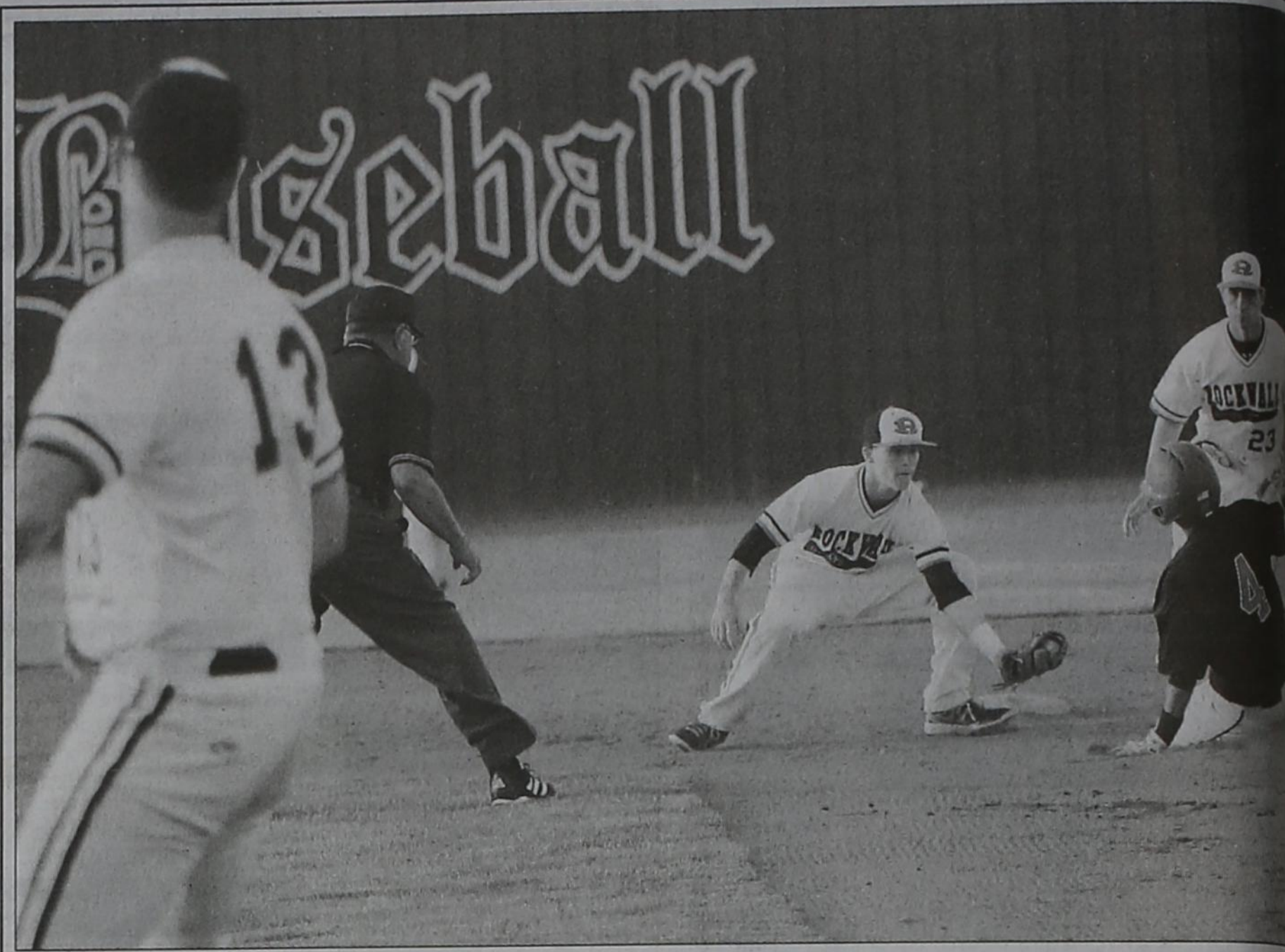
Robert Williams had sailed "J24" to first place in the A Fleet in Race 3 April 16.

Race 3 attracted 12 boats in two fleets. Williams' time of 46 minutes, 3 seconds led to a 41-second advantage in the A Fleet over runner-up "Orion," skipped by Dan Malak.

Placing third was Kuipers aboard "Rij Jik of Jik Ik," followed by Willis' "Chaos Theory" in fourth place and Marshall Mackenzie and "Superman's Cape" in fifth.

The B Fleet winner was "Blue Odyssey."

In the Sunday Dam Series Race 4 April 27, Roy Kuipers took first place in "Three Sheets." There were no Sunday Dam Series races because of inclement weather April 13 and Easter on April 20.



Shortstop Trey Ochoa tags a runner at second base during game one of the Bi-District series against Naaman Forest. Ready to assist at back is Nick Belvedere (23).
Photo by Sam Ballew/Rockwall County News

Lady Jacket Water Polo takes 9th at State in first season

by Ryan Garrett

In Rockwall High School's first season fielding a Water Polo team, the Lady Jackets finished in ninth place in the State Championships at the University of Texas Swimming Center in Austin May 2nd and 3rd. Rockwall advanced to State after placing second at Regionals. Following the tournament, Raena Eldridge was named 2nd Team All-State.

"This was a great experience for our girls' water polo team. Half the team was freshmen with no previous water polo experience," coach Paul Wallace said. "Finishing 9th in the state was an amazing achievement thanks in part to our strong veteran core of Raena Eldridge, Jordan Hummingbird, and Summer Scown."

The Lady Jackets faced Jersey Village in game one, falling 14-9. The team scored five goals and had six steals to lead the team. Hannah Pritchard and Hummingbird both shot two goals with two steals and goalkeeper Smith had two saves.

In game two, Rockwall defeated Anderson High School 19-4 in the ninth place finish. In a full team effort, Eldridge shot seven goals with five assists and seven steals. Pritchard and Jasmin Sani both scored while Kayla Maxwell, Kelsey Franks and Akiko Tran added a goal. Scown tallied three assists and two steals, and Smith had three saves to seal the victory.



Rockwall High School freshman Daniel Gibbs competed in the 5A State Golf Championship on April 28-29 at Onion Creek Golf Club in Austin. Daniel's two-day score was a 161 (82-79). Gibbs qualified for the State Tournament after finishing 3rd at the Region II Tournament on April 14.
Photo by Todd Freeman/Rockwall County News



Lady Jacket center Raena Eldridge (2, black cap) goes for a steal against Anderson High School in the Water Polo State Championships last weekend. Eldridge led Rockwall in scoring with 12 goals over two games as the Jackets finished 9th in State. It was the first season RHS fielded a team in school history.
Photo by Eric Eldridge/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County Entertainment

First Concert by the Lake set May 8

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will host its first Concert by the Lake event of 2014 on May 8. Performing an Elvis tribute will be James L. Wages. Live concerts are conducted at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays at The Harbor and will run through July 24. For a full schedule of performers visit rockwall.com/parks/concert.

Melody to lead Brown Bag Lecture event

The Rockwall County Historical Foundation and the Rockwall County Historical Commission will present their Brown Bag Lecture Series event from noon to 1 p.m. May 9 at the historic courthouse in downtown Rockwall. The topic will be One American Soldier, with Jo Nell Melloy sharing the story of her father-in-law who served in WWII and was captured in France. Admission will be free and open to the public. For more details call Sheri Fowler at 214-926-6466.

Tickets on sale for 'Forever Plaid'

Tickets for the Rockwall Community Playhouse's upcoming show, "Forever Plaid," are now available. The "deliciously goofy" play focuses on four young men killed in a 1950s car crash on their way to their first big concert; now they've been revived for the posthumous chance to fulfill their dreams and perform the show that never was. Performances are set for May 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25; Friday and Saturday shows will be at 8 p.m., Sunday shows at 2 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online; discounts will be given for early ticket purchases.

Golden Debs to present 'Elements'

The Roys City High School Golden Debs will present "Elements," a dance presentation, at 7 p.m. May 10 at the RCHS auditorium. Advanced tickets cost \$5 if purchased before May 1 from any Golden Deb team member; after that date tickets will cost \$7 at the door. Ticket sales will begin at 6:30 p.m. prior to the performance.

Buster Brown Band to perform

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will host a soul, variety show performed by the Buster Brown Band at the Concert by the Lake event on May 15. Live concerts are conducted at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays at The Harbor and will run through July 24. For a full schedule of performers visit rockwall.com/parks/concert.

Rockwall Founders Day set May 17

The Rockwall Founders Day Festival, celebrating the city's 160th birthday, will run from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 17 at Harry Myers Park. A Kid Zone with bounce houses and games will be offered, as will food booths and arts, crafts and business vendors. Live music will be featured from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., with the Charlie Daniels Band as the headline performer.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Soroptimists to host chili cook-off

The Rockwall Soroptimists are looking for cooks to participate in a cook-off scheduled as part of the Rockwall County Fair, which runs from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. June 14. There is no entry fee and chili is cooked off-site and delivered to the Rockwall Technology Park, 10000 location. Bowls, utensils and toppings will be provided. Tickets will taste and vote for Best Tasting, Hottest, Most Unique, Best Booth Set-up and Best Team Spirit. Tickets may be purchased at the Soroptimist member or at rockwallcountyfair.com; check out the website for more details. The event proceeds will fund projects benefiting women and children.

Cow Patty Bingo offered

The Rockwall Soroptimists are selling squares for their County Cow Patty Bingo event that will run from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. June 14. Participants can purchase a 2-foot by 2-foot square for \$20; Bessie will grant she makes her deposit. The winner will receive \$1,000. Squares are purchased at rockwallcountyfair.com.

Low-cost spay/neuter shuttle schedule set

The next Spay/Neuter Network Shuttle will be June 26. Pets are picked up at 7:30 a.m. in the SE corner of the I-30 Wal-Mart parking lot and returned at 5:30 p.m. Prices are reasonable; assistance is available for Rockwall PAWS. Dogs should be in non-slip collars, cats in secure carriers (no cardboard boxes). To make an appointment call 972-472-3500 or visit info@spayneuternet.org; hablamos.Espanol.

Student, adult volunteers needed for STAR performances

Student and adult volunteers are needed from 8:45 a.m. to noon on May 4-8, 11-15 to assist Down Syndrome and autistic adult actors with cues and choreography during rehearsals for "You're a Good Man, Brown." STAR (Special Theatre at Rockwall) shows are scheduled for Aug. 16-17 at the Rockwall Community Playhouse. For more details, contact marythacker@sbcglobal.net or call 214-668-5090. Student volunteers receive community service hours.

Area News Briefs

Audie Murphy Days to honor the military

To honor and remember the nation's military heroes, Audie Murphy Days' Salute to the Military will kick off May 16 in Greenville. The day event will be free and open to the public and hosted by the Murphy/American Cotton Museum. This year's event will feature speakers such as retired Chief Warrant Officer 2 Elizabeth McCullough, a Black Hawk helicopter pilot; Air Force CMSgt. Thomas P. Murphy, who flew more than 250 combat support sorties with more than 1,000 flying hours; and Ollie Ledbetter, a boyhood friend of Murphy's. The event is a demonstration by Patriot PAWS and entertainment by the Heritage Brass Band. Murphy was a native son of Hunt County, a hero, Hollywood film star and accomplished songwriter. For more information visit amacmuseum.com.

Eagles 4th in state track; French takes 2 more titles

Large Jump
Wyatt French won his third and fourth state championships to lead the Rockwall Christian Academy boys to fourth place in the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Championships last weekend.

French repeated the individual state pole vault and high jump championships from his junior year. He also took second-place medals in the 110-meter hurdles and 400-meter dash, and placed third in the long jump with a 14.42 of HCA's 60 points.

Senior Millie Howard scored all 10 of the HCA girls' points as the Lady Eagles finished 19th among 25 teams. Rockwall Christian Academy's girls finished 22nd.

Fulton School's boys were sixth in the TAPPS 1A State Track and Field Championships with 38 points. The Lady Falcons did not place high enough to earn points in any event.

Rockwall Christian placed among the top six in nine boys' events.

French's pole vault of 13 feet, 6 inches matched the winning height in the TAPPS 2A State Championships. He cleared 6-2 to win the high jump, and 20-3/4 in the long jump, ran the 110 hurdles in 16.03 seconds and set a 2:42 time in the 400. In the hurdles, French finished just .14 seconds behind champion Craig Hogan of Victoria Faith.

Other individual scorers for the Eagles were Zach Brashears, third in the 100-meter dash at 14.42, and Tommy Tannehill, fifth in the 300 hurdles in 5:16.5. He placed fourth in the 4X200-meter relay (1 minute, 37.51 seconds) and sixth in the 4X100 (46.57).

Thirty teams scored in the boys' competition, won by Dallas Theological Seminary with 99. DeSoto Canterbury Christian won the girls' competition with 84.

For the HCA girls, Howard placed fourth in both the 300 hurdles (7:17.0) and triple jump (33-7), and sixth in the 100 hurdles (18.36) and jump (15-4 1/2).

Fulton boys took second place in two events. Brenner Newman was runner-up in the 300 hurdles, and the Falcons' 4X400 relay team took second, led by Fredericksburg Heritage Christian Academy. Newman and Fredericksburg's Chad Johnson just 41.20-41.85. In the relay, Fredericksburg edged Fulton by a margin of 3:39.59 to 3:40.86. The Falcons' 4X200 relay placed third (1:35.73), and third 4X100 team sixth (7.02).

In the top six were Newman, seventh in the 100 hurdles (2:33.3), and Todd Treadway, seventh in the triple jump (37-11 3/4). Fulton's Jasmine Norman placed eighth in the girls' discus (68-6).

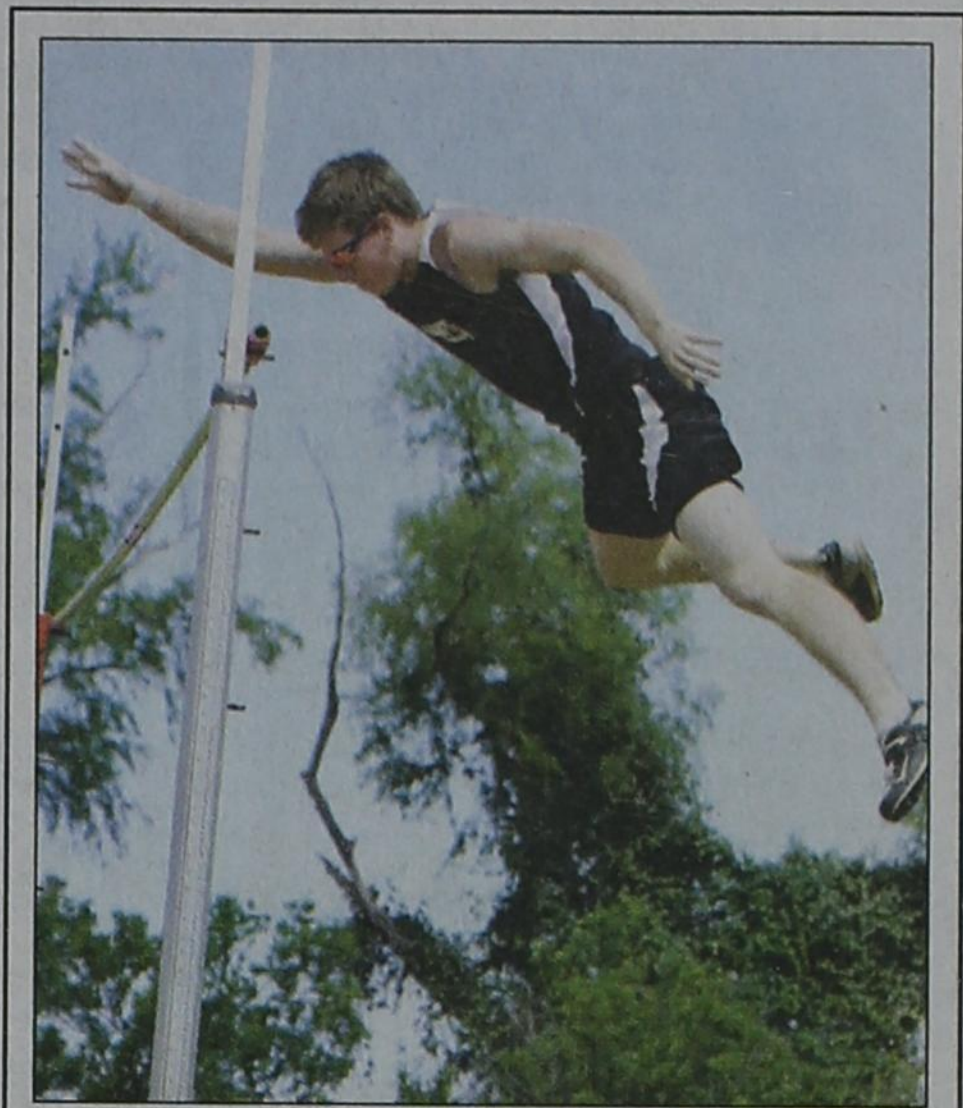
Ascension Academy took the 1A championship for both boys and girls.

Girls qualified for state in five events, but sophomore Rachel Rory of Rockwall Christian Academy was the Lady Warriors' only two points with a fifth-place finish in the 100-meter dash (13.78).

Tim Patterson took seventh place in the discus (78-0) and eighth in the shot put (26-6 3/4). Kennede Hutson was seventh in the high jump (5-10) and the RCA 4X100 relay took eighth in 55.36.



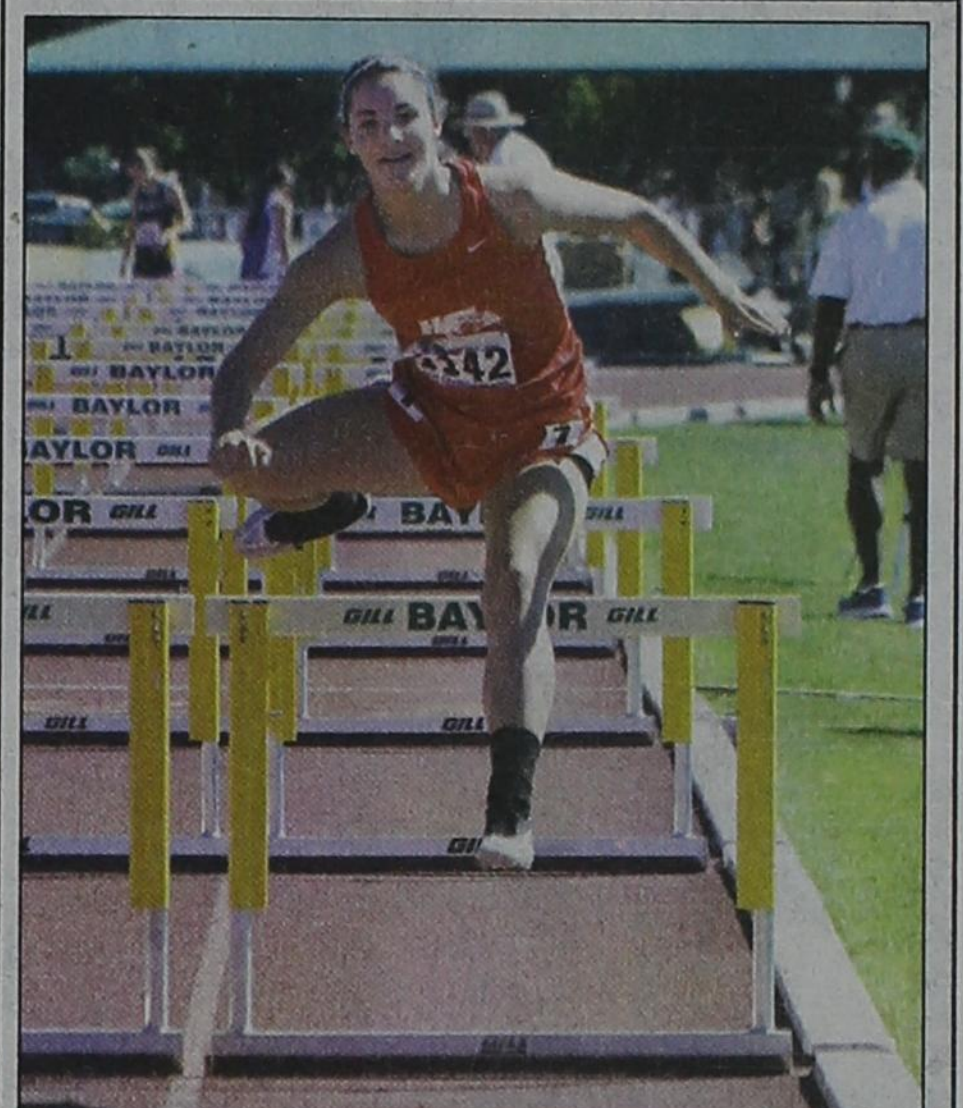
HCA's Wyatt French clears 6-2 in the High Jump for the championship during the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Meet held Friday and Saturday May 2-3 in Waco, Texas.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News



Wyatt French of HCA clears 13-6 in the Pole Vault event for the championship during the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Meet held Friday and Saturday May 2-3 in Waco, Texas.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News



The Fulton School's Todd Treadway hits 37-11.75 in the Triple Jump during the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Meet held Friday and Saturday May 2-3 in Waco, Texas.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

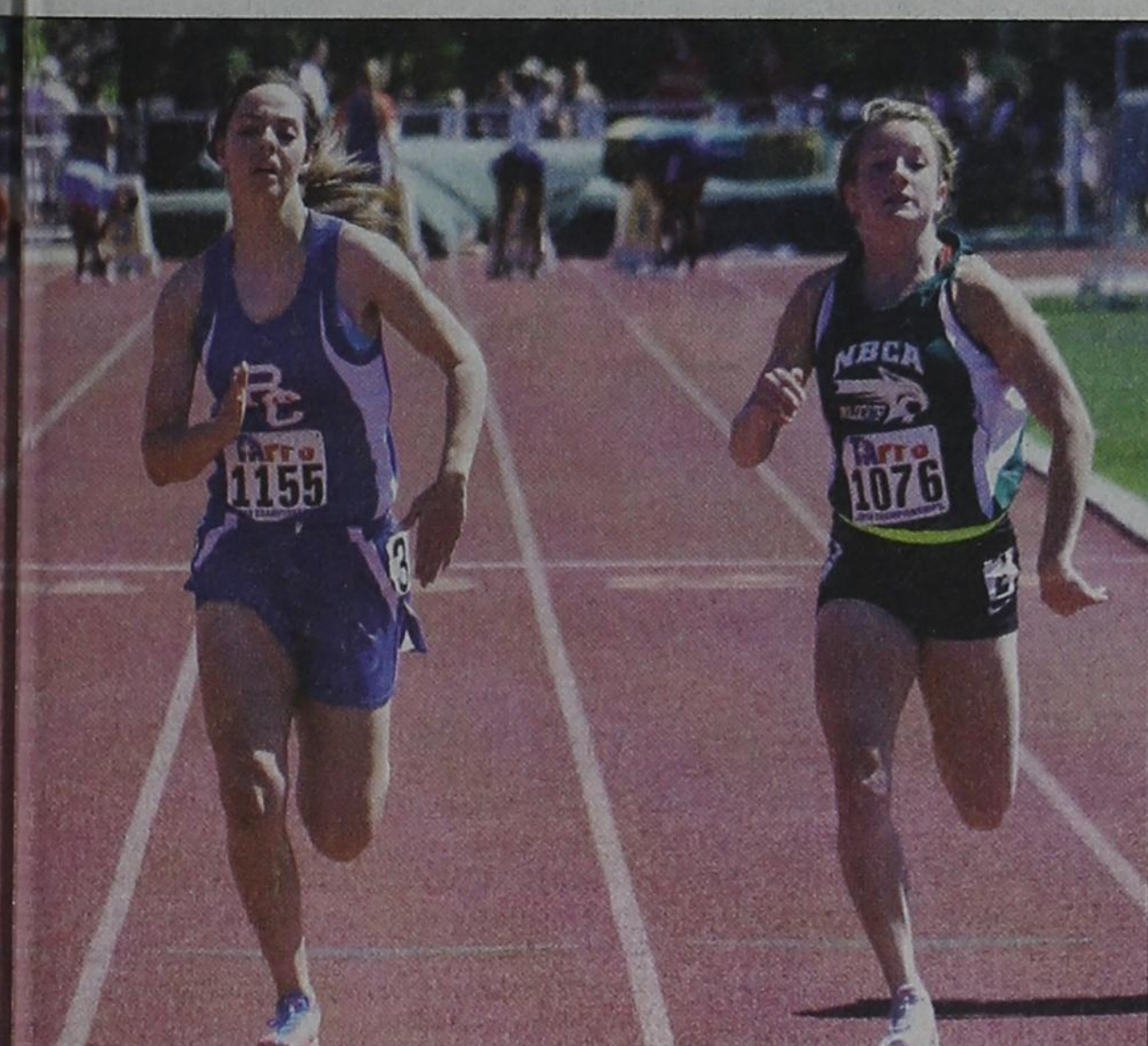


HCA's Mollie Howard shoots through the 100M Hurdles in 18.36 seconds during the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Meet held Friday and Saturday May 2-3 in Waco, Texas.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News



The Fulton School's Tyler Treadway (front right) receives the baton from Senior Hayden Leverett in the 4 x 200 M Relay during the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Meet held Friday and Saturday May 2-3 in Waco, Texas. The team finished in a time of 1:35.72 for 3rd place. Also running were teammates Carson Newman and Todd Treadway.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

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Rockwall Christian Academy's Rachel Rory (left) dashes to the finish of the 100M in a time of 13.78 during the TAPPS 2A State Track and Field Meet held Friday and Saturday May 2-3 in Waco, Texas.
Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Family Health, Fitness Expo set at school

Williams will host a Family Health & Fitness Expo from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. May 15. A one-mile walk/run will begin at 6 p.m. A Carter BloodCare blood drive will run from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. A self-defense demonstration will be conducted at 6:30 p.m., followed by a taekwon do at 7 p.m. A bike and helmet safety demonstration, and 20 bicycle helmets will be raffled off at 7:45 p.m. Other programs will focus on pediatric safety; youth concussion safety; dental care; and pet health. A free blood pressure screening also is planned. Raffle prizes will be given away throughout the evening; the event will be open to the public. Contact Williams at sbcglobal.net for more details.

A&M scholarship golf tourney scheduled

The Annual Rockwall County A&M Club Scholarship Golf Tournament will take place May 16 at the Creek Golf Club in Rockwall. A 1 p.m. shotgun start is planned. Putting and chipping contests will be held prior to the start. Entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart rental, driving range, lunch, dinner, keg, water and gifts. There are many ways to get involved with the event and show support to Rockwall students. Join the club by volunteering, playing golf or sponsoring a hole or an event at the tournament. For more information, contact rockwallaggies.com.

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RN Venus Beller (left) and LVN Edjuana Dean (right) with the first resident Millie Dobbs (center).

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