

# The LONGWOOD Letter

August 2009

Volume 3, Issue 8

News For The Residents of Longwood

## Lone Star College- CyFair "Perspective"

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR FALL

Registration continues through Aug. 22 for fall semester. Register for online, weekend, evening or distance learning courses by phone, 281-290-3200 or 832-782-5000; online to [LoneStar.edu/cyfair](http://LoneStar.edu/cyfair); or in person at one of our conveniently located campuses at 9191 Barker Cypress or 14955 Northwest Freeway. Week day classes begin Aug. 24 with weekend classes beginning Aug. 28-30.

### "CONFLUENCE, STUDY ABROAD 2009" IN THE BOSQUE GALLERY

Check out this showcase of student installations and photography taken during this summer's study abroad trips to Italy and China. The exhibition will be on display Aug. 4 through Aug. 27 in the Bosque Gallery with a closing reception at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 27. Go to [LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery](http://LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery) for gallery hours and information.

### FREE NEW STUDENT ORIENTATIONS SET

Take a tour, learn about campus programs, meet with an advisor, choose a schedule and register for fall classes at LSC-CyFair's free new student orientations this summer. Three orientation sessions, including separate sessions for parents and family members, continue each Wednesday through August 19. For information, go to [LoneStar.edu/orientation](http://LoneStar.edu/orientation).

### L.I.F.E. LESSONS IN AUGUST

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.) Programs in August include: unveiling the Chip Hosek Collection of American Art Aug. 5, preventing arthritis Aug. 12, the science and art of perfume making Aug. 19 and new application on Google Aug. 26. Call the library at 281-290-3213 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to [LoneStar.edu](http://LoneStar.edu).

### BECOME A CERTIFIED LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST OR PERSONAL TRAINER

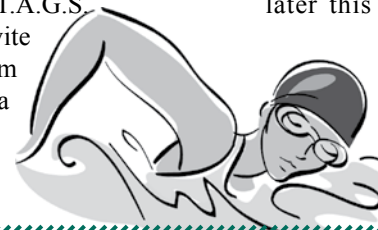
(Continued on page 3)

## Year-Round Texas Terrapins Swim Team (TTST)

### Announces Open Registration Days for Competitive Training

The Texas Terrapins Swim Team (TTST) will have Pre-Registration for the 2009 / 2010 year-round swim season on Wednesday, August 19th & Friday, August 21st from 5:15 PM – 7:30 PM @ Lakeside Pool in Fairfield. Open Registration for the 2009 / 2010 year-round swim season will be on Wednesday, August 26th from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM @ Lakeside Pool in Fairfield. For directions to the pool, please visit our website at [www.texasterrapins.com](http://www.texasterrapins.com) and click on pool locations. Registration forms are on our website and can be completed out ahead of time!

TTST has accomplished some great things this past year such as almost doubling our team size. We went from a peak season of 80 swimmers to a peak season of 155 and we are continuing to grow while keeping our family atmosphere. All of our swimmers improved tremendously throughout the year and topped the charts during summer league as most of them were invited to Ponderosa and Red, White, and Blue Invitationals where they were ribbon and medal winners. One of our swimmers, Sydney Stanford, won high point at Ponderosa for the 7/8 year old girls! Just before summer league started, we also attended short course T.A.G.S. and will be attending long course T.A.G.S. later this summer as well. We invite you to join our growing team and find out why we are a stroke above the rest.



# LONGWOOD LETTER

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY .....	911
Fire .....	911
Ambulance .....	911
Constable .....	281-376-3472
Sheriff - Non-emergency .....	713-221-6000
- Burglary & Theft .....	713-967-5770
- Auto Theft .....	281-550-0458
- Homicide/Assault .....	713-967-5810
- Child Abuse .....	713-529-4216
- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence .....	713-967-5743
- Runaway Unit .....	713-755-7427
Poison Control .....	800-764-7661
Traffic Light Issues .....	713-881-3210

### SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD Administration .....	281-897-4000
Cypress Fairbanks ISD Transportation .....	281-897-4380
Cypress Fairbanks Senior High .....	281-897-4600
Goodson Middle School .....	281-373-2350
Hamilton Elementary .....	281-370-0990

### OTHER NUMBERS

Animal Control .....	281-999-3191
Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center .....	281-890-4285
Harris County Health Department .....	713-439-6260
Post Office Box Assignment – Cypress .....	1-800-275-8777
Street Lights - CenterPoint Energy .....	713-207-2222
- not working (Report Number on Pole)	
Trash Removal .....	281-446-2030

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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Not Available Online

## Do You Have Reason to Celebrate?

We want to hear from you! Email [longwoodletter@peelinc.com](mailto:longwoodletter@peelinc.com) to let the community know!

## CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Volunteer to  
be the Editor  
of your  
newsletter

Call 1-888-687-6444 for more information.

# LONGWOOD LETTER

## Lone Star College- (Continued from Cover Page)

Interested in helping people lead healthy and stress-free lifestyles? Let Lone Star College-CyFair jump start your career in massage therapy and personal training. In the Massage Therapy program, which only costs \$1827 plus books and supplies, students learn business practices and professional standards as well as health and hygiene in massage and more. Scholarships are also available. The Personal Trainer program covers aspects of one-on-one training including marketing, program development and design, legal aspects, documentation, training methodologies and business considerations. Students who also take Exercise Science and CPR courses will be ready to take the National Academy for Sports Medicine certification exam. Financial aid is available for this workforce program. Registration is under way for fall classes, which start Aug. 24. For information call 281-290-3930 or go to LoneStar.edu.

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## The Tri-County Quilt Guild

*Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm*

Meeting Place: Fairfield Baptist Church, 27240 Highway 290  
(Between Muescke and Mason Rd) Cypress, TX 77433-4907  
website: [www.tricountyquiltguild.org](http://www.tricountyquiltguild.org)

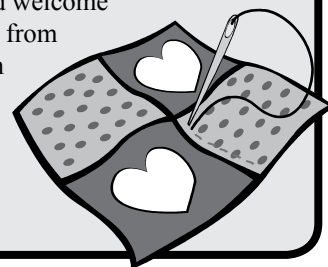
*Established 2005*

Some of our activities include Show & Tell, BOM's, Fabric Raffle, Charity Quilts, Bees, Special Programs, guest speakers and more, with Door Prizes at every meeting!

We are a very friendly group and welcome quilters of all levels of expertise, from the Just Love Quilts and never sewn to the experienced and published.

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Please check out our website for more information.



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# LONGWOOD LETTER



## Houston Hemophilia Walk

Saturday, September 19, 2009

Minute Maid Park

9 am Registration - 10am 3K Walk begins

Join us as we raise awareness and funds for bleeding disorders.  
Register your Walk team at [www.hemophilia.org/walk](http://www.hemophilia.org/walk) and  
choose the Texas Lone Star Chapter Walk.

For more information about the Lone Star Chapter's  
Hemophilia Walk '09, contact Event Manager, Melissa  
Compton, at 713-686-6100 or [mcompton@lonestarahemophilia.org](mailto:mcompton@lonestarahemophilia.org)

org

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(Wildcats Right After Prom, Inc.)

Attention Cy-Woods 2010 Senior Parents! 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.

Please join us on Thursday, August 20th @ 7:00 pm in the Commons area at Cy-Woods High School for our 1st 2009-2010 WRAP General Board meeting. For more information on WRAP, please visit our website at [cywoodswrap.org](http://cywoodswrap.org) or contact us via email at [cywoodswrap@hotmail.com](mailto:cywoodswrap@hotmail.com). We look forward to seeing you on August 20th.

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## New Club Charter Granted to Cypress Ranch Key Club



Picture of Bob Presnell, Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club President, and Aliah Kelly, Cypress Ranch Key Club President

Cypress, Texas – July 2, 2009 – A new Key Club has been chartered by Kiwanis International at one of Cy-Fair's newest high schools, Cypress Ranch. The new school club of 238 members has been meeting since the school's opening in August 2008 and made formal application for a charter in January 2009. The official Club Charter was presented to Key Club President Aliah Kelly at the club's first annual banquet held on May 21. The charter presentation was made by Bob Presnell, President of the Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club, and Peggy Presnell, who serves as Kiwanis Sponsor for the new Key Club.

Members attending the banquet were presented with membership items including their membership cards and pins. New officers for the 2009-10 school year were installed by Madhumita Govindu, a Cy-Fair High School student who serves as Lt. Governor of Division 3N of Key Club. Miss Govindu oversees the Katy and CFISD Key Clubs for the Texas-Oklahoma District of Key Club.

For more information, please contact:

Bri Holcombe, Publicity Chairman - [sbvbchick@hotmail.com](mailto:sbvbchick@hotmail.com)

Justin Bradley, Publicity Chairman - [Thebradley5@comcast.net](mailto:Thebradley5@comcast.net)

Jennifer Hydes, Faculty Advisor - [Jennifer.hydes@cfisd.net](mailto:Jennifer.hydes@cfisd.net)

Cypress Ranch Key Club

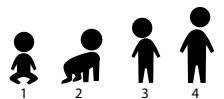


## COLIN'S HOPE

Increasing water safety awareness and standards

### FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in children ages 1-4



### DROWNING WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW



Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

### DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

A majority of people overestimate their own and their child's ability to swim, especially in a panic event.

### DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.

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## Pet Corner

### Need Help With A Lost Or Found Pet ...

Please contact Susan Locke, Fairfield's Lost and Found Pet Coordinator at 281-605-5775 or you may go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fairfieldpets>. Susan is the contact for someone that has lost or found a pet and tries to match the two together. Susan is unable to pick up, deliver or provide medical assistance to lost, found or injured animals but will try to help locate the dog or owner when they are lost.

~Your pet's ID tag is their ONLY ticket home! ~

\* \* \* \* \*  
**SAVE A Life ... Be A Foster Parent.**

### 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](mailto:alert@CypressLostPetAlert.com)  
[www.CypressLostPetAlert.com](http://www.CypressLostPetAlert.com)

## BEAR IS STILL MISSING! PLEASE HELP

Our dog, Bear, is still lost somewhere in Fairfield. He went missing near Autumn Park on Monday, 5/5/09, night. He is an Australian Shepherd, and his body is black, his chest is white and he has some brown markings on his face and paws. My three-year-old misses him very much.

*Please help us find Bear. If you happen to find Bear or have seen Bear around please call 281-373-1121 or 832-573-8704.*



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# LONGWOOD LETTER

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# LONGWOOD LETTER

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## meet our team

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Quoc Le, MD  
Alex Nguyen, MD  
Blandina Sison, MD  
Marian Allan, MD  
Anthony Yee-Young, MD  
Diana Malone, MD  
Shital Patel, MD  
Heidi Nashed-Guirgis, MD  
Luz Marquez, MD  
Jennifer Dong, MD  
Haley Nguyen, MD  
Tami Berckenhoff, PA-C  
Brandi Valenzuela, PA-C  
Sydney Payne, PA-C

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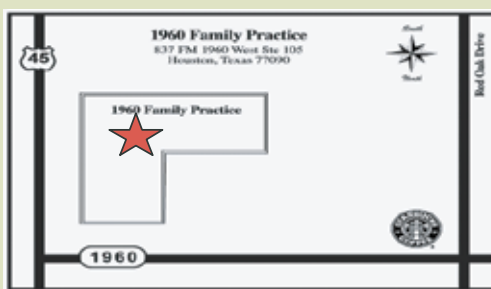
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**\*NEW LOCATION AT HWY 290\***

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Located at 290 and 1960



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Appointment press option 1

# LONGWOOD LETTER

## Movie Review

By Kiko Martinez - San Antonio-based film critic/writer  
www.CineSnob.net

### *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*

*Daniel Radcliffe and Michael Gambon star in "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," the sixth installment of the series.*



**Grade:  
B**

**Starring:** Daniel Radcliffe, Jim Broadbent, Emma Watson  
**Directed by:** David Yates ("Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix")  
**Written by:** Steve Kloves ("Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire")

The popular boy wizard continues down the mysterious road of sorcery and wonderment that has entertained fans for the last eight years in the sixth installment of the J.K. Rowling's fantasy franchise, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince." Who would have guessed that Harry's most formidable adversary in the new film would be puberty?

Yes, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) has developed into a young man, and just in time. In "Half-Blood Prince," there's far more to fear than acne breakouts and raging hormones. The Dark Arts flourish as Harry and best friends Ron (Rupert Grint) and Hermione (Emma Watson) continue on their quest to stop the evil Lord Voldemort (seen in this film only as a gothic-looking young student).

The story begins with Albus Dumbledore (Michael Gambon) interfering into Harry's life outside of Hogwarts as he flirts with a café waitress and sets up an impromptu date. Harry, who now knows he is "the chosen one," doesn't have time to enjoy the Muggle world as much as he would like. Dumbledore whisks him off to visit retired professor Horace Slughorn (Jim Broadbent) so they can try to persuade him to return to Hogwarts. There's something Slughorn is suppressing in his memory that can help Harry understand how to defeat Voldemort.

Along with Slughorn's secrets, Harry must contend with a trio of smoky Death Eaters, who are terrorizing both the Muggle and

Wizard worlds, Draco Malfoy (Tom Felton), who is coming into his own and doing so by following orders of the Dark Lord himself, and, of course, the romantic high jinks that seems contagious throughout the entire school.

While romance continues to blossom occasionally between Harry and Ginny Weasley (Bonnie Wright), Ron and Hermione's ambiguous relationship halts for a moment when another girl (Jessie Cave) begins to show interest in Ron. There's no need for too many doses of love potion in the high school-like melodrama that plays out in the halls of Hogwarts. With all the heartbreak, jealousy, infatuation, and pitter-patter of youthful hearts, it's really a treat to see there's actual blood pumping through these characters as the story continues to unfold.

Directed by David Yates, who was also behind "Order of the Phoenix," "Half-Blood Prince" is the most dialogue-heavy of the entire series. Yates and his screenwriting team slow down the pace considerably to uncover more of the emotional elements of everyone involved. However, there are still highly entertaining scenes comprised of impressive special effects and sprightly editing (you can't have a "Harry Potter" movie without a weather-beaten game of Quidditch). "Half-Blood Prince" is also the funniest of the bunch.

While actual magic might be a secondary thought in Rowling's text, "Half-Blood Prince" is a notable addition to the narrative as a whole. It all leads up nicely to the final installment, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," which will be released in two parts in 2010 and 2011 respectively.



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## Is Your Home an Internet Broadcaster? *(It might be and you don't even know it)*

*Submitted by Laurie Scott*

Laptop computers have made computing mobile and very convenient. Wireless routers in our homes have made it possible to use our computers anywhere in the home, and not just where the connection comes into your home.

If you have a wireless router at home, then you are using one of three possible levels of security, 1) none, 2) poor and 3) what you SHOULD be using. "None" is real simple, open the box, plug in the router, connect to the Internet. With this connection, ANYONE within range, meaning your neighbors, passersby and that annoying teen-age kid down the who likes to hang around your house in the evening can use your wireless network to access the internet or worse, access your computers at home. Also, any illegal activity over the Internet is going to be traced back to your home, not to the person or computer that may have done it.

I often tell the story of the time I moved to Austin from Sacramento 4 1/2 years ago over the Thanksgiving holiday. I stayed overnight with a friend in Flagstaff, Arizona at her parents' home. Lots of relatives were there and they all smoked (and smoked a lot). Even though it was 35 degrees outside, I went and sat in my car for an hour just to breath fresh air. While in my car I powered up my laptop and discovered a completely unsecured network within range. I connected to it and took the opportunity to check my email and do some web surfing. Then the good Samaritan in me decided to do them a favor. I figured they hadn't changed the default password on their router, and sure enough I was right. I logged onto their router and took a screen shot of it. Since they were also using the default name for their computer network, I changed mine to match and could see that they had a computer turned on with one of their hard drives shared (no, I didn't peek at it.) I also saw that they had an Epson printer connected to it, so I downloaded the printer driver and installed it on my laptop, opened Microsoft Word and pasted the screen shot of their router into it. I also included instructions on how to keep prying eyes out of their network, thanked them that I was able to check my email, and then I PRINTED the document out on their printer. Keep in mind I have no idea which house I had connected to. I imagine if they were home that they were a little shocked to have their printer start all by itself and print a note from a complete stranger. Lucky for them I wasn't someone who wanted to copy their files, plant a virus or lock them out of their own network.

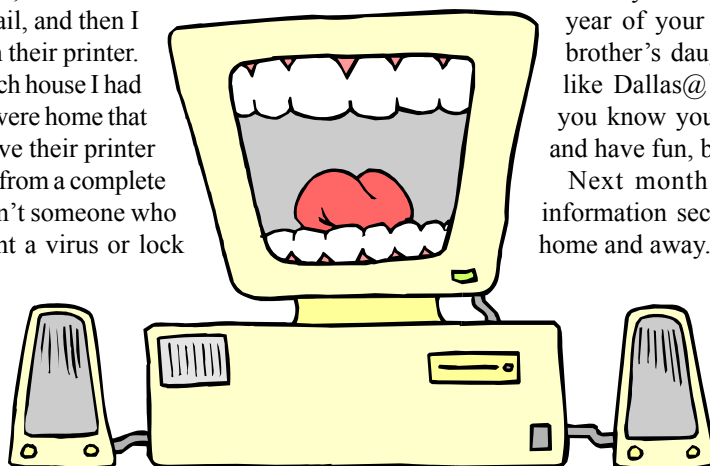
The two levels of security that are usually displayed with a padlock symbol are WEP and WPA. WEP falls into the "poor" category of security. WEP will keep honest people out of your network, and will prevent someone from accidentally getting connected to your network, but WEP was "cracked" several years ago, and nowadays it only takes a laptop and 60 seconds to break into a network secured with WEP.

What you should be using is WPA (or WPA2) to provides a connection that (with a good password) can't be cracked in a comfortable lifetime. Log into your router (usually at <http://192.168.0.1> or <http://192.168.1.1>), go to the wireless security settings and set it for WPA. Then change your laptops and other wireless devices to match.

There are many different routers on the market, but there are a few standard rules to follow: Changing the security settings on your router should always be done with the computer attached to the router via a network cable - don't change it over a wireless connection. If you make a mistake, you won't be able to get back in to fix it. In the wireless security settings on your router, you will see WEP and SHOULD see WPA as options. If you don't see WPA as an option, your router is probably several years old. Go to the manufacturer's support page on their web site and look for updated "firmware" to download. Download the firmware and update the router per the instructions provided by the manufacturer. If the latest firmware doesn't provide WPA encryption, then it's time for a trip to Best Buy or Fry's for a new router. ANY new router will provide WPA encryption. Next use a strong password. A strong password should be at least 12 characters long, feel free to make it a lot longer - the longer the better. Be sure to use upper and lower case letters, use numbers AND use special characters like # \* ( \ } [ @ ! &. Write it down and put it in a safe place. If it helps, use 2 or 3 non-related words or numbers that you know but no one is likely to guess. Something

like maybe the city you got married in with the year of your first car and the name of your brother's daughter. It might look something like Dallas@1989!Samantha#. Even people you know you won't guess this. Be creative and have fun, but MAKE IT STRONG!

Next month I'll talk about keeping your information secure when you're online both at home and away.



# LONGWOOD LETTER

## MOPS at The MET Registration



If you need a listening ear, friendship with other moms, your kids involved in a fun program, delicious breakfast buffets, advice from seasoned moms ... then you need MOPS at The MET.

Two dynamic groups meet two Friday mornings per month (September – May) from 9:15 – 11:45a.m. Childcare is provided upon registration; \$55 per semester.

Register online today to secure your spot at [metmops.org](http://metmops.org) or [TheMETonline.org](http://TheMETonline.org)

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](mailto:renateqw@yahoo.com). They will meet on the second and fourth Fridays during the school year.

***“Adventures in Mothering” at The MET***  
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## GET ON THE BUS!

a sermon series

We invite you to join us for F.R.A.N.K. Day on **Sunday, August 30, 2009**. A special day for Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances, Neighbors, and Kids. Lunch, music and activities for families.

New classes starting in the fall including Financial Peace University, Questions of Life, Divorce Care, children & youth classes, and many more. Please join us on Sundays for worship at 8:05, 9:30 & 11 AM.



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## IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!

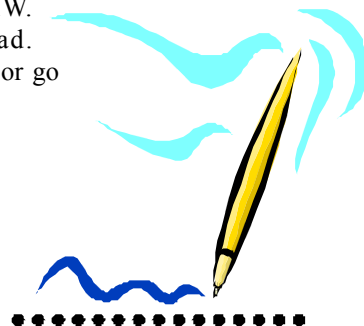
### *Students Can Win Thousands of Dollars in Scholarships and Savings Bonds!*

Commander William "Bill" Shaffer of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2427 and its Ladies Auxiliary announces the kick-off of the years "Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Essay Competition." These competitions are designed to give local students the opportunity to earn Scholarships and savings bonds toward their education. Students from public, private, and parochial schools are encouraged to participate, as well as students in home study programs. Students begin competing at the local Post level, Post winners advance to the District level, District winners then compete in the State competition. The State winners compete for more than 2.5 million in scholarships and savings bonds.

The Voice of Democracy contest is open to Students in grades 9 – 12 who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school, and those in a home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or in an overseas U.S. Military/civilian dependent school. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over and previous Voice of Democracy first place winners are ineligible. The theme for the year is, "Does American Still Have Heroes?"

The Patriot's Pen Contest is opened to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students enrolled in public, private or parochial schools in the US, its territories or its possessions. Home-schooled students are also eligible. Dependents of U.S. of military or civilian personnel in overseas schools can participate too. Foreign exchange students and former winners that placed in the National finals are excluded from the contest. The theme for this year is, "When Is The Right Time To Honor Our Military Heroes?"

The deadline for this contest is November 1, 2009. For more information please contact V.F.W. Post 2427, 14408 Alice Road. Tomball, Texas (281) 351-2427 or go online at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).



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# LONGWOOD LETTER



## Meet Johnathan

DOB: 10/1997

Johnathan is an affectionate child who loves to give and receive hugs. He loves trains, building with Legos and cardboard boxes. He also enjoys going on outings and watching cartoons, especially Scooby-Doo. His favorite food is pizza.

He has been diagnosed with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder which requires therapy. He is not able to communicate as easily as other children his age, which can be very frustrating for him. He has made tremendous progress in foster care and has a strong desire to please the adults around him. Johnathan requires a high level of supervision due to his activity level and his social skills. Johnathan's foster mom describes him as a "lovable child" and a "good kid."

For more information about adoption in general or Johnathan, please contact the Adoption Coalition of Texas at [info@adopttexas.org](mailto:info@adopttexas.org).

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## Cy-Fair CERT -

### Community Emergency Response Training

Are You Prepared? This free emergency response training will again be offered at Lone Star College at Cy-Fair, 9191 Barker Cypress, Cypress TX 77433 starting on Sept 2-Oct 21, 2009. It is an 8 week course, every Wed from 6 to 9 pm. There is NO cost to you!

**A training manual and starter backpack of supplies is also provided. The course is taught by professionals in their field. Classes cover:**

- Disaster Preparedness
- Small Fire Suppression
- Medical Operations and Triage
- Light Search and Rescue
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism Awareness
- Disaster Simulation Drill

CERT training is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. If emergency personnel are not available, you can use this training to save lives and protect property. For more information, see [www.harriscountycitizencorps.com](http://www.harriscountycitizencorps.com). To sign up for training, contact Terri Pope-Mobley at [tpopemobley@yahoo.com](mailto:tpopemobley@yahoo.com). Be aware and be prepared!

## CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB

The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club meets three times a month at the Hearthstone Country Club in Hearthstone from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. for lunch and programs with guest speakers on subjects of concern to the community and individuals. We invite you to a complimentary lunch, fellowship with our members, an informative program, and an opportunity to learn more about our organization. Reservations are not required. The Club will meet on August 4, 11, and 18th.

Membership in Kiwanis is open to persons of good character who adhere to the standards of good conduct in their community and believe in and subscribe to the objects of Kiwanis International. If you would like to know more about Kiwanis and the service programs it promotes, call John Carroll at 281-463-0373; George Crowl at 832-467-1998; or Robert Presnell at 281-304-7127.

CHILDREN: PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club, an affiliate of the International Kiwanis organization, focuses its services, programs and activities on this theme.

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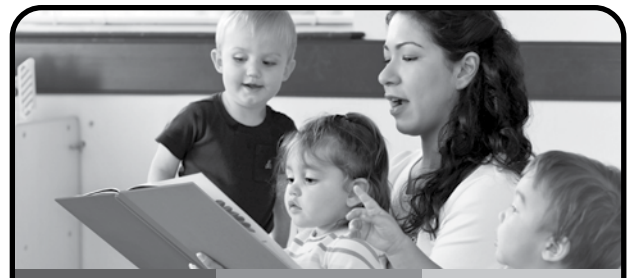
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# LONGWOOD LETTER

## The Road of Uncertainty

By Mindy Ferguson

As I traveled along a remote road on my way to speak at a women's retreat, my GPS suddenly began an annoying repetition of the phrase, "lost satellite". After a few minutes, I picked up my cell phone to call for directions. No service. I found myself on an unfamiliar country road in East Texas, with no cell phone and a GPS that appeared to be as disoriented as I was.

Uneasy, I pulled over onto the side of the road, took a deep breath, reviewed my map and prayed. I studied the map and located a road that I remembered passing a few miles earlier. I estimated my location and eased back onto the road, following the map with my finger as I drove. Needless to say, I was grateful to discover a sign with the retreat center's logo and an arrow, indicating the turn was ahead.

Thinking back on my experience, it occurred to me that our journey through life often presents us with circumstances that make us feel as disoriented and uneasy as I felt that day when I was lost on an unfamiliar country road without cell service. It also occurred to me that our response to life's uncertainties should be the same as mine was that day on the road —Pause, Ponder, Pray, and then Proceed.

### Pause

When faced with uncertainty, we need to take some time to quiet ourselves before the Lord. Psalm 46 assures us, God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Be still and know that

I am God (vs. 1, 10a NIV).

Regardless how lost or helpless we may feel, God is our refuge and our strength and He is always available to help us. We can rest in the truth that He knows every detail of our circumstances and He is never disoriented. It's important to "be still" in order to hear His voice and sense His presence.

### Ponder

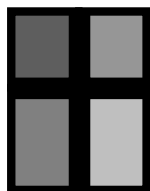
Next, we need to take the time to gather information, reflect, and regroup. When conflict arose in the early church between Jewish and Gentile believers, the apostles took time to ponder the issues before deciding how to proceed. Acts 15:6 says, the apostles and elders met to consider this question (NIV). When we are unsure how to proceed, we need to gather information and ponder the facts.

### Pray

Prayer is crucial. Through prayer, we can come before the Lord with the facts of a situation and earnestly seek His guidance. James 1:5 assures us, If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him (NIV). We can count on God to listen and to grant us the wisdom that we need to move forward in His will.

### Proceed

(Continued on Page 19)



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# LONGWOOD LETTER

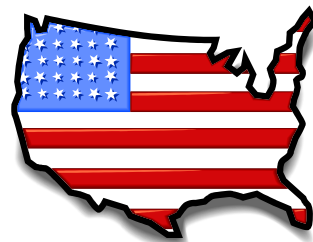
## The Road- (Continued from Pg 18)

Finally, after we have patiently paused, diligently pondered and earnestly prayed, it is time to act. You may step out cautiously, just as I did that day on the unfamiliar country road, but we can count on the truth of Exodus 15:13, which says, In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed (NIV). God loves us abundantly and although our circumstances can be frightening, we can trust that our God will lead us as He works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will (Ephesians 1:11 NIV).

Are you facing uncertainty on an unfamiliar road? Pause... Ponder... Pray... and then Proceed. Our God faithfully leads the people He has redeemed!

## AMERICA IS GOOD

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- The family is sacred. My spouse and I are the ultimate authority, not the government.
- I have a right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, but there is no guarantee of equal results.
- I work hard for what I have and I will share it with who I want to. Government cannot force me to be charitable.
- The government works for me. I do not answer to them, they answer to me.



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