

## RE/MAX Lakeland Brings Holiday Cheer to Cypress Bridgeland



(L to R) Clint Nabors, Robert Fore, Dawn Fore, Jodi Willis and Catherine Reinhard of RE/MAX Lakeland bundled up and manning the cookie table

Cypress's RE/MAX Lakeland was well represented at the Bridgeland's community Christmas celebration in early December. The office of eight agents sponsored and manned the event's popular cookie booth, where children did their best to get more than one holiday sweet. "We had a fabulous time," says Broker/Owner of RE/MAX Lakeland Dawn Fore. "The Bridgeland community went all out for the event with live reindeer and a snow machine for the kids. Many of the agents brought their own children to help out at the booth and enjoy the celebration. It also helped that the weather turned so cold and brought a special feeling of Christmas to the event."

RE/MAX Lakeland added a sweet taste to an event that also featured Santa Claus, strolling carolers dressed in Dicken's era costume and hot chocolate to warm attendees and wash down the cookies. The agents complimented their surroundings with festive holiday headbands and good cheer for all the attendees. Dawn intends to sponsor a booth again next year and is already looking ahead to sponsoring other Bridgeland events in 2009.

## Event Calendar

January 5th
Mat Pilates6:00 pm
30 Minute Arms & Abs7:30 pm
January 6th
Cardio Boot Camp7:00 pm
Zumba7:00 pm
Ballet/Jazz Dance Class5:30 pm
January 8th
Creative Movemennt Pre-k Dance
Class5:30 pm
<u>January 8th</u>
Book Club7:00 pm
January 13th
Jazzercise Personal Touch9:15 am
Chinese Cooking Class 10:00 am
<u>January 16th</u>
First Ladies Of Bridgeland7:00 pm
February 7th
Create A Valentines Day Card2-4:00 pm
February 20th
First Ladies Of Bridgeland7:00 pm
February 10th
Chinese Cooking Class 10:00 am

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#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
EMERGENCY	911
Fire	911
Ambulance	911
Harris County Sheriff	713-221-3300
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept.	281-550-6663
AREA HOSPITALS	
Cy-Fair Medical Center	
North Cypress Medical Center	
Willowbrook Methodist	281-477-1000
SCHOOLS	
Cy-Fair ISD	
Cy-Fair ISD	
Robison Elementary School	
Spillane Middle School	
Cy Woods High School	
Cy Fair High School	281-897-4600
UTILITIES	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Trash - Republic Waste	
Water and Sewer	
Gas-Centerpoint Energy	
Electricity - Reliant Energy	800-735-42568
NUNLIG GENLACEG	
PUBLIC SERVICES	201 272 0125
Cypress Post Office	
Drivers License Info.	
Harris County Tax	713-224-1919
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## The Times

#### A newsletter for Bridgeland residents.

The Times is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Bridgeland residents. Each newsletter is filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports activity, social group, etc. and would like to submit an article for the newsletter you can do so online at www. PEELinc.com or you can email it <a href="mailto:articles@peelinc.com">articles@peelinc.com</a>. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations, birthday announcements and military service are also welcome.

Our goal is to keep you informed!

## Bridgeland Women's Club

First Ladies of Bridgeland Meet the third Friday of every month.





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## A Special Invitation to All Women in the Community

Eyewitness to Majesty: Abandoning Self for Christ with Mindy Ferguson



Come, walk along with Peter as an eyewitness to the life of Christ.

Watch Peter transform from Simon the ordinary fisherman, to Peter fisher of men.

Peter will encourage you and inspire you.

But most of all, he will challenge you to abandon self for Christ.

All women in the community are invited to join us on Tuesday evenings at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Fairfield for this eleven-week Bible study, featuring author and Cypress resident, Mindy Ferguson of Fruitful Word Ministries. Each week we will come together for 90 minutes of fellowship, music, prayer and indepth teaching by Mindy. Childcare is free with advance reservations. Please come and bring a friend!

#### **DATES:**

Tuesday evenings, February 3rd through April 21st.

#### TIME:

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

#### **LOCATION:**

Good Shepherd UMC, 20155 Cypresswood Drive, Fairfield Subdivision (290 and Mason Rd)

#### **COST:**

\$13.00 for workbook

#### **TO REGISTER CONTACT:**

Good Shepherd UMC office at 281-373-2273 or Aynne Daugherty (aynnedaugherty@yahoo.com) at 281-373-1822 Visit Mindy's ministry website at: www.Fruitfulword.org





### **American Legion Post #324**

Looking for new members!

If you are a Veteran of the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marines, U.S. Coast Guard, or Merchant Marines you may be eligible to join.

American Legion Post 324 of Jersey Village meets the second Sunday of each month (except May when it's the third Sunday) at the Jersey Village Civic Center at 4:00 p.m.

Please come to the meeting or contact the Post by mail at P.O. Box 41962, Houston TX 77241 or call Commander Howard Mead at 713-466-3610



#### **Lone Star College-CyFair Perspective**

#### It's Not Too Late to Register for Spring Semester Classes

Spring semester classes begin Jan. 12. It's not too late to register for spring as well as some late start and continuing education courses. Lone Star College-CyFair provides a variety of options such as weekend, evening, distance learning and even hybrid (part on campus instruction and part online learning) courses. For information, call 281-290-3200 or 832-782-5000 or go online to CyFair.LoneStar.edu.

#### Center for the Arts Season Tickets on Sale

Order your seats for the 2009 Season of Entertainment at Lone Star College-CyFair and not only save 25% off regular ticket prices, but receive one free ticket to the 2009 summer children's production. A variety of season ticket packages are available for this year's engaging and enjoyable choral, music and theatre line up. All performances are held in the Center for the Arts on the Barker Cypress campus at 9191 Barker Cypress. Call 281-290-5201 or go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/boxoffice for information.

#### Deadline Jan. 26 to Submit a Film for Quack Attack Competition

Do you have what it takes to make a movie? Five-minute film submissions will be accepted monthly through Jan. 26, with the Quack Attack Film Festival set for Feb. 27. Competition categories

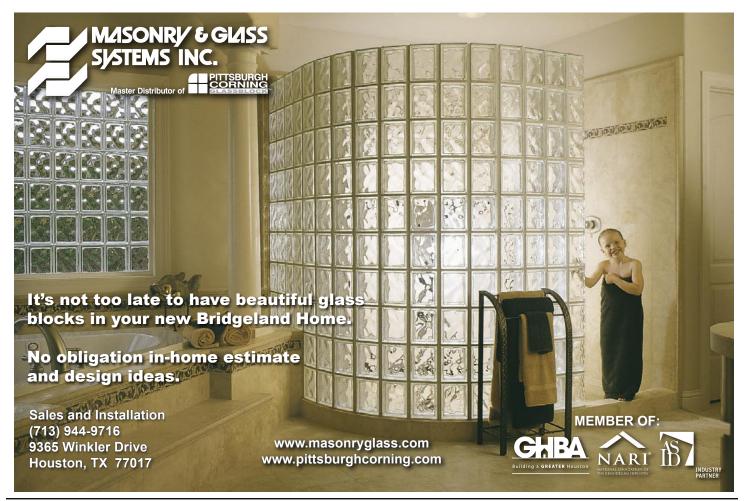
include: Drama, Comedy, Public Service Announcements, Action, Documentary, Commercial/Advertising, Horror, Science Fiction, Romance, Animation, News Packages and Music Video. Each film will be judged on the basis of: Creativeness, Sound, Cinematography and Special Effects. For competition rules, guidelines, entry form and information go to cyfair.lonestar.edu/video.

#### Try Tai Chi in the New Year

Lone Star College-CyFair offers a variety of continuing education courses, such as Tai Chi. This introductory course offers practice in the simplified styles and forms of Tai Chi. A person doing tai chi moves his or her body slowly and gently, while breathing deeply. The 24-point posture is emphasized in this course. Students also study history and basic terms along with philosophical and physiological principles and the movements of Tai Chi. Registration is under way. For information, go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/ce.

#### L.I.F.E. Lessons in January

The Learning, Inspiration, Fellowship and Enrichment (L.I.F.E.) programs are free and held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library (Room 131.) Call the library at 281-290-3213 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/library.



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## The MOMS Club® of Cypress / NW-Fairfield Moms Offering Moms Support

MOMS Club® is an international organization with a neighborhood feel! We are teachers, business women, counselors, chefs, CPA's and artists who have put those careers on hold and have made the choice to stay home with our kids.

MOMS Club® is a place to find friendship, support, playmates and sisterhood!

ALL events include our children and we believe there is something for every mom out there! Are you looking for park days, coffee breaks, lunch outings, (free) babysitting co-op, craft projects, time to sit and chat, cooking club, book club or someone to share dinner with when your husband is traveling or working late? We even find the time to meet once a month for a mom's night out a great time to unwind. Or are you interested is helping the within the community with service projects. We have that! (And a whole lot more!)

The New Year is here and what a better time to start something new! You can attend two events before joining. Our membership fee is only \$20 a year. The Moms club is a great opportunity for you and you kids to make new friends in our area. Come visit our next all-member meeting and see for yourself! There is a lot of fun and support just waiting for you! Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 8th, 10AM at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church located on Cypresswood Drive in Fairfield. As always, children welcomed!

For more information please contact Danielle Slot, Membership VP at 832-876-4358, danielleslot@yahoo.com or

Amy Wilkes, President at 281-455-2807, amywilkes2003@yahoo.com.

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## **529 College Savings Plans Make Sense**Submitted by Rich Keith

With college savings plans, students of all ages can save for all college costs, including tuition, fees, room, board, textbooks and computers. It's not just for kids: If you are considering going back to college or graduate school, you can open a college savings plan for yourself. You will save on taxes, and if you end up not going to school, you can always transfer the money, tax-free, to another 529 plan for your children or spouse.

Withdrawals from college savings plans can be used at most colleges and universities throughout

the country, including graduate schools. Some foreign education institutions also may be eligible. Many states now offer at least one college savings plan that has no residency restrictions. You can live in Ohio, contribute to a plan in Maine, and send your child to college in California. However, if your state offers state tax advantages to residents who participate in the local plan, you'll miss out if you opt for another state's 529 plan.

College savings plans typically cover all "qualified education expenses" at eligible colleges, universities and other post-secondary institutions, including tuition, fees, books and supplies, equipment, room and board.

When you invest in a college savings plan, you pay money into an investment account on behalf of a designated beneficiary. Contributions can vary and are only limited by the maximum and minimum contributions limits set by most plans. Although the maximum contribution amount differs from state to state, in the majority of states offering college savings plans, the maximum amount that you can contribute for one beneficiary exceeds \$200,000. To further increase the amount of contributions you can make, you can open a second college savings plan in another state.

Most states also offer very flexible minimum contribution limits. Many require a \$250 initial contribution with subsequent contributions of as little as \$50. Typically, each plan gives you a number of investment options that allow you to invest in various



mutual fund portfolios. Some college savings plans offer age-based mutual fund portfolios. When the child is younger, the portfolio typically invests mostly in stock funds, which carry a higher risk, but higher return potential. As your child grows older, the asset allocation becomes increasingly conservative as it gradually shifts to bond funds and other fixed-income funds.

Many states also offer non-age-based investment options, allowing you to select portfolios with conservative, moderate and

aggressive asset allocations. The IRS allows you to change your investment options once every calendar year in a college savings

Investing in college savings plans does come with some risk. Unlike prepaid tuition plans, they don't lock in tuition prices. Nor does the state back or guarantee the investments. There also is the risk with most college savings plan investment options that you may lose money or your investment may not grow enough to pay for college.

Fees, charges and expenses. All 529 plans have fees and expenses. Not only do these charges vary among 529 plans, but also they can vary within a single 529 plan. It is very important to take fees and expenses into account when selecting a college savings plan. Slightly larger fees and expenses can make a big difference in the value of your investment over time. Let's say you invest \$10,000 in a college savings plan with a return of 8% before expenses. With a plan that had annual administration and operating expenses of 3.03%, after 18 years, you would end up with only \$22,966.81. If the college savings plan had expenses of 0.65%, you would end up with \$35,534—a 35% difference!

Before buying a 529 plan, you should find out about the particular plan you are considering, and be sure you understand the plan's description of fees and expenses. Work with your financial professional to help you make the right choices.



#### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton **Catholic School**

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#### **Hurricane Ike First Responders Appreciation Party**



RE/MAX Preferred Homes sponsored a party to honor the Hurricane Ike First Responders for their dedication and service to Fairfield and the surrounding community. RE/MAX feted the firemen and policemen and Fairfield residents, with refreshments and photos with Santa Claus.

Members of a local blue grass band donated their talent to the festivities. In addition to the modern fire truck Cy-Fair Station 7 brought along for the community to check out, they also brought a 1935 fire truck reserved for such special events. A ride in this special truck delighted kids and parents alike. K-9 rescue dog Aid'n enjoyed lots of attention from everyone. Shown in this photo are Paul Davis, Fauzia Zaki, Robin Cox, Rhonda Strain, Broker-Owners Jeanne and Don Machrowicz and Mike Schroder as Santa Claus.



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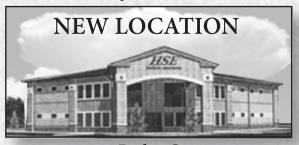
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#### More HELP for PETS ...

When a pet is lost, finding the pet means that time is of the essence. It takes time to create, print and distribute flyers. The flyers are many times illegible because of wind or rain. I certainly do not fault the pet owner because I have done this myself.

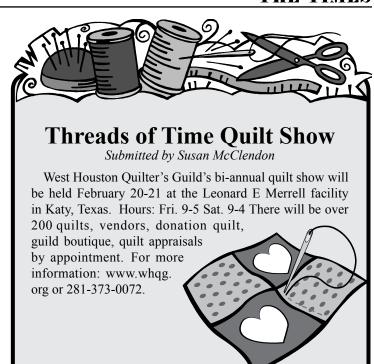
Frustrated, I thought there has to be a better way. So that is why we created Cypress Lost Pet Alert.com. The idea is to very quickly get the word out through an e-mail alert to as many neighbors as possible plus post the picture and information about the pet on the website under the specific neighborhood.

Once the email alert goes out to the specific neighborhood, many, many neighbors are now aware. If they happen to forward the email to their friends who have not signed up, it could mean hundreds of your neighbors are already alerted and are keeping their eyes open for your lost pet.

Cypress Lost Pet Alert.com is on-call 7 days a week from sun up to sun down and is FREE. We are glad to work with any informal email chains. The whole idea is to find lost pets quick for the good neighbors in Fairfield and surrounding areas.

Regards,

RB Cox alert@CypressLostPetAlert.com www.CypressLostPetAlert.com





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WRAP is Cy-Woods High School's parent-driven Project Prom organization. The purpose of WRAP is to provide a drug- and alcohol-free all-night party for the graduating seniors and their guests after their prom. Held at the CFISD Berry Center on May 22, 2009, from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., it is a fun-filled evening of shows, games, activities, food, gifts and prizes!

#### CURRENT FUNDRAISERS: JEANS & JEWELS DINNER-DANCE AND SILENT AUCTION – FEB 20th

Entire community – you are cordially invited to the **Jeans & Jewels Dinner-Dance and Silent Auction** in honor of WRAP (Wildcats Right After Prom)! This evening of fun will be at Lindsay Lakes on Friday, February 20th from 7:30-11:30 – so save the date! Tickets will be going on sale soon and

cost will be \$25 if purchased by February 1st, \$30 after February 1st and at the door. Please contact our committee chair (see website cywoodswrap.org) if you have donations for the silent auction or to purchase tickets.

#### MR. CY WOODS

Winter/early spring. This is a beauty pageant type show attended by the students that spotlight the senior men. More to come on this fun event for the students!

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# Cy-Woods Wildcat Band & Color Guard Casino Night and Silent Auction

On Saturday, January 31st from 7pm to 11pm, the Cy-Woods Wildcat Band and Color Guard will be hosting their third annual Casino Night at Cy-Woods High School. This is a once-a-year fundraiser for the band. Casino Night is a time not only to raise funds for the band, but also to have fun. Given the huge success of last year's Casino Night, a Texas Hold'em tournament has been added this year. You don't want to miss the fabulous Silent Auction and grand prize drawings for a ping pong table, foose ball table, digital camera and a Wii. Come join the fun and help support the Wildcat Band and Color Guard. For more information visit the band website at www.cywoodsband.org.



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# Dishin' with... Molly Fowler The Dining Diva

## Light, Lean, & Healthy in the New Year

New Year's resolutions for healthier eating do not have to mean boring and tasteless meals. My tortilla soup is bursting with flavor but very little fat! Veggies are sautéed in pecan oil, which is lower in saturated fat than olive oil. Add green chiles, some herbs and spices, finish with oven-baked tortilla strips and you've got a soul-satisfying soup in minutes.

#### Molly's Tortilla Soup

Serves 4-6

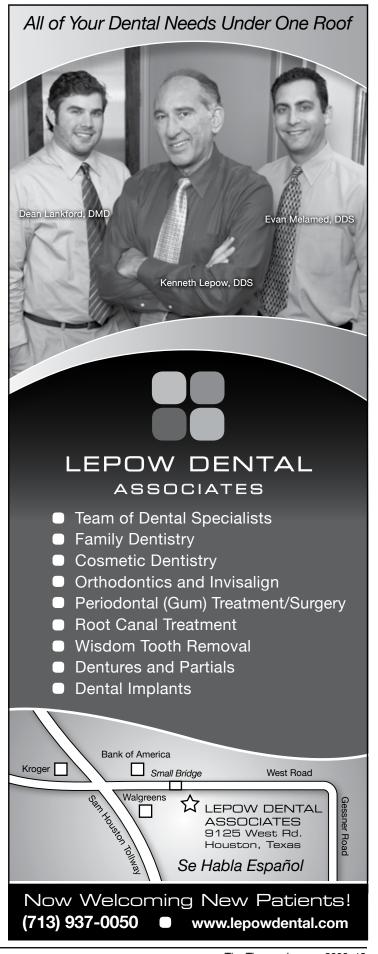
1 Small Onion, diced 3 Roma tomatoes, seeded and diced Pecan Oil \* Diced green chiles 1 4-oz can 1 10-oz can Rotel tomatoes 2 Tbsp Minced fresh cilantro 3/4 Tsp Ground cumin 3/4 Tsp Dried leaf oregano 4 Cups Chicken or vegetable broth Oven-baked tortilla strips or chips\*\* Salt and pepper to taste

Sauté onion and tomatoes in small amount of pecan oil in a saucepan until onion is almost translucent. (\*Go to www.pecanoil.com for more information and retailers) Add green chiles and Rotel. Stir in cilantro, cumin, oregano, and chicken broth. Simmer for 10 minutes. Adjust seasonings if needed. Add cooked diced chicken or prepared taco meat to make more substantial. To serve: Place tortilla strips in bottom of bowl. Ladle soup over. Garnish with diced avocado, light sour cream, reduced-fat cheddar cheese.

\*\*To prepare tortilla strips, preheat oven to 375°. Cut soft corn tortillas into thin strips. Place in a single layer on baking sheet (lightly spray with olive oil if desired) and bake in oven 10 minutes, or until crisp, stirring if needed.

Enjoy! Molly

www.thediningdiva.com



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#### US Olympian to Speak at Northwest Flyers Registration Breakfast on February 7, 2009

The Northwest Flyers Track Club will host its annual free information / registration breakfast on February 7, 2009 for all boys and girls and their parents interested in joining for the 2009 season. The breakfast starts at 8:30AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

The breakfast is the annual opportunity for youth athletes to register for the 2009 summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches and staff, and other new and returning athletes. The event will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic team.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (age 6-18) track organization, affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance, relays and sanctioned "field" events such as

long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and javelin. The Northwest Flyers has approximately 195 members, boys and girls. The club was founded 21 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the Northwest Houston area.

The Northwest Flyers is a member of the "Win with Integrity" program, a partnership between USATF and the American College of Sports Medicine. "Win with Integrity" brings elite track & field athletes and school-aged kids together to promote healthy lifestyles, keeping active, and living with integrity through the sport of track & field.

For additional information on The Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at http://www.northwestflyers.org or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.

#### 290 Cypress Business Networking Group

The 290 Cypress Business Networking Group meets every Thursday morning at 7:30 am at Newk's Express Café located at Hwy 290 and Spring Cypress in the Kroger Shopping Center near the Cinemark Theater. The group is open to all business owners and professionals who want to increase their exposure to the residents of Cypress and the surrounding areas. There is no cost to attend the meeting. If you would like more information, please call Ken Parker at 281-384-1562. Visit our new website at 290Cypress.com

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#### **Questions or Concerns?**

Call ECI of MHMRA Harris County at 713-970-4900 or visit www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis to find out more about ECI and to find your local program.

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- 3. Every dollar spent locally generates up to 75% more tax revenue to our community and State.
- 4. Local businesses are often the largest financial supporters of neighborhood school programs, local charities and youth sports activities.
- 5. Strong local businesses help maintain property values and contribute to the character of our community by offering a diverse selection of goods and services.
- 6. Local businesses are most often the first job for our children and also the first introduction into the "real world" of economics.
- 7. Small businesses often innovate quicker and thus grow faster and can have a greater impact on our community.

Support the businesses in your community and "Think Local Business First."

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#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Do you have some extra time in your schedule each week that you would like to use to make a profound difference in the life of a child? Cypress-Fairbanks ISD needs caring members of the community to join the VIPS TAG Team (Targeting Achievement Globally). This team of volunteers works with the district's helping teachers to tutor students in selected elementary schools.

You do not need to be a parent or family member of a student to become a team member. You can become a global volunteer – a generous, concerned resident of the community who wants to help children reach their full academic potential. No specialized knowledge or training is necessary. We do ask that team members be willing to work on a consistent, weekly schedule so that the students receive the utmost benefit from their work.

We have tutoring opportunities available in several schools throughout the district and can schedule a time that is convenient for you. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Kim Nash (krnash1@sbcglobal.net or 281-550-2685) or the CFISD Partners in Education Office (Pamela.scott@cfisd.net or 281-894-3950).

## Cy-Fair ISD & Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS): A Winning Combination January / February 2009 Upcoming Events

1/7 - CFISD VIPS Pie Mentor Training

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Training for individuals committed to serve as a role model and friend to CFISD students. Register with the CFISD PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net and include the date and name of this training, your name and phone number.

1/13 - CFISD VIPS Sooper Puppy Training

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Training for individuals interested in presenting the Sooper Puppy series to first graders about dealing with life lessons, facing dilemmas

and arriving at solutions by making good choices. Register with the CFISD PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net and include the date and name of this training, your name and phone number.

1/15 - CFISD VIPS General Meeting

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Open to all CFISD school staff, volunteers, parents and community members. Get the latest information on what is happening in CFISD and enjoy the opportunity to network with fellow volunteers

1/21 - CFISD VIPS Pie Mentor Training

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 6:00 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Training for individuals committed to serve as a role model and friend to CFISD students. Register with the CFISD PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net and include the date and name of this training, your name and phone number.

1/27 - CFISD JA VIPS Training

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Training for individuals interested in facilitating the Junior Achievement program for all grade levels about educating and inspiring young people to value free enterprise, understand business and economics and be workforce ready. Register with the CFISD PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net and include the date and name of this training, your name and phone number.

1/29 - VIPS Multicultural Meeting

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Open to all CFISD school staff, volunteers, parents and community members. The purpose of the CFISD Multicultural Committee is to raise the level of cultural understanding and respect by sharing information with the CFISD community to encourage cultural sensitivity and parental involvement to strengthen student success. Register with the CFISD PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net and include the date and name of this meeting, your name and phone number.

(Continued on Page 17)

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#### **Fry Road Campus**

Movie Theatre on Hwy 290 & Spring Cypress Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 10:20 a.m.

#### **Jones Road Campus**

8350 Jones Road, ¼ mile off Hwy 290 on Jones Traditional Services: 8:15 a.m., 9:20 a.m., 10:40 a.m. Contemporary Services: 9:20 a.m., 10:40 a.m.

www.foundrychurch.org | 713.937.9388

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#### Volunteers Needed (Continued from Page 16)

2/10 - CFISD VIPS Galveston Bay Training

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Open to all CFISD school staff, volunteers, and parents. Learn how to present a TEKS based science lesson to 4th. grade students at your school. Students will learn about the importance of our bay and waterways and what measures can be taken to protect this life-giving estuary. Register with the CFISD PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net and include the date and name of this training, your name and phone number.

#### 2/19 - CFISD VIPS General Meeting

Richard E. Berry Educational Support Center, 8877 Barker Cypress, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Open to all CFISD school staff, volunteers, parents and community members. Get the latest information on what is happening in CFISD and enjoy the opportunity to network with fellow volunteers and share best practices. No RSVP is needed for this meeting.

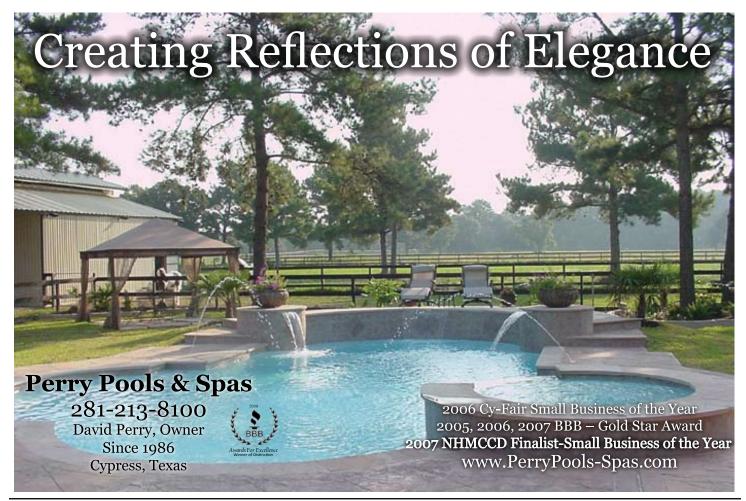
If you are interested in becoming part of the winning combination at Cy-Fair schools as a volunteer, and making a difference, or would like more information, please contact Pam Scott, Partners in Education Director at 281-894-3950.

#### **Flying Eagles**

Clay Road Baptist School is proud to announce our "Flying Eagles" for the first quarter of the school year. Like a traditional honor roll based on academics, "Flying Eagles" is an honor roll based on character. Students are selected based on qualities like patience, kindness, work ethic, spiritual growth, respectfulness, study skills, consideration of others and joyfulness. We are especially pleased to recognize the following students;

- K Mark Nimri- Tampke Bianca Gordon
- 1st Olivia Einnarsson Connor Panto
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Natalie Morel Carter Joutraw
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jonathan Loebl

- 4<sup>th</sup> David Scott
- 5<sup>th</sup> Mary-Kate Scurlock Hope Tang
- 6<sup>th</sup> Kirsten Binkley Cody Parcus
- 7th Beau Powell
- 8th Corrie Andrews



#### Don't Stress - It's Just a Test

Baylor College of Medicine

HOUSTON – (Dec. 4, 2008) – When children complain about upset stomachs and headaches, it could be more than just the flu. This is the time of year when students are preparing for mid-term exams, and test anxiety could be causing their symptoms.

Anxiety about an impending test is a serious problem that can even make some students physically ill, according to a Baylor College of Medicine psychologist.

Test anxiety can be seen in students of all ages. Some will deal with it throughout their schooling because anxiety can be a genetic trait, said Dr. Megan Mooney, adjunct assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at BCM. Other students may be able to overcome their test anxiety, especially if parents respond to it in the right way, she said.

"If we respond by talking about being nervous and anxious as a normal thing and introducing techniques to cope with it, then test anxiety can be very manageable," said Mooney, also staff psychologist at DePelchin Children's Center and a counselor at River Oaks Elementary.

If, on the other hand, parents respond by letting their child stay home and avoid the test or by getting upset and reinforcing the feeling of nervousness, then test anxiety could become a longer-term condition.

Mooney works with students on relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing, and on thought-stopping skills that get rid of negative thoughts that start creeping in at exam time.

"These techniques really need to be reinforced at home as well," Mooney said. "All of the skills to decrease the symptoms of anxiety should be practiced. It's just like learning how to play a sport – you have to practice over and over again so these techniques become a habit for children."

Parents must also be aware of the messages they are sending their children, Mooney said. Schools can be high-pressure settings where there is a lot of competition, and parents can add to the pressure with their own high expectations. Mooney urges parents to talk about the importance of kids' trying their best, rather than focusing on grades.

Students of all ages must also take care of their physical health at exam time by eating well and getting enough sleep. Older students also can help ease their anxiety by creating a schedule for themselves as soon as they receive their syllabus. They should find an optimal studying environment, whether it's a quiet library or somewhere they can have music playing.

While anxiety can be overwhelming if not properly dealt with, Mooney pointed out that it is a biological symptom that exists for a reason.

"When we experience anxiety, we get a burst of adrenaline that makes us more aware and helps us focus and concentrate," she said. "Having a little bit of anxiety about wanting to do well on a test can actually help motivate us."

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## Little Lambs

MDO et Preschool

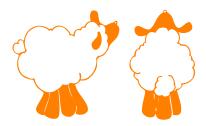
#### **Registration for Fall**

Little Lambs MDO & Preschool is holding registration for the 2009/2010 school year January 28th – February 2nd.

Little Lambs is a mother's day out and preschool that serves children from 18 months to 5 years old M-F from 9am-2pm.

Little Lambs is located at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in the subdivision of Fairfield.

Find out more by calling 281-373-0052 or on our website at www.littlelambsmdo.org.





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#### "Adventures in Mothering" at The MET Join the Adventure! Get Connected...with MOPS!

MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, a program led by mothers themselves and designed for mothers with children ages birth to 5. These mothers all have a shared desire...to be the best mothers they can be!

For more information on meetings in Fairfield, please contact Renate Wheeler at renateqw@yahoo.com. They will meet on the second and fourth Fridays during the school year.

#### NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

#### Classified Ads

**Personal classifieds** (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Bridgeland residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail articles@peelinc.com.

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

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- Clean appliance exteriors
- Clean inside microwave
- Clean range top
- Damp wipe cabinet doors
- Clean counters
- Hand wash floor
- Load dishwasher

#### **Bathrooms**

- Clean sinks, counters; change towels
- Clean, disinfect toilets, tubs, showers
- · Hand wash, disinfect floors

#### All Rooms

- Pick up and straighten
- Dust sills, ledges, wall hangings
- Remove cobwebs
- Dust/vacuum furniture
- Vacuum floors, carpets
- Vacuum stairs
- Vacuum under beds
- Change linens, make beds
- Empty trash

- Clean entry window & one set of patio door windows
- Clean window over kitchen sink





Nobody Outcleans The Maids:

## Attention all Aggie Moms (and FUTURE Aggie Moms too!)

You are invited to join the members of the Northwest Harris County Aggie Moms Club as we welcome Ron Sasse-Director of Residence Life as the speaker for our January 13 meeting.

Come listen as Ron shares his vision of how living on campus helps students learn to live in a community of individuals with different interests, cultures, lifestyles, and attributes. Find out about the benefits of living on campus (as well as some of the trials your student may face), the plans for providing additional housing, and how the Department of Residence Life handled the challenges of finding housing for our displaced Galveston Aggies after Hurricane Ike.

Join us and learn through the experiences of other moms about how to best support our outstanding Aggies! We will meet for food, fun, and fellowship at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston Distributing Company, conveniently located near Willowbrook Mall at the corner of 7100 High Life Drive and Cutten Road, just south of FM 1960.

Hope to see you there! Shelly Fine-VP Programs 832-606-8170

#### Cy-Fair Area Y-ME **Breast Cancer Support Group**



#### Are you a Breast Cancer Survivor?

Please join us for the Cy-fair Area Y-Me Breast Cancer Support Group. We meet the second Thursday of each month @ Kindred Hospital Houston Northwest from 6pm-7pm.

For more information please contact Tere Kelly@ 281-517-1008.



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## FREE DIABETES CLASSES OFFERED

on the 2nd Saturday of each month At Kindred Hospital Houston Northwest 11297 Fallbrook Dr.

"Introduction to Carbohydrate Counting" 8:30 am - 10:30 am

"Introduction to Insulin Pump Therapy" 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

> "Advanced Pumping Skills & Support Group" 1:30 – 3:30

RSVP prior to each class to Tere Kelly at 281-517-1008





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## January Classes now enrolling-Gymnastics



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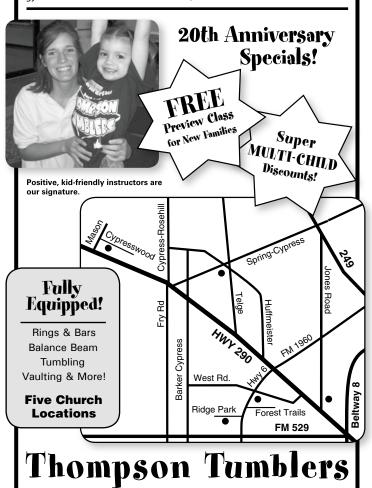
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Frank Thompson is the one "who I give the credit of instilling the love of gymnastics within me." – RAJ BHAVSAR, 2008 OLYMPIAN



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#### **Adoption Coalition of Texas**

Submitted by Tracy Eilers

## Kendrell and Jonathan DOB: October 1993 & October 1997

Kendrell and Jonathan want to find a forever family. They have a close bond; Jonathan looks up to his sister and Kendrell is very nurturing to her brother. They enjoy each other's company and play well together and other children. Kendrell and Jonathan do well in school and excel in sports. They are both wonderful children who appear shy or quiet when you first meet them, but both can also be strong-willed and determined.

Kendrell is outgoing, cheerful and makes friends easily. She enjoys running and doing typical "girl" things. She is engaging and talkative. Kendrell may present as a tough girl, but her foster parents report that underneath her tough exterior, Kendrell has a big and generous heart.



Jonathan is a happy, easy-going child. He is active and enjoys sports and drawing. He is smart and can watch someone doing something and it will only take him a few tries to be able to do it himself.

These children very much want to be adopted together and would contribute significantly to the happiness of a family. Jonathan would benefit from a positive male role model that will spend time doing mutually enjoyable activities. Kendrell would thrive in a home that allows her to be a teenager while guiding her in becoming a mature young woman.

If you would like more information on becoming an adoptive parent, please contact the Adoption Coalition of Texas at 512-301-2825 or info@adopttexas.org. For more information about Kendrell and Jonathan, please contact: Grace Lindgren, LMSW, Adoption Coalition of Texas/Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, Gracelindgren@adopttexas.org, (512) 687-3209 office/(512) 692-2540 fax



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### Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

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Be sure to include the following so we can let you know! Name: (first name, last initial) Email Address: Age: [This information will only be used to notify you or your parents if your artwork was selected.] inter wonder l'a

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Bridgeland Year-to-Date Sales Report											
	Feb '08	Mar '08	Apr '08	May '08	Jun '08	<b>July '08</b>	Aug '08	Sep '08	Oct '08	Nov '08	
\$500,000 and above	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
\$451,000\$499,999	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
\$351,00\$450,000	0	3	3	2	0	1	1	3	2	2	
\$276,000\$350,000	2	1	3	2	2	7	5	1	3	5	
\$231,000\$275,000	2	3	3	0	1	3	5	0	1	2	
\$201,000\$230,000	2	5	2	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	
\$200,000 and below	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	
Total	7	15	12	5	4	13	12	6	10	10	
Highest \$/sq ft	\$101.59	\$104.76	\$114.84	\$104.50	\$93.49	\$108.23	\$122.01	\$105.47	\$118.45	\$108.11	

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