

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Rockwall County News

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Kris Kringle and his bride made a recent visit to Amy Parks Heath Elementary for the annual Sweets with Santa event. Pictured with the visitors from the North Pole are, from the left, Dylan Potts, Tessa Rodden, Tatum Rodden, Torey Rodden, Colton Woodward, Wade Woodward, Layton Brown and Parker Brown.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Federal court orders delay in election primaries

by Jana Edwards

The Rockwall County Elections Office reports that primary election dates have been changed from March 6 to April 3 pursuant to a U.S. District Court order issued Dec. 16 and confirmed by the Secretary of State's office.

The order, said elections administrator Glenda Denton, follows many months of ongoing debate and litigation over redistricting across the state, delaying processes, and creating some voter concerns.

The local elections office has received multiple phone calls from concerned citizens, as current voter registration cards expire Dec. 31. Normally, said Denton, the new cards are distributed at the beginning of December, but the State of Texas required that new cards be held until further notice.

The new court order establishes a timeline for distributing new voter cards by Feb. 13, but the Secretary of State's office has indicated that it would be better to wait until the redistricting is complete and the counties receive notification to mail the certificates.

"We want citizens to be aware, and understand that we have not forgotten to send out voter registration cards," said Denton. "But our hands are hands are tied until February."

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

"The order regarding the changes will stand, unless we hear something different from the Secretary of State," said Denton, adding that she did not expect the state to override the order unless additional lawsuits create another delay.

The Rockwall County Elections office has provided a copy of the order to the Rockwall County News, available at sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/court-order-563.pdf.

Open letter to the people of Rockwall County ...

We who work and volunteer in the nonprofit sector are well aware of the suffering that so many people are experiencing now and the frustration that young people in particular are feeling. We know that a job loss or an illness - maybe even a hike in food and/or gas prices - can devastate a family, pulling security out from under them.

Our job at Rockwall County Helping Hands - the community's main service provider - is to assist residents in financial crisis. But serving 10,000 people a year is a big job and one we struggle to do because of financial constraints.

That's why we need your financial donations to do the job we do well - responding to the many requests for help from our community. As our natural base of support, our donors provide the extra funding needed to serve the increasing number of people seeking aid. Your donations combined with revenue from our thrift stores (which accounts for 41 percent of our annual income), allow us to be the first line of defense for those in need. We are a crucial element of this community that needs your support to help Rockwall families.

Our clients are from all spectrums of society:

- * senior citizens in need of food or healthcare;
- * teenagers with no parents and no home;
- * the hungry;
- * families that need help keeping the lights on and the house warm, feeding their children nutritious meals or just a tank of gas to get to work;
- * people waiting for government assistance.

The majority aren't poverty stricken or those seeking help on a continuing basis. They are mostly working families in financial crisis and senior citizens that sometimes can't live on just Social Security. Many are low income families - some are solid middle class families.

It's our mission to get them through the tough times and back on their feet as contributing members of this community so they don't fall into vicious cycle of poverty - and we need your help to do that.

I hope you will make a donation to Helping Hands today so we can better serve community families in 2012. With you as our partners, we could change lives for the better and make a positive difference!

We wish you Happy Holidays,

Margo Nielsen, Executive Director, Rockwall County Helping Hands

Editor's Note: Rockwall County Helping Hands is located just east of Downtown Rockwall on State Highway 66.

PGBT connection to IH-30 set to Open December 21

The NTTA has announced the opening of the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT) Eastern Extension in the late afternoon December 21.

The opening allows motorists to drive the highly anticipated route that extends the PGBT from northwest Garland to Interstate 30. Construction on the \$958 million dollar project began in August 2008, and the corridor will open on time.

In addition to providing a quicker commute, the PGBT Eastern Extension is expected to relieve congestion on local roads. Through partnerships with the Texas Department of Transportation, Dallas County and the cities of Dallas, Garland, Rowlett and Sachse, the PGBT Eastern Extension offers a viable alternative to motorists in the eastern part of the Metroplex.

Although the corridor opens on Wednesday, motorists will continue to see minor construction activity through the first part of 2012 as final touches are made to the corridor's infrastructure. In addition, access to the I-30 frontage road is expected to occur in February 2012.

The corridor consists of three main lanes in each direction, one main lane gantry and six sets of ramp gantries. The average toll for driving on the PGBT Eastern Extension is

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Dobbs students Emma Parr, left, and Jessica McCoy received an unexpected hug when the Grinch visited the school's Family Reading Night in December.
Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Rockwall family celebrates special Christmas vi

Prayers have been answered for one Rockwall County family since their son has returned safely from perform of the most dangerous jobs in the United States Army. SPC Andrew Patton Jacobs is home on leave from Afg after a 12 month deployment, to celebrate the Christmas holidays with his family. Andrew is the son of Micl Marijane Moore of Heath, and Randy Jacobs of Orlando, Fl. Andrew, a 2003 graduate of Rockwall High Schoo the U.S. Army as a Combat Engineer in May 2010. After basic training at Fort Leonardwood, MO, he was a

to the 54th Engineer Ba
541st Sapper Company,
Barracks in Bamberg, Ger
November of 2010, Andre
deployed to F.O.B. Shank
Province, Afghanistan, to
route clearance operations.
Combat Engineers inst
safety and mobility of infar
supply delivery by clearing

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Andrew Patton Jacob

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Texas Health Hospital Rockwall provides RISD students up close looks at medical careers

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall recently presented its Little Hands in the OR program to area middle school students. The ongoing goal of this series is to inspire young minds to choose a career in healthcare, especially one in perioperative services. Due to the popularity of last year's program, Little Hands in the OR was expanded to include more schools over a two-day period. This year students from both Christian School and the Rockwall Independent School District had the opportunity to learn and experience a role in the medical profession.

The introduction to the day's events began with presentations by several physicians and other staff members in the hospital environment. Dr. Kate Makahon, Rockwall surgeon, prepared a group of students for their exposure to the operating room as she explained how she evaluates and diagnoses a patient's symptoms to determine the best surgical options. Playing an important role in the operating and procedure room is the anesthesiologist.

Dr. Marc Brown, an anesthesiologist on staff at Texas Health Rockwall, gave a demonstration for students on his role and how he keeps patients comfortable throughout the process. Other area physicians participated in the day, sharing their experience and passion for their career with a very interested crowd of students. Rockwall surgeon Dr. Jeff Stephens spoke about the sacrifices he makes for the good of the patient. He commented that choosing to pursue surgery is not about making a living financially but is, instead, about providing patients with the best care possible and saving their lives for the better. Dr. Gary Bonacquisti, a Rockwall family medicine physician who chooses the career to be a calling from God, discussed the emotional aspect that goes hand in hand with the career.

"You end up caring deeply for these patients and their families so being their physician is very rewarding," he said. "The challenges are worth the sacrifice. However along the way you have to learn to manage your workload and your family life."

Each day was filled with hands-on, fun and educational activities that included watching a video following a patient's surgical trip through Texas Health Rockwall. Students viewed the surgeon's experience as she traveled from the admitting process, through a successful gallbladder surgery, recovery and her dismissal. They also experienced demonstrations of the sterile processing of surgical instruments, as well as surgical hand scrubs and infection control practices that are performed only inside the hospital.

Hospital infection control coordinator Katherine Collinsworth, RN, MSN, discussed the importance of hand washing and the role it plays in patient safety. Additionally, several hospital supply vendors participated, including representatives of Rockwall EMS who gave a tour of the ambulance and spoke on the role of an EMS technician.

One activity allowed students to visit an operating room in full surgical attire. Here they had the opportunity to manipulate actual surgical equipment, attempting to pick up colorful beads and load them on a stick using a laparoscope.



Anesthesiologist Dr. Marc Brown is shown demonstrating monitors, CPR and breathing equipment to Rockwall Independent School District students. The demonstration was part of Texas Health Presbyterian's Little Hands in the OR program for middle school students. Photo courtesy of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital/Rockwall County News

Local gardeners to host class on growing in drought

A team of Rockwall County Master Gardeners will present an 8-hour class series that will emphasize growing in drought conditions and how to plan ahead for high summer temperatures and low water supplies. The series consists of four days of class sessions that will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Jan. 14 and Jan. 21. A lunch-on-your-own break will be provided between the morning and afternoon sessions. Classes will be conducted in the meeting room of the Rockwall County Library, 1215 E. Yellow Jacket Lane.

The cost is \$50 for the series, which will cover speakers' expenses, class materials and handouts. Each participant also will receive a greenhouse kit, packets of vegetable seeds and potting mix. The series will provide basic gardening information for beginners interested in starting a home vegetable garden. Updated illustrated lectures and demonstrations with a focus on handouts will be presented at each session.

Leading the team will be Kim Martin, a commercial vegetable grower and a Master Gardener. Janie New, Master Gardener, Billie New, Master Gardener certified entomology specialist, and the Rockwall County Extension Agent, Todd Williams, also will serve as speakers.

The classes will include Introduction to Home Vegetable Gardening with details on site selection, soil, planting dates and water conservation; Seed Starting 101, which provides step-by-step tips on how to germinate and transplant seeds; and Plant Pests and Diseases, which will explain why things go wrong in the garden. Container Gardening will explain why pot sizes, proper irrigation, fertilizer and soil selection are all important considerations for success in our hot Texas weather. Drip Irrigation will emphasize water conservation with efficient methods and resources. Fall Vegetable Gardening will offer information on how this growing season is often the most successful and satisfying for gardeners in Texas. A fall planting schedule and season extension techniques will be discussed.

The final class, Advanced Seed Starting, will point out what to grow and how to grow it in Rockwall County. Recommended varieties, a planting calendar and a detailed crop guide with seeds will be provided.

Registration is required for the 2012 Home Vegetable Gardening series. A minimum number of participants must be pre-registered by Jan. 11; the class will be canceled and money refunded if not enough participants pre-register. A copy of the registration form is available at the Rockwall County Extension Office or online at rockmga.org.

A donation of 12,000-plus books made to RISD. More than 12,000 books were made to the Rockwall Independent School District libraries earlier this month, according to a district news release.

Price Books donated the items.

"Books should fill our lives, not our lands," Ken Gjemre, founder of the company, was quoted as having once said. As a result, the company donates books that fail to sell in their stores. Throughout the company's history, it has donated millions of books to nonprofit organizations and schools throughout the world.

Congressman Ralph Hall, Rockwall mayor David Sweet and Rockwall Superintendent Jeff Bailey were on hand to accept the donation on the district's behalf.



Daniel and Amber Haas and their children, Clinton, Kelsey and Kylee, are pictured outside their new home built by the Rockwall Area Habitat for Humanity. Also shown standing next to the sign is Nic Link of Manhattan Construction, which partnered with the local Habitat chapter in sponsoring the build. The Haas home and a second Habitat build in Peter's Colony, Rockwall, were dedicated in a Dec. 3 ceremony. Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Local Habitat chapter dedicates two houses

Two local families received early Christmas gifts Dec. 3 with the dedication of the new homes courtesy of the Rockwall Area Habitat for Humanity.

The Haas family — Daniel and Amber and their children, Clinton, Kelsey and Kylee — and Jessica Fisher and her daughter, Jaylynn, moved into the two recently completed homes in Peter's Colony, Rockwall, earlier this month.

Pastor David Griggs of Zion Baptist Church in Rowlett blessed each family and house.

On hand for the occasion were most of the members of the local Habitat chapter's board of directors, as well as many of the volunteers who invested their time and talents in building the houses.

Also present was Nic Link of Manhattan Construction, who was a key player in providing tools and labor as sponsor for the Haas House. Link presented each family with a U.S. flag that has flown over the Capitol in Washington, D.C. The flags were provided by Congressman Ralph Hall, who was unable to attend the dedication.

Wardell collecting books for library in Africa

Julie Wardell of Rockwall hopes to collect 1,000 books and \$500 to ship the books to help start a school library as part of the African Library Project.

In July, Wardell traveled to Lesotho where her younger sister, Amy Jo Carson, serves in the U.S. Peace Corps. There, Wardell learned about the African Library Project and saw an opportunity to help her sister support the village school with a library designed to serve middle school-aged students.

"Literacy opens the door to knowledge. Knowledge ignites hope that moves a child, a people, even an entire country to better themselves," Wardell said in a news release.

The African Library Project has mobilized volunteers from across the U.S. to begin more than 700 libraries in nine countries since 2006. The effort involves an all-volunteer organization based in Portola Valley, Calif., that helps Americans start community libraries with African partners.

"We couldn't do it without the dedication and creativity of book drive organizers," said Chris Bradshaw, founder of the African Library project.

For the past three years, Wardell has been active in HIV/AIDS awareness and compassion efforts in Africa through Lake Pointe Church.

"Education is the catalyst for change and understanding," she said.

In addition to donated books, the African Library Project sends each library a set of books about HIV/AIDS and written specifically for African children.

Wardell still is collecting books and money. She is requesting a variety of fourth- through eighth-

grade reading-level books, including classic literature, fun paperback collections of mysteries, Boxcar Children, Narnia series, Magic School Bus Adventures, nature books, science books and Discovery books with photography.

Anyone interested in making a donation should contact Wardell at 972-670-6487.

Army soldier home on leave

(Continued from Page 1)

of improvised explosive devices (IED's). From November until July, SPC Jacobs performed multiple duties with his platoon including Husky Operator, RG-31 driver, gunner, and searched for IED's on the ground as part of the dismount team. After surviving multiple IED strikes, he was reassigned to S5 Public Affairs with Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC). His responsibilities now include digital art production, photography, and video editing/production. Soon after his reassignment, he earned his Specialist rank for exemplary performance."

Pfresident George Bush Turnpike IH-30 connection

(Continued from Page 1)

lane gantry and six sets of ramp gantries. The average toll for driving on the PGBT Eastern Extension is 15.3 cents per mile for vehicles with a TollTag.

ZipCash rates are 50 percent more than TollTag rates. Additional information regarding toll rates and gantry locations is available on the NTTA website, www.ntta.org/AboutUs/TollRates.

Additional information regarding toll rates and gantry locations will be made available on the NTTA website, www.ntta.org.

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Mission Impossible Ghost Protocol - B PG13	12:20	3:10	X	X	6:00	9:40
SHERLOCK HOLMES - C PG13	X	X	3:40	6:20	X	9:15
SHERLOCK HOLMES - B PG13	11:50	2:35	5:20	X	8:05	X
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SHERLOCK HOLMES - A PG13	11:15	2:00	4:45	X	7:30	10:15

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

The Life of Jesus Christ

During the time of the Gospels, only one man could truly claim to be God's child. A precise understanding of Jesus Christ's life will make all the difference in understanding his identity and ministry. In John 5:26 we see the following, "For as the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the son to have life in himself." We start with a basic spiritual truth; Jesus Christ's life came from God, who is the source of all life. A closer look at the life of mankind in general will help to better understand the life God gave to Jesus Christ.

In the above scripture, the word "life" is the English translation of the Biblical Greek word "zoe." It referred to the state of one who is animate or possessed of vitality. The word "zoe" was also used in the Septuagint to translate the Hebrew word "chai" in Genesis 2:7.

In short, just as God gave life to the first man Adam, so also did He give life to Jesus Christ. Go to Genesis 2:7, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Here we learn that mankind was first formed out of the ground. Mankind is made of the elements of the earth.

Upon completion of this step, God's formation was simply a body with no life in it. Next God put life into that body. It became a living soul. The word "soul" comes from the earliest known Hebrew word "nephesh" which simply meant a living being. This word is used throughout the Old Testament for people and animals that breath air.

Jesus was conceived in the womb of a woman. The only difference between the conception of Jesus and the rest of man that God miraculously put life in the egg of Mary. The conception very likely occurred at the point of Luke 1:38 where she responded with a meek heart, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it unto me according to thy word."

Jesus began to be formed while in the womb of his mother. She would have felt him growing inside of her. At some point pregnancy, she would have felt his little feet and hands kicking around. What a blessing it must have been for this young woman knowing that she was carrying the Messiah from God.

Luke 2:7-19 records the time period when Mary gave birth to Jesus. Once Jesus came out of her womb, he would have breathed his first breath of life. Please note that wrapping Jesus in swaddling clothes describes a process unique for the birth of a child. Luke 2:9-18 describes the beautiful event where God sent an angel to relay the message of His son's birth and gave the instructions for how to find the child. Just imagine how this must have built up and edified Joseph and Mary. The shepherds showed up to see the child and told them about what happened and then went out into the community to spread the word of birth.

Remember that God worked mightily to match up Joseph and Mary as recorded in Matthew 1:18-25. By the time of their marriage, they knew without a doubt that God was working behind them. So after the shepherds arrived, they were so blessed that it says "Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). She guarded the unexplainable and sacred events, and thought deeply about them in her heart.

What was the difference between Jesus and the rest of mankind? Jesus' blood was not passed down from Adam through Joseph. Genesis 3:1-19 gives the record of man's disobedience to God as well as the results of his action. See verse 19, "...for thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." Adam's disobedience brought about a tragic result for all of mankind after him happened? See Romans 5:12, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

Adam's sin caused sin nature to enter into his blood. As a result, the same corrupted blood passed down from generation to generation even until this day. See how the simplicity of God's divided word puts everything together so nicely? It just comes together like a hand in a glove. The living being that God first created continued his soul life by giving life to his children. To all of mankind has the same soul life that was passed down from Adam. All...with the exception of one man.

Jesus Christ got his life from God, and not from his mother, Mary. Having been conceived by God, the sin nature from Adam was not in Jesus' blood. He did not partake of the same blood as the rest of mankind. This tremendous truth can be found in Hebrews 2:14, "Forasmuch then as the children partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."

All the offspring from Adam are partakers of both his body and his corruptible blood. But Jesus Christ had a different body that was passed down through his mother, Mary. He did not get Adam's corruptible blood. Why? Because his life was in the womb of a beautifully meek young woman, by the name of Mary.

Jesus Christ had a different body that was passed down through his mother, Mary. He did not get Adam's corruptible blood. Why? Because his life was in the womb of a beautifully meek young woman, by the name of Mary.

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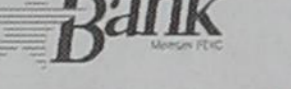
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1 John 4:16

Looking for a warm, welcoming family of faith that is dedicated to embodying God's love in Rockwall and beyond? Then join us this Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, located at 602 White Hills Dr., under the water tower and across from the entrance to Walmart.



Sunday School starts at 9:45 a.m., with worship led by Pastor Cheryl Taylor at 11 a.m. For more information, call 972-771-5702, or check out our website at www.firstpresrockwall.org

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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individuals guided by the principles so eloquently described in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstones of our freedom. The sole purpose of government is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.



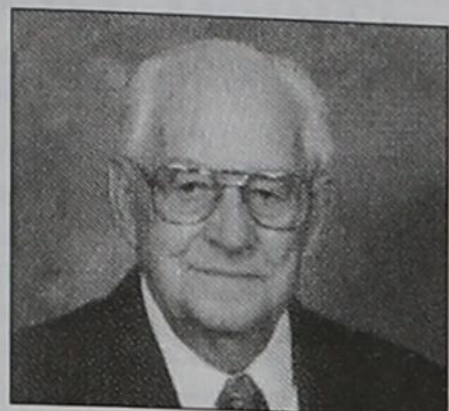
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Rockwall County Obituaries

A public service to our community

Ted Cain

Ted Cain, 94, of Rockwall died Dec. 18 after a lengthy illness.



Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Cain was born March 18, 1917, in Rockwall to Hubert Cain and Sadonia Estelle Cain. He grew up in the family home on Renfro Street and was one of five children. The home place, along with a smoke house and tool shed, remained. He attended Rockwall schools and picked cotton and worked at a young boy.

He married Maurine Williamson on June 8, 1941, in Holdenville, Okla. They traveled from Rockwall to Holdenville for their wedding with \$15 and returned to Rockwall.

He served as first sergeant in the U.S. Army in Africa and Europe from 1942 to 1946. He owned and operated several businesses around or near the downtown Rockwall square, including Ted Cain's Real Estate; Mobile and Texaco service station, where he pumped gas, washed cars, changed tires and distributed a variety of bubble gum to children whose parents were filling up their vehicles; Variety Store; and Ted Cain's Used Cars. He opened the car lot following retirement. Over the years, the car lot became less about the cars and more about the friends who made their way there every morning for coffee and conversation.

An active member of the community, he joined the First Baptist Church on Oct. 1, 1941. As an adult, he could be found at the church on most Sundays, singing and welcoming everyone. He served on the Building Committee when the church moved from its location near the downtown Rockwall square to the location on Goliad Street.

He served many years as a member of the Rockwall Volunteer Fire Department. He was a member of the Rockwall Chamber of Commerce and was past president of the Rockwall Rotary Club. He also helped establish the Rockwall Lions Club and was a member of the board of directors of the First State Bank and Independent Bank NA. A 32nd degree Mason, he was a member of the East Rockwall Masonic Lodge No. 157 for more than 50 years.

He served two terms on the Rockwall City Council, during which time the first industry, Texas Aluminum Co., came to Rockwall.

He never met a stranger, greeting everyone with a smile and a kind word. He was always laughing and sharing stories. His motto was, "You've got to have a little 'ry day."

Survivors include his wife; three sons, Dewayne, and his wife Ann Atkins Cain; grandchildren, Chris Cain and Amy Cain Cox and her husband, Wendell and three great-grandchildren, Jackson Luke Cox, John Nash Cox and Ann Cox; three sisters, Jessie Mae Rives, and her husband, Billy, of Edgewood; Shirley Cupp and her husband, Danny, of Edgewood and Nell Samples, her husband, Clarence.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters, Lola Faye Phillips, Billie Smith and Thelma (Pickie) Tucker; and his brother, Hugh Cain.

Funeral services suggested memorials may be made to the Building Fund of the First Baptist Church, 610 S. Goliad St., Rockwall, TX 75087.

Eva (Rankin) McNicol

Funeral service for Eva (Rankin) McNicol, 88, of Rockwall will be conducted at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 19, at the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel in charge of arrangements.



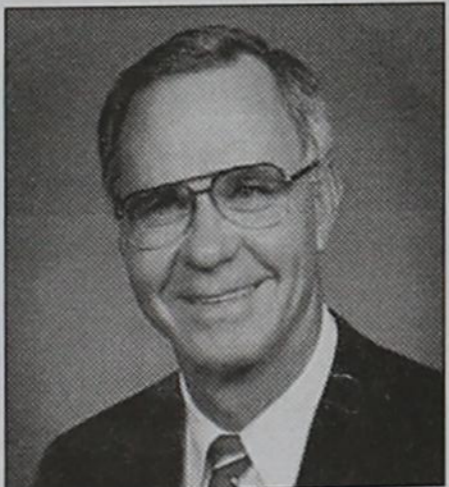
She was born June 4, 1923, in Tampico, Mexico, and lived her family and was quite social. She enjoyed oil painting, dancing and playing bingo and was well liked in the community where she resided. She was a "visionary star," having appeared in several commercials for the Lake Pointe Nursing Home.

Survivors include her son, Ron Everhart, and his wife, Karen, of San Juan Capistrano, Calif.; her daughter, Lynn Bucko of Rockwall; her grandchildren, Jeffrey Phillips and Blain Bucko of Rockwall and Cheryl Price of Levittown, Pa.; and her great-grandchildren, April Price of Florida, Brittini Price of Dallas and Tristin, Peyton and Rylee Phillips of Rockwall; her niece, Michele Price of Dallas; and other nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Melvin Everhart and Wallace McNicol; four sisters; one brother; and a grandchild, Britney Bucko.

Garrell Thomas Morton

Funeral services for Garrell Thomas Morton, 78, of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. on Dec. 19, 2011, in the First Baptist Church, M.L. Jones Chapel, with Pastor J. Swafford officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park in the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.



He was born Sept. 10, 1939, in Athens, Texas, and married his future wife, Jonna, while in high school. They were inseparable throughout their lives. At the age of 17, he joined the Air Force Reserve, then attended Air Force Junior College for a short period of time before being admitted to the U.S. Air Force cadet program. While in the Air Force, he and his family enjoyed traveling across the U.S. and Puerto Rico. He was a KC135 aircraft commander, and his career took him around the world, including to Vietnam, Germany and Spain.

In 1968 he went to work as a captain for Braniff International Airlines and eventually his family to Rockwall. He enjoyed building custom homes for a time and encouraged his wife to become a realtor. He was a member of the Wally Morrison Sunday School Class at the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Jonna Morton of Rockwall; his brother and sisters, Charles and Gwen of Hideaway Lake; his children, Dea Kelly of Rockwall, Debra of Orting, Wash., and Tina Morton of Austin; six grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Survivors also included Glen Burks, Tommy Bryan, Richard Harris, Harry Knight, Neil, Richard Porter, Marvin Potter and Wendell Wentz. Honorary pallbearers were Allen Christian, Kenneth Fraiser, Ron Gilliland, Glen Hood, Bill Rix and Robert Rix.

Funeral services suggested memorials may be made to the Youth Center at the First Baptist Church, 610 S. Goliad St., Rockwall, TX 75087.

Rev. Wayne R. Smith

Funeral services for the Rev. Wayne R. Smith, 78, of Rockwall were conducted at 3 p.m. on Dec. 18, 2011, in the First Assembly of God, with the Rev. Kyle Miller officiating. Burial took place Dec. 19 in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.



He died Dec. 14.

Hungry Harry

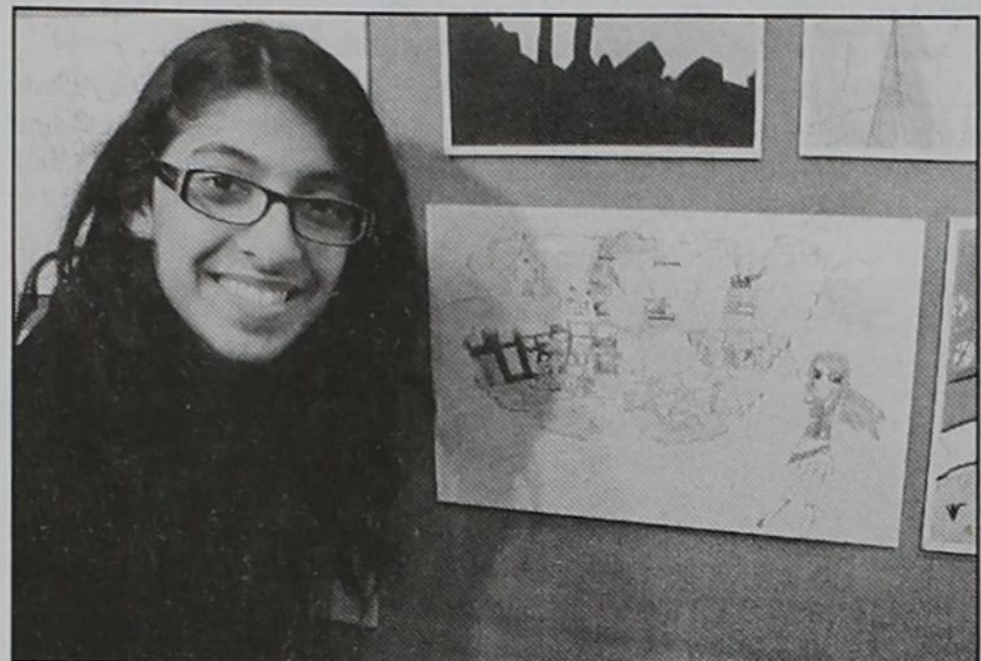
Gift-Giving Advice and Qdoba a Visit

Christmas is almost here and I am sure all your shopping is done. One of the more popular stocking stuffers are restaurant gift cards and certificates. Obviously, food is something I look forward to but, I have been burned by the Gift of gift certificate. I once ate at restaurant that was upper scale. I had one of the best meals of my life and because the certificate was sizable I ordered away. When it came to paying out my \$200 meal ended up coming out of my pocket. The certificate had a six-month expiration date. To say the least I wasn't too thrilled. Not surprisingly however, the restaurant closed a year later.

When buying gift cards please check for these things to ensure holiday cheer.

1. Choose a restaurant that is stable or even a chain.
2. Check for expiration dates.
3. If it is a credit card-style gift card ensure that no monthly reductions on the card.
4. Ensure that full amount is usable and not rounded up.
5. Pick restaurants with a wide menu.

One new restaurant that would be a safer bet for gift cards is Qdoba Mexican Grill. Qdoba is located next door to Chik-fil-a. It is a restaurant that is similar to Chiloso's offering fresh ingredients. The Queso is amazing and the portions are sizable. The sauces are flavorful and the verde sauce is good. The restaurant is clean and the employees are fast and friendly. Monday night was \$1 dollar tacos and that nice to try a variety between chicken, pork, and ground beef. The food was definitely good but, the menu offering isn't unique. Qdoba is a great place for quality meal overall.



Rachel Joseph, a Rockwall Christian Academy student, was a third place winner in the 7th and 8th Grade Division of this year's Thanksgiving Expressions Art Competition. She is pictured above with her winning entry.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Joseph earns third place in recent RCA art contest

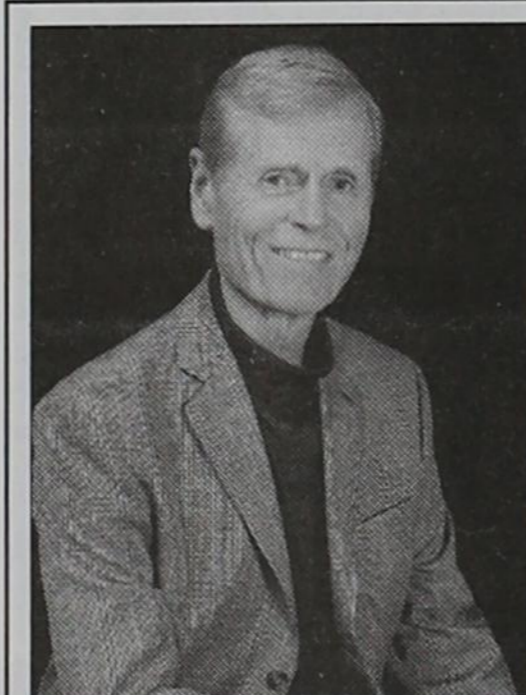
Rockwall Christian Academy student Rachel Joseph was chosen as the third place winner in the 7th and 8th Grade Division of this year's Thanksgiving Expressions Art Competition sponsored each fall by The Thanks Giving Foundation.

For the past seven years in November, Thanksgiving Square has been the venue for the awards ceremony honoring local student artists from 1st through 12th grades. The Thanks Giving Foundation sponsors the competition to encourage students to express their vision of what thankfulness means in their lives. The week before Thanksgiving each year, winners are awarded for their artwork and their work is displayed at Thanksgiving Square in downtown Dallas.

Students submitted artwork and essays that reflected this year's theme, "I am grateful to be here." This year's competition featured two categories: Visual Art and Essay. In the past, dance has also been included in the competition.

This year's award ceremony took place Nov. 18. The winning entries will be on display at Thanksgiving Square until Jan. 2. After that time, the work of the young artists and writers will be on display at the Dallas Central Library from Jan. 6 to Feb. 20.

Rotarians collect 2 tons of food for H-Hands



Rotarian Bruce Paton was recognized earlier this month for his efforts to boost the Rockwall Rotary Club's Joining Hands to Help Others community-wide food drive. Paton organized a Chandler's Landing HOA food drive and recruited several friends to help out with the month-long event.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

Two tons of food were collected as part of the Joining Hands to Help Others community-wide food drive, a month-long effort organized by the Rockwall Rotary Club.

The event, conducted to benefit Helping Hands, was chaired by Rotarian Barbara Allan and Helping Hands board member Lee Gilbert.

At the Dec. 1 Rotary Club meeting, Bruce Paton was recognized for showing the most "food drive spirit" by organizing a Chandler's Landing HOA food drive. Paton also reached out to 10 friends to multiply the spirit of helping feed the hungry in Rockwall County.

Say You Saw It In The County News

Are You Taking Advantage of Local Businesses?
 Have Savings from Local Businesses?
 Other community-wide food drive, Paton organized a Chandler's Landing HOA food drive and recruited several friends to help out with the month-long event.
 Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News

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Nana Pat's Kitchen

by Pat Burnett

Hug Recipe

Nor sure where I found this one, but it certainly touches me at this wonderful time of the year.

Ingredients:

- 2 people, a touch of love
- 4 arms, a pinch of humor
- 2 hearts, a sprinkle of glee

Directions:

Extend arms and wrap them around each other.

Clear your minds, take a good look at each other, Then pull yourself together and mix well.

Serves two.

Add other loveable ingredients for your own personal recipe for good living.



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Texas Crossword Puzzle (Page 11)

Exclusively in your hometown newspaper

This Week in Heath Christmas through the eyes of a child

by Darcy Rocha
 We are roundin' the bend towards Christmas day! My, how time flies I know for some kiddos, the wait for Christmas morning can seem like forever. But like the candles on an advent wreath, we try to wait in patient hopefulness for the blessings yet to come.

To give you a little dose of Christmas cheer, I asked local kids to say in their own words what Christmas means to them. Silly, sweet or poignant, you can always count on the perspective of a child to remind us grown-ups of the wonder and joy this season can bring.

Here's what they had to say:
 "Christmas means happiness, lights, singing, and ornaments." – A.J., age 7
 "It's all about family. And you get presents!" – Nolan, age 6
 "Jesus' birthday....that is why we even celebrate it." – Ella, age 6
 "Toys." – Dyson, age 5
 "It feels special. It's about giving, and that I like it 'cause I give and people give to me. And I feel great and thankful for everything I have. I like it when I hear the story about Jesus in the manger. It feels like kids like Jesus more than anything." – Ava, age 5
 "It's about putting ornaments on the tree and being with family." – Ian, age 3

(OK, I might have paraphrased that one a bit. He's my little one and to get him to answer a serious question, without brining up potty humor or Buzz Lightyear, is next to impossible!)
 "Being with family and giving presents." – Jordan, age 9
 "Joy, presents and being with your family." – Braden, age 9
 "You get what you get and you don't throw a fit!" – Emmie, age 4
 "It's when we love each other even more." – Mahryn, age 6
 "It's on two five and it snows. I get to build a snow fort and it's present day. We make presents for all the people we love. I love the whole planet and my friends. Some don't come to my house but some do." – Lucas, age 4
 "It's just about my family. Us being there together. It's fun. Every year I get to see my family." – Lauren, age 7
 "Christmas means toys and peace and Jesus' birthday. I sure am glad He was borned because He's just a real good person. He invites the whole world to His birthday party and Santa's like his mom since he passes out presents but not just to Jesus but every one! And it's kinda like my stocking is the goody bag. That's just real gen-rous. It makes me wanna give. I'm gonna give my special cookies to Jesus this year. He'd like that, I just know it." – Giddian, age 6

As you gather with family and friends to share in the joy that is Christmas, I wish you serenity in your life, peace in your home and abounding love for one another in your heart. He came not to bestow us with gifts wrapped in shiny paper, but that we may know, serve and love Him, and one another. And that is our greatest blessing. Merry Christmas!
 Darcy Rocha is the Heath community correspondent to the Rockwall County News. To share your news and events about Heath, email her at rcn.darcyrocha@gmail.com or call (214) 771-1035.

McLendon-Chisholm city council holds final meeting of the year

By Darcy Rocha
 The McLendon-Chisholm city council, led by mayor Gary Moody, finished up 2011 with the approval of several agenda items. With no public present to provide citizen comments, for which there is a standing agenda item, council moved on to a public hearing to discuss a proposed goods in transit taxation ordinance, as outlined in Senate Bill 1. There was no public comment.
 After approving minutes from the November 8 and November 9 city council meetings, the first items of regular business was to discuss and consider the revised contract presented by Bureau Veritas.
 On October 25, council decided, with all in favor, to adopt a new fire inspection program that will require all new businesses to participate in review of their fire alarm and/or fire sprinkler systems, which will be conducted by Bureau Veritas. The fee for this service is \$125.
 At that time council member Patrick Short raised concerns about clarification of a few areas of the contract for legal purposes, which have now been agreed upon and clarified in the contract by Bureau Veritas. Council approved the revised contract with all in favor.
 Returning to the goods in transit taxation discussion, city manager Dave Butler clarified for council that as mandated by Senate Bill 1, the council must take official action even if the city has no taxable goods in transit, for example goods that are warehoused in the city limits for a temporary period, before December 31st or the city loses the option to impose this tax anytime in the future. If council were to table the item that would be considered no action and the opportunity for future taxation would be relinquished.
 There are currently no applicable goods in McLendon-Chisholm that could be considered for goods in transit taxation. After questions about the rate and liability of the tax, council member Jack Pullen expressed concern that approving this would lead to other forms of taxation. Moody then decided to move on for lack of action on the item. With no action, the goods in transit taxation option is not approved.

Also on the agenda and approved by council was the interlocal agreement with Rockwall County, the October financial report, approval of engagement letter with Murrey & Co. P.C. for the city's 2010-2011 audit, and again formally designating the Rockwall County News and the official newspaper of the city.

The city administrator report included information about upcoming commission appointments for 2012. Butler noted that those currently serving have all been contacted and are willing to serve again, but that does not preclude the council appointing other candidates to the positions. Currently, there are two alternate spots open for planning and zoning and the board of adjustment. Those interested in serving should contact city hall and fill out an application.

In closing, Moody shared with council that community member Diane Cornish recently passed away. There will be a memorial service at 2:30pm Sunday at Chisholm Baptist.
 After council thanked one another for working so well together over the past year, they graciously wished one another a Merry Christmas. "It's important to think about the baby, but I reminded myself to think about the empty tomb. I hope you have a Merry Christmas," said Short to his fellow council members.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Library to close for holidays

The Rockwall County Library will be closed Dec. 23-26 for the Christmas holidays.

PiYo classes set at The Center

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

Zumba classes slated

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

HATS Birthday Bash set Jan. 4

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

Intro to Round Dancing class set

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

Defensive driving classes for seniors offered

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

Youth oil painting class set

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

Chamber event slated Jan. 12

The annual Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet/Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 12 at the Allure Restaurant in Chandler's Landing. For more details, contact the chamber of commerce.
 Wine and dine for Rockwall PAWS
 Rockwall PAWS will conduct its annual fundraiser Jan. 12 at Occasions at Stone River in Roysse City. Tickets cost \$40 per person. The organization helps make affordable spays/neuters available and provides financial assistance when needed, as well as funds the treatment of heartworm-positive shelter dogs and assists with medical expenses for ill or injured animals. For more details on the fundraiser call Cathy at 214-532-4407 or visit rockwallpaws.org.

Herndon students rake in awards at UIL contest

More than 90 percent of participating Harry H. Herndon Intermediate fifth and sixth grade students who competed in the recent UIL academic meet placed in the competition, according to a news release from the school.
 The meet was conducted Dec. 10 at Miss May Vernon Elementary in Roysse City.
 The fifth grade Art Smart team of Ty Medders and Dylan Miller placed third overall, with Medders earning an individual fourth place finish.
 The sixth grade team of Courtney Dunham, Baxter Stockburger, Alex Glover and Shyanne Phelps placed second overall, with Dunham taking a sixth place individual finish The group was coached by Nichole Hahn.
 The fifth grade Music Memory team of Jianna Gilbert, Abby Nottingham and Jewellen Fort placed second, with Fort earning third place individually and Gilbert placing fifth.
 The sixth grade Music Memory team of Joshua Gilbert and Nia May placed first, with Joshua Gilbert placing first individually and May placing second. This team was coached by Ronnie Carpenter.
 Sixth grade student Paris Slattton placed first, McKenna Watson placed fifth and Alexandra Gaftenuic placed sixth in Listening Skills. Their coach was Susan Bundy.
 In Oral Reading, fifth grade student Miranda Haynes placed first, Rachael Roebuck placed second and Morgan Jordan placed third. Sixth grade student Hannah Smith placed first in her grade level of the same competition, Brennen Wynn placed fourth and Caleb Fry placed fifth. Melissa Haynes served as Oral Reading coach.
 In Ready Writing, fifth grade student Jianna Gilbert placed fourth and sixth grade students Nia May and Brittany Fox placed second and fourth

Ping Pong tourney set at The Center

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

Cheer 101 classes scheduled

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

Cheer Level 2 class offered

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

Bridge tournament scheduled

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

Rock through Spring Break

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

Easter Egg Hunt set March 31 in R'wall

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

Founders Day Festival set May 19

Rockwall's annual Founders Day Festival will begin at 10 a.m. May 19 on the downtown square. The daylong event will feature live entertainment, food and other family-friendly activities. Admission will be free. For more information visit rockwallfoundersday.com.

Rockwall Police Blotter

Dec. 12-19

- Dec. 12 -- Theft, 400 block East I-30, 11 p.m.
- Dec. 13 -- Public Intoxication, 1400 block Ashbourne Dr., 5:17 Theft, 600 block FM 552, 11:45 a.m.
- Dec. 14 -- Public Intoxication, 2100 block S. Goliad, 12:46 Burglary of Habitation, 800 block Lakeside Dr., 4:00 p.m.; Burglary Building, 1600 block Airport Rd., 5 p.m.
- Dec. 15 -- Family Offense x2, 900 block W. Yellow Jacket Lane, a.m.; Criminal trespass, 700 block I-30, 11 a.m.
- Dec. 16 -- Forgery, 1800 block S. Goliad, 6 a.m.

rockwalltexasonline.com



Pictured above are the Harry H. Herndon Intermediate School students who competed in the Dec. 10 UIL academic meet conducted at Roysse City. More than 90 percent of the Herndon students who competed placed in their respective competitions.

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Royse City News

Royse City Police Blotter

Dec. 9-15
 day, 9 Dec.: Alarm, 2300 I-30; Criminal mischief, block Northwood Lane; al mischief, 3300 block Street; Suspicious person, Loganwood Drive and Campbell Boulevard; Welfare 300 block N. Erby Campbell ard; Noise disturbance, 300 f. Erby Campbell Boulevard; intoxication arrest, 1800 FM 2642; Criminal mischief, ock Center Street; Driving license suspended arrest, I-30 77-mile marker; Royse City arrest, 1000 block W. Main

Welfare check, 100 block I-30; Suspicious person, 800 block Houston Street; Welfare check, 300 block Panola Court; Suspicious person, area of Primrose Lane; Alarm, 1400 block Circle Lane

• Wednesday, 14 Dec.: Suspicious person, 1100 block Walnut Street; Suspicious person, area of Mockingbird Street

• Thursday, 15 Dec.: Suspicious person, 200 W. Main Street; Medical assistance, 1200 block Tyler Court; Medical assistance, 1100 block W. I-30



Fort Elementary students won first and second places in the Royse City Christmas Parade poster competition. First place winner was Averi McCoy, left. Third place winner was Sarah Champion. Pictured above with the students is the school's art teacher, Carmen Slagle. For her first-place win, McCoy was tapped to serve as grand marshal for the Dec. 10 parade.

Courtesy photo/Rockwall County News



Congratulations

Larry E. Turner III

son of Larry Jr. & Tina Turner, graduate of Texas A&M @ Commerce with a degree in Music. He plans to teach at the high school level. His grandmother Glynda Turner and the Turner family are very proud of his accomplishments

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Rockwall County Sports

Wilder places 1st in age group at White Rock Marathon

Of the 27 Rockwall residents who completed the Metro PCS Dallas White Rock Marathon Sunday, Dec. 4, Bud Wilder was the fastest. In fact, he won his age group, pacing the 55-59-year-old men with a time of 3 hours, 18.53 seconds

over the 26-mile, 385-yard course. That was more than 5 minutes ahead of the age group runner-up, Tommy Tharp of Fort Worth, who finished in 3:24.10. The age group included 135 men. The 58-year-old Wilder also

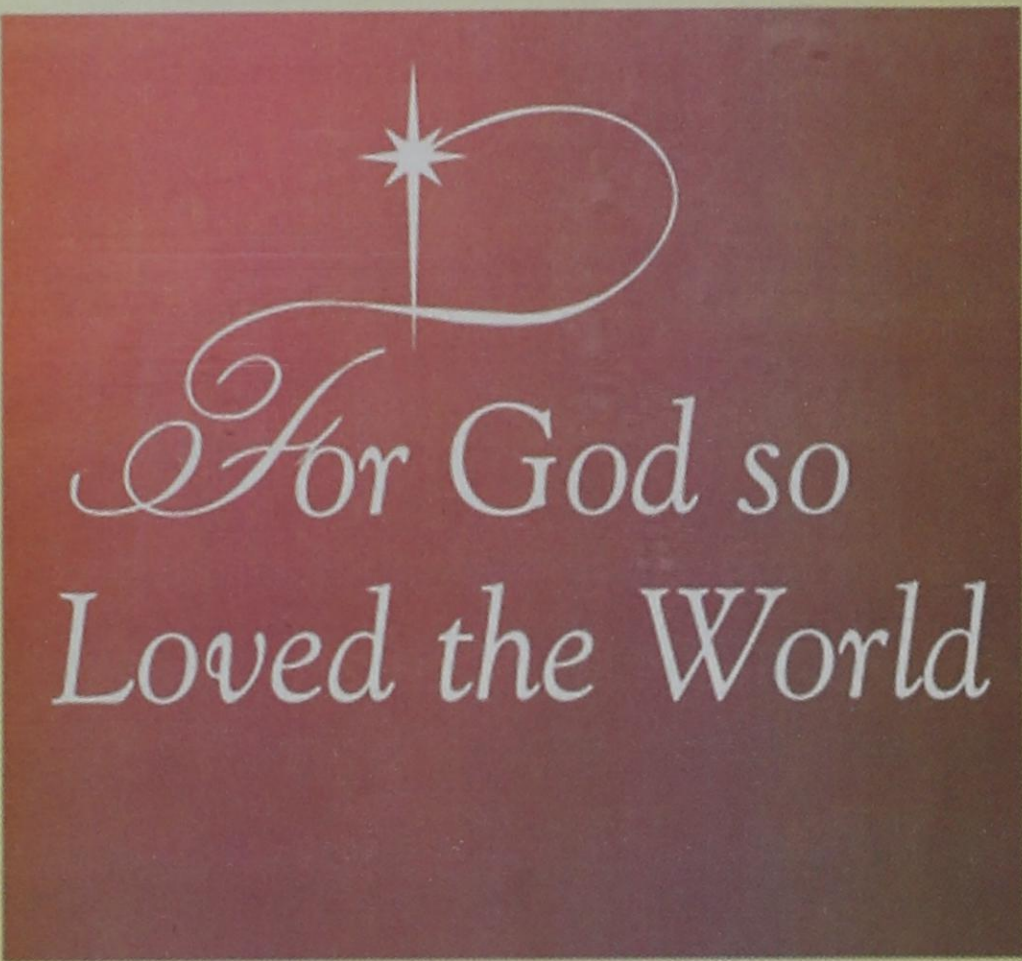
beat literally thousands of younger runners. He placed 215th overall among 4,560 runners. He was 192nd in an overall field of 2,831 men. Wilder went out quickly, and was in 181st place overall through the race's first 5 kilometers (about 3.1

miles). Two other Rockwall runners finished within a second of Wilder.

Roger Sutton placed 20th in the 45-49 men's division, and 218th overall, in 3:18.59. Luis Reynoso was 40th

in the 40-44 men's age group, 222nd overall, in 3:19.16. Rockwall's leading woman was Jill Knight. Her time of 4:04:44, 406th in the overall 1,671 women and 1,643rd in the entire field. That means she was ahead of nearly 3,000 runners, men and women, older and younger.

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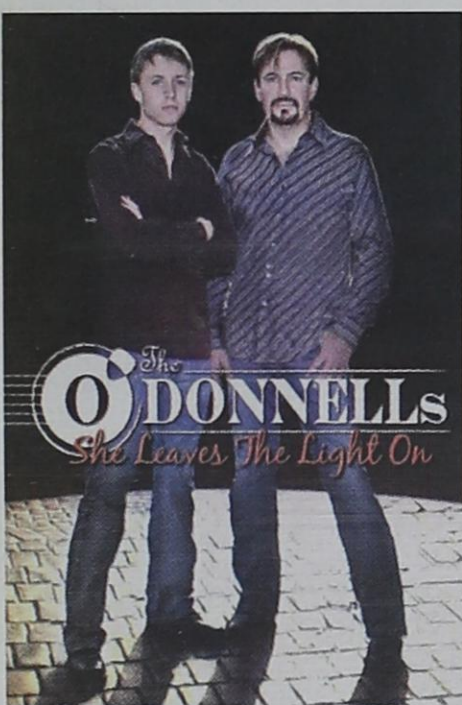
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Lady Hawks lose 1st 2 district games, strengthened against McKinney

Curry Bump
Rockwall-Heath fell too far behind and rallied too late to win its opening 10-4A girls' basketball game at Richardson Pearce Friday, Dec. 9. It might have appeared to be déjà vu, a week later the Lady Hawks found early before staging a too-little, too-late comeback at RHHS McKinney.

The difference was that Rockwall-Heath played much better Dec. 16 the Lionettes, historically a stronger team. "We didn't play real well at Pearce, but we did some good things tonight," HS head coach Devin Gabbard.

The Lady Hawks were without Brianna Richardson, one of their leading scorers and rebounders. Gabbard said, "With Bri not being here, I was kind of concerned. But the effort and effort we had tonight are what we've got to do. We shot poorly, stayed in the game and rebounded well at home."

The Hawks (5-10 overall, 0-2 in District 10-4A) put itself in a hole from the beginning. The Lionettes scored the first six points before April Brown hit it shot nearly 5 minutes into the game. That was the only scoring in the first quarter for the Lady Hawks, who trailed 12-3 early in the second quarter.

They made five of six field goal attempts in the second quarter, with McKinney leading 25-18. RHHS had so few shots because it didn't get the ball over six times.

The third quarter was a different story. The Lady Hawks turned the ball over only once and had 10 shots, but made just three of those. More importantly, they missed eight of nine free throws.

McKinney's lead reached 13 points at 34-21, but RHHS pulled within 10 at 36-26 to begin the fourth quarter.

Rockwall-Heath pressured the Lionettes (13-6, 1-1) into 10 fourth-quarter turnovers, which helped the Lady Hawks pull within four points at 38-34 when Brown made the first of two foul shots.

Gabbard said, "We weren't sure we could press them, as athletic as they are. Last year when we pressed them, they went right through it."

The performance was impressive - especially with RHHS missing Richardson and Brooke Garner, who has played well when the team has pressed this season.

Brown, who led the Lady Hawks with 14 points, missed the second of her free throws with 2 minutes, 28 seconds to play. Mariah Mitchell, the game's high scorer with 18 points, put in the last seven to help McKinney pull away.

At Pearce, the RHHS trailed just 10-8 after the first quarter but were outscored 19-9 in the second quarter. The Lady Hawks stayed within one point of the Lady Mustangs' total during the third quarter, but RHHS was too far behind, at 49-36, to overcome the 13-point deficit.

The Lady Hawks at least went down swinging. They outscored Pearce 20-11 in the fourth quarter, but still lost 60-56.

RHHS' leading scorers were their two All-Royse City Tournament selections from the Lady Hawks' third-place finish there six days earlier. Katie Webster scored 17 points and Jordan Mitchell had 13. Rylee Maldonado added 10 for Rockwall-Heath.

Jillian Granstaff, out most of the season because of an injury, returned to score five points at Pearce.

The team was scheduled to complete the 2011 portion of its schedule against McKinney North Tuesday at RHHS.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
RHHS	8	9	19	20	56
Pearce	10	19	20	11	60

RHHS (5-9, 0-1) - Katie Webster 17, Jordan Mitchell 13, Rylee Maldonado 10, Jillian Granstaff 5, Brianna Richardson 5, April Brown 4, Deandra Maxwell 2.

Richardson Pearce (9-5, 1-0) - Cara Tolmas 24, Hannah Smith 14, Callie Delatour 13, Paige Tuttle 4, Jenna Jones 3, Chandler Henkes 2.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
McKinney	10	15	11	9	45
RHHS	3	15	8	11	37

McKinney (13-6, 1-1) - Mariah Mitchell 18, Payton Brenham 7, Jazmin Nelson 6, Breana Smalls 6, Leslie Zupanec 5, Brianna Blackburn 2, Nicole Quincy 1.

RHHS (5-10, 0-2) - April Brown 14, Katie Webster 9, Deandra Maxwell 4, Alexis Fisher 3, Rylee Maldonado 3, Avery McFadin 2, Jordan Mitchell 2.



Lady Hawks' Katie Webster (14) works the ball up court with the assistance of teammates Jillian Granstaff (23) and Deandra Maxwell during last Friday's game against McKinney in the RHHS gym. Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Hawks' early lead erased in loss to North Mesquite

Just past game before beginning District 10-4A competition, the Rockwall-Heath boys' basketball team started well. Unfortunately, North Mesquite controlled the remainder of the game, winning the Hawks 39-28 during the final three quarters on the way to a come victory.

North Mesquite (6-7) broke on top with a 16-11 first-quarter lead, and clung to a lead at halftime. The Stallions (7-8) took control in the third quarter with a four-point lead (38-34) into the final eight minutes.

Selvin Villeda, becoming a 3-point threat for the Hawks, scored a game-high 17 points. Christian Nwabuko, Rockwall-Heath's leading scorer for the season, added 12 points.

The Hawks were scheduled to open their district schedule Tuesday at McKinney North. Next week, they'll travel to Lubbock for the Caprock Classic. RHHS' first-round opponent will be Lubbock Trinity Christian (18-0) at Monterey High School.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
RHHS	16	6	12	10	44
North Mesquite	11	9	18	12	50

RHHS (6-7) - Selvin Villeda 17, Christian Nwabuko 12, Cameron Martin 9, Luke Ramirez 4, Jordan Points 2.

North Mesquite (7-8) - Walker 16, Moses 9, Murray 7, Copeland 6.

Rockwall-Heath Hawks' defense dominates again, on All-District team

One of the toughest decisions for Rockwall-Heath head coach Mickey Moss this year was which of three juniors he should nominate for District Defensive Player of the Year.

The decision was easy for the district's other coaches. They voted unanimously for Hawks defensive lineman Jordan Points, the player Moss coached.

Defensive end Jay Arnold also was voted unanimously to the All-District first team, but at least one district coach felt there were three better linebackers than junior Raaquan Davis. He still was voted to the first team along with inside linebacker Gentry Rogers, outside backer Seth Walker (a unanimous choice), defensive tackle Kevin Barron, cornerback Henderson and safety Dru Mayfield. Those five are seniors.

The eight RHHS defenders on the first team. Junior defensive end Jay Walker made the second team, meaning that all seven Hawks lined up front - linemen and linebackers - received All-District honors.

"I don't know if I ever had a defense with that many selections," Moss said. "I noted that the Hawks were among the top teams in the Metroplex in defense: third among 4A teams at 87.5 yards per game. RHHS was fourth among 4A scoring defense at 15.9 points per game."

The biggest reason why opponents often stopped even trying to run the ball was Jordan Points.

"He was such a terror as a defensive tackle," Moss said. "He made a lot of plays for us. And when he played defensive end he created a lot of problems for the opponent's offense."

The 2011 Hawks weren't one-dimensional. The offense was strong enough to help Rockwall-Heath finish 11-2, reaching the Region II-4A semifinals. RHHS' game breaker was senior wide receiver Amaris Fields - who led the team with 54 catches for 1,014 yards (18.8 per catch) and 11 touchdowns. He was a unanimous first-team selection.

Six other Hawks were voted to the second team: quarterback Cody Court, running back Rico Henderson, wide receiver Shyon Motlagh, tight end Tyler McKay, center Jake Holliman and offensive lineman Chase Regian.

Motlagh and Regian are juniors, and Henderson is a freshman. Coupling them with the defensive trio of juniors, there will be six All-District players returning to the 2013 Hawks.

Court passed for 1,781 yards and 17 touchdowns, and ran for 666 yards and three more scores. Henderson led RHHS ballcarriers with 810 yards and 13 TDs, and also caught a touchdown pass. Motlagh, like Fields a deep

threat, caught 25 passes for 426 yards (17.0 average) and three scores.

Moss said, "This is a great honor for our seniors, and we have six underclassmen who made first or second team. I'm proud of all of them."

The coach said he still hasn't gone back and looked at tape of the heartbreaking, last-minute, season-ending playoff loss to Sherman.

"I really didn't want to think about it. It has been such a joyful experience with this team. They're a bunch of hard-working kids with great attitudes. They gave it their best every time they went out there."

"We had three games that were pretty much blowouts. The other 10 were all decided in the last 2 minutes. We were down 14 in the fourth quarter of one game (Highland Park) and took it to overtime, and unfortunately it didn't work out. In the other (loss), we had to drive the length of the field into the wind to take the lead with a minute and a half left."

He left out the fact that Sherman came back to score the game-winning touchdown 50 seconds later. But Moss didn't want to think about that. He had too many good memories to savor.



Hawks gymnastics team winning the LD Bell Toys for Tots Invitational meet are (back row left to right) Skylar Patrick, Coach Omar Loya, David Parker, Brandyn Morrissey, (third row) Alex Milner, Cameron Callaway, Gideon Boley, Kai Hasenyager, Dylan Robbins, Brian Moore, Taylor Thornhill, (second row) Grayson Davis, Quinten Loya, Matthew Crumpley, Matthew Duckworth, Austin Hunt, (front row) Trevoy Newell and Nathan Chennault. Photo by Marcia Hasenyager/Rockwall County News

Say You Saw It In "The County News"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- this Harper was in "Tender Mercies" ('83) with TX Buckley
- prefix for "against"
- TX Janis album: "___ Dem Ol' Kozmic Blues Again Mama!"
- TXism: "walking dandruff"
- Fort Worth money-making plant uses green ___
- TXism: "___ clear as Red River mud" (confusing)
- Rockport is "where the fun never ___"
- East TX tree (2 wds.)
- TX Buddy sang "___, Boy!"
- a Great Lake
- "neither's" sidekick
- Mexican beer liked by TXns
- TX-based '91 film comedy: "___ Roughness"
- this agcy. operates TX veteran hospitals
- this nat'l grocer has a dairy in TX
- snakelike Gulf fish
- this TX Billie Sol had a highly publicized fraud trial in '64
- TXism: "she has to sneak up on ___"
- her hair" (homely)
- large fishing net
- Glen Rose, TX was briefly known as "Glen ___"
- dir. to Dallas from Hico
- personal retirement accts.
- city of AL East Blue Jays
- TX has about 560 species of ___
- this Randolph was in '51 film "Fort Worth" (init.)
- TX band: "ZZ ___"
- TX Trini had a hit with "If ___ a Hammer"
- TXism: "___ gravel" (fell)
- TX cyclist Armstrong
- TXism: "don't get your shorts ___ knot"
- TXism: "couldn't lick his upper ___" (weaking)
- dir. to Waco from Fort Worth
- news agcy.
- TXism: "guilty as ___"
- TXism: "three ___ the wind" (drunk)
- Catholic 9-day devotions
- obliterates
- this TX Kite has 19 PGA Tour wins (init.)
- stat for Ranger Colby Lewis
- in Hopkins Co. on 11
- TXism: "never look ___ horse in the mouth"
- Mexican holiday: "Diez ___ Septiembre"
- truck rubber
- "bear" south of the border
- lease
- landscape needing little or no water
- 48 gem found in TX
- 50 weeder (2 wds.)
- 51 ABC reporter from TX, Donaldson
- 56 TXism: "happy as a dog with two ___"
- 57 in Ellis Co. on I-45

Rockwall County Sports

Rockwall Lady Jackets fall at Wylie 37-33 in overtime



Lady Jackets' Paige Turner (25) takes a jump shot in the lane against Tyler Lee during last week's game in Rockwall. Photo by Roy Heath/Rockwall County News

Jill McDill was concerned about the two-game early season stretch the Rockwall girls' basketball team faced after it had climbed to number five among the state's 4A teams. Staring the Lady Jackets in the face following their 18-point win at home over Tyler Lee Dec. 13 were games at Wylie and McKinney. The coach's concerns were real, as RHS found out Friday, Dec. 16, when Wylie edged Rockwall 37-33 in overtime. The Lady Pirates (10-4 overall) moved into a first-place tie with McKinney North in District 10-4A. Among the four teams tied for second place at 1-1 are RHS (14-4) and McKinney, which had handed the Lady Jackets their last previous district loss Dec. 21 of last year. Despite finishing fourth in the district last year, Wylie had lost its two games against Rockwall by five points combined. Points were even more difficult for RHS to come by this time around. The Lady Jackets trailed 7-6 after one quarter. Wylie inched farther ahead, 20-18 at halftime, 26-22 after three quarters. Rockwall rallied to tie the score 31-31 and send the game in overtime, but could manage just two points during the extra time. The 33 points were the fewest RHS had scored since a 37-29 loss to Eules Trinity Dec. 29, 2009, at Duncanville's Sandra Meadows tournament.

In winning 10 of 11 games before traveling to Wylie, the Lady Jacket averaged 63 points per contest. Alyssa Lang led RHS' scoring against the Lady Pirates with 10 points. Now ranked seventh, Rockwall isn't scheduled for another district until Jan. 3 against Rockwall-Heath, but the schedule won't be any after the game at McKinney. The Lady Jackets are among 28 teams Bryan-College Station McDonalds Invitational Tournament Wednesday, Dec. 28-30. They would play two games Wednesday at A&M Consolidated, noon against Conroe and at 4:30 p.m. against League City Clear Creek.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT
RHS	6	12	4	9	2
Wylie	7	13	6	5	6

 RHS (14-4, 1-1) - Alyssa Lang 10, Ellen Baker 9, Sara Williams 5, Morghen Day 5, Paige Turner 2. Wylie (10-4, 2-0) - Colby Davis 13, Makaila Jordan 11, Sydney White 10, Jocelyn Finch 2, Kennedy Foreman 1.

Yellowjackets face loss against Lovejoy

Through its first 12 games, Rockwall hadn't lost to a team from Texas. The Yellowjackets were heading into a stretch of three consecutive home games. Things were looking good for RHS just a week and a half ago - before 5A Southlake Carroll shot out the lights to defeat the Jackets, and 3A Lovejoy held off Rockwall for a 57-55 victory Friday, Dec. 16. All that stood between the Jackets and a three-game losing streak was Tuesday's District 10-4A opener against McKinney, whose 8-6 record concealed a difficult non-district schedule. Against Lovejoy, RHS seemed in good shape when it took a 31-26 halftime lead. By the end of the third quarter, however, the Jackets were down six points because the Leopards outscored the home team 19-8 during that period.

By outscoring Lovejoy 16-12 in the fourth quarter, Rockwall came points short. The Jackets (11-3) lost despite making 50 per cent of their field attempts. They didn't shoot well with no one guarding them; they missed 24 free throws. Freshman Elijah Thomas continued his torrid inside shooting, seven of nine field goal attempts and scoring a team-high 15 points. Giadolor added 10. The Leopards (12-3) contained RHS' high-scoring starting guards, Grandstaff and Jared Ragland, holding them to a combined 15 points. Grandstaff led the Jackets with six assists and Ragland had a team-high three steals. In addition, Wes Davis pulled down nine rebounds. **continued on page 14**

Opinions

Has war against Iran already begun?

by Sheldon Richman
The U.S. government lost a spy drone over Iran. Is it part of an ongoing covert war? Either Iranian forces shot it down or it fell out of the sky. We may never know which, but now the Obama administration wants it back. Iran says no. It is apparently studying the craft's advanced stealth and other technology - and perhaps attempting to reverse engineer it. This is not analogous to playful kids who accidentally throw a baseball into a neighbor's yard and ask for it back. The U.S. government has been making war sounds in Iran's direction for years, and these belligerent noises have grown louder in recent months. While there are grounds for believing the U.S. military does not want to attack Iran, which is far larger and more populous than Iraq and would require a long, bloody involvement throughout the region, President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton insist that "all options are on the table." Those who insist that the U.S. government is a benevolent force in the world ought to take note that the Obama administration has not excluded nuclear weapons from the list of options. But the present trouble only scratches the surface. For years the U.S. government has menaced Iran with a military presence in the region, including warships in the Persian Gulf. Indeed, Iran is virtually surrounded by American military bases. The invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq put thousands of troops just across Iran's east and west borders. Other close

U.S. allies in the region include Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Israel. Admittedly, the Bush administration's overthrow of Iran's nemesis, Saddam Hussein in Iraq, seems to have introduced an incoherent note in an otherwise consistently anti-Iran policy. The now Shiite-ruled Iraq is closer to Iran's regime than Saddam's Sunni Ba'athist regime was. (The U.S. government supported Saddam when his military attacked Iran in 1980.) Moreover, U.S. troops are leaving Iraq, as called for by the agreement negotiated between the Iraqi regime and the Bush administration. But the troops are not going far. As the Department of Defense puts it, the forces are simply being "repostured," that is, moved elsewhere in the region, including Kuwait. Iran surely has noticed. The U.S. government wants the American people to believe that there are sound reasons for this belligerence, namely, that it is defensive and preemptive. Nonsense. As many have pointed out, U.S. intelligence agencies say Iran dropped its nuclear-weapons program over eight years ago, and the International Atomic Energy Agency has regularly certified that Iran has complied with its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Every speck of Iran's uranium is accounted for by the IAEA - none has been diverted to weapons production. Of course, U.S. regimes have portrayed Iran as aggressively anti-American since its 1979 Islamic revolution. But that narrative conveniently leaves out the fact that the CIA helped overthrow a democratic government and install the brutal Shah in 1953. Iran did not start the hostilities.

So is war against Iran ahead? Who can say for certain? The sanctions the U.S. has long maintained against Iran, which have intensified of late, already constitute an act of war under international law and could be the prelude to overt war. The sanctions are apparently supposed to persuade the Iranian people, who unlike their rulers suffer private hardship, to overthrow their government. The problem for the U.S. policy is that more often than not have the opposite effect: they prompt the people around the government to counter the external enemy. But something even more ominous is becoming clear: a covert war in Iran. Fox News called the downed drone the latest in a series of mysterious events, including explosive assassinations targeting Iran's nuclear scientists and its ballistic program. Some argue that the covert war against Iran's nuclear program is under way, but it began more than a year ago. War without the American people's knowledge? It wouldn't be time. A war with Iran would be catastrophic - for Iranians, American government contractors excepted, and Israelis. Secretary of Defense Panetta believes that's the case, as do former Israeli Mossad chiefs. President Obama must do the decent thing and take all forms of warfare off the table. Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation, Fairfax, Va., author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State* and editor of *The Freeman* magazine. Visit his blog [Free Association/sheldonrichman.com](http://FreeAssociation.org/sheldonrichman.com).

FDR's Noble Lie

by Tim Kelly
Soon after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, rumors began to circulate challenging the official narrative that it was an unprovoked surprise attack. The cumulative evidence gathered over the last seventy years by scholars, journalists, and investigators vindicates those suspicious of treachery from the top; for it comprises a solid circumstantial case that Franklin D. Roosevelt and his top advisors deliberately provoked the attack and deliberately looked the other way before it came. What was the reason for their treachery? Roosevelt wanted to plunge the United States into the European war on the side of Great Britain but was unsuccessful in provoking Germany in the North Atlantic. So he decided that provoking a Japanese attack upon U.S. military bases in the Pacific would be the best way to achieve that objective. Since Japan was allied with Germany under the Tripartite Pact, Roosevelt calculated a war with Japan would sooner or later bring the United States into the war against Germany. Most historians when pressed on the matter now grudgingly concede that Roosevelt lied when he told the American people that he would never send their boys to fight into foreign wars, but they excuse his treachery as a "noble lie," a deception perpetrated against the public by the political elite to achieve a supposed greater good. The Pearl Harbor noble-lie argument usually goes something like this: "Given the evil of Nazism and the threat that Hitler posed to the world, Roosevelt was justified in maneuvering the United States into a war with Germany." Robert Stinnett adopts this view in his book *Day of Deceit*, where he writes, "I sympathize with the agonizing dilemma faced by President Roosevelt. He was forced to find circuitous means to persuade an isolationist America to join in a fight for freedom." The standard justification for U.S. entry into the war is that otherwise Hitler would have defeated Britain and Russia and completed his conquest of Europe. With all the resources of the continent at his disposal, Hitler then would have been able to move against North America to achieve his dream of world domination. There are several problems with this analysis. First, it greatly underestimates the difficulties of a trans-Atlantic invasion and grossly exaggerates Germany's military capabilities even when she was at the apex of her power. It also confuses the conditions of December 1941 with those of June 1940. By the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, the fortunes of war were already beginning to turn against Hitler. Moreover, there is no evidence that Hitler ever entertained plans for world domination. His primary objective was the abrogation of the Treaty of Versailles, which had disarmed Germany and led to her territorial dismemberment. Hitler was determined to reclaim these territories, and although negotiations were his preferred method, he was willing to wage war if necessary. His only overt plans for war involved an anticipated confrontation with Communism and the reacquisition of the "living space" that Russia had ceded to Germany in the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in 1918. The outbreak of a general war in Europe was not a part of Hitler's game

plan but a consequence of Britain and France's declaration of war against Germany after her invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939. Furthermore, although Hitler's armies had overrun France in the spring of 1940, total victory was denied to them when the British Expeditionary Force escaped capture at Dunkirk. The defeat of the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain forced Hitler to cancel his cross-channel invasion plans. Britain had made it through the darkest hour, and as 1940 drew to a close her survival was essentially assured. As for Hitler, his hopes for a quick end to the war in the West were lost. Germany's June 1941 invasion of Russia, Operation Barbarossa, though remarkably successful in its initial stages, had failed by the end of the summer to achieve its primary objective: the destruction of the Red Army. Even as early as August 1941, the failure of the blitzkrieg was apparent, as Roosevelt began receiving reports indicating that Russia would, indeed, hold out. The onset of the Russian winter, the inability of German forces to take Moscow, and a major Russian counteroffensive on December 6 had dashed Hitler's hopes for victory in 1941 and raised the specter of a mutually exhausting war that was unlikely to end in Germany's favor. While the ebb tide against Hitler was greatly assisted by the American Lend-Lease program, the crucial point is that both the British and Russians were able to blunt major German offensives and deliver severe blows to the Nazi war machine without direct U.S. military intervention. So if U.S. entry into the war was unnecessary to prevent a victory by Nazi Germany in Europe, what remains of the case for Roosevelt's "noble lie" regarding Pearl Harbor? Imperial Japan was indeed on the move in East Asia, but it was unclear how that threatened the United States. Roosevelt never explained to the American people why they should be concerned with protecting European colonies in Asia from the Japanese. Moreover, Japan's desire for a "Co-Prosperty Sphere" of economic and political predominance was hardly unique in a world where France, Britain, and the United States had all carved out spheres of influence. Japan's crime in the eyes of the Western powers was being a latecomer to the colonial banquet. As one Japanese diplomat wryly remarked, "Just when we learn how to play poker, they change the game to bridge." True, Japan could be a cruel colonial master, especially in China. But it should be noted that while Roosevelt was quick to call out the Japanese for their atrocities, the United States had not flinched from resorting to brutal methods to pacify populations in her own colonies (See Alfred W. McCoy's *Policing America's Empire*). Some have argued the danger to the United States did not come from Germany or Japan but from the possibility that the two powers, along with Italy, would combine to encircle the western hemisphere. But this view greatly exaggerates the military capacity of the Axis Powers and misrepresents the Tripartite Pact, which was a defensive alliance primarily intended to deter U.S. entry into the then-separate conflicts in Asia and Europe. Moreover, Germany and Japan never developed a coordinated military strategy. Japanese ambitions were viewed by some geostrategists as a threat to

U.S. naval operations in the Pacific and contrary to America's long economic interests in the region. Such concerns are telling; for they are a presumption of imperial entitlement that casts the Pacific war in a different light than the standard historical account. Rather than be a crusade for freedom, the war begins to resemble a realpolitik clash between mercantilist empires. Some have also suggested that American sentiment towards China and the hope for a restoration of the Open Door Policy were important in determining Roosevelt's policies towards Japan. But these were only contributing factors that facilitated Roosevelt's war. The lodestar of U.S. foreign policy in 1941 was entry into the European war against Germany. Frustrated by Hitler's forbearance in the North Atlantic in the face of repeated provocation by U.S. warships, Roosevelt looked to the Pacific as the back door to war in Europe. The standard history treats U.S. entry into World War II as a strategic imperative. But as demonstrated above, that assessment does not bear careful scrutiny. Nazi Germany was not about to conquer the world; she was in any position to threaten the United States. Indeed, Hitler's continental supremacy had been thwarted by Britain and Russia long before the United States entered the war. Imperial Japan was bogged down in Asia, mainland, hungry for raw materials, and anxious for a modus vivendi with the United States. This history also ignores enormous costs and horrifying consequences of direct American intervention. The Anglo-American bombings of Germany and Japanese cities killed more than a million civilians, most of whom were women and children. Most of the destruction in Western Europe occurred during the period of Allied liberation in 1944-1945 (See William Hitchel's *The Bitter Road to Freedom: A New History of the Liberation of Europe*). And the decision by President Truman to drop atomic bombs on a peaceful Japan in August 1945 accelerated a nuclear-arms race that still threatens the world. On the eve of the Pearl Harbor attack, most Americans believed that there should be no large standing armies and that their government should be small. George Washington's admonition to steer clear of foreign entanglements. They ruefully remembered President Wilson's "war to end all wars" and were in no mood for another crusade to "make the world safe for democracy" is why on December 6, 1941, the vast majority of Americans still opposed entering the war. Pearl Harbor transformed the nation. The American people were overthrown by Japan's diabolical "sneak attack" and marched off to fight "the War." A vast military-industrial complex was developed to stockpile weapons "for democracy." After the war, more noble lies were told to justify a permanent security state, and the United States became the global superpower. It is today; corrupt, bankrupt, bellicose, and shrouded in secrecy. In his introduction to the *Pentagon Papers*, Mike Gravel quoted the novelist and historian H.G. Wells: The true strength of rulers and empires lies not in armies or empires but in the belief of men that they are inflexibly open and truthful and that soon as government departs from that standard, it ceases to be anything but "the gang in possession," and its days are numbered. Remember that quote when you come across Roosevelt apologists excusing his treachery as a "noble lie" and praising him for his foresight and statesmanship. Deceit is neither praiseworthy nor noble. Tim Kelly is a columnist and policy advisor at the Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Virginia, a correspondent for *Radio America*, a Special Investigator, and a political cartoonist.

Warriors win thriller for Boles tournament title

Rockwall Christian Academy freshman Chris Stephens "doesn't realize how good he can be," according to boys' basketball head coach Ryan Stephens. Stephens was exceptionally good Saturday night, when he scored 32 points in RCA's 59-58 victory over Quinlan Boles to win the Boles Athletic Club Annual Holiday Tournament.

The 6-foot guard's all-around game was dominating. Unofficially, he led the Warriors (6-4) with 11 rebounds and three assists, and blocked a shot, in the championship game. He probably didn't need to do all that to win the tournament's Most Valuable Player award. Stephens had scored 35 points earlier in RCA's 80-54 semifinal win over the Leonard junior varsity.

Stephens of that mattered as the game entered its climactic final minutes with the Warriors leading by one point.

The Warriors had rallied from a 13-point deficit (29-16) barely a minute into the quarter. The Hornets led 56-55 when their high scorer, junior Hunter (21 points), fouled out with a minute and 14 seconds remaining. Twenty seconds after that, Stephens put in a rebound to give RCA a one-point lead. In another 12 seconds, he too fouled out. The two foul shots with 14 seconds left put Boles back on top 58-57.

Without Stephens, the Warriors were able to pull out the win. Daniel Corbin scored a basket inside with 25 seconds to play for the eventual 59-58 win. When the Hornets missed their attempt to re-take the lead 10 seconds before the buzzer, Rorie grabbed the rebound. He was fouled on both shots, but Boles' final shot missed just before time ran out.

Meanwhile, Stephens watched from the bench. "I have faith in my team," Stephens echoed his coach's words when he said, "We matured as a team. Our hard work paid off."

Stephens said, "Our goal in non-district games and tournaments in to see if we can win. We improved from the second to the third game. We were relaxed, and fought back to win the game."

Rockwall Christian's other All-Tournament selection was another player, point guard Brett Brinner. He also stood out against Leonard, with team-leading totals of four assists and four steals to go along with 12 points.

Brinner said, "We improved a lot through this tournament. We just had to be focused. It was good to experience the tempos and the teams." The championship game, the Warriors got two tempos in one. The first was the kind of run-and-gun that had led to 155 points combined against Leonard in Thursday's 75-33 first-round win over Mansfield Fellowship

Academy.

Boles pressured RCA into five turnovers in the third quarter to turn a 41-33 deficit into a 48-48 tie. The smaller Warriors shot poorly (6-for-28, 21 per cent) throughout the second half, when the Hornets' 6-4 Jacob Isom moved out to make RCA try to shoot over him. However, the Warriors turned the ball over only once in the fourth quarter.

In the semifinals, RCA shot 69 per cent (33-for-48) from the field. Stephens was 13-for-18 on field goal attempts and made eight of nine free throws.

Taylor Corbin had a strong all-around game with seven points, 10 rebounds, four steals and a blocked shot. Rorie also grabbed 10 rebounds to go along with 14 points, and Brinner contributed 12 points, four assists and four steals.

Against Fellowship, Brinner scored 17 points and Stephens had 15 as the Warriors coasted after taking a 42-11 halftime lead. All nine RCA players who suited up scored.

Brinner also stole the ball six times and passed for four assists. Alan Thomas, who scored nine points, led the team with seven rebounds and blocked a shot.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Fellowship	5	6	7	15	33
RCA	25	17	21	12	75

Mansfield Fellowship Academy - N/A
RCA (4-4) - Brett Brinner 17, Chris Stephens 15, Colton Jones 9, Alan Thomas 9, John Stanley 7, Cameron Carroccia 6, Taylor Corbin 4, Jonas Poland 4, Daniel Rorie 4.

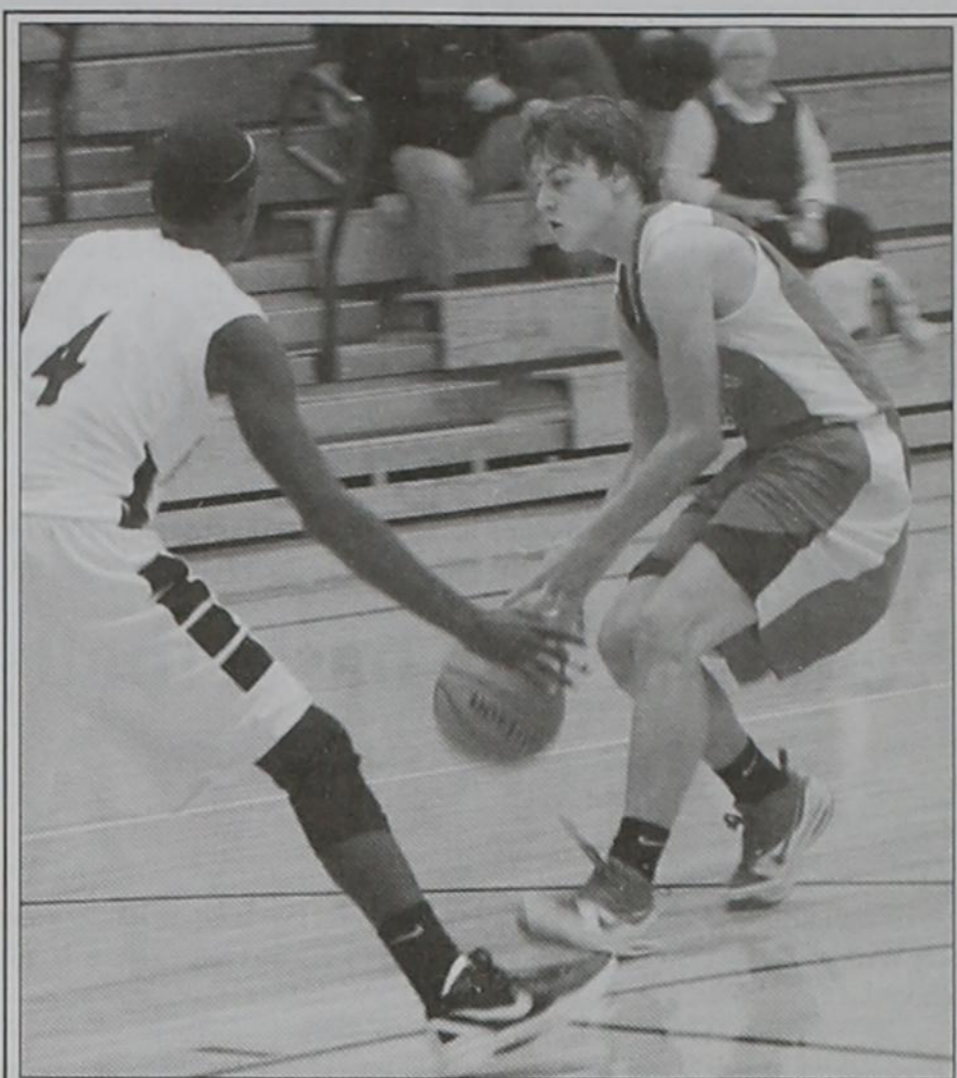
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
RCA	19	21	22	18	80
Leonard JV	20	10	15	9	54

RCA (5-4) - Chris Stephens 35, Daniel Rorie 14, Brett Brinner 12, Taylor Corbin 7, Colton Jones 6, John Stanley 6.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
RCA	24	17	7	11	59
Quinlan Boles	14	19	15	10	58

RCA (6-4) - Chris Stephens 32, Daniel Rorie 8, Brett Brinner 7, Taylor Corbin 6, Colton Jones 5, Alan Thomas 1.

Quinlan Boles - Hunter Jordan 21, Jacob Isom 11, Kyle 9, Ross 9, Kenny Roberson 8.



Warriors' Daniel Rorie (3) drives the ball in for the winning basket against Boles defender Kenny Roberson (4) during last Saturday's Boles Athletic Club 2nd Annual Holiday Tournament in Boles.

Photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Rockwall Christian Lady Warriors take 1st win at Boles tournament

Rockwall Christian Academy girls' basketball team won for the first time Saturday, defeating Dallas A+ Academy 21-17 for seventh at the Boles Athletic Club 2nd Annual Holiday Tournament.

The Warriors overcame injuries that limited the Lady Warriors to just five players for their opening tournament game Thursday. They lost 57-10 to Yantis, then won the tournament championship game by 22 points.

Friday, RCA battled back to lose a heartbreaker 29-28 to Fannindel. Saturday's victory improved the Lady Warriors' record to 1-6.

During the tournament, they had played good defense in their previous games, but the offense was struggling then too.

RCA's best chance to win during its first four games came Dec. 12 at Garland Christian Academy, when the Lady Warriors led for most of the game and took a 23-18 lead into the fourth quarter. GCA rallied to outscore Rockwall Christian 12-4 over the final 8 minutes to steal a 30-27 victory.

The Lady Warriors have given up more than 30 points in just two games - against Yantis and in a season-opening 51-29 defeat Dec. 2, at Fort Worth Calvary Christian.

On Dec. 6, RCA lost at Lucas Christian 30-20. The teams met again a week later at Rockwall Christian with a similar result: a 29-17 loss. The Lady Warriors couldn't catch up after Lucas took a 10-0 first-quarter lead.

Against Garland, Laycee Gonzalez and Ashlee Poland shared high-scoring honors with nine points each. Gonzalez scored 15 of RCA's 17 points in the second game against Lucas.

continued on page 14

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Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Rockwall Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, Rockwall, Texas to consider the following items:

Case # BOA-2012-1-V
Hold a public hearing and consider approval of a request from Ashle Pereira for an expansion of a non-conforming use, located at 402 Williams, Lot 5, Block A, F&M, City of Rockwall, Texas.

For more information concerning this case, contact the Building Inspections Department at (972) 771-7709.

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Winckleys highlight Rockwall Yellowjackets' All-District picks

Rockwall's Chris Winckley was named the Co-Defensive Sophomore of the Year on the 2011 District All-District football team.

Defensive lineman Cameron Rose, senior punter Wesley Davis and junior outside linebacker Daniel Roland.

Davis also was RHS' quarterback, accounting for 2,379 yards and 17 touchdowns passing and rushing.

Winckley worked his way into the starting lineup as the season progressed and filled a hole left at linebacker for captain Garrett Fikes was injured during preseason workouts. Winckley was one of seven Yellowjackets honored with All-District recognition. Included were his brother Andrew Winckley, and Coan Calabrese, who was All-District on offense and defense. Other selections included Garrett Lilly were RHS' selections.

Calabrese made the first team as a wide receiver even though he played just part-time. When he was very good, leading the team with 509 yards and four touchdowns receiving, on just 25 carries for a 20.4-yard average. Calabrese also was voted to the second team as a cornerback.

Winckley also split time between playing wide receiver and secondary. He was an All-District first-team safety. In his spare time, he was the Jackets' field goal kicker.

Winckley started on the Jackets' offensive line during the 2010 and '11 seasons. However, midway through the season, head coach Scott Smith and Jordan Lilly was most valuable as a defensive tackle. He helped lead Rockwall's rushing offense and earned All-District first-team honors.

The Jackets were voted to the district second team. In addition to Calabrese, they were senior offensive players.

Only in Your Hometown Newspaper!

Rockwall County Sports Notes

STRIPPED classes scheduled
A high-energy class designed to help participants lose holiday pounds that New Year's resolution offered for individuals ages 18 and older from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays Jan. 4-25 at The Center. The class will help participants improve muscle tone, increase cardiovascular endurance and strengthen their overall body. The class will be open to seasoned athletes or beginners. No dumbbells or resistance equipment will be provided; participants are encouraged to bring dumbbells (10-15 pounds recommended) to participate. For more details about this class, visit Rockwall Parks & Recreation at 972-771-7740.

RBA spring registration slated
Spring registration for the Rockwall Baseball Association will run from Feb. 1. The spring baseball season begins the week of March 5. For more information, visit rockwallbaseballassociation.com or call 972-772-6324 for details.

Adult softball registration set
The TAAF/USSA slow-pitch softball league will feature divisions formed by level of ability. Divisions will include co-ed divisions on Mondays and men's divisions on Wednesdays. The season will consist of eight games, plus the top two teams will have a final night game to determine division winners. This season also will feature a separate team category for individual players. Games will be played at the Leon Tuttle Athletic Center. Registration deadline is Feb. 27. The season begins the week of Feb. 27. The fee is \$349; individual pick-up fee is \$35 per person. For more information, visit rockwall.com/parks.



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