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Rockwall County News



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Members of the Rockwall High Robotics Team, Full Metal Jackets Team 1296, attending the FIRST World Championship Competition in Houston April 19-22, are (Back row, left to right) Stephen Hall, Austin Gray, Dave Smith, Bruce Charbonneau, Andrew Peal, Aaron Smith, Cathy Knoff, (middle row), Danna Taylor, Rhonda Bray, Anna Slater, Aiden Perkins, Stephanie Chacko, Amy Smith, Hannah Cowgill, Gabriel Colmenares, Serena Guerts, Mitch Fitzgerald, Aaron Colmenares, Caleb Neff, Jeffrey Tessitore, Phil Beckett, Liz Bradley, (front row) Lauren Knoff, Noah Hietbrink, Brandon Taylor, Lindsey Baumgartner and Eric Bray.

The team ranked first in the Turing Division after qualifications and advanced the team to the finals where they placed second in their division. This is the best showing at Worlds in team history. The Full Metal Jackets helped seven teams at the World Championship including a team that made it to the finals. Students with mentor guidance assisted these teams by helping with mechanical, electrical and software issues and offering spare parts to teams in need. The Full Metal Jackets will attend the UIL State competition May 19-20 in Austin. The team will host a Drive for your School with Rockwall Ford from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 6, at Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium. There also will be a bounce house, face painter and bake sale as well as vendors who will donate profits back to the team. To find out more about the team visit us at rockwallrobotics.com.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall High competes in national culinary competition

Rockwall High School represented Texas in the country's premier high school competition focused on restaurant management and culinary arts, the National ProStart Invitational®, April 28-30 in Charleston, South Carolina.

The culinary team from Rockwall High School traveled to Charleston, South Carolina, for the competition and competed against high school students across the country for trophies, scholarships and bragging rights.

Supported by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, ProStart® is a career and technical education program focused on teaching culinary arts and restaurant management fundamentals through a combination of classroom and industry instruction.

This year, nearly 400 student competitors put their skills to the test in front of culinary and restaurant business leaders, family, and friends.

(Continued on Page 2)

“Election” to fill positions in four cities of Rockwall County

Voters in the Cities of Rockwall, Heath, Fate and McLendon-Chisholm will be asked to fill positions during the Saturday, May 6, “General Election.”

Rockwall's “election” includes three hotly contested positions in Places 1, 3 and 5.

The following candidates have filed for the open spots in the City of Rockwall:

- Mayor – Jim Pruitt was appointed Mayor during 2014 after previous Mayor David Sweet stepped down to serve as on the Rockwall County Commissioners Court as County Judge.

- Place 1 – Enid Marie Reyes, Bree McCleskey and Bennie Daniels

- Place 3 – Daniel Janik, incumbent Kevin Fowler and Adan “Adam” Tovar

- Place 5 – Incumbent Scott Milder, A. Christine Hanna and Dana K. Macalik

“Election” day voting will be held at the Rockwall County Library, located at 1215 E. Yellowjacket Lane in Rockwall.

The City of Rockwall did not publish the required election notices.

With four hotly contested positions, the City of Heath is watching for a possible coup at the “ballot.”

The following candidates have filed for the open spots in the City of Heath:

- Place 1 – Incumbent Kevin Lamberth and Frank O. New.

- Place 2 – Incumbent John A. Main and Paul Ruffo.

- Place 4 – Incumbent Barry J. Brooks and Brent C. Weaver.

- Place 6 – Incumbent Richard H. Krause and Garrett R. Bothun.

“Election” day voting will be held at the Heath City Hall, located at 200 Laurence Street in Heath.

The City of Heath did not publish the required election notices.

Fate

The following candidates have filed for the open spots in the City of Fate:

- Place 2 – Incumbent Lance Megyesi and Martha Huffman.

- Place 3 – Blake Buchanan, Blake Overton and Henry Tatangang.

“Election” day voting will be held at the Fate City Hall, located at 1900 CD Boren Parkway in Fate.

The City of Fate did not publish the required election notices.

The following candidates have filed for the open spots in the City of McLendon-Chisholm:

- Place 1 – Adrienne Balkum.

- Place 3 – Scott L. Tumbull and Rhonda K. Davis.

- Place 5 – Incumbent Jim Herren.

- Proposition No. 1 The adoption of a local sales and use tax in the City of McLendon-Chisholm, Texas at the rate of two percent (2.0%).

McLendon-Chisholm Mayor Nathan Hodges announced his resignation during the April 11, 2017 regular meeting. The council subsequently appointed council member Robert Steinhagen to the position of Mayor and ordered a Special Election to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2017 for the purpose of filling the vacancy in Place 4. The appointed Mayor will serve until the next regular municipal election on May 5, 2018.

“Election” day voting will be held at the McLendon-Chisholm City Hall, located at 1371 W. FM 550.

The City of McLendon-Chisholm did not publish the required election notices in accordance with state law.

Early voting ended Tuesday, and Election Day voting will be conducted at the Rockwall County Library, 1215 E. Yellowjacket Ln., according to the information provided by the city.

Election Day “balloting” will run from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m..

The “election” will be administered by the Rockwall County Elections Administrator.

As of May 2, 2017, Rockwall County has not made payment for publication of the required notices of Testing of Tabulation Equipment, Registration, and Voting Schedules, in the March 2, 2017 edition of the Rockwall County News, and thus did not publish the required election notices for purposes of the Texas Election Code.



During the April 11 City Council meeting, Roysie City Chief of Police Jeff Stapleton, right, introduced the latest peace officer to be added to the Roysie City Police Department. Stephanie Osborne served eight years and six months between the Cedar Valley College Police Department and the Garland Police Department. Roysie City now has 16 full-time sworn officers including Stapleton, one lieutenant and two school resource officers, or SROs, who serve in the public schools to ensure safe learning environment for students.

Photo by Millie Jean Coppedge/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News Briefs

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.

WIN seeks volunteers this week

In preparation for its May 9 grand re-opening, the Rockwall WIN (Women In Need) office could use volunteers to help with painting.

The new location is 904 N. Goliad, Rockwall. Contact Cheryl Bahm at 903-455-4612 for more details.

RC Household Waste Collections set

Roysie City will conduct its annual Residential Spring Cleaning Event from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, and Friday, May 5, at the Walker Hawk Sports Complex, 100 S. Erby Campbell Blvd. Items to be accepted include bulk trash, electronics, metal and brush. Tires will be accepted for a fee (cash only), including tractor tires, \$30, semi tires, \$10, car tires, \$3, truck tires, \$4; no wheel rims will be accepted. No household hazardous waste (paint, chemicals, used oil and batteries) will be accepted. A Roysie City water bill will be required of residents dropping off items. For more details call 972-636-2250 and select 0 at the recording.

(Continued on Page 2)

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

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coloniallodgeassistedliving.com



Kaden Newton, a first grade student at Hays Elementary, was inspired to bring kid-friendly food to local food pantries. His vision has developed into a "company," donating kids-approved foods to Helping Hands and other local food pantries.

Hays and Springer have partnered with Mac and Cheese and Pancakes for their annual Students Serving Others project. A friendly challenge was generated between the two schools to determine who brought the most items. Pictured above, from left, are a handful of the participating students: Dior Etheridge, Lexi Wood, Jillian Westemeier and Bella McLemore.

Courtesy photo/
Rockwall County News



Did you know that many insurance carriers won't allow you to have farm animals on your ranchette?

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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS
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5 Lavaca, TX
6 two cannon used in San Jacinto battle: "Sisters"
7 TX Buddy Holly hit: "That'll Be the Day"
8 popular vehicle type (abbr.)
9 Cash sang "Prison Blues"
15 Great (dog)
16 TXism: "if it ain't a cow in Texas"
19 TX Chill Wills 1969 TV film: "The Hill Gang"
21 TXism: "I do it" (intended)
22 Reporter-News"
27 TXism: "just down the apiece"
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29 invention protection
30 this Strauss was 2nd female mayor of Dallas
32 regional American airline (abbr.)
33 conclusion by a TX doctor
36 TXism: "lots of breathing"
37 former Ranger utility player, Benji chicken can be
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39 those who levy taxes?
41 dir. from Andrews to Plainview

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1 rented quarters (abbr.)
2 TXism: "every and then"
3 published in Edna: "Jackson County Herald"
4 TX Elmer Kelton book: "The Time"
8 TXism: "salt some away"
9 home of the Nimitz museum
10 Texas— Weekend
11 Linda of film "Tom Horn" written by TX
12 "Friendship" is this in Texas (2 wds.)
13 Tom Landry is enshrined in this state and then"
14 business note
15 TX Kenny Rogers' "I ___ You"
16 "stranger fiction"
17 fixes up
18 failed Fords
20 Huntsville's Sam Houston statue weighs 25
22 TX univer. rank below prof.
23 TX Jimmy Dean 1961 hit: "Big John"
24 TXism: "will miss you blink" (small town)
25 acquired some knowledge
26 Ram truck "Hemi"
28 TX Charley Pride's "When I Leavin' (I'll Be Gone)" 1978
31 TXism: "it belongs and the bank"
34 TX Janis Joplin died of this (abbr.)
35 this Bass is a Fort Worth philanthropist
37 fishin' equipment
40 "sail the 7"
43 earliest European in TX: Cabeza de
44 TXism: "nervous as a long-tailed cat ___ of rocking chairs"
50 very small amounts
51 TX pitching legend Nolan (init.)

TxDOT public meeting today on I-30 improvements

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing improvements to I-30 from Bass Pro Road in Dallas County to west of FM 2642 in Dallas and Rockwall counties. Related to those plans, a second open house-style public meeting will be conducted from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, May 4.

The meeting will be conducted at the Rockwall County District Courthouse, Liberty Hall, at 1111 E. Yellow Jacket Lane, Rockwall.

The proposed improvements include widening from four to six lanes from west of SH 205; reconstruct and widen from six to eight lanes between Horizon and SH 205; construction of new frontage roads from Bass Pro Drive to Horizon Road, bicycle and pedestrian facilities across Lake Ray Hubbard; and ramp and interchange construction and reconfiguration in the project corridor.

Rockwall County News Briefs

(Continued from Page 1)

Rockwall Farmers Market opens May 6

The Rockwall Farmers Market will open for its 2017 season at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 6, on 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.

Auditions set for 'Dr. Doolittle Jr.: The Musical'

The Rockwall Community Playhouse will conduct auditions for its upcoming production of "Dr. Doolittle Jr.: The Musical," which will be performed as part of the RCP's tuition-based children's summer camp, beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 6. Performances will be June 20-25. For more details visit rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org.

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.

Republican Women plan May 8 meeting

The superintendent of the Rockwall ISD will be the guest speaker at the Rockwall County Republican Women's next meeting. The organization's scholarship winners will be recognized and the superintendent will speak about his first year in the position, as well as being a new Rockwall County resident. He also will talk about where he envisions the district will be in a year. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Harry Myers Community Center. All Republicans are invited 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/.

RHS in culinary contest ...

(Continued from Page 1)

"The commitment of the Porter High School faculty and culinary staff combined with the relentless dedication to excellence by these students are what makes Texas ProStart an outstanding program and we wish them all the best at Nationals," said Richie Jackson, CEO of Texas Restaurant Association.

"We have competed at the national level before in management and won, but never for culinary," said Cody Hayes, chef instructor at Rockwall High School. "The teamwork of our students is impeccable, their food is delicious, their drive is off the charts, and most of all their hearts are full. The scholarships available through this program are life-changing for these kids and their families. I'm excited to be a part of this, and just as excited to continue to help the restaurant industry develop skilled young people for our industry's future."

University Scholastics News

Ransom inducted into honor society

Payton Ransom of Roysie City was inducted into the Harding University circle of Omicron Delta Kappa on April 23, according to a news release from the Searcy, Arkansas, university.

Omicron Delta Kappa is a national leadership honor society with 293 circles nationwide, comprising almost 300,000 scholars. Hardin University is the only circle in Arkansas.

Ransom, a general studies major, was among the one percent of the

Locals named to OSU honor roll

Two local students were among students who made the Scholastic Honor Roll for the winter term at Oregon State University.

Honorees included Caitlin E. Hudecek, a sophomore biology major from Heath, and Carson J. Flowers, a junior business administration major from Rockwall, according to a university news release.

Three to graduate from SOSU in May

Three local residents are among the 602 students from Southwestern Oklahoma State University at Weatherford during convocation ceremonies set for May 5-6.

Local students to graduate, according to the release, include:

- Mary Anderson, BS in Early Childhood Education
- Jessie Goodwin, BS in Health Care Administration
- Gentry Rogers, MBA in Business Administration

Locals tapped for honor society membership

Seven local residents were among students initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, according to a news release from the organization.

Honorees included Tabettha Adkins of Fate, Brent Donham, Carlos Cisneros, Corben Bloomfield and Katherine Mackenzie of Rockwall and Jennifer Walker and Phoenix Carlini of Roysie City. Each of the honorees was initiated at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Rockwall County Entertainment

Chef's Tasting Event to benefit H-Hands

Rockwall County Helping Hands will host its Chef Tasting Event on Thursday, May 11, at the Culpepper Steak House in Rockwall. The event will include food, fun and live music. Each participating chef (representing Occasions at Stone River, Opa! Greek Taverna, Dodie's Cajun Café and Culpepper Steak House) will present items for all attendees to taste and vote on. Tickets may be purchased online at rockwallhelpinghands.com/taste.

'Pillow Talk' opens at RCP

The Rockwall Community Playhouse will stage its production of "Pillow Talk" May 12-14, 19-21 and 26-28. Friday and Saturday performances will begin at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees set at 2 p.m. Tickets are available for online purchase at rockwallcommunityplayhouse.org, by calling 972-722-3399 or at the box office 30 minutes prior to showtime. The RCP is located at 609 E. Rusk, two blocks off the square in downtown Rockwall.

Rockwall County Classified Advertising

Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous, 24 hour help line, 800-503-8602.

AA Meetings

Rockwall, 7 days a week, Big Book Group, 213 Rusk St., 972-722-6366.

Al-Anon Meetings

Call for information and locations in Dallas area, 214-363-0461.

Al-Anon Garland

Meetings Monday & Friday, 8 p.m. at 2206 South Jupiter St., Suite 130, Garland.

Sons of the American Revolution East Fork-Trinity Chapter meets

6:00 p.m., second Thursday each month. 4881 Bass Pro Dr. Garland, Texas. Guests & family welcome. <http://www.txssar.org/EastForkTrinity>.

Rockwall County Kiwanis Club

Meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rockwall Wedding Chapel, 203 S. Fannin. For more information call 972-772-6001

Senior Services

If you are interested in delivering weekday meals to homebound seniors in Rockwall County, we will be holding volunteer training sessions the second Wednesday each month at 1 p.m. Please call 972-771-9514 for location.

24 Hour Help Line for substance & mental health counseling. 800-662-4357.

NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) meets second Saturday monthly. We offer support and education for families and individuals affected by mental disabilities. For more information call the Dallas office at 214-341-7133.

Everyone is invited to attend the "SAVING AMERICA THROUGH PRAYER" event, on the second Sunday of each month, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Rockwall Bible Church located at the corner of Hwy 66 and Zion Circle, west of FM 3549, in Rockwall. The free event will include guest speakers. This is not

church affiliated, and is open to everyone interested. For more information contact Mike Kennedy (972) 998-2680 or Kenneth Shores (214) 334-1206 or Jerry Minx (972) 896-7081

Garage Sales

Friday-Saturday. 1851 S. FM 549. Home re-do. Lots of Home Décor, clothes, kitchen items, living room accent pieces, and more.

Clearance Sale. All Items must go. Bargains galore. 2410 Brownlee Blvd (In alley). 8-?, Saturday, May 6. No looky-loos.

Call 972-722-3099
Classified Advertising

Notice to the people of Rockwall County

As of May 2, 2017, the cities of Royse City, Fate, McLendon-Chisholm, Heath, Rockwall, and Rockwall County Elections Office, and their respective representatives have not published each required notice in a newspaper that is published in Rockwall County, as the term "newspaper" is defined in the restrictive state statutes.

The City of Royse City has not published each required notice since before year 2002.

The City of Heath has not published each required notice since October 2008.

The City of Fate has not published each required notice since October 2012.

The City of McLendon-Chisholm has not published each required notice since October 28, 2014.

The City of Rockwall has not published each required notice since December 1, 2014.

The Rockwall County Elections office has not published each required notice for municipal elections since May 2016.

During April 2017, Emergency Medical Services Corporation released tax dollars for publication of a Request For Proposal for ambulance services in a newspaper that is not published in Rockwall County.

By the above stated non-actions and actions by the respective representatives, the right of the people to be duly notified of each city action, and secure in their government's legal use of tax dollars, in accordance with state law, may have been impaired on multiple counts under the Right of Due Course of Law and Due Process of Law.

The Rockwall County News continues to be legally qualified to publish each required notice for the Cities of Royse City, Heath, Fate, McLendon-Chisholm, and Rockwall.

Rockwall County News continues to meet the statutory criteria established under Texas Government Code Sections 2051.044, 2051.045, 2051.046 and 2051.048 (b) and (c), as a newspaper of general circulation published in Rockwall County, to be selected, and paid by the responsible city officer for publication of each required notice in accordance with state law.

It is our belief that the representatives of the government units, in their official capacity, have a duty under Oath of Office to select the newspaper in accordance with Texas Gov. Code Chapter 2051 Subchapter C, and to execute each required notice in accordance with state law.

The law that requires elected council members to annually vote to "designate" a newspaper of record does not override or trump Texas Gov. Code 2051, Subchapter C Selection of Newspaper.

(See Texas Government Code Section 2051.049 for selection requirement).

Each City Manager, Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary have a duty under Oath of Office and any other Licensing/Commissioning Certificates, to comply with state law, and such duty shall not be impeded or neglected in cases where the councils vote to violate state law.

All council members and mayors in Rockwall County have repeatedly allowed the City Secretaries to not select a newspaper that meets the statutory criteria, when selecting a newspaper for publication of each required notice; and

All council members and mayors in Rockwall County have repeatedly allowed the City Managers, Chief Financial Officers, and/or Secretaries to release tax dollars for payment to newspapers that may be found to be unqualified to be selected for publication of each required notice.

Any and all adversely affected parties to any action by the above referenced municipalities in Rockwall County, where required notice was not published in accordance with state law, may file proper legal actions in a Court and/or Grand Jury of competent jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted by Timothy W. Burnett
Publisher Rockwall County News

Royse City Police Blotter, April 21-27

- Friday, 21 April: Criminal mischief, 2600 block CR 2596; Suspicious vehicle, 5200 block Shaw Drive; Reckless driver, 200 block Singleton Drive; Alarm, 500 block E. County Line Road; Reckless driver, I-30 westbound near the 77B exit; Alarm, 700 block Valley Court; Theft, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Accident, Area of I-30 SSR and FM 2642; Welfare concern, 100 block Erby Campbell Boulevard; Possession of drug paraphernalia/Rockwall County Sheriff's Office warrant arrest, I-30 westbound near the 77B exit
- Saturday, 22 April: Alarm, 2300 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, 1500 block Lorena Drive; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound from the 73-mile marker; Welfare concern, 200 block May Street; Welfare concern, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 1200 block Maverick Lane; City ordinance violation, 7200 block Woodlawn Avenue; Suspicious person, 1400 block FM 1777; Welfare concern, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Welfare concern, Area of Hwy 66 and FM 1777; Unauthorized use of motor vehicle, 400 block W. I-30 NSR
- Sunday, 23 April: Noise disturbance, 300 block N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Medical assistance, 200 block Hicks Road; Medical assistance, 400 block Rustic Grove Lane; Criminal mischief, 200 block Brookhaven Drive; Suspicious person, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Welfare concern, Area of CR 2526; Suspicious person, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, Area of I-30 SSR and FM 548; Reckless driver, I-30 eastbound near the 77B exit; Rockwall County Sheriff's Office warrant arrest, 200 block E. Old Greenville Road; Texas Department of Criminal Justice warrant arrest, I-30 eastbound near the 79-mile marker; Driving while license invalid arrest, Area of New Street and E. Old Greenville Road
- Monday, 24 April: Suspicious vehicle, 800 block S. Elm Street; Suspicious vehicle, 900 block S. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Accident, I-30 westbound near the 74-mile marker; Disturbance, 300 block E. I-30 NSR; Alarm, 200 block Hidden Creek Court; Accident, Area of Epps Road and E. Old Greenville Road; Assault, 300 block Panola Court; Criminal trespass, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Driving while license invalid arrest, 400 block S. Elm Street; Disorderly conduct arrest, 300 block Cookston Lane; Dallas County Sheriff's Office warrant arrest, 300 block Cookston Lane
- Tuesday, 25 April: Alarm, 3400 block Overstreet Lane; Suspicious vehicle, 500 block West Creek Drive; Accident, 2300 block E. I-30 NSR; Disturbance, 600 block Preston Drive; Accident, 100 block W. I-30 SSR; City ordinance violation, Area of N. Erby Campbell Boulevard; Suspicious vehicle, 300 block Wooded Way; Disorderly conduct arrest, 2000 block Jessica Way; Possession of drug paraphernalia, I-30 westbound near the 74-mile marker; Possession of drug paraphernalia, Area of Rustic Meadows Drive and Hwy 66; Open container, 100 block E. I-30 SSR
- Wednesday, 26 April: Suspicious vehicle, 900 block E. I-30 NSR; Accident, I-30 westbound near the 77A exit; Theft, 1700 block Nevers Drive; Accident, 100 block E. I-30 NSR; Suspicious vehicle, 600 block E. I-30 NSR; Reckless driver, Area of Peterson Street and E. Church Street; Suspicious person, 100 block E. I-30 SSR; Accident, 400 block W. I-30 NSR
- Thursday, 27 April: Medical assistance, 200 block Texoma Court; Possession of drug paraphernalia, I-30 westbound near the 76-mile marker; Driving while license invalid arrest, Area of Hwy 66 and Erby Campbell Boulevard; Credit/Debit card abuse, 400 block W. I-30 NSR; Suspicious person, 1500 block Trent Drive; Alarm, 500 block W. I-30 NSR

Help Wanted

MUELLER, INC.

METAL BUILDINGS, ROOFING & COMPONENTS

Mueller, Inc. is a highly respected, well-established manufacturer of pre-engineered steel building systems, metal roofing & components. We now seek a:

Sales Representative / Project Manager

Caddo Mills, TX

Educate the customer, interpret project requirements, and develop project specifications. Generate sales of metal building systems, residential metal roofing, and components. Serve as an inside sales representative / project manager and coordinate customer support activities from quote to delivery. This job is 100% office based.

Working experience with metal buildings and components and knowledge of agricultural related environment preferred but not required. Bachelor's Degree strongly preferred. Seeking individuals with effective customer service and interpersonal skills coupled with detail orientation and organizational skills. Sufficient personal computer and business software application use capabilities required.

We offer competitive pay/benefits, with 100% paid employee & children dependent health insurance. Spouse coverage available for a nominal fee, long-term disability, 401(k), vacation, sick leave, life insurance, employee assistance program, etc.

Starting base hourly rate of \$18.27 an hour plus graduated commission. Guaranteed weekly pay. Employer paid benefits valued at \$5 to \$10 an hour.

Online application required, may complete on-site at 4840 I-30 West, Caddo Mills, TX, or by visiting www.muellerinc.com.

Compensation specifics will be discussed during the interview process. Employment contingent upon completion of successful drug screen and extensive background check. EOE www.muellerinc.com

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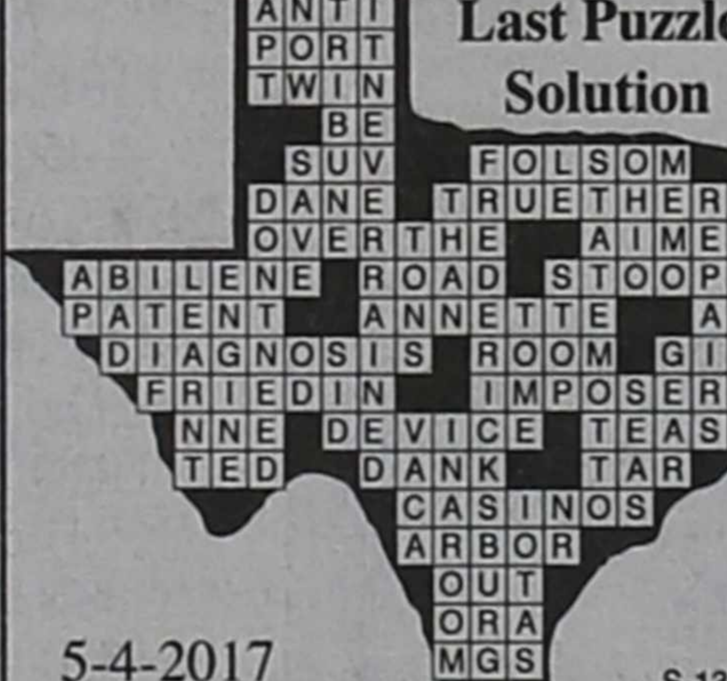
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Opinions

The tyranny of the distance

by Matthew Harwood

Future of Freedom Foundation

Last summer, the Obama administration finally made good on its promise to provide some transparency to its targeted killing program — well, sort of. On a Friday before the long July Fourth weekend, the executive branch released the number range of people killed by U.S. airstrikes between 2009 and 2015, most presumed to be by drones, far away from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. The estimated number: approximately 2,500 people.

Independent analysts and journalists reported similar numbers. The London-based Bureau of Investigative Journalism, for instance, counted 2,753. But there was a subset of the total number of people killed reported by the government that was positively ludicrous when you understand a bit about the U.S. target-killing program: its toll on civilians. According to the Obama administration, U.S. airstrikes killed anywhere from 64 to 116 civilians between 2009 and 2015. The Bureau of Investigative Journalism, begs to differ, tallying a range of 380 to 801 innocents killed.

That of course raises the question: How can there be such wide disparities when it comes to civilian deaths? This question is made all the more urgent since the August release of the once-secret Presidential Policy Guidance forced by an ACLU Freedom of Information Act lawsuit. Otherwise known as the “Drone Playbook,” the 18-page document states “absent extraordinary circumstances, direct action will be taken only if there is near certainty that the action can be taken without injuring or killing non-combatants.”

For the corpse counters in the Obama administration, there’s a pretty simple way around that: Whoever died in a strike was an “enemy killed in action” until proven otherwise. If presumption of innocence is a dying notion in our courts at home, it’s long been dead in the hinterlands of the Middle East, where death can come from the air-conditioned safety of a U.S. drone control room as pilots extrajudicially deliver death like a divinity’s lightning bolt from thousands of miles away.

Much of what we know about the U.S. targeted-killing program comes from the work of human-rights organizations such as the ACLU (where I work), and investigative journalists. In the latter camp, some of the best reporting on the U.S. targeted-killing program has come from the online publication The Intercept. In The Assassination Complex: Inside the Government’s Secret Drone Warfare Program, Jeremy Scahill, author of Dirty Wars and Blackwater, and the staff of The Intercept plunge the reader into the sordid business of the targeted-killing program and the dehumanizing culture it spawns.

Like the revelations that the National Security Agency had taken upon itself the mission of destroying privacy worldwide, an inside look at Uncle Sam’s killing program started again because of the actions of one person of conscience inside the national security state.

Another whistle from the dark

Edward Snowden isn’t the only person inside the government willing to risk it all. Much as the former CIA employee and intelligence contractor hand-picked journalists Glenn Greenwald and Laura Poitras to give his cache of documents to, another U.S. whistleblower

approached Jeremy Scahill to pass on what became known as “The Drone Papers.” The documents provide extensive documentation of how the U.S. targeted-killing program operates in Yemen, Somalia, and Afghanistan and of the global infrastructure that makes it possible, such as the government’s watch-listing system.

Like Snowden, the source disclosed the documents to force a public conversation about the U.S. assassination complex, which the source believes is immoral. “This outrageous explosion of watch-listing,” the source told Scahill, “of monitoring people and racking and stacking them on lists, assigning them numbers, assigning them ‘baseball cards,’ assigning them death sentences without notice, on a worldwide battlefield, was, from the very first instance, wrong.”

From the outset of the book — a collection of The Intercept’s reporting — Scahill makes something crystal clear: “Drones are a tool, not a policy. The policy is assassination,” which is illegal under U.S. law pursuant to executive orders issued by Republican presidents Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan. These assassinations of people, their identities often unknown, are carried out by the Central Intelligence Agency and the U.S. military’s Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) with the approval of the president’s national-security staff, and sometimes the president himself.

Since Barack Obama assumed office, the use of killer flying robots has become a staple of U.S. foreign policy. While the George W. Bush administration conducted an estimated 58 drone strikes during its time in office, the Obama administration has presided over 473 strikes and counting. Hovering over Obama’s legacy will always be the shadow of the drone.

It is no surprise that the frequency of drone strikes affects the people who carry out the lethal attacks, according to Scahill’s source. As the surveillance leading up to the kill intensifies, members of the special-operations community increasingly refer to targets by the number given to them by the government, not the target’s name. That makes it easier, says the source, for the service member to dehumanize “the people before you’ve even encountered the moral question, ‘Is this a legitimate kill or not?’”

Does it help?

But beyond the ethical question of whether the U.S. government should claim such awesome power for itself, there’s a more practical question: Does targeted killing make the people of the United States safer? According to The Intercept documents as well as experts on the subject, they do not for two primary reasons. First, they harm the intelligence-gathering process, and second, they create more enemies than they kill.

One of the most important documents provided to Scahill by the source was a 2013 study conducted by the Pentagon’s Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Task Force. During kill-or-capture missions in the Horn of Africa between 2011 and 2012, it showed that the U.S. government captured its targets only 25 percent of the time, entirely, it seems, through proxies. The rest of time they terminated their targets, despite the ISR’s lament that killing them destroyed the government’s ability to search and question them for intelligence.

Save liberty, shut down the government

by Ron Paul

Ron Paul Institute For Peace and Prosperity

Congress ended the week by passing a continuing resolution keeping the government funded for one more week. This stopgap funding bill is designed to give Congress and the White House more time to negotiate a long-term spending bill. Passage of a long-term spending bill has been delayed over objections to Republican efforts to preserve Obamacare’s key features but give states a limited ability to opt out of some Obamacare mandates.

This type of brinkmanship has become standard operating procedure on Capitol Hill. The drama inevitably ends with a spending bill being crafted behind closed doors by small groups of members and staffers and then rushed to the floor and voted on before most members have a chance to read it. These “omnibus” spending bills are a dereliction of one of Congress’s two most important duties — allocating spending. Of course, Congress long ago abandoned another primary duty — preventing presidents from launching military attacks without first obtaining a congressional declaration of war.

The uncomfortable question raised by Congress’s abrogation of these two key functions is whether a republican form of government is compatible with a welfare-warfare state. The answer seems to be “no.”

Congress’s dysfunctional spending process is an inevitable result of the government’s growth. It is simply unrealistic to expect Congress to fund the modern Leviathan via a lengthy and open process that allows individual members to have some say in how government spends their constituents’ money. The dysfunctional spending process benefits the many politicians eager to avoid accountability for

government spending. The rushed process allows these politicians to say they had to vote for the spending bills. Often, these big spending bills include a promise to cut spending in the future. Like tomorrow, the promised spending cuts are always a day away.

If government continues to expand, the economy will continue to stagnate, social tensions and violence will increase, and more power will be concentrated in the hands of the president, bureaucrats, and a select few members of Congress. The only way to avoid this is for Congress to shut down most of the federal government, starting with bringing the troops home and drastically cutting the military-industrial complex’s budget. Congress must also close all unconstitutional federal agencies and programs, and wind down federal entitlement programs. A good place to start is the Department of Education. The Federal Reserve must be audited and then ended.

The root of the current crisis is neither political nor economic but philosophical. Too many have bought into the lie that government can protect us from life’s misfortunes and stamp out evil around the world without endangering our liberty, our safety, and our prosperity. Convincing a critical mass of people to reject big government is key to our success.

The breakdown of the congressional appropriations process, combined with hyper-interventionism via the Federal Reserve and foreign policy, suggest we are in the last stages of the welfare-warfare state. Whether this system’s inevitable collapse completes our descent into authoritarianism or leads to a restoration of limited, constitutional government and free markets depends on how effective those of us who know the truth are in spreading the ideas of liberty.

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

Dear Editor,

Our once beautiful and bucolic City of Heath is under siege.

What was once pasture is now in a frenzy by Greed, Inc. to be rezoned into cement and “roofs, roofs and more roofs”.

This is a far cry from what we all envisioned and encountered when we first sought refuge from the masses and masonry by moving to Heath.

The threats to our quality of life are blatantly in our faces wherever we look. What we now have are convoys of 18-wheeled and cement trucks clogging up our already clogged roads and squeezed streets. We have a large chain store selling alcoholic beverages across the street from a school. We have a huge cell tower menacingly close to our high school. Encroachment is everywhere....by design.

The so-called stewards of our city, i.e. our mayor and councilmen

are failing us. Add to this mix, a.k.a. mess, is a Planning & Zoning Board candidate connection.....a red flag.

Your vote this Saturday, May 6, is crucial to the survival of our city. Let us not be tricked into believing that all of the incumbents who are running for re-election are going to reverse course, conveniently change their voting records, and betray their developers’ directives and interests.

They know what side THEIR bread is buttered.....do you?

A clean sweep is absolutely essential, otherwise Heath is headed towards becoming another Plano. I just bought a new broom and have joined the New Cleaning Crew.

Joan Ream

Creator:

C.A.T.C.H./Citizens Against The Corruption in Heath

Another telling anecdote reported by The Intercept’s Ryan Gallagher is the killing of Bilal el-Berjawi, a British citizen associated with the al-Qaeda-affiliated al-Shabaab. After the British stripped him of his citizenship in 2010, the United States droned him in Somalia a little more than 16 months later. A JSOC unit did it even though U.S. and British intelligence had him under surveillance for years, monitoring him as he went back and forth between the United Kingdom and East Africa. If the United States really prizes capture over killing, then why wasn’t el-Berjawi taken into custody and exploited for intelligence purposes?

The overreliance on lethal robotic missions also serves only to ignite more hatred of the United States and help militant and terrorist groups recruit more people to their cause. As four former Air Force service members who took part in the drone campaign wrote to Obama in November 2015, the administration’s reliance on drones is counterproductive and immoral. “We came to the realization that the innocent civilians we were killing only fueled the feelings of hatred that ignited terrorism and groups like ISIS, while also serving as a fundamental recruitment tool similar to Guantanamo Bay,” they wrote. “This administration and its predecessors have built a drone program that is one of the most devastating driving forces for terrorism and destabilization around the world.”

The assassin’s lexicon

At the end of each chapter of The Assassination Complex is a red page that decodes “the language of covert warfare.” It would make George Orwell proud.

Drones are referred to as “birds,” and when drone operators pull the trigger, the chances are they’ll kill the “enemy” because the reporting system is rigged. Sometimes drone pilots actually take out their target, which is known as a “jackpot.” But often they kill other people guilty by association or by mistake. Those deaths are labeled as EKIA, or “enemy killed in action,” even though the government may have no idea whom it killed.

Those kills make up a disproportionate amount of the targeted-killing program’s death toll. For instance, consider Operation Haymaker. Between 2011 and 2013, the U.S. military and intelligence community implemented a plan to destroy al-Qaeda and the Taliban in the Hindu Kush Valley of northeastern Afghanistan bordering Pakistan. The Haymaker strikes netted 35 jackpots. The rest, more than 200 people, were EKIA’s. The operation did little to degrade al-Qaeda in the region. All, however, were “continuing, imminent” threats to U.S. security, according to the nonsensical parlance of the national-security state.

The deadly metaphors don’t end there, though. Often victims of drone strikes are known as “touchdowns.” A human being becomes a touchdown when the U.S. government traces a phone to its target, locks on its location, and then destroys the phone and the person carrying it. Or in the assassin’s lexicon, they “find, fix, and finish” their targets. There is, naturally, a flaw to killing people this way. How can anyone be sure the phone is actually being carried by the intended target and not his wife or brother or daughter?

According to Scahill’s source, certainty is rare and thus innocent people die more often than the government admits. “It’s stunning the number of instances when selectors [such as a phone number] are misattributed to certain people,” said the whistleblower. (As former CIA and NSA Director Michael Hayden has said, “We kill people based on metadata.”) “And it isn’t until several months or years later that you all of a sudden realize that the entire time you thought you were going after this really hot target, you wind up realizing it was his mother’s phone the whole time.”

But maybe the most shocking and telling distortion of language is “the tyranny of the distance.” When the U.S. government sends a bird up in the air to prey on targets in Yemen or Somalia, CIA or military officials fret about how far the drone has to travel from its “footprint,” or the U.S. base in the small African country of Djibouti. The distance makes it much harder for drone operators to find their target and conduct enough unbroken aerial surveillance — known as a “persistent stare” — without “blinking,” or losing surveillance of the target, because of fuel limits. The ability of the U.S. government to maintain surveillance of a target until the trigger is pulled maximizes the probability that it is killing the right person or people on the basis of U.S. intelligence sources.

Now think of how the people on the ground, who fear or who may have experienced a drone strike, might define the tyranny of the distance. They might describe it as the complete inability to protect themselves and their families from being obliterated far from any battlefield without any way to defend themselves or strike back at their adversaries, who are controlling the death machine in relative comfort from thousands of miles away. Militaries have been able to deal death from long distance for ages, but drones allow the U.S. to do so in absolute physical safety. There is no other way to put it: This is a dishonorable way to kill people.

The Constitution defiled

When Obama was just a senator from Illinois, Glenn Greenwald reminds us in the book’s afterword, he had a particular knack for standing up for the Constitution against the Bush administration’s contempt for the rule of law. He defended the rights of accused terrorists at Guantanamo to have their cases reviewed by a federal court. He decried the NSA’s dragnet surveillance of Americans’ communications.

Once inside the White House, however, Obama made a mockery of his former protests, arguing that accused terrorists could suffer the ultimate penalty — death — without due process of law. The hypocrisy was so blatant it caused Hayden to complain after the 2011 killing of cleric and suspected terrorist Anwar al-Awlaki, “We needed a court order to eavesdrop on him but we didn’t need a court order to kill him. Isn’t that something?” But don’t think Hayden is all that critical of Obama, observing correctly, “There’s been a powerful continuity between the 43rd and 44th president.”

Because of Obama, the power to run a global assassination operation has now been institutionalized as a bureaucratic process for another president entirely outside of judicial and congressional constraints, as the August release of the Drone Playbook shows. The former constitutional professor did so, even though he promised that he would faithfully abide by the Constitution when it came to fighting the war on terrorism and rein in Bush-era excesses. He broke that promise, and now we, and the rest of the world, will have to live with the consequences of an empire led by Donald Trump.

When historians try to understand the rise of America’s drone campaign and the destruction it has wrought — both morally and strategically — the work of The Intercept and its whistleblower will be invaluable.

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Cox named All-Sun Belt Freshman of Year

Rockwall native Rylie Cox of the Coastal Carolina women's tennis team was voted the Sun Belt Conference Women's Tennis Freshman of the Year and a first team All-Sun Belt singles selection, according to information on the Coastal Carolina University Athletics website.

The announcement was made Thursday, April 20, 2017, during the Sun Belt Conference Annual Awards Banquet.

Cox finished second for Coastal in singles wins with a 13-6 overall record while playing the entire season at No. 1.

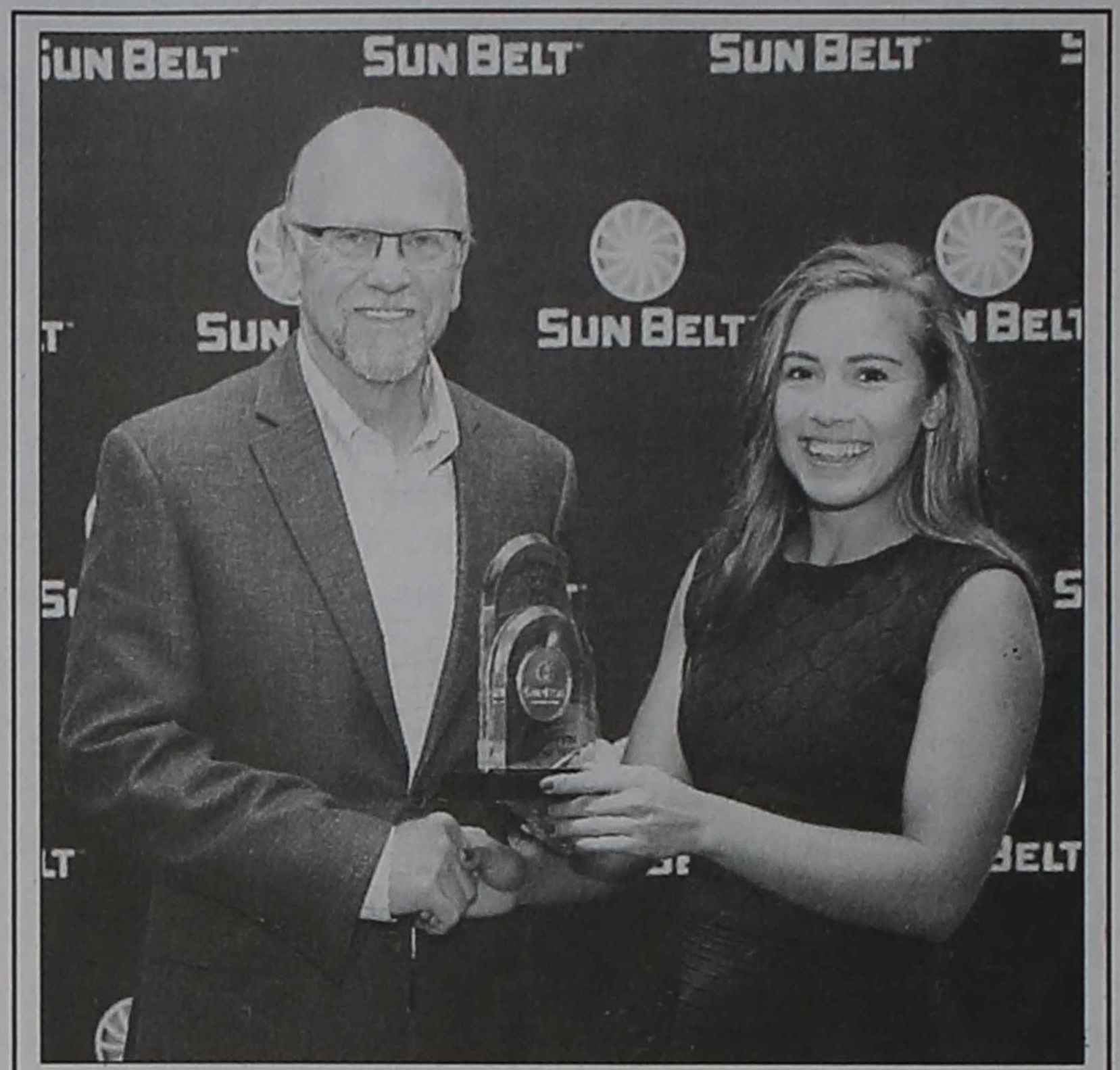
Cox obtained a full scholarship to play tennis at CCU in South Carolina starting Fall 2016. In the second week of school, while walking across campus from a class, Cox was bitten by a copperhead snake, which landed her in ICU for three days and out of tennis for two weeks, according to her father, Glen Cox.

Upon her return back to the courts she soon became the No. 1 player on the team and played line one the remainder of the fall season and all of the spring 2017 season. She ended her first season with a 33 and 10 record playing Line No. 1.

At the Sunbelt Conference Championships banquet in New Orleans, Louisiana, Cox was awarded Freshman of the Year and First Team Singles All Conference for the Sunbelt Conference.

Cox also made the President's List for both the Fall and Spring semesters.

She plans to come home this summer to train and prepare for her sophomore year.



Rockwall native, Rylie Cox (right) is named All-Sun Belt Conference Women's Tennis Freshman of the Year, during the Sun Belt Annual Awards Banquet, Thursday, April 20, 2017, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Presenting the award is Sun Belt Conference Commissioner Karl Benson (left).
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Rockwall County high schools to be represented at UIL State Track meet

Rockwall County athletes advanced to the UIL State Track & Field Meet, to be held May 11-13, 2017 at the University of Texas in Austin.

The Region 2-6A meet was held April 28-29, at Baylor University. Athletes representing Royse City High School competed for Region 2-5A at UTA Arlington.

Representing Rockwall as Region 2-6A champions were Sarah Graves in the Pole Vault event, and Liah Collins in the 800M Run. Rockwall-Heath's Morgan Burks-Magee won Region 2-6A championship in the 400M dash.

Also advancing to the state meet will be Rockwall's Chika Iwuamadi in the 400M, and Michaela Travers of Royse City, in the 300M Hurdles.

Individual results

Rockwall

Sarah Graves, Women's Pole Vault, 12'0", 1st place;

Deja Wills, Pole Vault, 11'6", 3;
Micaela Vavra, Pole Vault, 10'6", 5.
Liah Collins, Women's 800M Run, 2:15.54, 1.
Chika Iwuamadi: Women's 400M Dash, 57.09, 2.
4x400M Relay with Chika Iwuamadi, Abigail Graves, Miracle Grant and Liah Collins, 3:58.50, 6.

Rockwall-Heath

Morgan Burks-Magee: Women's 100M Dash, 11.78, 3; 200M Dash, 23.98, 4; 400M, 56.45, 1.
Oluwafolabomi Ogunlari: High Jump, 5-02.00, 8.
Riley Tilley: Pole Vault, 11-00.00, 14.

Royse City

Michaela Travers: 300M Hurdles, 45.78, 3.
Kayla Hutchins: Long Jump, 15-11.25, 11;
Triple Jump, 35-11.75, 9.
Nathan Giles: Long Jump, 21-07.25, 9; Triple Jump, 42-03.00, 9.

Win over Lufkin sends Lady Jackets to Area playoff against Lake Highlands

The Rockwall Lady Jackets softball team defeated Lufkin 2-1 in three games for Bi-District, April 27-29, 2017 at Athens and Madisonville.

With the win, Rockwall will advance for a single playoff game against Lake Highlands, 7:00 p.m., Friday, May 5, at the RHS Campbell Complex in Rockwall.

Head Coach Shadie Acosta praised the young women for their overall poise and performance.

"I am very proud of the way our girls played. They came out on day one fired up, relentless in their competitive spirit and took advantage of every opportunity to score," declared Acosta.

Acosta explained that game two got away from them, but they came back for game three with a fiercer spirit.

The team set the tone early with a homerun in the top of the first and Hannah Frank started the bottom of the first striking out their leadoff batter (looking).

Erica Speer, Samantha Bean, Paige Harris and Cassie Lawrence each came up with clutch hits to get 6 runs.

Hannah Frank looked sharp (especially considering it was her third game in about 48 hours).

She took command of the mound finding ways to get some of their biggest hitters to hit into outs.

"Although the defense made a few errors that could have given Lufkin the momentum, they showed a lot of composure and maturity to make the next out and get out of those tougher innings. The defense also did a great job of coming up with lead outs to prevent their offense from scoring multiple times in the series."

"I am so proud of them for stepping up. They showed a lot of growth from the beginning of our season," finished Coach Acosta.

Yellowjackets gymnastics rally against Permian for fourth place in state meet

Rockwall Yellowjackets gymnastics team pushed ahead of Odessa Permian for a fourth place finish, Friday, April 29, 2017, during a final rally in the rings and vault events of the State meet held at Odessa Permian High School.

The Rockwall Yellowjackets gymnastics team pushed ahead of Permian for a 331.20 point fourth place finish.

Winning the championship was Bryan Rudder with 342 points. Coach Cameron Sweny described an exciting rally during the last day of the meet.

"Going into the state meet, our guys team was ranked fourth place (based on season scores), slightly ahead of Odessa Permian. Our team competed well on day 1, but we were sitting in fifth place," said Sweny.

During the second day of competition, Yellowjackets competed well through three rotations, but Permian was pushing ahead.



The young women pictured above posted a great showing at the district championship track and field meet. Pictured are eighth grade students Rylee Wicker, first place, pole vault, 11' (district and school record); Logyn McNeil, third place, triple jump, 31'10"; and Jordyn Brown, third place, 800-meter run, 2:38.36.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Game statistics

Thursday, April 27, 4-3 (Win)
Rockwall: 4 Runs, 9 Hits, 5 Errors.
Lufkin: 3 Runs, 6 Hits, 1 Error.
2B: Darryan Welborn, Hannah Frank.
3B: Samantha Bean.

Runs Batted In: Cassie Lawrence, Samantha Bean, Reagan Swindall.

Hannah Frank pitched 7 innings, gave up 6 hits, 3 runs, 0 Earned Runs, 2 strikeouts, 2 Walks.
Friday, April 28, 1-7 (Loss)
Rockwall: 1 Run, 2 Hits, 7 Errors.
Lufkin: 7 Runs, 10 Hits, 1 Error.

2B: Paige Harris.
RBI: Paige Harris.

Hannah Frank pitched 7 innings, gave up 10 hits, 7 runs, 1 earned run, 2 strikeouts, 5 walks.
Saturday, April 29, 6-4 (Win)
Rockwall: 6 Runs, 9 Hits, 3 errors.
Lufkin: 4 Runs, 9 Hits, 3 errors.

2B: Samantha Bean, Hannah Frank.
Home Run: Erica Speer (1).

RBI: Cassie Lawrence, Samantha Bean, Erica Speer (3), Paige Harris.

Stolen Base: Darryan Welborn, Reagan Swindall.
Hannah Frank pitched 7 innings, gave up 9 hits, 4 runs, 3 earned runs, 2 strikeouts, 3 walks.

By the end of the third rotation (out of 6 rotations), their lead had grown to over 3 points.

"With their backs against the wall," Sweny said the team moved on to the last three events which were pommel horse, rings, and vault.

Rockwall had strong routines by seniors Zach Dougal, Jake Hodges, Mckay Larman in the Pommel Horse, to cut the lead down to just over 2 points with two rotations to go.

In the Rings event, the Jackets scored season high's to stay in the running for fourth place.

"Jake Hodges, Mckay Larman, Sean Denny, and Ryan Szafran hit their routines to lift our team to a season best rings performance. We were now only 0.35 behind Permian going into our last event (vault)," Sweny.

"Our last three guys on vault did even better than I could have possibly imagined," continued Sweny.

Zane Larman stuck his landing on a near perfect layout tskue, which was a new vault for him.

Zane's older brother and team captain Mckay, followed up with a layout tskue of his own.

The team capped off the meet with a stuck landing by Connor Campbell doing a kazamatsu.

Sweny praised the team for their state level performance. "Not only did we erase the deficit of over 3 points, but we finished almost a full point ahead of Permian (who looked outstanding), to take fourth place in the final standings," finished a proud Coach Sweny.

Team Results: (12 teams qualified) 1st - 342.00 Rudder; 2nd - 341.40 Kingwood; 3rd - 340.75 Saginaw; 4th - 331.20 Rockwall; 5th - 330.35 Permian; 6th - 323.00 Odessa; 7th - 322.70 San Angelo; 8th - 322.05 Boswell; 9th - 321.90 Chisholm Trail; 10th - 321.05 Highland Park; 11th - 218.30 Round Rock 12th - 316.55 Lakeview Centennial.

Individual Results:
(167 individuals qualified. Top 10 recognized. Only Rockwall names are listed below)
All Around: 8th - 111.05 Mckay Larman.
Floor: 9th - 18.9 Mckay Larman.
Rings: 10th - 19.2 Jake Hodges.
Vault: 3rd - 19.35 Mckay Larman; 4th - 19.20 Connor Campbell.
Parallel-bars: 8th - Mckay Larman.

Treadway to TAPPS state meet in top seed, 300M Hurdles event

Tyler Treadway won the Men's 300M Hurdles in a time of 41.27 seconds, during the Regional meet. Treadway will represent Heritage Christian Academy of Rockwall at the Texas Association of Parochial and Private Schools State Track & Field meet, going in with the lead time.

The state meet is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, May 5 - 6, at Clyde Hart Track and Field Stadium, Baylor University, in Waco.

Other HCA athletes advancing are:
Abbie Mayfield, Women's 100 Meter Hurdles with a seed time of 18.69 seconds; 300M Hurdles, 54.99.

Madison Brown, Women's 200M Dash, 29.00; Women's Triple Jump, 32-05.75.

Women's 4x200M Relay with a seed time of 1:57, Madison Brown, Sarah Santangelo, Hannah Haessig and Baylee Hawkins.

Men's 4x200M Relay with a seed time of 1:35.87, Dawson Schoening, Jacob Smith, Evan Schreiber and Will Treffinger.

Baylee Hawkins, Women's Long Jump, 14-08.00.
Isabella Schukal, Women's Discus Throw, 73.08.

Paden Elliot, Men's Discus Throw, 122-03.25, just under first seed Austin Weber of Dallas Covenant; Shot Put, 39-10.00.

Baseball, Softball results

Rockwall
Baseball (Overall 28-5, District 11-6A 13-1),
4/25/2017, North Mesquite (Home), 2-14 (Win).
4/28, N. Mesquite (Away), 14-2 (W).
4/29, Rockwall-Heath (H), 10-7 (Loss).
Softball, 4/27, Lufkin Bi-District, (H, Athens), 3-4 (W).
Sfb, 4/28, Lufkin Bi-District, 1-7 (L).
Sfb, 4/29, Lufkin Bi-District, (Madisonville), 4-6 (W).
Rockwall-Heath
Bsb (Overall 27-6, District 11-6A 13-1),
4/25, Mesquite Horn (A), 7-3 (W).
4/28, Mesquite Horn (H), 9-10 (W).
4/29, Rockwall (A), 10-7 (W).
Sfb (Overall 23-7, District 11-6A 12-2)
4/27, Montgomery Bi-District, (at Montgomery), 2-11 (W).
4/28, Montgomery Bi-District, 4-0 (L).
4/29, Montgomery Bi-District, (Midway Waco), 18-8 (L).

Sports Schedule

Rockwall
Baseball, 5/5, 7:30 p.m., The Woodlands College Park, Bi-District, at Rockwall HS.
Softball, 5/5, 7:00 p.m., Lake Highlands, Area playoffs, at Rockwall HS.
Track & Field, 5/11-13, State meet, UT Austin.
Rockwall-Heath
Bsb, 5/5, 7:30 p.m., Lufkin Bi-District game 1, at Mike Carter Field in Tyler.
Bsb, 5/6, 1:00 p.m., Lufkin Bi-District game 2, MC Field Tyler.
Bsb, 5/6, 30 minutes after game 2, Lufkin Bi-District game 3, MC Field Tyler.
Track & Field, 5/11-13, State meet, UT Austin.
Royse City
Track & Field, 5/11-13, State meet, UT Austin.
Heritage Christian Academy
Track & Field, 5/5-6, Clyde Hart Field, Baylor University in Waco.

Rockwall County Sports Notes

Fishing Derby set May 6 at Harry Myers Park
Rockwall Parks & Recreation will host its annual Fishing Derby from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 6, at Harry Myers Park West. The pond has been stocked with catfish, so register to win heaviest, longest or most fish in your age group. Bring your own bait; any type of bait will be allowed. Cost is \$5 per fisherman. (A limited amount of worms and catfish bait will be available on site.)

City of Rockwall to offer swim lessons
The City of Rockwall will offer swim lessons in coming weeks. The program places children in leveled lessons based on their performance in a swim evaluation by experienced instructors. Classes are provided at a reduced cost for Rockwall residents and are taught at the Harry Myers Pool. The first session will begin June 5. Evening sessions also will be offered this year. Space is limited, so visit playrockwall.com to check class times or to register.