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# Rockwall County News



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## Congratulations ...



Jesse Wilson is the valedictorian of the 2014 graduating class of Rockwall-Heath High School. Wilson plans to attend Vanderbilt University.  
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Rockwall ISD top honor students



Jessie Marie Hall is the valedictorian of the 2014 graduating class of Rockwall High School. She plans to attend Southern Methodist University.  
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Malen Clark is the salutatorian for the 2014 graduating class of Rockwall-Heath High School. He plans to attend the University of Oklahoma.  
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Water conservation a slippery subject in Rockwall

by Brittany Williams  
rcn.brittany@yahoo.com

During the regular city council meeting on June 2, water conservation proved to be a topic of heated discussion amongst the council.

The North Texas Municipal Water District Board voted to extend Stage 3 conservation measures calling for once every two week watering to continue through the month of September and for member and customer cities to achieve a minimum 10% consumption reduction goal.

In a memorandum to the city manager from assistant city manager Mary Smith listed staff suggestions to continue the reduction trend in the city.

"District staff updates cities monthly on our progress toward this cumulative annual goal. Through April, our residents and businesses have achieved an additional 17% savings over our minimum goal. This achievement came through the voluntary cooperation of our customers and the advantage of a few good rains. Our goals will be increasingly difficult to achieve as we move forward through the hot summer months and we know that the appearance of landscaping will suffer," Smith said in the letter.

Some suggestions that Smith listed were increased education efforts emphasizing the need for continued conservation, encouraging customers to turn off automatic sprinkler systems, continue to monitor the success of conservation efforts and be prepared to assign "watering days" based on address numbers to facilitate enhanced enforcement.

Smith also suggested to meet with Rockwall ISD and apartment complexes, some of the city's top 10 water users.

"Despite the fact that we have gotten some rain over the past month or so and some of those have been substantial, change in the lake water levels have been inches rather than feet. With Lavon still being down over 11 feet and Lake Ray Hubbard, by comparison, is down by just over eight feet, there still remains a critical issue and it directly affects our ability to deliver water during the high demand summer months," City Manager Rick Crowley said.

The Rockwall City Council also unanimously approved a request for an exception to the minimum masonry requirements under the Unified Development Code.

"We understand that the city ordinances call for a minimum of 40 percent masonry on a residential home. We would like however, to request a variance from this 40 percent in order to replace a portion of the required masonry with stucco. We will still have a great deal of stone on the house, we are only requesting that we are not required to fulfill the entire 40 percent as it would change the look of our house," applicant Josh Houser said in the application. "We do not feel like this slight variance will detract from the appearance of our house inside of Chandlers Landing as there are already several homes that do not appear to meet the 40 percent requirement based on our best judgment from looking at these houses."

"It seems like on every agenda I've been a part of over this last year we keep granting variances and exceptions to material requirement and I'm wondering why we have the Unified Development Code if we're not adhering to it and if we should at least have another layer in place if an applicant is asking for an exception to a specific code that maybe we notify neighbors or maybe that case goes before the architecture review board," councilmember Scott Milder said.

The council also unanimously approved the closing of select lanes on FM 740 from Summer Lee Drive to the south city limits of Heath, in order for the annual U.S. Open Triathlon to take place without issues. The triathlon is scheduled to take place on Sunday, October 12.

The next Rockwall City Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 16.

### Rockwall Police: TV involved in accident that killed 3-year-old

The June 2 death of a 3-year-old child in Rockwall was the result of a household accident involving a television, according to a Rockwall Police Department news release issued June 3.

The preliminary investigation shows the female child accidentally pulled a television off of a table and the TV fell on the child, according to the release.

In spite of resuscitation efforts, the child died from injuries believed to have been sustained in the accident.

Police received a 911 call at approximately 4:50 p.m. June 2 from a home in the 700 block of Hail Drive. Upon arrival at the scene, officers were directed to a bedroom where the child had sustained "serious injuries," according to the release.

The name of the child has not been released.

The case remains under investigation by the RPD's Criminal Investigation Division.

### Rockwall County earns high ranking in health outcomes

Rockwall County recently was rated number six in health outcomes among the 232 counties throughout the state of Texas that were rated, according to a Rockwall Economic Development Corporation news release issued earlier this month.

The study was conducted by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and results were released in early 2014. The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program based ratings on vital health factors, including such things as the quality of air and water, access to healthy foods, levels of obesity, rates of smoking, and education and economic factors.

Rockwall County Judge Jerry Hogan, who has been following this study closely, said he is pleased with Rockwall County's ranking.

"We all knew we were living in a great place, and our judgment just continues to be reconfirmed as more and more quantitative indicators such as this are published," he said. "We do live in a great place in Rockwall County, Texas."

The City of Rockwall is a top city in providing health and fitness opportunities to its citizens. Annual events such as the U.S. Open Triathlon and the Gladiator Rock'n Run, both conducted at Lake Ray Hubbard, establish a healthy culture in Rockwall. With groups such as the Rockwall Running Club laying a foundation for fitness, more than 8,000 residents participated in running events held in Rockwall last year, driving the Road Runners Club of America to designate Rockwall as a Runner Friendly Community in 2014. According to RRC member Rhonda Mishler, coach Barrett Hopper keeps the Rockwall Running Club "motivated and on the move," organizing events such as the Patriot Half Marathon and the 5K Race for Nate held annually on Memorial Day in Rockwall.

"I can tell you that being a part of this club has enhanced my motivation to get healthy and stronger," Mishler said. "The club has a

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### Rockwall County News Briefs

#### Habitat project delayed, help needed

The latest Rockwall Habitat for Humanity build has been delayed, according to a news release from the organization. However, as Habitat makes plans to move forward with the build, organizers say they are in need of breakfast and lunch meals for volunteers. Anyone interested in assisting with meals or the provision of bottled water should email rockwallhabitat@yahoo.com.

#### CARGO meeting set June 12

CARGO (Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership) will meet from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. June 12 at Soulman's Bar-B-Que, Rockwall. There is no charge to attend; however, the organization asks that everyone go through the serving line before the meeting in the private dining room. Participants should come a little early to get food and find a seat. Jerry Howell of Arsenal Training Systems, a martial artist, boxer and former Marine, will speak on gun control and active shooter situations.

#### Soroptimists to host chili cook-off, fair

The Rockwall Soroptimists are looking for cooks to participate in a chili cook-off scheduled as part of the Rockwall Country Fair from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. June 14. No entry fee; chili may be cooked off-site and delivered to the Rockwall Technology Park, the fair's location. Guests will taste and vote for Best Tasting, Hottest, Most Unique Ingredient, Best Booth Set-up and Best Team Spirit. Tickets are available from Soroptimists or at rockwallcountryfair.com; cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children ages 4-11, children 3 and younger will be admitted free. Family tickets for two adults, two children ages 4-11 cost \$50. For details call Sue Reeves at 972-722-1646.

(Continued on Page 3)



### ISD to host public hearing, consider Heath school site

The Rockwall Independent School District will meet at 5:30 p.m. on June 6 in Room 600 of the Rockwall Administration/Education Center, 100 Williams St.

The meeting is called to order, trustees will conduct a public hearing on the proposed tax rate for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

After the hearing, trustees will elect officers for the coming year.

Following the election, trustees will go into executive session for deliberation on a potential school site to be located in Heath. The meeting will conclude with a public session at 7 p.m.

At the regular meeting, the board will receive informational reports on the approval of consent agenda items, including the financial report; personnel resignations and employment; a budget report; acceptance of donations to the district; and three issues of importance.

The board also will hear a report on the Strategic Plan Report for 2013-2014; discuss the reporting of student performances on STAAR summary reports; end-of-course results; consider approval of the purchase of services for the upgrading of the district's network; and consider the adoption of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year for the district, child nutrition fund and debt service fund. Also planned is the adoption of a resolution regarding the CORE Master's Degree Program and the establishment of a High School Equivalency Program. The board also will hear the superintendent's report.



The Rockwall High School Orange Wave Band earned 30 medals at the UIL Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest in Austin during Memorial Day weekend. More than 40 contestants played and were awarded for the state's highest individual and small group honors. Pictured above, Senior twirler Erica Kuntz (left) and senior flute player Julie Kim (right) won Outstanding Soloist awards. Winning gold medals were Alex Bridges, Erica Kuntz, Julie Kim, Jonathan Molinar, Jon Phelps, Enrico Trevisani, Zach Williams, Jordan Pettigrew, Joseph Hackenbracht, Kaan Iarina Conner, Matthew Ewing, Brynn Siciliano, Dananh Tova, Daria Smetana and Christina Pinkerton. Silver medal winners were Chris Vu, Natalie Pang, Blake Collins, Victoria Lightton, Devin Becker, Julia Kim and Ben Fields.  
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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## Brittany Williams

Musings of a 20-something ...

# We all have a little crazy in us

by Brittany Williams  
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Did you hear the one about the woman in East Texas that slapped her sister-in-law with a dead catfish?

Or the one where the Pope claimed you could get time off in Purgatory if you followed him on Twitter?

If you're waiting on the punchline, you're just out of luck. There's not one.

These things really happened.

For as long as I can remember I've been intrigued with the news. The weirder, the better in my opinion.

Those late nights in college when I couldn't sleep and didn't have homework to do, if you didn't understand my fascination with the oddities of society, you would probably question my browser history and sanity.

It's the beauty of technology, really. The mere amount of things we have access to with the internet. Sometimes it can be a little much and can go a little too far, don't get me wrong, but I love the weird, the strange, the bizarre.

One of my favorite stories of late was one from the New York Daily News about a teenage boy in Colorado that escaped with minor injuries from a tornado that he almost didn't hear coming. How could you not hear a tornado coming straight at you? Well, if you are 18-year-old Wyatt Schrepfer, your music was too loud you didn't hear the 110-mile-per-hour tornado until it was almost too late.

According to the article, "The rural area was hit by a large slow-moving tornado, but Schrepfer told TV Station KRDO in Pueblo that he had his back turned as he mowed the lawn and listened to music on his headphones — and he didn't hear the impending natural disaster."

What I want to know is how is this kid not deaf by now if his music was really that loud. Hopefully, his parents have had his hearing checked since the twister incident.

Basically what I'm trying to say is that the things people do, they fascinate me.

As Johnny Depp said, "I think we're all somewhat screwy. Every single one of us."

All I can do is hope and pray that I never end up in one of these crazy stories.

Picture this, 'Reporter discovers that unicorns are real only to discover that it was all just a dream'.

For now though, back to my search for the elusive rainbow glitter unicorn.

## Births



Gabriel Elijah Valdez

Jacob and Kaitlyn Valdez are proud to announce the birth of their son, Gabriel Elijah Valdez, at 6:03 p.m. May 28, 2014, at Lakepointe Medical Center.

The infant weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches long at birth.

Maternal grandparents are Chris and Shereen King of Rockwall.

Paternal grandparents are Yolanda Garcia of Rockwall and Jose Valdez of Laredo.

Great-grandparents are Richard and Frances King of Garland, Johnny and Virginia Huckaba of Irving and Tony and Irma Reid of Rockwall.

# Shake-up at Fate City Council Meeting

by Millie Jean Coppedge

The second meeting of the newly organized Fate City Council took place at 6 p.m. June 2 at the Fate Community Center.

The first hour of the meeting included a review by staff department-heads explaining the duties, challenges and positive attributes of each department and its importance to the city's functions.

Bobby Clay, Fate's public works director, started the presentations, followed by Brian Griffith, director of the Department of Public Safety, Marty Coursey, finance director, and Will Rugeley, city planner.

Griffith informed the council that there is a backlog of more than \$600,000 in uncollected fines.

The newly established Department of Public Safety was organized and began duties on Oct. 1. He said his department is working to collect these fines, having collected about \$45,000 in just the first quarter of this year.

Staffing seemed to be a need in almost all departments, according to the reports. There simply are not enough people to get the work done effectively, thus putting a heavy load on everyone.

There were no speakers who signed up for the allowed three minutes to speak to the council.

When the newly elected mayor and city council met for the first time two weeks ago, one of the important topics of discussion was to completely reorganize all the committees, boards and commissions so work could begin in getting the business of running the city government up and running.

The following is the listing of the of those reorganizations:

Charter Review Committee

- John Stacy
- Ryan Pfuhl
- Cameron Cowan
- Jon Thatcher
- Mayor Lorne Megyesi
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Todd Martin-reappointed
- Marca Bradley
- Marga Bonner
- Beth Hebert
- Planning & Zoning Commission
- Ricky Hebert
- David Billings
- John Stacy
- Cheryl McBride-reappointed
- Zoning Board of Adjustments
- Ryan Pfuhl-reappointed
- Autumn Lobinsky
- Marga Bonner
- Marca Bradley
- Fate Development Corporation Board of Directors
- Cameron Cowan
- Steve Herrmann
- Nikki Robinson
- Lance Megyesi

Committee to Review City's Policies, Procedures and Ordinances

- Lance Megyesi
- Nikki Robinson
- Joe Burger
- Code of Ethics Board
- Jon Thatcher
- Steve Herrmann
- Mayor Lorne Megyesi
- Rockwall County Emergency Services District Board of Directors
- Mayor Megyesi-City Representative

Michael Kovacs, Fate's city manager, gave an update on the restrictions. He said the North Texas Municipal Water District notified the city that they will stay in Stage 3 through Oct. 31, which allows the homeowners to water with sprinklers or irrigation two days a month, depending on their garbage pick-up days.

Odd-numbered addresses may water the first and third weeks of the month on trash pick-up day and even numbered addresses may water the second and fourth weeks of every month on trash pick-up day, from watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Hand watering of flower trees is allowed.

When the discussion came up about citizens wasting water, water to flood down the streets when their automatic systems were many suggestions about how the matter could be handled, included giving the citizens a warning citation or a fine.

"Couldn't we send Code Enforcement out to talk to the Homeowners Association managers, being more proactive, before they even asked Councilman Lance Megyesi. Kovacs assured him that was an idea and they could do that.

Clay said he is worried that the city may have to go Stage 4 at the end of summer, which eliminates all outside watering. He said that Lavon is 12 feet low and Lake Texoma is eight or nine feet low.

Clay showed a short video he took of water pouring down the street in Fate, from a citizen's water sprinklers being left unattended for long. He said a lot of people have their sprinklers set to automatic come on at a certain time and they water their yard while they work or away from home. By the time they return, the water in the street and sidewalks has dried up, thus they are not aware they are watering. He said he plans to make a visit to this particular house with the homeowner.

Clay advised homeowners to keep their foundations watered. This really hot weather and the black dirt, was especially hard on the foundation of homes.

All Fate City Council members were present at the meeting.

The regular Fate City Council meetings take place on the first and third Mondays at the Fate Community Center at 104 South W.E. Crawford, 6 p.m.

*Publisher's Note: The Rockwall County News finds no fault in indicating the new Fate City Council has given lawful notification to the people of Fate related to recent actions that require public legal notice in accordance with Texas Government Code Chapter 2051.048 (c).*



The Fate City Council conducted its second meeting since the new mayor and council members came on board. Pictured from left to right are Andy Messer, city attorney; Michael Kovacs, city manager; Nikki Robinson, Place 1; Lance Megyesi, Place 2; Lorne Megyesi, mayor; Jon Thatcher, Place 3; Joe Burger, Place 4; deputy mayor pro-tem Cameron Cowan, Place 5; and mayor pro-tem Steve Herrmann, Place 6 and city secretary Jean Dwinell.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

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## Royse City plans June Spring Cleaning

Royse City will conduct a three-day Spring Cleaning event on June 12-14 at Star Brand. The schedule of activities is as follows: June 12 - Following the event, a detention/retention begins. June 13 - Beginning of the event, topics: Star Transportation; Main Street/downtown businesses; land use/citizen survey; budget priorities; city manager's work plan. June 14 - Beginning of the discussion on the same topics.

The event will take place at Walker Hawk Sports Complex, 100 N. Erby Campbell Blvd. Items to be accepted include bulk trash, electronics and tires. Tires will be accepted for cars and small truck tires for semi tires and \$30 for tires. Only cash will be accepted. No hazardous waste, paint, chemicals of kind, batteries, used oil will be accepted. Also, no commercial waste will be accepted.

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



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Ava Nelson (right) with her son Jim

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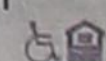
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### Rockwall County Obituaries

#### Hilda Louise Harris Attaway

Services for Hilda Louise Attaway, 86, of Rockwall, Mount Vernon, will be held at 11 a.m. June 14, 2014, at Harvey Funeral Home in Mount Vernon with Dan Huble officiating.



She died June 8, 2014. She was born Dec. 22, 1928, in Shreveport, La., and lived in Rockwall for 36 years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Winnsboro, Texas. Survivors include her daughter, Lisa Kay Attaway of Rockwall; one son, Robert Harrison Attaway of Dallas; and two granddaughters, Stephanie and a daughter-in-law, Jimmie Nobles.

#### Scarlet Kay 'Charlie' Minhinnett

Services for Scarlet Kay "Charlie" Minhinnett, 3, of Rockwall were conducted at noon on June 6, 2014, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.



She died June 2. She was born Dec. 27, 2010, in Ennis. Survivors include her father, James Allen Minhinnett III, and his wife, Samantha, of Rockwall; her mother, Colten Lamer of Paris; her brothers, Cayden Lamer and James Allen Minhinnett IV; her grandparents, Dennis Lamer and his wife, Karla Taff, and James Allen Minhinnett Jr. and his wife, Sharon; an uncle, Matthew Lamer; an aunt, Lindsay Minhinnett; and cousins Halle Jo and Molli Marie.

#### Capt. Charlie Jaimes

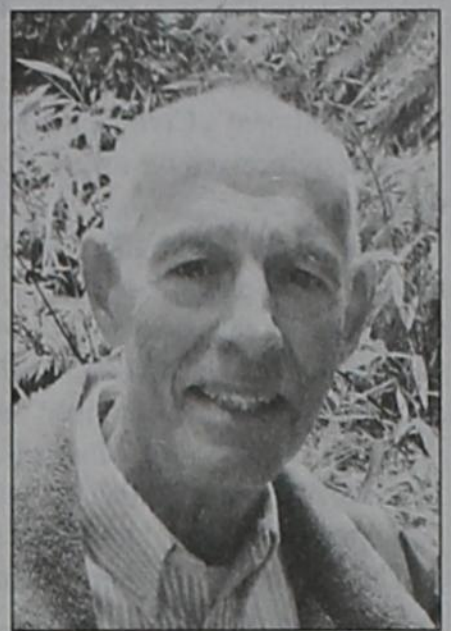
Services for Capt. Charlie Jaimes, 44, of Rockwall will be conducted at 10 a.m. June 12, 2014, at Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall.



He died June 9. Born June 8, 1970, in Fullerton, Calif., his career with the Dallas Fire Rescue spanned 21 years, culminating with him attaining the rank of captain. Survivors include his wife, Elvia Jaimes, and daughter, Nina Jaimes, both of Rockwall; his stepson, Beau Johnson of Los Angeles, Calif.; a stepdaughter, Amber Johnson of Dallas; numerous friends in the Chandler's Landing community; and his family at Dallas Fire Rescue.

#### Brendan John Pfaff

Services for Brendan John Pfaff, 70, of Rockwall will be conducted at 11 a.m. June 13, 2014, in the Our Lady of the Lake Church, 1305 Damascus Rd., in Rockwall with the Rev. George Monaghan and the Rev. Jim Cogan officiating.



He died June 8. Born Oct. 29, 1943, in El Paso, he owned and operated a carpentry business and was a member of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Rockwall, where he served as an usher. Survivors include his sons, Brent Pfaff, and his wife, Emily, of Arlington and Mike Pfaff of Rockwall; his grandchildren, Abby, Harrison and Lilly; his brother, Phil Pfaff, and his wife, Kristen, of Buffalo, N.Y.; his sisters, Mary Waldron and Helen Pfaff, both of Ridgewood, N.J., and Kate Cogan and her husband, John, of Wilmington, Delaware.

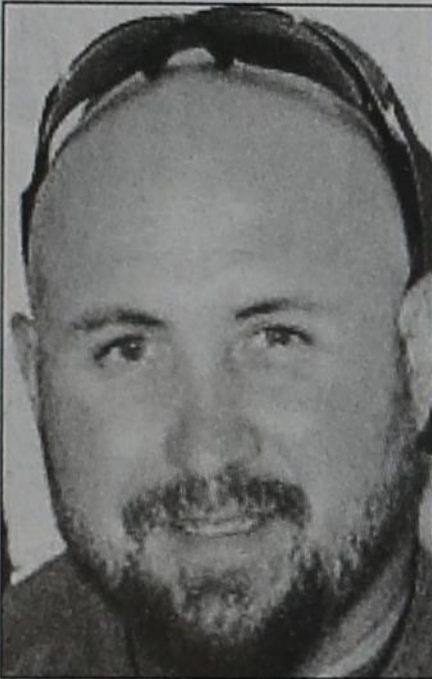
#### Royce C. Phillips

Services for Royce C. Phillips, 79, will be conducted at 2 p.m. June 13, 2014, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Joe Pool officiating.

He died June 9. Born Nov. 3, 1934, in Tucumcari, N.M., to Monnie Lawrence Phillips and Zera (Shields) Phillips, he was raised in San Jon, N.M., where his father served as mayor for several years. He lived in Rockwall for 35 years and was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall. Survivors include his wife, Glenna Phillips; a son, Ted L. Phillips; three grandchildren, Rebekah, Jayden and Nekoda Phillips; and three nieces, Diane Bass, Linda Chillcot and Barbara Ruckman.

#### Justin Paul Bruckner

Services for Justin Paul Bruckner, of Royse City will be held at 9:15 a.m. June 13, 2014, at National Cemetery, Lane Mountain Creek Parkway.



He died June 7, 2014. Born June 22, 1973, in Farmington, Mo., to Richard Paul Bruckner and Elaine Ann (Grech) Bruckner, he was the husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend.

### RHDC taking applications for down-payment assistance

The Rockwall Housing Development Corporation is accepting applications for down-payment assistance to help qualified families buy homes in Rockwall County, according to a RHDC news release. "It is anticipated that the State of Texas will be making funds available for the program this fall, most likely in September," said Donna Allen, RHDC president.

The down payment assistance will be awarded to qualified homebuyers in the form of 0 percent interest, deferred, forgivable loans from the State of Texas, according to the news release. "In order for the entire second lien loan amount to be forgiven, the homebuyers must live in the house for 10 years, then the entire loan will be forgiven and the state's lien will be removed from the property," Allen said.

"Due to sequestration and federal budget constraints, each year the state has been receiving less money from the federal government for this program. Therefore, when the state announces there are funds available, the money is obligated quickly. That's why we want to be ready with qualified applicants when the state releases funds this fall," Allen said.

RHDC contracted with Hunter & Hunter Consultants Inc. from Rockwall to manage the grant. Hunter & Hunter Consultants is a grant management agency that has been helping low-income families become first-time homebuyers through state programs for more than 17 years. Michael Hunter, president of Hunter & Hunter Consultants, said he would assist Rockwall Housing Development Corporation in this endeavor.

To be eligible for the down payment assistance, applicants must have incomes below 80 percent of the county area median income, must be able to obtain a first lien mortgage from one of the mortgage companies participating in the program and must agree to live in the home as their principal place of residence for at least 10 years. Applicants can purchase any house they can afford anywhere in Rockwall County. However, by federal regulation, the program has a maximum sales price of \$146,000 for existing homes.

### Rockwall County News Briefs

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#### Cow Patty Bingo, Diamond Dig offered

The Rockwall Soroptimists are selling squares for their Country Cow Patty Bingo that will run from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. June 14 as part of the Rockwall Country Fair at the Rockwall Technology Park, 2610 Observation Trail. Participants can purchase a 2'x2' square for \$20; Bessie will graze until she makes her deposit. Winner will receive \$1,000. Squares are available at rockwallcountryfair.com. The Diamond Dig will include more than 30 diamonds buried in troughs of dirt to be sifted out by participants. Digs cost \$5 each. Other fair activities, which will run from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., will include tethered hot air balloon rides, silent and live auctions, a country store, old-time photos and food booths.

#### Democratic Party to meet June 21

The Rockwall County Democratic Party will conduct a meeting at 9 a.m. June 21 at Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington, Rockwall. Participants will review results of the recent primary and runoff elections, the activities of Battleground Texas-Team Rockwall and the local party needs.

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#### Rockwall Council to observe retreat

Members of the Rockwall City Council will participate in their annual retreat June 12-14 at Star Brand Ranch in Kaufman.

June 12 - Following appetizers and dinner, a discussion on retention/retention beginning at 7 p.m. June 13 - Beginning at 8 a.m., council members will explore topics: Star Transit; PD-32 and The Harbor; land/open space; Main Street/downtown plan; city charter, rate cases, businesses; land use/comprehensive plan; strategic planning, and citizen survey; water (North Texas Municipal Water District); capital improvement projects and planning; and city manager's work plan.

June 14 - Beginning at 8:30 a.m., council members will discuss on the same list of topics noted above, according to

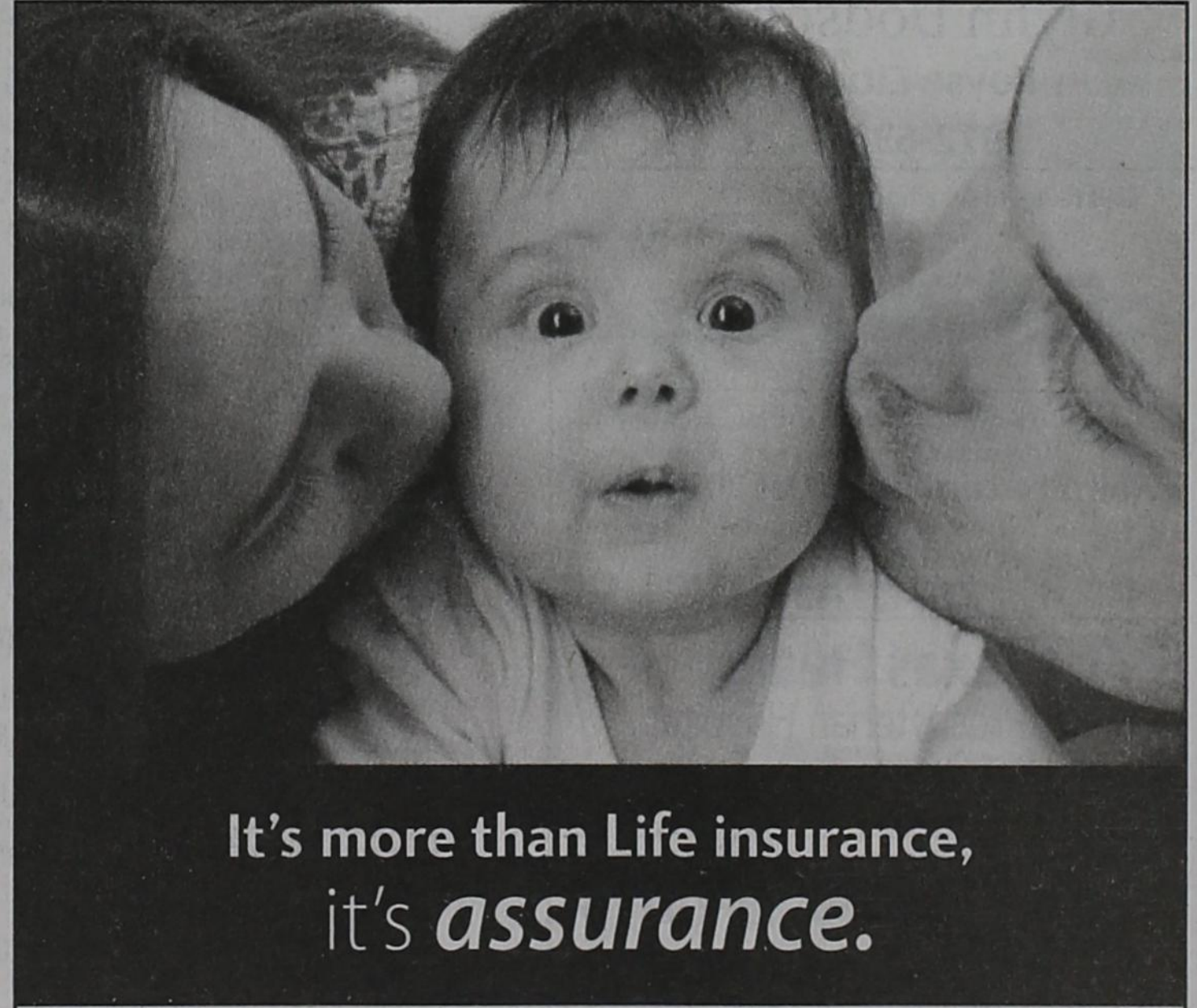
#### Rockwall County earns high rank ...

(Continued from Page 1)

membership and is comprised of a vast array of people from all walks of life. Whether you are a new runner, or a well-seasoned elite runner, our club has a program to meet your needs. There are runners of all ages, so there is always someone there to pair up with when you go out to run. We are blessed with a group of people who are always willing to mentor, to challenge and to help everyone meet their goals. Our motto is 'No runner left behind.' This group goes beyond the running part of gathering; we have treasured friendships and are there to help each other outside the running aspect."

Events are not the only factors that make Rockwall County Rockwall has numerous parks, walking trails, swimming pools, and sports facilities to draw its residents. Even many of the businesses have joined the ranks by adding health initiatives and services for their employees. The Rockwall Economic Development Corporation encourages businesses and citizens to use its sidewalk loop at Rockwall Technology Park for walking and jogging, and opens it up for annual Rockwall Cycling Event.

"Walking groups have become very popular among the residents of the Rockwall Technology Park," said Sheri Franza, CEO of the Rockwall Economic Development Corporation. "Walking is a great way, many business employees and Rockwall residents walk the sidewalks daily, many business employees and Rockwall residents walk the sidewalks daily, many business employees and Rockwall residents walk the sidewalks daily."



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## Second grade student recognized for rescuing toddler from drowning

Emma Santoro, a second grade student at Nebbie Williams Elementary, recently was awarded the Rockwall Fire Department's Civilian Medal of Honor Life Saving Award.

Santoro received the award after rescuing her 18-month-old brother following a fall into the family's swimming pool.

Santoro and her brothers were home with a babysitter on June 1. She, her brothers Noah, 6, and Ethan, 18 months, were playing outside of their Rockwall home when the babysitter stepped inside the home momentarily. During that brief time, Ethan wandered over to the family swimming pool and fell in. Santoro heard the splash, told her brother, Noah, to go get the babysitter and ran over to find her brother face down in the pool. She immediately jumped into the water to save him.

Mayor David Sweet joined Fire Chief Mark Poindexter in recognizing Santoro at school with the Rockwall Fire Department's Civilian Medal of Honor Life Saving Award.

Santoro is the daughter of Rockwall firefighter Tony Santoro and his wife, Lisa.

The Rockwall Fire Department offers the following safety tips:

- Never leave a child alone in or near a swimming pool, even to answer the telephone;
- Learn first aid and CPR, especially infant CPR;
- Teach every child how to swim, but never rely solely on the swimming lessons to protect a child from drowning; and,
- Whenever infants or toddlers are in or around water, an adult should be within reach to provide active supervision.



Emma Santoro, a second grade student at Nebbie Williams Elementary, recently received the Rockwall Fire Department's Civilian Medal of Honor Life Saving Award. It is awarded to a civilian who, at great personal risk, is instrumental in rescuing and saving another person by quick thinking and courage in an emergency situation. Santoro, 8, demonstrated courage and composure when rescuing her 18-month-old brother after he fell into the family swimming pool. Pictured with her are Mayor David Sweet, Fire Chief Mark Poindexter, Rockwall firefighter Tony Santoro, his wife, Lisa, and their children, Noah and Ethan.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

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"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

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

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

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A team of Doris Cullins Lake Poite Elementary third-fourth grade students won an honorable mention award thru the national Exploravision contest. These students invented Dirty Diaper Detector, which sends a text to parents when a dirty diaper is detected. Pictured are Thanh Bui, Sarah Feil and Ash Carlson.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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# Opinions

## FROM AMERICAN HISTORY Part 9 (June 12, 2014)

### HOW AND WHY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Part series to explain our celebration of the Fourth of July

**Kath Shores**  
 Rockwall, Texas

**DEBORAH SAMPSON**  
 Deborah Sampson's true identity was not discovered until 1782. Deborah was serving as a General's Orderly near Philadelphia, when she became sick with a severe fever and became unconscious.

The attending doctor soon learned that the infantryman under his care was actually a female. Deborah Sampson received an honorable discharge from the army in 1782. Soon after she was discharged, she married a young farmer, Benjamin G. Gannet.

She gave birth and raised three children before wearing her army uniform again, in the 1790s to become America's "first woman lecturer." At a time when it was extremely unusual for a woman to speak before a mixed (male and female) audience, Deborah Sampson traveled throughout early America and told of her adventures as a woman soldier in the War for American Independence.

Source: Don Higginbotham, *The War of American Independence: Military Attitudes, Policies, and Practice*; Lucy Freeman, *America's First Woman Warrior: The Courage of Deborah Sampson* (New York: Paragon, 1992), passim.

**PAUL REVERE**  
 Paul Revere is best remembered, because of his famous ride on horseback to warn people that the English soldiers were invading America and all to take action. Paul was born in 1735 and came with his father from France to America at the age of 13.

and painful injuries.

Robert (Deborah) cared for her own wounds in order to prevent detection of her sex. Deborah Sampson's true identity was not discovered until 1782. Deborah was serving as a General's Orderly near Philadelphia, when she became sick with a severe fever and became unconscious.

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**PAUL REVERE**  
 Paul Revere is best remembered, because of his famous ride on horseback to warn people that the English soldiers were invading America and all to take action. Paul was born in 1735 and came with his father from France to America at the age of 13.

He was involved in the Boston Tea Party, dumping tea overboard. Paul also was needed as a trusted messenger, delivering messages wherever needed during the Revolutionary War. He also served as the official courier for the Massachusetts Provincial Assembly to Congress and warned the colonists holding the military stores of Fort William and Mary, of General Gage's planned strike.

Revere wanted to fight, but the revolutionary cause needed his talents elsewhere. He designed and printed the first Continental money; made the first official seal for the colonies and the seal of Massachusetts (still used today).

As a businessman, patriot, artist, civic leader, husband, and father, Paul Revere has remained a legendary figure of the American Revolution.

We can only begin to envision the hardships, loss of life and faith it took to create a Godly Christian Nation. More information about some of the details regarding the creation of United States of America will be in next week's Article. The publisher would welcome your comments to these articles. The following websites were used for my research.

[http://www.northcarolinagenalogy.org/mecklenburg/mecklenburg\\_declaration.htm](http://www.northcarolinagenalogy.org/mecklenburg/mecklenburg_declaration.htm)  
<http://www.usahistory.info/American-Revolution/Lexington.html>  
[http://www.history-world.org/united\\_states\\_of\\_america.htm](http://www.history-world.org/united_states_of_america.htm)  
<http://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution>

## Showing Rejection of Common Core

**Phyllis Schlafly**  
 The most controversial issue in education today is clearly Common Core. It is being more hotly debated than bullying, zero tolerance, sex education or even school lunches.

Common Core is the title of a new set of standards the Obama administration has been trying to force the states to use. Even before the standards were written, 45 states and the District of Columbia signed on, lured by inducements of federal funds. The principal outliers were Alaska, Nebraska and Virginia.

At parents and teachers are finding out what is command Common Core State Standards and what is being taught by "Core-aligned" materials, moms and teachers are raising their voices to get their respective states to repeal their involvement. They are demanding that their state withdraw altogether from Common Core, principally because they believe it is a takeover by the federal government of all that kids are taught and not taught.

A backlash against Common Core has developed into a potent force. About 100 bills have been introduced into various state legislatures to cancel, stop or slow down Common Core requirements.

South Carolina broke the ice on March 23, becoming the first state to pass a non-Common Core bill. It strikes out references to Common Core law and requires the state board of education to maintain state sovereignty while complying with federal standards.

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed this legislation that opted out of Common Core, he said, "I believe our students are best served when decisions about education are made at the state and local level."

A bill was introduced as a straight repeal of Common Core in North Carolina, but it ended up keeping so many Common Core requirements

that its original sponsor, Sen. Scott Schneider, pulled his name off of it.

The game of some people, obviously, is to pass standards that are nearly identical to Common Core but under a different name, because the name itself has become toxic. And states are always solicitous to maintain their flow of federal funds, which the Obama administration uses as bribes or threats.

The second state that went public against Common Core was South Carolina. On May 30, Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill abolishing Common Core standards in her state beginning in 2015.

Legislators were responding to constituent complaints that Common Core introduces frivolous and illogical teaching techniques to no apparent purpose while imposing new standards that are not meaningful improvements. Common Core ends up being a top-down, one-size-fits-all approach.

Parents won a remarkable victory when the Oklahoma legislature repealed use of Common Core by the overwhelming bipartisan vote of 71-18 in the House and 31-10 in the Senate, and replaced it with academic standards written by state government officials. After receiving an estimated 20,000 phone calls in support of the repeal, Gov. Mary Fallin signed the repeal into law on June 5.

This law directs the Oklahoma State Board of Education to create new and more rigorous standards by August of 2015. The State Regents for Higher Education the State Board of Career and Technology Education and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce will evaluate the newly written standards to make sure they truly make students "college- and career-ready."

Fallin's message in signing the repeal of Common Core was blunt in explaining what is wrong with the standards. She wrote: "President Obama and Washington bureaucrats have usurped Common Core in

an attempt to influence state education standards. Common Core is now widely regarded as the President's plan to establish federal control of curricula, testing and teaching strategies."

Fallin's message reminded us, "Citizens, parents, educators and legislators ... have expressed fear that adopting Common Core gives up local control of Oklahoma's public schools." We congratulate Oklahoma's governor for having the courage to stop the well-financed plan to railroad Oklahoma's public schools into kowtowing to federal control.

From the start, Common Core has been ballyhooed as a state-led (not federal) initiative each state could voluntarily choose to adopt. But, as the governor wrote, "The words 'Common Core' in Oklahoma are now so divisive that they have become a distraction that interferes with our mission of providing the best education possible for our children."

Like most left-wingers, Education Secretary Arne Duncan played the race card (for which he later had to apologize) when was besieged on all sides by Common Core critics. He accused opponents of the program of just being "white suburban moms."

Duncan should have read The New York Times, which published a picture of both white and African-American moms protesting Common Core wearing signs that read, "My child is not common." Parents nationwide are saying no to Common Core.

Phyllis Schlafly is a lawyer, conservative political analyst and author of 20 books. She is the co-author, with George Neumayr, of the New York Times Best-Seller titled "No Higher Power: Obama's War on Religious Freedom." She can be contacted by e-mail at [phyllis@eagleforum.org](mailto:phyllis@eagleforum.org).

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## Can President Obama faithfully enforce the laws?

**Andrew Napolitano**  
 The same weekend that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs resigned in a scandal of veterans dying before the government's doctors did them in government hospitals, on the heels of another scandal of NSA unconstitutional spying in which federal agents seized the digital images of our loved ones and friends and accompanied our emails, and a week after the White House openly or negligently revealed the true identity of the CIA station in Afghanistan, President Obama announced a new foreign policy called "No One Left Behind." The reference was to the sole American held in captivity in the venue of America's longest war, the most Americans have forgotten: Afghanistan.

Last week, Obama announced the release of Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl who had been held by the Taliban for more than five years. Bergdahl apparently shed his weapons and equipment, sent his personal gear to his home, and walked into the hands of his captors one day, to remain a part of his military unit and largely ignorant of what he had done. The president must have been determined to get Bergdahl home at all costs, because the manner of his doing so likely that he violated federal criminal law in the deal he cut with the Taliban's captors.

The government apparently negotiated with the Taliban, a group that is not recognized by federal law as a non-state terrorist organization. The deal was made to release five former senior Taliban intelligence officers from the American prison camp at Guantanamo Bay. Therein lies the legal and constitutional conundrum that has been the subject of the post-9/11 contempt for the Constitution that has been the work of Congress and the Bush and Obama administrations.

The concept of Gitmo as a holding facility of endless duration for untried and untried human beings is unrecognizable when viewed in the prism of the Constitution, and in all five cases in which the concept was addressed by the Supreme Court, the court directed the government to put the detainees on trial before a neutral public tribunal using rules that were in place before the detentions began. The Obama administration has been averse to public trials, preferring to let their own behavior in the manner of arresting, detaining and interrogating these people. As a result, few trials have been held, and few people have been convicted and both of them were released from the prison time they had already served.

The release of these Taliban leaders in a prisoner swap materially violates the laws of war in such a way as to be criminal. How can it be that the president is releasing a prisoner? It is not a crime to release a prisoner who has been acquitted, but it is criminal to release an untried prisoner who has been government reasonably believes will aid a terrorist group. The law prohibits any person from providing material assistance to a terrorist organization, even if the organization fails to use the assistance, and even if the use of it produces no measurable harm. The law also includes anything from money to maps to

professional services; it includes the appearance of support and even a false belief in support. It was intended to criminalize intentionally causing any assets of value to come into the control of any non-state terrorist group that American law has condemned.

This is the same statute that the courts have interpreted so broadly that merely listening to a harangue by a terrorist leader at his training camp, without any further behavior, is considered providing material assistance to the group that runs the camp. If hard assets like money and political support are covered by the statute, then human assets are covered, as well. This is the same statute that has been employed successfully to prosecute those who fall victim to FBI stings, in which the defendant typically is a dim-witted person led by FBI agents to believe falsely that he is assisting a terrorist group, but no actual assistance ever flows to the group.

The president no doubt will argue that under the Constitution he and he alone makes foreign policy and, as well, as commander in chief of the military, he enjoys the constitutional authority to make these prisoner swaps. Yet, the president has sworn an oath faithfully to enforce all federal law. He cannot knowingly or legally exclude himself from the obligation to comply with laws with which he disagrees — that's the Nixon argument ("When the president does it, that means it's not illegal."), which the courts and modern history have rejected.

The president has a serious problem with competence and with fidelity to his oath. In one week, he has alienated and demoralized much of the intelligence community by revealing the true name of one of them and by releasing their worst nightmare back into the theater of Middle East warfare. He has, as well, flagrantly failed to enforce federal law by materially aiding a non-state terrorist group condemned by American law. This is almost inconceivable in an American president.

Yet it is almost predictable

with this president. In our Orwellian post-9/11 world, Congress thinks it can alter basic constitutional principles, and the president thinks he can enforce only the laws he likes. Did we break away from a king, who thought his powers were given to him by God, 240 years ago only to elect a president who behaves like a king? Thomas Jefferson saw this coming in his final years, when he argued that an elected despot is not the government we fought for.

It surely is not the government Jefferson fought for; but today, it is the government we have.

Andrew P. Napolitano, a former judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey, is the senior judicial analyst at Fox News Channel. Judge Napolitano has written seven books on the U.S. Constitution. The most recent is "Theodore and Woodrow: How Two American Presidents Destroyed Constitutional Freedom."

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
 by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

- Grand Saline, TX has large \_\_\_\_\_ deposits
- East TX \_\_\_\_\_ fish (aka "crawfish")
- real first name of TX "Bum" Phillips
- TXism: "he couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ a stick horse" (greenhorn)
- TX Ross Perot, e.g. \_\_\_\_\_
- TXn born "tween July 23 & Aug. 23 this actor was in '77 film "The Deep" with UT-grad Eli Wallach
- TV talking horse: "Mr. \_\_\_\_\_"
- FM 518 in League City is the "\_\_\_\_\_ Slayton Highway"
- noted TX guitarist: \_\_\_\_\_ Ray Vaughan
- Gulf fish: "\_\_\_\_\_ head"
- Gulf eagle
- today, Cowboy fans are as likely to \_\_\_\_\_ as cheer
- "Hook \_\_\_\_\_ Horns!"
- first 2 wds. of DART 34 cow sounds
- in Smith Co. on 135 36 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ the bull" (gossip)
- "no \_\_\_\_\_, no gain"
- prong on a fork
- TX Kris Kristofferson starred in this '76 film with Streisand
- TXism: "rides his own trail"
- Marines motto: "\_\_\_\_\_ per Fidelis"
- of the wind
- Cowboy Peter Gent wrote novel "North Dallas \_\_\_\_\_"
- wood chopper
- fish propeller
- this butter is extracted from the bean
- Dallas prep school: "\_\_\_\_\_ School of Texas"
- poker card suit
- "\_\_\_\_\_ out a living"
- Gulf shrimp catcher
- TX-made comfort shoe
- what Ranger Yu Darvish tries to pitch (2 wds.)
- TXism: "mad as \_\_\_\_\_ on rooster"
- Smith Co. seat
- Buddy Holly's wife: Maria \_\_\_\_\_
- TXism: "bought a pig in a \_\_\_\_\_" (screwed up)
- bitterly regret
- "for example" abbr.
- TXism: "plain as the \_\_\_\_\_ your face"
- TX "wheeler dealer," Billie Sol \_\_\_\_\_
- tech companies try to make products \_\_\_\_\_ friendly
- gun the engine
- this actress Gene \_\_\_\_\_ is buried in Houston
- TXism: "hair trigger \_\_\_\_\_ (quick to anger)"
- \_\_\_\_\_ society" (riffraff, rabble)
- TX journalist for ABC, Donaldson (init.)
- TX Larry Hagman was in '76 film "The Eagle \_\_\_\_\_ Landed"
- TX Mildred \_\_\_\_\_ "Babe" Didrikson
- the "tall ship" moored at Galveston
- TX nuclear weapons disassembly plant
- ball \_\_\_\_\_ (writing utensils)
- NBA development league team in TX: "Austin \_\_\_\_\_"
- "Fort \_\_\_\_\_" is in TX & NM
- TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ stock, & barrel" (all)
- golf yell
- TX A&M "Corps of \_\_\_\_\_"
- TXism: "if it ain't true, there \_\_\_\_\_ a cow in Texas"
- TXism: "can't \_\_\_\_\_ silk purse out of a sow's ear"



### Farfan named to President's List

Maria Farfan of Royse City was named to the President's List at Kansas University in recognition of her academic achievement for the 2014 semester. Farfan is a senior physical education, wellness and leisure major, was named to the honor roll, according to a university news release. To qualify for the President's List at the Magnolia University, a student must earn a 4.0 grade point average for the semester.

### Hurd named to Dean's List

Robert Hurd, a sophomore business administration major at William Jewell College, was named to the Dean's List for the semester, according to a university news release. Hurd is also on the Dean's List at the Liberty, Mo., university, a student who has earned at least a 3.5 grade point average while carrying 14 or more credits.

### Lambrecht named to A&M-Commerce Dean's List

Lambrecht, a 2011 Rockwall High School graduate, was named to the Dean's List at Texas A&M Commerce for the spring semester, according to a university news release. Lambrecht is in her junior year, was named to the university's Dean's List in recognition of her achievement.

### Norris named to Dean's List

Jessie Norris of Rockwall was named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson, Tenn. Norris is a senior theater performance major in the spring semester, was named to the Dean's List, a student must earn a minimum average of 3.40 while taking at least 12 credit hours.

### Petersen tapped for Dean's List

Nickolas Taylor Petersen of Heath was named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., according to a university news release.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours of graded courses and attain a semester grade point average of 3.6 or higher.

### Ponfick named to Dean's List

Maci Ponfick of Heath was named to the spring 2014 Dean's List at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., according to a university news release.

Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a grade-point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

### Smith named to Dean's List

Maryellen Smith, a junior biology major from Rockwall, was among the estimated 1,400 students at Bob Jones University named to the spring 2014 Dean's List, according to a news release from the Greenville, S.C., university.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must earn a 3.0 grade-point average.

### Williams named to Dean's List

Hailee Williams of Royse City was named to the Dean's List at Southwestern University in Georgetown for the spring semester, according to a university news release.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have at least a 3.6 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale with at least 12 graded hours and be in good standing with the university.

## Rockwall County Entertainment

### Beatles tribute show scheduled

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will host a Beatles tribute show performed by the Sgt. Peppers Lonely Bluegrass Band at the Concert by the Lake event on June 19. Live concerts are conducted at 7:30 p.m. at The Harbor and will run through July 24. For a full schedule of performers visit [rockwall.com/parks/concert](http://rockwall.com/parks/concert).

### 'Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.' performances set

Performances of "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." will run June 24-29 at Rockwall Community Playhouse, 609 E. Rusk. Based on the award-winning Saturday morning educational animated series from the 1970s-1980s, performances will be at 7 p.m., except when a 2 p.m. matinee is planned. Tickets may be purchased at [rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org](http://rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org), by calling 972-722-3399 or by office a half-hour prior to show time.

### Country concert to feature country, rock variety

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will host a country, rock and pop variety show performed by J.D. Monson at the Concert by the Lake event on June 26. 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](http://rockwall.com/parks/concert).

### Family Fun Friday to feature 'Frozen'

The City of Rockwall's Parks & Rec Department will host its Family Fun Friday on June 27 at Harry Myers Park, 945 E. Washington. Activities will begin at 6 p.m., with the feature film, "Frozen," to begin at 8 p.m. Candy, popcorn, snowcones and glow sticks will be available for purchase.

## Area News Briefs

### Carnival, concert set in Quinlan

A carnival and concert at Ford High School in Quinlan will benefit the City Kids and Lake Area Shared Ministries. The event, which features 50-cent games, a dunking booth, face-painting, hot dogs, live music and live music, will run from noon to 6 p.m. June 21. The event will begin at 3 p.m.; tickets cost \$5 and will be free for children 8 and younger. Headline performer will be Texas recording artist Tommy Stinson.

## Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 3)

### Low-cost spay/neuter shuttle schedule set

The City of Rockwall's Spay/Neuter Network Shuttle will be June 26. Pets are scheduled to depart at 7:30 a.m. in the SE corner of the I-30 Wal-Mart parking lot and return at 5:30 p.m. Prices are reasonable; assistance is available through Rockwall PAWS. Dogs should be in non-slip collars, cats in carriers (no cardboard boxes). To make an appointment call 972-335-0350 or email [info@spayneuternet.org](mailto:info@spayneuternet.org); hablamos Español. Renewal use prohibited in Heath area. Residents should be reminded that the use of fireworks is strictly prohibited in the City of Heath, according to a news release issued in May.

### City of Heath to close offices for July 4

The offices of the City of Heath will be closed in observance of the July 4 holiday on July 4 and will resume normal business hours on July 7, according to a city news release. The July 4 parade may disrupt traffic traveling through Heath on the morning of July 4 should be planned ahead for brief traffic delays. According to a city news release, the intersection of Laurence Drive and FM 740/FM 1140 will be closed during the city's Independence Day parade from approximately 5 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

### Churches to co-host VBS July 13-17

The City of Rockwall will partner with the First Baptist Church of Rockwall for vacation Bible school, which will be held on the Holy Trinity campus, 1524 Smirl Road, Heath, July 13-17. Classes will be conducted from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Children ages 4 and older are invited to participate. Theme for this year is Weir Animals; a change format will be used. Each day, children will move through activity stations with their Zoo Crews. To register online, visit [rockwall.com/vbs-registration](http://rockwall.com/vbs-registration).

### Student, adult volunteers needed for STAR performances

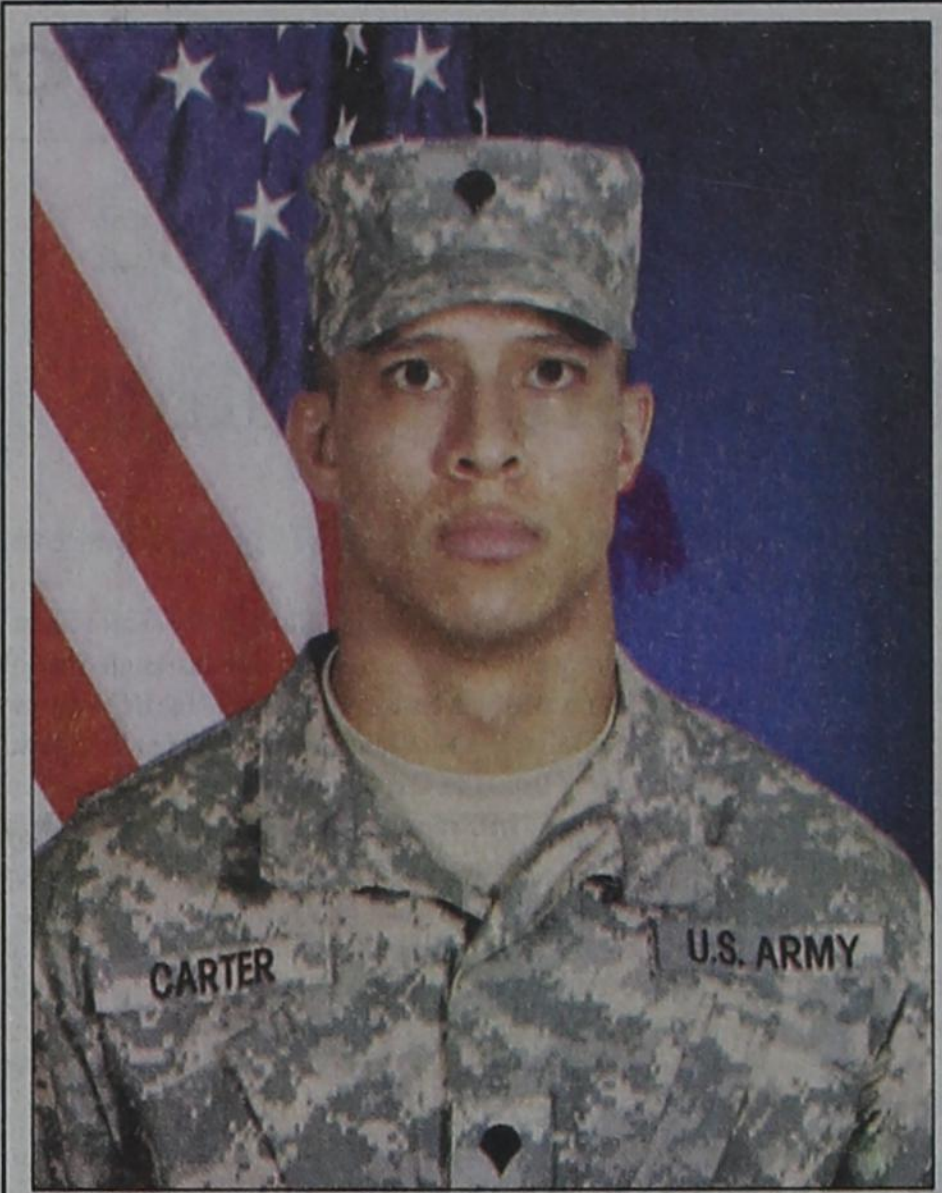
Students and adult volunteers are needed from 8:45 a.m. to noon Aug. 16 and 17 to assist Down Syndrome and autistic adult actors with costumes and choreography during rehearsals for "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." STAR (Special Theatre at Rockwall) shows are scheduled for Aug. 16-17 at the Rockwall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

### School supply drive underway

Rockwall County Helping Hands and its Community Circle has set a goal to raise money and gather school supplies to help more than 1,200 students in Rockwall and Royse City schools. To participate, make a donation to [rockwallhelpinghands.com](http://rockwallhelpinghands.com) or purchase supplies and donate to Helping Hands. Distribution date is set for Aug. 2.

### PCCS to reopen Aug. 4

The Poetry Community Christian School is on summer break until Aug. 4, however, the school's offices will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays before officially opening for the next school term Aug. 5. Emails pertaining to urgent matters should be directed to the school administrator at [poetry@airmail.net](mailto:poetry@airmail.net) with a cc: to the assistant administrator at [jbrosious@earthlink.net](mailto:jbrosious@earthlink.net).



Specialist (SPC) Robert M. Carter will graduate from Army Basic Training in Fort Benning, Ga., on June 12. He will attend Army Officer Candidate School and graduate in September as a second lieutenant. The son of Bill and Kim Carter of Rockwall, Carter graduated in 2008 from Rockwall High School and holds a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from Angelo State University in San Angelo.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

### Elliott named to Dean's Honor Roll

Talin Elliott of Royse City was named to the Dean's Honor Roll at Midwestern State University, according to a university news release.

More than 330 students were included on the Dean's Honor Roll. A student who completes a semester schedule of at least 12 semester hours in a single semester with a grade-point average of 3.50 to 3.74 with no grade lower than a C is included on the Dean's Honor Roll.

### Locals named to OSU honor rolls

Eleven local residents were among the 5,349 students named to the spring 2014 President's Honor Roll or Dean's Honor Roll, according to a university news release.

Full-time undergraduate students who completed 12 or more hours with a grade point average of 4.00 were named to the President's Honor Roll, while students whose averages were 3.50 or higher with no grade below a C were placed on the Dean's Honor Roll.

Honorees, according to the news release, were as follows:

- Rockwall – Amanda Lane Cockrell, President's Honor Roll; Morgan Melissa Davis, Dean's Honor Roll; Kelsie Paige Dickerson, President's Honor Roll; Samuel Lee Prater, President's Honor Roll; Julia M. Sealock, Dean's Honor Roll; and Anna Kathryn Wright, Dean's Honor Roll
- Royse City – Katie Alita Rose, Dean's Honor Roll, and Jordan Ashley Taylor, Dean's Honor Roll
- Heath – Kristen Nicole Beck, President's Honor Roll; Jason Marcel Grand-Lienard, Dean's Honor Roll; and Ashton Hunter Hierholzer, President's Honor Roll.

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# Rockwall ISD athletes selected to all-star games

by Ryan Garrett

Three Rockwall ISD senior baseball players were honored with post-season Texas baseball All-Star Game selections.

Rockwall-Heath outfielder Dylan Lewis and Yellowjacket senior right-handed pitcher Chris Glover were named to the North Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star east team. The NTHSBCA game, held last Monday night at Dallas Baptist University's Horner Ballpark, featured 40 of the best players from the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Hawks shortstop RJ Williams will represent RISD in the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 14 at Dell Diamond in Round Rock.

Glover, a McLennan Community College commit, was also selected this past weekend by the New York Mets in the 32nd round (955th overall pick) of 2014 the Major League Baseball draft.

Williams will continue his baseball career at the University of Texas at Arlington, while Lewis will play collegiately at Navarro Junior College.

# Fencing tournament Sunday at RISE

Rockwall Fencing Academy is hosting the second annual Blair Clarke Sabre Open Sunday at Rockwall Indoor Sports Expo.

The event is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. It is named after Blair Clarke, who has taught all of RFA's youth and beginner fencers.

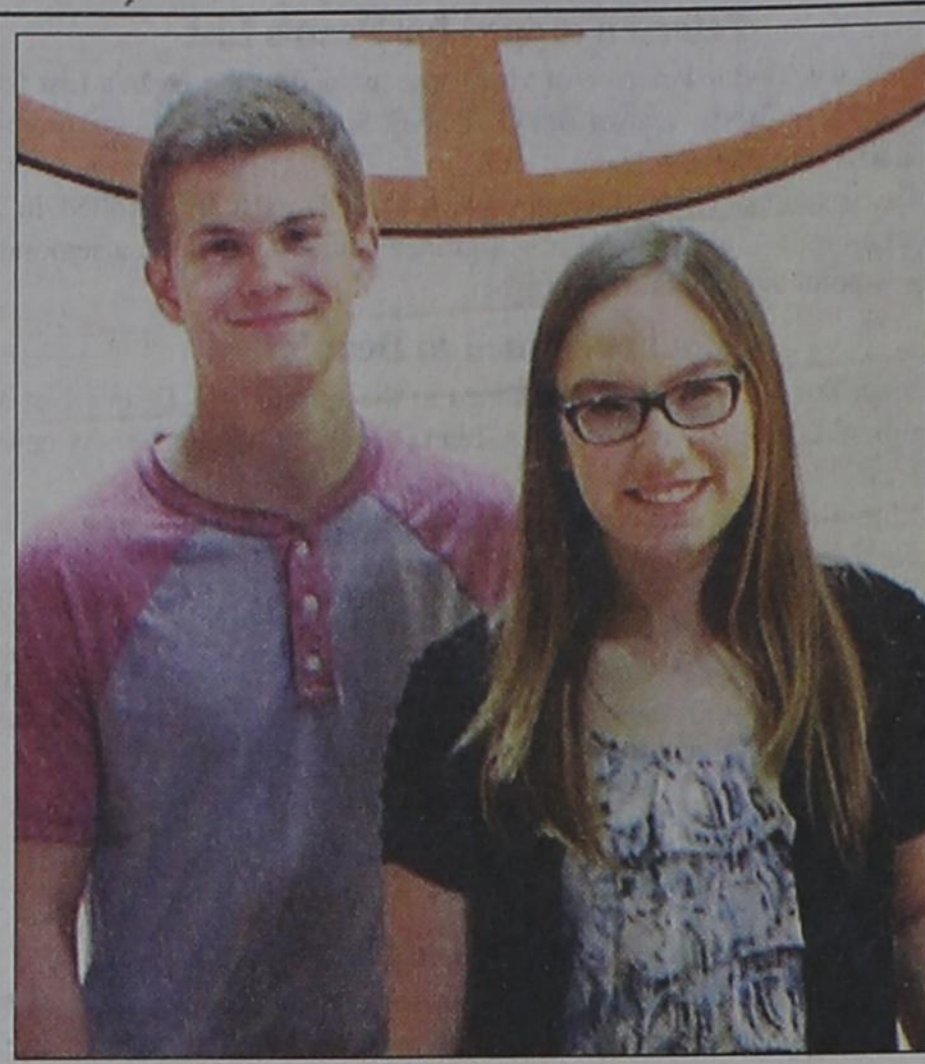
RFA competitors won all four events at last year's inaugural event, which drew fencers from seven clubs in Texas and Tennessee.

Chadwick Short Sr. was the senior mixed champion over 14 other fencers. Also finishing first were Morgan Waddell, senior women; Lauren Arnecke, youth 12 mixed, and Julianna Short, Y10 mixed.

All youth participants in the Blair Clarke Open will receive a medal.

## Youth girls summer volleyball registration underway

Registration is underway through June 21 for the youth girls summer volleyball program at the JER Chilton YMCA at Rockwall. The volleyball league is games only, no practices, and everyone who registers plays. League divisions include grades three through six. Games begin June 24 and will be played primarily on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the seven-game season; an end-of-season tournament will wrap league play. Non-marking rubber-soled shoes are required; shorts are preferred. The YMCA family member fee is \$50; activity member fee is \$100. For more details, contact Bill Cadman, sports director, at 972-772-9622 or bcadman@ymcadallas.org.



Senior student athletes Michael Weidman (gymnastics) and Rebecca Voth (swimming) were awarded the Jacket Backer Student Scholarships for the 2013-'14 school year. Photo by Eric Eldridge/Rockwall County News

# Voth, Weidman honored with Jacket Backers scholarship

by Ryan Garrett

The Rockwall High School Jacket Backers have awarded Yellowjacket gymnast Michael Weidman and Rebecca Voth, member of the Lady Jacket swim team, with this year's Scholarship.

The RHS booster clubs scholarship fund recognizes senior athletes currently involved in Yellowjacket athletics, cheerleading team or athletic training who have exhibited top performance in class room and their chosen sport.

This year, the Jacket Backers board of directors increased the scholarship award to \$2,500 for each recipient.

Scholarships are awarded annually to one male and one female student athlete. Applicants are judged in four areas: overall GPA, Pre-AP coursework, extra curricular activities and community involvement with a written essay.

# Dallas Race Week fleet to arrive Sunday

Rockwall County's sailing main event returns next week for year.

Chandlers Landing Yacht Club expects more than 20 boats for Race Week Sunday through Friday, June 15-20, on Lake Ray Hubbard. Club spokesman Billy Self said fewer boats than usual are expected "mostly due to the lake level being lower than usual."

He added that boats sometimes are registered as late as the final racing. As of Tuesday, there were 15 entries. Check in for Dallas Race Week begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, with the skippers' meeting set for 10 a.m.

Races begin in the evening, and usually finish about sunset or the longest days of the year. Dallas Race Week, which began in 1978, always is set for a week near the summer solstice.

The low lake level also means that racing will be in the middle of the lake.

In addition to the competition, sailors will be helping to raise money for the Rockwall Breakfast Rotary Club's community service project.

The club's statement says, "Our mission is to provide fun programs that address issues of poverty, hunger, illiteracy and help affecting our community. Our motto is 'Sail Into Service' and we represent the value placed on teamwork by sailors and crew members throughout history."

The week-long event also has a social component. There will be race parties after each night's racing. Most nights, those would be at Chandlers Landing. Sunday's event is scheduled for Bayview Yacht Club and Wednesday's at Rush Creek Yacht Club.

Awards will be presented Friday night at Allure/Chandlers Landing. The usual sailboat race series on the lake will be off for Dallas Race Week.

In recent events, Robert Williams, Larry Carpenter and Mackenzie piloted the winners.

Williams' "Freight Dog" took first place among 10 boats in the Spring Wednesday Night Series Race 10 June 4. Carpenter came in second in the B Fleet aboard "Odyssey." Mackenzie sailed "Superman's" victory in Sunday Dam Series Race 7 June 1.

Behind Williams were Kathy Kuipers and "Rij Jik of Jik Ik," Jeff Willis in "Chaos Theory," third; Mackenzie and Superman fourth, and Roy Kuipers fifth with "Three Sheets."

Mike Jones was the runner-up to Carpenter in the B Fleet with "Orion" and Dan Malak's "Orion" finished second behind Mackenzie in the race.

# Glover, Henry named Most Valuable Athletes of the Month

by Ryan Garrett

The Rockwall High School Jacket Backers selected senior standout Chris Glover and sophomore softball star Alyssa Henry as Most Valuable Athletes of the Month.

Glover, who was chosen this past weekend by the New York Mets in the 32nd round of the MLB draft, helped lead the Yellowjackets to a 2nd seed, Bi-District and Area championships and a Region II Quarterfinal appearance in the 2014 UIL playoffs.

"Chris has increased his velocity and improved his secondary pitch from last season," said coach Jeff Payne.

Henry, nominated by coach Shadie Acosta, helped lead the Lady Jacket softball team deep into the UIL playoffs. After taking part of the District Championship and the top seed, the Lady Jackets advanced to become one of the final eight 5A teams as Region II Semifinalists before falling in the Regional Final to the top-ranked team in the state.

"Alyssa is incredibly talented," Acosta said. "She is gifted with power, a great ability to read the ball. More importantly, she has a great work ethic, a strong competitive attitude, a humble nature and a desire to work at getting better."

Also nominated for Yellowjacket and Lady Jacket Athletes of the Month were Bryce Singer (gymnastics), Daniel Gibbs (golf), Evan Scoworth (water polo), and Raena Eldridge (girls water polo).



Ben Migneault signs a letter of intent with Athletes for Christ. Shown from left are Athletes for Christ athletic director Rob Vaughn, A4C basketball coach George Butler, 2014 Heritage Christian Academy graduate Ben Migneault and Ben's mother Beth Vaughn. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Senior Chris Glover (baseball) and sophomore Alyssa Henry (softball) were honored as the Jacket Backer Athletes of the Month for the month of May. Photo by Nancy Goellner/Rockwall County News