

Rockwall County News Volume Number 25 • Issue Number 52 • USPS 002-495 • Thursday, December 29, 2011 • Single Copy Price 75 Cents • Copyright 2011 Rockwall County

erving County Readers in • Fate • Heath • McLendon-Chisholm • Rockwall • Rowlett • Royse City

ockwall family escapes Christmas day house fire

na Edwards

Rockwall Fire Department responded to a residential fire Christmas morning in the Chandler's Landing ment, finding the garage engulfed in flames.

r ire had consumed the two family cars when the first of two engines and a ladder truck arrived. ire, reported at about 8:15 a.m. Dec. 25, originated in the attached garage, said Battalion Chief Brett Merritt.

nily of four was home at the time, but escaped with no injuries.

t 25 firefighters worked to combat the flames and minimize damage to the house in the 300 block of Dia. They grabbed the Christmas presents from the living room and carried them outside to the family.

y got the fire stopped before it got into the main living quarters," said Merritt, "so there was just minor to the inside.... They did not lose any belongings."

uty Forney firefighter Dusty Polk, who was in the area when the first engine arrived, captured a close-up of the fire as it produced a huge column of smoke visible all around Rockwall County. Polk described the is a "bad way to start Christmas morning."

ne was injured as a result of the fire.

ause of the fire was still under investigation, Merritt said Monday.

kwall Fire Department did a great job," said Colby Griffin, whose sister lives with her family at the home he fire broke out Christmas morning. "They put out the fire and even helped us bring out Christmas presents tids could still have Christmas."

n expressed relief that the family was safe, but was particulary impressed with the effort firefighters took to nristmas for the children.

's the stuff you never read about," said Griffin, "Thank you, Rockwall Fire Department. Bless you all."

ockwall Council approves continued bllection of transit tax

it was tabled at the Dec. 5 regular meeting, the Rockwall City Council approved continued collection of of goods in transit. The action followed continued public hearings on a resolution to approve the Senate Bill requires council approval to continue to levy the tax, which is already in effect, and has been charged for aid Mary Smith, the city's director of finance.

ax is paid by the warehouse owners and applies to goods and transits stored in town, ultimately to be sold he state of Texas.

rding to the appraisal district, the City of Rockwall could collect \$56-221,000 per year by approving the ation of this tax, but the state requires the approval to be made by Dec. 31. As the action already postponed nal meeting in December, this meeting held the final opportunity for council to approve the resolution.

ot for the City of Fate, all the other taxing entities in Rockwall County have approved resolutions to continue

petitively, I feel that they are going to have the advantage on us," said Mayor Pro Tem Mark Russo, who voted the resolution. "Looking forward to the future, with our Rockwall Economic Development Corporation, I arm them in the best fashion possible."

cilwoman Michelle Smith disagreed, after clarifying that this was an existing tax. e stop this, we will have a budget shortfall... about \$56,000 per year, and the shortfall will impact citizens,"

notion passed, with dissenting votes from Russo and Councilman David White. at the last regular meeting on Dec. 5, council tabled consideration of updates to the comprehensive city plan, as Hwy. 66 development, tentatively until Jan. 30. After some discussion, council and staff agreed to firmly date for the two public meetings. Discussion regarding the comprehensive plan will begin at 4 p.m., followed

ic meetings related to Hwy. 66 development. C President Sheri Franza provided a report on the 2011 REDC Executive Summary, including the dishment of objectives surrounding global strategic planning and expanded partnerships, networking inities, a stronger business-friendly image, improved governmental relationships and expanding partnerships sinesses in Rockwall community.

ner matters, council approved the consent agenda in its entirety, except for an item involving a sanitary sewer ment project. This item was pulled at interim City Manager Rick Crowley's request, who said it requires udy before moving forward.



Dusty Polk, an off-duty firefighter from Forney, captured this image of the Christmas morning house fire that occurred in the 300 block of Columbia in Chandler's Landing. No one was injured in the fire, but two vehicles in the garage were lost. Little damage was done to the living area of the home, according to fire department officials, and firefighters were able to salvage the family's Christmas gifts, much to the delight of the family's children.

Photo courtesy of Dusty Polk/Rockwall County News



A Christmas morning fire in Chandler's Landing consumed two vehicles in the garage, but there was very little damage to the living area of the home, according to Rockwall Fire Department officials. The family was home, but escaped to safety.

> Photo Courtesy Mark Anderson

Fourth grade students at Doris Cullins Lake Pointe Elementary decorated gingerbread houses for the holidays. Pictured are the winners in the decorating competition. Holding their first-place houses are Gage Vasquez, Avery Hampton, Christian Luna, Courtney Murphy, Rachael Ivanosky and Luke Hannon. Also pictured are second- and third-place winners Caroline Moreno, Jase Barrier, Kaitlyn Hollifield, Andrew Rodriguez, Tanner Jones, Halle Riley, Ashton Daniel, Jordan Freeman, Brianna Sealy, Cooper Windahl, Annabelle Tessitore and Amerika Embers. Courtesy photol

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Descendent of Rockwall settler celebrates century mark

by Darcy Rocha

One hundred-year birthday celebrations are unique, but Irene Springer's special day on Jan. 6 has a littl' luster for ol' Rockwall County.



Rockwall native Irene Springer, seated, will celebrate her 100th birthday next week. A descendent of the original pioneer families of Rockwall County, she is pictured here with her daughter, Mary Ott of Rockwall.

Photo by Darcy Rocha/Rockwall County News

Springer, whose maiden reference Dinsmore, has not one direct ties to Rockwall's for families. Along with the I the Springers and the Dinare practically Rockwall is especially to those who approur town's history.

Springer's grandparents
Dinsmores, immigrated 1
Rockwall area from Kansas
1880s. There's even familiabout their covered wagon 1
through a Native American
in Oklahoma territory,
at the time was the frontiSpringer's mother was the
white child born in Greely (
Kansas.

Springer herself was b
Rockwall on Jan. 6, 1912. St
up on her family's farm i
attending the Fate girlst
When asked about her i
memories growing up in
days, Springer recalls, "Sv
in the swing with a rope ou
tree. I wasn't much for
dolls. I loved it when my
made taffy candy and pu
That wasn't very often I gue
at Christmas."

She shares that there much to do for entertainme in those days, but they didn any different. They were with good food to eat and t black land was a good pl farming cotton, corn, who oats, and raising a family.

Fate girls school did not grade 10, so Springer enro Rockwall High School wh finished the 11th grade -- at t

the last grade offered. While there, she met her future husband, Frank Springer of Rockwall.

"Fate only taught 10 grades and I went to Rockwall for my 11th grade and my husband was in the 11th recalls Springer.

When she was 18, the two drove to Oklahoma in icy conditions to wed on Jan. 11, surpassing Rockwall's period for marriage. The Springers were married for 63 years before Frank's death in 1993. They were bless two children, Mary Ott of Rockwall and David Springer of Iowa Park, Kansas, and were members of First Methodist Church of Rockwall.

The Springers established a family farm in the area that is near what is now the Rockwall industrial park, cattle and cotton. In addition to farming, she worked at the Byer-Rolkick hat factory in Garland and Frank S was named Rockwall's chief of police in 1960 and served for 15 years.

The location of Springer Road is a tribute to their farm and their legacy. Springer resided there until 15 ye when she moved closer in to downtown Rockwall, where she lived independently until recently.

When asked what the younger generations can learn from women of her generation who were wise and econhomemakers, Springer said, "Don't throw anything away." She canned her own vegetables and made her child clothes, home arts that have become scare over the decades.

Reflecting on the significance of her 100th birthday, Springer said kindly and with a twinkle in her eye I'm ready, but I'm ready to go."

With her daughter and other family members by her side, the Springers will celebrate the love that has

generations and a woman whose good heart is one of Rockwall's special treasures.



Maxine Harber

Maxine Harber with her son Les and his wife

Karylle Harber.

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The monthly meeting the Friday Study Club conducted in the home Jinksie Patton, with Call Duckworth and Marker serving as co-hoster The meeting included organization's annual exchange. Pictured from left are Duckworth, Parand Baker.

Courtesy photol
Rockwall County New

Bush turnpike o The eastern extension

The eastern extension
President George Bush T
opened last week.

According to a North
Tollway Authority news
the opening allows motor
drive the route that extend
the PGBT from northwest (
to I-30. Construction on th
million project began in
2008.

The project, which it partnerships with the Department of Transpo Dallas County and the ci Dallas, Garland, Rowlet Sachse, was completed projected timeline, according release.

The extension is expective congestion on local offering an alternative to me traveling in the eastern part

Metroplex.

Motorists should continue
minor construction activity the early part of the new yea



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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

The Love of God in His son Jesus Christ

The most important part of Jesus' life was not only his conception and birth, but his death and resurrection. What is it about the death of Jesus Christ that motivates people? Isn't it just another historical event? There are volumes of recorded persecutions and human sacrifice throughout the history of mankind. Yet none attract more attention and are as motivating as the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Why is this? First of all, Jesus Christ was the only man on earth to be the son of God. Secondly, Jesus did not stay in the grave, but was instead made alive again by God in heaven who is his Daddy. Moreover, Jesus is still alive with his Daddy in heaven.

This is what makes the death of Jesus Christ such a highly charged subject. People are either motivated to believe, or to not believe that God raised him

Why is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ so significant? It became

available for people to truly enjoy and give the love of God. People can now get dynamically desirable results in their lives. They can live the more than abundant life that Jesus prophesied of in John 10:10b. They can do the works that Jesus did and greater, because he is with his Father (John 10:25).

During his ministry in this world Jesus Christ shined this light, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13). Jesus Christ voluntarily allowed himself to be beaten and scourged beyond any form of recognition, and to be crucified with evildoers and robbers. He did so because as God's son, he loved with his Daddy's love. He did it out of love.

When a man loves a woman, he lovingly pays close attention to her, and will even give his life for her. Because of God's love, Jesus Christ truly gave his life for his bride Israel. The biggest marriage ever between our Lord Jesus and the 144,000 of the true Israel is still pending for a future time as recorded in Revelation 21:2. In the mean time it is still available during the administration of the grace of God, for anybody to become a saint and to even become a beloved child of God. Jesus also gave his life for us.

Christians can show God's true love by His holy spirit that is in them. They are not called to die for the lives of others. Jesus Christ already did it for them. All the members in the body of Christ can and must walk with God's tenderloving care toward each other. According to Ephesians 4:16, the body of Christ

strengthens and edifies itself in the love of God. What a great responsibility privilege for all Christians. We can show God's grace and mercy and love in lives. And our authority to do this is in the name of Jesus Christ when lives. And our authority to do this is in the name of Jesus Christ who is alive in heaven. This is the same man who freely gave his life out of love because his Daddy's love.

By the love of God through Jesus Christ, we have great liberty. Coloss was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." The capablic 2:14 says, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, wi nances refer to the Old Testament law. Galatians 5:1 says, "Stand fast there in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free ... "

By the love of God through Jesus Christ, we are freed from the bondage eternal death and the fear of death (see Hebrews 2:14). We have the hope of future resurrection and everlasting life.

People can believe with their hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead righteousness (see also Romans 10:9-10). The first record of this being fulfi is found in Acts 2:4 where it says they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and Harbour, that time, they were believing with their hand the Grant Harbour, admitted that time, they were believing with their hearts that God raised Jesus from dead. We know this because it says in chapter 1 that they were all witnesse his death and resurrection. They actually interacted with him after he was re rected. So, when the spirit was poured out on that day, they were the first to made righteous by being filled with the Holy Ghost.

After being filled with the Holy Ghost, they manifested the spirit by speak and her husband tongues. It's impossible to sense the spirit of Godd. in tongues. It's impossible to sense the spirit of God by our five senses. But (made it available to manifest holy spirit. 1Corinthians 12:7-9 lists nine way profit from the manifestation of holy spirit. It was apparently pretty importo God that they speak in tongues, or else he would not have given the vis of fiery cloven tongues as a green light to start. Of course from that time there was not record of God giving people visions to start speaking in tongs and service Instead, people were taught about it by others (the subject of speaking in tong is controversial even within the church today, but it's necessary to let the we long Dec. 26, speak for themselves).

The same thing is available even to this day. And it's all because of the lov. I Stricklin off God and the faithful service of His son Jesus who willfully gave his life with ADec. 22. hope that God would not forsake him. And God did not forsake him. God rai [101, 31, 195] him from the dead.

Just as God did not forsake Jesus, so also will He not forsake anyone else the name of Jesus Christ.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that who believes on him shall not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16). Now that is true love!

Nana Pat's Kitchen

by Pat Burnett

Best Ever Rum Cake

Only for those who can safely enjoy.

Ingredients: 1 teaspoon sugar

1 cup dried fruit 2 large eggs

Lemon Juice

1 or 2 quarts of rum brown sugar

1 cup of butter baking powder

Before starting, sample rum to check quality. Good

isn't it? Now proceed. Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check quality, pour one level cup of rum into a glass and drink it as fas

Repeat. With electric mixer, beat 1 cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 seaspoon of thugar and beat again.

Meanwhile, make sure rum is still alright. Try another cup, open second quary Motor V

if necessary. Add leggs, 2 cups fried druit and beat till high. If druit gets stuck in beaters, pry loose with drewscriber.

Sample rum again, checking for tonscistricity.

Next sift 3 cups pepper or salt (really doesn't matter). Sample rum. Sift ½ pint lemon juice. Fold in chopper butter and strained nuts. Add 1 bablespoon of brown sugar, or whatever color you can find. Wix mel. Grease oven, turn cake pan to 350 degrees.

Pour mess into boven and ake. Check run again bo to ged!

Guaratneed to cheer you up for the New Year!

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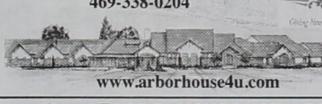


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Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6 KJV



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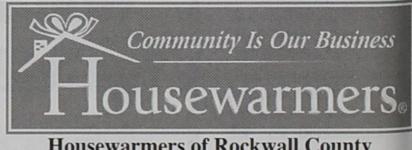
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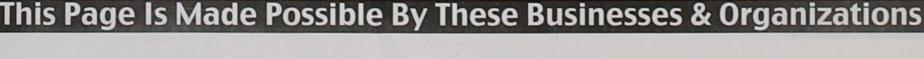
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public service to our community Virginia Ruth Morgan Ser es for Virginia Ruth Morgan, 79, of Fate were conducted at 3 p.m. Dec.

in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Burial followed in Haven Memorial Park. She ed Dec. 23.

Bol Aug. 13, 1932, in Mount Pleasant to Morris Shephard and Pauline Etta McC 1g) Harbour, she worked with geriatric patients as a medical aide. She a volunteer for the City of Fate and a member of the Lake Pointe

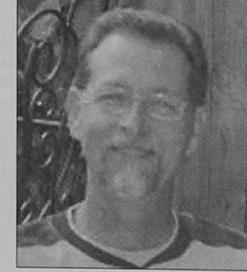
Sur vors include her daughter, Judy Thornhill, and her husband, James; her ns, try Bennett, James Morgan and Carl Morgan and his wife, Diane; her rand ildren, Ben Bennett, Ruth McGauhy and her husband, Darrell, Misty nd her husband, Shane, David, Dan and Jared Bennett, and Nicholas and lorgan; and her great-grandchildren, Nathan, Brooklyn, Brinley, Cash

she as preceded in death by her parents; her husband, George Morgan; her Bob Bennett; and her brother, Billy Morris Harbour.

David John Worm

A morial service for David John try to les Worr 59, of Rockwall was conductat on Dec. 26, 2011, in the Rest Cause of Have Juneral Home-Rockwall Chapel we his is with Stricklin officiating. ke him 6 He ed Dec. 22. Bo Jan. 31, 1952, in Milwaukee,

ake any wisc to Ernest David and JoAnne We: Thomas Worm, his family son, the pove to Dallas where he graduated ohn 3:16 om nomas Jefferson High School. en ried Shirl Kay Lewis in August 992 d the couple blended their famvot ree sons. He worked in sales for ore an 35 years in the food distribu-



on i ustry, finishing his career at Ben E. Keith. He never met a stranger and making friends with colleagues and customers. He served as a mentor young sales people.

A year resident of Rockwall, he had a passion for cars and Harleys. His mar we" garage was a haven for his brother, his friends and himself. Sur vors include his wife, Shirl Worm; his sons, Jon David Worm, Stephen (wald) and his wife, Kirsti, and Micah Worm; his brother, John Thomas Worm

sah Spafford; his grandchildren, Kain and Jayci; and a nephew, Jonathan He as preceded in death by his daughter, Jana Diane Worm, and his parents.

The amily has suggested memorial donations may be made to the Marketplace ini es for Ministry Expansion, 2001 W. Plano Parkway, Suite 3200, Plano,

Rockwall Police Blotter

Dec. 19-26

Bu lary Motor Vehicle, 2000 block Glencoe Dr., 7 p.m.

Bu ary Motor Vehicle, 300 block E I-30, 7 p.m. pen sea Bu ary Motor Vehicle, 300 block E I-30, 7:14 p.m.

Possion of Drug Paraphernalia, 1900 block S. Goliad St., 2:14 a.m. Possion of Marijuana, 100 block E I-30, 2:07 p.m.

Th., 2000 block S. Goliad St., 6 p.m.

Th., 1800 block E I-30, 7 p.m.

But ary Motor Vehicle, 3100 block Coolwood Lane, 8 p.m.

Por ssion of Controlled Substance, 1900 block E I-30, 2:41 a.m. Th: , 900 block E I-30, 10:29 a.m.

Th., 700 block E I-30, 2:50 p.m.

Urwful Use of Motor Vehicle, 300 block N. Goliad St., 9:21 p.m.

Training Th., 1000 block S. Goliad, 11:15 p.m.

Want Service (by Rowlett PD), 3200 block Market Center, 4 p.m. De 24-Dec. 26

Rearts unavailable as of press time.

m

Locals make Dean's List at SOSU

Fc local students were among honorees named to the Dean's List for the D. Mall mester at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Okla.,

1-215 looking to a university news release. An Christine Anderson and Jonathan Edward Bertrand of Rockwall, Andrew Johnson of Rowlett and Callie Christine Martin of Royse City each was ito the Dean's List.

atiol At indergraduate earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher with no grade ona bwethan a C is eligible for the Dean's List.

Sauter earns OCU degree Clistian Sauter of Heath received a bachelor's degree in family studies/

hild evelopment during the Dec. 16 commencement exercises conducted at you oklama Christian University, according to a university news release. for H man Meinders, founder of American Floral Services Inc., was keynote

Ti ceremonies were conducted in the Payne Athletic Center in Oklahoma lity)kla.

Fee pet adoptions offered at R'wall shelter

Ti(City of Rockwall's animal shelter is offering a holiday special: Adopt any et it's been in the shelter for two months or more, use the Red Collar Sale ou on the rockwallpets.com website and walk away with a free pet.

The animals have been fully vetted, altered and vaccinated and the adopting will receive a free training DVD, a coupon book from Petco and an Iams wel me Home Kit, according to a City of Rockwall news release.

We me Home Kit, according to a City of Rockwall news release.

Are the coupon is applied toward the adoption free, Rockwall Pets will pay the mance – but only on animals that have been in the shelter for two months

the animal shelter to see the cats and dogs available for adoption. The freinds Christmas Eve. E more details or to download the Red Collar Sale coupon, visit rockwall-

Crl Scout cookie sales begin Jan. 6

Girl Scouts' annual cookie program will begin Jan. 6 and run through the

Scout cookie booths will be available at select neighborhood stores begin-

year the Girl Scouts have added a new sweet treat to celebrate the organi-'s 100th anniversary - the Savannah Smiles Girl Scout cookie. Savannah are lemony treats that are reminiscent of the birthplace of the Girl Scouts:

er cookie flavors include the ever-popular Thin Mints, Tagalongs, Samoas, -Dos, Trefoils, Dulce de Leche and Thank U Berry Munch.

at to find the Girl Scout cookie booth nearest you? There's an app for Download the Cookie Locator app for iPhone or Android by dialing COOKIES from your phone. Search for sales in your neighborhood. more details, visit texascookietime.com.

Inddy/Daughter Dance tix available

cets to the upcoming Daddy/Daughter Dance, sponsored by the City of vall's Parks & Rec Department, are now available. The date of the event has been changed - it will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 28. Registration e limited, so those interested in participating are encouraged to register Tickets per father/daughter couple cost \$45 for Rockwall residents and or non-residents; cost for each additional child is \$10.

ust Say You Saw It In "The County News" RockwallTexasOnline.com

News Briefs

Tree recycling slated in Rockwall

The City of Rockwall will offer a Christmas tree recycling drop-off location at 1600 Airport Road, next to the city's service center. To take advantage of this service, local residents are asked to remove all ornaments, lights and bases from trees being dropped off.

PiYo classes set at The Center

PiYo, which combines yoga and Pilates and is designed to increase flexibility and strengthen the body while teaching mental focus and relaxation, will be taught from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mondays at The Center. Individuals ages 18 and up can participate. Class dates include Jan. 2-30; Feb. 6-27; March 5-26; and April 2-30. Cost is \$45 per person or \$29 for Rockwall residents. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

Zumba classes slated

The Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness party known as Zumba will be offered in classes running from 6:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. and from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at The Center. Class dates include Jan. 3-26; Feb. 2-28; March 1-27; and April 3-26. Individuals ages 13 and older are eligible to participate. Cost is \$45 or \$29 for Rockwall residents; drop-in fee is \$8 or \$5 for Rockwall residents. To register or for more details, visit rockwall. com/parks.

Republican Lunch Bunch to meet

The Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 4 at Luigi's Italian Café in Rockwall. Cost will be \$10, which will include lunch, beverage, tax and tip; pay at the door. No reservations required for this informal social gathering which is open to all area Republicans. For more details call Dalton Kennimer at 972-636-4034.

HATS Birthday Bash set Jan. 4

The Heath Area Terrific Seniors will observe their annual Birthday Bash at 1 p.m. Jan. 4 at the FUMC Heath, 140 Smirl Drive. All Heath-area senior citizens are invited to come out and celebrate with cake, ice cream and games. Participants will sit at the table of their birth month.

Intro to Round Dancing class set

An introductory class in round dancing, a form of social ballroom dancing in which steps are choreographed precisely to the music, will be offered from 7:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 5 through April 12, at The Center. Participants ages 55 and older will dance the same types of steps and rhythms as the waltz, fox trot, cha-cha and rumba. For more details about this Rockwall Parks & Recsponsored class, call 972-771-7740.

Defensive driving classes for seniors offered

AARP 55 Alive Defensive Driving will be offered at The Center from noon to 4 p.m. on Jan. 6, Feb. 17 and April 27. Participants can learn more about driving defensively and may be eligible to receive an insurance discount upon completion of the course. Fees vary. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

Youth oil painting class set

An oil painting class for youths ages 5-13 will be offered from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Jan. 11 at the Harry Myers Community Center through the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department. Cost is \$15 for Rockwall residents, \$25 for non-residents, plus a \$12 supply fee (which covers paints, palette, canvases, brushes, painting medium and a detailed lesson plan). Additional classes are set for Feb. 13, March 5 and April 9. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

Chamber event slated Jan. 12

The annual Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet/Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 12 at the Allure Restaurant in Chandler's Landing. For more details, contact the chamber of commerce.

Ping Pong tourney set at The Center

A ping-pong tournament for individuals ages 55 and older will be offered at 10 a.m. Jan. 20, Feb. 10 and March 23 at The Center. All levels of play are encouraged, and prizes will be awarded to first place and runner-up winners. Fee to participate is \$5 or \$3 for Rockwall residents. For more details visit rockwall.

Wine and dine for Rockwall PAWS

Rockwall PAWS will conduct its annual fundraiser Jan. 21 at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City. Tickets cost \$40 per person. The organization helps make affordable spays/neuters available and provides financial assistance when needed, as well as funds the treatment of heartworm-positive shelter dogs and assists with medical expenses for ill or injured animals. For more details on the fundraiser call Cathy at 214-532-4407 or visit rockwallpaws.org.

Cheer 101 classes scheduled

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will host a series of classes, Cheer 101, on Mondays Jan. 23-Feb. 27 at The Center. Open to youngsters ages 4-6, each class will begin at 6:15 p.m. and will teach cheers, chants and jumps while improving self confidence, listening skills and teamwork. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Cheer Level 2 class offered

A cheerleading class for youths ages 7-10 will be offered from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. on Mondays Jan. 23-Feb. 27 at The Center. The class will include instruction in cheers, chants and jumps, as well as work on self-confidence, coordination, strength and teamwork. Cost is \$49 for Rockwall residents and \$75 for non-residents. For more details on this Rockwall Parks & Rec-sponsored event visit rockwall.com/parks.

Bridge tournament scheduled

A bridge tournament for individuals ages 55 and older will begin at 10 a.m. Feb. 17 at The Center. The tournament will feature Chicago-style scoring. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Participants must have a partner to play. Prizes will be awarded to the first place and runner-up winners. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

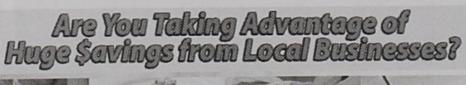
Rock through Spring Break

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will once again offer its Rock through Spring Break event for local youths ages 6-12. Explorers will venture to several nature-based destinations such as a state park, zoo, aquarium and more. Space is limited. Participants will be asked to bring a sack lunch, snack and water each day. Activities will run from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. March 12-16 at the Harry Myers Community Center. Cost is \$113 or \$75 for Rockwall residents. Visit rockwall.com/parks for more details.

Easter Egg Hunt set March 31 in Rockwall

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department's 10th annual Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. March 31 at the Leon Tuttle Athletic Complex. Field 1 will be for children up to the age of 2; Field 2 for children ages 5-6; Field 3 for children ages 3-4; and Field 4 for children ages 7-12. The event will be free to the public and will feature prize eggs, a bounce house, games and other activities.

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Rockwall County News • Thursday, December 29, 2011 Page 5

cards held up by redistricting plan

As current voter registration cards expire Dec. 31, elections officials want citizens to be aware some major changes in the process that have delayed the distribution of new cards.

"We have not forgotten to send out voter registration cards," said elections administrator Glenda Denton, "but our hands are tied until February."

New voter cards may be issued Feb. 13, if redistricting is completed across Texas, according to the timeline communicated to local elections offices by the Secretary of State last week.

Primary election dates have been changed from March 6 to April 3, pursuant to a U.S. District Court order issued Dec. 16 and confirmed by the Secretary of State's office. The order, said Denton, follows many months of ongoing debate and litigation over redistricting across the state, which has delayed processes, creating some voter concerns.

According to the order, the new timeline also dictates that any potential runoff elections that would have been held May 22 shall be moved to June 5.

Information on upcoming elections, including a copy of the new redistricting map, can be found on the election administrator's web page at rockwallcounty-

Rockwall Area Chamber awards banquet set Jan. 12

The 6th Annual Rockwall Area Chamber Awards & Appreciation Banquet will take place Jan. 12 at the Allure Restaurant in Chandler's Landing.

The event will be open to all members and guests.

A 5:30 p.m. networking reception will precede the dinner, which is set for

Corporate Business Partner of the Year nominees include Alliance Bank, American National Bank, Atmos Energy, Hilton Bella Harbor, Lake Pointe Medical Center, Oncor Electric, Farmers Electric and Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall.

Small Business Partner of the Year nominees include Sail with Scott, Ebby Halliday, Lifetime Insurance, My Computer Guy and The Flower Box.

Also to be awarded will be the Spirit of Rockwall Award, the Board of Directors/Director of the Year Award and a special Lifetime Achievement Award. Outgoing board members also will be recognized, as will incoming board members.

Tickets cost \$40 per person and may be purchased at the chamber of commerce office. Seating will be limited.

Changes made to Ridge Road work plan

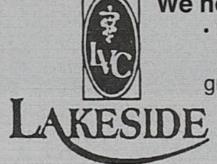
Recent rainfall has prompted Texas Department of Transportation officials to reschedule the switch to the new FM 740 (Ridge Road) roadway that was scheduled for last week.

The switch now is scheduled to take place the second week in January, according to a news release issued by the City of Rockwall.

For more details, contact Kerry Lively, TxDOT project manager, at 972-762-3617 or Chuck Todd, Rockwall city engineer, at 972-771-7746.

Texas Crossword Puzzle (Page 9)

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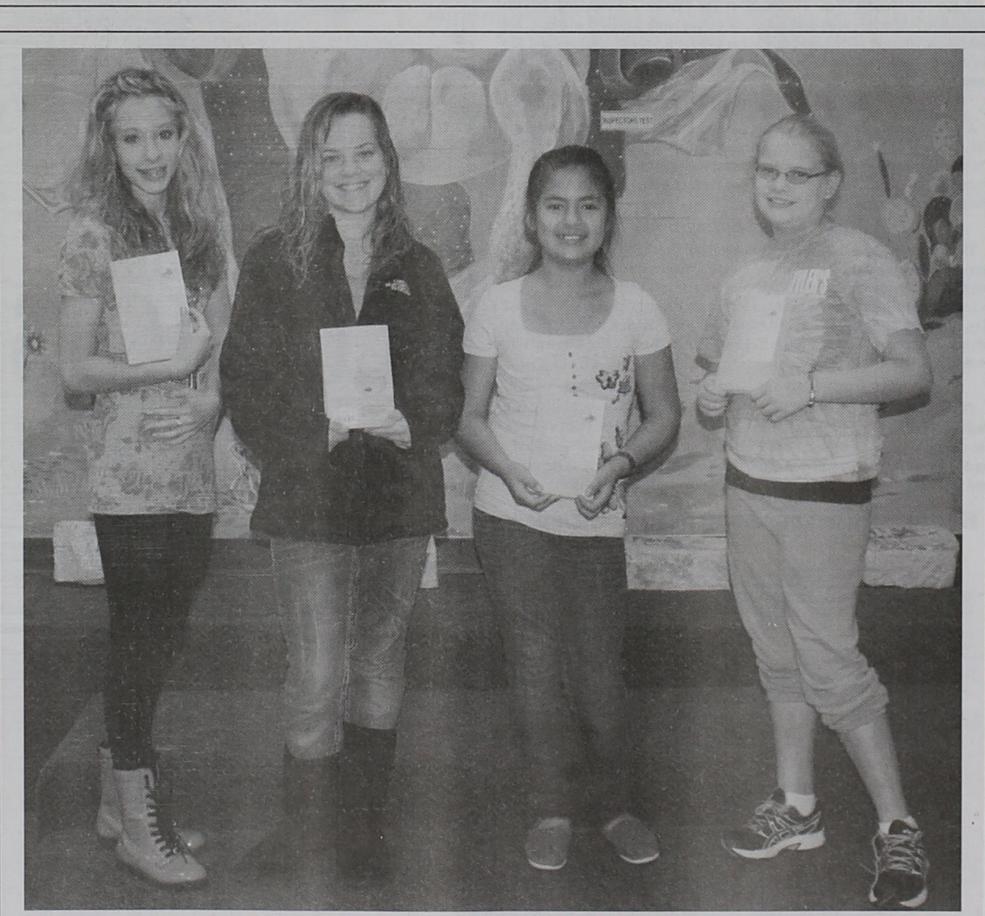
VISA



The group of fifth grade students pictured above recently participated in the Out of My Mind Book Club at Doris Cullins Lake Pointe Elementary. Pictured at front are Crystal Gonzales, Morgan Fine, Isabella Pina and Natalya Schwalbach. At back are Chelsey Silva, Liah Collins, Ariana Garcia, Natalie Sanchez and Kaelyn Lawson. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Members of the Dobbs Elementary KC (Kindness and Compassion) Club recently filled boxes with snacks and games to send to a Marine serving in Afghanistan. Pictured are, back left, Jessica Suazo and Mylasia Mims. At front is Chris Laudermilk. Each is a fifth grade student at Dobbs.



This group of sixth grade students from Doris Cullins Lake Pointe Elementary enjoyed participating in the Out of My Mind Book Club during the month of December. Shown from the left are Tatum Graham, Cassidy Williams, Tahlequah Lezama and Rebekah Allen. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Habitat announce The changes to board eat of directors of directors

Five new directors have joined the all-volunteer board for the Rocky. Area Habitat for Humanity, according to a news release issued last week John Cote will serve as the board's new construction director while Conn Jackson will take over as family selection director. Janice Revels as agre-

to serve as the board secretary, while Rhonda Smith and Nancy Barnet w City of Heath I tag-team as the organization's treasurer. Other recent additions to the board included Dan Demeyer, architecture

Calleigh Mentzer-Tootle, designer; Jeremy Webb and Eric Burne fundraising co-directors; and Terry Campbell, family nurturer. Outgoing board members included Greg Caffarel, who served

construction director; Jim Burzinski, family selection director, Sc 100 said she is e Christensen, treasurer; Bob Shaw, architectural director; and Mary Ali Caffarel, secretary.

"We are grateful for their years of service, without which we would rehave been able to achieve what we have achieved," said RAHFH preside at my fellow co-Wendy Buford. "Please join us in expressing many thanks to them." The organization will begin work on a new house in early January.

Volunteer always are needed for work done on Saturdays, as well as servi on the board. For more information visit rockwallhabitat.org or call 972-77



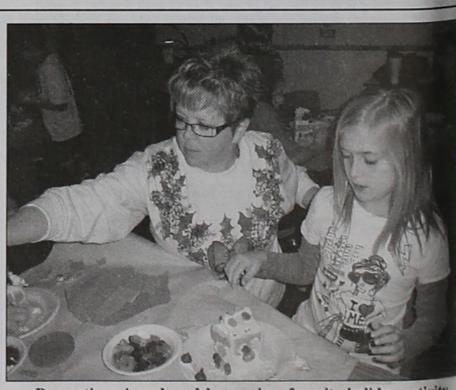
Board members of the Rockwall County Historical Foundation enjoyed decorating a table for the Friends of the Library Christmas luncheon. Pictured from the left are Susan Reinhardt Mills, Carolyn Duckworth, Carolyn Florence, Connie Rogge, Linda Cardwell, Carolyn Francisco and Jan Self. The group's theme was vintage baseball. Items used in the décor included a native cedar tree decorated with a catcher's mask from the 1920s, small replica bats, a paper chain, historic Rockwall photos, Cracker Jacks and packages of peanuts.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Aspasians delivered food for 33 families' Thanksgiving meals to the Rainbow Room, marking the 12th year the group has provided such assistance. With the help of friends and families, the group's members included a \$20 gift card with each bag of food, enabling the recipient family to purchase a turkey. Pictured from the left are Susan Laszynski of the Rainbow Room and Aspasians members Andrea Henderson, Allison Deen, Jayme Reynolds, Heather Baker and Jenni Knox. The Rainbow Room is a nonprofit organization that relies on the community to provide items to sustain or improve the quality of life for abused or neglected children and adults served by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Decorating gingerbread houses is a favorite holiday activity in Beverly Dobbs' third grade class at Dobbs Elementary. Rylie Gatson, right, is shown putting the finishing touches on her house as Dobbs assists.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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recognized for the 2011 Publi n shows initia works director is resolved, w good service

Operator C li works in the Department of Poindexter, V of the DPS L Guard Reserve vee of the Year

sional skills as sti handles a ations for ball or of finance." rkers with com

Heath city of the year. Abo partment of 1 drew Poinder

Photo courte

The City of ctured from the aten, Public

ly Employee Photo court

The Roman ently earned Metroplex dges Award regional to llas. Picture

ckaby, Matt arcy Brunk, irent. Not pic Courtesy pi

This Week in Heath

annual awards

Plexico named as top employee

Th City of Heath recently honored its top employees for 2011 including ard Tara exico, who was named Employee of the Year.

brings both experience and a can-do attitude to the job, and that meat we can count her," said City Manager Ed Thatcher. "Although she is an acco tant, Tara is cross-trained to help us cover positions in the Municipal Cour und customer service, and we really appreciate that flexibility." Ple co said she is equally grateful for her colleagues and the camaraderie

In truly blessed to work with the others who are here," she said. "It meal a lot to me to receive this award, but none of it would be possible with t my fellow co-workers and their support."

Al recognized for going beyond the boundaries of his job was Jason State the 2011 Public Works Department Employee of the Year.

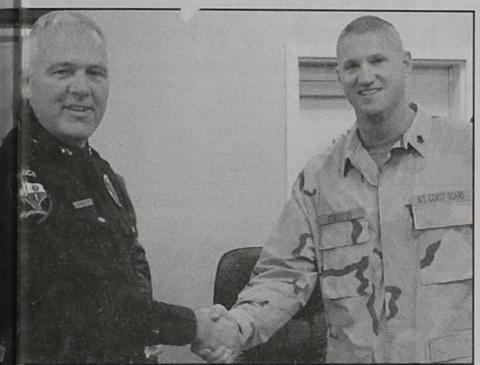
"Jon shows initiative and commitment every day," said Randel Dobbs, publ works director and city engineer. "He always stays with a utilities issue intil is resolved, which often means a lot of evening and weekend hours per are good service to our residents. He also invested the time this year to earn is Operator C license, which helps our department tremendously."

Stan works in the utilities division and joined the city in 2009. The Department of Public Safety's 2011 Employee of the Year was Officer And w Poindexter, who has been with the DPS since 2008.

"Allrew is a consistently proficient officer who is always willing to go the cra mile to complete a task or assignment," said Chief Terry Garrett, direct of the DPS Department. "His background and experience with the Guard Reserve is a big advantage and mirrors the job he does here in

K i Smith was honored as the 2011 Finance/Administration Department Emryee of the Year. She joined the city in 2010 and quickly demonstrated profisional skills as a customer service representative.

sti handles a wide range of duties from utility billing to booking resentions for ball fields and the community room, said Laurie Mays, directr of finance. "What stands out is how she always treats the public and oun co-wikers with compassion, patience and professionalism."



Heath city officials recently gathered to name its top employees the year. Above, Chief Terry Garrett is shown congratulating the partment of Public Safety's 2011 Employee of the Year, Officer drew Poindexter.

Photo courtesy of City of Heath/Rockwall County News

Heath City Council knocks Heath distributes out big votes before holidays

by Darcy Rocha

On Dec. 22 all members were present except for mayor pro-tem Lorne Leichty as the Heath City Council considered several important decisions.

First up was a public forum to receive input regarding possible amendments to the land use assumptions and capital improvements plan pertaining to the adoption of water, sanitary sewer and roadway impact fees. There was no public input, but council was given a presentation from the city's engineering department and those involved with the studies.

The studies "Update of the Ten Year Water and Wastewater System for City of Heath Lady Use Assumptions, Capital Improvements Plan, Water and Sanitary Sewer Impact Fees" and "City of Heath Roadway Impact Fee Assessments 2011 to 2020" were made available for public review at City Hall. Mayor John Ratcliffe noted that no one had signed in to review them.

The city is required to make periodic updates of the land use assumptions and capital improvements plan at least every five years. The planning and zoning commission serves as the advisory committee for this issue, and they recommended that the council accept the studies.

Under this new plan, total impact fees for a single-family residential lot with a 5/8-inch water meter would be lowered from \$8,500 to \$5,373.66. Impact fees would be applied to residential and commercial development. City engineer Randall Dobbs said that this can be attributed to several factors since the plan was last updated on 2006, including the city's new comprehensive plan, the larger service area and old city debt that has been refinanced at lower interest rates.

After discussion, the council voted all in favor to pass the resolutions to approve the update of the 10-year water and wastewater system for land use assumptions and capital improvements plan; the roadway thoroughfare impact fee assessment 2011-2020; and the amended impact fees for water and wastewater service and amended impact fee for roadway development.

The council moved on to a public hearing to receive input on a requested amendment to the ordinance that established the Fairway Oaks planned development district. Todd Wintters of Engineering Concepts & Design LP spoke on behalf of TR Heath Partners, Ltd.

The developer would like to change the name to Heath Crossing, renumber the phases, revise accessory building height requirements and revise the concept plan to reduce the number of lots from 318 to 301 and be more consistent with the 2008 FEMA map revision.

Council was pleased to see the lowering of density, but expressed concerns over possible changes to the developer agreement that may impact the developer's timeline for the building out of White Road. Wintters assured that they are committed to their agreement to the portion of construction of White Road, even though the renumbering of the phases may change the timeline of construction of the road.

"I'm comfortable with moving forward allowing you to keep moving with the understanding that I'm not agreeing today to changes in the development agreement I have not seen obviously. I'm all for getting the project moving and getting lots in the ground," said council member Barry Brooks.

Dobbs said it is standard for development agreements to be made after the fact. The ordinance passed with only council member Bob Hille voting no, citing, "I'd rather make a decision with all the cards on the table."

Back for discussion and approval was the franchise agreement with Progressive Waste Solutions, formerly IESI, for collection, hauling and disposal of waste. Council members Rich Krause and Julie Zurek had met with city staff and representatives of Progressive Waste Solutions to reach an agreement on terms of a new and continued contract.

The revisions include the option for a larger recycling cart for a \$1 per household per month charge; direct contracting for the sale of recyclable materials; additional brush collection from 3 cubic yards one time per month to twice per month at no additional cost; and removal of the sliding scale fuel charge. The new contract brings an increased cost of 50 cents per household, which can mostly be attributed to the rising cost of diesel.

"We can absorb this 50 cents without passing on to the customers so citizens won't see an increase," said city manager Ed Thatcher, explaining that the current administration fee can cover the cost. The council voted all in favor to accept the franchise agreement and new contract.

Also unveiled was the 2011 city of Heath highlights video featuring the mayor and council speaking to the accomplishments of the city over the course of the past year. The video was launched live on the city's website the following morning.

Rockwall County Sports Notes

RIPPED classes scheduled

A high-energy class designed to help participants lose holiday pounds and keep that New Year's resolution will be offered for individuals ages 18 and older from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays Jan. 4-25 at The Center. RIPPED will help participants improve muscle tone, increase cardiovascular endurance and strengthen the overall body. The class will be open to seasoned athletes or beginners. No dumbbells or resistance bands will be provided: participants are encouraged to bring dumbbells (5-8 pounds recommended) to participate. For more details about this Rockwall Parks & Rec-sponsored class call 972-771-7740.

RBA spring registration slated

Spring registration for the Rockwall Baseball Association will run through Feb. 1. The spring baseball season begins the week of March 5. To register, visit rockwallbaseballassociation.com or call 972-772-6324 for more

Adult softball registration set

The TAAF/USSSA slow-pitch adult softball league will feature divisions formed by level of ability. Divisions will include co-ed recreational on Mondays and men's D on Wednesdays. The season will include eight games, plus the top four teams will have a final night of playoffs to determine division winners. This season also will feature a pick-up team category for individual registrations. Games will be played at the Leon Tuttle Athletic Complex. Registration deadline is Feb. 21; play begins the week of Feb. 27. Team fee is \$349; individual pick-up team fee is \$35 per person. For more details visit rockwall/com/parks.

RGSA registration under way

Spring registration for the Rockwall Girls Softball Association is now under way and will run through Feb. 26. The spring season will run March 26-May 31. To register, visit rockwallgirlssoftball.com or call 972-841-2939 for more details.

Angel League season set

The spring 2012 Angel League season will begin March 21, with games set for 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday for nine weeks. Registration and additional information can be found at angelleague.org or by calling 972-722-6001.

Little Kickers Soccer scheduled

Little Kickers soccer for children ages 3.5 to 6 years of age will run from 6:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays April 16-May 21 at the Harry Myers Park Ball Fields. Participants will learn soccer skills in a fun interactive team environment. Registration fee is \$45 or \$29 for Rockwall residents. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

Little Sluggers T-ball season set

The Little Sluggers T-ball season will run from 6:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays April 17-May 22 at the Harry Myers Park Ball Fields. Participants ages 3.5 to 6 years of age will be split into team where they will learn the fundamental skills of throwing, fielding, hitting and base running. Registration is \$45 or \$29 for Rockwall residents. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

Little Dribblers season planned

Youngsters ages 3.5 to 6 can learn to dribble, pass and shoot through the Little Dribblers upcoming season. Activities and games will take place from 6:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursdays April 19-May 24 at The Park at Hickory Ridge. Cost is \$45 or \$29 for Rockwall residents. For more details visit rockwall.com/parks.

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- Increased body fat and BMI
- Reduced muscle bulk and strength Low bone mineral density
- Anemia

Symptoms of low testosterone are:

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- Diminished libido Erectile dysfunction
- Depressed mood

VISA

Sleep disturbances

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THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATOO R

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS-A G

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS-B G

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS-C G

JACK AND JILL-A PG

TIN TIN 2D PG

TIN TIN 3D PG

NEW YEAR'S EVE-A PG13

SHERLOCK HOLMES-C PG13

SHERLOCK HOLMES-B PG13

Mission Impossible Ghost Protocol-A PG13

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HAPPY FEET-2D-A PG

The City of Heath recently named its top employees for 2011. tured from the left are Heath Councilmember Robert Hille; Jason ten, Public Works Employee of the Year; Tara Plexico, Overall y Employee of the Year; Kristi Smith, Finance/Administration partment Employee of the Year; and Councilmember Barry ooks.

Photo courtesy of City of Heath/Rockwall County News



The Roman Robotics Team from Amy Parks Heath Elementary ently earned a second-place finish out of 31 teams from throughout Metroplex in a robotics competition. The team also received the dges Award for excellence and was one of 10 teams qualifying for regional tournament set for Jan. 21 at the Hockaday School in llas. Pictured at front, from the left, ware Wyaatt Watson, Colton ckaby, Matt Selle, Dylan Brunk and Bijan Nichols. At back are rcy Brunk, parent; Brian Selle, coach; and Anthony Lockaby, rent. Not pictured are Blake Bennett and Hayden Davenport. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

HE SITTER-A R 11:15 2:00 4:45 HERLOCK HOLMES-A PG13 Online tickets at STARPLEXCINEMAS.COM

Rockwall County Sports

Three Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawks take top district honors

Rockwall-Heath took three of the seven top awards on this season's District 10-4A All-District volleyball team.

For the runners-up to district champion Richardson Pearce, senior Aubree Baune was named Outstanding Setter, sophomore Regina Tillis Outstanding Attacker and head coach Maggie Younger Coach of the Year.

The Lady Hawks recorded the best season in RHHS history, with a 45-6 overall record that took them to the Region II-4A final. There they lost for the third time in the season to Pearce.

Two Rockwall-Heath sophomores joined Baune and Tillis on the All-District first team: defensive specialist Paige Parent and setter/right side

Claire Carpenter.

Senior defensive specialist Kelsie Murphy was voted to the second tean Receiving Honorable Mention were senior Morgan Cook and junior Moll day, Jan. 3-Gir. Nelson.

McKinney North runs past RHHS in 2nd half

An upset seemed in the making when Rockwall-Heath raced to a 15-point halftime lead, 37-22, at McKinney North Tuesday, Dec. 20. Even when the home team outscored the Hawks 26-13 in the third quarter, RHHS still had a two-point lead at 50-48. Surely, the Bulldogs

couldn't put together another quarter that good, could they? They could, and did, outscoring Rockwall-Heath 22-10 in the final 8 minutes for a 70-60 victory.

The loss dropped RHHS' record to 6-8 overall and 0-1 in District 10-4A. By winning its district opener, North improved to 10-8 and 0-1. Jared Webber led the Hawks with 16 points, and had plenty of help from

Cameron Martin with 13 and Matt Greene with 12. RHHS was scheduled for another tough opponent Wednesday in the

FiberMax Caprock Classic. In the first round of the 16-team tournament, the Hawks were paired with Lubbock Trinity Christian (18-0).

60 RHHS 12 22 26 McKinney N RHHS (6-8, 0-1) – Jared Webber 16, Cameron Martin 13, Matt Greene

12, Luke Ramirez 7, Tyler McKay 6, Jordan Points 5, Orion Keith 1 McKinney North (9-5, 1-0) - Julion Pearre 19, Alexander Ridley 13, Alex Pelton 11, Jola Otubu 9, Collin Curran 7, Bryson Brown 6, Taber MacFadden 4, Brandon Bloedel 1.

North pulls away to defeat Lady Hawks

Rockwall-Heath hosted one of District 10-4A's first-place teams Tuesday, Dec. 20, but wasn't very hospitable for three quarters.

The Lady Hawks stayed with McKinney North until the fourth quarter. RHHS moved within five points, 45-40, entering the final 8 minutes. The Lady Bulldogs finally pulled away to win 68-55.

That left North with a 10-8 overall record and all alone in first place at 3-0. Rockwall-Heath dropped to 5-11 and 0-3, tied for seventh place. However, the Lady Hawks have played tough against three district opponents with a combined record of 6-3.

Jordan Mitchell led RHHS' scoring with 15 points. April Brown continued to provide offense with 12 points.

2nd Total 12 23 68 McKinney N 16 13 14 McKinney North (10-8, 3-0) – Mikaehla Connor 18, Chanterria Jackson

14, Alexis Mason 10, Danielle Coleman 7, Mawi Berkhadley 6, Dea Orana 5, Maddy Loeb 3, Viona Vraniqi 3, Amy Kleynhans 2.

RHHS (5-11, 0-3) - Jordan Mitchell 15, April Brown 12, Kenzie Mammeli 8, Katie Webster 8, Alexis Fisher 6, Jillian Granstaff 4, Deandra Maxwell 2.

RCA's Widmer named 1st-team All-District

Senior middle blocker Jessica Widmer was Rockwall Christian Academy's only TAPPS District 4-2A first-team All-District volleyball RISE, 6 p.m. selection this season.

Other Lady Warriors voted to All-District honors included senior setter Kaitlin Shaw, junior outside hitter Ashlee Poland and junior setter Allison Steffen on the second team. Freshman right-side hitter Madison Miller received Honorable Mention.

Rockwall Christian Warriors squeak by HSAA

If you saw the Rockwall Christian Academy boys' basketball home game against Dallas Home School Athletic Association South, you probably couldn't tell which team was 2-10 and which was coming off a three-game tournament sweep.

The teams were within two points after the first quarter, and two points - but with a different leader - at halftime of the game Tuesday, Dec. 20. RCA stretched the lead to seven points (38-31) after three quarters, but back came the Blue Angels with a 17-13 fourth-quarter advantage that fell just short in a 51-48 loss.

For the record, it was HSAA falling to a 2-11 record, and the Warriors winning their fifth in a row to improve to 7-4.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
HSAA South	17	9	5	17	48
RCA	15	13	10	13	51
			the section of		

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. Letters must be signed and include telephone number or address for verification.

Email rcn.news@yahoo.com

Mail to P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, Texas 75087

Beware of the U.N.'s Earth Summit

In 1992 it was the UN's Rio Earth Summit; then in 1997 Al Gore traveled to Kyoto, Japan to sign the Global Warming Treaty. (This Kyoto Climate Change Accord was nothing more than a wealth redistribution scheme by the UN to diminish American wealth and industrial might.)

Members of the United Nations held a meeting in San Francisco In the fal and shifts available of 2005 with invited guests of the Sierra Club, U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein old calling, no and Hollywood elites including Robert Redford and Martin Sheen At thi meeting our nation's mayors were targeted to sign onto binding agreement with ironclad deadlines for full enforcement of Agenda 21 and Sustainable Miscellaneou

"Agenda 21 's policy is called Sustainable Development - a ruling principle for top-down government control of every aspect of our lives from food, to health care, to community development, and beyond." Literally every aspec of our lives would be dictated by non-elected, faceless, bureaucrats operating out of commissions and review boards.

Now very recently the Obama Administration has issued Executive Order #13575 to control our nation's rural areas. This Executive Order is designed to 1837. create a massive bureaucracy overseen by 25 Washington Cabinet Secretaries who will be joined by a hoard of non-governmental organizations (NGOs and others with special interests who stand to gain power and wealth. This insidious plan excludes the participation of farmers and property owners.

Speaker of the House, John Boehner, should be advised of this dangerous Executive Order.

Jacqueline Frank Srickland, Rockwall

the "pursuit of happiness").

Opinions A Bill of Guarantees

Total

by Richard Schwartzman

The best document ever written to preserve the liberty of a free people isn't a complete document at all, but just a part of one. It's the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

Those ten paragraphs capture the essence of what it means to govern a government. Are they perfect? No, but how much in life is?

While the body of the Constitution is simply a framework or schematic diagram of the body of government, the Bill of Rights was an attempt to put chains on that government instead of letting the government put chains on the people (as is usually the case).

The Bill of Rights does not grant any right to any person. It guarantees the rights that belong to all of mankind. The source of those rights may be presumed to be God or our nature as human beings. In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson cited the "Creator" as the source of those rights. And he referred to them as "inalienable" rights, meaning that they can't be separated or taken from us. They are ours regardless of what a government decrees, because they existed before there were governments.

Among its five provisions, for instance, the First Amendment guarantees the right to free speech. Recall that it says, "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech." It doesn't grant a right to free speech.

Yet, disregard for the provisions of these amendments is diminishing the liberties of us all.

As mentioned in a previous column, the House Judiciary Committee recently passed a bill making it illegal to even talk about using marijuana in places like Amsterdam, where there is no criminal penalty for the use of pot in coffeehouses.

The wars on terror and some drugs have virtually gutted the provisions of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments.

Asset-forfeiture laws take property from people without them ever being found guilty of a crime. Cities and towns, as we saw in the U.S. Supreme Court case of Kelo v. New London, can now take private property via eminent domain and give it to other private entities, notwithstanding the Fifth Amendment's "public use" limitation.

The war on terror has only escalated the assaults on our guaranteed rights Warrantless searches are on the rise, and now Congress has passed a law that would allow the military to pick up U.S. citizens on American streets strictly on suspicion, without charging them with any crime, and then lock them up in places like Guantanamo for an indefinite period of time.

Again, this law violates all the levels of due process guaranteed in the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments.

And despite the fact that one of the most unambiguous, easily read clauses of the Bill of Rights is "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," several states and municipalities make it almost impossible to possess a firearm. At least the Supreme Court has ruled this to be an individual right that supersedes state and local laws.

Our rights are not finite - not limited by their enumeration. The Ninth Amendment tells us that explicitly, and the Tenth tells us that powers not delegated to the federal government are retained by the states or by the

While the government, through members of Congress and even presidents, violates these guarantees, it can't get away with those violations unless the people allow it to happen. People allow the violations by electing officials who are more eager to accrue power than to ensure a condition of liberty.

The people are bought by a politician's promise of security from criminals or foreign invaders, or a promise of some welfare benefit. In short, they're bought by the welfare-warfare state.

As scary as that all is, we still have our rights. The government may seek to punish us for talking about doing things that are currently illegal, but it can't stop us from talking about changing those laws or changing any law that violates our guaranteed liberty.

The Constitution and the Bill of Rights don't grant our liberty, but they do guarantee it. It can readily be said that the only difference between the United States and the rest of the world was our adherence to the Bill of Rights. We must reclaim it.

Richard Schwartzman is managing editor at Chadds Ford Live in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. (Reprinted by permission from www.fff.org)



As we look forward to another glorious year, sure to be filled with wonderfu blessings from God, I share with you my prayer for our community, state and

That our people will accept God's grace, mercy and love withou THE TE reservation or hesitation.

That we will, as individual believers, accept God's gifts and use them

glorify Him in our daily lives. I pray that we accept God's commandments as the foundation of ou law of the land, and reject the laws of man which are in conflict with His DUNTY TI

Commandments to his people. That we insist elected and appointed government officials embrace the American principle, so simple and so profound, defined in the American Declaration of Independence: government is created to secure the rights of individuals: our lives, our liberty and our property ownership (also known as

That we stop stealing from one another, and demand our legislative bodies (city, county, state and congress) abolish all statutes, codes and ordinances establishing rules, regulations and taxes, which violate God's commandment "Thou Shalt Not Steal").

That we reclaim that revolutionary spirit our ancestors bequeathed to us "Americans are free to go and do and say whatever they wish, as long as the exercise of that liberty brings no harm or damage to anyone else." Following he City of Ro God's commandments was important to the founders of this nation, as I pray it will be to all of us in 2012. With that prayer, I rely on God to inspire us to show the world that 2012 at

Christians shine a bright light of God's mercy, grace and love by living our pckwall, Tex lives in accordance with His word

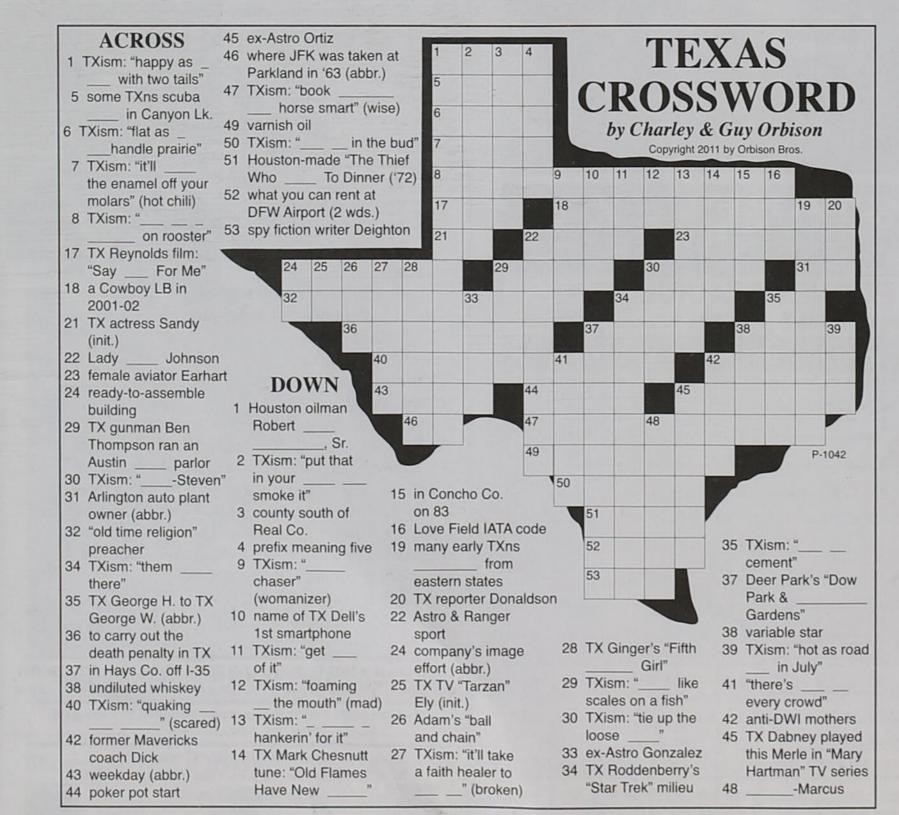
What does the U.S. Supreme Court say about the definition of income?

"Throughout the argument of the Government, in a variety of forms, runs the fundamental error already mentioned - a failure to appraise correctly the force of the term "income" as used in the Sixteenth Amendment, or at least to give practical effect to it." EISNER v. MACOMBER (252 U.S. 189, March 8, 1920).

"The Act of 1916 taxes gains derived from capital invested in corporate stocks, that is, shares of corporate gains or profits. It does not tax dividends per se but merely uses them to indicate the form in which such gains shall be taxed and to mark the time when the tax shall be collected. And, in the case of stock dividends, it uses the stock issued to measure the amount of the gains."

EISNER v. MACOMBER (252 U.S. 189, March 8, 1920).* Government is created to SECURE the rights of individuals ... any government which fails to uphold our constitutional rights does not

deserve our support



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Rockwall County Sports Schedules

The Fulton School Falcons

Frily, Dec. 30 - Varsity boys' basketball: at Fort Worth Lake Country Chris in Holiday Classic

Turlay, Jan. 3 - Varsity boys' basketball: vs. Brownwood Victory Life Acad ny at Waco Parkview, 5 p.m.

Fri y, Jan. 6 - Varsity boys' basketball: home vs. Granbury Happy Hill Farm cademy, Forney Sports Center, 7:30 p.m.

Heritage Christian Academy Eagles

Tui lay, Jan. 3 - Girls' basketball: home vs. Dallas Thunder, RISE, middle cho 5 p.m. and varsity 6 p.m.

Bo' basketball: at McKinney Christian Academy, middle school 4:30 m. V 6 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Th sday, Jan. 5 - Varsity boys' basketball: at Dallas Tyler Street Christian Acad ny Tournament

Varity girls' basketball: at Dallas Tyler Street Christian Academy

Fri y, Jan. 6 - Middle school girls' basketball: home vs. DeSoto Canti pury Episcopal School, RISE, 5 p.m.

Mi le school boys' basketball: home vs. DeSoto Canterbury Episcopal scho, RISE, 6 p.m.

Varty boys' basketball: at Dallas Tyler Street Christian Academy

Vailty girls' basketball: at Dallas Tyler Street Christian Academy

Sarday, Jan. 7 - Varsity boys' basketball: at Dallas Tyler Street Christian acad ny Tournament

Varity girls' basketball: at Dallas Tyler Street Christian Academy our ment

Rockwall Christian Academy Warriors

Fri y, Dec. 30 -- Boys' basketball: at Fort Worth Lake Country Christian Holicy Classic

Fri y, Jan. 6 - Basketball: home vs Dallas Home School Athletic sse ation, JV boys 4:30 p.m., girls 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Rockwall High School Yellowjackets

Friny, Dec. 30 - Wrestling: at Wylie East Roundup, 9 a.m. Va ty girls' basketball: at Bryan-College Station McDonald's Invitational

Mcday, Jan. 2 - Boys' soccer: home scrimmage vs. Everman, Rockwall

igh chool, JV 4:30 p.m. and varsity 6 p.m. Almni boys' soccer: Odd vs. Even scrimmage, Rockwall High School,

Tu day, Jan. 3 - Girls' basketball: home vs. Rockwall-Heath, Rockwall

High chool, JV White 4:30 p.m., JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m. JV rls' soccer: home scrimmage vs. Flower Mound Marcus, 5 p.m.

Froman girls' basketball: home vs. Rockwall-Heath, Utley Middle scho, A 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.

Froman boys' basketball: at Rockwall-Heath, Cain Middle School, A

5:30 p.m. and B 7 p.m.

Center, 3 p.m.

Boys' basketball: at Rockwall-Heath, Rockwall-Heath High School, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 6 - Varsity wrestling: at Grapevine Duals, 3 p.m. Freshman A girls' basketball: home vs. Wylie East, Utley Middle School,

Freshman boys' basketball: at Wylie East, A 5:30 p.m. and B 7 p.m. Boys' soccer: scrimmage at Denton, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m. Freshman B girls' basketball: home vs. Leonard, Utley Middle School, 7

Girls' basketball: home vs. Wylie East, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m. Boys' basketball: at Wylie East, JV Orange 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7 - Varsity wrestling: at Grapevine Duals, 9 a.m. Varsity girls' soccer: home scrimmage vs. Waxahachie and Longview Pine

Rockwall-Heath High School Hawks

Friday, Dec. 30 - Varsity boys' basketball: at FiberMax Caprock Classic, Lubbock

Saturday, Dec. 31 - Varsity wrestling: at Dual State Qualifier, Allen High School, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 3 – Girls' basketball: at Rockwall, Rockwall High School, JV Black 4:30 p.m., JV Red 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Freshman boys' basketball: home vs. Rockwall, Cain Middle School, A 5:30 p.m. and B 7 p.m.

Freshman girls' basketball: at Rockwall, Utley Middle School, Red 5:30 p.m. and Black 7 p.m.

Boys' basketball: home vs. Rockwall, Rockwall-Heath High School, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6 - Varsity wrestling: at Cy-Fair ISD Invitational, Barry

Freshman boys' basketball: home vs. Wylie, Cain Middle School, A 5:30 p.m. and B 7 p.m.

Girls' soccer: home scrimmage vs. Garland Naaman Forest, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7:15 p.m.

Boys' basketball: home vs. Wylie, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m. Girls' basketball: at Wylie, JV Red and Freshman Red 6 p.m. and varsity

Saturday, Jan. 7 - Varsity wrestling: at Cy-Fair ISD Invitational, Barry Center, 9 a.m.

Royse City Bulldogs

Friday, Dec. 30 - Varsity girls' basketball: at Kaufman Holiday Tournament

Monday, Jan. 2 - Boys' basketball: at Frisco Lone Star, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 3 - Girls' basketball: at Prosper, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Girls' soccer: home scrimmage vs. North Garland, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity

Friday, Jan. 6 - Girls' basketball: home vs. Denison, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Boys' basketball: at Denison, freshman 5 p.m., JV 6:15 p.m. and varsity

Boys' soccer: scrimmage at Princeton, JV 5 p.m. and varsity 6:30 p.m. Varsity girls' soccer: home scrimmage vs. Rowlett, 6 p.m.

Cecil, Broussard make All-District 1st team

Two Rockwall volleyball players, senior libero Allie Cecil and junior outside hitter Ashlynn Broussard, were voted to the All-District 10-4A first

They helped the Lady Jackets to fourth place and a playoff berth from the highly competitive district. RHS finished the season 23-21 overall after losing a Bi-District playoff match to Frisco Centennial, which had two All-State players.

Rockwall right side Jacqueline Ullman and setter Becca Floyd were selected to the All-District second team. Lady Jackets receiving Honorable Mention were senior Melanie Pugsley and junior Lindsey Wheeler.

6-man All-Stars enjoy game despite the loss

Three Rockwall County high school athletes played in the TAPPS 6-Man All-Star Game Dec. 10 in Temple.

Though they all were on the losing side in the South All-Stars' 64-28 victory over the North, The Fulton School head coach Josh Johnson said Tanner Treadway and Terrence Kennell from his team and Heritage Christian Academy's Quincy Terrell benefitted.

"They enjoyed the experience," Johnson said. "They saw some of the kids they played against during the season and in the flag league, and developed relationships with them. It was a win-win for them."

According to Johnson, Treadway caught four passes for 62 yards, and made three tackles while playing cornerback. Kennell had five carries for 30 yards and one reception for 20 yards, but his coach was disappointed that the TAPPS 6-Man II second-team All-State selection on defense played only on offense for the North.

HCA's Terrell played both ways. He also had the most bench-press repetitions of any athlete during the pre-game combine, lifting 325 pounds eight times. Kennell was second with seven reps, Johnson said.

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Rockwall County's Newspaper of Record

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT SNOW MATER VENTURES INC DBA ROYSE CITY ONVENIENCE HAS FILED A WRITTEN APLICATION DATED THE 9TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2011 TO BE ISSUED A WINE AND BER RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT, 100 IH 30 WEST, ROYSE CITY, ROCKWALL OUNTY, TEXAS. DIRECTOR, PRESIDENT AND S CRETARY OF THE CORPORATION IS SAILESH MSAL. IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 61.38 THE "TEXAS ACOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE", SID APPLICATION WILL BE HEARD BEFORE HIE HONORABLE DAVID MAGNESS, COUNTY MMISSIONER PRECINCT 4 OF ROCKWALL **DUNTY TEXAS, LOCATED AT 102 EAST RUSK** SIREET, 3RD FLOOR, IN ROCKWALL, TEXAS N THE 19TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2012 AT 9:00 CCLOCK A.M. WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OFFICE THIS 20TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011. HELLI MILLER, COUNTY CLERK, ROCKWALL DUNTY TEXAS.

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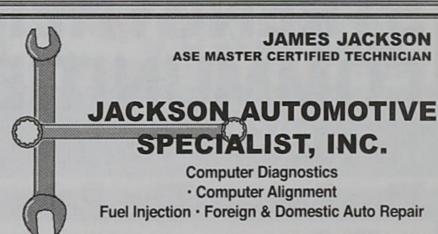
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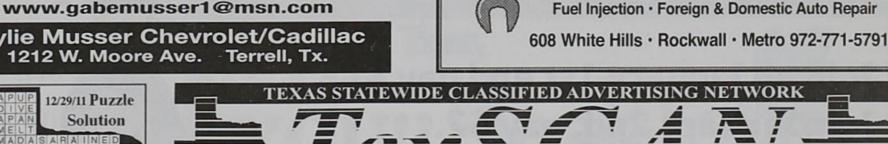
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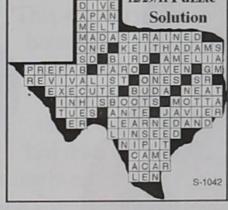


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- Public Notice -

e City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, nuary 10, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, ckwall, Texas, and the Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, ckwall, Texas, to consider the following items:

Z2011-026: Proposed Specific Use Permit (SUP) - 1210 Crestcove Drive

Hold a public hearing and consider a request by Frank Conselman for approval of a Specific Use Permit (SUP) allowing for a landing/stairs exceeding the maximum requirements within the Lake Ray Hubbard Takeline Overlay (TL OV) District, in the take area adjacent to their property at 1210 Crestcove Drive, being Lot 26, Block B, Hillcrest Shores Phase 3 Addition, and take any action necessary.

Z2011-025: Proposed Amendment to Planned Development #1 Hold a public hearing and consider a request from Mushtak Khatri of T Rockwall Commons,

LLC for approval of an amendment to (PD-1) Planned Development No. 1 district, specifically for a PD Concept / Development plan for "Rockwall Commons Phase II," being a proposed retail and residential mixed-use development on a 2.88-acre tract currently described as Tract 6-2, Abstract 255, B. J. T. Lewis Survey, located along the east side of Ridge Road immediately north of Rockwall Commons Addition, and take any action necessary.

Il interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of ockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions. dditional information can be found on all current Zoning cases on the City's ebsite: http://www.rockwall.com/Planning/ZoningChanges.asp

Rockwall County Sports

Lady Jackets give to their coach, take win from McKinney 1045

by Lary Bump

The Rockwall girls' basketball team trailed 9-4 after one quarter at

McKinney Tuesday, Dec. 20.

Could it be that RHS would lose two district games in a row, after losing just twice in 70 district contests over the previous five years?

Not if the Lady Jackets and head coach Jill McDill had anything to say

The coach went to one of the captains, senior Kayla Smith.

McDill said, "I told Kayla, 'You have to step up and be a leader.' They were giving a lot of attention to Alyssa (Lang), so I wanted Kayla to step up and make plays."

Smith wasn't the only Lady Jacket to step up. Rockwall dominated the second quarter to gain a 17-16 halftime lead, and the third. RHS took a 10-point advantage (32-22) into the final 8 minutes when junior Ellen Baker hit a 3-point shot at the third-quarter buzzer.

Lang, held to two points over the first three quarters, scored the Lady Jackets' first four points in the fourth to give them their biggest lead at 36-

After the Lionettes crept back within six points at 38-32 with 50 seconds

remaining, Smith calmly put in two free throws in a one-and-one situation. Freshman Sara Williamson added two more for a 42-32 victory.

McDill said, "We played the second quarter with energy, and the third we really played well. It wasn't just that we got our defense going and they didn't score. We got turnovers and capitalized on them. We were more aggressive getting to the basket. After the first quarter, we got on to them pretty good.

"Kayla hit those shots. Morghen (Day) had a lot to do with the win. Alyssa is always tough. Paige (Turner) plays good defense and runs the floor so

And by the way, Baker led the team in scoring with 10 points.

Altogether it was an early Christmas present for the team to its coach, as well as a gift for her birthday that night.

"To end up with a win here and be 2-1 (in District 10-4A) is good. So is having 15 wins before Christmas," McDill said.

At 15-4 overall, RHS remained a game behind first-place McKinney North (3-0 in the district). Among the teams tied with Rockwall for second place is Wylie. The Lady Pirates had used a game plan similar to McKinney's – slow down the pace, collapse on Lang inside - for a 37-33 overtime victory over RHS Dec. 16.

The Lady Jackets were scheduled to open play in the Bryan-Collect Station McDonald's Invitational Tournament Wednesday against Comme

RHS, seeded first in the tournament, previously played Conroe in the Regio II-4A semifinals on the way to Rockwall's 2006-07 5A state championship At McKinney, the varsity's victory had completed a sweep. The Freshma it great emotion A team defeated the Lionettes 28-20 behind Rachel Farrow's 11 points. The print letter of st

Lady Jackets' junior varsity won 44-20, with Cassie Ross scoring 13.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
RHS	4	13	15	10	42
McKinney	9	7	6	10	32

Turner 7, Alyssa Lang 6, Sara Williamson 3.

McKinney (13-7, 1-2) - Mariah Mitchell 14, Breana Smalls 8, Jazsmi hat an honor it l Nelson 6, Jessica Porter 2, Leslie Zupanic 2.

Yellowjackets' first half lead broken with McKinney 63-46 win

If there's no place like home, Rockwall may be happy that its boys' basketball games this week are in Plano.

The Yellowjackets, who had been riding high with an 11-1 overall record entering a three-game home stand, saw their opponents complete a sweep of those three games Tuesday, Dec. 20.

Just like the season to date, that loss followed a pretty good opening that had RHS ahead of McKinney 26-22 at halftime. The second half became a nightmare, with the Lions outscoring Rockwall 41-20 for a 63-46 victory.

That 17-point margin was the biggest in any loss for the Jackets this season. Their first three losses had been by a combined 24 points.

Furthermore, McKinney (9-6 overall) won the teams' opening District 10-4A game. RHS went into its Christmas break 11-4 overall and 0-1 in the district.

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Leading the Jackets' scoring against the Lions were freshmen Austin Grandstaff (17 points) and Elijah Thomas (13).

Rockwall was unable to stop McKinney's A.J. Moutry, who scored a gamehigh 28 points. The Jackets' defense had as much trouble with Jonathan Shannon (19 points) as RHS' football team did in the fall.

The Jackets were scheduled to begin play Wednesday in Plano's Avery Air Invitational against Garland (4-10).

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Fina	al
McKinn	ey 16	6	18	23	63	
Box scor	re 10	16	11	9	46	
MaVinn	ov. (0.6.1.0)	A T Man	t-, 20	Lanathan	Channan	10

McKinney (9-6, 1-0) - A.J. Moutry 28, Jonathan Shannon 19, Raynell Denny 8, Darrin Donaldson 3, Connor Fuentes 2, Tanner Holland 2, Canaan

RHS (11-4,0-1) – Austin Grandstaff 17, Elijah Thomas 13, Prince Giadolor 6, Jared Ragland 6, Wes Davis 2, Zach Rhodes 2.

Hyde shines in RHS wrestlers' busy month

As a busy month of wrestling nears its end, the smallest starter in Rockwall's lineup stands out even among an impressive group of teammates.

Seven Yellowjackets placed Saturday, Dec. 19, in their most recent competition, the Hill Country Invitational Varsity Tournament at Cedar Park Vista Ridge

RHS' only first-place finisher, completing another undefeated weekend, was 106-pounder Andrew Hyde. He also had been a winner in all four matches as the Jackets placed sixth at the Original Lone Star Duals Dec. 10 at Dallas St. Mark's School of Texas, and placed third in Rockwall's Rumble at the Rock Invitational Dec. 3 with only one loss in five matches. Hyde also had won his match in the Jackets' 64-4 dual-meet victory at McKinney Dec. 8. Two of his wins at the Lone Star Duals were by fall.

Also placing in the Hill Country Invitational were Rockwall's Daniel Roland, second at 182 pounds; Austin Tamez, third at 152, and Cade Goss (152), John Hernandez (170), Rilee Fisher (195) and Collin Hill (220), all fourth. The Jackets finished sixth among 19 teams.

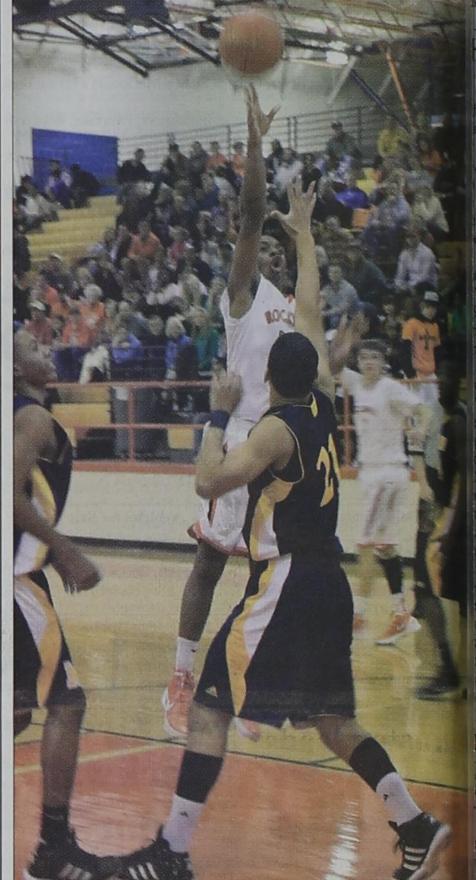
Like Hyde, Hill won all four of his matches at the Lone Star Duals, two by fall. He also pinned his opponent at McKinney

At St. Mark's the RHS varsity defeated Colleyville Heritage 57-15, lost to Flower Mound 33-31 with a 20-9 decision loss at 285, won over Arlington Martin 36-29 and lost 39-30 to Grapevine.

Winning three individual matches were Roland (two by fall), Tamez and Hernandez.

In the Rumble at the Rock, where Rockwall placed fifth among 16 teams, Tamez and Roland won matches to finish third, and Hernandez was fourth. Vista Ridge won the team event.

(Continued on Page 11)



Yellowjackets' Prince Giadolor (23) powers through the lane for a lay-up shot during last Tuesday's game against McKinney

Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Johnston leads RACE team to best COR finish (24.71) and

With 10-year-old David Johnston scoring 132 of its 621 points, t Rockwall Aquatics Center of Excellence (RACE) team finished seventh,i best ever, in the COR Winter Classic swimming meet at Addison's Lo six events, in

Johnston's first-place finish in the 10-and-under 500 freestyle, in 5 minute 39.40 seconds, was one of his eight top-five finishes. He placed second in 100 free (1:01.61), 50 butterfly (31.03 seconds) and 100 fly (1:08.17); thi in the 200 free (2:09.94) and 200 individual medley (2:30.13); fourth in the 100 IM (1:10.98), and fifth in the 100 backstroke (1:11.33).

Thirty-six RACE qualifiers were among more than 1,000 competitors fro



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school distric tents is unmate s to be involve rict for many y is wres

Continued fro

lonas (126), Dillon Smith (145), Goss (1) and Hill (220). Jackets' J ted in their ov nal meets on consect cket at all thre Thomas pla invitationals, other. Dante oion at Rockwa

their McKir rsity main eve son Friday at hnsto

ACE 1

(Continued fr 48 clubs in to during the nber. The Roc us finish in meet had been he 15-and-ove ar-old Claire V 55.5 points in es in the 50 f (53.87) and

Eldridge, 15 ir events - incl the 13-14 am Rapp accur free (23.32) 00 free (4:56.2 ed up 35 points e 200 breast (2 100 breast (

tine earned 4

r leaders arr an Weaver. ints by finish east (37.88) ; breast (1:24.8 included se :15.55). For Margot Little avanna Lown ed Butler, 16 boys. His 20 place in the 20 59.73. Tobias more Rockwall

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Royse City News

Floyse City school board accepts Hancock's resignation

by mothy Downs

great emotion, the Royse City Board of Trustees accepted the resig tion letter of superintendent Randy Hancock at the Dec. 12 school

He ock will remain in his position until the end of the June and offered his s port during the transition.

Be I president Don Palmer read the resignation letter: "It is with extreme mixe emotion that I submit this notification of my resignation and retirement ave been privileged to watch former students enter a wide variety of

profi ions with the highest degree of success. at an honor it has been doing something I truly love. RCISD is an ma g school district. The commitment of this board to what is best for

the idents is unmatched. I have been the luckiest man alive having the

o oppounity to be a part of this team. "I ether, we have earned back the trust of the community and raised the har cacademic achievement, while meeting increasing standards from the state ad federal level. Together, we have improved the opportunities for and is to be involved in extra-curricular events and have built facilities to gea a positive learning environment for our students to meet the needs of rict for many years to come.

"Together, we have a fiscal plan in place that has positioned this district to best meet the continued financial challenges that all districts face across the

"Being a Royse City Bulldog is special and I thank you for allowing me the opportunity of being one and I will forever be a bulldog. My services and support will always be available to this district, and I pray for nothing but the best as you continue to educate our students with passion, perseverance

To open the meeting, the Royse City High School Show Choir, led by sponsor Shelba Gorham-Bell, performed Christmas songs.

Special Olympics participant Jordan Paul was recognized for swimming: first-place relay, first-place 50 meter free-style and first-place 25 meter freestyle. Additional honorees were girls varsity cross-country and volleyball, boys varsity cross-country, football and band for their achievements in district competition.

Special honors went to girls cross-country team captain Taylor Neely with First Team All-District and Academic All-District, All-State Country Coaches Association of Texas and Texas Girls Couches Association.

According to reports, the district showed 3.7 percent enrollment growth.

RIS wrestling... (Continued from Page 10) It Jackets won by fall at ney: Carter Smith (120), Jonas (126), Marcus Hess Dillon Smith (138), Tyler (145), Goss (160) Hernandez Jackets' junior varsity ted in their own invitational 2 at home, and in two onal meets at Dallas St. on consecutive Fridays, S Warren was the champion in

Thomas placed first at rall and in one of the St. invitationals, and was second other. Dante Thomas, also a ion at Rockwall, placed third aurth in the St. Mark's events. Matt Holland, Frank Solis, Aguirre and Jose Estrada also eir bracket Dec. 9, and Alex lles and Jacob Molengraf were ions the following week at St. 3. Holland and Dante Thomas their McKinney opponents JV exhibition matches before rsity main event.

cket at all three events.

and Hill (220).

and 16.

kcwall's varsity is scheduled implete the 2011 portion of son Friday at the Wylie East

hnston leads ACE team...

(Continued from Page 10)

n 48 clubs in five states and o during the first weekend in mber. The Rockwall club's best wus finish in the prestigious Imeet had been 14th.

the 15-and-over girls division, ar-old Claire Walters led RACE with 55.5 points including top-five es in the 50 free (25.21), 100 (53.87) and 100 fly (58.42). ac. Eldridge, 15 totaled 42 points r events - including third in the e (24.71) and sixth in the 200 (2:08.52).

the 13-14 boys' division, m Rapp accumulated 51 points six events, including sixth in free (23.32) and seventh in 0 free (4:56.26). Jeremiah Kim d up 35 points, including fourth 200 breast (2:21.31) and fifth 100 breast (1:04.88). Harper Gillitine earned 4 points for the 13-

er leaders among the 10-andboys were Johann Kuipers and tian Weaver. Kuipers earned bints by finishing third in the east (37.88) and fourth in the breast (1:24.87). Weaver's 22 s included seventh in the 100 :15.55). For the 10-and-under Margot Little scored 7 points avanna Lowry had 3

ed Butler, 16, led the 15-andboys. His 20 points included place in the 200 IM with a time 59.73. Tobias Kim contributed

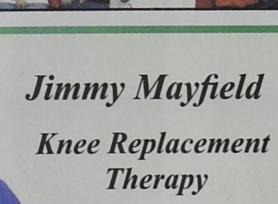
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Jordan Paul recognized during RCISD meeting

Special Olympics athlete Jordan Paul, pictured above, was recognized at the Dec. 12 meeting of the Royse City **Independent School District** Board of Trustees meeting. Paul earned three first-place medals in the recent Special Olympics competition. Pictured with Paul is Principal David Dodd.

Photo by Timothy Downs/ Rockwall County News

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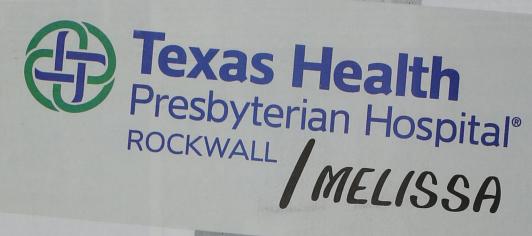


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