

Rockwall County News

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Surrounded by area law enforcement officers, city and county officials and representatives from hospitals, Rockwall County Criminal District Attorney Kenda Culpepper, center, announces at a Friday, Aug. 18 news conference the county's new initiative to fight drunk driving over the Labor

Day weekend. The 2009 No Refusal Weekend is a pilot program the county will study for possible implementation in the future over high-consumption holidays.
Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

District Attorney introduces 'No Refusal Weekend' to combat drunk driving

Kathy Williams
 A new weapon in the fight against drunk driving over the Labor Day weekend, Rockwall County law enforcement will be implementing the Labor Day 2009 No Refusal Weekend from Thursday, Sept. 4 to 2 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 8. This is a program whereby warrants will be sought to draw blood from drivers who are suspected of driving while intoxicated and have refused to provide a breath or blood sample.

Rockwall County Criminal District Attorney Kenda Culpepper said at a Tuesday news conference that jurisdiction across the state of Texas "are now getting evidentiary warrants to draw a person's blood if they refuse (to voluntarily provide a breath or blood sample) so they can be scientifically tested for trial."

"There are a number of people who refuse that test because they don't want the DA's Office to have that scientific evidence. We are taking that choice away from them."

"One of the most important jobs we have, and one I take very seriously, is the protection of the public. I believe that if we can get the message out about law enforcement efforts on Labor Day Weekend, it will deter people from driving while intoxicated and/or encourage them to have a designated driver. It is important that the community knows how serious Rockwall County is about keeping intoxicated people off our streets and highways," she said.

The effort is being coordinated on a number of fronts. The District Attorney's Office is buying 50 blood draw kits from the Department of Public Safety and will distribute them to participating law enforcement agencies for their use during the program. Lake Point Medical Center and Presbyterian Hospital of Rockwall have agreed to provide trained phlebotomists to draw blood at their facilities throughout the weekend.

Rockwall Municipal Judge Cathy Penn and Rowlett Municipal Judge Belinda Loveland have agreed to stay on 24-hour call to consider the approval of the blood draw warrants. Two prosecutors from the DA's Office will also be on 24-hour call to answer any questions.

The Rockwall County Commissioner's Court has agreed to reimburse the cities for the judges' overtime costs, and prosecutors have agreed to work without overtime compensation in order to make the program a success. The Rockwall County Criminal District Attorney's Office will also provide training for law enforcement officers and supervisors regarding the blood draw warrants and procedures.

Culpepper said that she has heard some concern that the program will cause a suspect to be unnecessarily detained, but she said that is not true. She said an officer will only seek a warrant for a blood draw after establishing probable cause. "Officers will continue to offer suspects a breath or blood test. The program doesn't add any time in detention. It allows us to strengthen the evidence we can take to trial."

Culpepper said the safety of boaters on Lake Ray Hubbard is just

as critical as the safety of drivers on the county's motorways. "Lake Ray Hubbard is an important part of the community and we want to make sure that waterway is just as safe as any street or highway. We have been in contact with Texas Parks and Wildlife and have gotten support from DPS and the Sheriff's Office to provide that added support on the waterway to make sure that people who are boating while intoxicated are taken out of the boats."

Additional officers will not be on the streets over the Labor Day weekend, Culpepper said. "Rockwall County has a great presence and we don't need to increase the personnel. The don't need to do anything differently. We just need to get the word out that so that people will know about the program and know that they will no longer be able to refuse the test. Maybe then they will not drive while intoxicated or will get that designated driver."

Area law enforcement officers involved in the effort are Heath Department of Public Safety Chief Terry Garrett, Rockwall Police Chief Mark Moeller, Rockwall County Constable John Cullins, Rockwall County Constable Randy Earl Parks, Rockwall County Sheriff Harold Eavenson, Rowlett Police Chief Matt Walling, Royse City Police Chief Tom Shelton, Texas Department of Safety Sgt. Matthew Dusek, from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Captain Garry Collins and Wylie Police Chief John Duscio.

Editor's Note: Information also provided by Judy Evans

TriRock Triathlon set Sunday at YMCA

The 9th Annual TriRock Triathlon, sponsored by the Rockwall County Kiwanis Club, will take place Sunday at the YMCA, 1210 N. Goliad, in Rockwall.

Racers will begin at 7:15 a.m., with warm-ups beginning approximately one hour earlier.

The event will be comprised of a 300-yard swim, a 14-mile bike ride and a 2.9-mile run.

More than 450 participants are expected to compete in the event, which is sanctioned by USA Triathlon. Participants can earn points toward competing in the next level, a full-blown Iron Man Triathlon.

The TriRock serves as the primary fundraiser for the Kiwanis

(Continued on Page 2)

Rockwall County News Briefs

Food Pantry needs assistance

Helping Hands Food Pantry is seeing an increasing demand and currently has a shortage of staple food items: peanut butter, jelly, sugar and canned goods. Items may be dropped off at Helping Hands' Building A on Williams Street (Hwy. 175).

Casino Night set tonight in Royce City

The Royce City Chamber of Commerce will host a Casino Night beginning at 6:30 p.m. today at Occasions at Stone City. The event will raise funds to help the chamber's economic development efforts, scholarship fund and related events. For reservations call 972-636-6000.

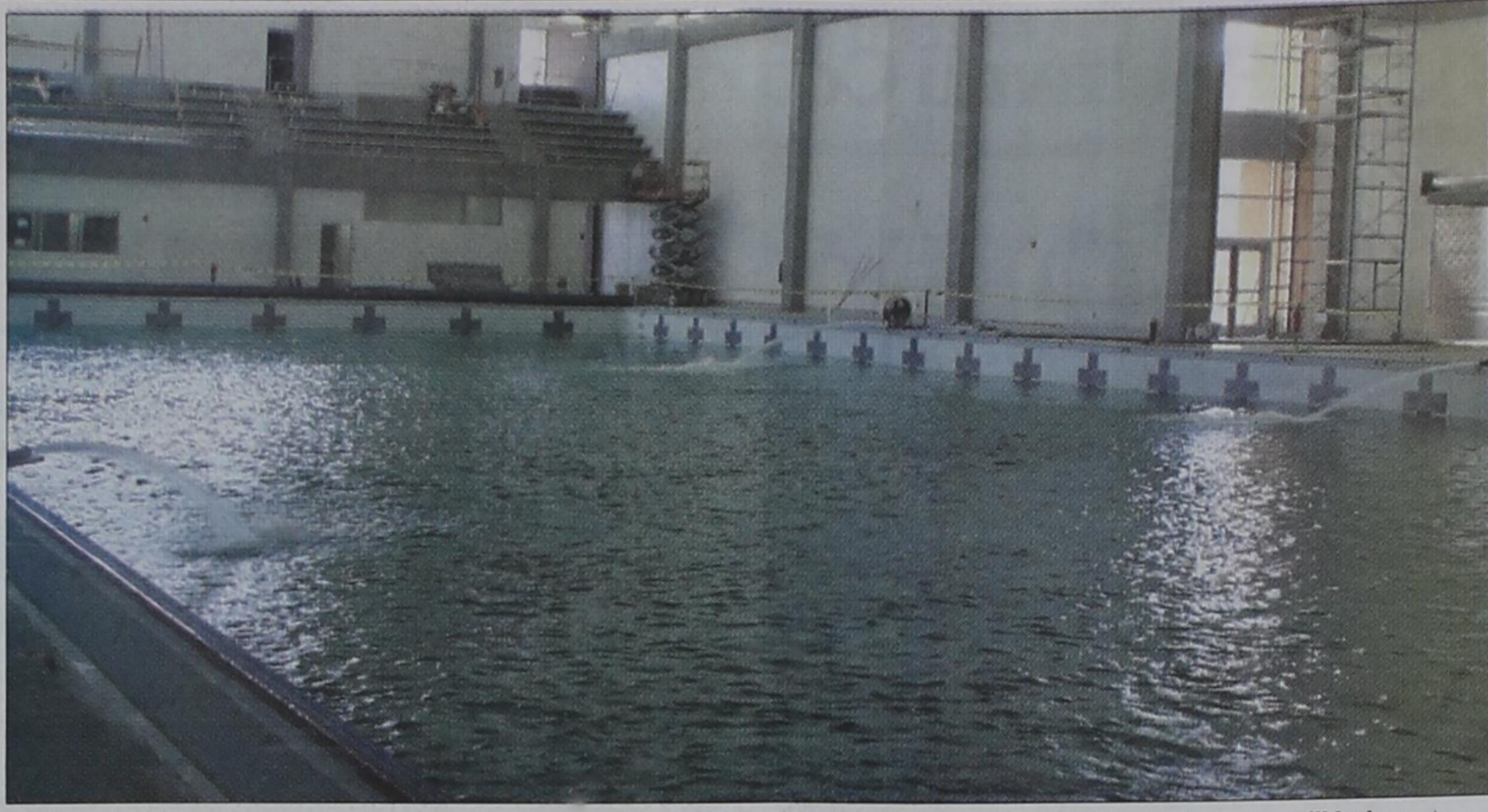
Farmers Market open Saturday

The Farmers Market in downtown Rockwall will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. offering fresh produce, toffee, salad dressings, gourmet roasted coffee, local honey, plants and herbs. The market will open each Saturday through September. For details call 972-636-6000.

Reading for Adults needs volunteers

Rockwall County Library's Reading for Adults program is in need of volunteer tutors to help adults prepare for the GED exam. Tutors are needed on Mondays and/or Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For details contact Gloria at 972-204-7705 or e-mail glon@rockwallcounty.net.

News Briefs on Page 2



After almost a year of construction, the pool at the new Rockwall ISD Aquatics Center was recently filled. The Center will be home to school district and community swim teams. Community programs, such as lap swims, are scheduled to begin after Sept. 14 and try-out for the RACE (Rockwall Aquatics Center of Excellence) swim teams will continue through August. RACE will offer year-round age-group competitions. Neil Walker is the head coach. For more information on the aquatic center and its programs, visit the RISD website at rockwallids.com.

Photo Courtesy of Jan Miller/Rockwall County News

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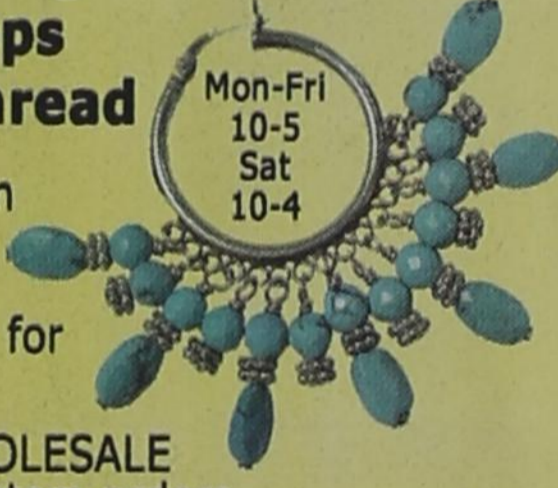
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TriRock Triathlon Sunday

(Continued from Page 9)

Club, with money raised through entry fees and sponsorships used to fund activities such as scholarships for high school students; the Angel League baseball program for special needs children; assistance with the Terrific Kids Citizenship Program at Rochell Elementary; grants to various service groups in the community; operation of the Christmas Parade; and the construction of wheelchair ramps for individuals who cannot afford them.

Approximately 50 Kiwanians and their friends have volunteered to staff the event.

For more information visit rockwallkiwanis.org.

Rockwall County News Briefs

Ministerial Alliance plans meeting

The Rockwall Ministerial Alliance (Pastors' Prayer) will be at noon on Wednesday in the Rockwall County Conference Room. Participants should bring a brown paper bag. Helping Hands will provide beverages and desserts. For more information call 972-771-5526.

Churches to offer financial program

Lake Pointe Church Rockwall and the First United Methodist Church in Rockwall will each offer the 13-week Financial Peace University program beginning this week. The FUMC class will begin at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday; contact Steve Humphries at 972-771-5500 to register. The Lake Pointe class will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday; contact Steve Thornton at 972-771-5526 to register.

Inner City All Stars to perform

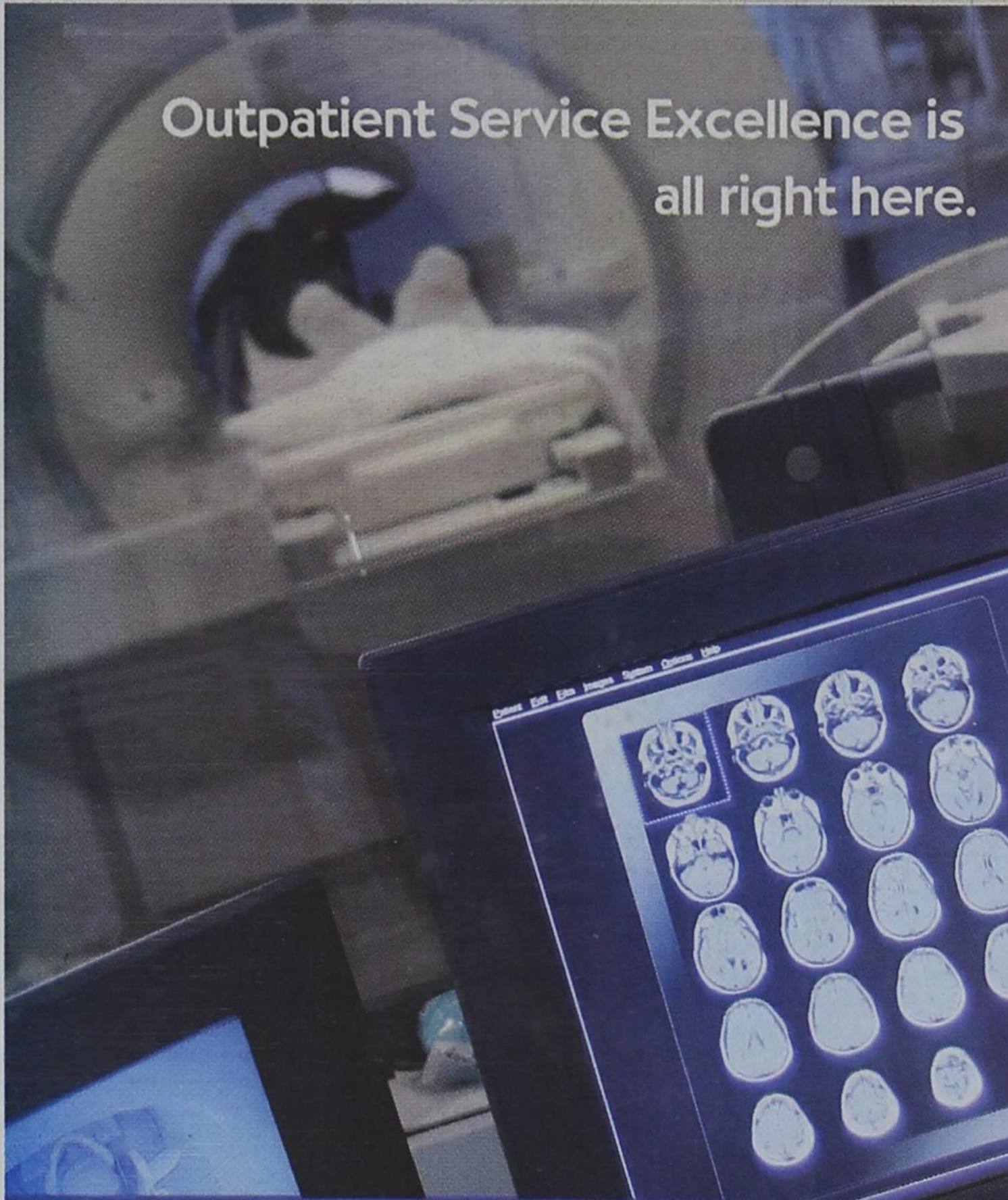
The Inner City All Stars will perform at the free City Concert by the Lake Series event beginning at 7:30 p.m. at The Harbor Amphitheater, 2047 Summer Lee Drive. For more information visit rockwall.com/parks.

Women's League open to new members

The Rockwall Women's League, a local women's organization that promotes the area through community support of civic, study and social events, will hold a national meeting for women interested in joining the league on August 28 at 1 Camden in Heath. Contact at 214-763-9614 for more details.

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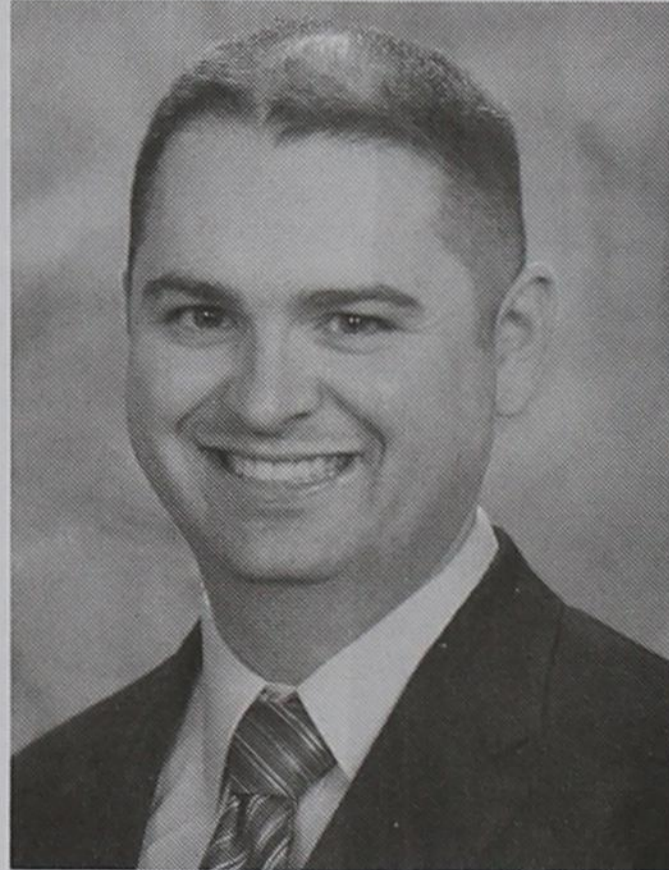


The results are in. J.D. Power and Associates recently surveyed our patients and named the Lake Pointe Health Network a distinguished hospital for "An Outstanding Patient Experience" in Outpatient Services. From outpatient surgery and imaging, to wound care and sleep medicine, this recognition is a testament to our high-quality outpatient care, comfort and cleanliness of facilities and efficiency of care. Rest assured, high-quality outpatient care is all right here.

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Dr. Les T. Sandknopff Family Practice Welcomes Danney Drewry, D.O. Internal Medicine - Hospitalist



Dr. Drewry received his medical training at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Des Moines, Iowa. After completing his internship at Midwest University in Olym Fields, Illinois, Dr. Drewry completed his internal medicine residency at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Illinois where he is also served as Chief Resident.

Dr. Drewry's professional interests include preventive medicine, asthma, and chronic management of diabetes, osteoporosis, and thyroid disorders. He is a current member of the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Drewry and his wife have three young children. In his spare time, Dr. Drewry enjoys spending quality time with his family, golfing, and attending sporting events.

Dr. Drewry will be seeing patients in Dr. Sandknopff's Rockwall and Forney offices, and will be the Hospitalist at Lake Pointe Medical Center.

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Murine Cain Middle School names upcoming PTA Board

Murine Cain Middle School has announced the PTA Board for the 2009-2010 school years. President Cristi Hudecek, Vice President Susan Burt, Treasurer Debra Potet and Secretary Sherwin. Communications, Detra Scheele; Dance, Lisa Martinek-Greenhill; D-FY-IT, Rhonda Lambert; Directory, Rhonda Nance; Fundraising, Stephanie Brand; Hospitality, Allison Glastad and Kristi Horton; Membership, Michelle Sorrells and Stacy Loeffler; Programs, Melissa Frasier and Valerie Childs; Mustang Greeters, Chris Childs; PTA Snack Store, Carol MacKenzie; Spirit Wear, Candi Brundage; Volunteer Coordinator, Janine Pisano and Webmaster, Cristi Hudecek.

The PTA is still recruiting a volunteer to head the annual Reflections Arts Contest. Interested parents can learn more about Reflections by emailing Cristi Hudecek at cristihudecek@msn.com. Sign-up forms for PTA will go home with students at the beginning of the school year with other back-to-school registration papers. Parents may also sign up at the school's open house, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday Aug. 27.

Rockwall County Library plans September activities

Due to the observance of Labor Day, the Rockwall County Library will be closed Saturday, Sept. 5, and Monday, Sept. 6. The staff is also preparing to celebrate the first anniversary of the library's opening with a week of Sept. 8-12. Puppeteers, scavenger hunts, story tellers and live animals with Teacher will be on hand to celebrate the library's one-year anniversary. Storytimes begin on Sept. 14. Bookmark the library's home page to stay up-to-date on program details lib.com.

Competitions next week for RCP Camp Broadway Mini-Production

Community Playhouse announces the fall RCP Camp Broadway Mini-Production with the play "All I Need to Know I Learned from Being in a Really Bad Play." Auditions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, with performances set for October. The production is a fun production which shows the behind the scene antics of a group of actors, directors, and cast members trying to stage what turns out to be a really bad play. From stuffy narrators and neurotic would-be actors, the ensemble tries to get their act together, but they don't get there.

First Presbyterian Rockwall blesses students Sunday

Backpacks to school is a big event in the lives of children, teachers, parents and the church. On Sunday, the First Presbyterian Church of Rockwall will recognize this special time of year and affirm our lives through a Blessing of the Backpacks at the 11 a.m. service of worship. Children, regardless of age, are invited to bring their backpacks, laptops or lunchboxes to church. God's blessing will be invoked on those involved in the education process for the coming year. Schoolwork, teaching and loving support are recognized as ministries of Christ. For more information, contact Cheryl Taylor, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, 972-771-5702. The church is located at 602 White Hills Drive in Rockwall.

Soroptimists to open Eloise's Closet

The Soroptimist International of Rockwall will open a boutique for women, Eloise's Closet, on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The boutique is named after one of the organization's founding members, Eloise Cullum, the yellow-painted boutique commemorates the small yellow cottages that were an icon in the heart of Rockwall. Known for her generosity, club members thought it only fitting to dedicate the shop to Cullum with the Eloise's Closet name. Open one Saturday each month, the boutique will offer free clothing and accessories to women who need an appropriate ensemble for which to interview for jobs. The boutique is located in the Soroptimist House, 1350 E. Washington St., in Rockwall. Local residents are asked to remember Eloise's Closet when they are cleaning out closets. The boutique accepts donations of new or gently used clothing and accessories. For more information call Karen Straughan at 214-676-3249 or Brenda Keilers at 214-500-6332 or e-mail Karen@straughanproperties.com or brend1018@aol.com.

90th Birthday Celebration



The family of Raymond Cameron, pictured above, is inviting his friends to join them in celebrating his 90th birthday on Sunday at the First United Methodist Church, 1200 Yellow Jacket Lane, Rockwall. The celebration will run from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The family has requested no gifts please.

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Quilters Guild celebrates 10th anniversary

The Quilt Guild is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a special event set to run from 10 a.m. to noon on Sept. 13 at the First United Methodist Church, 4405 Main St., in Rockwall. The guild is invited to drop in and visit with members and enjoy refreshments. A look through photo albums and a video on the guild's projects will be shown. The guild was formed in 1999 and meets on the first Saturday of each month at the church. The group offers a variety of programs, including a service, small group discussions, block exchange and brag sessions, a variety of socializing and activities. New members are welcome. Contact Carol Miskin at 972-475-0151 or Anna Trina Cunningham at 972-412-6988 for more information about the event. Contact Miskin at 972-475-0151 or email carolmiskin@rowlettquilters.com



Weldon Collier, his sister Guyrene Randles and niece Carolyn Bryan



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Zaner Robison Museum brings Royse City's past to li

by Maura Metcalf-Kelly

Sequestered in one of the fastest growing counties in Texas, Royse City's Zaner Robison Historical Museum is concerned with where the town has been rather than where it is going. It's hard to believe that Royse City, slumbering on the periphery of Rockwall County with a population just shy of 10,000, was actually once much larger than its neighbor, the city of Rockwall.

In 2008, the Zaner Robison Historical Museum opened in the empty space on the first floor of Royse City Hall. The museum was named for a central figure in the community, journalist Zaner Robison Benetin, who passed away on June 27, 2009. Although barely a year old, the museum has already made a name for itself as the only building in Rockwall County listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings. Even an outsider can sense that the museum is steeped in memories, from its chicken wire glass windows dating back to the 1930's to the contents it houses. The space has served countless purposes for the community since its construction in 1888, including the Royse City firehouse and the police department.

Annie Cornelius, Curator, and Deloris Ballard, Docent, staff the museum. As for Cornelius's involvement in the museum, one thing is for certain: she's not in it for the paycheck.

Cornelius became interested in the history of Rockwall County while writing for a freelance magazine and several local Rockwall newspapers. As a journalist, Cornelius often found herself writing about and researching older places in the area "not because I'm a history buff, but because I wanted to know, [because] I was curious." The curator met her husband, a Royse City native, in California, where both she and her husband were pursuing careers as music producers. After a few years, the couple moved from California to Royse City, where real estate was considerably cheaper.

When the Royse City council began to talk about creating a museum commemorating its rich history, Cornelius's natural curiosity, combined with the taste of local history she'd gotten from her involvement with journalism, was engaged. Cornelius recalled being enthusiastic from the start.

"I jumped at the opportunity to be able to lay out exhibits, to make rooms that people could actually walk through and look at," Cornelius said.

Cornelius thinks the museum stands out from others because "there's not a lot of things behind glass that you can't touch," making it very accessible and visitor friendly. Her view is that history becomes more appreciable when it's out in the open—not just for the benefit of adults, but for children, as well.

Cornelius is also proud of the museum's layout, which she feels contributes to its inviting atmosphere: each exhibit is organized according to the purposes that the pieces within it once served. She likes the fact that "children can see the relationships of things."

"You can actually see how life was in each section," Cornelius said, as she pointed out an exhibit of a living room, complete with the first console television purchased in Royse City, in the 1940s—and the actual delivery slip to prove it. The humble museum holds an impressive amount of themed exhibits, including a table from Royse City's local drugstore that Cornelius says many older visitors remember from their childhood. A table that the Royse City firemen have used for playing dominoes since the 1930's also holds both historical and sentimental value; the table's first home was the old firehouse—in the very spot the museum stands now—but it was brought to Dallas by some of the firefighters who had switched lo-

ing in Dallas retired, the table was returned to its original location.

There is no entrance fee to the museum, although encouraged to explore the gift shop. The practical layout of the museum and the uncharacteristically relaxed approach of its curators make the trip well worth taking.

"People have touched these things for sixty, seventy years," Cornelius said, gesturing at the exhibits around her. "If [the people] survived this long, they can survive this."

The Zaner Robison Historical Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Thursday, and from noon to 4 p.m. every Saturday. The museum is currently hosting summer evening hours; from 1-2 p.m., every Thursday, children ages 5-12 are invited to the museum to learn about history, with art projects for older children and story time for the younger ones. Tickets are \$5. Tickets can be purchased in advance, as refreshments will be provided.



Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

BENEFIT RAFFLE

Families of Fallen Bikers is sponsoring a benefit raffle to raise money to aid families who have lost loved ones in motorcycle accidents. This year's raffle prize is a Winslow's 10x14 portable metal building, Garden Series, with 6x6 roll up door, valued at \$2,500 and delivered within 50 miles. Drawing will be held August 31, 2009, so hurry! Do not need to be present to win. Tickets may be purchased for \$20 each, call 214-507-5711

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Rockwall will hold a public hearing to hear comments regarding the proposed 2009-2010 budget. The hearing will be held on Tuesday September 8, 2009 at 6:00p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 385 South Goliad Street. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.



Rockwall County Committee on Aging Meals on Wheels program, one of the busiest in the county, is volunteer-driven and in need. The program needs caring, dedicated individuals to deliver meals to homebound elderly and disabled people. Training is provided. Pictured above are volunteers Charles Allen, Laurie Holguin (RCCOA volunteer coordinator), Rob Glover, Brian Adams, Holly Adams, Michele Rester, Tom Rester, Amy Rester, David Rester, Bill Michalenko and Joseph Arze. For more details call 972-973-4511.

Applicants sought for Rockwall's youth council

Applicants are being accepted for the City of Rockwall's Youth Council, according to a city news release. Applications are due in the city secretary's office by Sept. 11. The council is comprised of 15- to 18-year-old high school students who will report to city government officials. The students work with city council members to learn more about municipal government. Applications may be filled out and submitted online at rockwall.com under 'Departmental Links.'

Letters of recommendation may be e-mailed to kashberry@rockwall.com or mailed to 385 S. Goliad St., Rockwall, TX 75087. Students attending Rockwall High, Rockwall-Heath High, Fulton Academy or Heritage Christian are eligible, as are students who are home-schooled and live in Rockwall. Applicants must be entering the 10th, 11th or 12th grade. Applicants will interview with members of the Rockwall City Council and the city staff the week of Sept. 14. For more information, contact Kristy Ashberry at 972-772-6406 or Glen Farris, city council member, at 972-771-4444.



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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett
For archives of On God's Word visit

Mary Magdalene arrives first to find Jesus' body missing

by Timothy W. Burnett

The first person to find the empty grave of our Lord Jesus was Mary Magdalene. According to Mark 16:9-11 Jesus at one time cast seven devil spirits out of her. The rest of this account is found in John 20:1-18.

Mary came to the sepulchre early in the morning while it was still dark on the first day of the week which is our Sunday morning. She found the heavy stone door rolled away, and immediately ran to Peter and another disciple and told them that somebody took the Lord's body out of the sepulchre.

After hearing Mary's report, the two disciples ran to the sepulchre. The other disciple arrived first, peered in and saw the linen clothes. Peter arrived next, went inside and saw the same linen clothes as well as the napkin that was wrapped around the Lord's head. It was wrapped or rolled up and sitting in a spot by itself. Then the other disciple came in and also believed Mary's report. At this time, they did not believe Jesus was alive because they did not yet know the scripture that the Lord must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their home.

We might ask how is it that the disciples did not yet know the scripture that the Lord must rise from the dead again. The word "know" meant to understand. Jesus clearly told them in advance what would happen to him. According to Luke 18:34, "...they understood none of these things."

After the two disciples left, Mary stayed outside of the sepulchre crying. And while she cried she stooped down, looked inside and saw two angels in white clothing sitting one at the head and the other at the foot of where the Lord once laid. They asked her why she was crying and she replied, "because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they laid him." When she said this, she turned to look back and saw Jesus, but did not know it was him.

Jesus asked her why she was crying and who she was looking for. Assuming that he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus answered, "Mary." She turned herself and said, "Master." Jesus told her not to touch him because he had not yet ascended to his "Father and your Father, and his God and your God."

Jesus must have been bubbling over with excitement while waiting for the right moment to reveal himself to Mary.

Mary returned to the disciples and did as Jesus instructed her. According to Mark 16:10-11, the disciples were mourning and crying when she arrived. They also did not believe her report that she saw Jesus alive. Based on the record in John, they mourned because they believed somebody stole Jesus' body from the grave.

Rockwall County Obituaries

Dylan Cole Barnes

Services for Dylan Cole Barnes, 19, of Roysie City were conducted at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2009, in the Community Baptist Church in Blackland. Burial followed in the Roysie City Cemetery under the direction of the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel.

He died Aug. 15.

Born Jan. 26, 1990, in Greenville, he was a 2008 graduate of Wylie High School, but his heart was always in Roysie City. He enjoyed spending time outdoors with family and friends.

Survivors include his parents, Melanie and Troy Henslee of Roysie City and Kirk and Christie Barnes of Quinlan; his brothers, Travis and Tyler Henslee and Austin Barnes; his sisters, Taylor and Jenna Barnes and Allee and Ashlyn Henslee; his grandparents, Pat and Larry Barnes, Wanda Fleming, Carolyn Swindle, Barbara and Justin Cherry and Mike and Lee Moses; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his Papa Ed Swindle, Mamaw Dorothy and Mamaw Barnes.

Pat Holt

Services for Pat Holt, 65, of Vance, Alabama, formerly of Lavon, were conducted at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Arvin Ragsdale officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

She died Aug. 14.

Born Nov. 18, 1943, in LaRue to Alvin and Otha (Douglas) Cook, she lived in Lavon for 39 years where she was a member of the Lavon Assembly of God Christian Church. She was a devoted homemaker who enjoyed cooking and making key lime pie and cheesecake. She cherished her family.

Survivors include her husband of 41 years, Richard Glen Holt of Vance; her sons, Richard Wayne Holt and his wife, Margie, of Hallsville, Ronnie Holt and his wife, Cora, of Kilgore and Richard Elliott and his wife, Leigh Ann, of Abernath, Alabama; her daughter,

Sabrina Hargrave and her husband, Randy, of Farris; Teresa Watson and her husband, Lonnie, of Vance; her granddaughters, April, Chasidy, Wendy, Mandy, Amanda, Austin, Andrea, Noah and Rebekah; a sister, Alvis Pierce and her husband, Meriden, of Palestine; her sisters-in-law, Shirley Cook of Texas, and Mary Cook of Highland; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers John Cook.

William A. Payne

Memorial services for William A. Payne, 99, of Dallas will be conducted in the library of the Presbyterian Village North, 8600 Skyline Drive off of Forest Lane in Dallas, at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2009. Burial will be in Rockwall. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

A reception will follow the memorial services.

He died Sunday, Aug. 16, at Presbyterian Village North.

Born Nov. 19, 1909, in Greenville to the Rev. Oscar C. and Mittie (Baker) Payne, he attended Baylor University in 1931 where he met his wife, Margaret Wilkerson. They married in 1932 and she died in 2004.

He began his newspaper career in college and followed it for about eight years for the Dallas Dispatch. He served in the military during World War II and was stationed in England, with the 127th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion. His assignment was to destroy the German V1 flying bomb target during the war. Upon his return to the U.S., he began a career as an assistant city editor before being named amusement editor for The Dallas Morning News that stretched almost 30 years. He worked for 17 years until his 1974 retirement. He traveled the U.S. and Europe to movie premieres and interviewed many well-known actors and actresses.

A lifelong church member, he was a member of the Hill Presbyterian Church at the time of his death.

Survivors include his son, Dr. William A. Payne Jr., a professor at Santa Rosa, Calif.; his daughter, Betty Long, of Dallas; his grandchildren, Bill, of Farmers Branch; his granddaughters, Bill Carrollton, Chuck Payne of California and Gail Payne-McCoy, of Dallas; his great-grandchildren, Rob, of Alameda, Calif.; and two great-granddaughters, Oscar C. Payne; and a sister, Mittie Elizabeth Fish.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations to the Presbyterian Village North Foundation, 8600 Skyline Drive, Dallas, TX 75243.

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"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you..."
Matthew 7:7

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."
Romans 10:13

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"Therefore I say unto you, Whatsoever ye desire, when ye pray, believe ye receive them, and ye shall have them."
Mark 11:24

"That if you will confess with your mouth the Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
Romans 10:9

"A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul."
Proverbs 10:13

This Page Is Made Possible By These Businesses & Organizations

Local private school integrates parents to promote affordability and sense of community

ed by
Mark Horan
 Community Christian
 recently hosted the first
 at Work Weekends
 2010 school term.
 accredited K-12
 school was founded in
 principles of acad-
 emy and afford-
 Christ-centered en-

its family-feel. "I enjoy the opportunity to be a part of my child's school," said Phil Giles, PCCS parent. In addition to integrating parents, Horan said the vision of PCCS is to prepare students to be responsible and Christ-centered members of the community by building and reinforcing Christian character day-to-day and ensuring academic proficiency.

The lower tuition at PCCS has provided opportunities for a private education to families who might otherwise not be able to afford it. "In this economy, families are pleased they can afford to keep their children in a Christ-centered school," said vice president, Lauri Celella. PCCS has already enrolled 23 new families for the 2009-2010 school term.

Academically, PCCS students average in the Top 15% of the nation on the Stanford Achievement Test. Core classes utilize "top 10" rated curricula such as Open Court Reading & Phonics, Prentice Hall and University of Chicago's Everyday Math. More than 50 enrichment courses are offered during the school's afternoon electives program (e.g., Drumline, Danger Rangers, Chess, Keyboarding, Men at Work, Ballroom Dancing, Pottery, Literary Circles,

Cooking, Theatre, Honors courses, Sign Language, Life Strategies for Christian Teens, and many more).

PCCS distinguished itself in the area of learning differences when its LINK Lab program was applauded by the Scottish Rite Learning Differences Department. The school is a member of TCAL and ACSI and competes at varsity, junior varsity and elementary levels in basketball, volleyball, track & field, art & academics. Students also enjoy 4-H, yearbook, karate, speech and drama.

The six-acre campus includes an Elementary Building, Upper Building, plenty of green space, and a Multi-Purpose Building which houses the LINK Lab, kitchen, and regulation-size gym. PCCS is located just 20 minutes from Rockwall and offers bus service to/from PCCS and Rockwall. The school enrolls students in Primer (age 5) through 12th grade. School hours are 8:15 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. M-Th and 8:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday during the school term. Fall classes begin August 24.

For more information, call 972-563-PCCS (7227) or review the website: www.poetrychristian.org.

Rockwall County Band plans March-a-Thon event

The winning Mighty Hawk Band of Rockwall-Heath High will start the new year by conducting on Aug. 29 in Heath and Rockwall neighborhoods. At 8 a.m., the band will march throughout various neighborhoods in an effort to raise money for the purchase of new instruments, instrument repair, repair or replacement of uniforms, lessons for band members, contest expenses and scholarships for students who appreciate music education. The band will perform along the way, as well as at stops at Home Depot, 11:30 a.m.; Kroger, 12:30 p.m. The event will mark the first of its kind in Rockwall, and the band members hope to make it an annual tradition. The band is comprised of approximately 200 members and three concert bands: Wind Ensemble, Percussion and Concert. For more information about the bands or this event, visit the band's Web site at mightyhawkband.org.



PCCS Parent Partners Lori Whitten and John Carullo participate in a recent Parent Work Weekend freshening up paint and helping with other maintenance chores around the school in preparation for the upcoming school year. Photo Courtesy of Anne Puidk Horan/Rockwall County News



Star Scouts William Brandow and Troy Hahn, Second Class Scout Zachary (Deuce) Saunders and Scout Cailean Stevenson meet at Davis Elementary recently to pull weeds and clean out flowerbeds. Boy Scouts, including those from Troop 312, are members of a God- and service-oriented organization who always are looking for volunteers and opportunities to serve.

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Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The _____ City of Fate _____ will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 1.6 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on August 31, 2009 7 p.m. at Fate Community Center, 104 S WE Crawford.

The second public hearing will be held on Sept. 8, 2009 7 p.m. at Fate Community Center, 104 S WE Crawford.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Mayor Bill Broderick and Council Members K.C. Erwin, Steve Skipworth, Tammy Ryan, and Kerry Wiemokly
 AGAINST: None
 PRESENT and not voting: None
 ABSENT: Council Members Sheri Garber and Forest Murley

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in Fate, Texas last year was \$ 175,703 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). Based on last year's tax rate of \$.2144 (preceding year's adopted tax rate) per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$ 377.00 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the preceding tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in Fate, Texas this year is \$ 176,252 (average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older). If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$.2110 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 372.00 (tax on average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$.2144 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$ 378.00 (tax on the average taxable value of a residence homestead in the taxing unit for the current tax year, disregarding residence homestead exemptions available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older).

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

Special Provisions if Applicable

Criminal Justice Mandate (use for counties, if applicable):
 The n/a County Auditor certifies that n/a County has spent \$ n/a in the previous 12 months beginning n/a, for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. n/a County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures (use if applicable):
 The n/a spent \$ n/a from n/a to n/a on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is n/a.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to Mr. Chuck Todd, P.E., City Engineer, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 385 S. Goliad, City Hall, 1st Floor, August 28, 2009, until the hour of 3:00 pm, for the following project:

Squabble Creek Sewer Line and Manhole Repair Project- South of Washington

The project includes approximately: Remove and Replace 30 L.F. of 10" PVC Sewer, Remove and Replace 85 L.F. of 12" PVC Sewer, Remove and Replace 14 Manholes, By-pass Pumping, and other miscellaneous items.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope externally marked- Squabble Creek Sewer Line and Manhole Repair Project- South of Washington.

Bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chambers at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad. No bids will be open or considered if received after the specified time.

Prequalification is not required. Completion time is 60 Calendar Days. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or to accept the bid or bids deemed best for the City.

A 5% Bid Bond is due with the bids. A Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bond (2-year) is required for this project.

Contractors must conform to the Prevailing Wage Rates as established by the City of Rockwall.

Plans and specifications may be examined and obtained at the Rockwall Engineering Office located at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, 1st Floor, Rockwall, Texas (phone numbers- 972-771-7746/fax 972-771-7748), at a non-refundable cost of \$20.00, beginning August 14, 2009. Only those Bids received from Contractors who have purchased the plans and specifications for this project from the City and are listed on the City's List Plan Holders, will be opened at the Bid Opening for consideration.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sealed bids/proposals for Roysse City High School Additions and Renovations - 2009 are being accepted by Roysse City Independent School District. Bidders/Proposers may obtain a complete set of contract documents from the Construction Manager, Gallagher Construction Services, 2600 Technology Drive, Suite 400, Plano, Texas 75074, 972.633.0564, 972.633.0164 Fax. Contract documents will also be furnished to Abilene, DFW, Tyler and Waco area plan rooms.

Mailed bids/proposals should be addressed to Roysse City Independent School District, Administration Office, 810 Old Greenville Road; Roysse City, TX 75189 and received before 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 1, 2009. All other bids/proposals shall be sent directly to Roysse City Independent School District, Administration Office, 810 Old Greenville Road; Roysse City, TX 75189 and received before 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 1, 2009. Thereafter, at 4:00 p.m., all sealed bids/proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The following bid packages/requests for proposal will be available for bid from multiple prime contractors who will contract directly with Roysse City Independent School District and be coordinated by Gallagher Construction Services:

BP 01-A CONSTRUCTION WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES	BP 09-B CERAMIC TILE AND FLOOR COVERINGS
BP 01-B FINAL BUILDING CLEANING	BP 09-E PAINTING
BP 02-A EXCAVATION	BP 09-G WOOD FLOORING
BP 02-B SITE UTILITIES	BP 10-A BUILDING SPECIALTIES
BP 02-C CONCRETE PAVING AND SIDEWALKS	BP 10-D METAL LOCKERS
BP 02-E TERMITE CONTROL	BP 10-G IDENTIFICATION DEVICES
BP 02-F LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION	BP 10-I ALUMINUM CANOPIES
BP 02-U INTERIOR DEMOLITION	BP 11-C STAGE EQUIPMENT
BP 03-A BUILDING CONCRETE	BP 11-D STADIUM SEATING
BP 04-A MASONRY	BP 11-E ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT
BP 05-A STRUCTURAL STEEL AND ERECTION	BP 12-A LABORATORY CASEWORK & FIXTURES
BP 06-A MILLWORK	BP 12-B TELESCOPING BLEACHERS
BP 07-A ROOFING AND SHEET METAL	BP 12-D HORIZONTAL LOUVER BLINDS
BP 07-C SPRAYED ON FIREPROOFING	BP 13-A METAL BUILDINGS
BP 08-A FRAMES, DOORS AND HARDWARE	BP 15-A MECHANICAL: PLUMBING & HVAC
BP 08-B GLASS & GLAZING	BP 15-D FIRE PROTECTION
BP 08-C OVERHEAD COILING DOORS	BP 16-A ELECTRICAL
BP 09-A DRYWALL AND ACOUSTICAL	RFP-001 POST TENSIONED CONCRETE

The Schedule of Bid Packages is shown as a general guide and Bid Packages may be added or deleted. Bidders shall check Gallagher Construction Services web page at www.gallagherx.com for a full and complete current listing.

Evaluation criteria shall be based on price, reputation, experience, quality of product(s) and service(s), past reputation, bonding, financial status and safety records.

Bids/Proposals of \$25,000 or more must be submitted with a bid bond or cashier's check in the amount of 5% percent of the greatest amount bid. All bidders/proposers will be required to comply with provisions of the V.T.C.A. Texas Government Code, Section 2258 of the State of Texas with respect to the payment of prevailing wage rates, applicable city ordinances and equal employment practices. Evidence of worker's compensation insurance coverage's for the person's or entity's employees providing services on the project will be required for the duration of the work. Upon notification of potential selections for award the person or entity submitting the bid must give notice to the district if the owner or operator of the business entity has been convicted of a felony. The notice must include a general description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of the felony (this requirement does not apply to a publicly held corporation).

A pre-bid conference will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at Roysse City High School, 700 South FM 2642; Roysse City, TX 75189. Attendance is encouraged by a representative of each firm submitting a bid. Failure to be represented at this meeting may eliminate a bidder from consideration for work on this project.

Help Wanted

PRN Staffing
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PRN Staffing has immediate need for RNs, LVNs with hospital, nursing home, and hospice experience. Great pay, choose your own hours, no pressure! Locally owned by medical professionals just like you. Call for more information or download an application from our website.
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Fax: 903-886-0165
Email: PRN4Staffing@Gmail.com
www.prnstaffing.biz

Legal Notices

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a FB (Food and Beverage Certificate) and RM (Mixed Beverage Restaurant Permit with FB) by Itron Restaurants, LLC dba El Cayote Rojo, to be located at 308 N. Fannin St, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas. Officer of said corporation is David Albert (President).

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rockwall County invites sealed bids on the following items:
Bid Number: 09-08-013
Improvements to the roof of the County building located at 105 S. First Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087.
Bid specifications are available in the Rockwall County Auditor's Office.
Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked on the outside with the appropriate Bid Number, to John Blackwood, Rockwall County Auditor, 101 East Rusk Street, Room 101, Rockwall, Texas 75087, on or before September 8, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. The bids will be opened on September 8, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.
Rockwall County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.
Upon acceptance of a bid by the Rockwall County Commissioners Court and completion of the project, remittance shall be made through invoicing at the awarded price 30 days upon receipt by the Rockwall County Auditor.
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT
Rockwall County
John A. Blackwood
Rockwall County Auditor

Legal Notice

CITY OF ROCKWALL ORDINANCE NO. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF ROCKWALL, AMENDING THE SIGN PROVISIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; PROVIDING A PROVISION; PROVIDING REGULATIONS; PROVIDING A FINE NOT TO EXCEED OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) AND THIRTY DAYS IN VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE TO CONSTITUTE A SEVERABLE VIOLATION PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
/s/ William R. Cecil,
/s/ Kristy Ashberry, City Secretary

1st Reading: 08-09
2nd Reading: 08-09

Public Notice

The Rockwall Commissioners' Court will hold a public hearing to consider the District Clerk's Fund, Senate Bill 1683, the preservation and restoration of the District Clerk's Fund. The meeting will be held on September 9, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtroom of the Rockwall Courthouse, Rockwall, Texas.
Call 972-722-3099
Classified Advertising
Now Twice Weekly

- Public Notice -

The City of Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 8, 2009** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas. Consider the following items:

Z2009-008: Proposed Zoning Change for Lake Rockwall Estates

Hold a public hearing and consider a City-initiated request for a change in zoning from Agricultural district to (PD) Planned Development district on approximately 329.53-acre tract known as "Lake Rockwall Estates," located along the south side of Tubbs Road, east side of Horizon Road (FM 3097), and north side of County Line Road, and take any action necessary.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions.

Rockwall County News Opinions

Attempt to resurrect REAL ID Act should be stopped

Campaign for Liberty

Congress and the Obama administration are currently resurrecting the failed REAL ID Act, more accurately named

the REAL ID Act, which passed in 2005, establishes a de facto National Identification System, and opens the doors for Federal biometric identification of every American citizen.

The Obama Administration currently complies with the burdensome man-15 bill, and twenty-three have passed legislation refus-

ing the Obama Administration want to do? It's to "Fix it," and ram it down states' throats. "Repeat it." What do you say?

The Obama Administration Surveillance Czar Janet Napolitano is currently running a revamp of the system to get the invasive federal ID running, there has never been a better time to for us to stand up and fight for an outright repeal of the original legisla-

Dangerous ID is a clear attempt to establish a National Identification System, the reality might be much worse -- an INTERNATIONAL Identification System. That's why it is so critical we get it stopped.

Dangerous ID actually requires that driver's license photo be in the United Nation's biometric format standards. At this time, government software can analyze facial characteristics to generate a unique identification number.

At that for a moment -- your identity will be reduced to a single number in an international database that can be tracked globally by government surveillance cameras and facial recognition software.

Senator Daniel Akaka introduced The PASS ID Act to repeal Dangerous ID legislation and ram this program into law.

The REAL ID Redux bill softens requirements for states, possibly making the breach of federalism a little more palatable. It is merely a transparent attempt to get the Dangerous ID implemented in any form, only to be augmented later to meet the needs.

There is evidence that this reincarnated Dangerous ID bill is being worse than the original.

The bill's supporters is Secretary of Homeland Security, who stands to wield expansive and virtually unlimited power to set standards.

Dangerous ID, Napolitano can unilaterally expand required driver's licenses, potentially to include biometric information as retinal scans, fingerprints, DNA information, and radio frequency Identification (RFID) radio tracking technol-

ogy, databases, RFID and biometric identification cards, government surveillance are as alarming to you as they are to me. Please click here to sign Campaign for Liberty's petition to repeal Dangerous ID.

Important battle, and one we CAN win. In all the success stories in states that opted out of the system. In many cases, local C4L groups were instrumental in that legislation.

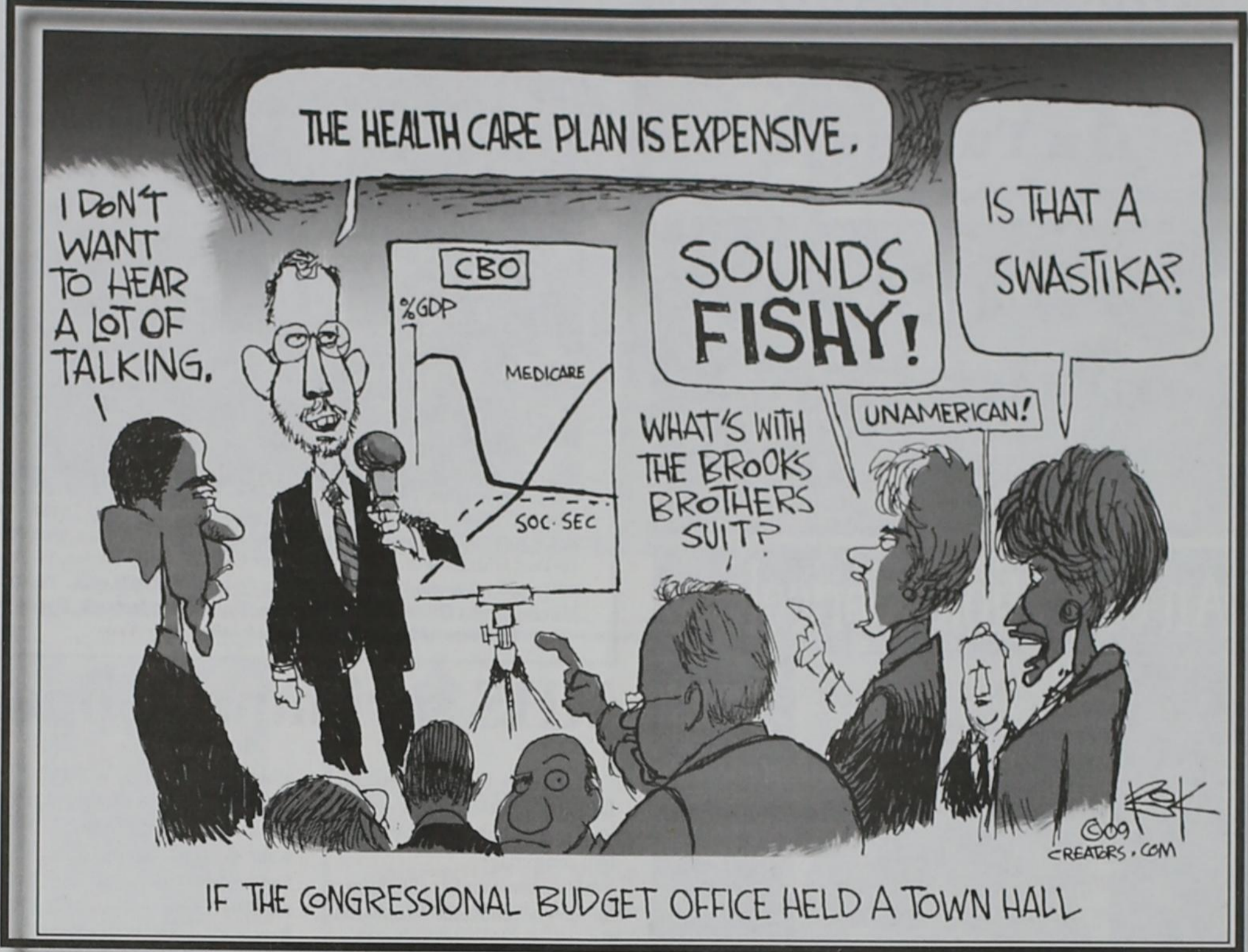
Reduces passes, the new federal "concessions" may be states into compliance.

It is so important that we defeat this reincarnation of Dangerous ID at the federal level, and take advantage of this national opportunity to repeal the original bill.

Click here to sign the petition urging your Senators and Representatives to stop this so-called "PASS ID" and finally repeal the Dangerous ID legislation.

Make a generous contribution to help Campaign for Liberty make the word about this important fight.

WE NOT SAID I WAS A SUPPORTER OF SINGLE PAYER!!!
I WILL NOT SIGN A BILL THAT ADDS TO THE DEFICIT!!!
THE AARP ENDORSES THE PLAN!!!



IF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE HELD A TOWN HALL

Is Racial Profiling Racist?

by Walter E. Williams

Harvard Professor Henry Gates' arrest has given new life to the issue of racial profiling. We can think of profiling in general as a practice where people use an observable or known physical attribute as a proxy or estimator of some other unobservable or unknown attribute. Race or sex profiling is simply the use of race or sex as that estimator. Profiling represents mankind's attempt to cope with information cost. God would not have to profile since God is all knowing.

People differ by race and sex. Let's look at a few profiling examples to see which ones you'd like outlawed. According to the American Cancer Society, the lifetime risk of men getting breast cancer is about 1/10th of 1 percent, or 1 in 1,000; and 440 men will die of breast cancer this year. For women, the risk of developing breast cancer is about 12 percent, or 1 in 8, and 40,610 will die from it this year. Should doctors and medical insurance companies be prosecuted for the discriminatory practice of routine breast cancer screening for women but not for men?

Some racial and ethnic groups have higher incidence and mortality from various diseases than the national average. The rates of death from cardiovascular diseases are about 30 percent higher among black adults than among white adults. Cervical cancer rates are five times higher among Vietnamese women in the U.S. than among white women. Pima Indians of Arizona have the highest known diabetes rates in the world. Prostate cancer is nearly twice as common among black men as white men.

Knowing patient race or ethnicity, what might be considered as racial profiling, can assist medical providers in the delivery of more effective medical services.

One might take the position that while it is acceptable for doctors to use race, ethnicity and sex as indicators of the higher probability of certain diseases, it is not acceptable to use race or ethnicity as indicators for other attributes such as criminal behavior. Other than simply stating that it is acceptable to use race or ethnicity as information acquisition technique in the case of medicine but not in other areas of life, is there really a difference? Surely, race and ethnicity are not perfect indicators of the risk of prostate cancer or hypertension; neither are they perfect indicators of criminal behavior; however, there are concrete factual data that surely indicate associations. Criminologist Marvin Wolfgang says, "For four violent offenses -- homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault -- the crime rates for blacks are at least 10 times as high as they are for whites."

In a 1999 article, "Capital Cabbies Salute Race Profiling," James Owens writes, "If racial profiling is racism, then the cab drivers of Washington, D.C., they themselves mainly blacks and Hispanics, are all for it. A District taxicab commissioner, Sandra Seegars, who is black, issued a safety-advice statement urging D.C.'s 6,800 cabbies to refuse to pick up 'dangerous looking' passengers. She described 'dangerous looking' as a young black guy ... with shirttail hanging down longer than his coat, baggy pants, unlaced tennis shoes."

The Pizza Marketing Quarterly carried a story of charges of racial discrimination filed in St. Louis against Papa John's pizza delivery services. Papa John's district manager said she could not and would not ask her drivers to put their lives on the line. She added that the racial discrimination accusation is false because 75 to 85 percent of the drivers in the complaining neighborhood are black and, moreover, most of those drivers lived in the very neighborhood being denied delivery service.



Some years ago, the Rev. Jesse Jackson complained, "There is nothing more painful to me at this stage in my life than to walk down the street and hear footsteps and start thinking about robbery -- then look around and see somebody white and feel relieved."

Here's my question: Is the racial profiling done by cab drivers, pizza deliverers or Jesse Jackson a sign of racism or economizing on information costs?

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

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An Unhealthy Tactic

by Bill O'Reilly

Can you believe this health care chaos? What a tremendous story: A charismatic president puts all his currency behind remodeling America's health care system and, at this point, is getting his back pocket kicked.

A recent Rasmussen poll has 53 percent of Americans opposing President Obama's health care vision, and just 42 percent supporting it. Also, a whopping 44 percent of voters strongly oppose Obamacare, while only 26 percent strongly support the plan.

In response, the president traveled to Portsmouth, N.H., this week for a town hall meeting in front of a largely friendly crowd. He told the folks there that the AARP supports his reform plan. About 10 minutes later, the AARP issued a press release saying, uh, not so fast, Mr. President. We do not support any specific health care plan at this time.

Asked about this later, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said the president did not mean anything "untoward." With all due respect, I believe the issue is "untrue" not "untoward."

Also in New Hampshire, 11-year-old Julia Hall asked this question: "I saw a lot of signs outside saying mean things about reforming health care. How do kids know what is true, and why do people want a new system that can help more of us?"

The president responded smoothly about bad health care "rumors" and why his plan is worthy. It all sounded great.

But then The Boston Globe reported that young Julia is the daughter of Kathleen Manning Hall, who ran the Massachusetts Women for Obama organization during the campaign. Uh-oh. Does the word "plant" come to mind?

Considering that Obama has described some health care protestors as disingenuous ideologues, you would think the president's team would avoid having disingenuous questioners at town hall meetings. You would think.

All of this points to one thing: There is a serious breakdown in Obama's health care message. The White House is reeling under falling poll numbers and intense public displays of hostility. And the administration's response to that? This week Gibbs said this to Matt Lauer: "I think we all have something to lose, Matt, if we let cable television come to town hall meetings and kill health care reform for another year, and put the special interests back in charge."

To which "cable television" is Gibbs referring? CNN and MSNBC are largely supportive of the president, and I don't think Spike TV is in play here. So he must be slamming Fox News. Is that smart?

Since the town hall protests began, FNC's ratings have soared because we cover the events fairly. We don't mock the protestors or label them subversive. We put both sides of the issue on display. I've invited Gibbs on my program, but he has always declined.

The end game here is that the Obama administration is sorely mishandling the health care debate. Attacking critics and planting favorable questions is not the remedy for fixing health care confusion. If there is a wise-up pill available, the administration needs it fast.

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

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Rockwall County Sports

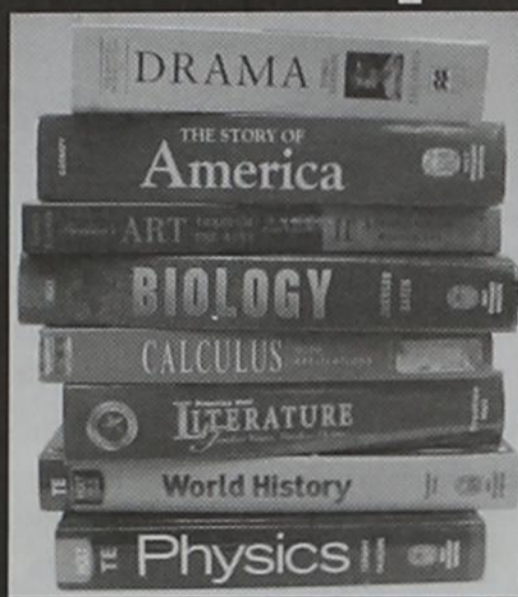
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Dustin Funderburk (4th from right) dominated the Open Division at the Going Going Gone Home Run Derby in July, with 101 and a score of 195 out of a possible 200. His brother, Dylan, won the 16-Year Old Division. Winners in other divisions were Tanner, 10-Year Old; Tanner Mitchell, 12-Year Old and Cody Taylor, 14-Year Old. The next Home Run Derby will be on Friday, Aug. 28. Times and rules can be found at GoingGoingGoneHRD.com. Participants at the July contest were (left to right) Deven Pendergrass, Mitchell, Jake Owen, Dalton McAden, Dustin Funderburk, Dylan Funderburk, Cody Taylor, Leven Pendergrass.
Photo Courtesy of Tonya Mitchell/Rockwall County News

RHS scrimmage opens renovated stadium

More than the Rockwall and Denison football teams will be on display during Friday's football scrimmage.
Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium – the newly renovated Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium – also will be a star of the show that begins with the freshman scrimmage at 4:30 p.m. The junior varsity scrimmage will be at 6 p.m., followed by the varsity teams at 7:30.
"This is for the whole community," said Scott Smith, the RHS head coach and acting RISD

athletic director. "We'll have construction workers there, the school board, everybody. We want to work out the kinks for September 4th (when the first regular-season game will match Rockwall and Rowlett)."
On the field, Smith expects a good test in Denison. The Yellowjackets from up north are coached by Cody White, who was an assistant to Smith at Highland Park and Odessa

Permian. Denison plays an offense similar to Rockwall's, with spectacular running back D.J. Jones returning from last year's Bi-District champions.
Smith said, "They play an even defense. Other than that, there are a lot of similarities."
Texas High School Football's preseason rankings had Denison third among the state's 4A teams and Rockwall 31st.
"It should be a good practice

night. I don't know we'll see of the night. The coach knows do, I have enough to do with my own team, ed.
The Jackets' coaches about his team condition, with no entering the scrimmage. "We're in pretty It's a fun group of spirited. They're conditioned, hard-nosed two-a-day practices Wednesday.
The scrimmage se the teams' first offenses squaring off each, then the second followed by the third. will be a live quarter at the end of the first and varsity scrimmage.
Those are part of end for the Yellow Saturday will be Meet the Jackets N Wilkerson-Sanders Rockwall fans will be to and able to mingle players, coaches, band members and Local merchants have items for a fund-raiser

Rockwall Yellowjackets' schedule

Friday, Aug. 21 – Football: scrimmage vs. Denison, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, freshman 4:30 p.m., JV 6 p.m., varsity 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 22 – Football: Meet the Jackets Night, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, 6:30 p.m.
JV volleyball: at Crandall Tournament
Tuesday, Aug. 25 – Varsity volleyball: at Highland Park vs. Flower Mound Marcus 5 p.m. and McKinney Boyd 6:30 p.m.
JV volleyball: at McKinney Boyd vs. Flower Mound Marcus 5 p.m. and McKinney Boyd 6:30 p.m.
Freshman volleyball: at Flower Mound Marcus 5 p.m. and vs. McKinney Boyd 6:30 p.m.

Rockwall Christian cancels scrimmage

Rockwall Christian Academy canceled its participation in a football scrimmage scheduled this weekend.
"I decided last week," said new head coach Caleb Palmer. "We have so much new stuff put in to our offense that we won't be ready. We'll be good to go for our first game (Aug. 28 at Watauga Harvest Christian)."
The Warriors had planned to compete with two teams in a three-way scrimmage in Fort Worth.
"I had to call the (Watauga) coach and apologize, telling him we won't have film from a scrimmage to switch with him," Palmer said.
RCA, which will open the season with about 20 players on its roster, would have been even more shorthanded for the scrimmage.
Two-time All-State linebacker Cody Wallace's shoulder problems have reemerged.
Palmer explained, "Cody rolled over in bed, and (the shoulder) came out of place. He'll have to wear a big brace when he plays. I don't know if he can be ready for Game 1."
Wallace, who hasn't practiced this week, said he thought he could be ready for the opener.

Rockwall Yellowjackets' schedule

Friday, Aug. 21 – Football: scrimmage vs. Denison, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, freshman 4:30 p.m., JV 6 p.m., varsity 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 22 – Football: Meet the Jackets Night, Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium, 6:30 p.m.
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JV volleyball: at McKinney Boyd vs. Flower Mound Marcus 5 p.m. and McKinney Boyd 6:30 p.m.
Freshman volleyball: at Flower Mound Marcus 5 p.m. and vs. McKinney Boyd 6:30 p.m.

Lady Eagles split four volleyball matches

Heritage Christian Academy picked up its first two volleyball victories this season but also lost twice last week.
Playing at home Tuesday, Aug. 11, the Lady Eagles twice fell a game behind before rallying and taking a 17-15 victory in the deciding fifth game. Fort Worth Bethesda Christian had won the first game 25-14 before HCA came back for a 25-17 decision. Bethesda again went ahead by winning the third game 25-17 before Heritage Christian tied the match 25-18 in game four.
The Lady Eagles played at the Dallas Lutheran Tournament Friday and Saturday, winning one match between two losses.
HCA took a heartbreaking 25-18, 26-28, 15-9 loss to Austin Concordia Lutheran, but bounced back to defeat Watauga Harvest Christian 25-14, 25-23. The Lady Eagles then lost another three-game match to Duncanville ChristWay Academy 20-25, 25-19, 15-5. That left them with a 2-3 record, all in non-district matches.

Heritage Christian Eagles' schedule

Friday, Aug. 21 – Football: scrimmage vs. Fellowship Academy at RISE, 6 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 24 – Volleyball: at Poetry Christian, middle school 4 p.m., JV 5 p.m., varsity 6 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 27 – Middle school volleyball: at Garland Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity volleyball: at Carrollton Christian Tournament

RHS freshman take title Crandall volleyball

Rockwall's freshman volleyball team swept opponents to win the 95th Tournament ship Thursday and Crandall.
The young Lady only one game in men's two days. Tuesday second game in a semifinal against McKinney Boyd.
Freshman A coach Kraft attributed the for the championship work. She said, "Each other up, and we out in the last game, ed being focused."
In the finals, Rockwall ed Waxahachie 27-22.
The freshman A team back from losing a game its match Tuesday Guyer. After rallying the first game 25-22. Jackets lost a 21-19 second game 25-22 game was no contest winning 25-11.
Also in the Crandall, Rockwall's B team won the championship. The Tuesday at Guyer.

Say You It In "The Co News

2009 Property Tax Rates in City of Fate

This notice concerns 2009 property tax rates for City of Fate. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	\$761,559
Last year's debt taxes	\$23,810
Last year's total taxes	\$785,369
Last year's tax base	\$366,310,347
Last year's total tax rate	0.214400/\$100
This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$785,658
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$372,315,282
= This year's effective tax rate	0.211000/\$100
This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$761,838
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$372,315,282
= This year's effective operating rate	0.204600/\$100
× 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	0.220900/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	0.010900/\$100
= This year's rollback rate	0.231800/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease
If City of Fate adopts a 2009 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of 0.211000 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2008 taxes by \$ 85,850.

Schedule A: Unencumbered Fund Balances:
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
2006-2007 M & O	2,303,202
2007-2008 PROPOSED	2,164,099

Schedule B: 2009 Debt Service:
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
2009-20010 SERIES 1989 COUPON 6.875%	20,000	25,438	0	45,438
Total required for 2009 debt service				\$45,438
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$0
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				\$0
- Excess collections last year				\$0
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2009				\$45,438
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100.000000% of its taxes in 2009				\$0
= Total Debt Levy				\$45,438

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 841 Justin Road, Rockwall, TX 75087.
Name of person preparing this notice: Ray E. Helm
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date prepared: July 30, 2009

Rockwall County Sports Notes

Rock Triathlon planned for Sunday

Annual TriRock Triathlon will take place Sunday at the Goliad, in Rockwall, with racers beginning at 7:15 a.m. The event will be comprised of a 300-yard swim, a 14-mile bike ride and a 5-mile run. The event, which serves as a fundraiser for the Angel League baseball program for special needs children and other programs, is hosted by the Rockwall Aquatics Club. For more details visit rockwalkiwanis.org.

Swim team tryouts set

Rockwall Aquatics Club swim team, RACE (Rockwall Aquatics Center) will have tryouts Aug. 24-28 and Aug. 31 in the new Rockwall High School. For more details visit the team Web site at rockwallaquatics.org.

Ticket sales under way

Reserved seating ticket sales for the Royse City ISD Rockwall High School football game will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Aug. 28 at the RCISD administrative offices.

Hunters' ed course slated

Education course will be offered for individuals ages 12 and older from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sept. 8 in the Myers Community Center in Texas hunting regulations, ethics, firearm safety and other topics will be covered. Cost for this course is \$15 for Rockwall residents and \$20 for non-residents.



Rockwall Brownie Troop 8971 has something unique to write about when they return to Springer Elementary next week. The troop and their moms spent the night inside the Caldwell Zoo in Tyler and earned a Science Try-It Badge. The girls participated in several activities that involved using their five senses. Afterward the group enjoyed an evening adventure around the zoo, which began by hand-feeding the giraffes their dinner consisting of fresh fruit and vegetables. "This is a 'once-in-a-lifetime' experience for the girls and moms, too," said Troop Leader Rene Raines. Observing the various feeding habits of the animals on their early morning journey around the zoo are (left to right) Samantha King, Lily Williams, Abby Deen, Loren Raines, Reagan Yarbrough, Jenna McMurray, Haley Wood and Mackenzie Reggia.

Photo Courtesy of Barbara Wood/Rockwall County News



from the left are 4-H Club officers for the upcoming year - Letlow, treasurer; ... council delegate; ... vice president; ... secretary; and ... Garza, president. ... opportunities for ... 8-19 to become ... and contributing ... society. The club's ... will be conducted ... For more details ... opportunities in ... County contact the ... County AgriLife ... Service, 972-204- ...

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Rockwall, Texas YMCA

Bring a Friend!

SIGN UP NOW!

For the Winter campout at Camp Grady Spruce!

Dates: Jan. 30th - Feb. 1st
Deadline to register is January 19, 2009

For More Information, Visit us at www.rockwallymca.org
Or call the Rockwall YMCA at 972.772.9622

FREE FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER SEMINAR
RECEIVE UP TO \$8,000 AS A FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER!

- Learn about the loan process and what the lender needs to get you into your first home.
- Receive a copy of a **FREE** mortgage credit report.
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- Visit with a realtor, insurance representative, and title company representative to answer questions.
- Receive a **FREE** first-time homebuyer packet

If you haven't owned a home in the last 3 years, you may qualify as a first-time homebuyer! You may also be eligible for a tax credit of up to \$8,000 that does not need to be repaid! **AND, YOU CAN USE THE TAX CREDIT IN ADVANCE TOWARD MONEY DOWN AND CLOSING COSTS!** This is money in your pocket! Home prices are at their lowest in years! What are you waiting for! Now is the time to buy!

Free Seminar Date: Thursday, August 27, 2009
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location: Superior Lending Mortgage
2880 Ridge Road, Rockwall
RSVP Required: Contact Karen Milner at 972-772-1866
Refreshments provided
Sponsored by:
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RHHS band earns sixth at state

The Rockwall-Heath High Mighty Hawk Band advanced to the state finals and earned a sixth-place finish in the Texas Music Educators Association State Honor Band Contest.

Fourteen Texas bands made it to the contest, which was conducted July 26.

Bands submitted recordings from their spring UIL concert program to be eligible. Two bands were selected from each region to advance to area competition, and two bands from each area advanced to the state-level contest.

RHHS placed first at both the regional and area competitions.

The Mighty Hawk Band, comprised of 203 members, is about to begin its fifth year since the high school opened in 2005.

"It is a great accomplishment to get to the finals at state when our program is so young," said Benny Davis, the group's director. "We have great kids, a great school and an incredibly supportive community."

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The Rockwall-Heath HS Cheerleaders recently hosted a general skills cheer camp for to learn new skills or brush up on skills they already know. The RHHS cheerleaders al safety, pointing out correct hand position and foot placement to keep the "flyers" safe lifted into the air. Showing great skill in a Thigh Stand are (left group) campers Mackey and Rylie with flyer Olivia, (middle group) RHHS cheerleaders Leah, Alexis and Rebekah Ashley and (right group) RHHS cheerleaders Brittany, Alexis and Cassidy with flyer Bria
Staff Photo by Kathy Williams/Rockwall County News

Lawmakers ban cell usage in school zones

Beginning Sept. 1, a law affecting the use of cell phones within a school-crossing zone will be in effect, according to a news release issued this week by the Rockwall Independent School District.

Lawmakers in the 81st Legislative Session passed House Bill 55, which prohibits the use of cell phones while operating a motor vehicle within a school-crossing zone (unless

the drive is using device). An offense considered a misdemeanor by a fine not according to the n
The first day of RISD is Monday.

Rockwall County Letters to the Editor

We encourage the submission of Letters to the Editor. Publishing of letters is at the sole discretion of the editor. Letters should be concise, to the point, and free of profanity. Letters which are considered libelous or an attack of an individual or organization will be rejected, as well as those promoting political candidates. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number or address for verification.

Got that "Distracted" feeling?

Ever get the feeling that many of our so-called news these days seem to be nothing more than carefully crafted stories designed to keep us a little informed and somewhat entertained instead of educated on the seemingly unending issues of our country?

While we seem to get a daily dose of this "infotainment" variety of mainstream (alleged) news outlets perhaps that should be in our minds is what we're not hearing from these same sources, whether it be major TV networks, radio stations or even our favorite talking head.

The next time you hear another story about Jon & Renée's love life the question that begs asking is should we really garner more public attention than an issue like illegal aliens medical expenses on our health care system? The higher taxes and premiums Americans are forced to pay this ever growing problem? With the current debate on energy policy and the 45 million who don't have coverage would it make sense to have a serious national discussion about the fact that a percentage of that figure are not even American citizens? These same lines wouldn't it be easier and much less expensive for the federal government just enforced its own laws concerning and abetting illegals?

Should the demise of Michael Jackson or the Michael Jackson take precedence over the fact that the current surge in national debt along with the over \$100 trillion in 'unfunded liabilities' Social Security, Medicare, etc., that is virtually unpayable severely impact the value of the U.S. dollar in the near future? It is already common knowledge that investors such as the Fed have slowed their purchases of T-Bills and the Federal Reserve has resorted to 'monetizing' newly created debt, which is not only not and will only place our financial system under further duress.

Quite frankly, we should be much less concerned about the actions of Pelosi, Barney Frank or North Korea and more so about the safety of our food supply (especially from China), how to replace the millions of jobs lost over the past several years, the ongoing quiet harmonization of the USA, Canada and Mexico, and the SPP and its potential impact on our sovereignty.
Wayne Clow, Rockwall

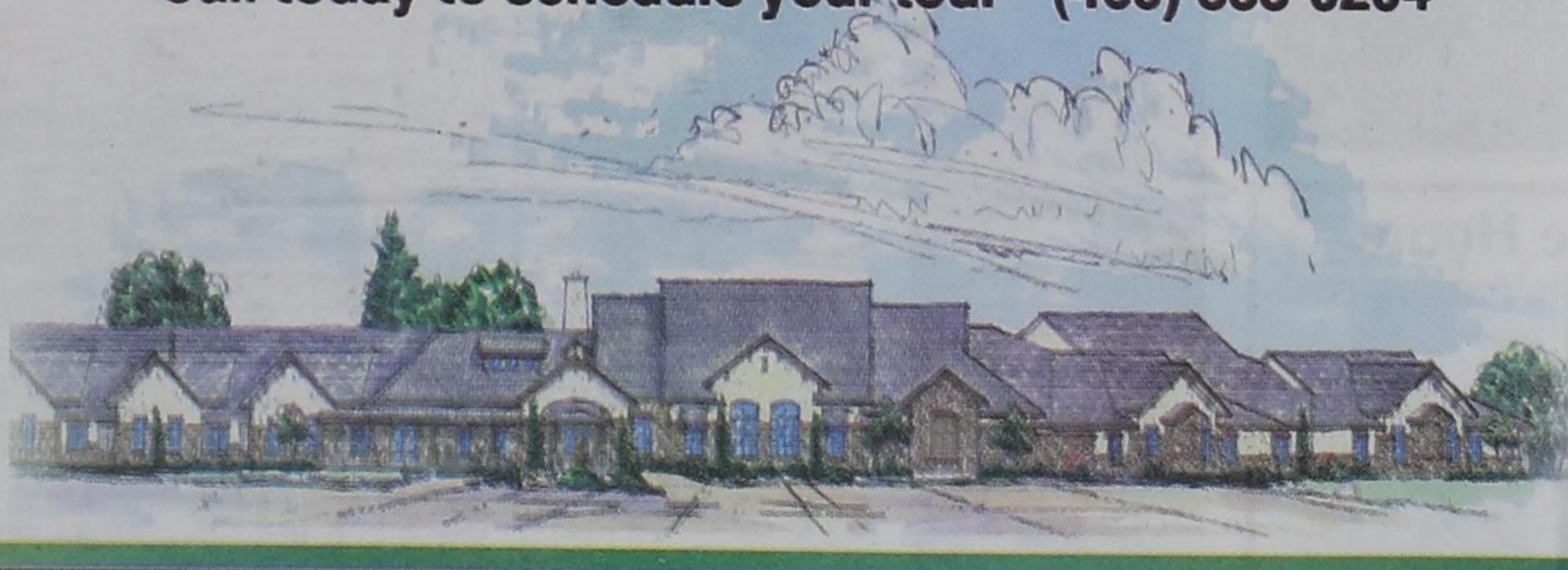
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