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Rockwall County News



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Gene Allen, second from left, was presented the Quilt of Valor for his more than 35 years of service in the military on the April 6 meeting of the Roysse City Rotary Club. Pictured left to right are Glenda Moore, Allen, Jackie Gilbert, secretary and historian for the Rotary, and Dr. Paul Phillips, president of the Roysse City Rotary.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall directs \$227,551 toward “traffic signal improvements”

During the April 3, 2017 meeting of the City of Rockwall, Inc., the council members approved a consent agenda which included authorization for the City Manager to execute a contract with Roadway Solutions, Inc., for Traffic Signal Improvements at the intersection of Ralph Hall Parkway and Steger Towne Road.

The project will be funded in the amount of \$227,551 from the Street Operations Budget.

It is unknown whether the City Manager confirmed legal qualification of Roadway Solutions to perform the services for the City of Rockwall.

Also embedded in the consent agenda was a recommendation by the hotel occupancy tax subcommittee to fund the Building Officials Association of Texas annual conference in the amount of \$25,575.

Texas Department of Transportation. Grace Lowe and Hussain Hussain presented about the project for future improvements to Interstate 30 from Bass Pro Drive to FM 2642.

Divided into phases, from Bass Pro to Dalrock; Dalrock to Horizon; Horizon to SH 205; and from SH 205 to FM 2642. The project will include reconstruction of frontage roads on east and west bound directions.

The expansion to Horizon Road will include frontage roads and side walk in both directions across Ray Hubbard Reservoir. The expansion to the Hunt County line will include six to eight lanes.

TxDOT is planning for a public meeting to be held April 27 and May 4, to be held at the Rockwall County Courthouse.

TxDOT proposes to improve the FM 740 exit with two lane, thus removing potential confusion at the forced left lane U-turn. Also under proposal is a new bridge at Ben Payne and the interstate with off/on ramps.

Local realtor Shandra Carland spoke during the open forum. She asked the city council to approve a resolution in support of Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 15 in the Texas Legislature. She expressed her opinion that the bills promote honesty and transparency in property tax process. “The bills increase accountability by calling for an automatic roll-back election,” said Carland.

(Continued on Page 2)

Commissioners court approves upcoming “Bikes for Tykes” and “Cinco de Mayo” events

Rockwall County Commissioners Court met for its regular meeting, 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 11, 2017, at the Rockwall County Historical Courthouse on the square in Rockwall.

The court began by declaring the month of April 2017 as “Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month” in Rockwall County. County Judge David Sweet led the court in reading the proclamation, while each commissioner signed the document.

TxDOT public meeting on the IH-30 project will be held April 27 at Roysse City High School. The May 4 meeting will be held in the Historic Courthouse.

The court approved a request from J. Williams Group, LLC, to waive fees for TxDOT’s use of Liberty Hall in the courthouse.

Tammy Sharp with T&T Color Supply spoke on the issue of a location agreement with the Rockwall Old Town Shoppes of Rockwall County. Sharp represents the organization.

She announced the start of the concert series on the Plaza to be held every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night. A Cinco de Mayo event will be held Friday, May 5, followed by the May 6 Farmers Market.

Sharp appeared to request approval for use of the courthouse stage for a two-hour show associated with the Cinco de Mayo event, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. She also asked for the restrooms to be open for the performers.

The court approved the Cinco de Mayo event.

America’s Guardians and the Children’s Advocacy Center requested that Rockwall County host a “Bikes for Tykes” motorcycle rally event, to be held Sunday, September 24, 2017, in Liberty Hall and the courthouse parking lot. District Attorney Kenda Culpepper spoke to the court as a board member of the Children’s Advocacy Center. The event will be organized by America’s Guardians, which is a motorcycle group. The request included a waiver of all fees.

The waiver request was approved 3-1.

(Continued on Page 2)

Rockwall County News Briefs

Royse City rallies to save historic jail

The Roysse City Chamber of Commerce has been working for years to save a historic calaboose in the city limits. Years of weathering and the poor design of its placement have left it in a major state of disrepair. As part of this effort, the chamber is working to create unique bricks for individuals and businesses to purchase. Each personalized brick then will be used in the landscaping of the area around the calaboose once it is repaired. Bricks may be purchased at thatsmybrick.com/roysecitycalaboose. Donations may be made to PayPal at info@roysecitychamber.com.

(Continued on Page 2)



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Allen receives Quilt of Valor for military service

by Millie Jean Coppedge

Gene Allen was presented with the Quilt of Valor earlier this month in recognition of more than 35 years of military service.

Glenda Moore, a member of the Kaufman Quilt Guild, made the quilt.

The Quilt of Valor organization was formed in 2003. Its vision for these presentations to veterans is “to wrap a warrior in a quilt for warmth and comfort.” Jackie Gilbert is also a well known quilter in the county.

Allen has an extensive background with various military groups. He also organized the Tri-County Veterans Honor Guard for Rockwall, Hunt and Collin County. The group meets monthly in Roysse City

and performs the military ceremony at veterans’ funerals, as well as hosting programs at various schools to teach children what it means to honor the flag of the United States of America.

The following inscription is featured on the back of the quilt: “Quilt of Valor, In appreciation for your service and sacrifices for our county, please accept this quilt with our deepest gratitude. Created by Glenda Moore and Friends. Quilted by Glenda Moore, Mesquite, Texas. Members of Kaufman Quilt Guild and Sew What’s Friendship Quilt Group. In Honor and memory of Darla Lane, a friend and patriot. Presented to: Gene Allen. Presented by: Jackie Gilbert and the Roysse City Rotary Club. Date: April 7, 2017.”

WIN seeks volunteers for upcoming events

Women In Need is seeking volunteer assistance for several of its upcoming events.

Volunteer opportunities are blocked into two-hour time slots. Dates are as follows:

- Aspasians – April 22

- Rockwall Holistic Fair – May 6

- Glow Run – June 3

- Rockwall Country Fair

For more details, contact Cheryl Bahm at cbahm@wintexas.org or call 903-456-4612.



The Heath Hawks Theatre Company performed “Violet Sharp” at the UIL One-Act Play 6A Region 2 competition April 7, finishing in the top 16 of the theater programs in the state. This marked the first time in Rockwall-Heath theater history that its one-act play team advanced to compete at the regional level. The play was set against the backdrop of one of America’s most notorious crimes – the 1932 Lindbergh kidnapping case. Pictured, at front, from the left, are Sydney Turbeville, Chloe Hail, Elizabeth Gutierrez, Jaelyn Vu, Anais Martinez, Gracie Palmore and Dylan Lippincott; middle row, Allie Magee, MaKenzie Eddins, Anne-Marie Thacker and Rebecca Hundley; and, at back, Jacob Turner, Alexandra Chandler, Caroline Edwards, Mason Cross, Kathleen Couch, David Campbell, Liam McGregor and Ryan Lee. Not shown are Abby Thompson and Lauren Robertson.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Rockwall County Obituaries

Jerry Werner

A memorial service for Jerry Werner, 79, was conducted at noon on Saturday, April 15, 2017, in the Hamilton Mill Memorial Chapel.

He died Friday, April 7, following a five-year battle with cancer.

A native of Detroit, he attended Denby High School and received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Lawrence Institute of Technology. His career spanned several decades with the Kopper's Co., which began in Detroit, then Smyrna and finally Pittsburgh. He later moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and began working with Roof Structures Inc.

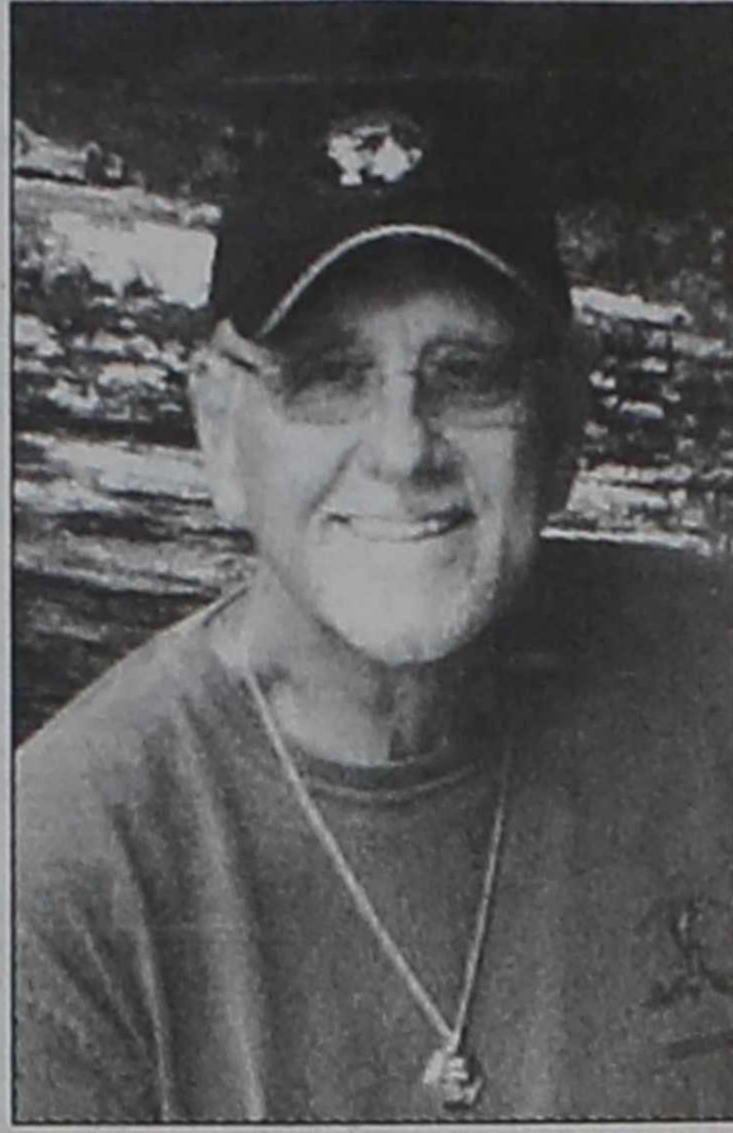
He later opened ventured out on his own with Timber Systems, Omega Engineering and Construction Material Specialties. At his most recent endeavor, Concrete Preservation Systems, he was a senior consultant for Aquaron Corp. International. He had retired in March.

He was an active member of each church he attended, assuming many leadership roles.

Survivors include his wife, Carrol Werner of Flowery Branch, Georgia; his children, Kim and Ron Grey of Buford, Georgia, Scott and Jeanine Werner of Coconut Creek, Florida, Shawn Werner of Flowery Branch, Kelly and Mark Reardon of Lawrenceville, Georgia, and Stacy and Todd Bruns of Oswego, Illinois; his grandchildren, Jena Parke and her husband, Nick, Benjamin Reardon, Dakota Bruns, Kasey Bruns, Chase Bruns, Haley Bruns, Ryan Grey, Kaleigh Werner and Kasey Ann Werner; his great-grandchildren, Liam Parke and Jackson Parke; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

His brother, Alfred Werner, preceded him in death.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to United Cerebral Palsy South Florida, unitedcommunityoptionsouthflorida.org. Memories may be shared at hamiltonmillchapel.com.



Two RCISD campuses earn national recognition

William Fort Elementary and Miss May Vernon Elementary recently received the Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase SchoolsTM award for the 2016-2017 school year from the Flippen Group.

Only 53 schools in America are named to this list, according to a district news release. Showcase schools like Fort and Vernon Elementary are among the top 8 percent who participate in Capturing Kids' Hearts.

"Only about 5 schools in the DFW Metroplex are named to the showcase and only a handful of school districts across the nation have more than one school on the list, Capturing Kids' Hearts Trainer John McGee said in the news release. "If my daughter was school-aged, I wouldn't think twice about sending her to one of these amazing schools."

Capturing Kids' Hearts is a staff development opportunity that equips teachers with the tools to create a classroom environment that is welcoming, exciting and emotionally safe. Examples include shaking hands with students daily and the creation of social contracts in each classroom.

In the Royse City Independent School District, teachers from pre-K to 12 have experienced the training opportunities offered by Capturing Kids' Hearts. RCISD first introduced the program in 2003 and hundreds of educators have been trained along the way.

"Every campus in RCISD is recognized for its commitment to building relationships with students. Through the Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase, Fort and Vernon Elementary Schools are celebrated for going the extra mile. We are so proud of all of our teachers and coaches for committing to this campus culture," said Assistant Superintendent Kenny Kaye Hudson.

Nominees for the showcase were considered for the designation based on the following criteria: 1) nomination based on observation, 2) level of implementation of Capturing Kids' Hearts processes by all staff as measured by online surveys, and 3) data demonstrating that Capturing Kids' Hearts has made a significant improvement in attendance, discipline, climate/culture or academics.

A team from Capturing Kids' Hearts Flippen Group visited each nominated campus to gather additional quantitative and qualitative data, and to interview students, teachers, administrators, and parents. They used a matrix of key measurements to gather information during the campus walk-through. Finally, an additional survey was conducted to collect feedback regarding the perceived climate and culture of the campus and its conduciveness to learning. Following this visit, the selection team reviewed all accumulated data and selected the campuses to receive the Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools awards.

Rockwall City council regular meeting ...

(Continued from Page 1)

The consent agenda included: Minutes of the March 20, 2017 meeting.

Expenditure in the amount of \$26,330 Classic Tile and Plastering for new plaster at Gloria Williams Pool from the General fund, Recreation operating budget.

Right-of-way acquisition agent and appraisal services contract with Crossroads ROW Group, LLC, to be executed by the City Manager in the amount of \$269,800, from the sale of bonds approved during the 2012 bond election. It is unknown whether the City Manager confirmed that Crossroads ROW Group meets legal criteria for qualification to offer the contracted services, and whether the voters were informed that the sale of bonds would be used for this purpose.

Resolution to suspend the April 21, 2017 effective date of Oncor Electric Delivery's requested rate change, and for the Steering Committee of cities served by Oncor to study the rates and negotiate with Oncor on the City's behalf.

P2017-008 request by Paul J. Wilck, Jr. for approval of a final plat located at 463 H. Wallace Lane.

P2017-012 request by Worth Williams of Moore Worth Investments, LLC, for approval of a final plat within the North SH-205 Overlay District, located at the southwest corner of Quail Run road and N. Goliad Street.

P2017-013 request by Glenn Engineering on behalf of James Watson of the Rockwall Independent School District for approval of a final plat located directly east of the intersection of John King Boulevard and Trail View Drive.

Rockwall County commissioners court ...

(Continued from Page 1)

The court approved a replat for 3.94 acres related to "Royse City Beach."

Commissioner David Magness explained the property is just off FM 548, about halfway between Royse City and SH 276, south of Royse City.

Ron Merritt briefed the court on the issue. The owner of the property is a volleyball instructor who is setting up night-time volleyball courts with lighting, on 18 acres. The court did not provide the owner's name.

Culpepper was approved by the court for out-of-state travel to attend the National Association of State Workforce Agency conference, which involves veterans in Washington, D.C., to be held August 16-18, 2017.

The D.A. clarified that she will be a speaker during the event.

Culpepper asked the court to approve a matching funds of \$1702 to receive a \$100,000 federal grant extension for the Family Violence Prosecutor to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division. Carrie New has been the Family Violence Prosecutor. The D.A. clarified that the matching funds are actually over \$53,000, but the D.A.'s office satisfied the rest of the matching funds with "In-Kind" services. She spoke to the court about two separate federal grants. The second involved a grant application of \$20,000, for the Part-time Victim Assistance Coordinator to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division. The D.A.'s office currently has a full-time coordinator. This is a new application.

County Auditor Lisa Constant clarified the matching funds would be included in next year's budget.

Culpepper said they have not been approved for the grant, and should know the results in about two months. Both grant items.

The court approved the consent agenda, including the minutes of "previous meeting(s);" indigent health expenditure-case reports; environmental health coordinator activity report; Justice of Peace Precinct 3 monthly report; payment to Bear Creek Special utility District for Pump Station 1 Replacement Modifications Project associated with FM 552 for February 2017 in the total amount of \$7,375; payment to Dannenbaum Engineering Company for engineering services provided during Feb. 2017 at FM 549 from SH 276 to SH 206 in the amount of \$46,846.46; payment to Atkins North America, Inc. for engineering services provided thru Feb. 26, 2017 at FM 3549

(Continued on Page 6)

Tumbleson completes basic military training

U.S. Air Force Airman Jeremiah M. Tumbleson graduated recently from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

The airman completed an intensive eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credit toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Tumbleson is the son of Michael Tumbleson of Queen Creek, Arizona, and Lori Daugherty of Hemet, California. He is the nephew of La Renie and Steve Tumbleson of Royse City.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orison
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1 in San Patricio County on U.S. 181	21 unborn baby	22 when a team doesn't play at home (2 wds.)	23 certain retriever	24 first 2 initials of Gov. Colquitt	25 makes mistakes	26	27 mouse snares	28 TXism: "the legs off a West TX jackrabbit"	29 TX-born Gene Autry wrote "Comes Santa Claus"	30 "less is more"	31 pawn property	32 toss a fishin' line	33 this Warren was in 1983 film "Tough Enough" with TX Dennis Quaid lake excursion (2 wds.)	34 actress Westcott of TX-based 1953 film "Cow Country"	35 Old TX	36 this TX-born Ferris was pro baseballer these are front of the leg, below knee	37 TX talk in the "Texas Crossword"												
3 ACROSS	42 WWII cruiser U.S.S. Houston was _____ in the Sundra Strait	43 TXism: "covered like fur on _____"	44 town of 1692 witch trials	45 Fargo's state (abbr.)	46 TX Ivory Joe Hunter's "Since I _____ You Baby" (abbr.)	47 a horse _____ away from sudden noise or motion	48 TX has several TM "Heaven on _____"	49 locations in Gonzales & Wilson counties on U.S. 87	50 "vaya con _____"	51 NY time zone	52 itchy trigger finger"	53 TXism: "cash on the _____ (pay now)"	54 on the cob	55 TX Charley Pride's "Ev'ry Heart Should Have _____" (1983)	56 this OU Sam beat out UT Colt for 2008 Heisman riding _____ back	57 TXism: "worthless as half a _____"	58 nickname of H-4 Hercules built by TX Howard Hughes	59											
6 Fox NFL's Andrews who lived in TX for 18 months as a child	7 TXism: "two peas in _____" (alike)	8 airline flights that aren't regular routes	9 TXism: "got _____ away from sudden noise or motion"	10 2nd Amend. grp.	11 Winters has the "Z.I. _____" with area history exhibits	12 Austin univer.	13 roller _____	14 ancient Egyptian paper	15 in Limestone County on FM 1246 & 937	16 TXism: "_____ the fort" (keep control)	17 home state of ex-Cowboy RB Marion Barber III (abbr.)	18 TXism: "got _____ itchy trigger finger"	19 TXism: "cash on the _____ (pay now)"	20 TXism: "_____ the fort" (keep control)	21 home state of ex-Cowboy RB Marion Barber III (abbr.)	22 TXism: "got _____ itchy trigger finger"	23 TXism: "cash on the _____ (pay now)"	24 TXism: "_____ the fort" (keep control)											
DOWN	1 fundraising vehicle for TX universities (3 wds.)	2 Love Field, e.g.	3 in Palmer County on U.S. 60	4 "he _____ to exaggerate"	5 TXism: "rug rat"	6 1967 film for TX Morgan Woodward "Cool _____ Luke"	7 _____hart, TX	8 Leon, TX	9 home plate official in baseball	10 popular platter at TX-based "Luby's" sports cable net.	11 in "Bed of Lies" this Susan portrays wife of Gov. Daniel's son	12 radioactive metal	13 TX Sissy Spacek 1980 film: "Coal _____ Daughter"	14 when a team doesn't play at home (2 wds.)	15 first 2 initials of Gov. Colquitt	16 certain retriever	17 makes mistakes	18	19 mouse snares	20 TXism: "the legs off a West TX jackrabbit"	21 TX-born Gene Autry wrote "Comes Santa Claus"	22 "less is more"	23 pawn property	24 toss a fishin' line	25 this Warren was in 1983 film "Tough Enough" with TX Dennis Quaid lake excursion (2 wds.)	26 actress Westcott of TX-based 1953 film "Cow Country"	27 Old TX	28 this TX-born Ferris was pro baseballer these are front of the leg, below knee	29 TX talk in the "Texas Crossword"

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Heath to host final Comprehensive Plan Review session
The City of Heath's final Comprehensive Plan Review Committee meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, at the Heath City Hall. The primary purpose of the session is to reach a consensus on the draft plan and recommend adoption of the plan to the Planning & Zoning Commission, even if the recommendation is subject to conditions, according to an agenda issued this week.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection set Saturday
Rockwall will host its 17th annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 22, at the city's Service Center, 1600 Airport Rd. Items to be accepted include pesticides, paint products, household cleaners, herbicides, motor oil, automotive chemicals, swimming pool products, propane and tires in household quantities. On-site document shredding also will be offered and a vendor also will be on site to take electronic equipment for recycling. Each participating Rockwall resident will need to bring a current utility bill or driver's license to provide proof of residency. For more details visit rockwall.com/documents/news/HHW2017.pdf.

Republican Hispanic Club plans meeting
The Rockwall County Republican Hispanic Club will host a community informative meeting in the Rockwall High School lecture hall beginning at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 27. Guest speaker will be David Sweet, county judge, who will talk about the roles and responsibilities of local government. Sweet also will provide an update on county activities. The meeting will be open to all Rockwall County conservatives.

(Continued on Page 6)

Rockwall County Entertainment

RCISD to host district-wide art show
The Rockwall ISD's District Art Show is scheduled to run from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 21, and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at Rockwall-Heath High School, according to the district website. Those attending are asked to enter at the Heath PAC entrance.

Gospel Bluegrass concert set at PCCS
The Poetry Community Christian School will host a concert by the Sowell Family Pickers, a gospel bluegrass group, beginning at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 1. The PCCS is located at 18688 FM 986 in Poetry.

There is no fear in love. But perfect love casts out fear.
1 John 4:18

Rockwall City council regular meeting ...

(Continued from Page 2)

to 9 p.m., Sunday thru Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday thru Saturday.

Fowler's motion with the failed ordinance passed unanimously. City Secretary Kristy Cole clarified that Fowler's motion would be included as a caption.

Z2017-007 request by owner Bradley Joe Gideon for approval of an ordinance for zoning change from Agricultural District to Planned Development district for Single family 7 district land uses, related to a 30-acre tract of land located at the southwest corner of the intersection of e. Quail run Road and John King Boulevard, upon first reading.

Nick Grant spoke against the ordinance due to flood plain issues related to potential loss of life and problems with infrastructure.

Approved Z2017-008 a city initiated request on behalf of Raymond Jowers of Jowers, Inc. for approval of an ordinance for a SUP rescinding Ordinance number 08-38, and allowing outside storage adjacent to IH-30 on a 4.4317-acre tract of land located at 2260 E. IH-30. the property is known as "Big Tex Trailers," and the SUP was originally approved in 2008 for RV sales and service, upon first reading.

Mayor Jim Pruitt reiterated City staff member's comments about how the applicant had been using the property in a manner that was in conflict with the SUP, and thanked the applicant for coming back with intent to do it "legally."

Approved a resolution to waive building permit-related fees for residents in North Rockwall with homes in Dalton Ranch affected by the March 29, 2017 storms. City Manager Richard Crowley clarified it was related to property within 500 feet of the affected property. Staff members explained that notices will be sent to residents so they can make sure contractors do not attempt to charge for non-existent permit fees.

On Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 15 of the 85th Legislative Session. Pruitt briefed the council on the following changes that came through the Senate:

Make up of the appraisal board, and removed the part requiring a board member to be an elected official.

Changed from 4% to 5% of tax increase to require an automatic roll-back election.

Pruitt expressed an interest in addressing the Legislature about the proposed date schedules and deadlines, and commented on the fact that certain counties like Rockwall have one newspaper that comes out once a week. He said it was especially a concern where you "got to give it on a Monday for the next Friday."

Pruitt did not comment on whether a newspaper published in Rockwall County comes out on Fridays.

Pruitt also said the bill would require all appraisal districts to use standardized appraisal procedures that are determined by the state comptroller.

Milder and council member John Hohenshelt expressed strong concerns about the city government being restrictively regulated by the state, and stripped of more local control. Hohenshelt referred to it as causing some "cognitive dissonance" in him.

The dissenting council members did not acknowledge the subordinate relationship of the city as a corporation created by, and restrictively regulated, by state law.

"We don't need the government down in Austin telling us what to do," declared Milder.

Pruitt emphasized that the city should not be afraid of the people's power to roll back elections by state law.

The council voted to oppose Senate Bill 2, by 5-2, with Pruitt and Fowler casting the supporting votes.

They voted to oppose House Bill 15, by 5-2, with Pruitt and Fowler casting the supporting votes.

The council approved the appointment of Daniel Nichols to fill a vacancy on the city's Main Street Advisory Board.

Pruitt announced that Sandy Whitley stepped down from the Planning and Zoning Commission, and the city will be looking for a new appointment.

On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Jesus' new glorious body seen by many ...

All four accounts of Jesus' life, death and resurrection include his interaction with the disciples after his Father raised him from the dead. They include fantastic references to Jesus showing himself to others. It says in another part of the Epistles that he was seen by over 500 people.

Jesus' disciples, and the rest of the 500, witnessed him in his resurrected and new body. Jesus was given a new spiritual body that could appear and disappear in closed rooms, in the presence of others. Jesus could show everyone the evidence of nails driven through his hands and feet, and the pierced injury in his side.

One account included a walk that Jesus took with two disciples. They didn't recognize him while he shined the light of God's word on their hearts by teaching them. It wasn't until he sat with them for supper, and gave thanks, that they recognized him; at which time he disappeared right in front of them.

Jesus taught his disciples many things, and prepared them for the future, after he would ascend into the heavenlies, and sit at his Father's right hand of all authority and power.

Guess who first witnessed the dynamic resurrection moment -- "And, behold, there was a great earthquake; for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it."

"His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow; And for fear of him the keepers did shake and became as dead men" (Matthew 28:2-4). There is a reason why the Jewish leaders paid the guards to falsify their reports about what happened. Considering the incident stirred up great fear in them, it stands to reason, the guards were awake when the earthquake occurred and the angel came and rolled the massive stone away. The guards knew the truth!

The post resurrection accounts start at Matthew 28:2, Mark 16:1, Luke 24:2, John 20:1, and Acts 1:4-11.

Area Entertainment

Lynyrd Skynyrd to be part of arts, music festival

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame band Lynyrd Skynyrd will be one of the headline acts at Richardson's Wildflower! Arts and Music Festival on Saturday, May 20, on the Methodist Richardson Amphitheater Stage. Other bands to appear include, on May 19, The B-52s, X Ambassadors and Guster; on May 20, Night Ranger, Orleans, Bowling for Soup and the All-American Rejects; and, on May 21, Shooter Jennings, The Outlaws and Ruthie Foster. Tickets are on sale now for the event, which will run May 19-21. Three-day passes and more details are available online at wildflowerfestival.com/tickets.

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BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

520 E. Washington, Rockwall

CENTRAL BAPTIST

Hwy. 66, Rockwall

CHISHOLM BAPTIST CHURCH

1388 Hwy. 205 S., Rockwall

CHRIST CHURCH BAPTIST COMMUNITY

749 Justin Rd., Rockwall

ChristChurchRockwall.org

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Hwy. 276, Royse City

DAY SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

8602 Lakeview Pkwy., Rockwall

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FATE

813 Holiday Dr. (Hwy. 66)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HEATH

224 Smirl Drive

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROCKWALL

610 Goliad St.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROYSE CITY

900 Pullen Street

IGLESIA BAUTISTA

INUEVA ESPERANZA

149 Blackland, Royse City

GRACE FELLOWSHIP

1408 Damascus Dr., Rockwall

LAKE POINTE BAPTIST CHURCH

701 E. I-30, Rockwall

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH

850 Blackland Road, Fate

NEW CALDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

301 Bourn, Rockwall

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

400 Old Greenville Rd., Royse City

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

360 Hickory Hill Rd., Royse City

OPEN DOOR BAPTIST CHURCH

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NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RICHARD HOOVER DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard Hoover, Deceased, were issued on March 23, 2017, in Cause No. PR17-0023, pending in County Court at Law Number One of Rockwall County, Texas, to: Linda West-Hoover, Independent Executor. Any claims against this estate may be presented by mailing such claims in care of the Independent Executor at the following address: 716 Hartman Street, Rockwall, TX 75087. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 29th day of March, 2017.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Robert F. Skinner, Deceased, were issued on March 30, 2017 in Docket No. PR17-0022, pending in the County Court at Law, of Rockwall County, Texas, to Diane A. Skinner-Bradley. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate as follows: Representative of the Estate of Robert F. Skinner Todd W. White The White Law Firm 503 South Goliad Rockwall, Texas 75087 All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Virginia M. Ford, Deceased, were issued on March 30, 2017 in Docket No. PR17-0010, pending in the County Court at Law, of Rockwall County, Texas, to Clyde G. Ford. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate as follows: Representative of the Estate of Virginia M. Ford Todd W. White The White Law Firm 503 South Goliad Rockwall, Texas 75087 All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Notice to Bidders

SECTION-00 11 13 NOTICE TO BIDDERS
ROCKWALL COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 6 will receive bids for the construction of **PAVING IMPROVEMENTS FOR WOODCREEK PHASE 6K, ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS.** Sealed bids must be delivered to the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 1651 N. Glenville Drive, Suite 212, Richardson, TX 75081) no later than 11:30 AM, Monday, May 1, 2017. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time and place. Bids received after this time will be returned unopened. The Developer, D. R. Horton - Texas, Ltd., will be the Payor for the contract for Rockwall County Municipal Utility District No. 6. Plans, specifications and bid documents are available at <http://www.civcastusa.com>; Keyword: 04021-06K02. Contract Documents may

be downloaded or viewed free of charge at this web site. It is the downloader's responsibility to determine that a complete set of documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders are received. Printed copies of the Contract Documents may be purchased at the website for the cost of printing. The cost for printed Contract Documents is non-refundable. This web site will be updated periodically with addenda, plan holders lists, bid tabulations, additional reports or other information relevant to bidding the Project.

Pre-bid conference for the project will be held at 10:30 AM, Friday, April 21, 2017 at the office of the DISTRICT ENGINEER, and is not mandatory. Bids must be accompanied by a cashier's check or a bid bond from a surety company holding a permit in the State of Texas for an amount equal to 2% of the amount bid. The amount of said cashier's check or bond will be forfeited to the OWNER and the bank or surety shall be liable to the OWNER for the amount in event the successful bidder fail or refuse to enter into a contract or furnish bonds as hereafter required within ten (10) days after the date of notice of award. Performance, Payment and Maintenance Bonds are required. The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities or irregularities in bidding in case of lack of clarity in stating prices. The OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or reject the bid.

Notice of non-publication of election notices for the May 6, 2017 "General Election"

Rockwall County Elections Administrator Chris Lynch has not submitted a request to the County Auditor for payment to the Rockwall County News for publication of the required notices of Testing of Tabulation Equipment, Registration, and Voting Schedule. City Secretaries for all municipalities in Rockwall County have not selected a newspaper published in Rockwall County, for publication of required election notices. City Managers and the Elections Administrator have approved use of tax dollars for notices in newspapers that are not published in Rockwall County.

Royse City Police Blotter April 7-12

- **Friday, 7 April:** Accident, 700 block FM 2642; Theft, 300 block Starlight Lane; Noise disturbance, 3500 block Spruce Street; Suspicious vehicle, Area of Valley Court; City ordinance violation, Area of Green Terrace Drive; Alarm, 200 block Nacona Court; Medical assistance, 1600 block Grand Court; City ordinance violation, 200 block Starlight Lane; Medical assistance, 300 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, 1100 block Live Oak Street; Suspicious person, 1400 block Waco Turner Drive
- **Saturday, 8 April:** Medical assistance, 300 block Medina Court; Failure to identify, 600 block Center Street; Suspicious person, 700 block FM 2642; Welfare concern, Area of Marsha Lane; Alarm, 500 block W. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 2500 block Circle Lane; Alarm, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Welfare concern, Area of I-30 SSR and Circle Lane
- **Sunday, 9 April:** Multiple agencies' warrants arrest, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Driving while license invalid arrest, 100 block W. I-30 NSR; Driving while license invalid, 2800 block FM 35; Noise disturbance, 900 block Joe Bailey Street; Accident, I-30 eastbound near the 76-mile marker; Disturbance, 5400 block CR 2526; Alarm, 2600 block Sabine Circle; Burglary of a residence, 1000 block Hidden Creek Drive; Welfare concern, 1500 block Hafner Drive; Welfare concern, I-30 westbound near the 74-mile marker; Suspicious vehicle, 100 block Erby Campbell Boulevard; Alarm, 600 block E. Lamar Street; Medical assistance, 200 block Texoma Court; Suspicious vehicle, 2800 block FM 35; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77B exit
- **Monday, 10 April:** Texas Department of Criminal Justice's warrant arrest, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Possession of drug paraphernalia, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Minor in possession of alcohol, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Possession of marijuana arrest, Area of Erby Campbell Boulevard and Hwy 66; Alarm, 500 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious vehicle, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; 911 hang up, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Criminal trespass, 700 block FM 2642; Alarm, 2800 block W. County Line Road; Alarm, 1200 block Maverick Lane; Suspicious vehicle, 300 block Cookston Lane
- **Tuesday, 11 April:** Suspicious person, Area of McKamy Boulevard and Skelton Street; Welfare concern, 700 block FM 2642; Disturbance, 1300 block Evergreen Street; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 74-mile marker; Accident, 1500 block Bulldog Boulevard; Suspicious person, Area of Church Street and Pullen Street
- **Wednesday, 12 April:** Alarm, 700 block W. I-30 NSR; Curfew violation, 700 block FM 2642; Driving while license invalid/Rockwall County Sheriff's Office's warrants arrest, 200 block W. I-30 NSR; Possession of marijuana/Possession of drug paraphernalia arrests, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Criminal trespass, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; Disturbance, 300 block Pin Oak Lane; Theft, 800 block Walnut Street; Welfare concern, 400 block Fireside Place; Reckless driver, I-30 westbound near the 79 exit; Suspicious person, 300 block May Street; Noise disturbance, 300 block Midnight Drive; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77A exit; Criminal trespass, 600 block Love Lane

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Opinions

The Federal Reserve is, and always has been, politicized

by Ron Paul

Ron Paul Institute

Audit the Fed recently took a step closer to becoming law, when it was favorably reported by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. This means the House could vote on the bill at any time. The bill passed by voice vote without any objections, although Fed defenders did launch hysterical attacks on the bill during the debate as well as at a hearing on the bill the previous week.

One representative claimed that auditing the Fed would result in rising interest rates, a stock market crash, a decline in the dollar's value, and a complete loss of confidence in the US economy. Those who understand economics know that all of this is actually what awaits America unless we change our monetary policy. Passing the audit bill is the vital first step in that process, since an audit can provide Congress a road map to changing the fiat currency system.

Another charge leveled by the Fed's defenders is that subjecting the Fed to an audit would make the Fed subject to political pressure. There are two problems with this argument. First, nothing in the audit bill gives Congress or the president any new authority to interfere in the Federal Reserve's operations. Second, and most importantly,

the Federal Reserve has a long history of giving in to presidential pressure for an "accommodative" monetary policy.

The most notorious example of Fed chairmen tailoring monetary policy to fit the demands of a president is Nixon-era Federal Reserve Chair Arthur Burns. Burns and Nixon may be an extreme example — after all no other president was caught on tape joking with the Fed chair about Fed independence, but every president has tried to influence the Fed with varying degrees of success. For instance, Lyndon Johnson summoned the Fed chair to the White House to berate him for not tailoring monetary policy to support Johnson's guns and butter policies.

Federal Reserve chairmen have also used their power to shape presidential economic policy. According to Maestro, Bob Woodward's biography of Alan Greenspan, Bill Clinton once told Al Gore that Greenspan was a "man we can deal with," while Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen claimed the Clinton administration and Greenspan's Fed had a "gentleman's agreement" regarding the Fed's support for the administration's economic policies.

The Federal Reserve has also worked to influence the legislative

branch. In the 1970s, the Fed organized a campaign by major banks and financial institutions to defeat a prior audit bill. The banks and other institutions who worked to keep the Fed's operations a secret are not only under the Fed's regulatory jurisdiction, but are some of the major beneficiaries of the current monetary system.

There can be no doubt that, as the audit bill advances through the legislative process, the Fed and its allies will ramp up both public and behind-the-scenes efforts to kill the bill. Can anyone dismiss the possibility that Janet Yellen will attempt to "persuade" Donald Trump to drop his support for Audit the Fed in exchange for an "accommodative" monetary policy that supports the administration's proposed spending on overseas militarism and domestic infrastructure?

While auditing the Fed is supported by the vast majority of Americans, it is opposed by powerful members of the financial elite and the deep state. Therefore, those of us seeking to change our national monetary policy must redouble our efforts to force Congress to put America on a path to liberty, peace, and prosperity by auditing, then ending, the Fed.

How food stamps subverted democracy, Part 1

by James Bovard

Future of Freedom Foundation

The federal government is now feeding more than 100 million Americans. The vast increase in dependency fundamentally changes the relationship of Washington to the citizenry. The more Americans rely on handouts, the more difficult it becomes to roll back politicians' power over those who do not.

There was no good reason for the vast expansion of dependency. The history of the federal food-aid boom is a story of political conniving, bureaucratic bangles, and media collusion. Forty years ago, when the "hunger revolution" in American politics began, average people would have scoffed at the notion that the government must intervene to supply so many meals. But in the subsequent decades, politicians captured new prerogatives to take over far more lives.

In 1937, Franklin Roosevelt declared that one-third of the nation was "ill-nourished." He had no specific data to support that assertion, but it was a key to a punchline in his second inaugural address that also tagged one-third of the nation "ill-clad" and "ill-housed." Most commentators at the time ignored the fact that Roosevelt's agricultural policies — by paying farmers to slaughter pigs and to leave land idle — had sharply inflated food prices.

A 1955 USDA dietary survey found that only 25 percent of America's roughly 43 million poor people had bad diets — i.e., diets with too few calories and containing less than two-thirds of the recommended daily allowance for essential nutrients. Seventy-five percent of the poor provided themselves with adequate diets even though only a third of them were on public assistance. There was not a vast gap in dietary quality between the poor and nonpoor. The federal government ran a commodity-distribution program that allowed needy people to receive boxes of relatively nutritious food. Because government cheese and flour could not function as a second currency (unlike food stamps), the demand was limited.

Hunger was a nonissue for most of the 1960s. From 1963 to 1966 the New York Times did not run a single article on hunger in America. Lyndon Johnson sought to raise his sagging political fortunes in 1966 by declaring a war on hunger, but he was concerned solely with foreign hunger. In 1967, Office of Economic Opportunity Director Sargent Shriver, one of the most outspoken liberals in the Johnson administration, declared, at a time when the federal government was spending roughly \$700 million on food assistance, that spending another billion dollars would be sufficient to end the domestic hunger problem.

Hunger in America

The modern-era hunger hype began in 1967 when Sen. Robert Kennedy visited the Mississippi Delta just after federal policies threw tens of thousands of cotton pickers out of work. Kennedy and other politicians claimed that the Delta's misery was symptomatic of a national hunger epidemic. They conveniently ignored the federal role in sparking the suffering they bemoaned. The left-leaning Citizens' Crusade against Poverty jumped on the bandwagon, sponsoring the Citizens' Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States. The board held hearings in a few Southern states and issued a scathing report in April 1968 entitled *Hunger, U.S.A.* The report was largely anecdotal, including a picture of a scrawny dog with the caption, "Where you see a starving dog such as this one, you'll find hungry people." The report concluded with a shot-in-the-dark estimate that there were "10 million or more" Americans who could not afford adequate diets.

Dr. Raymond Wheeler of the Citizens' Board announced, "Slow starvation has become part of the Southern way of life." The board

report propelled the issue even though its proclamation of 256 "hunger counties" in the United States relied on profoundly flawed statistical juggling. It used 1950s infant-mortality figures even though statistics for 1965 were available. It contrasted the number of poor in 1960 with the number getting food assistance in 1967 even though the number of poor had declined by 12 million in the interim. Board physicians later admitted that their estimates were hypothetical and defended numerous mistakes by saying that the report was a rush job and that the important thing was for Congress to act immediately. Much of the suffering the board attributed to malnutrition due to hunger was actually due to biological parasites.

Nationwide, many localities were amazed to find themselves designated as hunger counties. The Milwaukee Journal, after investigating reports that Sawyer County, Wisconsin, was a "hunger county," concluded, "In talks with a variety of residents, no one could be found who believes this to be true." The chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, Robert Poage (D-Tex.), wrote to health officers in each of the 256 so-called hunger counties, and almost all responded by reporting little or no known hunger or malnutrition due to poverty.

CBS relied on the Citizens' Board report to produce a bombshell television documentary, "Hunger in America." The show began, "Hunger is easy to recognize when it looks like this. This baby is dying of starvation. He was an American. Now he is dead." The Federal Communications Commission investigated and found that the baby had been born prematurely after his mother had fallen the day before, and weighed only two pounds, ten ounces. The hottest item on the program and the sole example of starvation was a fraud.

Regardless, the Citizens' Board established the standard that would guide subsequent federal food assistance. After observing that only 18 percent of the nation's 30 million poor were getting federal food handouts, one of the Citizens' Board doctors concluded, "We cannot assume that any of the remaining poor — those on neither program [food stamps or surplus commodity distribution] — are getting food." But a 1967 USDA study found little difference in the nutritional status of food-stamp users and nonusers of similar income and background.

In the late 1960s, Americans were turning against Johnson's spendthrift Great Society programs that seemed to have done little more than boost dependency and spur riots. Activists and politicians seized upon the hunger issue to create a moral imperative to expand government handouts and political control over the distribution of income. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Nick Kotz wrote in 1969 that "hunger provided a meaningful new metaphor for the issue of poverty in affluent America."

Richard Nixon seized on the hunger issue to burnish his compassionate credentials (at the same time he was bombing Vietnam and Cambodia). On May 6, 1969, he declared, "That hunger and malnutrition should persist in a land such as ours is embarrassing and intolerable.... The moment is at hand to put an end to hunger in America itself for all time." Nixon was willing to do anything to curb hunger — except reform federal farm policies that added up to 15 percent to the price of food. Low-income Americans were soon caught in a crossfire: social workers begged them to abandon their independence while politicians and inflation destroyed the purchasing power of their food dollar.

Even though food-stamp enrollment quadrupled between 1968 and 1971, Congress mandated an outreach program for states to recruit people for food stamps. A USDA magazine reported that food stamp workers could often overcome people's pride by saying, "This is for

your children' ... the problem is not with welfare recipients but with low-income workers: It is this group which recoils when anything even remotely resembling welfare is suggested."

Promoting hunger

In 1973 the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Hunger Needs, chaired by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), released *Hunger — 1973*, a report intended as "a profile of the half-full, half-empty plate which the federal food programs represent to the nation's poor.... Whether the real poverty count is 25, 26, or even 30 million persons, the fact that only 15 million of the poor participate in any food assistance program ... indicates that the hunger gap is far from closed either for the country or the individuals concerned." The Senate Select Committee published a list of "failure to feed" counties in which fewer than a third of the poor were on food doles.

In five years, the tacit definition of hunger in America had changed from consuming insufficient food to being low-income and not receiving federal food handouts. That change also symbolized a radical change in the concept of the poor. No longer were they people who occasionally needed a helping hand; instead, they became a social class by definition incapable of feeding themselves. The fixation on food-program enrollments was also puzzling because many of the poor were receiving some other kind of public assistance intended to help cover food costs, such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children or unemployment compensation.

In 1974, the Senate Select Committee held a conference that proclaimed that despite a fourfold increase in federal food aid since 1968, "we have moved backwards in our struggle to end hunger, poverty, and malnutrition." The New York Times hyped the conference with a front-page headline: "U.S. Needy Found Poorer, Hungrier than Four Years Ago." Even though food-stamp enrollment had zoomed from 3 million to 16 million and the number of poor was roughly the same, things had somehow worsened. The Senate committee made no effort to measure actual hunger.

Federal food-stamp recruiting went into overdrive. Twelve states conducted door-to-door food-stamp recruiting campaigns and seventeen conducted telephone campaigns. Wisconsin distributed thousands of copies of a Food Stamp Nursery Rhyme Coloring Book, while Kentucky relied on a traveling puppet show to spur food-stamp enrollment. A typical 1975 USDA brochure announced, "You are in good company. Millions of Americans use food stamps." A leaflet distributed in Maryland and paid for by the federal government showed a gaunt face on the cover with the question, "Did you know some people would rather STARVE than seek HELP?" On the inside, the brochure said, "PRIDE NEVER FILLS EMPTY STOMACHS.... Food Stamps should NOT be confused with CHARITY! In fact, food stamps are designed to help you help yourself."

The Carter administration, like the Nixon administration, unabashedly championed food stamps. In 1977, the head of the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service declared, "I'm aware that there is a welfare stigma for people who use food stamps, but it's ridiculous. It is, in fact, far more desirable that people meet their nutrition needs with food stamps than that they drive their cars over federally financed roads."

In 1981, Ronald Reagan took office and sought to curb surging food-stamp enrollment. That issue provided the best hook for the liberal media to attack the moral credibility of his administration and Republicans across the board. In part 2, we will see how the hunger issue has been exploited in subsequent times to put a halo over Leviathan.

Soil, Water Stewardship Week set April 30-May 7 in Texas

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Texas Agricultural Land Trust, Texas Wildlife Association and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association are joining other state agencies and organizations in a statewide campaign to highlight the importance of voluntary land stewardship in Texas. Soil and Water Stewardship Week is April 30 through May 7, 2017, the focus this year is "No Land No Water."

The Texas Agricultural Land Trust is a reminder of the importance of water, but also the value of stewardship on agricultural working lands with their message of "No Land No Water." Texas farmers, ranchers and foresters are constantly aware of the significance of water as a natural resource. They have been working with their local Soil and Water Conservation Districts for over 75 years to voluntarily implement conservation plans. These practices increase the quantity and improve the quality of our water, all while conserving water through innovative agricultural practices.

"Land management in rural areas directly affects the water quality and quantity for the 20 million Texans living in urban areas," said Rex Isom, executive director of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, in a news release from the agency. "When it rains in Texas, 83 percent of it falls on farms, ranches and forests. In these areas, the rainfall either infiltrates down into the groundwater, absorbs into the soil, or it runs off into creeks, rivers, and reservoirs."

Rural working lands are crucial to protecting and preserving the water resources of Texas. Water sustainability depends in large part on the stewardship and conservation of these private lands. With the majority of land in Texas being privately owned, voluntary land stewardship is vital to keeping these resources healthy.

Soil and water conservation in urban areas can also help supplement land stewardship efforts in rural areas. "Some cities have brought the land stewardship concept into their own backyards, as urban agriculture, urban farming, native landscaping and community forests are becoming more popular," Isom said in the news release.

"This trend has positively impacted urban communities socially and economically, in addition to educating and reconnecting people to the land."

Partnering organizations in the "No Land No Water" public awareness campaign includes Ducks Unlimited, Earthmoving Contractors Association of Texas, Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas, South Texans' Property Rights Association, Texan by Nature, Texas Association of Dairymen, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources, Texas Ag Industries, Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Forestry Association, Texas Grain and Feed Association, Texas Grazing Land Coalition, Texas Land Trust Council, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Pork Producers Association, Texas Poultry Federation, Texas Rice Council, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association, Texas Water Resources Institute, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

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Mailed by USPS

HCA athletes claim state tennis championship

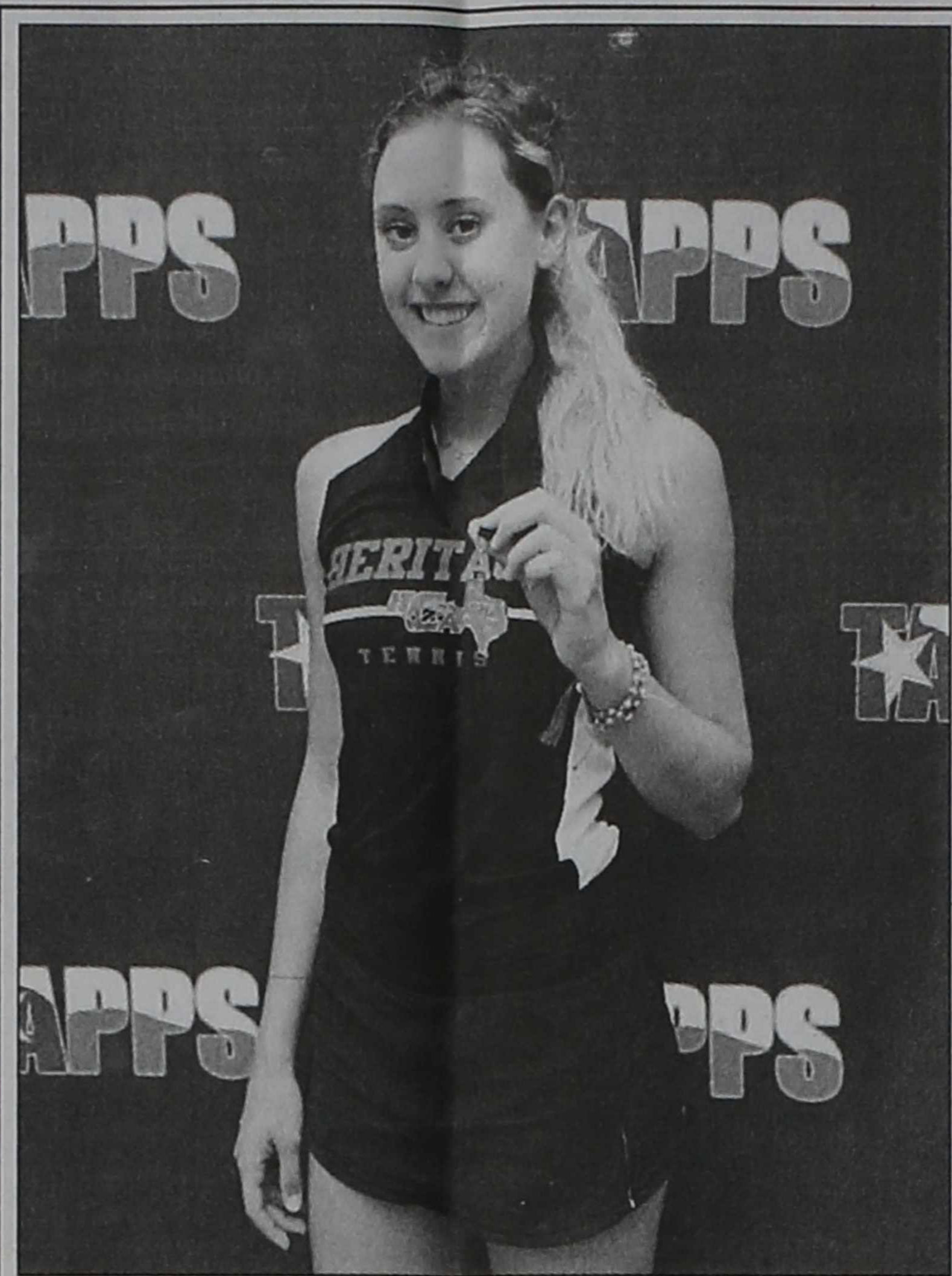
Six student-athletes from Heritage Christian Academy compete in the TAPPS 3A State Tournament in Waco, Texas. Despite the rainy weather and delay in play, Kyndall Misak earned a second straight women's singles state championship.

Misak concluded the two-day event by defeating Taylor McManus of San Antonio Keystone School (6-0, 6-0). She did not lose a set during her championship run.

During her time at HCA, Misak has won three district championships, two state championships and was named state runner-up once. She plans

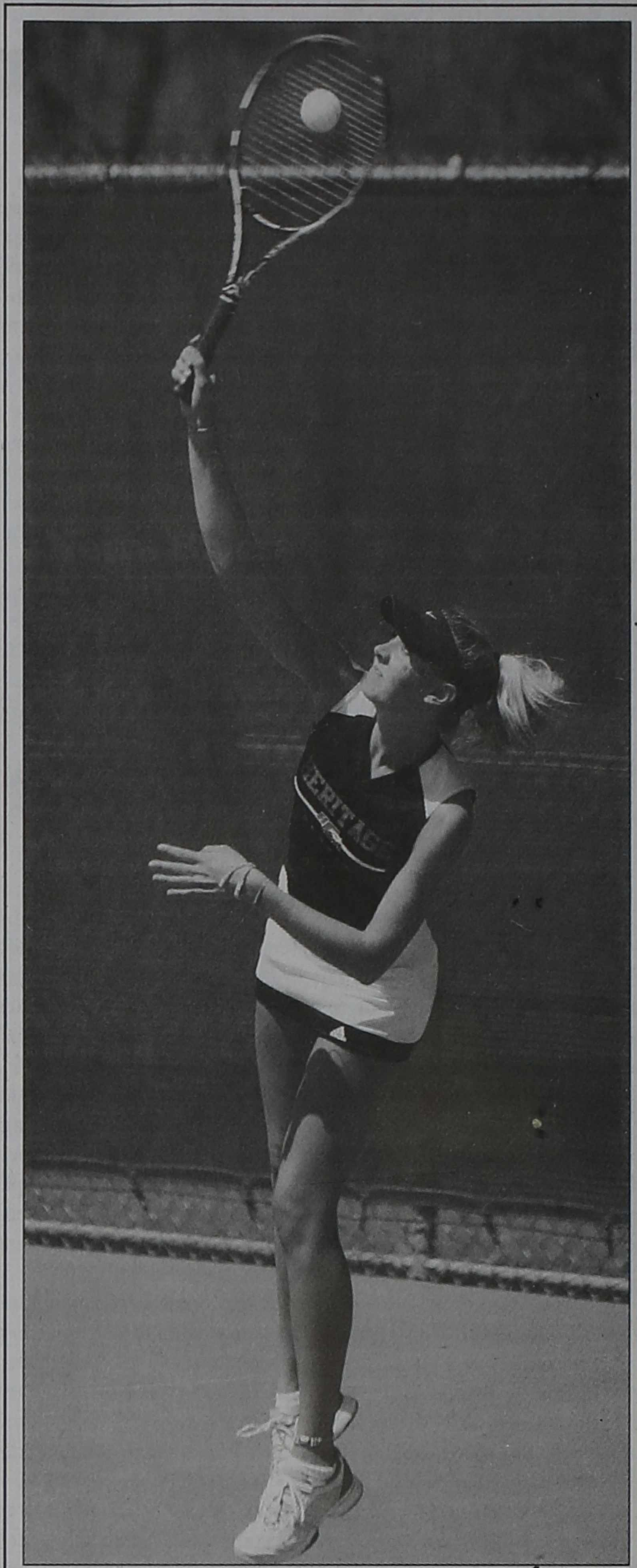
to continue her tennis career at Florida Atlantic University during the 2017-2018 season.

HCA was represented by juniors Jonathan Naylor, Drew Hargrove, and Nelson Williamson as well as seniors Alan Apolinar and Caleb Morris. All suffered early losses, except the doubles team of Williamson and Apolinar who lost a heartbreaking marathon quarterfinal match (5-7, 6-7) to Grant Hanson and Luke Schmitt of San Antonio Christian School at Castle Hill.



HCA Lady Eagles Kyndall Misak shows her championship medal earned during 2017 TAPPS 3A State Tennis Championship in Singles competition, in Waco, Texas. This was Misak's second consecutive state championship in tennis.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



HCA Lady Eagles Kyndall Misak wins a second straight 2017 TAPPS 3A State Tennis Championship in Singles competition, in Waco, Texas.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall Yellowjackets gymnastics win at Region

The Rockwall High School gymnastics team finished first place during the Region 1 meet, held April 12-13, 2017, at Highland Park HS. The Yellowjackets qualified to the state championships starting Friday, April 28, in Odessa.

According to Head Coach Cameron Sweny, the team scored season highs for both compulsory and optional (both days of competition).

TEAM: 1st - 332.6 Rockwall; 2nd - 326.2 Highland Park; 3rd - 321.1 Lakeview; 4th - 320.4 Heath; 5th - 199.3 Irving; 6th - 108.2 Lake Highlands; 7th - 72.8 Richardson.

INDIVIDUAL: (top 10 awarded)

All Around: 2nd - Mckay Larman.

Floor: 1st - Mckay Larman; 4th - Sean Denny; 6th - Jake Hodges.

Pommel horse: 3rd - Zach Dougal; 5th - Mckay Larman; 9th - Jake Hodges (tie); 9th - Wyatt Logan (tie).

Rings: 3rd - Jake Hodges; 5th - Mckay Larman; 9th - Wilson Farris (tie); 9th - Ryan Szafran (tie).

Vault: 2nd - Mckay Larman; 4th - Connor Campbell; 8th - Zane Larman (tie); 8th - Aaron Cory (tie).

P-bars: 2nd - Mckay Larman; 4th - Jake Hodges; 6th - Preston Gage; 8th - Scott Mackenzie; 10th - Anael Gomez.

High bar: 4th - Connor Campbell (tie); 4th - Aaron Cory (tie); 8th - Mckay Larman; 9th - Aidan Culp; 10th - Jonah King.

Rockwall Lady Jackets take Region meet in gymnastics

The Lady Jackets gymnastics team soared to a strong first place finish, April 12-13, 2017, during the Region 1 meet at Highland Park HS. The team will advance to the State meet, starting Friday, April 28, in Odessa.

Team: 1st - 232.15 Rockwall HS (117.2/114.8); 2nd - 226.25 Heath; 3rd - 223.05 Highland Park.

Individual Events: (top 10 athletes were awarded)

Vault: 1st - Kat Rodriguez - 19.4 (9.8/9.6); 3rd - Kaitlyn Scott - 19.35 (9.75/9.6); 3rd - Sarah Graves - 19.35 (9.85/9.5); 8th - Carolina Floris - 19.05 (9.75/9.3); 9th - Kennedy Shelton - 18.9 (9.5/9.4).

Bars: 1st - Kat Rodriguez - 19.5 (9.7/9.8); 2nd - Kaitlynn Scott - 19.3 (9.85/9.45); 4th - Kennedy Shelton - 18.9 (9.85/9.05).

Beam: 1st - Kat Rodriguez - 19.7 (9.8/9.9); 2nd - Kaitlynn Scott - 19.45 (9.9/9.55); 9th - Kennedy Shelton - 18.75 (9.35/9.4).

Floor: 1st - Kaitlynn Scott - 19.7 (9.85/9.85); 2nd - Kat Rodriguez - 19.6 (9.8/9.8); 8th - Kennedy Shelton - 18.9 (9.6/9.3).

All Around: 1st - Kat Rodriguez - 78.2 (39.1/39.1); 2nd - Kaitlynn Scott - 77.8 (39.35/38.45); 7th - Kennedy Shelton - 75.45 (38.3/37.15).

Rockwall-Heath Hawks gymnastics fourth at Region meet

The Rockwall-Heath Hawks gymnastics team finished in fourth place with 226.25 points, for the Region 1 meet, April 12-13, 2017, at Highland Park HS.

Individual events

All Around: 6th - Jonathan Smith; 7th Travis Irizarry (tie); 9th - Trevor Porter.

Floor: 2nd - Jonathan Smith; 8th - Trevor Porter; 9th - Travis Irizarry.

Pommel Horse: 7th - Irizarry.

Rings: 2nd - Diego Acosta.

Vault: 7th - Smith; 10th - Acosta.

Parallel Bars: 8th - Acosta (tie)

High Bars: 2nd - Acosta; 4th - Smith (3-way tie);

Fall community football registration underway

Heath Hawks Community Athletics and Heath Hawks Youth Sports have united to form a single community football organization, Hawks Youth Sports (HYS), which will serve the Heath and Rockwall areas south of I-30.

HYS is dedicated to providing a safe and positive environment with teams built from Amy Parks, Jones, Lyon, Pullen, Rochelle, Shannon and Springer elementary schools, according to a news release provided by the organization. HYS enjoys the support of the Heath Hawks Community Athletics (HHCA) cheer organization for a complete game-day experience for players, families and fans.

Rockwall Youth Community Athletics also offers community football and cheer for the elementary schools north of I-30 including Cullins-Lake Pointe, Dobbs, Hartman, Hayes, Reinhardt, Stevenson and Williams.

Both the Hawks and Jackets organizations are focused on teaching sportsmanship, fundamentals, teamwork, skills and knowledge that players will use throughout their lives, according to the release. Each organization will offer flag football for kindergarten and 1st grade aged children with tackle offered for 2nd through 6th grade.

This year HYS and RYCA will partner with the Lake Ray Hubbard Football League, which field teams from surrounding areas including Roysse City, Sunnyvale, Rowlett and Terrell. By aligning with the LRHFL, HYS and RYCA players are ensured local practices and games played predominately at the Rockwall and Heath stadiums. In addition, HYS and RYSA teams will enjoy supporting their Hawks and Jackets by participating in the tunnel run preceding high school home games at Wilkerson Sanders Stadium.

Below is contact information for more details or to register as a player or coach:

• Future Hawks (HYS), hawkseyouthsports.com, hawkseyouthsports@gmail.com, 469-751-SOAR (7627)

• Future Jackets (RYSA), rycayouthsports.com, rycayouthsports@gmail.com, 469-708-WIN1 (9461)

Lady Hawks gymnastics place 2nd at Region meet

The Rockwall-Heath Lady Hawk Gymnastics team placed 2nd at Regionals with a 226.25 and will advance to the THSGCA State Gymnastics Championships at Permian Odessa HS on April 28th and 29th

Coach Jennifer Holden from Heath and Coach Cameron Sweny from Rockwall received Region 1 Coach of the Year.

Team:

1st Rockwall HS

2nd Heath HS

3rd Highland Park HS

4th Lakeview HS

5th Richardson HS

Individual Results

Spencer Ware placed 1st on Vault 19.4, 7th on Bars 18.65, 7th on beam 18.8, 4th on floor 19.45 and 5th in the All-Around 76.3.

Haley Gibson placed 8th all-around 73.7, 4th on beam 19.25 and 8th on bars 18.25.

Bailey Daulong placed 6th on floor 19.05 and 10th on bars 18.15 and vault 18.9.

Peyton Moody placed 8th on bars 18.4 and 9th on floor 18.8.

Other outstanding performances from Julia Shallow, Tori Mercado, Gillian Rupert and Corinne Moody.

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 2)

Drug takeback planned April 29

The local observance of the National Drug Takeback Initiative will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the John Fitzwater Sr. Community Services Center, 1113 Ridge Rd. (in the Ridge Road Shopping Center).

ARC Blood Drive set April 30 in Rockwall

An American Red Cross blood drive will run from noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 30, at Half Price Books Rockwall, 959 I-30. Eligibility requirements may be viewed at redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/eligibility-requirements. Make an appointment by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor app, by visiting redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

Newcomers & Friends end-of-year luncheon set

The Rockwall County Newcomers & Friends will meet May 11 for its final luncheon of the 2016-2017 year. New officers for the upcoming year also will be introduced. The meeting will take place at Occasions at Stone River in Roysse City. Reservations must be made by May 1; call Becky at 712-202-6916 or Cathy at 927-400-9934. Women who reside in Rockwall County are welcome. Visit the organization online at newcomersrock.com.

Mayors' Prayer Breakfast set May 4 in Rockwall

The City of Rockwall will host the Mayors' Prayer Breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 4, at The Center, 108 E. Washington St., in downtown Rockwall. Mayors from throughout Rockwall County are scheduled to attend. Theme for this year's event is For Your Great Name's Sake! Hear Us ... Forgive Us ... Heal Us! Following the breakfast, a second opportunity for the community to come together in prayer will be offered. A midday prayer event will run from noon to 1:30 p.m. at The Center. Pastors and community leaders will offer prayers.

Rockwall Farmers Market opens May 6

The Rockwall Farmers Market will open for its 2017 season at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 6, at the historic downtown square. The market will be open from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday through Sept. 30. For more details visit rockwallfarmersmarket.org.

Fundraiser to benefit RHS Robotics Boosters

A Drive for your School fundraiser set to run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at the Wilkerson Sanders Stadium parking lot, will benefit the Rockwall High School Robotics Booster Club. Rockwall Ford will bring in nine vehicles. If an adult over the age of 18 drives a vehicle then the club will receive a \$25 donation. The more people who come out to drive, the more donations will be made to the Booster Club. A bake sale and drinks will be on hand to sell refreshments and a face painter will be on site from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

District 11-6A RISD 1st place Track/Field results

Rockwall

Liah Collins wins the womens 800M run in a time of 2:20.32.

Deja Wills, Pole Vault, 11-00.00.

Calista Ukeh, Shot Put, 36-01.00.

Rockwall-Heath

Morgan-McGee Burks finished first in the 400M dash with a time of 55.70, first in the 200M in 23.91, and second in the 100M in 11.65 seconds.

Kendell Jimmerson, 100M, 2, 11.63.

Brad Howard, Discus, 156-11.

Cooper Luff, Shot Put, 49-5.50.

Democratic Men's Group to meet May 6

The Democratic Men's Group of Rockwall County will host its next luncheon at noon on Saturday, May 6, at Arboledas Mexican Grill, 1103 Ridge Rd., Rockwall. The group meets for lunch on the first Saturday of each month at various restaurants. Open-minded, progressive men concerned about the future of Texas and Rockwall County are welcome to attend.

Vendors sought for Country Fair in June

The Rockwall Soroptimists are accepting applications for vendors for their fourth annual Country Fair from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 1111 E. Yellow Jacket Lane. Admission will be free to the public. Sign-ups will be first-come, first-served and sponsorships also are available. Proceeds will fund the Soroptimists' ongoing projects benefiting women and children, including the Children's Advocacy Center of Rockwall. For more details or to sign up visit rockwallcountryfair.com.

Sign-ups underway for RSM Summer Camps

Sign-ups for the Rockwall Summer Musicals 2017 Summer Camps are underway. The "Fiddler on the Roof" Summer Camp will run June 26-30 from 9 a.m. to noon for youths ages 5-7 and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for those ages 8-18. The "Peter Pan" Summer Camp will run Aug. 14-18, from 9 a.m. to noon for youths ages 5-7 and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for those ages 8-18. Registration includes the workshop, a final performance, a ticket and a T-shirt. For more details or to register, visit rockwallsummermusicals.org/season/summer-camps-2017/. Scholarships are available; contact rockwallsummermusicals.org/contact/.

Rockwall County commissioners court ...

(Continued from Page 1)

from SH 66 to IH 30 in the amount of \$3,801.65.

The court went into closed meeting to discuss "pending or contemplated Litigation and Attorney-Client information" regarding Pickett v. Williams, et al, in cause number 3:17-cv-00557-C-BH.

Emergency meeting held Tuesday, April 11, 2017, to pay accounts, bills, claims, and payroll totaling over \$1,270,000, including payments to vendors, payroll, and retirement benefits.

The claims were inadvertently left off the agenda for the regular meeting also held April 11, thus preventing the court from approving payment of county obligations.

Paid claims in the amount of \$351,008.54. Unpaid claims in the amount of \$333,467.26. Payroll report for pay period ending March 25, 2017, \$593,659.43.