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Rockwall County News

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Brownie Troop 8973, led by Amy Fernandez, participate in the 39th Annual Rockwall Kiwanis Christmas parade Dec. 6. Troop members are dressed as Brownie elves with a float theme of "Do a Good Turn Daily." The elves are (back row from left) Haley, Katrina, Faith, Clara, Shelby, Alexis, (front row) Lauren, Megan, Kelsie, Audrey, Eden, Kaitlyn and Mialani.

RISD considers zoning proposal for Utley Middle School

by Kathy Williams

With a third middle school opening in the Rockwall ISD fall of 2009, zoning boundaries will not be as easily drawn as in the past. A committee has been working for several months to evenly distribute students throughout the district when the doors open next year at the new Utley Middle School.

The committee consists of a representative from every RISD campus, including the principal, a representative from the campus improvement committee, the PTA/PTO president, a PTA/PTO representative and two teachers. They made their zoning recommendation, Plan 6a, to the school board at the Monday, Dec. 15 meeting.

Students affected by the proposal would include all of the current attendance zones for Howard Dobbs and Virginia Reinhardt Elementary Schools. The Celia Hays Elementary School attendance zone would be partially affected, with Quail Run Valley 1&2, Caruth Lakes 6&8, Gilliam Addition and Woodcreek Addition assigned to Utley.

In the Sharon Shannon Elementary School attendance zone, Williamsburg, Sterling Farms, Timber Creek Estates and Smith Acres north of North Fork Road, plus Sunny Circle, Sun Drive, Garza, Midlakes, Gentry Road and Amanda Lane would be assigned to Utley.

All of the Dorris A. Jones Elementary School attendance zone would be assigned to Utley, except the east side of Yvonne Drive and all streets east to Renee Drive and south of Evans Road.

Flagstone Estates and Highland Meadows #1 from the Amanda Rochell Elementary School attendance zone would be assigned to Utley.

The proposal can be viewed on the district website at www.rockwallisd.com. Comments about the proposed zoning changes are being accepted through the site.

News Briefs

Rockwall holiday garbage pick-ups set

The City of Rockwall has announced its upcoming holiday schedule for garbage and recycling pick-ups. According to reports, pick-ups normally scheduled for Dec. 25 will be made following today, Dec. 26. The regular Dec. 26 pick-ups will be made on Dec. 27. The same type of schedule will be observed over the New Year's Day holiday.

Heath holiday scheduled announced

The City of Heath will be closed Dec. 26 and Jan. 1, according to a press release issued by the municipality. All trash and recyclables will be collected as regularly scheduled during the holiday season. IESI will collect unadorned Christmas trees on regular trash collection and bulky days; trees must be free of ornaments, lights, tinsel or other decorations and placed at the curb with garbage and recycling bins.

Monday deadline for Main Street board

The City of Rockwall is now accepted applications from individuals interested in serving on the Main Street Advisory Board, which will work on behalf of the city's recent designation as a 2009 Texas Main Street City. The Rockwall City Council will consider appointments at the Jan. 5 council meeting. Applications are due Monday and should be sent to Kristy Sherry, city secretary, at 385 S. Goliad or to kashberry@rockwall.com. For details or an application visit rockwall.com and click on Happening Now or call Debbie Henderson at 972-2-6400.

Computer Council plans Jan. 7 meeting

The Rockwall Computer Council will have its first 2009 meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 7 at The Center, Rockwall City Place, 8 E. Washington St. Bob Alston, a veteran of more than 30 years in planning, designing, building and troubleshooting computer systems, will be the featured speaker. The group is open to anyone interested in home or office computer use. For more information contact Joe Conrad at 972-771-8712.

Rockwall Newcomers to meet Jan. 8

The Rockwall Newcomers Club will observe its monthly meeting on Jan. 8 at Chandlers Landing. The coffee social will begin at 10 a.m., followed by a program and short business meeting. Joy Davis will give January's program, "Lady Liberty." Call Kitty Colquhoun at 972-771-3491 or Ann Small 972-771-1748 by 6 p.m. Jan. 4 for lunch reservations. Lunch cost is \$16.

Tutor training planned at library

Volunteer tutors are needed for the Adult Literacy/ESL program. Training will be offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Rockwall County Library. Neither teaching experience nor the ability to speak Spanish is necessary. Anyone interested in participating should register in the ESL classroom located in the lobby of the new library or contact Gloria at 972-204-0505.

Chamber member, awards dinner set

The Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce annual member awards dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 5 at The Hilton Bella Harbor.

'Imagine' exhibit at Hilton Bella Harbor

"Imagine... It's Easy If You Try" is an exhibit at the Hilton Bella Harbor Fine Arts Gallery. The exhibit, organized by the Rockwall Area Artists and the gallery, includes 44 works by local artists. Open to the public and free of charge, the exhibit will run through Jan. 10.

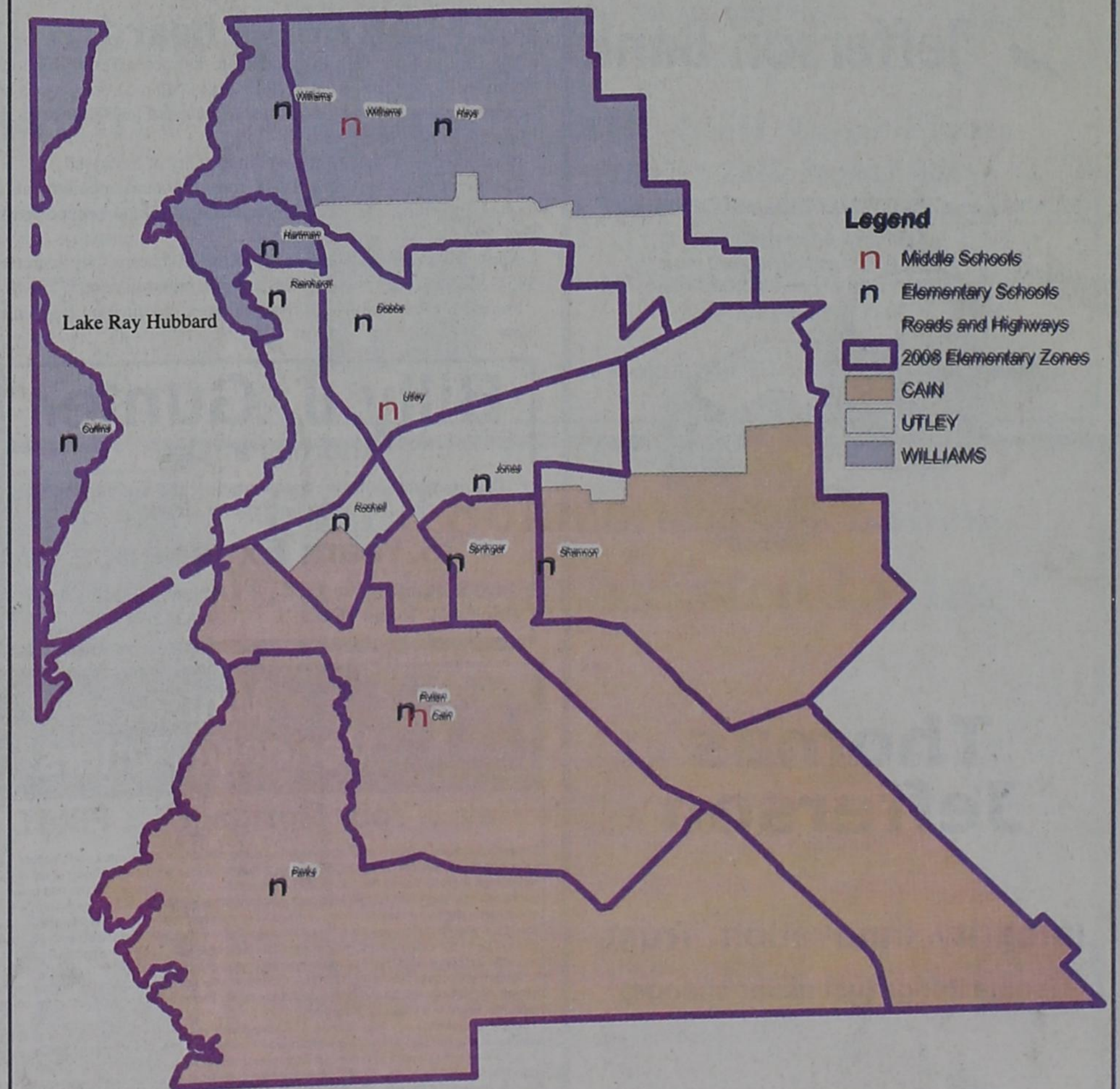
City offices closed today

City of Rockwall offices will remain closed today, Dec. 26, as part of the extended holiday observance. City offices also will be closed on Jan. 1.

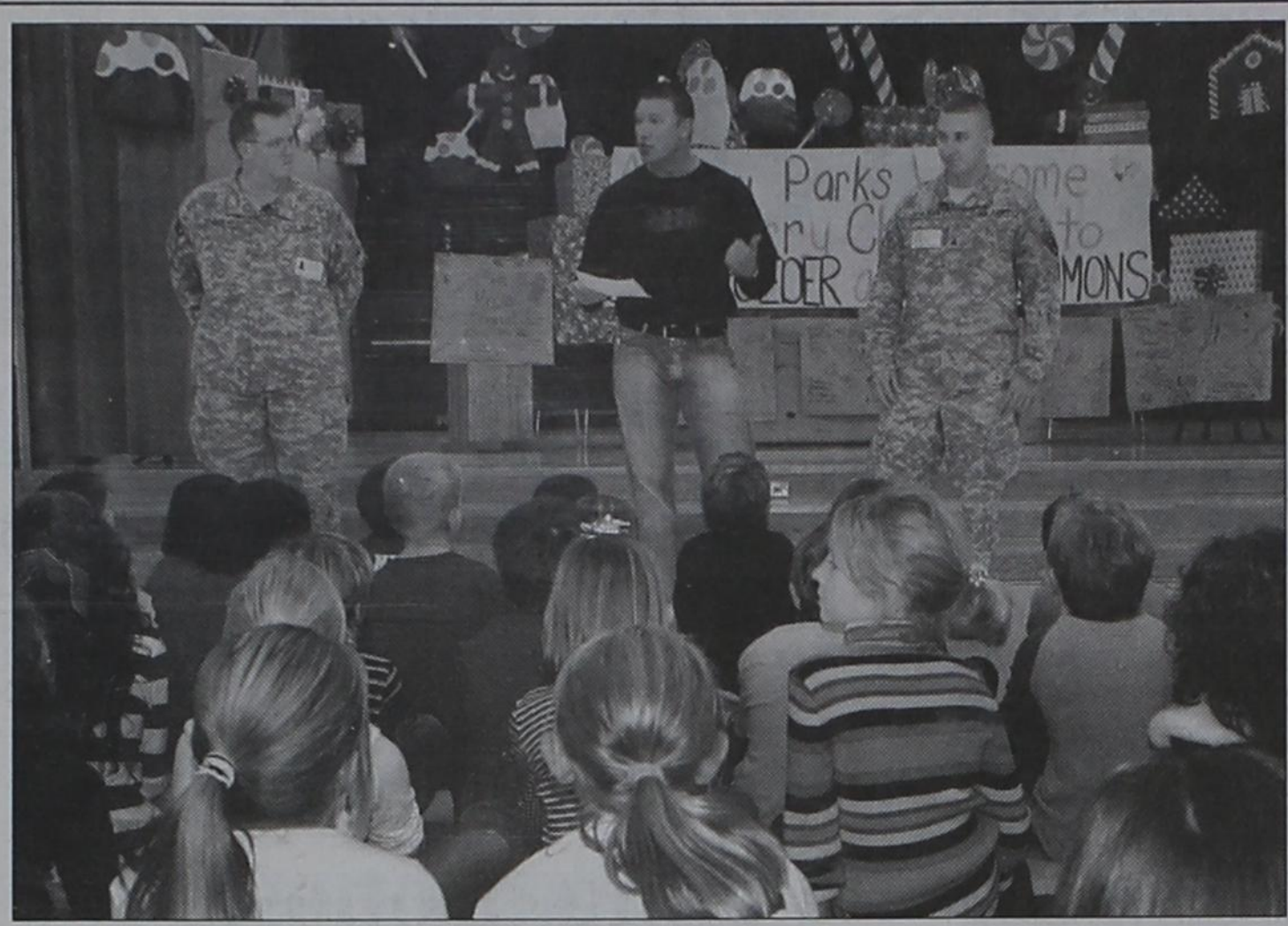
Library reopens today

The Rockwall County Library will re-open at 10 a.m. today following the holiday. The library also will be closed Jan. 1 for New Year's Day, with plans to be open on Jan. 2-3.

Middle School Plan 6A



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Amy Parks Elementary School principal Dan Crawford (center) introduces Private Zach Simmons (left) and Sergeant Adam Schroeder (right) at a recent Christmas presentation for U.S. Armed Services personnel. The soldiers told the students about their work in Iraq and answered questions at the special assembly.

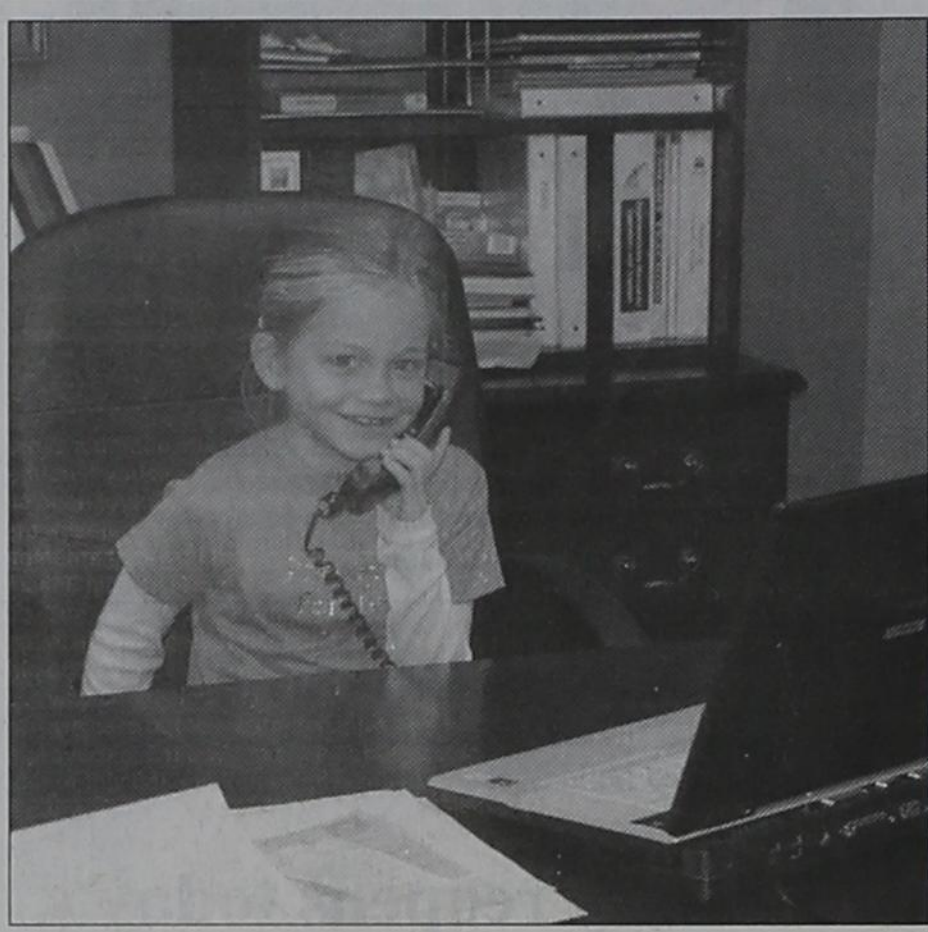
Photo Courtesy Suzanne Brooke

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In recognition for being the top fundraiser in the Nebbie Williams Elementary Walk-a-Thon, first grader Riley Huston recently served as the school's Principal for the Day. She started her day on Nebbie Williams Kids News and walked through the building to check on classes. She pulled the fire alarm for the school's monthly drill and did classroom walkthroughs, wrote encouraging notes to teachers, monitored students during lunch and recess, performed a safety inspection of the building and had a special lunch in the conference room with friends.

City accepting applications for Main Street board

The City of Rockwall, in response to its recent Texas Historical Commission designation as a 2009 Texas Main Street City, is accepting applications for individuals interested in serving on the Main Street Advisory Board. Board members must reside within the City of Rockwall. The Rockwall City Council will consider board appointments at its Jan. 5 meeting; therefore, all applications should be received by Dec. 29. Applications should be directed to Kristy Ashberry, City Secretary, 385 S. Goliad or by e-mail to kashberry@rockwall.com. For more information visit rockwall.com and click on Happening Now.

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Minter Mortgage Matters

Hey ... Your Mortgage! ... FIX IT.

There is a unique interest rate phenomena-taking place that deserves considerable attention if you are currently paying on an adjustable rate mortgage. Those of us who have been joyfully riding the wave of low adjustable rate mortgages for the last few years are starting to hit rough waters. If you haven't been examining your monthly statements then you may not have noticed your rate has taken a substantial jump over the last 6 months. Homeowners that have taken advantage of adjustables with payment caps (The "1%" Option Arm) may not realize their interest expense has spiked until it is too late. In this popular type of mortgage loan your minimum payment may not adjust sufficiently to cover the rising short term interest rate so your real cost of borrowing is effectively concealed. These borrowers have really benefited by record low rates for the past few years but listen up because ...

The proverbial Fat Lady may be about to sing about your home mortgage. Any regular reader of this column knows how adamantly I profess practicing Mortgage Management. The current rate climate is a perfect example of why it is so important. There are two conditions that seem to stimulate the demand for adjustable rate mortgages - high rates that are expected to drop and low rates that are expected to be stable. The current environment of low rates that are expected to rise drives borrowers back to the security of fixed rate mortgages. In the last few months the yield curve has exhibited a "inversion" which means that long term fixed rates have dropped below short term rates. Obviously, if you are in an adjustable rate mortgage or in the 3rd or 4th year of a five year fixed rate you need to look long and hard at refinancing to a fixed rate if you plan on carrying your mortgage for an extended period of time. Likewise, if you have a balance on a Home Equity Line-of-Credit (HELOC) or if you are planning to separate some of the equity from a piece of property you should analyze the benefits of refinancing to a fixed rate mortgage. Many fixed rate mortgages are available with an interest-only option that will enable you to minimize your monthly obligations while eliminating the risks of inevitably rising rates. It's likely you have done very well with your adjustable rate mortgage over the last five years so ... Don't blow it now, Bubba!

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FDIC

Students raise funds to purchase gifts for troops

The third grade class of Amy Parks-HeathElementaryreached beyond the walls of their classrooms to share Christmas with members of the Armed Forces serving overseas.

The Amy Parks students were asked to bring the money they would traditionally spend on a book exchange for a classmate and instead contribute it toward buying gift certificates for deployed service members. The effort was conducted through Gifts from the Homefront, which works with the American Red Cross to ensure that the certificates make it to the service members who need them most.

Many of the students carried the effort even further through activities such as bake sales, selling hot chocolate, candy canes and mistletoe. They also asked friends and family members for donations. As a result,

more than \$1,400 was raised in a three-week period.

On Dec. 19, just before the students' Christmas party, two members of the armed forces came to visit with the third graders. Sgt. Adam Schroeder, a radio operator/maintainer with the U.S. Army, and PFC Zack Simmons, also a member of the U.S. Army and intelligence specialist, visited with students. Both men grew up in the Lake Ray Hubbard area and served in Iraq.

Schroeder just completed a 15-month tour of duty in Balad, Iraq, and has volunteered to return to Iraq as soon as possible for another tour to complete his active duty time in the Army. The father of two young children is a graduate of Lakeview Centennial High School and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Simmons was home Christmas to get married, attended Rockwall High School where Amy Parks Principal Dan Crawford was his ball and wrestling coach. Simmons' leave, he will return to Iraq for another six months.

"This was an incredible experience for our children, who were so awestruck by the soldiers," said Dan Johnson, the third grade teacher who began the Gifts from Homefront at Amy Parks. "I met with the soldiers and directly from them how their efforts make a difference. I hope to inspire the children to continue to look for ways to serve others and to always be grateful to the troops and protecting our country." Simmons thanked everyone in the community who supported the students in this effort.

Monday meeting will outline downtown improvements

Downtown business and property owners are invited to attend an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Monday that will outline the city of Rockwall's plans for water and wastewater improvement made in and around the downtown area in 2009.

The meeting will be conducted in the council chambers, Room 385, Hall, 385 S. Goliad St.

The city plans to reconstruct the water and sanitary sewer facilities in the downtown area over a time period of approximately 27 months, according to a news release. The project also will include providing additional water volume for future sprinkler systems for existing buildings.

Turner, Collie and Braden Inc. will provide construction management and coordination services on the project.

Each phase of the project will be limited "to the smallest practical and construction will be substantially completed" by the beginning of the next phase, according to the news release. Phases of the project will involve "minimal roadway disruption." To view a tentative phasing and construction schedule, visit rockwall.com and click on the Happening Now page.

Representatives of the city and TCB will be on hand at the meeting to answer questions.

For more information regarding the project, contact Chuck Todd, city engineer, at 972-771-7700 or e-mail him at ctodd@rockwall.com.

Computer Council to meet Jan. 7

The Rockwall Computer Council will conduct its first meeting on Jan. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at The Center, Rockwall Place, located at 108 E. Washington St., just south of the Rockwall Town Square.

Speaker for the meeting will be Bob Alston, a veteran of more than 30 years in the planning, designing, building and troubleshooting of computer systems. Alston holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's degree and spent more than 20 years as the information officer for companies involved in manufacturing, distribution and retail. Today he works as an independent consultant primarily involved with non-profit agencies.

Alston's topics will include cleaning up computers and related issues with slow PCs, backups and software, photo editing, solving computer problems, digital cameras and TV on the PC.

The RCC is open to anyone interested in the use of computers at home or office.

For more information, contact the RCC's program coordinator, Joe Conrad, at 972-771-8712.

Classified Ad Deadline Tuesday 5 p.m.

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Beth Lewis (right) served lunch to Betty and Bob Cotter of Rockwall (left) at the Parks and Recreation Department Senior Christmas on Friday, Dec. 19. Lewis, a recreation assistant, was joined by Kathy Florey, recreation assistant and Aaron Cleaver, recreation director, serving lunch to the more than 175 guests at the annual event. Mr. and Mrs. Cotter celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have four children and 10 grandchildren.

Photo by Kathy Williams



Congressman Ralph Hall (center) presented an award check to Nancy Farrar, the Rockwall High School D.F.Y.I.T. and Rockwall ISD Safe Schools Coordinator, from the Today Foundation of Dallas. The RHS D.F.Y.I.T. program was one of only two local school-based anti-drug programs recognized by the Foundation for its outstanding and effective work to keep youth drug free. On hand to help recognize the school's efforts were (back row from left) Randy Cordial, RISD Director of Student Services and Mark LeMaster, Rockwall High School principal, (front row) Cain Middle School counselor and D.F.Y.I.T. coordinator Michele Jensen, Debbie Horres from the Today Foundation, Congressman Ralph Hall, and RHS D.F.Y.I.T. members Crystal Johnson and Haley Haddox.

Photo by Kathy Williams

Freedom Writers' educator address RISD personnel

Erin Gruwell, the author of the book "Freedom Writers," will address RISD personnel on Friday, Dec. 19, at 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Lake Pointe. The public is invited.

Gruwell, a district-wide teacher, will discuss her approach to teaching at-risk students at Wilson High School in Long Beach, Calif. Gruwell is a college graduate whose first job was to teach students that had been labeled "unteachable" who, while living in a divided urban area, were hardened through exposure to gang violence, prostitution and drugs. By using an educational philosophy that valued and promoted the students' lives, Gruwell began to change their lives. She encouraged them to rethink the way they had about themselves and others, challenging them to re-chart their futures. With her support, the students called themselves the "Freedom Riders" civil

rights activists, and published a book. Gruwell and her students appeared on numerous television shows, including "Oprah," "The Rosie O'Donnell Show," "Prime Time Live with Connie Chung," "The View," "Good Morning, America" and "Book TV." The class also was featured on National Public Radio, in several national newspapers and in "People" magazine. For more information about the free program, contact the RISD Office of Communications, Public Relations and Marketing at 972-771-0605 or e-mail Rick Reeder at reeder@rockwallisd.org.

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Erin Gruwell, the author of the book "Freedom Writers," will address RISD personnel on Friday, Dec. 19, at 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Lake Pointe. The public is invited.



Helen Mitchell (seated) with her daughter Linda Duran.

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VNA offers Light Up a Life memorials

The Visiting Nurse Association is displaying a Light Up a Life Holiday Tree Memorial through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in The Servant's Bookstore & Coffee Bar, 1301 S. Washington St. in Kaufman. A paper dove bearing the name of an honoree can be placed on the tree for a \$10 donation to the VNA Hospice program. Donations will be used to provide hospice services to terminally ill patients in Northeast Texas who lack resources for needed care. For details call Beverly Harris at 972-962-7500 or e-mail harrisb@vna-texas.org.



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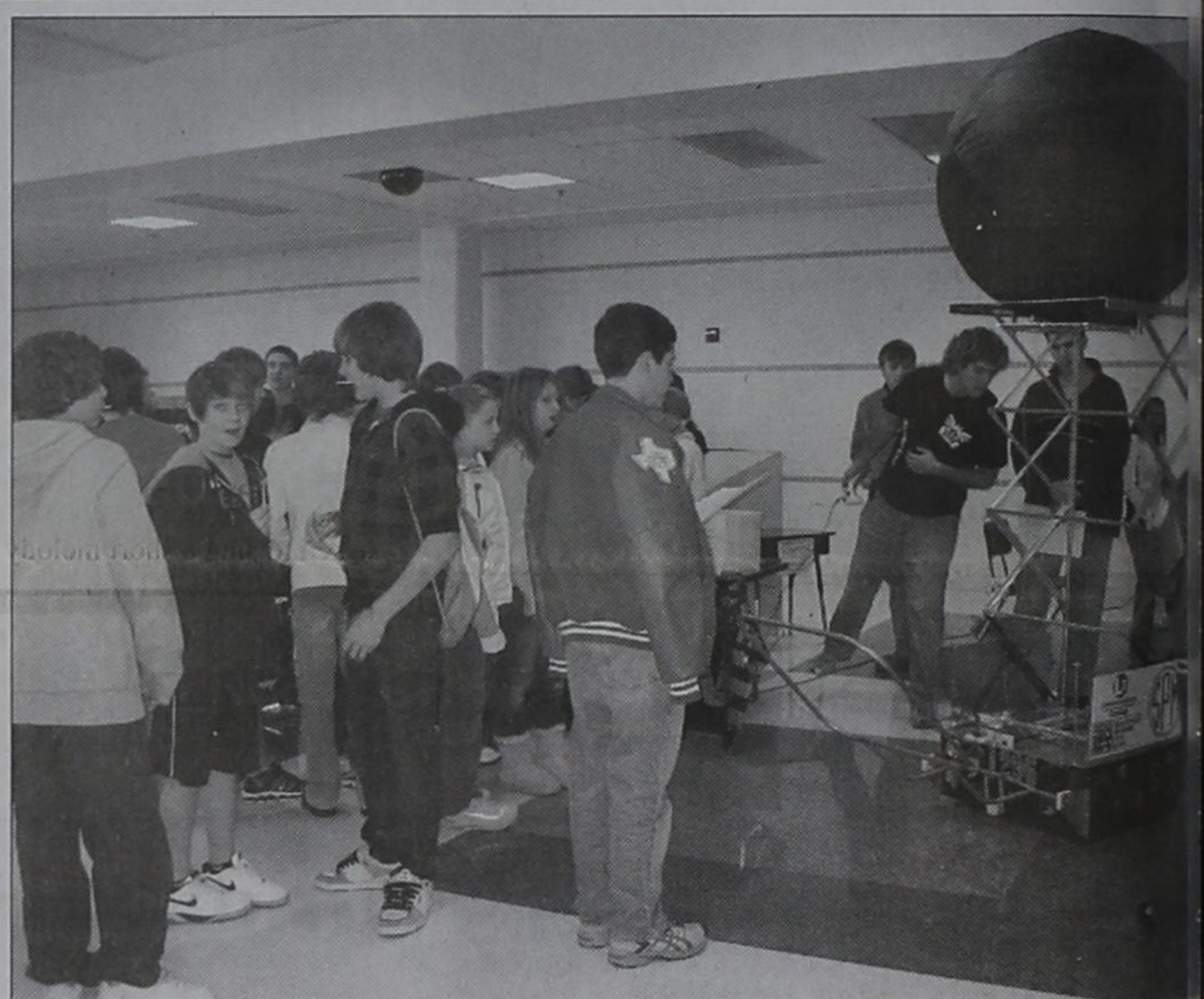


The City of Rockwall Parks and Recreation department invited Santa Claus to join youngsters from the community for a hot lunch last Thursday, Dec. 18 at the RISD Education Center Gym. The children made crafts, had lunch and whispered their wish list to Santa. Waiting their turn to visit with Santa were (standing from left) Hanna Harmon, Kennedy Woods, Summer Thibodeaux, (seated) Haleigh Baxter, Markie Rowan, Miranda Jones, Ainsley Brownell, Kybree Maxwell, Kate Keller, Preston Jones, Elena Anderson, Garrett Randall, students at the Essential Steps Child Development Center in Rockwall.

Staff photo by Kathy Williams



Still just as beautiful now as then! Happy Birthday from Ken & Sean



The William Middle School eighth grade Communication Applications class traveled to Rockwall High on Dec. 4 to learn about different career and technology courses available at the high school. Speech classes were divided into groups and given tours of the high school, where they learned about BCIS, Media Club, Mechanics, DECA and other groups and classes.

Photo Courtesy of Jennifer Faunce

Williams Middle School students attend Career and Technical Education Fair

by Jennifer Faunce
Media Technology Teacher at Rockwall High School
More than fifty students from Williams Middle School attended a Career and Technical Education Fair at Rockwall High School on Thursday, Dec. 4.

The students learned about Family Career and Community Leaders of America, DECA/Association of Marketing Students, Future Farmers of America (FFA), RHS Academic Club, UIL Computer Club, Desktop Publishing Professionals of America, Robotics Class, Speech and Debate Club, and Media Technology class.

Rockwall High School Career and Technical Education Department Chair Cheryl Cherry reviewed graduation requirements and scheduled the Williams students. Students acted as tour guides taking the students from room to room to see CTE classes.

"This gives the students an opportunity to get a glimpse of the career and technical education opportunities available here at RHS," Michelle Hilton, RHS Career and Technical Education Department Chair said.

"This was a wonderful opportunity for both RHS students and staff. Most of the students attending the fair are currently in eighth grade at Williams Middle School and will attend Rockwall High School during the 2010 school year."

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08 CHEVY IMPALA LT.....	\$13,775	\$16,325	\$12,983	08 FORD MUSTANG GT.....	\$22,375	\$25,425	\$22,958
06 NISSAN XTERRA.....	\$11,300	\$13,525	\$12,986	07 CHEVY TAHOE LT.....	\$24,750	\$28,375	\$26,979

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...Burton, center, was r... of the Rockwall Indepe... nation's board of direc... have been presented... man's father, James Hill... Burton. Hilton served as... ed above with Burton... schools, and Karan Clem... nation.

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Support Feral Friends' Tree of Hope

The Feral Friends Tree of Hope, decorated with names of adoptable cats and kittens in foster care, will be displayed at the Richardson and Rowlett PetSmarts during Saturday adoption hours (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.) through Jan. 3. Supporters can make monetary donations in the Animal Angel's name or purchase a gift of food, litter, toys or beds. For more details e-mail info@feralfriends.org.

JAELIUS MUSIC PRESENTS
The Roysse City Early Bird Blood Drive
Sat. Dec. 27th
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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REWARD

For information leading to identification of driver and owner of automobile responsible for damage to fences at the intersection of FM 548 and the new Windmill Farms Road near Forney. The incident occurred Sunday night, November 30, 2008 at approximately 10:35 p.m.

The automobile involved is a late model, probably 2008, Dodge Charger, Silver, color. The car has sustained major damage to its front end and both sides.

Please call 214-914-7457 should you have any information to the identity of the person involved or location of vehicle.

All calls will remain anonymous.



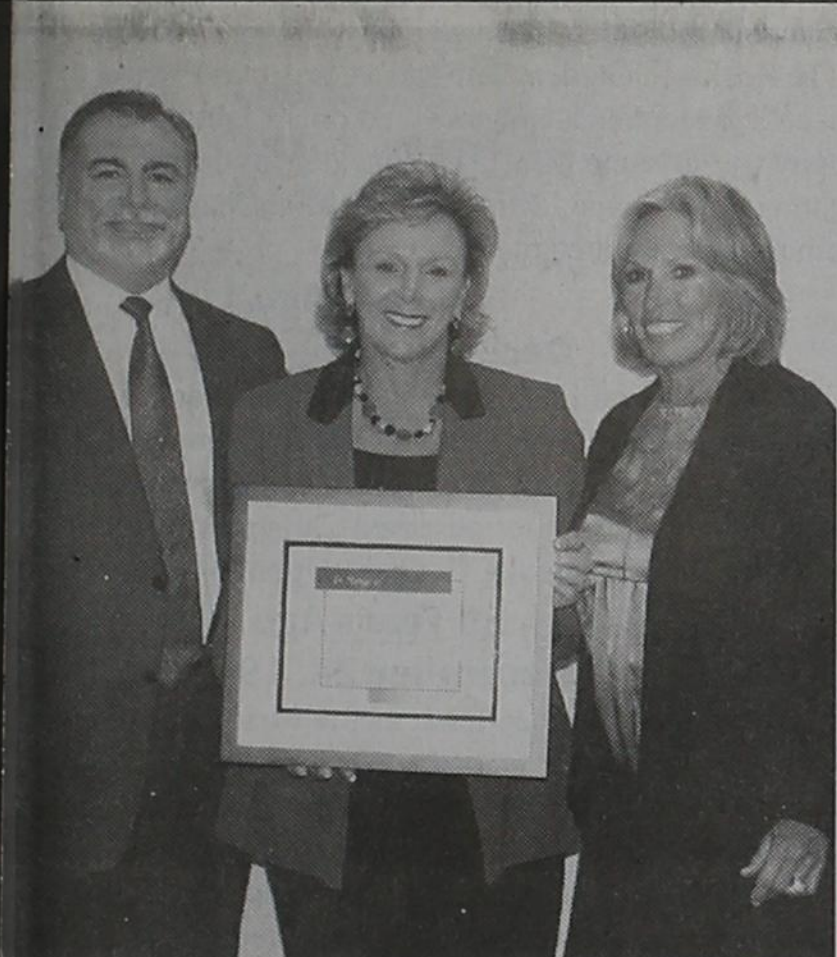
Perry Community Christian School beginning ballet students performed the "Gingerbread Dance" from "The Nutcracker" as part of their dance class. Pictured from the left, at front, are Amanda Dennis, Emily Williams, Maddi Broshous, Morgan Horan and Katie Brown. In the back row, from left, are Mackenzie Purvis, Julieanne Spivey, Arianna McDonald, Madi Underwood, Reagan McBride and Aubrey Blake. Seated in the front row is Michelle Williams, the group's teacher, who is performing in "The Nutcracker" at the Granville Arts Center in Garland.

Lakeside Civic Chorus begins rehearsals Jan. 13

Lakeside Civic Chorus, Rockwall's premier community choral arts organization, is inviting all interested chorus members to audition for the spring season. Auditions will be conducted from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Rockwall High School choral room beginning Jan. 13. Audition fees, which are non-refundable, are \$50 per full session (\$25 spring), plus concert attire. Audition membership prerequisites include good sight-reading and vocal quality; the ability to blend vocally; and previous ensemble experience. When an invitation is extended for an individual to join the choir, a condition of acceptance is a commitment to attend all rehearsals and concerts, except where permission has been granted to miss a scheduled event.

Auditions will be scheduled by appointment. Contact David Bush at 972-679-4227 or 972-772-3549 or by e-mailing bushd1@swbell.net. Auditions are informal and will require the following:

- Sing individually – Sing the first verse of "America" or a prepared piece
- Vocalize – Sing simple vocalizes throughout voice range
- Pitch retention – Sing a series of three to six notes played on the piano
- Sight reading (optional at the director's discretion) – May be asked to sing a short melody and rhythmic exercise



Gene Burton, center, was recognized at the November meeting of the Rockwall Independent School District Education Foundation's board of directors meeting. Numerous memorials have been presented to the foundation in memory of Gene's father, James Hilton, and a plaque was presented to Gene. Hilton served as a school bus driver for 20 years. Seated above with Burton are Gene Burton, superintendent of schools, and Karan Clements, president of the Education Foundation.



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Rockwall County Obituaries

Eddie Wayne Fain

Services for Eddie Wayne Fain, 62, of Roysce City were conducted at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, 2008, in the First Baptist Church in Roysce City. Burial followed in the Wylie Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Roysce City Chapel.



He died Dec. 19.

Born Dec. 10, 1946, in Denton to Marvin and Rosie (George) Fain, he served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam, receiving a pair of Purple Heart awards. A member of the First Baptist Church in Roysce City, he enjoyed restoring classic cars and spending time with his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Gwen Fain, of Roysce City; one daughter, Stephanie Coleman and her husband, Keith, of Roysce City; one son, Stephen Fain and his wife, Ricki, of Roysce City; his grandchildren, Tyler, Ryan and Macie Coleman and Ashley, Harlei and

Conner Fain; one great-grandson, Jaden Fain; his brothers, Billy Fain of Georgia, Royce Fain and Gary Fain, both of Sanger, Doug Fain of Whitesboro and Danny Fain of Dripping Springs; and several other family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Jimmy Fain.

Grady Henry King

Graveside services for Grady Henry King, 88, of Dallas were conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 22, 2008, in the Rest Haven Memorial Park, Rockwall, with Minister James Hawk officiating.

He died Dec. 17.

Born Feb. 7, 1920, in Point to Dan and Myrtle (Hughes) King, he served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. A lifetime Dallas resident, he was a supervisor with the City of Dallas Water Department until his retirement and a member of the Eastridge Church of Christ in Rockwall for 60 years.

Survivors include his wife, Thelma King of Dallas; one son, Grady W. King and his wife, Patricia, of Terrell; his sisters, Maurita Wilson and her husband, W.H., of Quinlan and Mary Patton of Dallas; his grandchildren, Terry, Randy and Lenny; and two great-grandchildren, Mitchell and Tristan.

Carmen Angelina Silva

Services for Carmen Angelina Silva, 92, were conducted at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 22, 2008.

She died Dec. 14 in Fairfield.

Born in Clifton, Ariz., on March 28, 1916, to Manuel and Emilia Guerra, she lived in San Diego, Calif., where her family moved to accommodate her father's career as a concert violinist. She married George Silva on Sept. 24, 1938, in Phoenix, Ariz., where the couple settled. She was active in numerous activities, including the Arizona Horse Lovers Club, president of the Xavier Mother's Club and presi-



dent of the Alpha Pi Mother's Club. She taught piano and was active in the Arizona State Music Teachers Association, the National Guild of Musicians and served as president of the Phoenix Piano Teachers Association. Following her husband's death in 1978, she moved to Rockwall where she continued to teach and served as an officer for the Rockwall Music Teachers Association for two years.

She will be remembered for her positive outlook on life, her kindness, patience, wisdom and integrity.

Survivors include her brother, Dr. Manuel Guerra; three daughters, Mrs. Grace (Paul) Hicks of Prescott, Ariz., Mrs. Shirlee (Steve) Ramage of Rockwall and Mrs. Christy (Rick) Howerton of Fairfield; nine grandchildren, Mark Hicks, Eileen Lieby, Dr. Paul W. Hicks, Dr. Scott Hicks, James, Michael and Andrea Silva, Stephanie Howard and Angelina Howerton; and six great-grandchildren, Braden, Drew, Charles and Colin Hicks and Gavin and Grayson Howard.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George James Silva, and one son, George James Silva Jr.

Lindsay Anne Sterling

Memorial services for Lindsay Anne Sterling, 29, of Rowlett were conducted from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rowlett Chapel.

She died unexpectedly on Dec. 18 at her home.

Born Aug. 11, 1979, in Fairfax, Va., to Mark and Paula (Anderson) Sterling, she was a

Lakeview High School graduate who was pursuing a veteran technician degree.

Survivors include her one-month-old son, Aiden Marcus Sterling; her mother, Paula Sterling; a sister, Natalie Sterling; her parents, William and Donna Anderson and Patricia Rushton; aunts; four uncles; and nine cousins.

She was preceded in death by her father, Mark Kirwan Sterling and grandfather, Norris P. (Skip) Sterling Jr.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to the SPCA or the Rowlett Animal Shelter.

Rockwall County Yesteryears

Compiled by Judy Schneider & Sarah Schneider
From The Archives of the Rockwall County Library

10 Years Ago

December 22, 1998

Melody and Christopher Hail of Rockwall gave birth to son, Johnathan Parker, at Lake Pointe Medical Center in Rockwall. Johnathan weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches long. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Philip L. Hail of Rockwall and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Little of Fort Worth.

Santa's lead reindeer were Kimmie Cline and Haley L. the Nebbie Williams Elementary production of the Polar Express. Michael Megee engineered the train while taking kids to the Pole. The second grade class performed the show.

20 Years Ago

December 23, 1988

The movies showing at Rockwall 8 were Oliver & Company, Rain Man, Scrooged, Working Girl, Tequila Sunrise, The Godfather Part II, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels and Twins.

The YMCA of Rockwall County had several wrestlers in the Coca-Cola Wrestling Classic in Arlington, most of whom in their divisions, including John Hardin, Dean Scott, Jason and Bobby Fritz.

30 Years Ago

December 22, 1978

Jana and Rachel George of Rockwall sent Santa Claus with their Christmas wishes: Dear Santa, I am writing a letter to my sister and me to tell you what we would like for Christmas. We have been good girls this year, and we hope you think we deserve it. I would like a Whoopsie doll. My sister and I would both like a Whoopsie doll. My sister likes the game Hungry Hippo's, Creepy Crawlers, Fuzzy Dice, Barber Shop and a pretty purse and a cow that milks. I would like a Blip game, a pretty purse, a You Drive It and a Magic Hand Electronic cash register. Here is some milk for you and a card for Rudolph. Thank you for everything. We love you.

Guy Saylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Saylor of Rockwall enlisted in the United States Air Force. Mr. Saylor graduated from Rockwall High School in 1977. He left for six weeks of basic training and wants to be involved in the Fire Protection aptitude test.

40 Years Ago

December 27, 1968

The Rockwall Yellowjacket Band planned a trip to Houston to perform at the Bluebonnet Bowl. The Director of the band is Robert Whipkey. The band performed in a marching competition at the Astrodome and then played in the opening ceremony of the Oklahoma vs. S.M.U. football game.

The Rockwall Garden Club had a Christmas Party at the Rockwall Lake Club Home. Members voted on a Lighting Club trophy was given to Mrs. C.E. Winckler for the beautiful Christmas lighting at her home. Mrs. Don Waddle, Chairman of the Committee, presented the trophy.

50 Years Ago

December 26, 1958

The Presbyterian Ladies had a Christmas Party with Mrs. Crawford reading about the birth of Jesus from the Bible. It followed by a prayer by Mrs. James L. Glenn. The ladies talked about how other countries observed Christmas. Mrs. Henry ended the party by singing "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear."

60 Years Ago

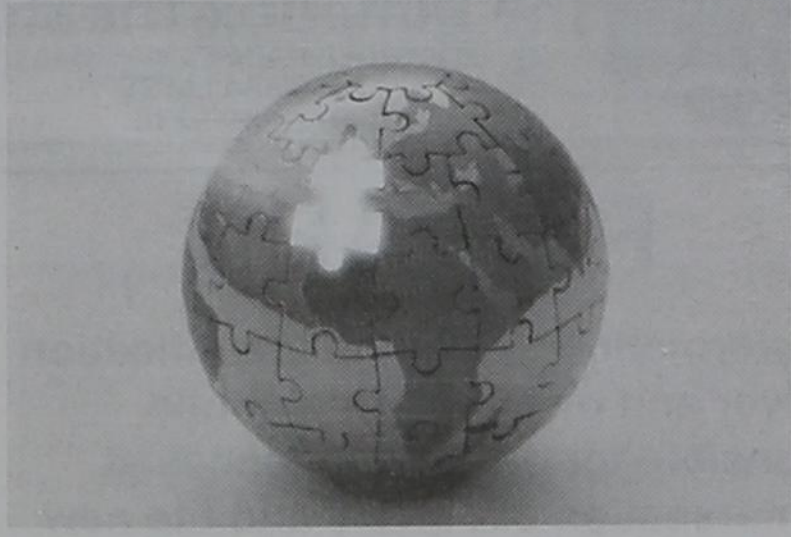
December 24, 1948

The Rockwall Birthday Club met at Mrs. Neely Puckett's home. There were twenty guests on hand, each bringing a nice gift for the Christmas tree. After opening gifts, they had punch and cookies.

Two miles east of Rockwall on Highway 67, an ancient wall, believed to be thousands of years old, was excavated by Sanders of Fort Worth. Scientists believed this wall was 10,000 years old and had never seen anything like it. The wall was never documented in geology or history. The community was invited to come see and inspect the wall.

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ACROSS
1 young men
5 TXism: "he's ___ bricks shy of a load"
6 archaic "cows"
7 TXism: "___ bien" (good)
8 TXism: "I stirred up ___" (caused trouble)
17 Houston Rockets forward Artest
18 oxygen chemical process
20 he carried TX in '72 but not '68 (init.)
21 TX-born Oakland RB in 60s, Daniels
22 TXism: "I'll knock you cross-eyed"
24 picturesque village in Bell Co. off I-35
29 Hawaiian trees
30 TXism: "suits me to a fare-___well"
31 TX semiconductor manufacturer
32 TXism: "innocent ___ call"
34 young horse
35 "___ o' war"
36 TXism: "caught between a rock ___ place"
37 TX actor Rip
38 TXism: as long as ducks go ___ footed" (forever)
39 TX singer Jimmie
41 San Antonio county
42 Tex Terry was in film: "___ Billy the Kid"
43 Marshall is in ___ TX

44 TX Dale Evans Rogers sang "Happy ___"
45 TXism: "blister ___" (handle)
46 TXism: "___ a spell"
47 mosquito hits
48 TXism: "agile as a ___ hot road"
50 WWII bomber "___ Gay"
51 turn down the lights
52 TXism: "call ___ day"
53 "not" prefix

DOWN
1 State Recreation Area near Wichita Falls (2 wds.)
2 TXism: "jumped like ___ a hook"
3 UNT & TWU home
4 cuss
9 TX pitcher Ryan
10 TX Strait's "All My ___ Live in Texas"
11 TX-raised Heisman winner Brown
12 TX-raised actress Sandy (init.)
13 TX-raised Jeremy London's character on "I'll Fly Away"
14 Lucy's sidekick
15 breeding stallion
16 TXism: "___ the mark"
19 with "The ___" classic baseball film with TX Joe Don Baker
21 battery operated
23 Hico, Commerce, & Slaton mascots
24 Alamo city init.
25 TXism: "exciting ___ fire at the IRS office"
26 New Braunfels notable city park
27 former TX-based restaurant chain: "Steak ___"
28 "wheelin' and ___"
29 Dallas Zoo was first in U.S. to hatch an African ___ bustard bird
30 "it ___ me up"
33 rodeo cowboys & baseball pitchers use rosin ___
34 ___ Stockton, TX
35 cabs
37 TXism: "she has ___ the same place twice to make a shadow" (thin)
38 TXism: "they couldn't ___ drum" (bad team)
40 state of George H. and Barbara's summer house
41 dietary fiber source
44 Clyde h.s. class
47 John who killed TX John Wesley Hardin
49 major auto light manufacturer

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Rockwall Student Ministry 10th grade small group spent Dec. 13 raking leaves for Aileen Wright and several other senior adults from the church. Pictured on the front row are James Eilts, Chris Jimenez, Jameson Oldham, Evan Brumelow and Tyler Russell; in back, Aileen Brown, senior adult. If you know a senior adult in need of assistance with light yard work during the holiday season contact the FBC Rockwall Student Ministry office at 469-698-2503.

Photo Courtesy First Baptist Church



Ray Hahn recently worked with girls in Cadette Troop 2043 to host a learning opportunity for Junior Troop 2890. Hahn, pictured above, brought his telescope to Davis Elementary School and taught the girls about stars, constellations and galaxies. The girls learned the parts of a telescope and took turns looking through it at the night sky.

Photo courtesy of Ami Brandow

Emergency Responders

Royse City Police Blotter
Dec. 12-18

Dec. 12: Assault, 300 block Rustic Meadow Drive; Alarm, 100 Cookston Lane; Marijuana possession arrest, 1200 block

Mexia Court; Possession of drug paraphernalia, 500 block W. Main Street; Accident, 6000 block I-30

• Dec. 13: Aggravated assault, 1600 block Sam Circle; Marijuana (3.7 lbs) possession arrest; Marijuana (20.15 lbs) possession/Money laundering/Engaged in criminal activity arrest, 2300 block I-30
• Dec. 14: Alarm, 100 block Cookston Lane; Alarm, 400 block Ame Lane; Suspicious activity, 2300 block I-30

• Dec. 15: Accident, 100 block I-30
• Dec. 16: Accident, I-30 at the 77 mile marker; Accident, 1500 block FM 548; Alarm, 6700 block I-30; Marijuana (9.05 lbs) possession arrest, 2300 block I-30; Accident, I-30 at the 78.5 mile marker; Accident, 100 block E. I-30; Accident, 100 block W. I-30
• Dec. 17: Marijuana possession, 700 block FM 2642

(Continued on Page 11)

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Rockwall County Sports

Rockwall Hockey raises mid-season record to 11-1

by Shawn Rogers

In a crowded locker room at the Ice Training Center in Richardson, the Rockwall ice hockey team is getting ready for another practice. The mood is jovial as they look forward to the Christmas break.

Two days earlier, the young men from three high schools dispatched a disciplined North Crowley 6-1. With an 11-1-0 record, the best start in the team's six year history, the young men have every reason to be happy. The eleven W's are two short of the most wins the team has seen for a season - with still twelve games to play.

"Back in September, I thought we could win the city championship," says Wylie senior Stefan Skinner. "Now I think we can win State." Everyone in the locker room confidently agrees.

But few of the players realized how close they came to not even having a team in September. The squad that finished 13-10-2 last year lost five seniors to graduation and three players to travel teams. And with not enough players to fill a junior varsity team last season, filling the ranks was difficult.

"At the beginning of the season, we were worried we would not have enough for a team," says Mark Thirion, assistant coach. "But we felt we owed it to the seniors."

So the Jackets took to the ice with only two lines - ten skaters and two goalies against teams with three or more lines.

"I thought it was going to be a long season," says Rockwall-Heath senior Chris Rogers. "With our short bench, I worried other teams would wear us down."

But a 10-2 season opening win against Hurst/Eules/Bedford showed that heads-up team play and strong defense trumps a deep bench. With only one lapse in the next eleven games, Rockwall has seen that strategy work.

"We have a great team camaraderie," adds Rockwall senior Zack Jones. "Some of us have been playing together for six or seven years."

Many of the players on the roster played on the Rockwall junior varsity team that won the City championship in 2006/2007.

"Our team chemistry is really working," agrees Wylie junior Morgan Cook. Cook has scored 28 points in the last nine games and is ranked third in the league with 30 points.

The toughest match of the season came Dec. 4 against perennial power Richardson. The Rampage came into the game leading the league in goals scored, but the Jacket's smothering defense and opportunistic offense scraped a narrow 3-2 victory.

"Richardson was our toughest test," says Rockwall senior goalie Landon Cain. "The defense stepped up and took control. All the work together is paying off."

The Rockwall defense really is paying off with the lowest goals allowed in the league.

"We are not committing mental breakdowns," adds Rockwall-Heath junior David White. "We are playing smart and staying out of the penalty box."

Looking toward the rest of the season, the team needs to continue to play smart and not take anything for granted. Last year's team had a promising 7-3-2 record at the break but hit a late season slump losing six of the final seven games.

"We need to keep the lines moving and get better at line shifting," says Rockwall-Heath senior Brandon Bambico. "We can do better on our break outs."

"The team has played very well but we still have room for improvement," said Mark Burack, head coach. "We'll stay the course focusing on one game at a time."

The one game that stands tall in the second half is the Feb. 2 rematch with Arlington Martin (12-0-0) who gave the Jackets their only loss.

"I can't wait to play Martin again," says Rockwall senior Chris Thirion. Thirion leads the league in total points with 33. "We have great support from our parents and family. It would be great to have more fans at our games."

But with games played in Grapevine, Eules and Farmers Branch, 30 to 40 miles away, it is hard for fans to attend games.

"We can win the whole thing if we continue to work as a team," says Cook.

"Bring it on," adds Jones. Every member of the Rockwall ice hockey team agrees.

Rockwall will next face Midlothian (5-7-0) Jan. 8 at the Dr. Star Center in Duncanville.

The Rockwall Ice Hockey Club competes in the AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey League and is composed of young athletes from Rockwall, Roy and Wylie ISD's.



Rockwall Hockey varsity Nick Ziebell battles for the puck along the boards during last Thursday's game against North Crowley. Photo by Shawn Rogers

Lady Jackets demolish RL Turner, 82-7, back to first place

by Lary Bump

Rockwall raced to a 30-4 lead after the first quarter Friday. After that, things got even worse for Carrollton R.L. Turner.

The Lady Jackets went on to take over sole possession of first place in District 10-4A with a resounding 82-7 victory over Turner at RHS.

All 10 Lady Jackets scored in the game. Peyton Adamson continued to lead Rockwall with 30 points. Raven Turner (13 points) and Katy Mueller (season-high 11) also outscored R.L. Turner, and Jordan Anterhaus matched the Lady Lions' seven points.

The defensive effort came against a team that is 0-3 in the district, but 6-6 overall. RHS now has won 28 consecutive district home games.

Rockwall reached its goal of being 3-0 as the district takes a break for the remainder of 2008. The Lady Jackets (11-7 overall) moved ahead of Carrollton Newman as Rockwall-Heath rallied to hand the Lady Trojans their first district loss Friday by one point.

RHS will return to action in the prestigious Sandra Meadows Varsity Basketball Tournament at Duncanville High School. The 32-team event

includes teams from four states - including Fayetteville, Ark. (9-0), which is ranked 21st in the USA Today national poll.

The Lady Jackets' first game in the tournament will be at noon Monday in the Blue gym against Waxahachie (12-4). RHS already defeated the Lady Indians 51-42 at the DeSoto Tournament to begin its current six-game winning streak. Rockwall would play Kennedale (7-8) or defending tournament champion Houston Bellaire (12-2) in RHS' second Sandra Meadows Tournament game Tuesday.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
R.L. Turner	4	1	0	3	7
Rockwall	30	21	17	14	82

Turner: Melissa Carrillo 3, Autumn Whitton 2, Briseida Escobedo 2.

Rockwall: Peyton Adamson 30, Raven Turner 13, Katy Mueller 11, Jordan Anterhaus 7, Alyssa Lang 4, Sarah Hinton 4, Vertashia Dean 4, Aimee Coleman 4, Kayla Kimmons 3, Virginia Sealock 2.

Jackets smother Turner in district opener

by Lary Bump

Rockwall opened its first season in District 10-4A on a positive note Friday by winning 53-29 at Carrollton R.L. Turner.

"We had a very good game," said Yellowjackets head coach Alan Simmons. "It felt like we needed to win. That made going into the holidays on a win a lot better."

The Jackets used the defense that has become their trademark to hold the Lions to nine points in the first half. RHS (7-5 overall) has allowed a fraction above 50 points per game. Turner (0-14) had the lowest point total against the Jackets this season.

Simmons said, "We're playing good defense. We gave up 20 points in the second half, which is still good. We still didn't finish the way we would have liked, but when you win and everybody's playing it's very positive."

Nine of the Yellowjackets scored, with Hunter Jorgensen (14 points) and Kyle Sandlin (10) leading the way.

After taking this week off, Rockwall will return to practice Saturday morning to prepare for three or more games in the Dallas ISD Coca-Cola Tournament.

In their first tournament game, the Jackets will play Dallas A. Maceo Smith (5-7) at 1:30 p.m. Monday at Sprague Field House. RHS would play DeSoto (9-5) or Dallas Pinkston (8-5) at 4:30 p.m. if RHS loses to the Falcons, or at 7:30 p.m. with their second victory over Smith this season.

The Jackets defeated the Falcons 57-54 on the way to winning the Clear Creek Lake Shootout in Mabank. A. Maceo Smith took a 20-13 lead after one quarter, but Rockwall took the lead by halftime and held on to win.

"It turned out to be a very good game," Simmons said. "They had one kid we had a rough time keeping off the boards. We'll have to figure out something to do with him."

Most likely, Rockwall will do it with defense.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Rockwall	19	11	13	10	53
R.L. Turner	6	3	10	10	29

Rockwall: Hunter Jorgensen 14, Kyle Sandlin 10, Adam Dingwell 8, Tim Yeager 6, Richard Grady 5, Luke Wardell 4, Jarron White 2, Eric Palmer 2, Carson Brooks 2.

Carrollton R.L. Turner: Dakota Whitehead 12, Travis Cleghorn 8, Mikal Patterson 5, Michael Pete 4.

Future Aggie Arterburn leads RHS All-District picks

Rockwall earned four positions on the All-District 10-4A football team - and senior Aaron Arterburn occupies two of those.

Arterburn, who has committed to play linebacker at Texas A&M, was a unanimous selection at tight end/H-back and also made the first team as an outside linebacker.

Head coach Scott Smith did everything he could to get Arterburn on the field as often as possible. He played mostly on defense, and caught just two passes, but those went for 64 yards and two touchdowns. The Yellowjackets also used Arterburn as a running back, and he carried 17 times for 127 yards (7.5 per carry) and three TDs. He returned an interception for a sixth touchdown, against 5A Division I state champion Allen.

Grinnan, Shaw first-team All-District in volleyball

Senior captains Kimberly Grinnan and Stephanie Shaw, who led Rockwall to its first volleyball playoff wins this season, were named to the All-District 10-4A first team.

In addition, Maggie Brindock was named the district's top setter and Sarah Hubbins and McKenna Abbott made the All-District second team. Grinnan, an all-around player, was RHS' leader with 128 kills. She also produced 18 service aces. Shaw had 89 kills.

Brindock led Rockwall with 157 assists and 37 blocks. She also had 119 kills and 15 aces.

Hubbins was by far the team's leader with 137 digs. Abbott totaled 80

kills and 30 blocks.

Receiving All-District honorable mention were Anna Thom and Melissa Donham, who led the Lady Jackets with 23 aces. Thom finished the season with 144 assists and 19 aces.

Named to the academic All-District team were Grinnan, Donham, Audrey Hale, who all also were named academic All-State; Bri Hubbins, Morgan Edwards, and Rebecca Lorts.

At the team's awards banquet, Shaw received the most valuable award, from the players' vote. Hale received the Jessica Shaw Thomas award, voted most improved.

Yellowjackets place 3rd in Austin wrestling meet

With nine wrestlers placing among the top four in their weight class, Rockwall finished third Saturday in the Vista Ridge Invitational.

Five Yellowjackets reached the final match in their weight class before losing to finish second. Rockwall's runners-up were Brad Devereaux, Nich Hyde, Dacoda Hicks, Dylan Devereaux and Matt Claggett. Placing third were Chris Carter, Matt Rowland and Robert Hinton. Sims Hazel was fourth at 171 pounds.

Austin Bowie dominated the finals to place first among the 13 teams with 251 points. Host Austin Vista Ridge was second with 228 1/2. RHS totaled 170 points for third place.

Jackets head coach Brent Pohorsky said, "Any time you can place nine kids in the top four, it's a good tournament. It was real good for

our younger wrestlers like Brad Devereaux, Nich Hyde and Devereaux to make the finals. We're excited about doing so well with sophomores in our lineup."

"They ran into kids from Bowie in the finals. (Bowie) and Vista are senior-oriented."

"We all won a match. Three other wrestlers were just a match from placing in the top four."

On Friday, the Jackets split two dual matches at Vista Ridge, losing Leander 70-9 and falling to the host school 50-26. Hyde, Hicks, Devereaux and Claggett each won twice, and everyone in Rockwall lineup won at least one match.



Lady Jackets' Virginia Sealock (11) puts in another two points for her team during last Friday's district-opener game against RL Turner in the RHS gym. Staff photo by Roy Heath

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McGillen
Shane Lowrance scored a
Hawks picked up their
fourth quarter deficit to
at Rockwall-Heath
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Rockwall County Sports

Lowrance pours in 29 as Lady Hawks defeat Newman Smith 45-44

Matt McGillen
 Shaane Lowrance scored a career-high 29 points as the Rockwall Lady Hawks picked up their first District 10-4A win, overcoming a point fourth quarter deficit to slip past Carrollton Newman Smith Dec. 19 at Rockwall-Heath High School.
 In the win, Heath improves to 1-2 in district and to 3-8 overall while Lowrance improves to 2-1 and 5-12.
 Lowrance, who helped power the Lady Hawks to a 28-6 record last year in their first playoff berth in the girls program's short history, was nearly perfect, connecting on 11-of-12 field goals and 7-of-8 free throws.
 Heath school record is held by Sequeena Thomas, who poured in 44 points in her last year against South Garland. Thomas, last year's leading scorer and rebounder as a junior, moved out of state prior to the start of her senior season.
 In a game that was battling to a 19-19 halftime score, the Lady Hawks managed just 10 points in the third quarter to trail 35-24 entering the final period.

Heath, however, scored almost as many points in the last eight minutes as they did the entire first three quarters, outscoring the Lady Trojans 21-9 to pull out the win.

Junior Lyndsey Renta had seven points for the Lady Hawks, who will next be in action at the Dallas ISD Coca Cola tournament Dec 29-31. Brakeyshia Samms topped Smith with 13 points while Rani Hadley added 11 and Celeste Russell 10.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Smith	7	12	16	9	44
Heath	10	9	5	21	45

Scoring

Smith (44) - Brakeyshia Samms 13, Rani Hadley 11, Celeste Russell 10, Kim Neziyana 5, Mariah Bell 3, Sharika Nash 2.

Heath (45) - Shaane Lowrance 29, Lyndsey Renta 7, Katelyn Morris 5, Brooke Eddy 3, Brianna Richardson 1.

Heath Hawks fall to Newman Smith 81-62 in District 10-4A game

Matt McGillen
 Cameron McClung scored 18 points to lead three Rockwall-Heath players in double figures, but it wasn't enough to slow down the high-scoring Carrollton Newman Smith Trojans, as the Hawks fell 81-62 in their District 10-4A opener Dec. 19 at Newman Smith High School.
 In a 0-1 in the district, the Hawks fall to 4-8 for the year. The win was their sixth in a row and improves the Trojans to 14-1 for the year. Their only loss came to Irving 69-67.
 The Hawks played the Trojans fairly even in the first and fourth quarters, outscoring them just 41-38, but were outpaced 40-24 in the middle quarters.
 In addition to McClung, who came into the game averaging less than 10 points a game, Tony Tennison with 13 points and Chase Nielsen also reached double digits for the Hawks.
 The Hawks' leading scorer, Dustin Morrett, who entered the game averaging 14.4 points per contest, was held to just nine. Coming into the Smith game, Morrett had connected on 37-of-108 three-point tries and a sizeable 7-of-58 free throws (81 percent).
 The game was led by Blake Samudio's 18 points. Also reaching double digits for the Trojans was Amos Wilson with 14, and Randall Joyner with 10.

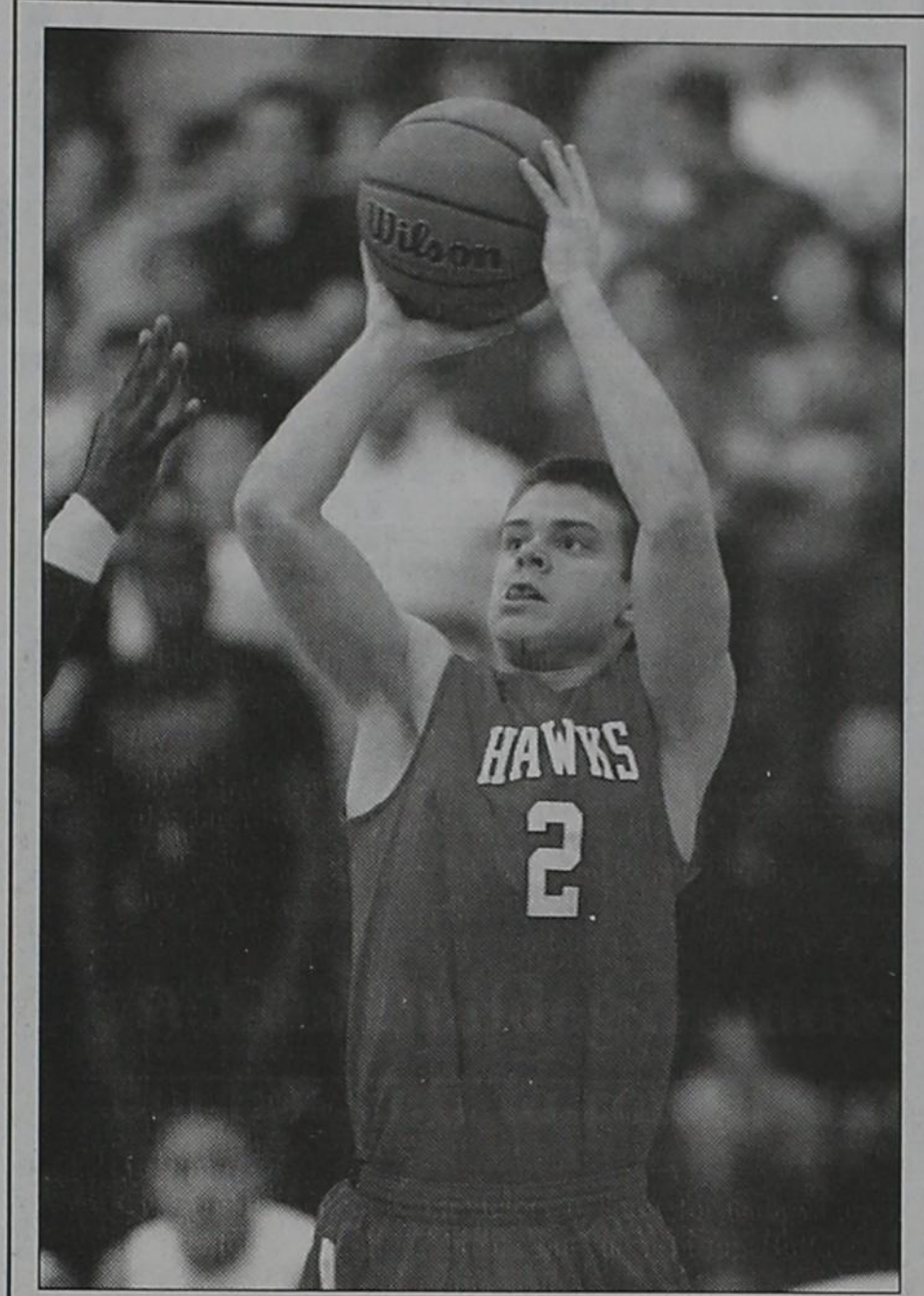
The Hawks travel to Midland for the Byron Johnson Tournament Dec. 20. Their next home game will be Jan. 3 when they host Roysce City.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Heath	15	11	13	23	62
Smith	18	17	23	23	81

Scoring

Heath (62) - Cameron McClung 18, Tony Tennison 13, Chase Nielsen 11, Dustin Morrett 9, Lewis Snowton 7, Eric Larson 2, Andrew Twedell 1, Jaden Leonard 1.

Smith (81) - Blake Zamudio 17, Amos Wilson 14, Randall Joyner 10, Lasker 9, Caleb Price 8, Chris Scaife 6, Aundrey Barr 6, Steven 5, Nick Ross 4, Jalil Speed 2.



Hawks' Cameron McClung targets the basket during last Friday's game against Newman Smith. Staff photo by Carl McClung



Lady Hawks' Brooke Eddy (5) works the ball under the basket against Newman Smith during last Friday's game in the RHHS gym. Assisting in the play is Shaane Lowrance (10). Staff photo by Tim Burnett

Hawks' nine players on District 10-4A All-district first team, Lawrence MVP

by Matt McGillen

Just as he led them on the field, Rockwall-Heath senior running back Kendial Lawrence showed the Hawks the way off the field as well, as he was selected unanimously as the Most Valuable Player for District 10-4A for the 2008 season.

Lawrence topped a contingent of nine first-team All-District selections that included the Outstanding Defensive Player of the Year linebacker Austin Moss and Coach of the Year Mickey Moss, as well as six second-team choices.

Mickey Moss, in his first year as Heath coach after coming over from South Garland, led the Hawks to the first district championship in school history in any sport and to a 13-1 record. Ranked eight in the final high school Class A state poll, under Moss the Hawks made it all the way to the Division II regional final before they lost 52-47 to eventual state finalist Sulphur Springs.

Also named to the first team defense were Moss' wingmen in the line-backing corps, George Bamfo and Ryan Moseby as well as defensive lineman David James and cornerback Darius Jones.

Other first team offensive players were wide receiver Everett Gilbert and lineman Austin Woods and David Abercrombie. Woods was the only Heath junior named to the first team.

Gilbert, Moss, Bamfo and Moseby were also unanimous picks. Second team offensive selections were quarterback Drew Hollingshead, tight end Will Smith, wide receiver Matt Bielski and lineman Parker Pennington.

Named to the second-team on defense were junior lineman Zach Salinas and senior safety Charlie Wilson.

Lawrence topped all Metroplex rushers with 2,686 yards and scored 46 touchdowns before missing the Hawks' final game with an injured shoulder.

Gilbert rushed for 1,058 yards and caught 55 passes for another 755 yards and finished the season with 18 TDs.

Hollingshead completed 129-of-189 passes for 1,829 yards with 13 touchdowns and just one interception. Bielski caught 35 passes for 568 yards and five scores.

Through 13 games Moss led the Hawks with 155 tackles while Bamfo and Moseby had 131 and 96, respectively.

Jones had three interceptions and 54 stops while Wilson had two picks and 81 tackles.

CHS Lady Bulldogs rip past Greenville 58-42

Lary Bump
 Roysce City's 16-point victory over Greenville earlier this season meant that when the Lady Bulldogs entered the Lions Den Friday night, they had been smooth sailing at the Great East Texas Shootout in Groesbeville, where Roysce City ripped Greenville 58-42.

The Lady Lions showed little hospitality toward their guests and took a 17-0 lead at halftime. RC broke loose to go ahead 34-26 after three quarters, but the Lady Bulldogs had to hang on for their lives in the fourth quarter to win 54-50.

Greenville pulled within 34-32 by scoring the first six points of the quarter, but didn't come as close again. Raven Alexander stretched the lead to five points at 37-32 with a foul shot, a quick steal and a basket.

Roysce City head coach Dallas Bookout said, "Greenville played us a tough game. We didn't shoot well at all. We missed a lot of layups and 20 free throws, and we were 0-for-12 on 3-point shots."

"Three of our players fouled out. The one player to stand out was (sophomore) Taylor Jordan. She was a big factor when she came in off the bench to score nine points. Eight of them were in the fourth quarter. Without her, we probably don't win the game."

Talk about a balanced attack! The six players who scored for Roysce City all finished with between 7 and 11 points. Kellie Wyrick and Taylor Howard were the high scorers with 11 apiece.

Bookout attributed part of his team's problems to playing on the road. "That's the way district is," he said. "We always talk about wanting to win every game at home. The other teams do too."

Greenville fell to 6-6 overall and 1-2 in District 10-4A. The Lady Bulldogs went into their holiday break 13-3 and 2-1, with the only district loss to first-place Rockwall.

Bookout said, "We competed with (Rockwall), and we feel pretty good about that. Against (Richardson) Pearce and Greenville, we didn't play very well. We put a lot of emphasis on the Rockwall game, so there

Bulldogs rally to beat Greenville in district opener

Lary Bump
 The outlook was dim for Roysce City when the Bulldogs fell behind Greenville 17-4 after the first quarter Friday night.
 In playing at home, RC seemed to have a slim chance when the Bulldogs remained ahead 35-27 after three quarters.
 The Bulldogs rallied to send the game into overtime, when they

outscored Greenville to win the teams' District 10-4A opening game 45-42.

Wynn Posey and Trey Crutchfield led Roysce City with 12 points apiece. The 'Dogs evened their overall record at 6-6. Greenville fell to 3-11 overall.

RC will continue to prepare for district games by playing four times in the Kaufman Holiday Tournament. Those games would be against Kemp at 2 p.m. and Forney at 6:30 p.m. Monday, and against Brownsboro at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The tournament's 10 teams are divided into two five-team flights. The team with the best record in each flight will advance to the Julio's Gold Championship. Teams lower in the standings would face their counterpart from the other flight.

All of Roysce City's games would be at Kaufman Junior High School unless the Bulldogs reach the Gold or Silver bracket championships. Those games would be played in the new gym at Kaufman High School.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Final
Greenville	17	6	12	3	4	42
Roysce City	4	9	14	11	7	45

Greenville: Jarel Nelson 11, Devonte Green 11, N.J. Mason 6, Alton Dennis 5, Corey Bosworth 4, Cal Crabtree 3, Dijoun Shepperd 2.

Roysce City: Wynn Posey 12, Trey Crutchfield 12, Scotty Arterberry 8, Justin Jacobs 5, Cory Kawesa 4, Stephen Edwards 2, DaJon Avery 2.

Roysce City Bulldogs middle school boys off to rough start

by Lary Bump

Roysce City Middle School had a victory to show for its boys' basketball program before the holiday break, but the aspiring Bulldogs had played close games against other opponents.

In its most recent action, Roysce City lost all four games to Warren on December 15 at home - the 8th grade A team 45-25, 8th grade B 48-15, 7th grade A 49-28 and 7th grade B 30-18.

It was the 7th grade B team that had the only victory, 30-21 over Greenville on December 1 at home. Mabank edged the B team 28-26 on December 8. This loss finished the team's 2008 portion of its schedule at 1-2.

The other three teams were 0-3. The 8th grade A team also lost a heart-breaker at Mabank, 51-50. The 8th grade B team fell just short against Greenville, 24-21. The 7th grade A team's closest encounter was a 35-17 loss to Greenville.



Roysce City Middle School Bulldogs' Jacob Gonzales takes aim for a 7th grade Gold Team basket against Warren on Monday, December 15 in the middle school gym. Staff photo by Tim Burnett

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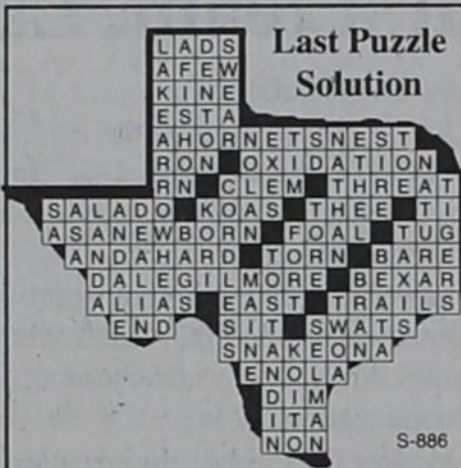


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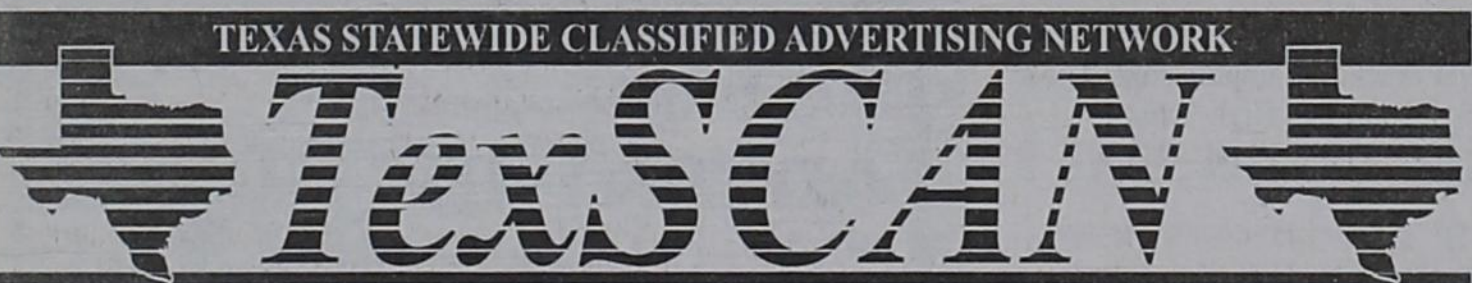
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City of Rockwall, Texas

Invitation to Bid

Sealed bids addressed to the Purchasing Agent, City of Rockwall will be received at City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas 75087 until 2:00 PM CST on January 15, 2009 for The Harbor Grounds Maintenance Services. All submitted bids duly received will be publicly opened and read aloud on January 15, 2009 at 2:00 PM CST in the Rockwall City Hall Council Chambers. Liability and Workers Compensation insurances are required. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive formalities, re-advertise, re-bid and consider the most advantageous bid thereof. Bid packet may be examined and/or obtained without charge at City of Rockwall Purchasing office, Finance Department, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, TX 75087 972-771-7700.

Responders...

(Continued from Page 9)

- Dec. 18: Alarm, 400 block Ane Lane; Theft, 900 block I-30; Theft, 1600 block Brandon Drive
- Rockwall PD Calls Dec. 15-21**
- Dec. 15: Theft, 900 block West Yellow Jacket Lane; Theft, 700 IH 30; Theft, 1900 block Lakeshore Drive; Theft, 700 IH 30; Theft, 100

block Henry M. Chandler Drive

- Dec. 16: Theft, 2900 block Road; Theft, 700 block IH 30.
- Dec. 17: Burglary, 1200 East Washington Street; Bu 2600 block of Discovery; The block IH 30; Theft, 900 block 30; Theft, 2100 block South Lane.
- Dec. 18: Burglary, 1400 Glenwick Drive; Burglary, block Wildrose Drive; Bu 1500 block Hickory Creek Burglary, 2500 block East Drive; Burglary, 1400 block H Creek Lane; Burglary, 1500 Stewart Drive; Burglary, 1600 Hickory Creek Lane.
- Dec. 19: Theft, 200 block Rusk Drive; Theft, 600 block
- Dec. 20: Burglary, 200 Maple Ridge Drive; Theft, 500 IH 30; Theft, 1500 block 1 Ridge Drive.
- Dec. 21: Burglary, 2800 Maple Ridge Drive; Burglary, Summer Lee Drive.
- Other calls for service: Ahar property 7, Animal complaint Alarms 54, Car fire 1, Criminal 2, Criminal mischief 4, 2, Fight 2, Fire call 2, Follow investigation 8, Forgery 3, 1 or sick person 25, Investigation Major traffic accident 1, Me complainant 33, Minor disturbance Minor traffic accident 42, M person 1, Motorist/citizen ass Open building 1 Ordinance tions 19, Reckless driver/p DWI 23, Shots fired/shoot Street hazard 4, Suspicious 43, Traffic complaint 5, Welfare 8.

Rockwall Fire/EMS

Dec. 15-21

- Calls for service: Car fire alarm 15, Minor traffic accident 1, Natural gas leak 4, Smoke alarm 3, Wires down 3.

Heath DPS Dec. 15-21

- Dec. 17: Theft, 3000 Wyndemere Boulevard; Theft, block Smirl Drive.
- Calls for Service: Animal complaint 1, Criminal mischief 1, Fire call 1, Injured person 5, Investigation 2, complainant 4, Minor disturbance 1, Suspicious person 9, Welfare 3.

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Economic Stimulus Amounts to Central Planning

by Sheldon Richman

That there will be a huge "stimulus" package in the early days of the Obama administration is a certainty. Nearly everyone thinks the government must do something drastic to, using President-elect Obama's word, "jolt" the economy into recovery.

That something is deficit spending on "infrastructure." But it's not as simple as it sounds. A big debate is shaping up over whether the program should concentrate on big, transformative projects or boring bridge repairs and pothole filling.

Either way, it is taken for granted that deficit spending will stimulate a sustainable recovery. But it won't. A real recovery requires real savings and investment to correct for years of government-induced waste.

Government spending, however, displaces savings and investment. Whether the government borrows, taxes, or creates money through the Federal Reserve, real wealth will be commandeered by bureaucrats. Jobs thus created in the parasitic sector will mean fewer jobs created in the productive sector. That can hardly be a recipe for recovery.

Moreover, real danger lurks in the Obama administration's plan to use the recession as a cover for "transforming" the economy, particularly with respect to energy. "Transforming the economy," of course, is a euphemism for the discredited idea of central planning.

What Obama has in mind is not full-out central planning, but, given how pervasive energy is, government direction of that sector is not far from planning the entire economy. We should have learned from the Soviet experience that no one can plan an economy. The knowledge required to redesign something as complex as an economy is not available to anyone.

An economic system is not a machine but a dynamic process resulting from countless micro decisions made by billions of producers and consumers worldwide. Much of the knowledge they act on is never written down or even discovered until they improvise in the face of unexpected market alternatives. How could a planner hope to succeed?

Obama believes the government should engineer a move away from a carbon-based economy by creating incentives for "green" technologies. But he can't know that that would be a good cost-benefit move.

Even if the hypothesis of serious man-made global warming had no empirical or theoretical problems, Obama and his "experts" couldn't rationally determine which of the many alternatives or combinations of alternatives should be adopted. After all, the real questions are not the broad abstract ones such as, "Should we use non-carbon-based fuels?" Rather, they are the countless smaller questions such as, "Should we build a high-speed rail line?"

Even if we knew the answer was yes, that would tell us nothing about where the line should be located or how it should be built. Such decisions would involve many choices, but only markets can inform us about the tradeoffs in an intelligent way.

Further, do we know that a line should be built at all? Building it would take a huge amount of resources that could be used for any number of alternative purposes. There are no grounds for believing that Obama and a few "experts" can know whether the line is really the "best choice" among all the available options.

In contrast, the genius of the free market is that it answers such questions by drawing on the knowledge and preferences of the multitude, rather than by leaving them to a few myopic government operatives. The market also relies on consent, while government uses coercion. That's no small consideration.

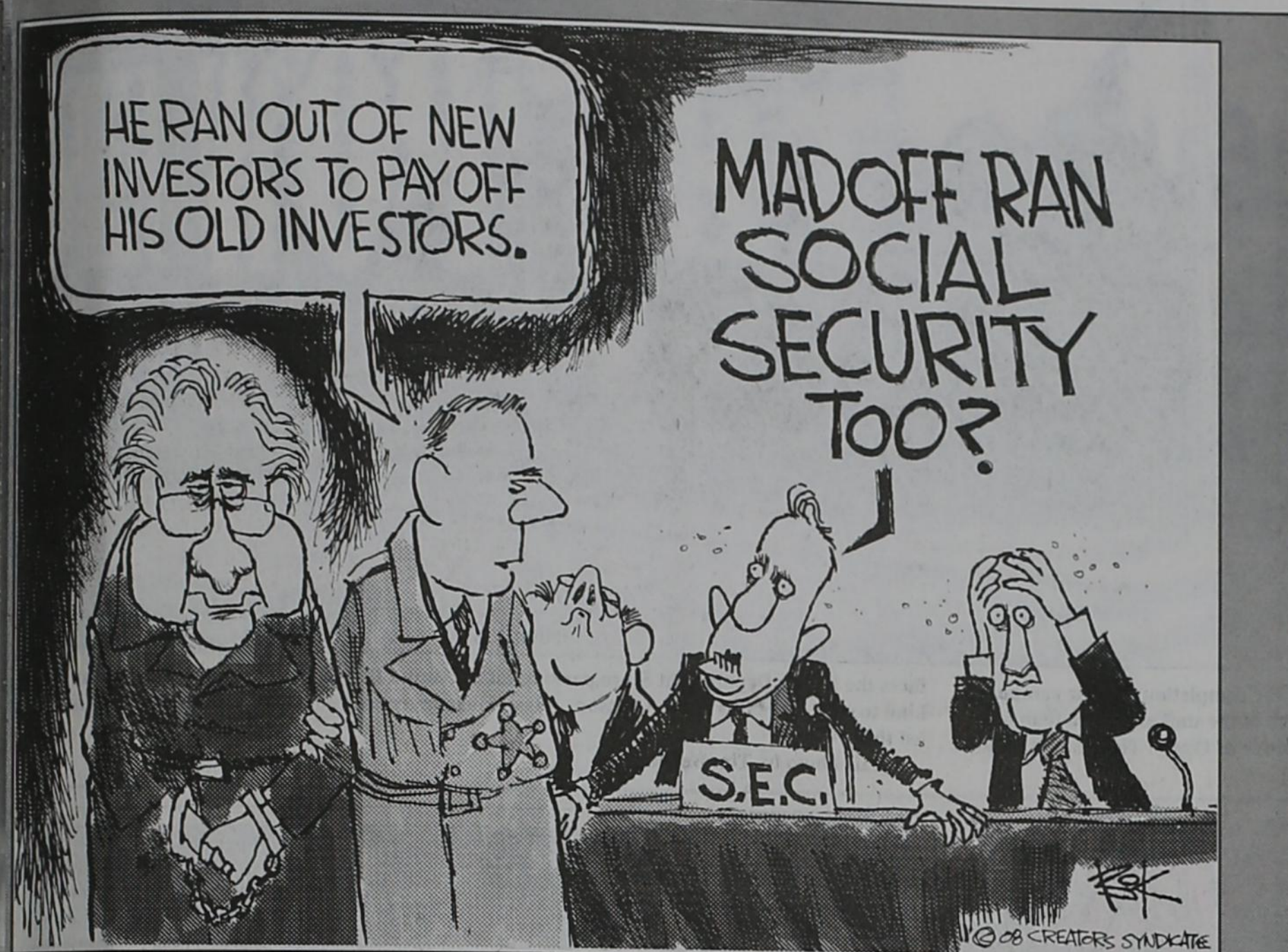
Does this mean that the new administration's stimulus plan should stick to mundane infrastructure repair? Actually, no. As noted, such spending would merely displace private investment. But further, such projects are not neutral; they also contain elements of central planning.

Should tax money fund projects to relieve traffic congestion in urban areas? Someone with a "green" agenda would say no, hoping traffic jams will encourage the use of buses and subways. All government spending has an agenda behind it, and there's no reason to think the politicians' agendas would make the best use of scarce resources.

Better to privatize the infrastructure and let the market's "wisdom of crowds" make the decisions.

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.

Opinions



Ignorance reigns supreme

Walter E. Williams

about a few civics questions? Name the three branches of government. If you answered the executive, legislative and judicial, you are informed that 50 percent of Americans. The Delaware-based Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI) recently released the results of a survey titled "Our Fading Heritage: Americans Fail a Basic Their History and Institutions." The survey questions were not science.

21 percent of survey respondents knew that the phrase "government of the people, by the people, for the people" comes from Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Almost 40 percent do not believe the Constitution gives the president the power to declare war. Only 27 percent know the Bill of Rights expressly prohibits the federal government from establishing an official religion for the United States. Remarkably, close to 50 percent of Americans believe that Congress shares its foreign policy powers with the United Nations.

Other questions asked, others included: "Who is the commander in chief of the U.S. military?" "Name two countries that were enemies during World War II." "Under our Constitution, some powers belong to the federal government. What is one power of the federal government?" Of the 2,508 nationwide samples of Americans who took ISI's civics literacy test, 71 percent failed; the average score was 49 percent.

Findings about cultural illiteracy and academic incompetence are new. A 1990 Gallup survey for the National Endowment of the Arts, given to a representative sample of 700 college seniors, found that 25 percent did not know that Columbus landed in the Americas before the year 1500; 42 percent could not place the Civil War in the correct half-century; and 31 percent thought that the atomic bomb was developed during World War II.

In a 1993, a Department of Education survey found that among college

graduates 50 percent of whites and more than 80 percent of blacks couldn't state in writing the argument made in a newspaper column; 56 percent could not calculate the right tip; 57 percent could not figure out how much change they should get back after putting down \$3.00 to pay for a 60-cent bowl of soup and a \$1.95 sandwich, and over 90 percent could not use a calculator to find the cost of carpeting a room. But not to worry. A 1999 survey taken by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni of seniors at the nation's top 55 liberal-arts colleges and universities found that 98 percent could identify rap artist Snoop Dogg and Beavis and Butt-Head, but only 34 percent knew George Washington was the general at the battle of Yorktown.

With limited thinking abilities and knowledge of our heritage, we Americans set ourselves up as easy prey for charlatans, hustlers and quacks. If we don't know the constitutional limits placed on Congress and the White House, politicians can do just about anything they wish to control our lives, from deciding what kind of light bulbs we can use to whether the government can take over our health care system or bailout failing businesses. We just think Congress can do anything upon which they can get a majority vote.

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute has one finding that I find both a bit perplexing but encouraging. Roughly 70 percent of Americans, even those who failed the test, agreed that our history, culture and institutions are important and should be taught to our college students. They might even agree with Thomas Jefferson who warned, "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be."

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Why Christmas matters to Americans

Bill O'Reilly

In 1800, President Grant signed a law making Christmas Day a federal holiday, a national day of celebration. Congress overwhelmingly voted to do that, and Grant understood that this was not a trivial matter. The nation remained deeply divided in the aftermath of the Civil War, and the federal government was looking for ways to reunite the country. Since Christmas was loved by almost everyone, the national holiday became a symbol of healing and unity.

Today America is divided again, this time over social behavior. Many Americans want to hold on to the beliefs and institutions they believe have made this country great; while secular-

progressives lobby for aggressive change — things like redefining marriage to include homosexuals and other redefinitions of tradition. Thus, deep divisions are growing in the United States, and somewhat shockingly, Christmas is right in the middle of it.

A few years ago some retail companies ordered their employees not to say the words "Merry Christmas" because they might offend people who do not celebrate the national holiday. That was insane. These companies were marketing the gift-giving season that accompanies Christmas, but refusing to utter the word. Please.

Once I and some other media people exposed this, millions of Americans decided not to spend money in the offending quarters and

the banishment of Christmas quickly ceased. I guess making money trumps offending people all day long.

This year there is another Christmas controversy, this one engineered by some atheists who want to display signs on public property where Christmas or Hanukkah symbols are present. So far, only Illinois, Wisconsin and Washington State have caved in to the atheists, but it is just a matter of time before the nonbelievers come to a State House near you.

The problem with the atheistic displays in Washington and Wisconsin is that the message is hateful, an attack on religion rather than a positive message. In Madison, then-Gov. Tommy Thompson allowed an anti-religion sign, but posted it far away from the Nativity scene and the menorah.

But in Olympia, Gov. Christine Gregoire, a secular-progressive politician, has allowed a sign in the Capitol rotunda that says religion enslaves people — among other not nice things — to be placed within a few feet of Jesus in the manger. And peace on earth to you, too, Governor.

Gregoire did not have to do that. The legal settlement in Washington clearly states that any holiday display must be appropriate and reflect the decorum of the state Capitol building.

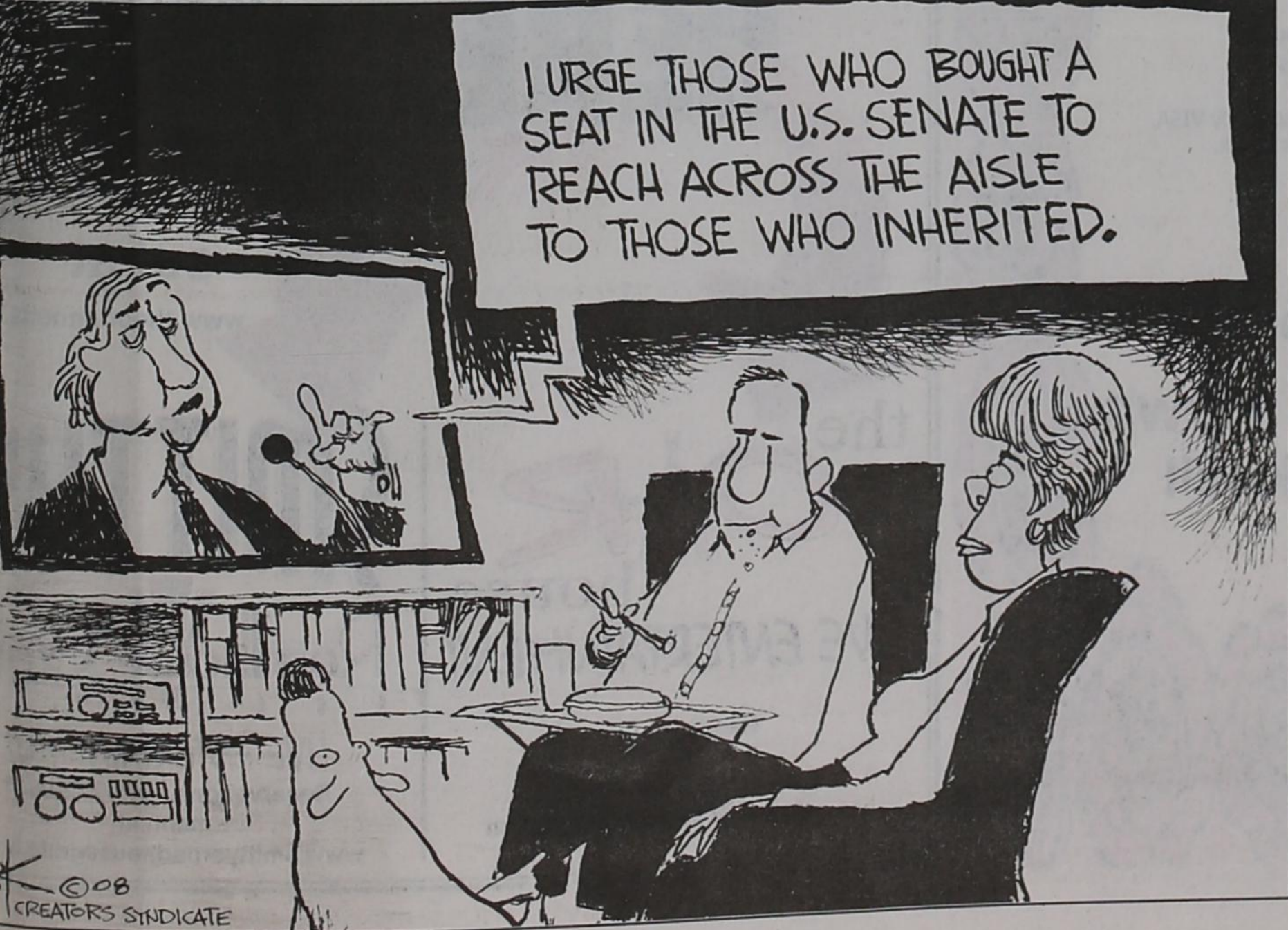
The atheist's anti-religion sign could have easily been rejected as being inappropriate. If the nonbelievers want a seasonal display, make it a positive thing. Put a picture of Charles Darwin and Bill Maher up there with the words: "These are our guys — happy winter solstice!" But no, the atheists have to attack the baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the wise men and whoever else dropped by the Bethlehem birthplace.

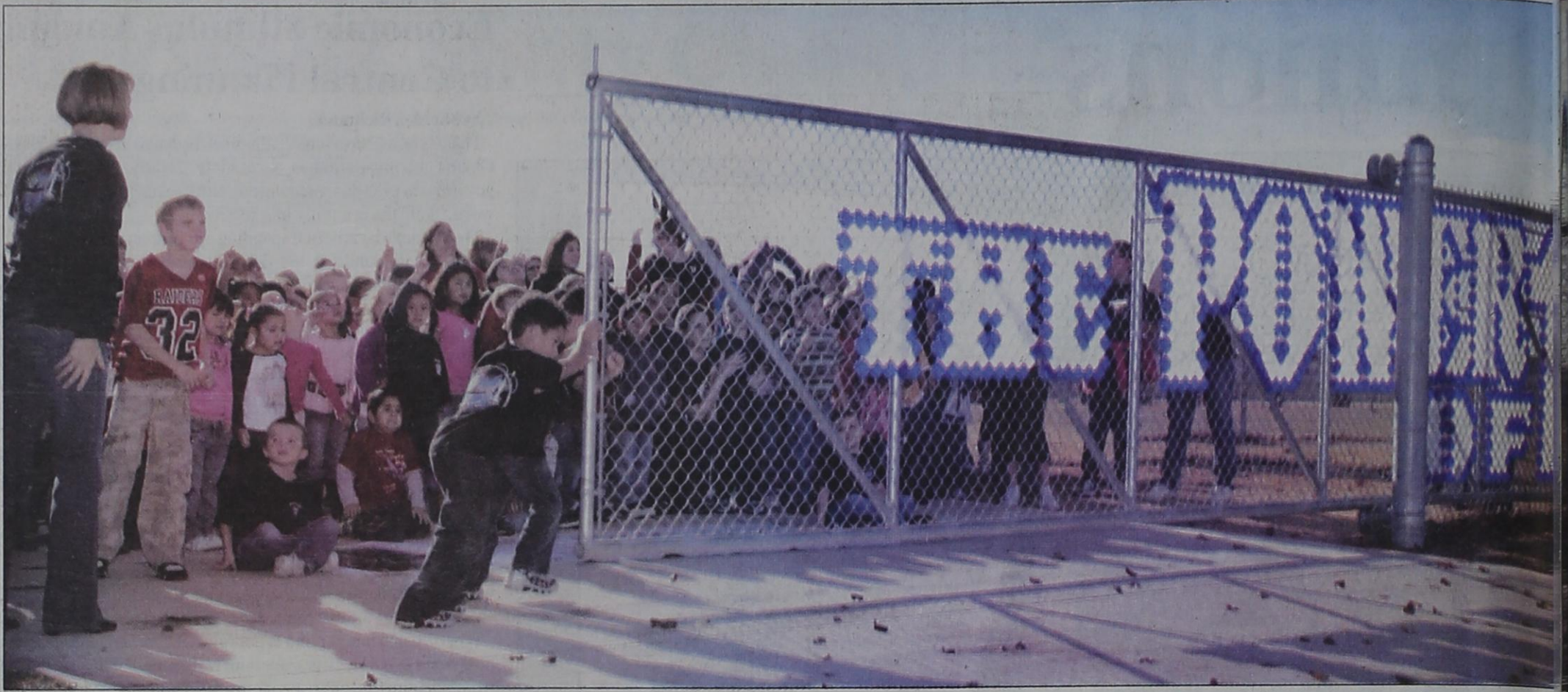
Atheists well understand that Christmas is the most visible display of religion in the world, and any diminishment of it is a good thing to militant secularists. But it is inconceivable that Grant, believing he finally had a slam-dunk issue with which to unite a fractured country, could have foreseen the social civil war we have today.

Sadly, we are no longer one nation under God. But those of us who truly understand the spirit of Christmas — the simple message of good will toward all mankind — know that Grant was on to something. Christmas should be a time of peace and understanding. It's sad that we now have to defend that.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com.

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The staff and students at Rochell Elementary School celebrated the completion of their campus-wide project for the Rachel's Challenge-Power of One campaign. Each of the staff and more than 650 students placed 1,200 cups in the Rochell fence, spelling out "The Power of One." Their handiwork

faces the Kohl's Department Store parking lot to remind the community, as well as the students; to be kind to each other this holiday season. Susan Hickam, resource teacher at Rochell Elementary School led the project.
Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

Grandma Brag Pages February 10, 2008



Children's names
Grandparents' Names

This size \$80

Here's your chance to show off your beautiful grandchildren for all the world to see!

Bring your favorite photo of your grandchild or grandchildren to the Rockwall County News no later than Friday, February 5 to be included in our Annual Valentine edition.

We also accept photographs by email, be sure to send high resolution images.

Please include names of children in the photograph and names of the grandparents you wish to include under the photo.

The February 10, 2009 Valentine Special Edition will be in full color, so pick out your most colorful grandchildren photographs.

There are four different sizes from which to choose, starting at \$20 for the 1 column by 2.5" and larger sizes for photos with more than two children.

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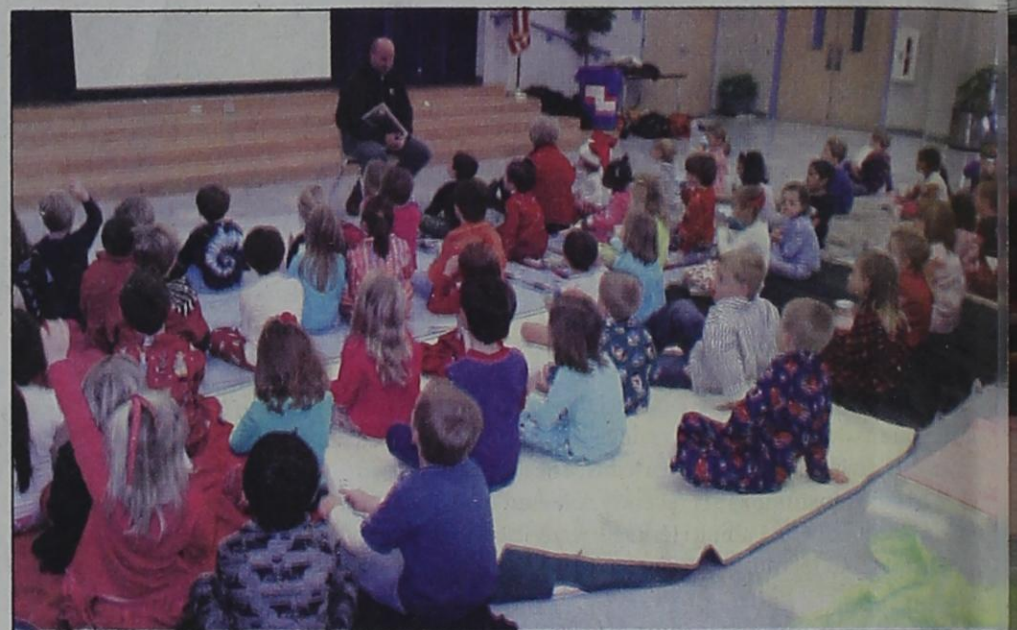


Child's name
Grandparents' Names

This size \$20, limit two children in one photo

Other sizes:
1 col. x 4" = \$40
2 col. x 2" = \$40

Payment accepted by VISA, MasterCard or check.



Rockwall Heath High School Principal Tom Maglisseau visited students at Pullen Elementary earlier this month, taking the youngsters for a "ride" on the Polar Express. Students, still dressed in their pajamas, each received a "ticket to board the train" to enjoy the adventure. Maglisseau read the students "The Polar Express" story as they sipped cups of hot chocolate. Pictured above is principal and a few of the students who participated in the holiday adventure.
Photo Courtesy Pullen Elementary School

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