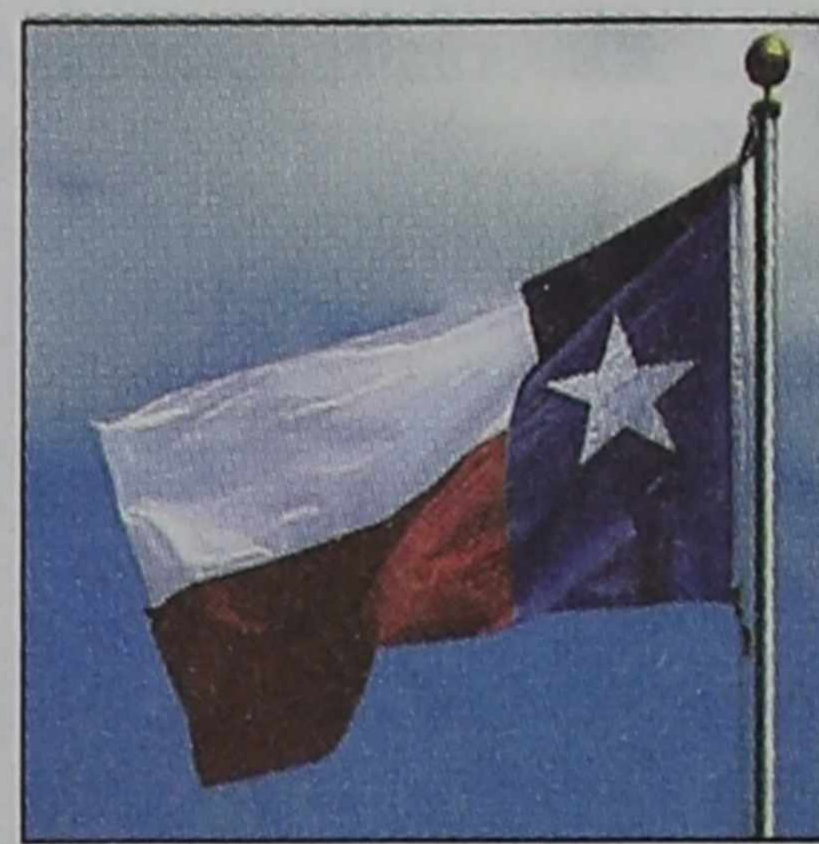


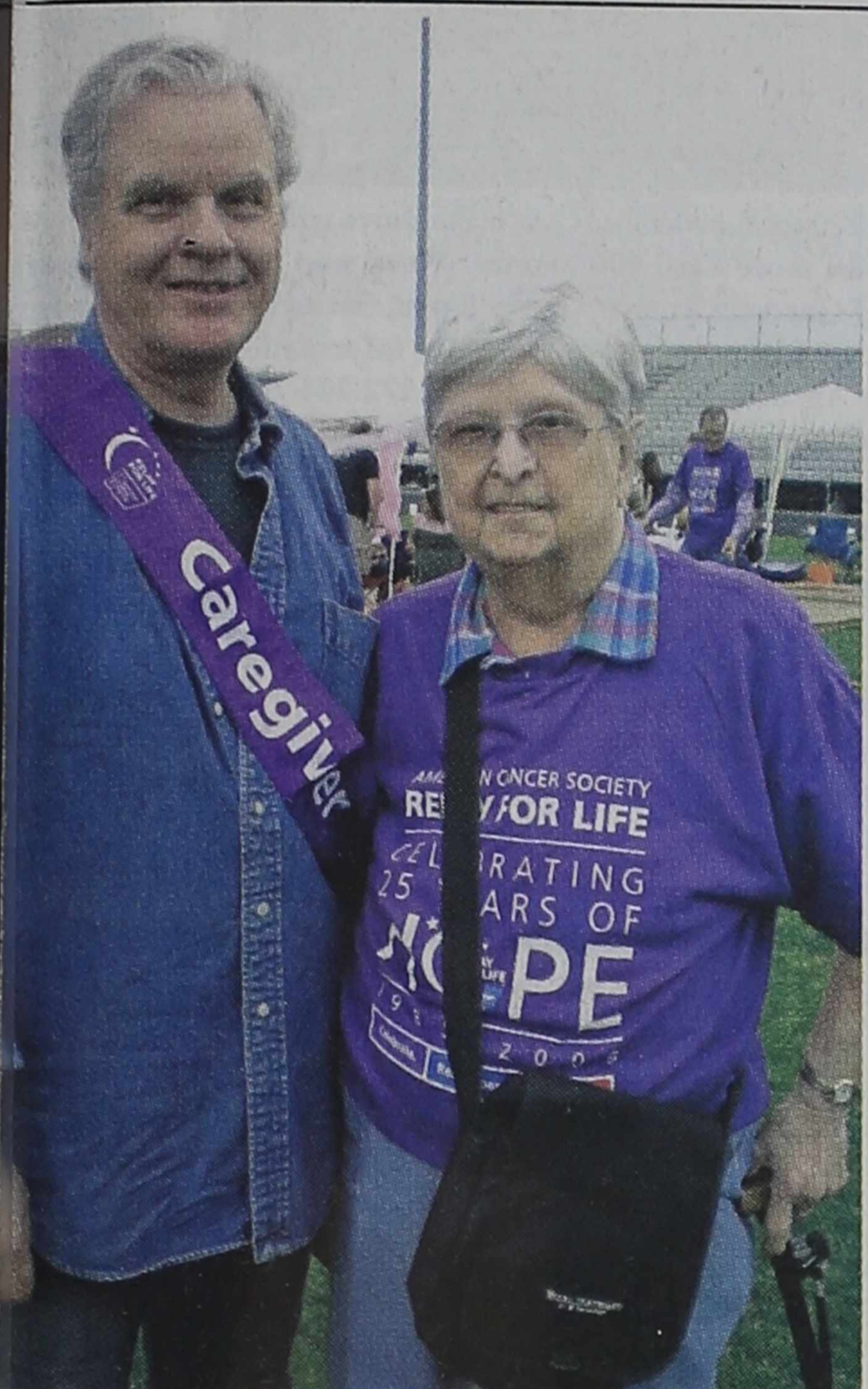
Softball Teams prepare for
playoff action ... see Sports Pages 9-11
"Anti-Government" Movement? ... see Page 6



Rockwall County News

Number 24 Issue Number 17 USPS 002-495 Friday, April 30, 2010 Single Copy Price 75 Cents Copyright 2010 Rockwall County News

ACS' Relay For Life event begins tonight on CMS track



Eschelman, an 89-year-old six-time cancer survivor, cut the ribbon to begin the Survivor Lap in the 2009 Rockwall County Relay For Life. Pictured with Eschelman is her son, Larry. Photo by Rockwall County News

Rockwall County's Relay For Life, the signature fundraising event for the American Cancer Society, will kick off at 7 p.m. today on the Cain Middle School track.

In the past two years, Rockwall County has raised more than \$200,000 to help find a cure for cancer. This year's Relay chairwoman, Carla Brooks, said she expects great things from the 67 teams registered for the event.

Community members are invited to attend. Survivors and caregivers will be given "royal treatment," with free T-shirts and a barbecue dinner courtesy of Eddie Deen's.

Activities will begin with a welcome by John Ratcliff, Heath mayor, and the "National Anthem" performed by the group, Broadway Babies. Scott Holcomb-McClain will offer the invocation. Survivors then will take to the track – on foot, in wheelchairs and in golf carts – and will be cheered on as they take the opening lap.

A cake-decorating contest is planned, as is a cake walk, children's activities in the end zone and themed laps.

At 9 p.m. the Hope Ceremony will take place on the main stage, featuring a performance by the Rockwall Children's Chorus. Names of those lost to cancer will be read aloud, and the luminaries outlining the track will be lit.

Following the ceremony, the evening's antics begin with a "Macarena" lap, the "make some noise" lap and the "Miss-ter Relay" contest, which has men dressing as women to circle the track, collecting contributions in open purses. Also planned are karaoke contests, a

Duct Tape and Newspaper Fashion Show and a frozen T-shirt contest.

At midnight the Fight Back Ceremony will be conducted, with free snacks offered to all participants. Teams will continue to circle the track, play games and fight the need for sleep until breakfast by Chilosos's is served at sunrise.

In addition to revenues generated through Relay For Life, Rockwall Honda helped raised money for the ACS through a motorcycle rally, Taco Casa offered a Relay For Life Day and entertainer Jason Castro signed a guitar that will be raffled off at midnight at the Relay event.

Early voting under way in municipal May 8 elections

Early voting in the contested May 8 city elections is under way.

Only a handful of contested races developed, according to reports. Voters in the cities of Rockwall, Royse City and Fate will be asked to determine winners in races in their municipalities.

Early voting hours today and Saturday will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Extended hours on Monday and Tuesday will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting in Rockwall will take place at the Elections Office, 107 E. Kaufman. Those casting early ballots in the Royse City election should go to the City Hall, 305 N. Arch St., Royse City. The Fate Community Center, 104 S. W.E. Crawford, is the site for City of Fate early voters.

Early voting ends Tuesday.

City of Rockwall

Two of the three positions open on the Rockwall City Council will see contested races.

For the Place 2 seat, incumbent Mark Russo will be challenged by Bill Bricker. Teddy Nugen originally filed as a candidate, but has since withdrawn from the race.

Incumbent Margo Nielsen will be challenged for the Place 6 position by David White.

Cliff Sevier, the incumbent, will see no challenger in his bid for re-election top the Place 4 office.

City of Royse City

A single contest race exists on the City of Royse City ballot.

Voters will be asked to decide between Jim McLeroy and Brooks Williams for the position of City Council, Place 4.

Council candidates for Placed 2 and 6 – Clay Ellis and Tom Crowley, respectively – are running unopposed.

City of Fate

Voters in the City of Fate will be asked to decide between the incumbent, Bill Broderick, and a challenger, Richard Johns.

The incumbents for Places 2, 4 and 6 – Steve Skipworth, Sheri L. Garber and Tammy Ryan, respectively – will run unopposed.

RISD trustees study staff recruitment, maintenance

by Jo Anna Matejka

Members of the Rockwall Independent School District Board of Trustees took a look at the district's ability to recruit and maintain staff at its April 19 meeting.

Trustees heard reports on the district's recent job fair and on market analysis of its compensation programs.

Staff has found good response from job-seekers with more than 1,200 attending the district's recent job fair.

Dane Adkinson, a Texas Association of School Boards consultant, presented the pay-structure market analysis. According to Adkinson, teacher pay across the district matches market values of districts comparable to Rockwall ISD.

Adkinson recommended considering pay increases for about 125 employees including custodians, bus drivers, tech support, assistant principals and administrative support for assistant principals and counselors. The cost estimate for those increases was about \$75,000.

Adkinson advised trustees that in order to stay with the market the district should consider a general pay increase between 2 percent and 2.5 percent for next year.

The trustees consider many factors with its compensation plan; for example last year the district focused on providing health insurance for 100 percent of employees.



Rockwall Chapter DAR members Marilyn King and Eddi Dagley dressed in flapper dresses and accessories from the era as part of the "20s" theme carried out at the organization's April 20 luncheon program conducted at the Sam Rayburn Veterans Center in Rockwall. The group received recognition for their volunteer efforts at the center, and the women pictured above were honored for their efforts as VAVS representatives from the Rock Wall Chapter DAR. Photo by Rockwall County News



The Aspasians Arts and Crafts Fair was a popular place to be last Saturday on the Rockwall square. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

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...Neva Wood, a Rockwall County Master Gardener, is pictured above with a Belinda's Dream in her garden. The bush is filled with more than 100 blooms. Wood and other local masters will host the seventh annual Tour of Gardens from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Seven gardens are open for the tour. Tickets cost \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. For more information on the Master Gardener program or Saturday's tour, call the AgriLife Extension Office at 972-204-7660. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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McKniff, Bandy plan Lewisville ceremony

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin McKniff of Rowlett have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Erin Evelyn, to Christopher Joel Bandy of Richardson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bandy of Richardson.

The bride-elect graduated from Rockwall High School in 2001 where she was editor of the yearbook. In 2005 she graduated from the University of Texas in Austin with a degree from the College of Communications. She is employed by OMD in Dallas and is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack McNabb of Rockwall and Mr. and Mrs. Francis McKniff of Lebanon, Penn.

The prospective bridegroom, a 2001 graduate of Richardson High School, earned a degree from the College of Computer Sciences at the University of Texas in 2006. An Eagle Scout,

he is employed by BrainBand in Richardson. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joe A. Bandy, Althea Milton

of Wichita Falls

Kenneth Milton.

A May 8, 2010,

dining at the Castle

Club in Lewisville

25 Years & Kick

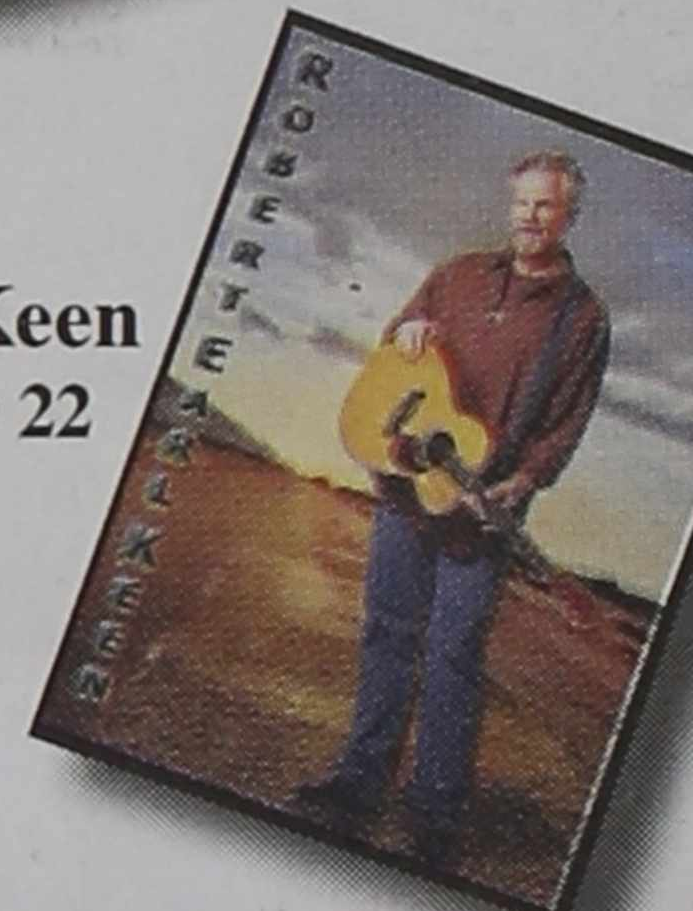
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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals

guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American

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of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. The sole purpose

of government is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore

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Participating in an enjoyable game in the library at Arbor House are (left to right) Jo Lee, Virginia Vaughn, Bernice Rodgers and Lee Hamilton. Staff photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News



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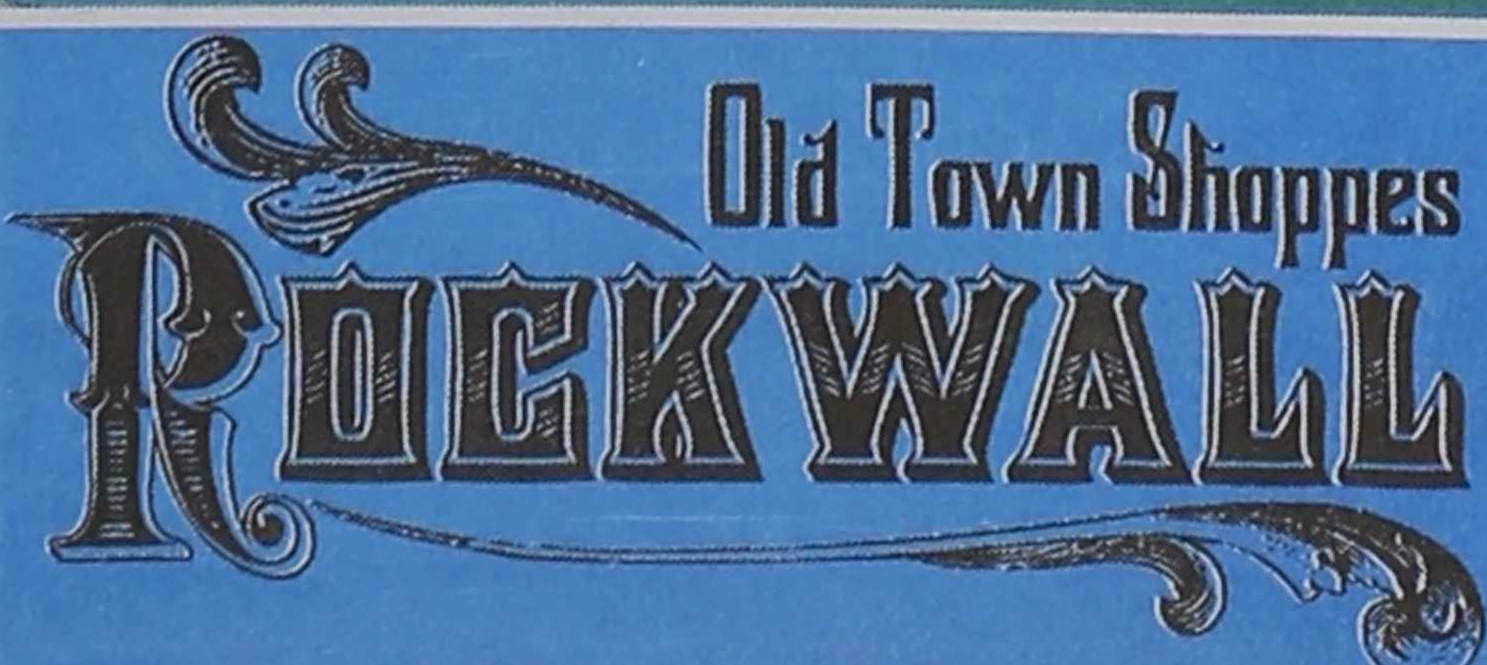
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Barrett Hopper helps youth believe in running competition

Barrett Hopper, 25 years, words, distance and make become everyday for Barrett Hopper, Mustangs Track Club

Hopper began his run and hasn't stopped. Hopper ran at the University of North Carolina - even before the professional football and teams were formed. "It was about myself," said Hopper. "I just can do better and win."

At this time, Hopper works at a local high school to help train them for running and even receive contract through sports.

Hopper provided me with shoes, "g," said Hopper. "In helped them advertise their logos during the race. It was a good time

Hopper tried for the and made it to the initial but did not advance to the team. Through this, he met John Tillman - Olympic bronze winner - triple jump - and king track and field.

Hopper moved from where he was worked as a mechanical manufacturer, to a few months later, he to help coach a summer camp.

When kids showed up for practice.

It met was on a cloudy day all the way out in said Hopper. "When how committed there, I knew I would

needed a full-time and many of the promised full cooperation for his aid. agreed to stay.

Sheila Leffall, died of became my inspiration to keep her memory dedicated a spirit award member of the team each day Hopper. "The kid the most heart, spirit is given a plaque in

Hopper is the coach of Rockwall Mustangs Track Club. He is the president of the association for USA track and is in charge of 10 members comprised of men, adults, coaches and families in association with the field.

very kind and gets you without yelling," said Hopper. "I see these kids and what they accomplish, it may be as good as it's own." said Hopper. "This is a highlight in their life. to be a part of enhance experiences."

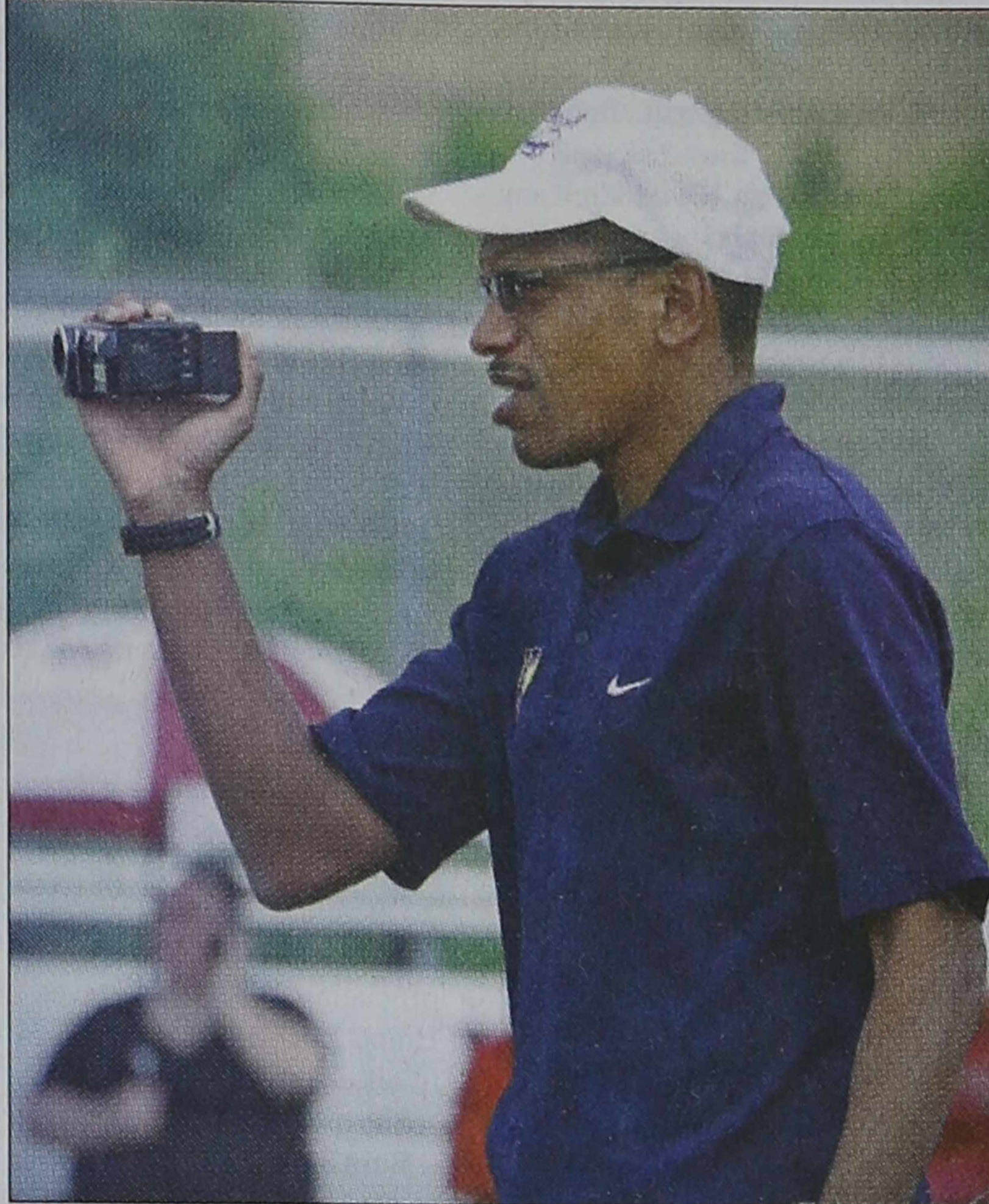
spare time, Hopper is on a local big race committee including the Dallas White Marathon. In addition, he with several other races in putting together competitions, and is the director for Mellow

throughout his training camp Hopper has seen children with state and national relationships.

the rights of individuals described in the American Constitution. The sole purpose of freedom. Therefore, government account

member of the Press Association

worked the Big D and put down over 1000 miles so runners would know which way to go," said



Coach Barrett Hopper records video of running students to help them improve.

Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News

Despite his numerous volunteer works throughout the running community, Hopper has received thousands of dollars in education funds as a result of running.

"As a result, I was able to travel all over the world," said Hopper. "I went to Harvard Business School and received an executive MBA."

His running career includes a 30-mile run in a single setting and more than half a dozen marathons and track events from 400 to 5000 meters.

"Running is the purest sport there is," said Hopper. "You can compare it to other generations, to your older sister... it doesn't matter. The clock is the same clock."

Although his two children - aged 22 and 21 - have presented little interest in the sport, his 3-year-old grandson keeps him

on his toes.

"He'll run a couple laps around the track with me without stopping," said Hopper. "And when it's time to leave he'll start to cry."

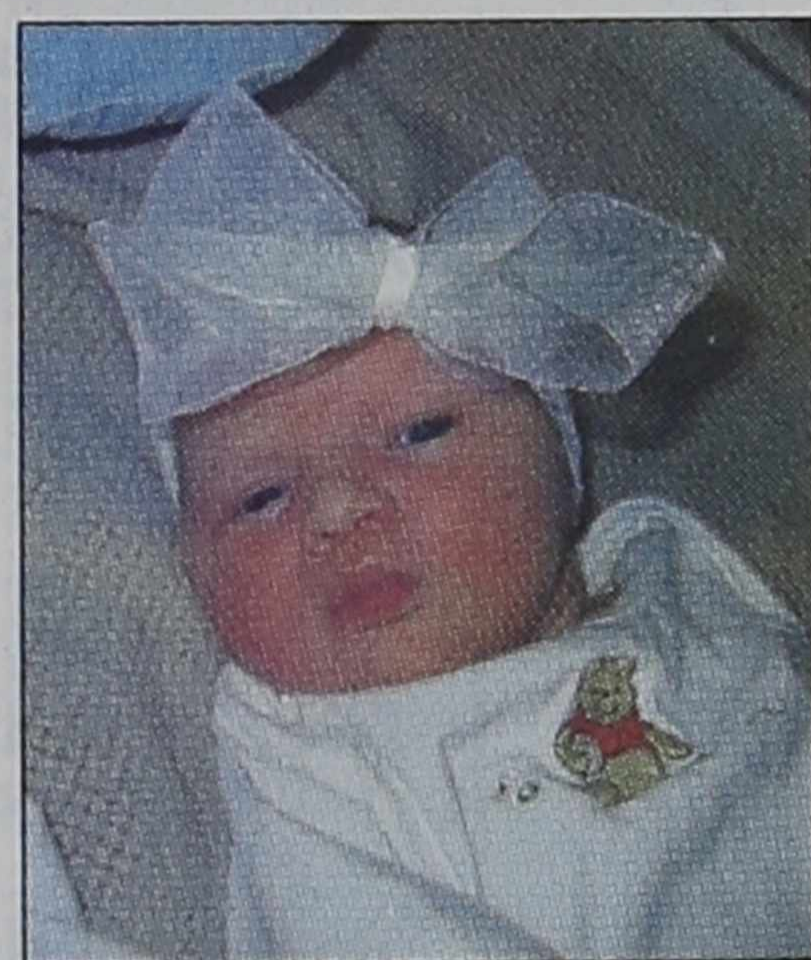
In 2009, Hopper opened The Rockwall Running Center, a physical and online store that specializes in quality running shoes, apparel and accessories for the family. The Center also hosts several track and field/cross country spike nights for local athletes.

"My whole mission is to have a central place [for runners] to socialize, receive information about training programs, supplements and running publications," said Hopper. "None of this would be possible without the support of my wife, Carla, and many friends that I have met, including my business partner, Phillip Fort."

Birth

Allison Elaine Westrich

John and Julie Westrich of Rockwall are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Allison Elaine Westrich, at 10:01 a.m. April 15, 2010, at the Lake Pointe Medical Center in Rowlett.



The infant weighed 8 pounds, 9.6 ounces and was 20.5 inches long at birth.

She was welcomed home by two siblings, 4-year-old Alex and Anne Marie, 23 months.

Maternal grandparents are Bob and Mary Grotty of Austin.

John and Nadene Westrich of Sun City West, Ariz., are the paternal grandparents.

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Helen Mitchell (seated) with her daughter Linda Duran.

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett
Spiritual Matters...1 Corinthians 12:7-9

On the subject of spiritual matters, last week we looked at 1 Corinthians 12:4-6. By the same holy spirit there are diversities of gifts. Through the same Lord Jesus Christ there are various ways to serve in the body of Christ. And it is the same God in heaven who is able to work mightily for all who believe.

The words "gifts," "administrations" and "operations" were translated from the earlier known Greek words, charisma, diakonia and energema. The reason for noting the earlier known Greek words is so we might study their uses throughout the Gospels and the Epistles. This sort of study helps to understand better what God made available for all His saints in the body of Christ.

We now continue with 1 Corinthians 12:7-9, "But the manifestation of the spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge, by the same spirit; to another faith, by the same spirit; to another the gifts of healing, by the same spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues; But all these work that one and the selfsame spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

The word "but" indicates a change of subject. Verses 4-6 referred to various gifts, services and workings. Then verse 7 started with, "But the manifestation of the spirit is given to every man to profit withal." Please note that it did not say, "the gifts of the spirit." If God intended for the above nine to be gifts, He would have called them "gifts." Instead he called them nine ways to profit from the manifestation of holy spirit. One exception is "gifts of healing." Since God does not refer to the other eight as gifts, then we have no need to call them gifts.

The manifestation of holy spirit is given to "every man." The words "every man" are better translated "each one." This can only refer to anybody who is filled with holy spirit. Next we learn the manifestation of the spirit is for each one's profiting. So how can we profit from the manifestation of holy spirit? God's got the answer. There are nine ways to profit. They include words of knowledge and wisdom, discerning of spirits, faith, gifts of healing, working of miracles, prophecy, speaking in tongues and the in-

terpretation of tongues. They are all for our profit by the same spirit.

Verse 11 teaches us that all nine work that one and the same spirit. The word "dividing" is better translated "distributing," and the word "severally" meant "his own." The pronoun "he" can only refer to the preceding noun "man." This verse can be more accurately translated, "But all these work that one and the selfsame spirit, distributing to each one his own, as he will."

Think of the spirit as a special package from God. When we give our children a gift that can be used in various approved ways, do we turn around and tell them that only one of the uses is the gift? No...we let them freely play according to its intended uses. Of course with toys, children will often play with them in ways outside of the intended uses.

Why would God who is greater than earthly parents treat His children any differently? Jesus Christ willfully gave his life so that anybody can be filled with the gift of holy spirit, and profit from that wonderful package in all nine different ways.

Praise God for His matchless love!

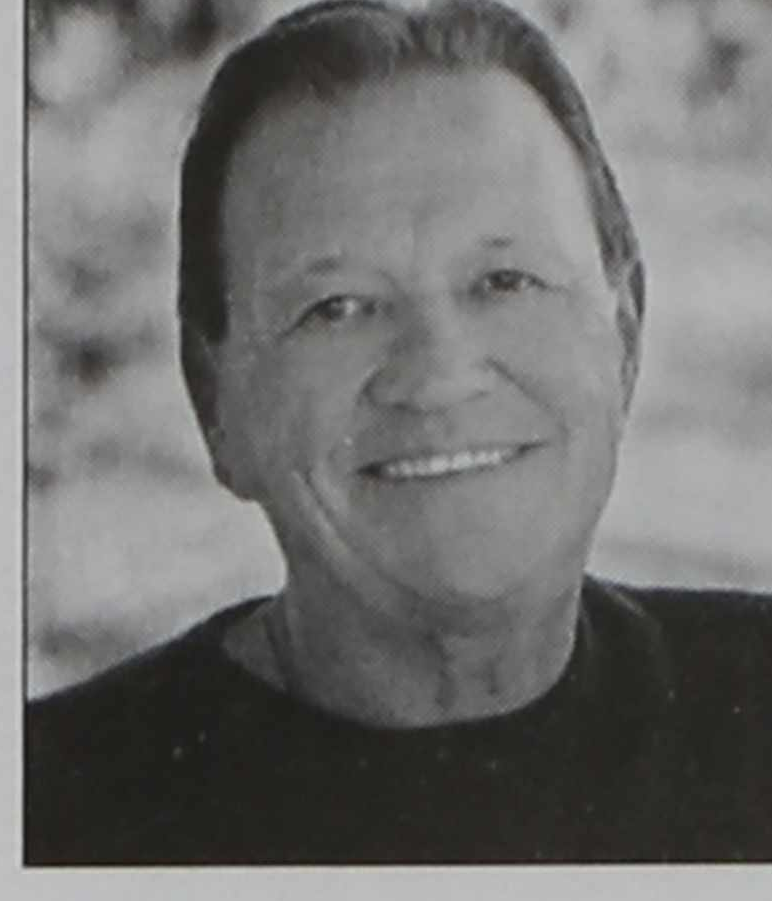
Rockwall County Obituaries

Robert 'Bob' Kenyon Bevan

Services for Robert "Bob" Kenyon Bevan were conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 24, 2010, in the Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church in Rockwall with the Rev. Peter R. Getz officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He died April 19 surrounded by his wife and children.

Born Jan. 4, 1937, in Detroit, Mich., to Kenyon and Vera Bevan, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting from Michigan State University. While in Oklahoma City, Okla., pursuing what became a lengthy and successful career in computer software marketing, he met and married Marilyn Lamirand Marsh. He moved his family to Rockwall in 1971, and in 1979 with his wife by his side, be-



Pastor Shanon Thomas

gan DDS, the first of his own software companies. DDS became a portable communication software. In 1996 they formed SoftTech which he ran until his retirement in 2003.

He and his family started Bevan's Arabians in the early 1980s. For more than 20 years he participated in the Arabian horse business, breeding, training and selling horses.

He enjoyed racing sailboats. Following his retirement, he and his wife continued their boating hobby, spending part of each year on their traveling between Annapolis, Md., and Palm Beach, Fla.

An active member of the Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church for more than 35 years, he and his wife enjoyed attending Saturday services together. He was passionate about his commitment to the Austin Centre and volunteered regularly. His devotion to family came second to his devotion to God.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Bevan of Heath; his daughter nyon Bevan Hill of Rockwall, Angela Marsh Butler and her husband of Allen and Becki Bevan Farquharson and her husband, Tom, of Rockwall; his son, Jack B. Marsh and his wife, Elizabeth, of Rockwall; a sister, Bevan Durr of Bellview, Wash.; and his grandchildren, Justin Michael Jacob Hale Marsh, Ryan Thomas Farquharson, Hannah Leigh Bevan Reagan Bevan Farquharson.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the Austin Street Centre, P.O. Box 710729, Dallas, TX 75226 or to the Rockwall Chapel.

Cynthia Ann Case

Memorial services for Cynthia Ann Case, 52, of Rockwall will be conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 1, 2010, in the First Presbyterian Church in Rockwall with Pastor Cheryl Taylor officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

She died April 23.

Born Sept. 15, 1957, in Beloit, Wis., to Richard C. and Virginia M. Witmer, she grew up in Houston and graduated from Randolph-Macon Women's College in Virginia. She was married to David Case for 28 years and lived in Rockwall for the past 20 years.

An active member of the First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall years, she was a church choir and bell choir participant and was choir music director for several years. She also served as director of church education for three years. She spent much time volunteering in the community. She was active in the Start Chapter of the National League, Relay For Life and Big Girls Club. She was a big sister of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters and feed the homeless in Dallas.

She enjoyed music and played cello and flute. She was active in several tennis leagues and had taken up yoga. She was an ematician, an aerobics instructor and a teacher at the Ark Preschool most 10 years.

Survivors include her husband, David; her daughters, Lindsay and (Continued on Page 5)



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Proverbs 18
"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."
Matt. 28

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Rockwall County Obituaries

(Continued from Page 4)

isters, Laura Brubaker, Nancy Moore and Marie Witmer; two and Paul Witmer; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents. For more information, the family has requested donations can be made to Relay For Life. Donations also may be made to the Presbyterian Church of Rockwall.

Nancy Ervin



for Nancy Ervin, 66, of Rockwall, was conducted at 4 p.m. on Monday, April 29, 2010, in the First Methodist Church in Roysse City, Mo. Burial was in the Rest Haven Memorial Home in Rockwall. The Rest Haven Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. She was born on Monday, April 26, 1944, in Roysse City, Mo. She was a graduate of East Texas State University (now Texas A&M-Commerce) and retired from Rockwall High where she was a teacher. She was an original board member for the Lakes Region member of Delta Kappa Gamma and the Rockwall Area Retired Teachers Association. She attended Lake Pointe Church. Survivors include her husband, James Ervin of Rockwall; one daughter, Judith Ellis; a brother, Bill Ellis and his wife, Mary, of Roysse City; her sisters, Ruth Elise Holland and Aubrey Evelyn Holland; a niece, Dana, of Roysse City; and a nephew, Mark Ellis and his wife, Dana.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Judy Ervin; her parents; and her sister, Judith Ellis. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, P.O. Box 747, Terrell, TX 75160.

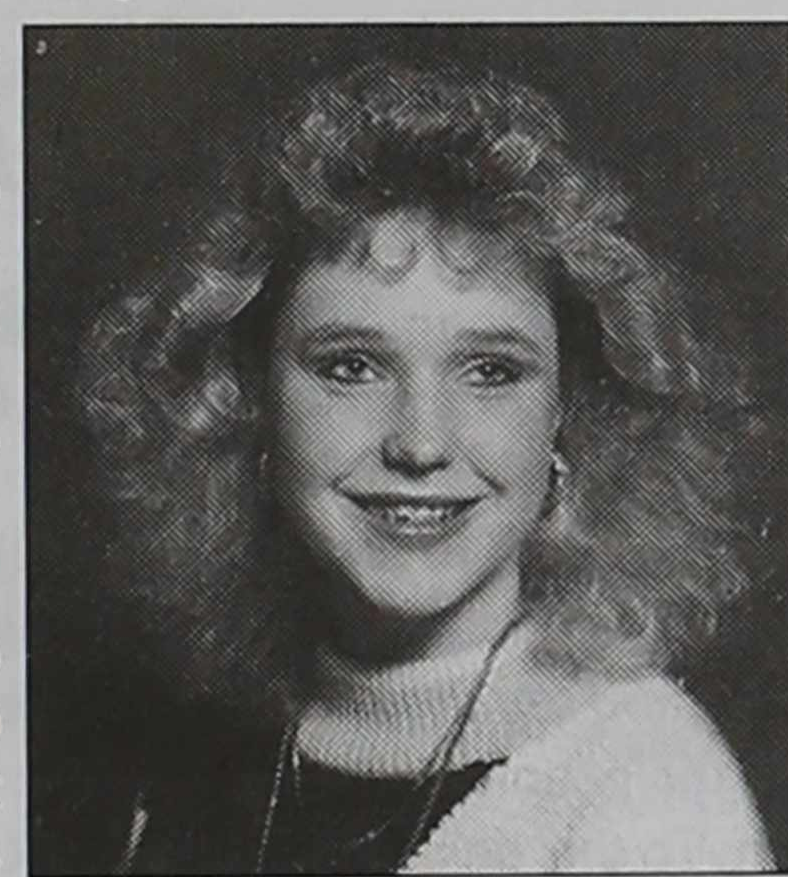
Dora 'Jeane' Fasolo



for Dora "Jeane" Fasolo, was conducted on April 17, 2010, at the Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church in Heath. She was born on April 7 at the home of her parents, John and son-in-law, Julianna and Robert Fasolo. She was born on April 24, 1925, in Calistoga, Calif. Her parents were German immigrants. She was a member of the Ark Presbyterian Church in Rockwall. She was a professional cake decorator in the family business, Fasolo's, in Sacramento, as well as a professional singer and businesswoman. She raised three children and had lived in Rockwall for the past 15 years. She was an active member of the Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church in Heath and was a volunteer for the Rockwall Independent School District.

Survivors include her daughter, Julianna Zurek of Heath; her sons, Philip and Charles Fasolo of Sacramento; her grandchildren, Nicholas Fasolo, Mary Elizabeth Fredricks, Mitchell Fasolo, Holly Fasolo, Constance, Jennifer Zurek, Nicole Zurek, Nancy Zurek, Carmen and Rebecca Fasolo; and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Angela Donnelly; a brother, Phillip; and her husband, Carmen John Fasolo. Memorial contributions may be made in her honor to the Holy Trinity by the Lake, altar guild.

Teresa Faye Haynes



for Teresa Faye Haynes, a Rockwall resident, was conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 24, 2010, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Duane Willhite officiating. Burial was in the Parker Cemetery on Monday, April 22, 2010. She was born on August 14, 1973, in Terrell to her parents, John and Carolyn Hill. She attended Bethel Baptist Church in Rockwall and was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Robby Haynes, her daughter, Alexis Haynes, her mother and stepfather, John and Carolyn Hill, her brother, John Haynes, and her sister, Margaret Stone-Haney, all of Rockwall; her father-in-law, Vicky and Jerry Haynes of Heath; her grandfather, Bonnie Roach of Garland; her grandfather- and grandmother-in-law, Elmer and Velma Willhite of Fort Worth; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her father and her great-grandparents, Joe and Mary Graem.

Gwyn Lee Jackson Jones



Services for Gwyn Lee Jackson Jones, 76, of Flower Mound were conducted at 2 p.m. Friday, April 23, 2010, in the Lake Pointe Church Chapel in Rockwall with the Rev. Jerry Truett officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements. She died April 21.

Born May 5, 1933, in Haynesville, La., to John and Polly Mae Jackson, she had worked as a secretary in the travel industry and was a volunteer at the Assistance League of Dallas. Survivors include her son, John Jones of Heath; a stepson, Don Jones and his wife, Mary, of Corpus Christi; her grandchildren, Garrett, Logan and Miranda Jones; and a brother, John Jackson, and his wife, Shirley, of Bedford. She was preceded in death by her parents.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the Assistance League of Dallas, P.O. Box 12403, Dallas, TX 75225.

Mary Sooter



Services for Mary Sooter, 61, of Rowlett were conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, April 26, 2010, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Butch Bruton officiating. Burial followed in the Smyrna Cemetery. She died April 21.

Born Aug. 20, 1948, in Dallas to John D. Sr. and Lenah Bea (Taylor) Northcut, she was a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and New Life Family Fellowship in Caddo Mills. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, photography, interior decorating and making wedding cakes. She was active in the Angel Food Program and other church activities.

Survivors include her husband, John E. Sooter Jr. of Rowlett; her children, Tom T. Sooter and his wife, Lius, of Alamogordo, N.M., Cynthia G. Sooter of Rowlett and Rebecca A. Sooter of Fort Worth; her grandchildren, Rhett Sooter of Wyoming and Travis and Julia Sooter of Rowlett; her brothers, Bill D. Northcut and his wife, Billie Francis, of Abernathy and John D. Northcut Jr. and his wife, Jocelyn, of Montreal, Canada; and one sister, JoAnn McIver and her husband, Robert, of Garland. She was preceded in death by her parents.



Members of the Rockwall Heath High School Robotics Team, from the left, Leslie Reese, coach; Grant Conder, robot driver; and John Schneider, team captain, are pictured with H-Bot, the team robot. The picture was taken following the final competition in the Georgia Dome, Atlanta, on April 19 at the FIRST Robotics World Championship Competition. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

RHHS students take wins at state contest

Rockwall-Heath High students Bethany Vaughn, Madison Hatfield and Aleksandra Kochan were winners in the Texas PTA-sponsored Reflections program, "Beauty Is!" Vaughn won Honorable Mention in Visual Arts, while Hatfield and Kochan each received Awards of Excellence in Literature. The state level of the competition was comprised of 2,200 pieces. For more details, visit txpta.org/programs/reflections.

Rookie RHHS Robotics Team lands in world championship in Atlanta

The Rockwall-Heath High School Robotics Team, in its first year, was one of seven groups tapped to compete at the FIRST World Championship event earlier this month in Atlanta, Ga.

Representing its division as the Rookie Team of the Year, the RHHS squad earned a 57th place finish out of 86 teams competing in the Georgia Dome. The team won its rookie title at the regional contest. The Rookie All Star Award is presented to the team that exemplifies excellence in its first year of competition.

The regional FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition was conducted in March at Southern Methodist University.

Students worked with professional mentors, which included engineers from some of the world's most respected companies, to construct a robot over a six-week period that could perform a number of challenging tasks using a standard kit of parts. Students demonstrated their hard work put into designing, building and programming their robot using resources generated from their own fundraising efforts as well as sponsorship support.

Robotics Team members participating in the FIRST Robotics Championships included John Acosta, Darara Barodge, Alycia Barsness, Ellis Bayoud, Andrew Brown, Colton Carney, Grant Conder, Monica Encabo, Nick Engmann, Alex Gwyn, Jack Moore, Miguel Morales, Brandy Nelson, Francisco Sanchez and John Schneider.

The team is coached by Leslie Reese and Jean Laswell. Sponsors for the RHHS team were Special Products and Manufacturing, Cottonwood Ranch-L.W. Long Family and Nash Construction.

In addition to the RHHS squad, teams representing this region included Greenville High School; Clear Creek ISD; League City; Shoemaker High, Killen; Cinco Ranch High, Katy; Cypress Ranch High, Cypress; and Lubbock Estacado and Levelland High schools, Lubbock and Levelland.

The Texas Workforce Commission provided a \$37,000 grant to help cover registration fees for the seven participating teams.

This season, more than 45,000 high school students competed in FIRST programs around the world. There are currently more than 1,800 FRC teams including more than 275 rookie teams around the world competing at 44 regional championships. FIRST participants are eligible to apply for nearly \$12 million in college scholarship opportunities.



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Mental Illness Support

Two NAMI free support groups – one for those with a mental illness (Room 121) and one for their families (Room 123 BBldg.) will meet from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 8 at the First United Methodist Church, 1200 E. Yellow Jacket Lane, Rockwall. Call Hal or Dee Whitfield at 972-412-6030 for more information.

Utley students hear from guest speakers

Members of Utley Middle School's Friends of Rachel and D-FY-IT clubs sponsored after-school guest speakers March 29-30.

The speakers – Shelley Garrett, Rockwall High's assistant principal; Greg Parks, junior high youth minister; and Blake O'Quinn, high school youth minister – prompted discussions on such topics as kindness, compassion, real-world choices and doing the right thing regardless of peer pressure. Another topic explored was respecting others, their possessions and their space. Students also learned about standing up for what is right and leadership.

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- ★ **Bureaucracy Control, Not Citizen Control:**
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Utley Middle School

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Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

We encourage the submission of Letters to the Editor. The publishing of letters is at the sole discretion of the editor and may be edited for brevity, grammar and accuracy. Letters which are considered libelous or an attack of an individual's character will be rejected, as well as those promoting political candidates. Letters must be signed and include telephone number or address for verification.

Questioning Heath City Council

I would like to address the issue again about the water tower that is to be built on the land in the middle of Fulton's property.

I am becoming extremely concerned that the city has not put this matter back on the agenda for a firm decision. I am continually amazed at how the highest officials with the Heath city government still cling to playing land deals with this private school. What is the hold up? Another two months will have passed by the time the council meets again and that will be five months since the council "officially re-designated" this site for this water tower. How many more tax dollars is the city going to waste on time delays with Fulton?

Mayor, I believe you said more than once, only proposals that would be "at no more cost to the city" would be looked at and that the city was on a "short time-line." The delay is costing money, and I believe 60 days is more than enough time to have made other site proposals, if there are any available.

The residents on Hillview Drive were told by Ed Thatcher last summer that the city was in a desperate way with regard to the city's water needs. A woman had lost her life due to water shortage and the outlook, if things were not changed, would be more of the same. This same story has also been related to us in open meeting with the City Council. Why are we being fed such a dramatic, dangerous situation if all the risk to the tax paying citizens is worth it when Fulton School is in opposition of the plan?

The taxpaying, voting citizens on Hillview Drive are very concerned that the city officials say one thing and then seem to take action in the favor of private interest. On Hillview Drive we are forced by the city, due to continuing decisions against our best interest, to live with 2-inch water supply lines, below-standard storm drainage, no fire hydrants and homes that Fulton owns that are in such a state of disrepair that the homes themselves are becoming a fire hazard.

Mayor, what were you just re-elected for? What is your passion in this position? Have you forgotten about the people who elected you to watch out for their best interest? Or do you watch over the special interest lobbyists that can use their influence to further your political aspirations?

I just wonder.

Tina Winnett, Heath

Heath Mayor answers about water tower

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was a response directed to Tina Winnett.)

Thank you for your recent email. As always, I appreciate your interest in the decisions made by the City Council and staff to ensure the preservation and continued improvement of our great community here in Heath.

As you know, the matter of constructing a water tower near the campus of the Fulton School is one that has generated much interest, attention and concern from people on both sides of the issue. As a nearby resident, it is understandable that you would have very strong opinions on what is the best approach to this particular situation.

Since the March 3 City Council meeting referenced in your email, there has been an incredible amount of activity by all concerned to explore, consider and vet any reasonable possibilities that would serve to benefit ev-

Rockwall-Heath 'Rocket Boys' qualify for nationals again

It wasn't easy.

The Rockwall-Heath Rocket Club 2009 would like to have said it was easy to go two straight years in back-to-back qualifications for the national Team America Rocketry Competition. However, the boys would be the first to admit it was even more difficult to make the nation's top 100 this year.

First, the requirements for qualification to nationals are more difficult for the 2010 Nationals.

Last year, the rules were to launch an egg to the altitude of 750 feet and have it return to earth via parachute within 45 seconds. This year's qualifications include an altitude to 825 feet within 45 seconds; however, the

rocket cannot use a parachute but must return using only thin streamers.

Secondly, the boys struggled to design a rocket that would function many launches while properly deploying the streamers. After much experimentation, the boys designed, built and flew a rocket of incredible strength and solved most of the streamer problems.

Thirdly, the winter weather postponed many launches. High winds, high temperatures and record setting precipitation forced the team to their qualification flight during the last weekend allowed. The extra construction, the additional rocket engines and delays added up to a grueling and difficult endeavor.

"We always thought we would make nationals again," said John Gerritsen. "What we didn't count on was how easy it came last year how difficult it was to qualify this year. We feel very fortunate to make the top 100, but we are ready to make the top 10."

The 2010 Rocket team include veterans John Easum, Michael Gerritsen and Colt McNally, juniors at Rockwall-Heath. New to the team are Landon Fisher, a sophomore at RHHS, and sponsor Susan Vogel, AP Physics teacher at RHHS.

The boys regularly meet to construct the rocket, make a recovery, construct a launch stand and then launch the rockets to test for failure, fine tune the design and weight of the rocket.

"We hope to make the top ten teams in the country this year," said Easum, the leader of the group. "Last year, we finished twelfth, but after a complication at lift off in the finals. We have corrected this problem and look forward to proving ourselves at nationals. We also look forward to making an oral presentation at TARC to compete for scholarships."

Because of extreme weather conditions in North Texas this year, the boys said they feel they are able to launch in any weather with confidence.

"While the weather was working against us all year, I think that will be in our favor," said Fisher. "We were launching in all kinds of wind conditions, and we now have data that will help us immensely in the future," McNally agreed.

"It was a rough year. The wind was our enemy. There was also one we scheduled a spring launch, only to find the ground covered in snow the morning. That event alone, put us behind schedule for qualification."

This year's national will again take place at Great Meadow in the Va., May 15-16.

The TARC program had 669 teams participating this year with over 100 teams making the finals. Each team gets one launch to qualify for the top 20. The top 20 then have one last launch to make the top 10. Scholarships are given to the top 10 finishers that total \$60,000.

Sponsors of the event include Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, American Association of Physics Teachers, NASA and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Study Club celebrates 90 years at historic luncheon

Members of the Friday Study Club gathered at Bin 303 for their Spring Luncheon.

The club is celebrating its 90th anniversary, so it seemed only appropriate for the luncheon to take place in a refurbished building constructed years ago. The structure, built by Jessie and Ella Briggs, was purchased soon after its completed by Ollie and Opal Steger. It became known as Steger House.

Opal Steger was a member of the Friday Study Club.

One of the guests for the recent luncheon was Diana Chapman, a daughter of the Stegers.



Members of the Rockwall-Heath Rocket Club once again have qualified for the Team American Rocketry Competition's national level. Pictured at one of their practice launches are, from the left, Landon Fisher, John Easum, Michael Gerritsen and Colt McNally. Not pictured is sponsor Susan Vogel. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

everyone in Heath. As you recall, the City Council expressed that the relative urgency of commencing a second water tower to meet our future needs necessitated that we spend no more than a few months to assess any possible alternative options or sites. Obviously, everything that the City of Heath has done, and intends to do, is entirely consistent with that representation.

I should point out that several of your neighbors on Hillview have directly expressed to me their appreciation for the straightforward, deliberate and fair manner with which the City Council has attempted to address this issue. I hope this response also provides you with some further assurance that the City Council is certainly sensitive to your concerns.

Again, thank you and best regards,
John Ratcliffe, Mayor of Heath

Rockwall County News Opinions

Is a Real Anti-Government Movement Forming?

by Sheldon Richman

Finally some good news. From the Associated Press:

"Public confidence in government is at one of the lowest points in a half century, according to a survey from the Pew Research Center. Nearly 8 in 10 Americans say they don't trust the federal government and have little faith it can solve America's ills, the survey found.... About half say they want a smaller government with fewer services."

The AP also reported, "The survey found that Obama's policies were partly to blame for a rise in distrustful, anti-government views."

This would be a cheerful development no matter who occupied the White House. Both parties have contributed to the outrageous growth

in the state's power and a corresponding shrinkage of individual liberty. If the public hasn't had enough by now, what would it take?

Fortunately, as Andrew Kohut, president of the Pew Research Center, wrote, "Favorable ratings for both major parties, as well as for Congress, have reached record lows." And the negative feelings are not just against politicians, who have spent and borrowed the country into bankruptcy. People are increasingly disillusioned with government bureaucracies. "Favorable ratings for federal agencies and institutions have fallen since 1997-98 for seven of 13 federal agencies included in the survey," Kohut writes. "The declines have been particularly large for the Department of Education, the Food and Drug Administration, the Social Security Administration, as well

as the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

It's enough to restore one's faith in the American people.

The politicians aren't rejoicing of course. Even Republicans, of whom say they want less government but don't really mean it, fear the people to be enthusiastic about them and their ability to govern. To this day they boast that Ronald Reagan restored confidence in government after beating Jimmy Carter.

But confidence is not what people who value freedom ought to demand of the government. Thomas Jefferson had it right: "[F]ree government is founded in jealousy, and not in confidence."

Why did Jefferson think that? Because the government under one man is almost always the greatest threat to one's liberty and therefore must be a special object of "eternal vigilance." It's government that has the power to start wars, take your money, interfere with economic affairs, violate your privacy, subsidize things you don't want, and perhaps even declare you an enemy combatant and you without charge indefinitely. Why shouldn't that make us suspicious?

Self-styled "progressives" don't like criticism of government that their guy is in the White House. The same people who roared — and properly — denounced George W. Bush for his war on Iraq and trampling of civil liberties have made a 180-degree turn and now suggest that those who spread alarm about the lengthening shadows of the state flirt with "sedition" and might even be later labeled McVeighs. What hypocrisy and demagoguery!

None of this is to suggest that America now has a dominant and coherent pro-freedom movement. The Pew poll shows that 56 percent of those surveyed "say that government does not do enough to protect the average Americans," Kohut writes. A coherent movement would want government help because it reduces freedom and creates economic havoc. Rather it would call for mutual aid and truly free enterprise, which is not to be confused with government-subsidized government-protected megacorporations that privatize their profits while socializing their losses.

The Tea Party movement is no less confused. Its members want smaller government, but they favor Social Security, Medicare, two of the government's costliest and most middle-class welfare-state programs.

Moreover, the Tea Partiers complaining about too much government say almost nothing about the three murderous wars of the past (Pakistan included) Obama is fighting. He didn't start them, anyone who understands the connection between peace, prosperity and individual freedom should be opposing Obama for the occupations and bombings he's continuing. His Cheneyesque liberties record would also be at the top of the agenda of any genuine movement to roll back government power.

Let's hope the public's sentiment against government power increases in size and sophistication. Regardless of who's in power there's no greater cause than the cause of liberty.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation, author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State* and editor of *The Freeman* magazine. Visit his blog "Free Association" at www.sheldonrichman.com.

A clarification on "Warrantless Arrests"

by Wesley W. Burnett

The recent Arizona law authorizing law enforcement to target certain people "suspected" to be "illegal aliens," and two letters we received voicing objection to the April 9, 2010 "Warrantless Arrests" editorial in the Rockwall County News, it seems appropriate to provide clarification to our readers.

It is apparent that a large majority of Arizona citizens, and at least two of our readers, have a completely opposite understanding of our constitution and the rights it guarantees than what I understand about our constitution and the rights it was designed to protect and secure.

Specifically, I cite the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, which requires due process for all people, including the requirement that a warrant must be duly executed by a magistrate prior to an arrest.

In Texas (I'm not sure about Arizona), traffic code arrests are routinely conducted without due process. The Texas statute defining Transportation Code arrest procedures are found in Section 543 of the chapter entitled "Rules of the Road."

Ask the editor:

What is an "at-large" election?

An "at-large" election places all candidates on a ballot with voters throughout the boundaries of the government unit voting for a set number of candidates listed on the ballot. For example, there may be three positions to fill, with four or more candidates. The three positions will be filled by the three candidates receiving the most votes. In an "at-large" election, candidates are chosen by all the voters within the boundaries of the government unit, either by "places" (council positions) or highest vote tally. The City of Rockwall uses the "at-large" election system for city council members by places.

In the "single-member" district elections, candidates are chosen from a number of voting districts within the boundaries of the governing body. For example, in the single-member district system, the governing unit has established geographic districts for each of the members of the governing body. In many Texas cities, single member districts are drawn for balance based on the latest U.S. census records.

(Got a question? Email to rcn.news@yahoo.com)

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Legal Notices

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

Sealed submittals for Architectural Services addressed to Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall, will be received at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087 on June 1, 2010 at or before 2:00 pm, CST. Qualified firms interested in providing architectural and engineering services for the planning of Downtown Improvements should contact Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Office, City Hall, or by calling 972-771-7700 x 6418 for a RFQ packet. The City reserves the right to reject any or all submittals, waive formalities, re-advertise, and consider the most advantageous submittal thereof.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SERVICES

Sealed submittals for Construction Manager at Risk Services addressed to Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall, will be received at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087 on June 1, 2010 at or before 2:00 pm, CST. Qualified firms interested in providing Construction Manager at Risk services for the planning of Downtown Improvements should contact Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Office, City Hall, or by calling 972-771-7700 x 6418 for a RFQ packet. The City reserves the right to reject any or all submittals, waive formalities, re-advertise, and consider the most advantageous submittal thereof.

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

Sealed submittals for Architectural Services addressed to Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall, will be received at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087 on May 24, 2010 at or before 2:00 pm, CST. Qualified firms interested in providing architectural and engineering services for the planning of a new Athletic Complex should contact Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Office, City Hall, or by calling 972-771-7700 x 6418 for a RFQ packet. The City reserves the right to reject any or all submittals, waive formalities, re-advertise, and consider the most advantageous submittal thereof.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SERVICES

Sealed submittals for Construction Manager at Risk Services addressed to Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall, will be received at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087 on May 24, 2010 at or before 2:00 pm, CST. Qualified firms interested in providing Construction Manager at Risk Services for the planning of a new Athletic Complex should contact Lea Ann Ewing, Purchasing Office, City Hall, or by calling 972-771-7700 x 6418 for a RFQ packet. The City reserves the right to reject any or all submittals, waive formalities, re-advertise, and consider the most advantageous submittal thereof.

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Rockwall, TX 75087

Legal Notice
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Public sale - Sat., May 8 at Noon at 2740 St. Hwy 276, #100, Rockwall TX 972-772-5162. Property auctioned to highest bidder for cash only. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Auction will include contents of spaces of following tenants: JARED CONRAD - misc. household items and childrens toys / DANNY CROY - insulated house windows, motorcycle trailer / CARLOS YOUNG - 19' wellcraft boat with motor and trailer.

Public Hearing
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ROCKWALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT WILL MEET IN A PUBLIC HEARING ON JUNE

22, 2010, AT TIME 7:00 P.M. AT THE ROCKWALL COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 101 EAST RUSK STREET, CITY OF ROCKWALL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE FOLLOWING: PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHTOWER LANE AND RELATED ASSESSMENTS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 253 OF THE TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE. NOTE: THE ROCKWALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT COMPLIES WITH A.D.A. REQUIREMENTS. IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS PUBLIC MEETING AND YOU HAVE A DISABILITY THAT REQUIRES SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS AT THE MEETING, PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING AT (972) 204-6000.

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News You Won't Find Anywhere Else

- Public Notice -

City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, May 11, 2010** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, and the Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, May 17, 2010** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas. To consider the following items:

10-007: Proposed Amendment to SUP, Commerce St. & I-30, W of John King Blvd
The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing and consider a request by Bennett Ratliff of The Ratliff Group, LLC, to amend the existing Specific Use Permit (i.e. Ordinance No. 07-26) allowing for a "Motor Vehicle Dealership" on a 8.686-acre tract zoned Commercial (C) District and located along the south side of IH-30 east of Commerce St and west of John King Blvd, specifically to amend the expiration date of the SUP.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions. Additional information can be found on all current Zoning cases on the City's website: www.rockwall.com/PlanningZoningChanges.asp.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of John M. Easton, Deceased, were issued on March 22, 2010, in Cause No. PR10-22, pending in the County Court at Law, Rockwall County, Texas, to: John M. Easton, Independent Executor of the Estate of John R. Easton.

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: **Robert D. Lybrand**
Attorney at Law
580 S. Denton Tap Road, Suite 280
Coppell, Texas 75019

Robert D. Lybrand
Attorney for John M. Easton, Independent
Executor of the Estate of John R. Easton
State Bar No.: 12712100
580 S. Denton Tap Road
Suite 280
Coppell, Texas 75019
Telephone: (972) 393-1500
Facsimile: (972) 304-0072

DATED the 21 day of April, 2010.

STATE OF TEXAS

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS 382nd District Court OF
ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS

E NO: 8-10-2

JOSE LOZA, ADDRESS UNKNOWN OR PARENT, LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR NEXT FRIEND OF JOSE LOZA, ADDRESS UNKNOWN have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer to the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of two (2) days after you were served this, before the Honorable 382nd District Court of Rockwall County, Texas, at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road, Suite 209, Rockwall, Texas, a default judgment may be taken against you.

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Original Petition, at or ten o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after the date of service of this Citation, on MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M. before the Honorable 382nd District Court of Rockwall County, Texas at the Government Center, 1101 Ridge Road of said County in Rockwall, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition, was filed in said Court on FEBRUARY 4, 2010, A.D., in this numbered 8-10-2 on the docket of said court, and styled, THE STATE OF TEXAS vs. \$17,652.00 U.S. CURRENCY.

The nature of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: FORFEITURE & SEIZURE of the same. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the return thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

ED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT AT Office, this the day of April, 2010.

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

By *Nancy V. Ortiz* Deputy
NANCY V. ORTIZ

ROCKWALL COUNTY NEWS, 107 E. BOURN AVENUE, ROCKWALL, TEXAS 75087
(972) 722-3099
at the request of:
G. Stoddart
RIDGE RD., STE. 105
ROCKWALL, TX 75087
(972) 722-3099



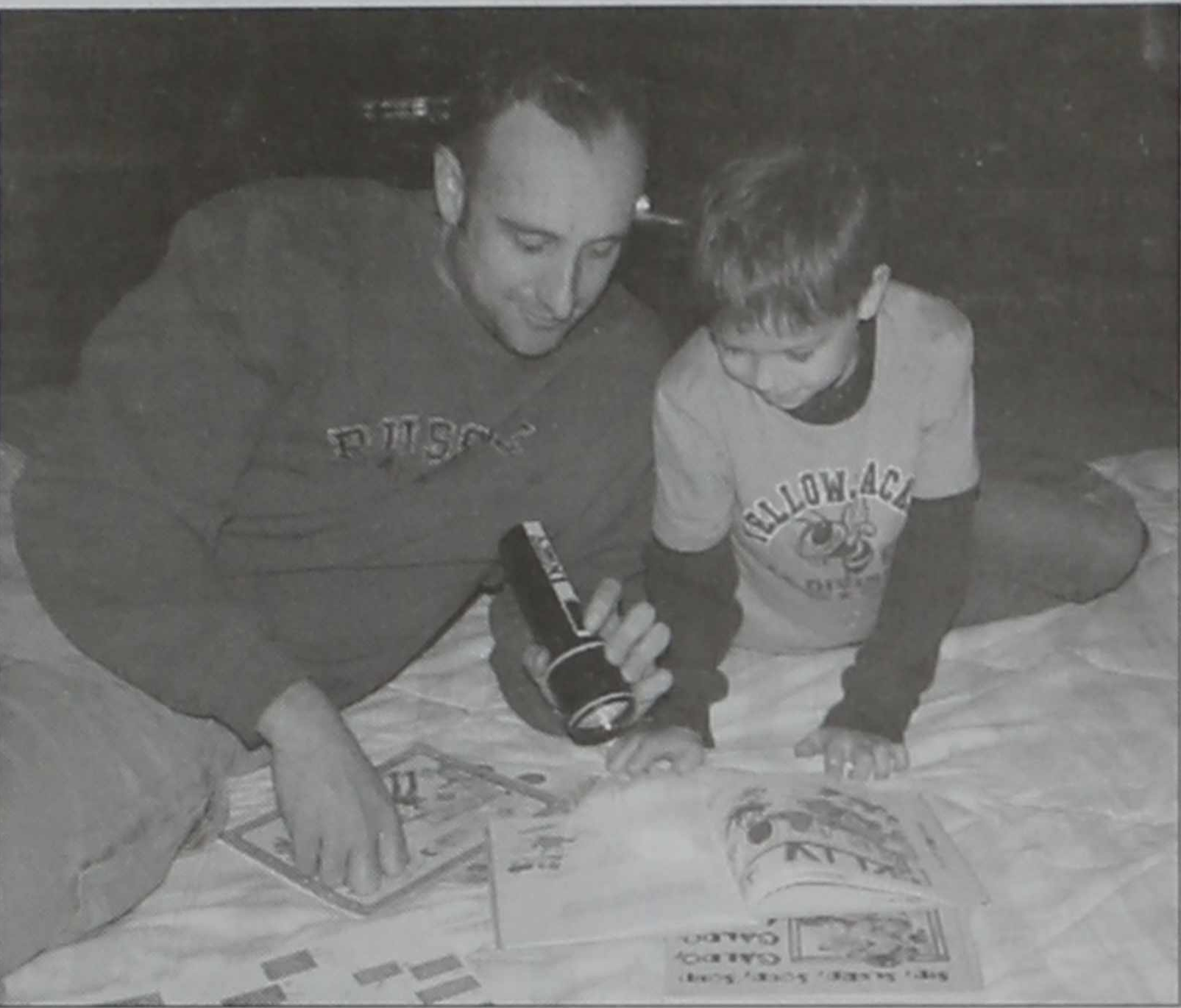
Arrow of Light Ceremony

Cub Scout Pack 341 of Dorris Cullins Lakepointe Elementary recently crossed over seven recipients of the Arrow of Light Scouts. Shown from the left are Nicholas Abdou, Dylan Haskett, Corey Rinkevich, Nathan DeLatte, David Jester, Christopher Dulac and Brandon Hamann.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Boy Scout Troop 386 from Heath made the trek to the Buffalo River in northern Arkansas over spring break where they completed a 53.5-mile canoe trip. Pictured at front are, from the left, Logan Taylor Poteet, Garret Jones, Justin Murphy, Karsten Steinmeyer, Will Wilcoxson and Nigel McGregor, and, at back, Anthony Schneeman, Mathew Graves, Nigel McGregor, Reed Poteet, John Jones, Tom Schneeman, Ethan Smith, and Alton Smith. Following the canoe trip, the Scouts completed a service project in Terrell where they worked on a trail at a camp for underprivileged youngsters. For their efforts on both the canoe trip and the service project, the young men each received a 50 Miller Award.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News



Scott Pacot and his son, Tag, are shown reading with flashlights in the gym at Grace Hartman during the school's recent Reading Night observance. Designed to encourage the love of books, the event included numerous activities, including a puppet show, live presentation by students and a bookmark-making craft project.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



The group of Rockwall students pictured above spent spring break in Italy. Shown at the arch in the Forum are, front row, Olivia Valder, Rachel Rodgers, Joy Eastman, Alan Losanes, Rachel Bryson and Christina Cross, and, at back, Stephen Salter, Esteban Davis, Christy Pollock, Aaron Maxwell, Dr. Sealock, Evan Losanes, Annissa Kacin, Noah Goen, Anika Hochstein, Virginia Sealock, Drew Bryson, McKenna Abbott, Julia Sealock, Chloe Hochstein, Erika Hochstein and Caroline Hochstein.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall students explore Italy during spring break

A group of Rockwall students, family members and teachers traveled to Europe in March to visit Italy during spring break. Each year, Rockwall students have the opportunity to tour a different area of Europe through Globetrotter Travel. Leading this year's group were instructors Renee Rodgers and Paula Salter of Heritage Christian Academy and Dee Lord of Rockwall High. The group's first stop was in Rome. There they toured the Coliseum, the Forum, the Sistine Chapel, the Pantheon, St. Peter's Cathedral, Vatican and the Vatican Museum. From there, the group went north to Siena, where they enjoyed seaside dining along the Mediterranean. Students climbed the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa while visiting the town of Pisa, saw the medieval town of Lucca while on a bike tour and enjoyed Italian gelato. They also visited Florence before making their way to their final destination: Venice.



Frances Wetzel of Terrell presented a program on "The Tidwell Massacre" at the Rockwall Wall Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution April meeting. Wetzel's relative, Sarah Ann Blanton Tidwell, lost her husband in a battle with the Kichai tribe, and she and her children were captured. The mother, an infant girl and two sons were forced to walk from mid-Texas to Chickasaw country in Oklahoma during their captivity. The baby did not survive the trek. The tribe eventually decided to kill their captives, but a prominent member of the Delaware tribe, Jim Shaw, bargained for Tidwell and purchased her freedom for \$200. Through her brother, Richard Blanton, Tidwell raised enough money to pay for her sons' freedom. For more details on the DAR, visit dar.org.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Members of the Rockwall High girls basketball team recently visited Cullin LakePointe fifth graders to deliver a pep talk prior to the TAKS exams. The older students' message was "hard work pays off." Pictured from the left are Catilin White, Katherin Healy, Kayla Smith, Haley Evans, Vertashia Dean, Wyatt Cott, Bre Castille, Peyton Adamson, Darin Howard, Alyssa Lang, Taylor Holbrook and Coach Jill McDill.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Girls from Royse City Troop 8977 recently made recycled coloring books from unused coloring book pages. The books, along with crayons, were donated to the American Red Cross for distribution to children in Haiti. Pictured are Melissa Meador, Ami Brandow, Skye Walton, Chloe Lewis, Assya Zimmerman, Emily McWhorter, Savannah Russell, Abbie Stokes, Sadie Meadors, Nathalia Polania, Michelle Moyo and Jade Green. The group also undertook an Easter basket-making project and are planning a free computer safety class to be conducted May 28.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Cory White, principal at Doris Cullins Lakepointe Elementary, was affixed to a wall with industrial strength tape as part of the PTA's April 9 school carnival. The carnival is an annual event for the PTA.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Hawks' Bohrstedt wins Regional boys' singles title, advances to the state tennis tournament

Bohrstedt was the only coach who voted for Rockwall-Heath's Brady Bohrstedt as the top seed for the Region II-4A boys' tennis singles. Bohrstedt went for Texarkana Texas' Grant Adams, the defending state champion.

Hawks' head coach, wasn't just being loyal to his own player. Bohrstedt pretty much had a history of success. He beat Grant his sophomore year. It might be the last time Grant Adams lost a match at the 4A level, Bohrstedt said.

The last time until Wednesday, anyway. "When Brady won the first three games of the first set, I thought he was going to run away with it," the coach said. "Then Grant ran off six straight games to win the first set, but Brady regained his confidence." Bohrstedt then won the final two sets for a 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 victory that propelled him to the state 4A championships in three years. The senior did not play high school tennis last year, when he was concentrating on competing

in U.S. Tennis Association events. He had qualified for the regionals by winning the District 10-4A championship as the No. 1 seed. Bohrstedt received a first-round bye, then defeated Rockwall's Greg Nelson and two players from Highland Park, all in straight sets. He then won three matches at the regionals to reach the finals. According to Bohrstedt, Bohrstedt doesn't have a particular strength. "He mixes it up; he's an all-around player. His ground strokes can pretty much dictate a match, and he has some different serves." The top two singles players from each of the four regions qualified for the state championships in Austin. Bohrstedt said, "Our region won four of the five state championships last year."

Hawks finish third, meet McKinney in playoffs

Rockwall-Heath continued last week to benefit from excellent pitching, which was good enough for the Lady Hawks to finish the regular season as the top seed in District 10-4A softball. The Hawks pitched a no-hitter in Friday's 5-0 victory over Highland Park. The Hawks had four shutouts and only one run allowed during a five-game streak to complete the district schedule. Rockwall-Heath also won Friday, leaving the Lady Bulldogs tied for second place with 11-3 records in 10-4A. Rockwall-Heath played Saturday night at Royse City in a game to determine which team would be seeded second and which would be third for the playoffs.

Again, the Lady Hawks' pitching was superb, allowing only one run, but RC's pitching was even better in a 1-0 victory. In three games against Royse City this year, RHHS scored just two runs. The Lady Bulldogs offense wasn't a whole lot better, generating seven runs in those games. As a result of Saturday's games, Rockwall-Heath's Bi-District playoff opponent will be McKinney, which won a similar seeding game from Frisco Centennial to take the second seed from District 9-4A. After extensive negotiations, the Lady Hawks and Lionettes agreed to play one game, with the winner advancing to the Area round. Other negotiations decided on Wylie High School as the site and Saturday at 4:30 p.m. as the time for the playoff game.

Hawks' Haight reaches regional quarterfinals

Haight shut out her first opponent, winning all 12 games before advancing to the Region II-4A girls' tennis tournament quarterfinals Tuesday, May 4.

RHHS enters the postseason with 10 wins in its last 12 games, and an 88-22 scoring advantage in those games. Fifteen of the runs allowed were in a 15-4 home loss against district champion Rockwall. It was after that game that the Lady Hawks began their five-game winning streak. In the last of those five games, Highland Park's pitching held RHHS to five hits - four singles and Sarah Deimling's triple. Combs struck out nine in her no-hitter.

District title could be Hawks' next achievement

They're ranked first among 4A baseball teams in Texas. Nationally, they're ranked as high as second.

Rockwall Lady Jacket had qualified for the regionals by finishing second in the district 10-4A championships. Bohrstedt finished second in the district tournament, won three matches in the district semifinals and lost just seven games in six sets.

Lady Hawks' Hawkins receives national honor

Morgan Hawkins, an All-District 10-4A setter for Rockwall-Heath's volleyball team, was named the CaptainU National High School Athlete of the Week.

At the University of North Texas, Haight bowed out after losing to North's Anna Schraer defeated her 6-2, 6-1. In the district championships, the RHS girls' doubles team of Victoria Meacham and Sarah Meacham advanced to the semifinals before losing 6-3, 2-0 to the team from Richardson Pearce.

Yet with only one regular-season game to play, the Rockwall-Heath Hawks can't be assured of the District 10-4A championship.

Greg Nelson won his first boys' singles match 6-1, 6-2 before going on to the eventual champion, Rockwall-Heath's Brady Bohrstedt in the quarterfinals.

The junior, who also plays for Impact Volleyball Club's 17 HighLine squad, was among five athletes nominated for the award. It is based on their strengths as college recruits for their work in the classroom and on playing fields or courts. CaptainU.com is a college athletic recruiting website.

That won't be decided until at least Friday, when RHHS (31-0, 13-0 in the district) hosts Highland Park (24-7, 12-1) at 7:30 p.m.

In the district 10-4A JV tournament, the Rockwall girls' doubles team of Lindsay Milner and Tijana Nescovik had finished first, winning the final 8-0 in girls' singles, Lady Jackets finished second, third and fourth. Haight won 8-4 in the final. Jessica Lowery was third, defeating teammate Victoria Meacham by default.

On Friday, April 23, HP came from behind to defeat Rockwall 7-5 and keep the Scots' district-title hopes alive. The same night, the Hawks routed Carrollton R.L. Turner for their 3ast consecutive victory.

Michael Horn finished third in boys' singles, defeating teammate Shelley 8-6. Both had reached the semifinals before losing. "It was a great turnout this year," said RHS head coach Lana Fulkerson. "The boys did a great job. It was the first tournament run from the new facility. It was a great day, and we look forward to a great tournament next year."

Jovan Hernandez pitched a two-hitter against the Lions, and received support from Rockwall-Heath's 20-hit attack. And that was with Hawks reserves sprinkled liberally throughout the lineup.

RHHS club third in qualifying races

Rockwall-Heath Sailing Club finished third in the Southeast Sailing Association's Mallory National Qualifying Regatta at Austin Yacht Club.

It was after that game that the Lady Hawks began their five-game winning streak. In the last of those five games, Highland Park's pitching held RHHS to five hits - four singles and Sarah Deimling's triple. Combs struck out nine in her no-hitter.

Eight of the hits went for extra bases. Bret Boswell slammed a home run. Nick Peterson and Noah Adams tripled. Hitting doubles were Austin Aulds, Patrick Gonzales, Reid Lamberth, Tyler Harding and Parker Hale.

The Hawks' team - which currently includes junior Mark Jones, sophomore Kienlen and Stephen Nelson and freshman Alex Johnson - knew the importance of a red-tailed hawk when they were leaving a pre-regatta practice at the Austin Yacht Club.

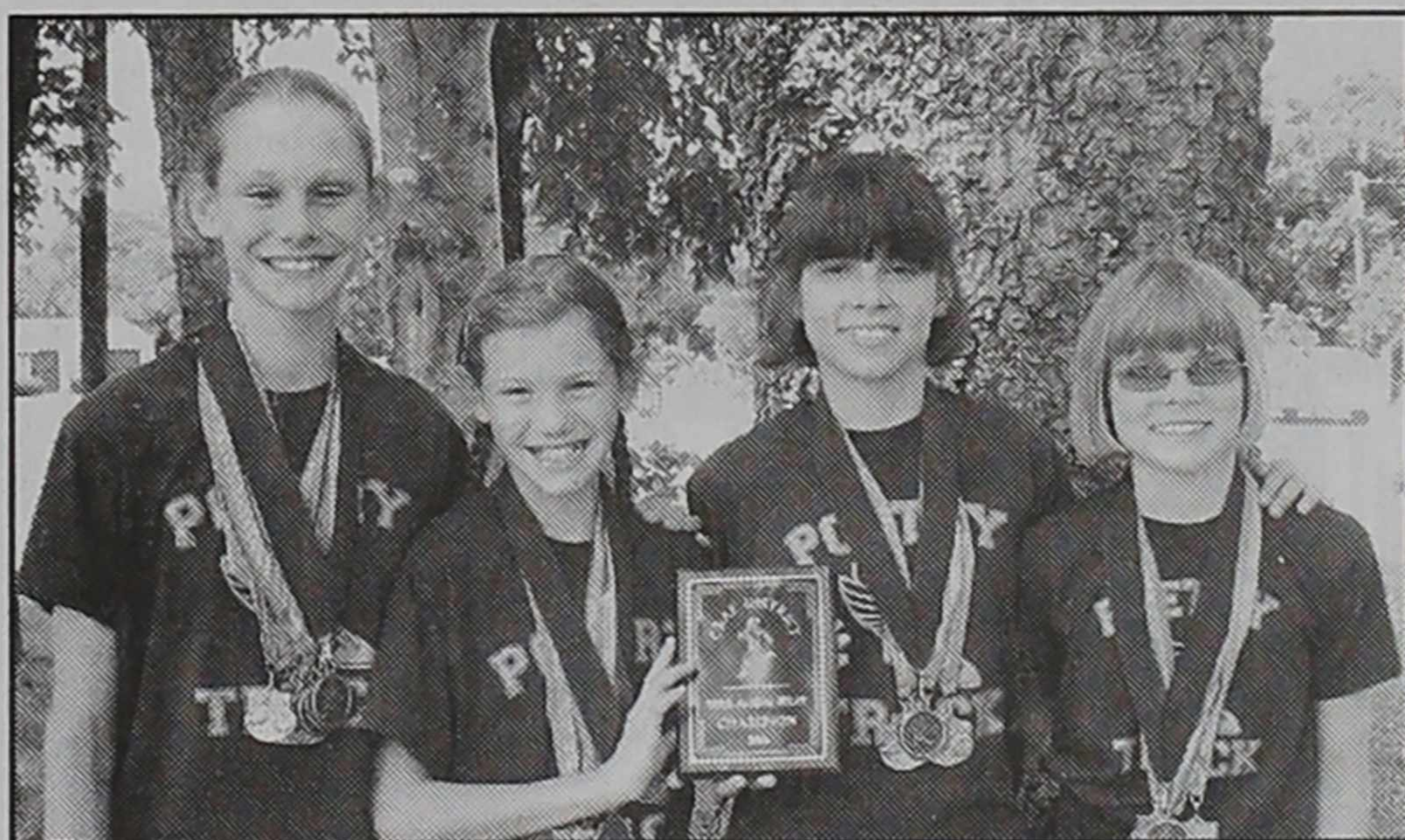


After winning an individual race, RHHS sailors discuss tactics across the water while Mississippi sailors are finishing behind them. In boat #16 are (left to right) Mark Jones and Alex Kienlen; in boat #18 are Stephen Nelson and Alex Johnson. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

The club's presence wasn't enough to push RHHS ahead of Lake Travis, which won the event and a berth in the Mallory Cup National Championship. However, the hawk's presence did put Rockwall-Heath's Hawks ahead of the other schools that competed in 20 races in FJ double-handed sailboats. The weathering conditions, winds of 6-11 miles per hour and occasional showers, led to a change in the regatta schedule.

PCCS relay team return with medals

Poetry Community Christian School junior high girls winning first place medals during last weekend's Christian School Athletic Federation (CSAF) District Meet held in Hurst are (left to right) Rebekah Neiman, Sarah Horan, Sarah Neiman and Danell Horan. The team was also awarded the CSAF Champion Relay Award. This team of two different sets of sisters was given permission to include a fourth grade age and fifth grade age runner on this junior high relay. In spite of their ages, the team ran the relay in five minutes which would have medaled them in the high school meet held the same day. The girls brought home other medals including Sarah Horan's first place in the 400, Rebekah Neiman third place and Danell Horan's fifth



place in the 800m, a second place finish by Rebekah Horan in the mile run and Danell Horan's fifth place finish in the mile. With the close of the CSAF season, the girls will begin conditioning practices with the Texas Amateur Athletics Federation (TAAF) summer track team next week. Photo courtesy of Poetry Community Christian School Rockwall County News

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High school schedules

- Heritage Christian Eagles**
May 4 - Softball: home for Area playoff game vs. Dickinson Pine (7:30 p.m.)
May 7 - Track: TAPPS state championships, Waco
May 8 - Track: TAPPS state championships, Waco
- Rockwall Yellowjackets**
April 30 - Varsity baseball: home vs. Greenville, 7:30 p.m.
May 1 - Softball: Bi-District Game 1 at McKinney North, 7:30 p.m.
May 1 - Varsity softball: home for Bi-District Game 2 vs. McKinney North, 7 p.m.
May 3 - Region II-4A track championships, Fouts Field, Denton
May 4 - Region II-4A track championships, Fouts Field, Denton
- Rockwall-Heath Hawks**
April 30 - Baseball: home vs. Highland Park, JV Black 4:30 p.m., Varsity 7:30 p.m.
May 1 - Softball: at Highland Park, 4:30 p.m.
May 1 - Varsity softball: Bi-District playoff vs. McKinney North, 4 p.m.
May 3 - Region II-4A track championships, Fouts Field, Denton
May 4 - Region II-4A track championships, Fouts Field, Denton
- Royse City Bulldogs**
April 30 - Baseball: home vs. Carrollton R.L. Turner, JV Gold 4:30 p.m., Varsity 7:30 p.m.
May 1 - Softball: Bi-District Game 1 at Frisco Centennial, 7:30 p.m.
May 1 - Varsity softball: home for Bi-District Game 2 vs. Frisco Centennial, noon
May 3 - Region II-4A track championships, Fouts Field, Denton
May 4 - Region II-4A track championships, Fouts Field, Denton

Rockwall High School Band Spring Craft Fair
May 1, inside Rockwall High School. The craft fair will display wares from 50 plus vendors from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We also have a few empty spots available for vendors. Please contact Liz Tarter for more information:
972-772-1846

Sports Notes

RTU planning Ladies Day Out
Rockwall Tennis Unlimited will host its annual Ladies Day Out beginning May 1 and running through June 23. Participants will play at two levels above or 3.5 and below. Organized play will begin at 9 a.m. RTU provides balls, water and prizes. Cost for members is \$30, \$35 for non-members. For more details visit rockwalltennisunlimited.com or call jr@rockwalltennisunlimited.com (Continued on Page 10)

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Rockwall County Sports

Tidwell two strokes short of qualifying for state golf, Bingham by four

Rockwall went to the Region II-4A girls' golf championships with high hopes Monday, April 19, and almost realized those hopes the next day.

After shooting 338 as a team in the first round at Robson Ranch, the Lady Jackets came back with a 322 Tuesday and fell just four shots short of making up a seven-stroke deficit on Frisco Wakeland. Highland Park, first with a 654 total, and Wakeland, at 656, will advance to the state championships. Rockwall, at 660, will try again next year.

In the individual competition, RHS sophomore Ariel Tidwell improved by two shots, from 77 to 75, but missed going to her second state tournament as an individual medalist. Her 152 total missed by two strokes. Hayley Bingham made even greater improvement on the second day, from 81 to 73, but missed a medalist berth by four shots.

"We improved 16 shots and came up a little short," said RHS head golf coach Billy Watkins. "Sometimes you do everything you can and you just come up short. We did what we could, and it wasn't good enough this year."

"We will regroup and start working for next year immediately. These girls are young and have the want to. They will get better and learn from this experience. The girls played their hearts out and I am very proud of their effort."

The other Lady Jackets' scores in the regional were Brittany Stansbury 90-83-173, Shelby Vaughan 90-91-181 and Cindy Cho 97-99-196.

Rockwall had qualified as a team by placing second at 681 behind Highland Park 1's 672 in the District 10-4A tournament. Rockwall 2 was fifth at 829, and Rockwall-Heath seventh with 854.

In that event at Waterview Golf Club, Tidwell won the individual competition with 80-76-156, Stansbury placed third (80-86-166) and Bingham was sixth (86-83-169). Vaughan shot 97 and 93 for 190.

The leading scorer for Rockwall 2 was Danielle Terry at 96-98-194. For RHHS, Callie Horner shot 101-93-194 and Jessie Goodwin was close behind with a consistent 98-98-196. The low score for Roysie City was Kelsie Rogers' 122-111-233.

Rockwall also sent two varsity boys' teams to the district tournament. They finished sixth and ninth with 643 and 673, and did not qualify for the regionals as a team or individuals. Highland Park teams placed first and second, both at 594, with Richardson Pearce two strokes behind at 596.

Rockwall-Heath's top team was fourth at 623 - led by Brent Regan, whose 75-72-147 was just three shots behind individual leaders Marshall Perry

and Charlie Ewing, both from Highland Park, at 144. Roysie City with 672, and Rockwall-Heath 2 finished 10th among 12 teams.

Cameron Mims' 80-78-158 was RC's best score. The Jackets' Nick Ziebell scored 80-76-156, which made his team All-District selection. Austin Bouzigard (83-77-160 for R received Honorable Mention.

Other scorers for Rockwall 1 were Teal Willis 84-78-162, los Santos 82-80-162 and Shane Garber 83-80-163. For R Austin Cain shot 88-77-165, Quincy Thompson had 86-86-17, Phillips came in at 89-94-183.

Lady Jackets open play vs. McKinney North

Rockwall's softball season is back where it started, with the Lady Jackets playing McKinney North.

RHS head coach Shadie Acosta hopes the results are more like last season's when the Lady Bulldogs won the opening game 9-0.

Going into a best-of-three Bi-District playoff series, Rockwall has a game winning streak that has improved its overall record to 18-11.

The two-time District 10-4A champions are scheduled to visit McKinney North at 7:30 p.m. game Friday, then return home to play Saturday at 7 p.m. at Elmer and Reesie Campbell Complex. If the series is tied, a decisive game would be played at 7 p.m. Monday at McKinney North.

The Lady Bulldogs finished their regular season 15-14-2 and 8-4-9-4A, where they finished fourth. Rockwall played them in two of three games this season, with an 8-8 tie in the third.

Last season, the teams met five times - including the Lady Jackets' District playoff win in three games.

Both teams have struggled through injuries to their top pitchers. Holcomb for Rockwall and Megan Dunn for North.

After MNHS ended its district season with a 14-0 loss to undefeated Wakeland, the state's top-ranked 4A team, head coach Dan Sedgwick of McKinney Courier-Gazette, "We're really where we want to be. Rockwall twice and at least we know something about them. They're a good team, but we know something about them and we'll come up with a plan and hopefully it will work."

The Lady Jackets' game plan could be simply to play the way they did during their winning streak when they have outscored opponents with seven shutouts.

They finished their district season at home Friday, April 23, with a record by defeating Greenville 6-1.

On Saturday, RHS rallied from a 3-0 deficit to defeat Van 4-3 in a game for the playoffs.

Acosta said, "Kennedy Harrison and Audrey Farfan had key hits that helped us score a couple runs. Both Madeline (Taylor) and Layce (Layce) but our defense was not very strong. We have a lot to work on this season. I am confident that we will pull together."

Rockwall's playoff fate comes down to final weekend

The Rockwall baseball team will have to go to its final District 10-4A game - or possibly beyond - to determine whether the Yellowjackets will return to the playoffs this season.

Entering Friday's final game, RHS is tied with Richardson Pearce for the district's fourth and final playoff berth. Each has a 6-7 record in 10-4A games.

The Jackets are scheduled to play at home at 7:30 p.m. against last-place Greenville (1-12 in the district). Pearce also will be at home in a game scheduled to begin half an hour earlier against third-place Carrollton Newman Smith (9-4).

If RHS and Pearce both win, or both lose, they would remain tied in the standings. Because they split

their two games against each other, they would play an extra game Saturday (3 p.m. at Highland Park) to determine which team would go to the playoffs. Jackets head coach Jeff Payne said Thomas Anderson would start against Greenville, and Wesley Cox would be the starter if they have to play Pearce Saturday.

Rockwall narrowly missed a chance to take a one-game lead going into Friday's finale when the Jackets lost 7-5 at Highland Park Friday, April 23.

The Scots (24-7 overall, 12-1 in the district) outthit the Jackets 7-5. Left-hander Andrew Scudder was the winning pitcher, helped by Ryan Gros' home run.

RHS' only extra-base hit was Wesley Cox's three-run double,

which gave Rockwall a 3-0 lead. HP came back in the bottom of the same inning to batter losing pitcher Cole Harris. The Scots scored six times to go ahead 6-3. The Jackets weren't able to catch up.

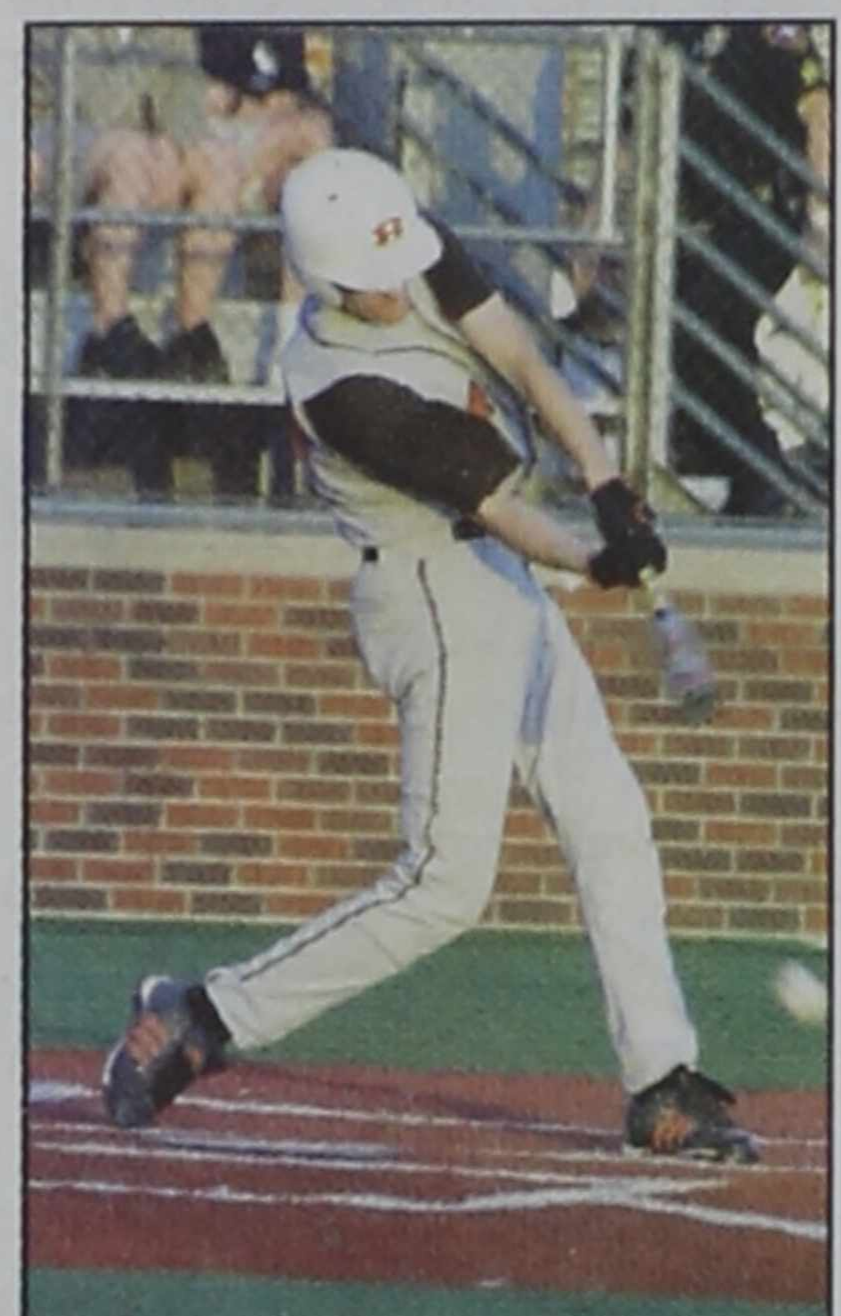
Payne said, "That has been the pattern. We have been ahead in five of our district losses and haven't closed the deal."

"It was a disappointment to not get a win."

RHS came back the next day for an impressive 9-3 victory at Mesquite (23-4 overall). That game was Rockwall's turn to outthit its opponent 7-5. Spencer Edwards pounded two home runs, and Cox hit a triple. Chris Colavecchi was the winning pitcher against the Skeeters.

Payne said, "We played very well

against Mesquite, who is a very good 5A team. It was a good sign. We're hoping it is a sign that we're about to heat up."



RHS' Tucker Fielder (24) hits a single during last week's game at Highland Park. Photo by Tim Burnett Rockwall County News

Rockwall County Sports Notes

continued from page 9

PCCS golf tourney set May 8

PCCS will host its 6th Annual Golf Tournament May 8 at Buffalo Creek. The event will be a four-player scramble with a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start, putting contest and other prizes. For more details call Quatona Blake at 972-563-7227 or e-mail pccsevents@poetrychristian.org. Registration forms also may be found at poetrychristian.org.

Summer Youth Basketball League planned

The Summer Youth Basketball League, comprised of boys and girls in divisions for 12U, 15U and 18U, will begin practices the week of May 17. Teams may consist of no more

than 10 players, and the season will begin June 5 with a 10-game guarantee. All games will be played in the RISD Education Center Gym, 1050 Williams St. Rosters must be submitted prior to the second game. To register a team, go to The Center, 108 E. Washington, or by mail at 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall 97087. Cost is \$650 per team with a \$25-per-player charge for non-Rockwall residents. For more information contact the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department at 972-771-7740.

Tourney to benefit Jacket summer basketball

A golf tournament set for May 22 at the Stone River Gold Club, Roysie City, will benefit the Jacket Boys Basketball Summer Program. The

tourney will feature a 1 p.m. start, with prizes awarded second and third places. Prizes will be awarded for long and longest putt; cash prizes to the top three foursomes. Cost is \$75 per person and includes golf and dinner. For more information contact Crystal Ragland at ragland@sbcglobal.net or 972-989-0989.

MOW Golf Classic planned

The Rockwall County Golf Association will host its fifth annual MOW Golf Classic at Buffalo Creek Golf Course. All proceeds will benefit senior nutrition program in Rockwall County. To register or help, call 972-771-9514.

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Rockwall County News

Salute to the Class of 2010

Friday, May 28

Deadline: 5 p.m., May 21, 2010

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Deadline: 5 p.m. May 21, 2010.

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Rockwall County Sports

Lady Dawgs edge Rockwall-Heath to take second seed

Rockwall-Heath struggled during the second half of its District 10-4A softball game through at just the right time to preserve second place in the district.

There followed a loss to Rockwall-Heath and a shocking upset by Highland Park that left RC just 3-3 entering its final district game Friday, April 23.

Royse City Bulldogs come close, but lose twice

Royse City had good pitching but couldn't score enough on Friday, the Bulldogs' bats woke up but their opponent pounded them in for two close losses last weekend. On Friday, Carrollton won 4-1. On Saturday, Mesquite Horn outscored the Bulldogs 3 in a non-district game. The defeats dropped Royse City to 10-4A and 5-20 overall.

At Newman Smith, which has clinched a playoff berth and third place in the district, Scot Lane held the Trojans to five singles. RC's defense played errorless ball. However, Newman Smith's Alex Benbow held the Bulldogs to four hits, including a double by J.R. Arredondo.

Royse City finished its season with a home game Friday at 7:30 p.m. against L. Turner.

The Jaguars struck for 15 hits and took advantage of five Royse City errors.

take the second seed for the playoffs.

That seeding game was as advertised, with Royse City taking a 1-0 decision.

The prize, however, wasn't great. The Lady Bulldogs will be playing Frisco Centennial, the third seed from District 9-4A. However, Centennial also was involved in a seeding game Saturday, losing to McKinney. So the Frisco team and McKinney played virtually even for the season, just as Royse City and Rockwall-Heath had.

The Bi-District round will be best-of-three. Each team has an exceptional pitcher. The Lady Bulldogs' Alicia Pille entered the Turner game with 13.1 strikeouts per seven innings, the highest ratio among 4A pitchers in the Metroplex. Opposing her will be Centennial's Allie Cranfill.

Frisco Centennial is scheduled to host the Bi-District series' first game at 7:30 p.m. Friday. The teams would return to Royse City for a noon game Sunday. If the series is tied after that, a third game would be at Plano East Monday at 7:30 p.m.

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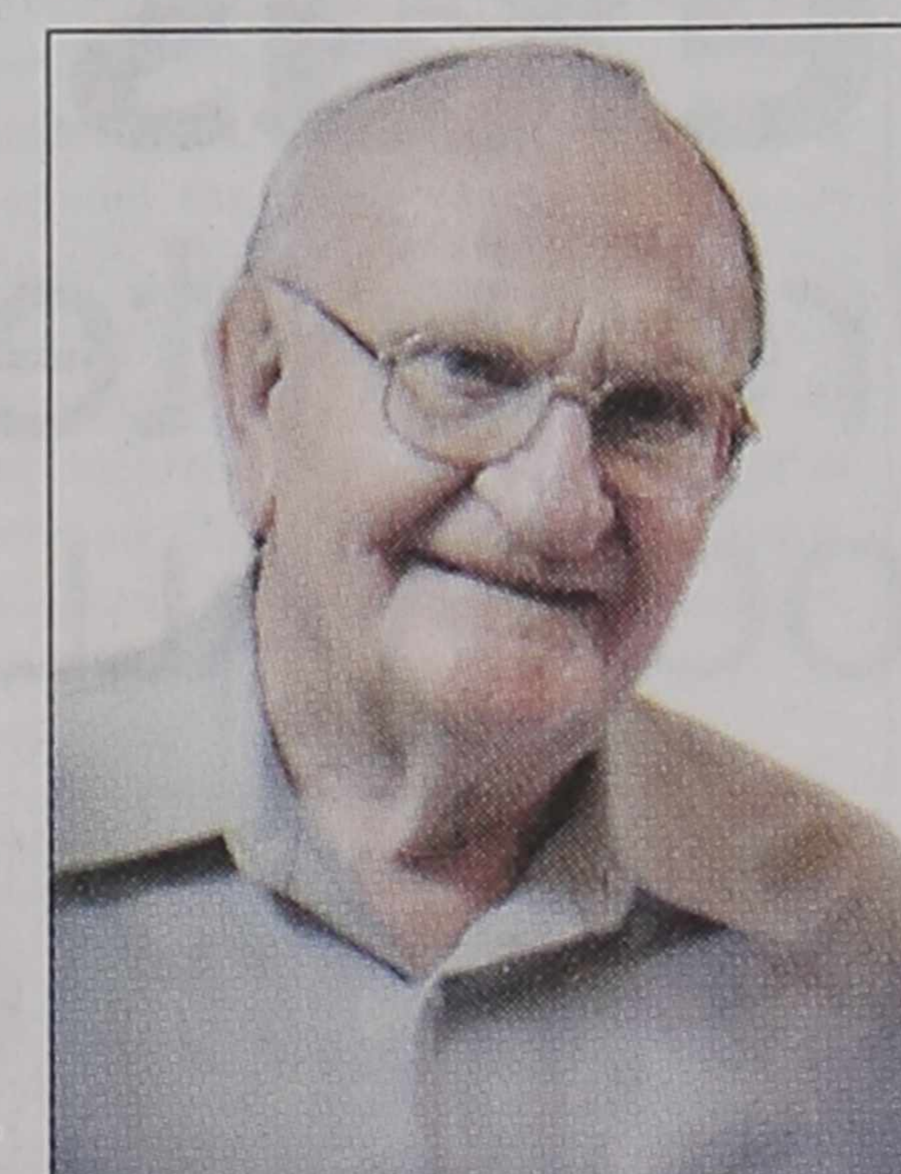
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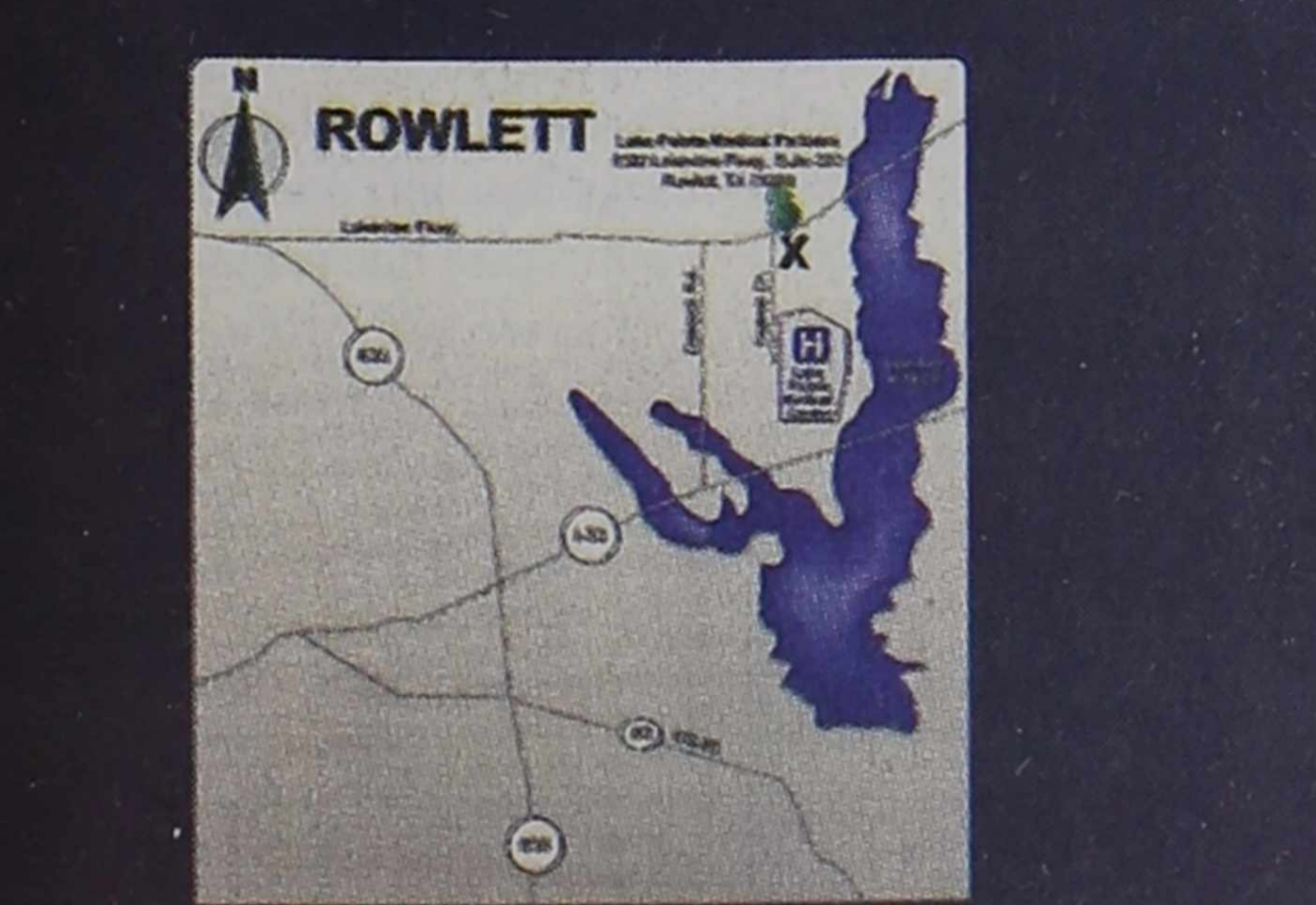


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