

# Blue Ribbon News

ROCKWALL/HEATH

READ MORE at [BlueRibbonNews.com](http://BlueRibbonNews.com)



Volume 11, Issue 2 | April 2023

REAL. GOOD. NEWS.



## Go Blue for Kids 6

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Rockwall, TX  
Permit No. 18

\*\*\*ECRWSSDDM\*\*

Local Postal  
Customer



Magic of Reading 4



Reppin' Rockwall 15



Heart of Heath 10



## Serving Rockwall County for Over 10 Years

### Real.Good.News.



*"At Blue Ribbon News, we shine the spotlight on people, places, and events that impact our community in a positive way. We believe that if we tell your story – big or small – it can truly make a difference, and more 'good' will follow."*  
~Dawn Redig  
Publisher/Managing Editor

## About Blue Ribbon News

Blue Ribbon News is Rockwall County's No. 1 source for positive hometown news and events, in print and online at [BlueRibbonNews.com](http://BlueRibbonNews.com). Our Rockwall/Heath print edition is published 8x/year and delivered to about 17,500 homes and businesses throughout Rockwall County. Pick up free copies while supplies last at the Rockwall County Library, Chamber of Commerce, YMCA, and various local businesses.

Our small but mighty team comprises professional journalists, contributing writers, guest columnists, social media managers, graphic designers and marketing experts who share a passion for local business and community.

Submit your good news & events to: [editor@blueribbonnews.com](mailto:editor@blueribbonnews.com)

**E-Newsletter & Subscriptions:** Sign up for our e-newsletter at [BlueRibbonNews.com](http://BlueRibbonNews.com). We'll send links to our hometown stories and events direct to your inbox. For those living outside our delivery area, an annual subscription is available for \$48 (to cover postage). Message us or mail a check to:  
Blue Ribbon News, PO Box 967, Rockwall, TX 75087

Look for our Facebook LIVE broadcasts!  
#RockwallLIVE

## About BRN Media

BRN Media is a multi-platform, creative boutique agency offering full-service marketing and design services, advertising, social media management, website development, and more.  
972-360-9133 | [info@BRNMedia.com](mailto:info@BRNMedia.com)

Blue Ribbon News, LLC  
PO Box 967, Rockwall, TX 75087  
[info@blueribbonnews.com](mailto:info@blueribbonnews.com), 214-342-8000

**Publisher/Managing Editor:**  
Dawn Redig, [DawnRedig@blueribbonnews.com](mailto:DawnRedig@blueribbonnews.com)

**News Desk:**[editor@blueribbonnews.com](mailto:editor@blueribbonnews.com)

**Contributing Writers:** Amy Busch, Melanie Mayfield

**Designer/Photographer:** JR

**Layout/Design:** Amy Sidebottom

**Video Editor:** Alicia Guadarrama

**Guest Columnists:**  
Jerry Hogan, Sally Kilgore, Erin Kincaid, Patti Richter, Melissa Tate, Katie-Rose Watson

**Marketing Assistant:** Megan Newton

**Advertising:**  
[advertising@blueribbonnews.com](mailto:advertising@blueribbonnews.com) | 214-342-8000



Copyright 2023 Blue Ribbon News, LLC. All rights reserved. Contents may not be reproduced without written permission. Advertisers and advertising agencies assume liability for content of all ads. Information published is the opinion of sourced authors.

## Adventures with BRN

### A voluminous experience awaits



As a low maintenance person, I heard of but gave little thought to trying blow dry bar services. Knowing several recent blow dry bar converts, their glowing reviews were intriguing.

For background, a hair and beauty bar offers a variety of hair and makeup services to help you look and feel beautiful inside and out. Getting ready for the day is frustratingly time-consuming to me therefore, the dry bar sounded like a convenient service I might consider some day. Recently, that convenience and a broken arm drove me to the bar.

I didn't expect to be blown away by the Blo Dry Bar experience.

Driving up to Blo, the hot pink sign stands out against the building set off Ridge Road. As I entered the front door, I found myself taking in the bright and light

décor – tastefully decorated for Valentine's Day. I was graciously welcomed and Savanna, my stylist, spent a few minutes talking about style preferences, ideas and suggestions. I opted for the classic blow out which is simply a shampoo and style.

Savanna and I conversed easily as she expertly dried my hair, gently gathering sections and creating smooth, gentle waves with what seemed like little effort. Admittedly I watched hoping that somehow, I might be able to recreate that look on my own. Looking in the mirror a short time later, I was overjoyed that my hair looked amazing and felt better than it had in years!

Blo, recently opened in Rockwall, offers a lengthy list of hair and makeup services in a comfortable, fashionable environment. Additional services include extensions, Up Dos and more. For special occasions and events, the Blo on the Go at your location and bridal and party packages are available.

But wait, there's more! Makeup services offer a full-face look or select specific options like lashes, eyes, lips, etc. Whether you are looking to make your day-to-day more convenient or have a special event or occasion, Blo has an expert ready to help you shine!

I tossed my hair around for a few days and excitedly made my next appointment. I now consider myself a new Blo convert and am planning to try makeup services too.

Rockwall's new Blo Blow Dry Bar is located at 2245 Ridge Road, #101.

Learn more and schedule online at [blomedry.com/blo-rockwall](http://blomedry.com/blo-rockwall).



Sponsored story by Melanie Mayfield, Blue Ribbon News contributing writer.



ON THE COVER: Rockwall County goes blue to raise awareness about child abuse. Pictured are staff members of the Children's Advocacy Center for Rockwall County. Story, pgs. 6-9.

## Heath DPS earns 'Accredited Law Enforcement Agency' award

GOOD JOB

The Heath Department of Public Safety has received the Accredited Law Enforcement Agency Award from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

Begun in 2006, the Accreditation Program evaluates a Police Department's compliance with 168 Best Business Practices developed by Texas Law Enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service and the protection of individual's rights. These Best Practices cover all aspects of law enforcement including use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations.

"This voluntary process required Chief Brandon Seery and his team to conduct an intense and extensive critical self-review of their policies, procedures, facilities and operations," said Rockwall Police Chief Edward Fowler, who is an assessor with the Texas Police Chiefs Association and presented the accreditation at the February 28 City of Heath Council meeting.

Heath DPS began the process in June 2020 by preparing proofs of compliance for each of the Texas Law Enforcement Best Business Practices. Upon completion of the internal review, an outside onsite audit was requested, which was conducted in December 2022 by trained Police Chiefs from throughout Texas. Results of the review were sent to the Texas Police Chiefs Association's Accreditation Committee for final analysis, where a unanimous decision to award the "Accredited" status was made.

"We consider our Heath DPS to be one of the best agencies in the state," said Mayor Kelson Elam. "This independent review by Texas law enforcement professionals and awarding of the accreditation confirms our belief and pride in Chief Seery and his officers."



Heath DPS is one of only 191 agencies in Texas to achieve this distinction, representing the top 7 percent statewide.

## Congressman Fallon Announces Class of 2023 Service Academy Nominations

Congressman Pat Fallon (TX-04) recently hosted a luncheon to celebrate 24 nominations to the four U.S. Service Academies (US Air Force Academy, US Naval Academy, West Point, and US Merchant Marines Academy). Eighteen area students were awarded nominations, with some students receiving multiple nominations. Five students have received full appointment offers to attend a service academy.

Students who wish to attend a US Service Academy for their college education must first receive a nomination from their member of Congress to be considered to receive a full appointment offer.

Five of the 18 students currently attend prep schools, and were not in attendance during the event which was held Feb. 20 at the Frisco campus of Collin College.

### Class of 2023 Nominees:

(Names marked with an \* have received an appointment to the school listed.)

#### United States Air Force Academy:

- Benjamin Brown, Rockwall County
- Ayden Goodman, Grayson County
- Keanu Gotay, Collin County
- Alexander Harbin, Rockwall County
- Houston Hawkins, Collin County
- Jackson Lavender, Hopkins County
- Alexander Lohmar, Hunt County
- Katence Putchinski\*, Rockwall County
- Jonathan Varnan, Rockwall County

#### United States Military Academy:

- Jackson Lavender, Hopkins County
- Alyssa Patterson, Grayson County
- Preston Schaffer, Collin County

#### United States Naval Academy:

- Benjamin Brown, Rockwall County
- Ayden Goodman, Grayson County
- Ethan Gluck\*, Rockwall County
- Ryan Lester, Rockwall County
- Mauricio Perez, Rockwall County
- Shelby Raines, Rockwall County
- Jonathan Varnan, Rockwall County
- Emory Williams, Fannin County

#### United States Merchant Marine Academy:

- Dylan Barkley, Tarrant County
- Alexander Harbin\*, Rockwall County
- Ryan Lester\*, Rockwall County
- Preston Plank, Denton County



From left: Jonathan Varnan, Benjamin "Addison" Brown, Ayden Goodman, Preston Schaffer, Alexander "Peyton" Harbin, Ethan Gluck, Preston Plank, Congressman Pat Fallon, Ryan Lester, Alyssa Patterson, Emory Williams, Katence Putchinski, Dylan "Major" Barkley, and Jackson Lavender.

Gloria's Painters

Free Estimates  
Special discount with this AD

469-713-7817 • [gloriaspainters.jobs@gmail.com](mailto:gloriaspainters.jobs@gmail.com)

Professional Painting Services  
Interior/ Exterior  
Textures/ Drywall Repairs  
Staining  
Power Washing

**STEEL DRUMS!**  
**CHARLIE DUHON**  
Live Steel Drum Music

Unique Tropical Entertainment for Any Event.

Best Pool Party Music Ever!

**469.826.4158**  
Booking - Videos - Song List - CDs  
[SteelDrumMusicDFW.com](http://SteelDrumMusicDFW.com)



# Would you like a side of adventure with that?

## Magic of Reading program delivers books along with meals to local seniors

**GOOD IDEA** In 2017, Lynn Fate, then owner of the much beloved Roma's Books, had an idea. She knew senior adults could benefit from reading – she just needed a way to get more books directly to them. Through her inspiration, and after a parking lot conversation with Maureen Cook of Meals on Wheels, the Magic of Reading program was born!

Reading helps take readers outside their own doors – they can travel the world, meet new people and open their minds to new experiences from the pages of a book. Reading is also known to offer education, joy and connection especially to those who are homebound. Additionally, reading has been scientifically proven



Lynn Fate helps coordinate a free reading program for Rockwall County seniors through Meals on Wheels, Friends of the Library and the book alcove.

to improve health by reducing stress and improving sleep and memory. Truly all these benefits are magical!

Even while Roma's was closing in 2020 Lynn knew she had to continue the program for the Meals on Wheels recipients. As her own collection slowly faded, Lynn collaborated with the local library in 2021. Now Lynn helps coordinate the Magic of Reading program through Rockwall County's Friends of the Library and the book alcove. Celebrating the five-year anniversary of the program in September 2022, Lynn announced that 2,655 books had been delivered; and through the support of these organizations the deliveries continue.

After completing a registration sheet of preferred genres, authors and more, Meals on Wheels delivers two books each month along with their meal. Recipients are never charged a fee, nor are they required to return books which further allows them to share with friends and family. Recently, board members for Meals on Wheels had the opportunity to deliver books to the 39 clients currently registered, in doing so experiencing for themselves how this program benefits their recipients.

The legacy of the Magic of Reading program, while begun through the inspiration of one individual, will live on and grow with the support of these organizations and community members. Donations of hardback or trade paper books can be made directly to the Meals on Wheels office at 4398 Hwy 276 in Rockwall, or you can drop off books at the library and designate them for the Magic of Reading program. Lynn is also accepting "readers" to help select books for the Meals on Wheels recipients. If you are a



Meals on Wheels board members join volunteers in delivering books along with nutritious meals to the homebound.

strong reader and open to reading a variety of genres this may be the perfect opportunity for you to be part of a living legacy! Reach out to the Friends of the Library at <https://www.friendsrockwall.com/contact>

*By Melanie Mayfield, Blue Ribbon News contributing writer.*



Private Parties, Corporate Events, Wedding Receptions, Meeting Space

# the event center

AT ROTARY

- Newly Remodeled
- Accommodates up to 150 People
- Full Audio-Visual Capabilities
- Preferred Vendor List available for catering, decorating, or use your own

408 S. Goliad St., Rockwall | [RockwallEventCenter.com](https://RockwallEventCenter.com) | Greg 469.371.6223

3RD ANNUAL

# 5K & 1 MILE FUN RUN

APRIL 29, 2023 ~ ROCKWALL



Register, Sponsor, Volunteer @

## EMPOWER7.ORG

# Tune in to the new City Manager Chat podcast

Heath City Manager Aretha Adams and her staff want to connect with the community to share important information regarding city activities, initiatives and issues. To make it easy for citizens to keep up to date, the city is launching a new monthly City Manager Chat podcast on March 30. The format will include the opportunity to submit questions.





# More of a good thing has arrived in Rockwall.

## Join us at our new Rockwall Financial Center for this Grand Opening Event

**Tex-Mex Lunch**

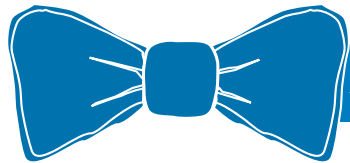
Friday, April 14 • 11:30am-1:30pm

3029 Horizon Rd  
Rockwall, TX 75032



**Frost** BANKING INVESTMENTS INSURANCE





April 2023



BlueRibbonNews.com

6



# Rockwall County Goes Blue in April!

The community is encouraged to join in as the following area businesses offer ‘Go Blue’ promotions to raise awareness and funds for the Children’s Advocacy Center during Child Abuse Prevention Month.

## SPECIAL DATES & EVENTS

### Touchstone Crystal – Giovanna Psolka

Jewelry Party, donating proceeds.  
Shop: touchstonecrystal.cm/J5N63TXJ

### SunStone Fit

**March 23** 100% of proceeds from Barre class

### My Pink Dresser Boutique

**March 23 & 24** Sip & Shop giving back 10% to CACRC & 10% to everyone supporting CAC

### Stephanie’s Creative Space at The Harbor

**March 30** 100% of proceeds from book signing of Potter’s Child during CACRC Kickoff Party

### Texas Roadhouse

**April 3** 3-10PM Dine to Donate, present flyer, 10% of total food purchase

### Fireside Chicken & Tacos

**April 5** Spirit Day, donating percentage of proceeds



### Highland Meadows Health & Rehab

**April 7** Wearing blue. Senior residents making blue cupcakes.

### Mamaritas

**April 8** Donating \$1 of every Mamarita sold

### Rockwall Dance Academy

**April 8** Go Classes 11:00am (9-12yo) / 12pm 13yo+

### On The Border

**April 11** 20% dine-in or take-out 11am – 10pm

### Divas & Darlings

**April 13** 6-8PM Sip & Shop

### Board & Brush

**April 14** 4-7pm

### Mills Mercantile

**April 14** 20% of all sales

### Sugababy Canes

**April 14** 20% of all sales

### Gypsy Heart

**April 15** 10% proceeds

### Main Street Emporium

**April 15** % of all sales

### Joe Willy’s

**April 17** Spirit Night 4-9PM

### It’s Fate Creamery

**April 18** Spirit Night 5-8pm

### Cotton Patch Café

**April 19** Giving back 20% from 4PM-closing

### Springhill Suites & Rockwall Art League

**April 20** Art for Advocacy & Wine Tasting. Buy tickets at givebutter.com/artforadvocacy2023



### JungleTrek

**April 21** Parents Night Out 6-9PM, 100% of proceeds

### Club Pilates

**April 22** 12:30PM Go Blue class at Harry Myers Park

### Young Chef’s Academy

**April 22** Bake Sale

### Mod Pizza – North & South Rockwall

**April 23** Spirit Day, 20% of proceeds using flyer or code modgives20

### Culvers – Rockwall

**April 27** Spirit Night, 5-9PM

### Rockwall Gymnastics Academy

**May 6** Parents Night

## SPECIAL PROMOTIONS THRU-OUT APRIL

### All Care Comfort Solutions

10% of all duct cleaning sales

### Annie Lane’s Flower Shop

5% of sales

### Bagel Lady

Percentage of proceeds from blueberry bagels

### Blue Ribbon News

Dedicating April’s print edition to help promote “Go Blue”

### Candles by Carol

Proceeds from sales of Hope & Healing blue candles

### Card My Yard

Go Blue Signs

### Community BBQ

20% from every “Community Platter” ordered AND “Bottles for Blue” \$10 for every bottle of wine sold

### Divas & Darlings

10% proceeds

### Dodie’s at The Harbor

\$1 of every Blue Lagoon Cocktail purchased.

### The Downing Bottles & Bites

\$5 of all boards will be donated, plus there will be a flight weekend on April 20 and 21.

### Edward Law PLLC

10% of all comprehensive estate plans paid for in April.

### Enchanting Aesthetics

% of sales

### Fable & Fire

TBD

### Four Czechs Bakery

% of blueberry kolaches

### Freshly Clean

% of proceeds

### Groovy’s

100% of proceeds from Go Blue jewelry sales

### Hanby Insurance

Donates \$25 for every new quote that mentions the CAC or Go Blue

### Lisa Reed Floral Designs

Including Mother’s Day presales, will add bluebird and special design on arrangements

### Lyons Air & Heat

\$10 of every tune-up when someone mentions Go Blue

### Mel’s Services

20% of proceeds

### Racquet & Jog

100% of proceeds of the Limited Edition R&J Go Blue shirt

### Road To Nutrition

% of Go Blue menu

### Rock On Nutrition

100% of proceeds from specialty tea sales

### Rockwall Air

\$20 per tune-up

### Rockwall Drug

Buy your CAC T-shirt here

### Rollin’ Beans Coffee Co.

A percentage of proceeds of all Ocean Breeze & Blue Raspberry Italian soda sales

### Total Garage Solution

\$500 of April sales

### Two Wolves Electric

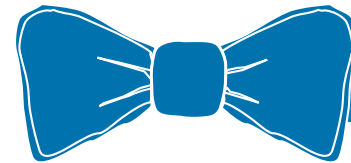
% of proceeds

### Zanata

10% of “The Classic Blue” drink

*Sponsored content.*

Check out a full list of  
"Go Blue Supporters" on the  
CAC website, [rockwallcac.org](http://rockwallcac.org),  
and at [blueribbonnews.com](http://blueribbonnews.com).



April 2023



BlueRibbonNews.com

7



# Where healing begins...

Every April during Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Children’s Advocacy Center for Rockwall County (CACRC) initiates a Go Blue for Kids campaign that engages the entire community. Proclamations are issued, families gather for a kick-off event, local businesses offer “go blue” specials – even the pages of Blue Ribbon News “go blue” to raise awareness about the prevalence of physical and sexual abuse in our hometown.

This year’s campaign culminates with a CACRC fundraising gala on April 29, but the nonprofit’s work continues year-round, 24 hours a day. Their dedicated team of forensic interviewers, family advocates and therapists – along with their partner agencies – stand ready to begin the process of hope and healing the moment a child makes an outcry.

“The Children’s Advocacy Center is the only agency of its kind in our community. We work collaboratively with partner agencies to streamline an often complex and disturbing process,” said Patricia Mejia, President and CEO of the CACRC. “An abused child often carries a tremendous amount of shame, guilt, and fear. When they find the courage to finally make a disclosure, they want nothing more than for the abuse to stop. The Children’s Advocacy Center offers a safe, secure, and confidential environment – a place where children are seen, heard, and believed. The CAC is where healing begins.”

CACRC partner agencies include law enforcement, Child Protective Services, the District Attorney’s office, medical and mental health professionals. Together they reduce re-victimization of the child, remove barriers to investigation and treatment, and enhance criminal prosecution with a distinctive multidisciplinary and united approach.

Kenda Culpepper, Rockwall County DA and CACRC Director Emeritus, said, “The DA’s Office is proud to work alongside the CAC. As a co-founder of the CAC eight years ago, I had hoped to improve services to children affected by abuse by helping to coordinate medical services, forensic interviews, and counseling. The CAC has delivered on these hopes and gone so much further than I ever knew to be possible. Not only have they hired top notch staff to provide needed services, but they have also worked hard to increase awareness in our community, improved collaboration with law enforcement partners, and helped to provide a safe place for children and adolescents to talk and heal.”

Rockwall County Sheriff Terry Garrett, who also serves on the CACRC Board of Directors, said, “The formation of the CAC has been a partnership that has been long needed in our community. The commitment to providing a consistent, trustworthy service to the children of our community has been a force multiplier in the investigation of crimes against children.”

Texas Health Hospital Rockwall is home to a Safe Suite and Sexual Assault Response Team in Rockwall. Baylor, Scott & White-Lake Pointe also partners with the CAC. “We take the role of protecting the health and wellbeing of children very seriously. An important part of that commitment is our collaboration with the CACRC and our support of their Go Blue for Kids Gala. Additionally, we are ambassadors and advocates by being a SAFE-Ready facility and by providing level III trauma care, pastoral care and more,” BSW-LP said in a statement.

“We hope all of Rockwall County will go blue with us,” Mejia said. “We couldn’t do what we do without a caring community, generous donors and dedicated volunteers – not to mention our partner agencies, a heroic staff, and our powerhouse of a Board. We also have a growing team of ‘Blue Tie Guys’ – colleagues in the community who serve as champions for children in Rockwall County by speaking out about child abuse dynamics.”

The CACRC Executive Board comprises President Rick Carroll, Regional President of Inwood Bank; Vice President Felicia Oliphant, Rockwall County DA’s Office; Treasurer Kevin Hadawi, Wells Fargo; Secretary Dawn Redig, Blue Ribbon News; Parliamentarian

Gary Freedman, the “Voice of Rockwall”; and Past President Cindy Lindley, Soroptimist International of Rockwall.

Directors include John Beaman, Merchant Masters; Mayor David Billings, City of Fate; Donas Cole, President, Baylor, Scott & White-Lake Pointe; Karen Coughlin, Oldham Goodwin Group; Taryne Dismuke, Royse City ISD; Terry Garrett, Rockwall County Sherriff; Eva Hummel, Atmos Energy; Janet Nichol, Rockwall County Commissioner; Leigh-Ann Riley, DFPS CPI Program Administrator; Sheri Starkey-Parks, SMU; Cindy Tayem, Oncor; JJ Villarreal, Rockwall ISD Superintendent; and Director Emeritus, Kenda Culpepper, Rockwall County DA.

“Our community has beautifully coalesced around the CAC, supporting it with their prayers, time and gifts,” Culpepper said.

Among the ways to show your support: attend the kickoff party and gala; shop local “go blue” business supporters; buy a “go blue” t-shirt or yard sign; attend Pinwheels for Prevention from 6-7 p.m. April 6 at the Historic Rockwall County Courthouse; wear blue on Friday, April 7, Go Blue Day; participate in Prayer Sunday on April 30; and tie a blue ribbon around your mailbox, tree, or car antenna. Learn more at [rockwallcac.org](http://rockwallcac.org).

## Growing Demand

The CACRC has served over 2,438 children and their families since opening its doors for full services in 2018. Unfortunately, as the population of Rockwall County grows, so does the need for services.

“The number of kids served by the CACRC has increased dramatically – from 179 children in 2018 to 857 last year,” said Mejia. “Our current space – the “Soroptimist House” in Rockwall – has served us well. But as the size of our staff has grown to meet the demand, the size of the facility has remained the same, challenging our ability to provide a trauma informed approach.”

The CACRC is in the beginning stages of planning for future growth, so that no child in Rockwall County is turned away.

## Go Blue for Kids Kickoff Party

As Go Blue for Kids Kickoff Chair, Rachael Schmidt is responsible for coordinating the Go Blue for Kids Kickoff Party. The family-friendly event will be 3:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 30 at Standard Service in Heath.

“This year will be our biggest kickoff event yet,” said Schmidt. “Our Kid Zone, sponsored by White Star Logistics, will include a bouncy slide, rock wall for climbing, balloon artists and more. There will be a photo booth sponsored by Lithic LLC, cotton candy sponsored by Graves Roofing & Restoration, and performances from Rockwall Dance Academy, Greater Rockwall Youth Symphony, and an acoustic set by Johnny Lyons. We want to give a huge thanks to Frost Bank who serves as the kickoff event’s Title Sponsor.”

While there, stop by the Teddy Bear Mobile Booth where folks will be making stuffed animals for purchase. You may choose to donate a bear back to the CAC!

## Go Blue for Kids Gala

Tickets and sponsorships are available for the CACRC’s signature event, the 7th Annual Go Blue for Kids Gala, on Saturday, April 29 at The Venue at Boyd Farm. The evening will include dinner, drinks, live music, an aerialist, silent and live auctions, dancing, and fireworks.

Sponsor or buy gala tickets by visiting [rockwallcac.org](http://rockwallcac.org) or [https://one.bidpal.net/goblueforkids/ticketing\(details:ticketing-summary\)](https://one.bidpal.net/goblueforkids/ticketing(details:ticketing-summary)).

Visit [rockwallcac.org](http://rockwallcac.org) to learn more about how you can get involved.

*Sponsored content. Blue Ribbon News is the proud Media Sponsor of the Go Blue for Kids Gala.*



# SAVE JANE & JOHN







# APRIL 8

## EASTER SATURDAY

### HEART OF HEATH 5K & FAMILY RUN

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
VISIT [HEATHTX.COM](https://heathtx.com)  
OR SCAN THE QR CODE



**FUN & FITNESS FOR ALL**  
AWARDS FOR 5K & FAMILY RUN  
PRIZES & MUSIC  
GIANT FAMILY GAMES  
REFRESHMENTS  
WARM UP BY CAMP GLADIATOR  
CAFÉ HOPE COFFEE TRUCK  
HEATH NUTRITION & ENERGY DRINKS

**EVENT DAY SCHEDULE**

7:00 AM	PACKET PICKUP/ONSITE REGISTRATION
8:00 AM	RUNNER'S WARM UP
8:15 AM	FAMILY RUN
8:30 AM	5K RUN
9:30 AM	5K RUNNER AWARDS/PRIZE DRAWINGS

**BENEFITING HEATH PARKS & TRAILS**  
RAIN OR SHINE, BUT IF THERE IS INCLEMENT  
WEATHER CHECK THE CITY OF HEATH'S FACEBOOK PAGE

# Kick off Easter weekend with Heart of Heath

**GOOD TIMES** The City of Heath's traditional Easter Saturday celebration featuring the Heart of Heath 5k and 1-Mile Family Run is Saturday, April 8. This is a great opportunity to bring family and friends to Towne Center Park to experience one of the events that help make Heath special. The runner's warm up begins at 8 a.m., the Family Run starts at 8:15 a.m., and the 5K starts at 8:30 a.m. While inflation seems to be affecting everything these days, you can expect the same affordable registration fees offered since 2016! You'll also get a complimentary Heart of Heath t-shirt while supplies last and be entered into a drawing for wonderful prizes donated by local businesses and sponsors.



The Family Fun Run takes off in 2022.



Camp Gladiator led the runner's warm up and rousing tug of war competitions in 2022.

- Heart of Heath Highlights**
- USATF Certified 5k course with chip-timed start and finish lines for 5k participants
  - 5k awards for top 3 overall plus top 3 males and females in each age bracket
  - 1-Mile Family Run—integrated into the 5k course, with same start and finish lines
  - 1-Mile Family Run awards for top 3 boys and top 3 girls
  - 2023 T-shirts for 5k and Family Run participants while supplies last
  - Runners' Warmup led by Camp Gladiator
  - Giant-size games like chess, checkers, Jenga and Connect 4
  - Complimentary healthy treats
  - Café Hope Coffee Truck, offering free coffee + specialty drinks for purchase
  - Heath Nutrition & Energy, offering free hydration and recovery teas
  - A DJ and fun music
  - Prize drawings for registered runners
  - The Easter Bunny!

The 2023 Special Events Series is generously supported by Host Sponsor LiechtyMcGinnisBerrymanBowen Attorneys & Counselors.

**Presenting Sponsors are:**  
Alliance Title | American National Bank | Atmos Energy  
Dental Professionals of Rockwall | Heath Salon & Spa  
Heath Economic Development Corporation/Municipal Benefits Corporation  
Horton & Archibald | Horizon Automotive Center | Impact Selector International  
Rockwall Cycling/Play-Tri Racing | T3 Chiropractor | Tom Thumb Heath  
The UPS Store Heath | Villa 306 of Turks & Caicos  
Younger Partners at Heath Town Center

**Supporting Sponsors:**  
ABH Roofing & Construction | Blue Ribbon News | Keepers Press Signs  
Oncor | Karen Wydra of Ebby Halliday, Realtors

Sponsored content, City of Heath.



### Become a Patriot PAWS Puppy Raiser!

Looking for a volunteer opportunity that gives back to Veterans in need? Patriot PAWS Service Dogs is looking for dedicated Puppy Raisers to help train and raise our Service Dogs In Training with the goal of placing them with disabled American Veterans, at no cost to the Veteran.



### What's Involved?

Each Puppy Raiser In Training will attend training courses at our Rockwall Campus which will teach them the basics of dog handling. Our Service Dogs In Training will live in home with you and accompany you on your daily outings as you teach them all they need to know.

You will also attend weekly outings with your pup and our Puppy Raiser Coordinator to help you along in each pup's training progress.



### Contact your Puppy Raiser Coordinator to get started!



**Lauren Villanueva**  
(469)-649-6209  
[pptrainers@patriotpaws.org](mailto:pptrainers@patriotpaws.org)

## EVERY CHILD HAS A CHANCE - IT'S YOU®



Scan to support today!

## 50th Annual ASPASIANS MARKETPLACE

Saturday, April 22  
9AM - 5 PM

**WILKERSON-SANDERS MEMORIAL STADIUM**

Hope to see you there!



# The Rose Table: Making Brunch at the Barn a ‘mane’ event

**GOOD TIMES** I decided to have some horsey fun by hosting Brunch at the Barn with my horse Wendy at beautiful Laurel Ridge Stables in Rowlett. I set up a table in front of Wendy’s stall adorned with a white tablecloth, pink and white flowers, and glamorous gold touches. Since I was hosting away from my home, I needed a make-ahead brunch menu that would transport well. I served super easy bacon and cheese egg cups that have a magical souffle-like texture, maple blueberry sausage, my famous banana bread from The Rose Table cookbook with bourbon honey butter, an orange-vanilla coffee cake, and mango berry fruit salad.

After brunch, I took my friends for a little carriage ride courtesy of Dolly the Haflinger. It was the ultimate Sunday Funday at The Rose Table! As always, read all about the party on [therosetable.com](https://therosetable.com) and watch the full episode on The Rose Table’s Facebook page or YouTube Channel. Here’s how to make my amazing bacon and cheese egg cups – the perfect quick weekday breakfast. They’re delicious cold, room temperature, or warm from the oven.



By Katie-Rose Watson, who often covers Rockwall on [therosetable.com](https://therosetable.com), from the Farmers Market to Founder’s Day Festival. The Rose Table has over 200,000 fans on Facebook ([fb.com/therosetable](https://fb.com/therosetable)), millions of video views, and can be found on Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, and Pinterest @therosetable.com.

- **Bacon and Cheese Egg Cups**
- Makes 12
- 5-6 slices thick-cut bacon • 12 farm fresh eggs • 8 oz cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 Tbsp chives, chopped • Sea salt, black pepper
- 
- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a muffin tin with nonstick spray.
- 2. Cut bacon into lardons and fry in a nonstick skillet over medium heat until crispy. Remove with a slotted spoon and let drain on a paper towel.
- 3. Beat eggs in a large bowl. Season eggs with sea salt and black pepper. Stir in crispy bacon, grated cheddar, and chopped chives.
- 4. Ladle into 12 muffin cups. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.



FREE  
CONSULTATION

STRATEGIC  
PLANNING

CAPITAL  
INVESTMENT

EXIT  
PLANNING

**Rockwall Capital Group**  
AS YOU GO, WE GO

HELPING SMALL BUSINESSES GROW

*We don't sell services; we build partnerships.*

**101 S. Fannin #104 | [ROCKWALLCG.COM](https://rockwallcg.com) | 469-745-8033**

WOMEN IN NEED  
12TH ANNUAL  
CHOCOLATE INDULGENCE

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

FEBRUARY  
09  
2024

Hidden Creek  
215 Chris Cuny Pkwy  
Heath, TX 75032

Women  
In Need

We wanted to give one final shoutout to all of our amazing sponsors who helped us have an incredibly successful Chocolate Indulgence!

**Signature Sponsor:**  
**Heart to Heart Hospice**

Our Sponsors: 1885, Abbey Renee Photography, Alliance Bank, ASPIring Designs, Atmos Energy, Keith Barrett, Blo Blow Dry Bar Rockwall, Blue Ribbon News, Campaign for Dennis London, Cavender Auto Group, Chisholm Country Store, Senator Bob Hall, Hatfield & Company, Trace & Amy Johannesen, Kincy Abstract & Sabine, Modern Woodman, Johnny & Karen Myers, RC Kaptured Moments, Riddel Plumbing, Rockwall District Attorney’s Office, Rockwall Police Association, Mark Russo, Rustic Royalty, Soroptimist International-Rockwall, Neil & Beverly Stibbens, and Dan & Deanna Tucker.

We are so grateful to our entire community for your ongoing support. We can’t wait to see you next year as we celebrate Chocolate Indulgence in masked Mardi Gras style.

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Fri, 2/9/24.**  
Sponsorship opportunities are available now!

**Edward Jones**

> [edwardjones.com](https://edwardjones.com) | Member SIPC

**Compare our CD Rates**  
Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

6-month

**5.15** %  
APY\*

9-month

**5.20** %  
APY\*

1-year

**5.35** %  
APY\*

**Call or visit your local financial advisor today.**

**Kelly D Connel, CFP®**  
Financial Advisor

1309 Ridge Rd Suite 100  
Rockwall, TX 75087-4206  
972-722-7052

\* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 03/17/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit [www.fdic.gov](https://www.fdic.gov) or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change, CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-18671-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. AECSPAD

**CONWAY CPAs LLC**  
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

**603 South Goliad • South of Downtown**

• **FREE Tax Consultation**

• **Full Service Accounting & Tax**

SERVING  
**ROCKWALL AND  
HUNT COUNTIES**

**972-771-1065 • [WWW.CONWAYCPAS.COM](https://www.conwaycpas.com)**



# A River That No One Could Cross

**GOOD FAITH**

From the shoreline, the bluffs on the far side of the lake seemed reachable in my twelve-year-old mind. The water was calm, and no boats were out at the time. So, with only my younger brother around to approve or protest, I decided to swim across the entire lake. About halfway to my goal, I had a muscle cramp. Remembering my swimming lessons, I turned to float on my back and then hand-paddled to regain the shore.

But that was a lake. I’ve never ventured to swim across a river since, in general, they are unpredictable. Like a lion at the zoo, they may look placid and non-threatening. But step inside and your perception might change rapidly. A severe drop-off or some passing debris could sweep you off your feet. An undercurrent could carry you away.

Humans can likewise appear safe. A man in the neighborhood seems quiet and agreeable, but then his awful deed plays out on the evening news. And it’s not only a neighbor that can fool us. We may fool ourselves until an aggravating circumstance in our lives causes greed or anger or some other soul sediment to break loose.

Many people (including me at one time) believe that our own personal goodness should be sufficient for God’s approval. But we are mistaken to hope that good deeds and moral character (sometimes superficial) could merit Heaven. Jesus warned the religious leaders against such false confidence (Luke 18:9 – 12\*). Instead, he explained that our justification must come by trusting in God’s mercy (vv. 13 – 14).

Jesus showed mercy to a less-than-righteous woman as they stood beside a well in Samaria. He told her, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:13 – 14).

The Lord repeated that promise to a crowd of people who argued about whether or not to



believe in him as the Messiah. Jesus stood and cried out, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him” (John 7:37 – 38).

Foreshadowing those words, the Old Testament prophet Ezekiel had a vision of a temple with a river “that no one could cross.... [and] where the river flows everything will live” (Ezekiel 47:5, 9).

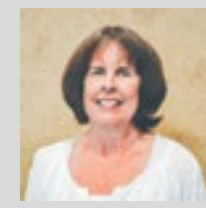
In a similar vision recorded in the last two chapters of the Bible, the apostle John saw “the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb” (Revelation 22:1).

The 18th-century Bible scholar Matthew Henry connected those two descriptions of the ever-flowing river. He interpreted them as the ever-spreading influence of the gospel. Henry said, “Christ is the temple; he is the door; from him those living waters flow.... It is by believing in him that we receive rivers of living water.... continual supplies of God’s divine grace.”

While our moral living and good deeds may please God and bless mankind, our salvation depends upon the grace and mercy God has provided through his Son.

Jesus is “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). On the cross at Calvary, he offered himself in atonement for our sins – the sacrifice to end all sacrifices. Whoever believes in him will enjoy that river of life – forevermore.”

*\*All scriptures from The New International Version*



Patti Richter writes and edits Christian faith articles and has co-authored *Signs of His Presence: Experiencing God's Comfort in Times of Suffering*.  
Read more of her essays at [BlueRibbonNews.com](http://BlueRibbonNews.com).

# Cooking with Ease

**GOOD EATS**

## Reppin’ Rockwall with big wins in South Texas

Did you know Rockwall County is the smallest county in Texas? It is! But I have to say, we Rockwallites get around. Recently, Evan and I drove down to South Texas for a Boudin & Gumbo Festival. We entered the boudin competition for what would be our FIRST time competing in a food contest south of Dallas. The contest rules stated, “Boudin can be any type or form. Be creative! Stretch the limits of what boudin is, or can become!” so we decided to make Deep Fried Beef Boudin On A Stick.

Most people know Evan and I love the State Fair of Texas. Our anniversary is in March, which means it’s been six years since we hosted “Tate Fair of Texas.” We turned Tate Farms into our very own state fair, equipped with corny dogs, turkey legs, cotton candy, games, prizes and a real Ferris wheel. So Boudin Corny Dogs just made sense.

Before heading south, we perfected our boudin recipe by cooking down some of our own Tate Farms beef; chicken livers from one of our Rockwall Farmers Co-Op farmers; fresh veggies; rice; and a whole lot of crossed fingers. I’ve fried a lot of things on a stick, and eaten even more, but this would be the first time deep frying boudin.

As we started setting up our table at the contest, we recognized our neighbors. In a crazy coincidence, we were set up right next to another Rockwall County business, Smoak Town BBQ from Fate Food Haul. Four hours from home, and here we are, side by side and in competition with another crew out of Rockwall.

The day went wonderfully. The weather was beautiful. The fryers were hot. The boudin was kickin’! There were approximately 30 contestants offering up their best creations. Smoak Town BBQ served Chicken Fried Boudin Balls with Housemade Jalapeno Ranch, which was the only thing I ate besides Boudin Corny Dogs and it was delicious.

When the judges’ tallies came in, we were shocked, elated, giddy and tickled that Smoak Town BBQ from Fate was the Grand Prize Boudin winner (1st prize) and Tate Farms, from Rockwall, was the Freak of Nature Boudin winner (3rd prize).

The smallest county in Texas took home two out of three winning spots in a south Texas cook-off!

Now that’s something to write home about...which is exactly what I’m doing! We are so lucky to live in a community with such talented chefs, bakers, farmers, ranchers, writers, makers, and more. As we gear up for our own big event at Tate Farms – Texas Pie Fest – I would like to encourage all of our Rockwall friends to get out and support the accomplished businesses that exist within these 149 square miles. You can find Smoak Town at Fate Food Haul in Downtown Fate every Wednesday thru Saturday, 11 a.m. until sold out.

And as for us, Tate Farms, we are right where we have been for the last 60 years. Raising cattle, selling beef, boarding horses, putting on events for our neighbors, and cooking up some great food. Visit our website at [tatefarmstx.com](http://tatefarmstx.com) for more info, find us at the Rockwall Farmers Market when it opens this spring, and come out to the farm for our largest event of the year, TEXAS PIE FEST on April 22 from 10am-4pm. We would love to see you, meet you, and feed you.



Melissa Tate of Rockwall is a freelance food writer and owner of Photo-Wagon mobile photo booth. She also helps her husband run their family farm, Tate Farms, and event center, Summerfield at Tate Farms. They are currently managing the Smirl Chapel Relocation & Preservation Project. Find Melissa at [melissatatetx.com](http://melissatatetx.com), on Facebook or Instagram at [@melissatatetx](https://www.instagram.com/melissatatetx) to follow the adventures. Headshot by Kelly Alexander Photography.  
Read more of her recipes online at [BlueRibbonNews.com](http://BlueRibbonNews.com).

[www.KATC AutoRepair.com](http://www.KATC AutoRepair.com)

**KATC**

**AUTO REPAIR**

**A/C & COOLING SYSTEM CHECK**  
**RADIATOR, WATER PUMP, BELTS, HOSES, FREON**  
**Don't forget your Battery and Brakes!**

*Radiators • Transmissions • Tune-Ups*  
*Brakes • Heat • Air Conditioning • Axles*  
*Check Engine Light Diagnostics • Shocks*  
*Window Motors • Timing Belts • Struts*

**314 Old Millwood Road (at Hwy 552)**  
**Rockwall, TX 75087**

**214-893-9323**  
[www.KATC AutoRepair.com](http://www.KATC AutoRepair.com)

**filip insurance services**

**Serving The Rockwall Area For Over 31 Years**

**SPECIALIZING IN:**

- Life Insurance
- Long Term Care
- Individual Health and Short Term Plans
- Medicare Supplements
- Small Group (PPOs & HMOs)

**www.filipinsurance.com**

**972-771-6043**

**Rick Filip**

**We keep you covered**  
**– in all your adventures, all of your life.**

**HOME | AUTO | COMMERCIAL**

Since 1940

**Hanby Insurance**

**CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER**

**Go Blue for Kids**

living MAGAZINE  
— best of —  
**ROCKWALL & ROWLETT**  
READERS' CHOICE  
2016-2022

**107 N. Goliad St.**  
**Rockwall • 75087**  
**972.771.4110**

**Erin Neill Agent**

**www.HanbyInsurance.com**

**April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**GET YOUR A/C READY FOR SPRING!**

Mention **“GO BLUE”** when you schedule your **A/C Tune-Up** & we will **DONATE \$10** for each tune-up to the **CAC Rockwall**

**\$79**

**LYONS**

**AIR & HEAT**

**★★★★★ SERVICE**

**214-432-2859**  
**www.acrepairsrockwall.com**  
Lic. TACLB26682E

living MAGAZINE  
— best of —  
**ROCKWALL & ROWLETT**  
READERS' CHOICE  
2022



# BLUE RIBBON REPLAY

So much good news and only so much space! See blueribbonnews.com and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more highlights from our schools, clubs, and community!



### Seeds of Love

Students learned all about planting during Billie Stevenson Elementary's Seeds of Love Night. The PTA purchased mini greenhouses for kids to take home and watch their seeds grow. When the seedlings are ready, they can bring them back to the school in the coming months and plant them in the outdoor learning area. *Courtesy photo.*



### Award-Winning Dancers

The Rockwall High School Jacket Babes recently competed at Regionals and received first place in all four team dances and all four officer dances. Both teams and officers earned super sweepstakes, best overall technique and best overall choreography awards. They won judges choice for Team Novelty and Officer Jazz. *Courtesy photo.*



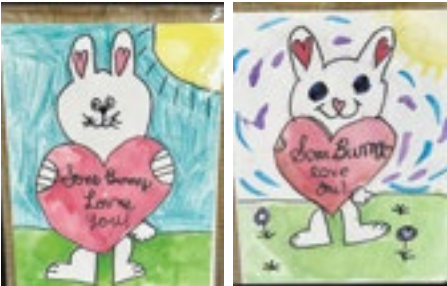
### Well-Earned Honor

Rockwall City Council recently recognized retiree and long-term partner Cindy Tayem, who worked for Oncor for 45 years, serving as Area Manager for 16 cities including Rockwall. Cindy has been an active community leader as Rotary Club president, YMCA board member, and RISD Education Foundation president. She currently serves on the Board for the Children's Advocacy Center. *Courtesy photo.*



### Creating A Buzz

The Rockwall High School Stingerettes earned multiple awards at Regionals, with an overall 2nd place win the competition. The Officers, Elite Showstoppers, the full team and soloists won an impressive list of awards, which can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3y3mkPH>. *Courtesy photo.*



### Art with Heart

These adorable bunnies were created by Reinhardt Elementary students before Spring Break. *Courtesy photos.*



### Welcome Aboard

Jay Ayers has joined the City of Heath as Director of Finance, bringing with him extensive experience in municipal government that includes serving the City of Terrell for 17 years. *Courtesy photo.*



### High Profile Hand-Off

A Rockwall County resident recently made an appearance on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. Vilma Ledferd from Royse City was part of the show's Fallonventions segment; she's an actor who handed checks off to Fallon for the featured child inventors. You can watch the segment here: [youtu.be/Js\\_wf9FfjCQ](https://youtu.be/Js_wf9FfjCQ). *Submitted photo.*



### NOTE-worthy News

NBC DFW made a surprise appearance at a recent Rockwall-Heath High School band concert. The band was presented with a Prep Spirit Award. *Courtesy photo.*

## FOUNDERS DAY FESTIVAL 2023

### SAVE THE DATE! MAY 20th

6:00PM 8:00PM

**THE BELLAMY BROTHERS** **EASTON CORBIN**

## YOUR DONATION GOES A LONG WAY!

**\$25** provides school supplies to local children or toys at Christmas.

**\$50** provides vaccines for underserved children in your community.

**\$100** keeps your neighbor warm in the winter or cool this summer.

**\$250** helps a struggling family, who have experienced an unforeseen crisis, keep their home.

Your one time or monthly donation changes someone's life in your community that is struggling.

Scan the QR Code

Text "Donate" to 833-649-2959

Online at [Rockwallhelpinghands.com/donate](https://Rockwallhelpinghands.com/donate)



# AROUND TOWN

To submit your events, email [editor@BlueRibbonNews.com](mailto:editor@BlueRibbonNews.com). Events are subject to change.

**Fulton Open House** | Monday, March 27  
5 to 6:30 p.m. at The Fulton School, 1626 Smirl Drive in Heath: [thefultonschool.com](http://thefultonschool.com)

**Go Blue Proclamation** | Tuesday, March 28  
Royse City, Police & Courts Building, 7 p.m.



**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month**  
5th Annual  
**Go Blue for Kids Kickoff Party**

**3:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 30**  
Standard Service - Heath  
**FREE | FAMILY-FRIENDLY**  
Cotton Candy | Balloon Artist | Twin Racing Slide  
Live Entertainment  
[RockwallCAC.org](http://RockwallCAC.org)

**Greater Rockwall Youth Symphony** | Thursday, March 30  
Performance at Go Blue KickOff at Standard Service, 4 to 4:30 p.m.

**Rockwall County Youth Fair** | Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1  
Goats, Rabbits, Lambs & Broilers, 5 p.m. Friday. Market/Breeding Beef and Market/Breeding Hogs at 8 a.m., Market Sale at 1 p.m. at Rockwall County Courthouse, 1111 E. Yellowjacket Lane.

**April Fool's Casino Night** | Saturday, April 1  
Hosted by Royse City Chamber of Commerce at Caddo Creek Event Venue & Music Hall.

**Spring Extravaganza** | Saturday, April 1  
Easter Egg Trail, bounce houses, carnival games, and DJ 1 to 4 p.m. at The Harbor: [playrockwall.com](http://playrockwall.com).

**Sculpture Workshop** | Saturday, April 1  
Join Rockwall Art League as they welcome Sharon Kyle, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Register: [rockwallartleague.org](http://rockwallartleague.org).



**Rockwall Women's League Charity Ball**  
**50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
6 to 11 p.m.  
Saturday, April 1  
Fairmont Dallas

Tickets: [one.bidpal.net/rhythmofthenight/welcome](http://one.bidpal.net/rhythmofthenight/welcome)

**Go Blue Proclamation** | Monday, April 3  
City of Rockwall, City Hall, 6 p.m.

**Eats & Education** | Thursday, April 6  
Join Royse City ISD Superintendent Kevin Worthy for lunch and an opportunity to learn more about RCISD, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Royse City ISD Epps Admin Building. This event will showcase Royse City High School Career & Technical Education programs.

**Pinwheels for Prevention** | Thursday, April 6  
Joint awareness event with CACRC, CASA, and Rainbow Room, 6 p.m. at Rockwall County Historic Courthouse.

**Good Friday** | Friday, April 7

**Go Blue Day** | Friday, April 7  
Join Rockwall County in wearing blue in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**Heart of Heath** | Saturday, April 8  
The City of Heath's traditional Easter Saturday celebration features a 5K and 1-mile Fun Run at Towne Center Park. Runner's warm-up begins at 8 a.m., Family Run starts at 8:15, and the 5K starts at 8:30 a.m.

**Happy Easter** | Sunday, April 9

**Go Blue Proclamation** | Tuesday, April 11  
Rockwall County, Historic Courthouse, 9 a.m.

**Fate DPS Open House** | Thursday, April 13  
Fate Department of Public Safety invites residents and recruits to their inaugural Open House at 5 p.m. to meet heroes, tour the station, learn what it means to be triple certified, and test out their gear.

**Frost Bank Grand Opening** | Thursday, April 13  
The new Frost Bank location in Rockwall, 3092 Horizon Road, will celebrate its official grand opening and ribbon cutting with the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The community is welcome.

**Newcomers Luncheon** | Thursday, April 13  
Join the Rockwall Newcomers for their monthly luncheon beginning at 10 a.m. for social time and program by the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center, at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City. \$20 advance reservation fee: [Anderson\\_Jo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Anderson_Jo@sbcglobal.net) or 214-244-4017. All women in Rockwall County welcome, whether new to the area or long-time residents.

**150 Years of County Judges** | Friday, April 14  
Sheri Stodghill Lecture Series, free and open to all, at noon on the 3rd floor of the old Rockwall courthouse.

**Crawfish Fest** | Sunday, April 16  
Dodie's hosts its annual all-you-can-eat crawfish fest at The Harbor benefiting the JER Chilton YMCA at Rockwall's Angel Camp kids with special needs. Visit the restaurant for tickets while they last.



**Boys & Girls Club Speakeasy Gala**  
6 p.m. Friday, April 14 | The Venue at Boyd Farm  
Tickets & Tables: [bidpal.net/2023Speakeasy](http://bidpal.net/2023Speakeasy)

**Golf Classic** | Friday, April 21  
Catalyst Ministries charity golf tournament at noon at Buffalo Creek Golf Club, to help reach and rescue women who are survivors of sex trafficking and exploitation: [birdease.com/catalystgolf](http://birdease.com/catalystgolf) or 469-338-9118.

**Aspasians Spring Marketplace** | Saturday, April 22  
Free admission. Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium. Aspasians.com.

**Steak Cookoff** | Saturday, April 22  
The Ron Harper Memorial Classic Steak Cookoff, at 108 E. Washington St. All proceeds go to the Ron Harper Memorial Scholarship Fund. Details and registration: [steakcookoffs.com](http://steakcookoffs.com).

**Texas Pie Fest** | Saturday, April 22  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Tate Farms, 12992 S FM 548. \$5 admission.

**Go Blue Proclamation** | Tuesday, April 25  
McLendon-Chisholm, City Hall, 6:30 p.m.

**Caddy Shack Golf Tournament** | Thursday, April 27  
Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf tournament at Buffalo Creek Golf Club.

**5K, Fun Run** | Saturday, April 29  
Raise funds for the Empower7 Ranch building campaign and programs for at-risk teens in North Texas, 7:30 a.m. 1-mile Fun Run start; 7:45 a.m. 5K start; 8:45 a.m. awards at Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium, 1215 TL Townsend Drive. Register: <https://empower7.org/5Krun/>.

# AROUND TOWN

To submit your events, email [editor@BlueRibbonNews.com](mailto:editor@BlueRibbonNews.com). Events are subject to change.

**Go Blue for Kids Gala** | Saturday, April 29  
Benefiting Children's Advocacy Center for Rockwall County, 6 to 11 p.m. at The Venue at Boyd Farm. Tickets: [one.bidpal.net/goblueforkids/ticketing](http://one.bidpal.net/goblueforkids/ticketing).

**Blue Sunday** | Sunday, April 30  
Join the Children's Advocacy Center in prayer for the victims of child abuse and for those working to provide hope and healing for them.

**San Jacinto Plaza Music Series** | Friday, May 5  
Opening night for the San Jacinto Plaza Music Series in Downtown Rockwall. Free shows run from 7-9:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through October.



**Rockwall Farmers Market**  
OPENS MAY 6!  
8am-Noon Saturdays thru Sept. 30  
Historic Downtown Rockwall

**Lemonade Day** | Saturday, May 6  
Presented by the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce, this free, fun experiential learning program teaches youth how to start, own and operate their own business — a lemonade stand, 9 a.m. to noon. Details: [rockwallchamber.org](http://rockwallchamber.org).

**Election Day** | Saturday, May 6

**Mad Hatters Tea Party** | Thursday, May 11  
Newcomers Luncheon and program, 10 a.m. at Occasions at Stone River in Royse City. \$20 advance registration fee: [Anderson\\_Jo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Anderson_Jo@sbcglobal.net) or 214-244-4017.

**Rockwall: The Wall** | Friday, May 12  
Sheri Stodghill Lecture Series, free and open to all, at noon on the 3rd floor of the old Rockwall courthouse.

**CPR Training** | Saturday, May 13  
9 a.m. at Fate City Hall, presented by Fate DPS. Registration opens April 14.

**Leadership Rockwall Graduation** | Wednesday, May 17  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lakepointe Church, [rockwallchamber.org](http://rockwallchamber.org).

**Founders Day Festival** | Saturday, May 20  
Celebrate Rockwall Founders Day at Harry Myers Park with daytime festivities and kid zone beginning at 1 p.m, with a 6 p.m. performance from the Bellamy Brothers followed by headliner Easton Corbin at 8: [playrockwall.com](http://playrockwall.com).



**Cars for CASA** | Sunday, May 21  
18th annual car show hosted by Metro East Division of Dallas Builders Association, benefiting Lone Star CASA. Enjoy 50/50 raffle, good food, and viewing vintage autos and cutting-edge cars at the Rockwall County Courthouse: [lonestarcasa.org/cars-for-casa](http://lonestarcasa.org/cars-for-casa).

## Blue Sunday Prayer Request

The last Sunday in April is 'Blue Sunday' — a day for the faith community to pray for the millions of victims of child abuse and for those working to provide hope and healing for them. While it might be easy to think that our community is immune, the sad truth is that there are many local children that deal with the effects of neglect as well as physical and sexual abuse. On April 30, pray with us for the protection of children in Rockwall County.

- ✓ Pray that God would bring an end to child abuse.
- ✓ Pray that children would have the courage to speak out about abuse they may be facing.
- ✓ Pray for wisdom for parents to recognize the potential for and impact of child abuse.
- ✓ Pray for victims who have come forward to feel supported and loved as they heal from the wounds of abuse.
- ✓ Pray for strength and stamina for those who investigate and seek to eliminate child abuse in this country.
- ✓ Pray that the community would become more aware of the impact of child abuse here and that we would become more supportive of the victims who come forward.





**Easter Brunch**  
SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> • 11AM-2PM  
Dodies Cajun Diner at The Harbor | 2067 Summer Lee Dr Suite 115, Rockwall, TX 75032 | (972) 771-0004





# PAT FALLON

*YOUR PROVEN CONSERVATIVE FIGHTER IN CONGRESS*

## *HOW TO CONTACT YOUR OFFICE*

If you need assistance with any federal agency or with the federal government, we are here to help. Please contact your office so we can get you the help you need.

**972-771-0100 or at [Fallon.house.gov](http://Fallon.house.gov)**

## *STAY UPDATED*

Want to stay updated on all the work we are doing to serve you in Congress? There are plenty of ways to stay in the know. You can visit my website, follow me on social media, and sign up for my weekly email newsletter to hear all about what we've been up to.

Visit our website



[Fallon.house.gov](http://Fallon.house.gov)



Facebook: [facebook.com/RepPatFallon](https://facebook.com/RepPatFallon)



Twitter: [@RepPatFallon](https://twitter.com/RepPatFallon)



Instagram: [@RepPatFallon](https://www.instagram.com/RepPatFallon)



Youtube: [youtube.com/c/RepPatFallon](https://youtube.com/c/RepPatFallon)