

# The Village Gazette



Volume 6, Issue 8  
Village Creek Community Association

August 2009

## Village Creek Celebrates Independence Day

The 4th of July parade and party were a big success with a great turnout! A special thanks to the social committee volunteers, Ruth Verduzco, Caren Seal, Sharon Gabbert, Le Ann Karsten and Leigh Ann Wheat for putting it together. Also, a special thanks to the Gabbert family for the use and set up of you tents. As always, the Klein VFD lead the parade with a bang and even included a good soaking from the truck hose for the residents. Thank you to HOA board members Don Rumsey and Jayland Keeney for judging the trikes, bikes and wagons. The party continued at the clubhouse with pizza and fun games led by the lifeguards.



(Pics Continued on Page 3)

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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS or 911

CenterPoint-Gas Leak .....713-659-3552  
Constables Office ..... 281-376-3472, [www.cd4.hctx.net](http://www.cd4.hctx.net)  
Klein Fire Dept. ....281-376-4449  
Poison Control Center .....800-764-7661  
Willowbrook Methodist .....281-477-1000

### SCHOOLS

Tomball ISD ..... 281-357-3100, [www.tomballisd.net](http://www.tomballisd.net)  
Willow Creek Elem (K-4).....281-357-3080  
Northpointe Int (5-6).....281-357-3020  
Willow Wood Jr (7-8) .....281-357-3030  
Tomball High (9-12).....281-357-3220  
Transportation.....281-357-3193

### HOA MGMT

Chaparral Management Company ..... 281-537-0957  
Ms. Tally Jenkins ..... [tallyj@chaparralmanagement.com](mailto:tallyj@chaparralmanagement.com)  
Fax .....281-537-0312  
6630 Cypresswood Drive, Suite 100, Spring, Texas  
Mailing: P.O. Box 681007: Houston, Texas 77268-1007

### SERVICES

CPS.....713-626-5701  
CenterPoint-Gas.....713-659-2111  
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Domestic Violence .....281-401-6250  
FBI.....713-693-5000  
Harris County Animal Control .....281-999-3191  
Houston Chronicle .....713-220-7211  
Greater Houston Pool .....713-771-7665  
Municipal District Services (24 hrs) .....281-290-6500  
Reliant-Street lights .....713-923-3213  
..... [www.centerpointenergy.com/outage](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/outage)  
Sex Offenders .....[www.familywatchdog.us](http://www.familywatchdog.us)  
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Waste Management .....713-686-6666  
Trash pickup Tues/Fri  
Recycling Fri (only newspapers/#1 & 2 plastics/aluminum cans)  
Yard Stork .....[kpunte@garygreene.com](mailto:kpunte@garygreene.com)

### NEWSLETTER

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Advertising.....[advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com), 888-687-6444

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**Independence Day Pics -**  
(Continued from Cover Page)



## Featured Deed Restriction *Pools*

### SECTION F ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES NUMBER 9

An application for the construction of a swimming pool, spa, or Jacuzzi (collectively referred to as "the pool"), must include a plot plan showing the proposed location of the pool in relation to the property lines, building lines, existing structures and existing or proposed fences. This application shall also indicate the direction for construction access. No pool shall be constructed in a manner to impede drainage on a lot or to cause water to flow on an adjacent lot. Above ground swimming pools are not permitted. The pool mechanical equipment may not be placed in such a way as to impede the three foot (3') wide side yard drainage easement.

***Do you know someone who would like to live in  
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***Another home sold...***  
*Welcome your new neighbors at  
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## Looking For a Way to Get Involved in Your Community?

The Social Committee is in need of helping hands to assist with our next big event. The Fall Festival and 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off will be held October 17. If you would like to be a part of this ,or would like to suggest ideas then please contact Ruth Verduzco at rgverduzco@yahoo.com. Come and join the fun! Special thanks to all who helped make our 4th of July Celebration a success! It is volunteers who make these events possible in our community!!!!

## School News

School for Tomball students will resume on August 24. There will be no school on September 7 as students celebrate Labor Day.

## Upcoming Vital Board Meeting: *Residents Needed to Elect New Board Members*

The 2009 annual meeting by the Village Creek Community Association will take place on Monday, July 20, 2009 at 6:30 pm, at the Fairwood Clubhouse, located at 14701 Spring Cypress, Cypress, Texas. If residents attend no other meeting this year, this is the one not to miss.

Residents should have received a blue notice in the mail which includes their proxy. According to the letter, the bylaws require 10% or 75 lots of the members to be present to conduct the election of officers. If a resident can't be present, they can be represented by the signed proxy.

"PLEASE, if you don't plan to attend, either mail back your signed proxy to the Chaparral Management Co. or give them to me to take to the meeting," Diana Christopher said.

"You may drop them off at my home at 12410 Morning Rain and place them in the basket on my front porch. Last year Board members had to go door to door to get enough proxies to establish a quorum. We will even come to your home to pick them up if you email me at diana.christopher@sbcglobal.net. Be sure to check the appropriate boxes and fill out the required information at the bottom of the form."

Please note that there is also a write in candidate, Mr. Mike Truitt. Residents may only vote for two candidates.

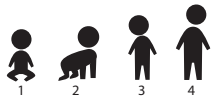


## COLIN'S HOPE

*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.

For more information, check out our website at

[www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org)

### 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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## 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).**

## Doggy Doo Don't

Please remember to clean up after your pet while walking them. An easy way to do this is to bring along a plastic bag attached to your pet's leash. Thank you for helping us keep our neighborhood clean and the outdoor areas enjoyable for all residents.



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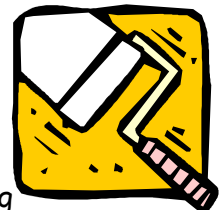
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# The Village Gazette

## Facts About Plastic Bags

### Here are Some Interesting Facts about Plastic Bags:

- About 89 billion plastic bags, sacks and wraps are used each year in the U.S.
- In 2007, more than 830 million pounds of plastic bags and film were recycled, a 27 percent increase from 2005.
- According to the EPA, about 12 percent of plastic bags and wraps were recycled in 2007.
- During production, plastic bags generate 50 percent less greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, require 70 percent less energy and produce 80 percent less waste than paper alternatives.
- Plastic bag production uses less than 4 percent of the water needed to make alternatives and generate 80 percent less waste than its alternatives due to its lightweight.
- Small plastic bags made up about 9 percent of the debris found along various U.S. coasts in a five year study.
- In the U.S., almost 80 percent of polyethylene, the type of plastic used to make plastic bags, is produced from natural gas. This includes feedstock, process and transportation energy.
- Much of the energy to make plastic bags is embodied in the bag itself, and since plastic bags are fully recyclable, that energy is available for new products such as composite lumber and decking.

- Surveys routinely show that more than ninety percent of consumers reuse their plastic bags for things like wastebasket liners, lunch totes and pet pick-up.

### TIPS ON RECYCLING PLASTIC BAGS

Though you may feel a little embarrassed about that hoard of plastic bags in your kitchen, one way to downsize the collection is to recycle and reuse. Let's start with the mountain of plastic bags you've already accumulated? While many curbside recycling programs do not accept plastic bags because of their lightweight, many grocery stores now collect plastic bags for recycling. So, next time add "recycling plastic bags" to your grocery list.

### Don't Forget These Other Plastic Items to Take with You:

- Grocery bags
- Retail bags (hard plastic and string handles removed)
- Paper towel and toilet paper plastic wrap
- Newspaper bags
- Dry cleaning bags
- Bread Bags
- Produce Bags
- Furniture, electronic wrap

*(Continued on Page 7)*



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# The Village Gazette

## Facts About Plastic Bags - (Continued from Page 6)

- Zip lock bags
- Diaper wrap
- Cereal box liners
- Plastic Shipping Envelopes (remove labels)
- Case wrap

### These Items CANNOT Be Recycled:

- Used food or cling wrap
- Prepackaged food bags, including frozen wrappers
- Bio based or compostable bags
- No film that has been painted or has excessive glue

When you recycle plastic bags, make sure you are recycling appropriate plastics, to ensure you are not introducing contaminants to the recycling stream. Typically, plastic bags will be made of either #2 plastic or #4 plastic. When you're ready to recycle, check the number on the bottom of the bag and use Earth911's recycling locator to find out where you can recycle your bags.

Still not enough? Learn how to set up your own recycling program at [Plasticbagrecycling.org](http://Plasticbagrecycling.org). Also keep in mind ways to help out through reuse and reduce.

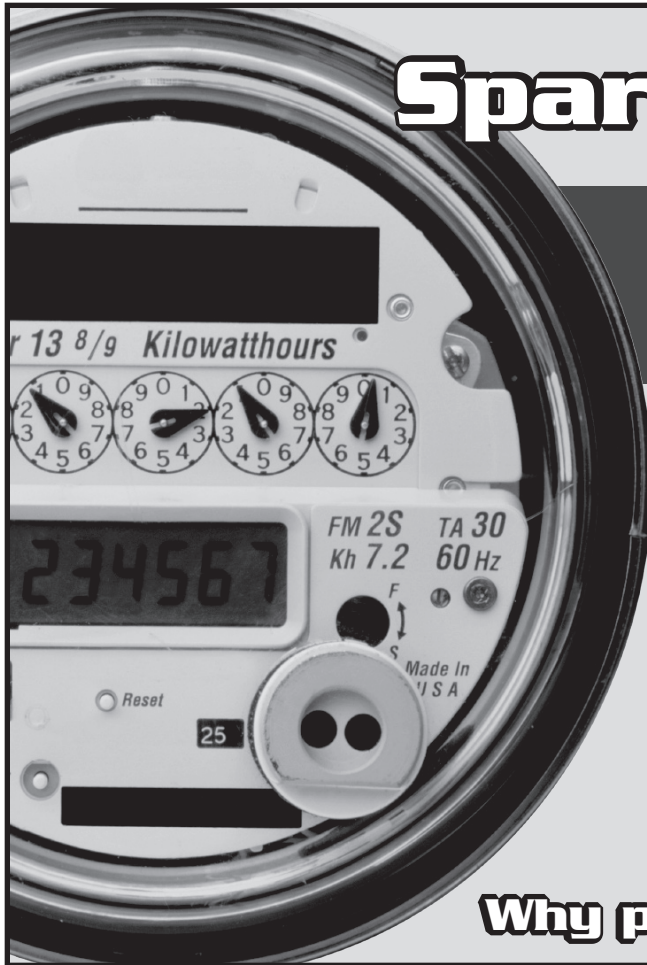
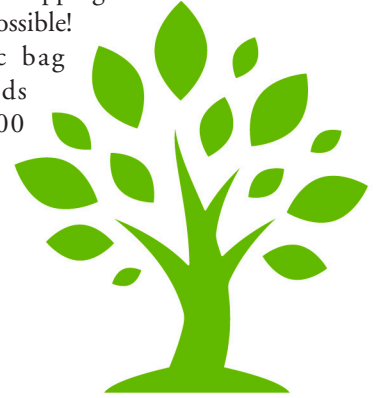
### Here are Some Helpful Tips for Reusing Your Old Plastic Bags:

- Use plastic bags instead of expensive filler when packing.
- Use bags as trash can liners.
- Use them to pick up animal waste.
- Create art—plastic bag crochet patterns are available online.
- Cut the bags to make bibs or aprons.

### Also Keep in Mind, to Reduce Your Usage Through:

- Only taking a bag when you really need it.
- Utilizing reusable bags when shopping.
- Packing the bags as full as possible!

Keep in mind, a plastic bag can hold up to 17 pounds of product – nearly 2,000 times its own weight.



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# The Village Gazette

## Welcome New Neighbors!

*Village Creek would like to welcome new residents to our community!*

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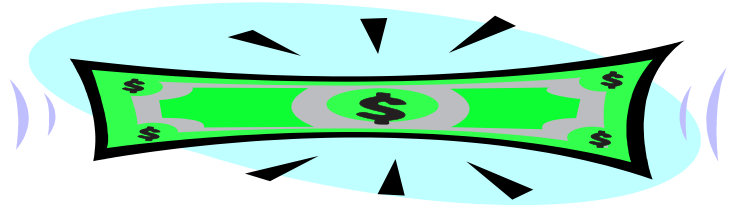
JOHN J MCGINNIS  
12818 MOSSY LEDGE DR

GORDON & SHERRY WATSON  
17502 DAYS DAWN DR

AUSTIN CLARK  
17207 EAGLE LEDGE LN

## A Sensible Plan for College Funding

*Submitted by Rich Keith*



As a parent, you may feel a moral obligation to fund your children's education, but you don't want to sacrifice your current lifestyle or rob your future retirement in order to fund education costs. Well, to make funding both their education and your retirement a non-issue, you must consider how to:

- Maximize your cash flow so that you can invest funds in education and retirement accounts. This includes both reducing debt and lowering expenses.
- Utilize the numerous education tax incentives provided by the IRS to reduce taxes and produce so-called "tax scholarships" for your family.
- Qualify for merit and need-based financial aid offered by colleges

If you can maximize the benefits produced by the above strategies, you may not have to compromise your education and retirement goals. Historically, we see that college costs have risen at 2 to 3 times the inflation rate of the Consumer Price Index. And college really costs you more than you think because it is paid with after-tax dollars. Depending on which tax bracket you are in, the amount you must earn to pay for college is a good deal more because you must first pay the IRS...before you pay the college.

How old will you be when your last child graduates from college? Assume that you are 45 years old and you plan to retire in 20 years and that a public college costs \$60,000 for 4 years. You take the money out of your retirement savings today. The money you give to a public college for four years will cost your retirement fund about \$280,000 at an 8% return. Elite colleges cost more, but there is a hidden benefit which we will get to later. And remember, these numbers are for just one child's college education.

Clearly this presents a funding dilemma shared by parents everywhere: how to fund college and retirement? Experts agree there are two methods to make this work:

The first method is by using your money through: (A) paying out of your current income, (B) paying with withdrawals from your savings accounts, or (C) borrowing. Most people use some combination of all three. The second method is to use money from others. This comes in the following forms: (A) financial aid, (B) by using special education tax strategies, (C) gifts from relatives, or (D) your child's resources (his/her income and assets). We will explore this topic in future columns, how to make a sensible, methodical plan for funding college expenses.

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# Real Estate Market Report

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<b>Avg Price/sq.ft.</b>	\$80.95	\$81.87	\$75.66
<b>Avg DOM</b>	79	72	87
<b>High Price/sq.ft.</b>			\$91.59
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\*Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008, 3/2009

# The Village Gazette



## Texas Events - August

- 1—BAYTOWN:** Grape Stomp @ Yepez Vineyard Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Yepez Vineyard, 12739 F.M. 2354. [www.yepezvineyard.com](http://www.yepezvineyard.com) 281/573-4139 or 281/804-3401
- 1—KEMAH:** Salsa on the Boardwalk Enjoy great food and the exotic sounds of salsa and Latin jazz. Kemah Boardwalk. [www.kemahboardwalk.com](http://www.kemahboardwalk.com) 281/334-9880
- 1—ORANGE:** OCARC Fishing Tournament (Began Jul. 31.) 409/886-1363
- 1-2—SOUTH PADRE ISLAND:** 70th Texas International Fishing Tournament Offers fun for all anglers of all ages. (Began Jul. 29.) [www.tift.org](http://www.tift.org) 956/943-8438
- 1-2, 7-9—BAYTOWN:** Disney's Beauty & the Beast Lee College Performing Arts Center, 200 Lee Drive. [www.baytown.littletheater.org](http://www.baytown.littletheater.org) 281/424-7617
- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29—CORPUS CHRISTI:** Live Music Bay Cruise Captain Clark's Flagship. E-mail: [CaptClarksFlagship@worldnet.att.net](mailto:CaptClarksFlagship@worldnet.att.net) 361/884-8306
- 2—PALACIOS:** Shrimporree 361/972-2664
- 2—SANTA FE:** Czech Festival Music provided by the Accordion Cowboy. Begins at 1 p.m. Haak Winery, 6310 Ave. T. [www.haakwine.com](http://www.haakwine.com) 409/925-1401
- 2—VICTORIA:** Our Lady of Sorrows Jamaica Community Center. 361/575-2293
- 5, 12—ORANGE:** Wild Wednesdays at Shangri La Offers a series of classes presented by Shangri La's summer scholars to educate the public about the natural world. Topics include invasive plants, spiders, snakes and Shangri la History. Shangri La Botanical Gardens. [www.shangrila.gardens.org](http://www.shangrila.gardens.org) 409/670-9113
- 6-9—PORT ARANSAS:** Texas Legends Billfish Tournament Boats may leave from any Texas port. Activities include the captain's party, memorial dinner and awards brunch. [www.txlegends.com](http://www.txlegends.com) 281/474-4000
- 7—TOMBALL:** Tomball Night Includes bands, vendor booths, lighted parades and fireworks. [www.tomballchamber.org](http://www.tomballchamber.org) 281/351-7222
- 7-9—BEAUMONT:** Beaumont Cruise & Hot Summer Nites Shine up the rims, polish the windows and have a blast in Southeast Texas. [www.firemuseumoftexas.org](http://www.firemuseumoftexas.org) 409/769-7599
- 7-9—SOUTH PADRE ISLAND:** 28th Annual Ladies Kingfish Tournament More than 250 women are expected to compete in this boat tournament. Includes bay and offshore divisions. [www.spichamber.com](http://www.spichamber.com) 956/761-4412
- 7-9, 14-16, 21-23—WHARTON:** My Fair Lady Henry Higgins falls in love with Eliza Doolittle in this triumphant show about a cranky linguistics professor's efforts to turn a Cockney flower girl into something like a lady. The Plaza Theatre. [www.whartonplazatheatre.org](http://www.whartonplazatheatre.org) 979/282-2970
- 7, 14—ROSENBERG:** Hot Summer Concerts Performers include Karaoke Night on Aug. 7 and Mofo Party Band closing the series on Aug. 14. Begins at 7 p.m. Third Street Park. 832/595-3525
- 8—CORPUS CHRISTI:** Howl at the Full Moon Cruise Get a spectacular view of the full moon over Corpus Christi Bay. Peoples Street T-Head. [www.HarborFerry.net](http://www.HarborFerry.net) 361/438-2667
- 8—HOUSTON:** Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra Features Latin/adult contemporary/world music. House of Blues. [www.hob.com/venues/clubvenues/houston](http://www.hob.com/venues/clubvenues/houston) 888/402-5837
- 8—PALACIOS:** Family Fishing Tournament 361/972-2615
- 8—PALACIOS:** Market Day 361/972-2615
- 12—SAN BENITO:** El Second Weensdee Enjoy an oral history series on conjunto music. Begins at 7 p.m. The Narciso Martinez Cultural Art Center, 225 E. Stenger St. [www.cityofsanbenito.com](http://www.cityofsanbenito.com) 956/399-0110
- 14—HOUSTON:** Bats on the Bayou Observe the emergence of approximately 250,000 bats from Waugh Street Bridge. The 90-minute guided tour is guaranteed to be both mesmerizing and informative. Meet at Allen's Landing. [www.buffalobayou.org](http://www.buffalobayou.org) 713/752-0314 ext. 4
- 14-16—HOUSTON:** Bayou City Inspirational Film Festival Showcases positive, educational and inspirational film and video projects from around the world. Includes seminars, workshops, networking events, film screenings, youth spotlights and much more. [www.bciff.com](http://www.bciff.com) 281/204-7219
- 14-16—ROSENBERG:** 35th Annual Festival of Glass & Antique Show & Sale Preview is 2 to 7 p.m. Friday. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. [www.houstonglassclub.org](http://www.houstonglassclub.org) 281/342-4876 or 713/729-4267

(Continued on Page 11)



# The Village Gazette

## Texas Events - (Continued from Page 10)

- 15—SAN BENITO:** Market Day & Farmer's Market Enjoy live music and arts & crafts at this open-air bazaar. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Plaza de San Benito. [www.cityofsanbenito.com](http://www.cityofsanbenito.com) 956/361-3804 ext. 304
- 15-16—PORT NECHES:** Trade Day on the Avenue Includes antiques, collectibles, decor, entertainment, food and music. Port Neches Avenue. 409/722-4023
- 20-Oct. 8—NASSAU BAY:** Flotsam & Jetsam Artists respond to Hurricane Ike in this open juried show. The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake. [www.taaccl.org](http://www.taaccl.org) 281/335-7777
- 21—HOUSTON:** A Tribute to the Big Band Era Features original works by Conrad Johnson Youth Orchestra, Young Adult Orchestra and the Conrad Johnson Jazz Heritage Orchestra. Miller Outdoor Theatre. [www.milleroutdoortheatre.com](http://www.milleroutdoortheatre.com) 281/373-3386
- 22—BEAUMONT:** Downtown Jazz Fest The streets of historic downtown will be filled with the soulful sounds of Lou Ann Barton, Dean James, Jimmy Simmons, Billy McCormic, Dwayne Hildreth Band, The Greyhounds, Marion Meadows, Jack Edery and many others. [www.beaumont-tx-complex.com](http://www.beaumont-tx-complex.com) 409/838-3435 ext. 1
- 22—HOUSTON:** Keeping the Music Alive Concert event pays tribute to popular recording artists Marvin Gaye and Donnie

Hathaway. Miller Outdoor Theatre. [www.milleroutdoortheatre.com](http://www.milleroutdoortheatre.com) 281/373-3386

- 22—SOUTH PADRE ISLAND:** USA Surf 'n' Turf Adventure Race Puts two-person teams through a multi-sport challenge including biking, running and some water paddling. Mystery events are also included. [www.unlimitedsportsadventures.com](http://www.unlimitedsportsadventures.com) 956/350-4247
- 23—SANTA FE:** Greek Festival Begins at 1 p.m. Haak Winery, 6310 Ave T. [www.haakwine.com](http://www.haakwine.com) 409/925-1401
- 24-Oct. 25—PORT ARTHUR:** Rauschenberg Tribute Exhibition The competition is open to artists who are 18 years or older and whose work is inspired by and/or reflective of Robert Rauschenberg. Museum of the . [www.museumofthegulfcoast.org](http://www.museumofthegulfcoast.org) 409/982-7000
- 28-29—HOUSTON:** The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart Sung by the Houston Ebony Opera. Miller Outdoor Theatre. [www.milleroutdoortheatre.com](http://www.milleroutdoortheatre.com) 281/373-3386

*Texas Events has been published with the permission of the Texas Department of Transportation. All events are taken in part from the Texas Events Calendar. All dates for events were correct at the time of publication and are subject to change.*

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