

Volume 11, Issue 1 January 2011

### 3 STEPS TO Kick-Start Your Career in 2011

By Amy Wolfgang, M.Ed.



It's a new year and many of us spend this time evaluating different aspects of our lives: our health, our finances, and our career. Below are the 3 most important actions you can take to kick-start your career in 2011!

#### **IDENTIFY YOUR CAREER GOALS**

Before you can begin to make changes in your career, you need to identify what you are looking to change. Identify a few career goals that you want to achieve in 2011. Sample goals include:

- Develop new skills in a particular area
- Make a lateral move at your company
- Earn a promotion
- Start a new job in a different industry

Once you know what you want to achieve you can begin the work to make those changes happen.

Action Item: Write down your career goals for 2011. This does not need to be a formal document, but write them down on paper or type them into a document.

#### **GET YOUR RESUME IN SHAPE**

When was the last time you updated your resume? For some it was years ago when they last applied to a job. For others, it was only a few months ago. Regardless of when you viewed your resume last, now is the time to review it and make sure it includes all of your latest accomplishments.

#### Look at the bullet points on your resume and ask yourself the following questions:

- Do they describe your responsibilities or do they focus on results? A good resume focuses on what you accomplished rather than the tasks that filled your day.
- Is your resume attractive to read or is it too dense with information? Sometimes it can be hard to edit your own work.

We feel a personal connection to what we have accomplished and we should, however, we do not need to include every accomplishment for every position we have ever held.

Action Items: Review the bullet points on your resume and make sure your accomplishments jump out. Then make sure your resume is easy to read. Ask others to help you decide what you should and should not keep on your resume.

#### **DEVELOP CONNECTIONS**

Finding a new job typically takes more than just applying for a position on a website. You need to tap into the hidden job market by making connections with other

professionals. These connections can often help get your resume on top of the pile in front of the hiring manager. Additionally, knowing people at the company you are applying to can help you understand the culture better and the type of individuals that succeed at that company. Developing relationships now will help you in the future, even if you are happy at your current job.

Are you already using professional social networking sites? Great. Are you utilizing them effectively? Have you recently added connections to your sites? Have you joined all relevant groups on the sites?

Professional social networking sites are an important tool to use in a tech-savvy town like Austin, Texas. Once you are connected virtually, it's time to start making an effort to connect with people in your network. Take them to coffee or schedule a phone conversation. You want individuals to keep you in the front of their mind for when an opportunity comes up. Remember, part of developing relationships is reciprocating. It's a two way street. Think about how you can help the individual you are connecting with and offer that help.

Action Items: Join professional social networking sites and "invite" those you know to join your network. Then search for good contacts to have personal meetings and conversations with.

In a tight job market, you need every advantage you can get. These actions will give you a leg up and lead to a great career in 2011!

#### **Important Numbers**

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Cy-Woods High School281-213-1919							
Cypress Lakes Golf Club281-304-8515							
Cypress Mill M.U.D. #1, (24 Hour Emergency) 281-374-8989							
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Centerpoint Energy Gas713-659-2111							
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713-207-2222							
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Constable Ron Hickman (24 Hour Emergency)							
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Newsletter Publisher

#### **Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for the newsletters is the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please email articles to: *cypressmill@peelinc.com* 

Remember: The Speed Limit throughout Cypress Mill is 30 MPH!

#### **MUD Board of Directors**

The District is governed by the Board of Directors, consisting of five directors, who have control over and management supervision of all affairs of the District. All of the Directors reside in the District.

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http://www.cypresshillmud1.com/contact/index.html



#### Just a Reminder



Please be considerate and pick up after your dog when you are out for a walk including the walking trails by the retention ponds.

It is illegal to sweep grass clippings and trash into the drains. Please report violators at 713-525-2525.



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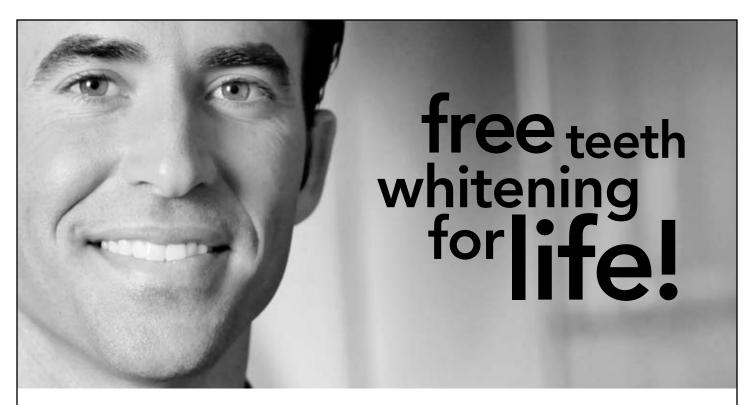
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#### **CY-FAIR ISD & VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

#### "iVolunteer"

"iVolunteer"! Do you? Or a better question would be "Do you want to volunteer?" And if the answer is "yes" or even "maybe", here's the perfect group for you. VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) in Cy-Fair ISD center the attention of their service on supporting students and staff and making a significant contribution to the education of children. These dedicated individuals, who give freely of their time and resources, impact the academic and personal development of Cy-Fair ISD students. Cypress-Fairbanks ISD is fortunate to be able to draw from a diversity of skills and knowledge in its community.

The district VIPS Executive Board spearheads the business of the VIPS. This board is comprised of volunteers elected to take on specific responsibilities offering support, guidance, and training to all volunteers in the district. The VIPS Executive Board meets monthly to evaluate and address the needs of the district and distribute information relating to volunteer and community activities and strengthen parental involvement in education.

If you are interested in being involved 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.

#### January 2010 Upcoming Events

- January 11 Sooper Puppy Training 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center. Sooper Puppy is a first grade class series dealing with age appropriate life lessons, facing dilemmas and arriving at solutions by making good choices.
- January 13 VIPS General Meeting 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center. Open to all CFISD volunteers, parents, staff and community members. Get the latest information on CFISD volunteering and learn through networking!
- January 14 PIE Student Mentor Training 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center. Training for individuals committed to serve as a role model and friend to CFISD students weekly during school hours on school campuses. Along with this two hour training, an application and criminal background check are required.
- January 25 Junior Achievement Volunteer Training

   9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Berry Center. The purpose of Junior Achievement is to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise, understand business and economics, and be workforce ready.





#### **SOUNDS OF CYPRESS BAND**

Wanted! A Few Good Musicians!

The Sounds of Cypress Band, formerly known as the Cy-Fair Community Band, is producing beautiful sounds, having fun as a group, and seeking new members who just love to play music. So dust off your musical instrument and come out for practice on Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at the Lone Star College College-CyFair campus in the Fine Arts Building.

The Cy-Fair Community Band was initiated about three years ago, with approximately five or six musicians coming together to explore their common interest in music and their enjoyment of playing together. They have grown to 33 members who just love to play music and share their talents for the enjoyment they get from playing. They have evolved into an accomplished group of band

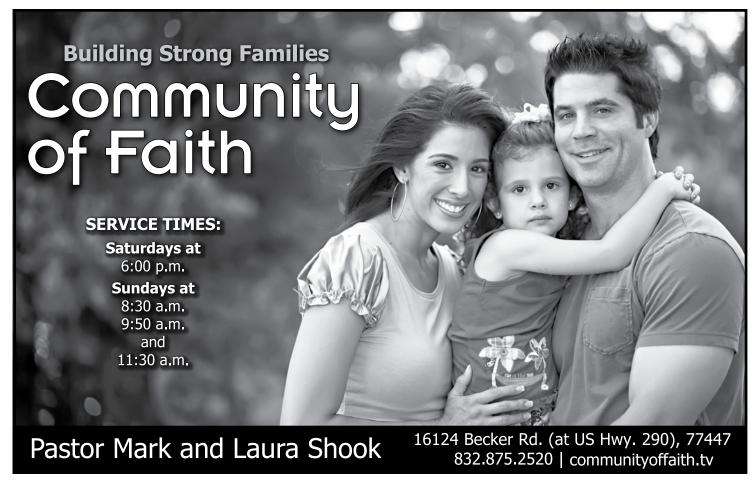
members and have recently changed their name to Sounds of Cypress. DeeDee Flores is director of group. By day she is a band director at Plummer Middle School. Her ability has led the group to develop polished performances which they are anxious to share.

This accomplished group is ready to perform for group events. They have a great programme of musical selections. Also, they can tailor their selections to the interests age of your group. Children, teens, and adults will enjoy the music of the Sounds of Cypress Band. For more information, email the director, DeeDee Flores at ddftex@aol.com or call her at 713-410-8051.

#### YOUR UNWANTED BOOKS

If you throw out your paperbacks, please give me a call and let me pick them up, if they are in good condition. We spread them around to people who can't buy for themselves (homeless shelters, prison ministry, etc.). Hardbacks and kid's books are welcomed, as well. Thanks! Please call Deanna at (281)-373-4477.





#### **Cypress Ranch Athletic Booster Club Presents** The 3rd Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser **LONGWOOD GOLF CLUB** o \$500 per foursome\* o Hole-in-one prizes o Closest-to-pin prizes o Beat the coach contest Saturday April 16, 2011 o Putting contest o Silent auction Registration 11:30 a.m. o Dinner (after tournament) Shotgun Start 1:30 p.m. \* If a foursome enters before March 16, 2011, each player from Get your entry form at: that foursome will be entered in a Special Prize Drawing!! www.cypressranchmustangs.com If you or your company would like to be a hole sponsor, or if you need further information, please contact **BOB MCINNERNEY** (713) 906-6747



Pre-K3 through eighth grade 6646 Addicks Satsuma Rd.

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#### CYPRESS MILL

## Rosehill Christian School Participates in Operation Christmas Child

Elementary students in grades K through 5 from Rosehill Christian School participated in Operation Christmas Child and donated 199 shoeboxes of gifts to be shipped to the needy children of Haiti. Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, a Christian organization run by Franklin Graham, the son of Evangelist Billy Graham. Their goal is to provide spiritual and physical aid to hurting people throughout the world. Operation Christmas Child is a program that allows the community a tangible way to help the needy children around the world. The shoeboxes were filled with new toys, school supplies, candy and a personal note. Rosehill Christian School had a goal of 155 boxes, one for each student enrolled in elementary school at RCS. Through the generosity of the students and parents, that goal was surpassed by over 40 shoeboxes. "I am constantly reminded that no child is too small to do the work of the Lord!" stated fifth grade teacher, Christie Newell. Middle school English teacher, Katie Davila, and her husband, Noe, graciously loaded up all 199 shoeboxes and dropped them off at Lifeway – a drop site for Operation Christmas Child. Newell was very pleased with the response of the students and acknowledged that this service project was "a wonderful opportunity to teach our young kids how to reach out to kids their own age who get nothing for Christmas". Rosehill Christian School is located at 19830 FM 2920 in Tomball, Texas.







#### **CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB**

Come join us at the CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB and be a part of sponsoring children's activities that develop leadership and good citizenship in the youth of our community. CHILDREN PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club sponsors nine Key Clubs in the Cy-Fair High Schools; supports the Cerebral Palsy SIRE group, Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Sea Scout troops and activities; provides scholarships to outstanding Key Club members in our district; assists at Cypress Assistance Ministries, Bear Creek Ministries; the Houston Food Bank; and other charitable groups. Membership 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 programs it promotes, we invite you to be our guest at one of our monthly meetings. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis meet at Hearthstone Country Club on the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 12:15 for lunch and informative programs. For more information, call John Carroll (Copperfield and Hearthstone areas) at 281-463-0373; George Crowl (Jersey Village area) at 832-467-1998; or Peggy Presnell (Fairfield and CyRanch) at 281-304-7127. If you live anywhere in the Cy-Fair Communities, you may call any one of the above for information. COME, BE A PART OF OUR FELLOWSHIP. See www.kiwanishoustoncyfair.com for more information.



## Cy-Woods FFA Booster Club 1st Annual Spring Craft Show

CFISD TELGE EXHIBIT CENTER
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SUNDAY APRIL 10TH - 10:00 - 4:00

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#### **NW HARRIS COUNTY AGGIE MOMS CLUB EVENTS**

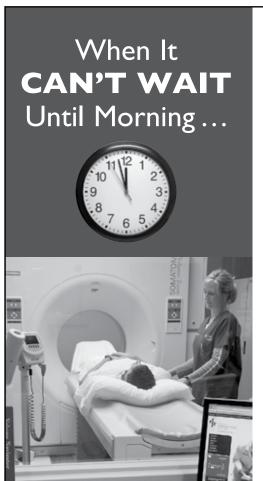
#### Meeting - Tuesday, Jan 11, 2011

Get your 2011 year off to a great start with the Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club! All new, current, and former Aggie Moms are invited to join us to hear an awesome motivational speaker, Jim Bob Solsbery. Jim Bob is a former Aggie, class of '67, who is both a comedian and motivational speaker. He is the author of a book entitled, Humor is an Attitude: Sometimes You Just Have to Laugh Your Way Out. Mr. Solsbery has spent the last 30 years as a business owner, entrepreneur, educator, professional trainer, and served as the Executive Director for U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jim Bob is the recipient of the National Association of Humor Writers Award and he speaks to groups across the nation about keeping a positive attitude and a healthy sense of humor. Please invite your husbands and Aggie students to join us for a night of humor and get your year off to a great start!

Our meeting will be held at the Houston Distributing Center conveniently located near Willowbrook Mall at the corner of Cutten Road and 7100 High Life Drive. Please join us there Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 7 pm for refreshments and fellowship with other Aggie Moms. Listen to an excellent speaker, learn more about upcoming Aggie Mom events, explore gift items in our Aggie Boutique, win door prizes and book money for your student, and learn more about upcoming scholarship opportunities. For more information about NWHC Aggie Mom events, check out our website at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org or contact Vickie Hamley at 713-466-4494.

#### Accepting Scholarship Applications - Deadline Feb 7th

The time for submitting Aggie student scholarship applications to the NWHC Aggie Mom's Club is fast approaching! They are now accepting Scholarship Applications for the 2010-2011 school year. Last year 6 scholarships totaling \$6750 were awarded to area Aggie students. Complete applications and eligibility requirements are available at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org and also at the general meetings. The application must be postmarked no later than Monday, Feb. 7th, 2011. Parents do not have to be a member of the organization in order for their students to apply.



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#### **U.S. Track Olympian**

#### to Speak at Northwest Flyers Track Club Registration Breakfast on Feb. 5th

The Northwest Flyers Track Club will host its annual free information / registration breakfast on Saturday, February 5, 2011, for all boys, girls and their parents who are interested in joining for the 2011 track season. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM 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 2011 spring/summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches, 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 (ages 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 and 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 275 members, boys and girls. The club was founded 24 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.

visit the team website at http:// www.northwestflyers.org or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette. roach@sbcglobal.net.





#### Calling All **Houston NW** Kappa Kappa Gamma Alums!



Come join your fellow Kappas this New Year at our annual Silver Auction Luncheon

#### January 15, 2011 at 11am.

Please RSVP by January 12th.

For more information on this or future events & membership please contact Natalie Bunton at gnat02@gmail.com or 832-717-3294.





#### The Tri-County Quilt Guild

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

Meeting Place: Fairfield Baptist Church 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. Visitors welcome!

Please check out our website for more information.

#### **American Business** Women's Association

Cy-Fair Express Network (CYFEN)

**EVENT:** Cy-Fair Express Network Monthly Networking

Luncheon

**WHEN:** January 27, 2011 **TIME:** 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

WHERE: Houston National Golf Club

16500 Houston National Blvd

Houston, TX 77095

#### **NETWORKING AND BUSINESS LUNCHEON**

Cy-Fair Express Network invites you to their monthly meeting and luncheon. Bring plenty of business cards for networking. Please make reservations online by January 21 @ www.cyfen.org or call Darlene Hajduk @ 713-939-9730.

We are now accepting sponsorship and vendor registration for the 2011 Cy-Fair Women's Expo on April 28, 2011. More information @ www. cyfen.org. Our mission is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition.



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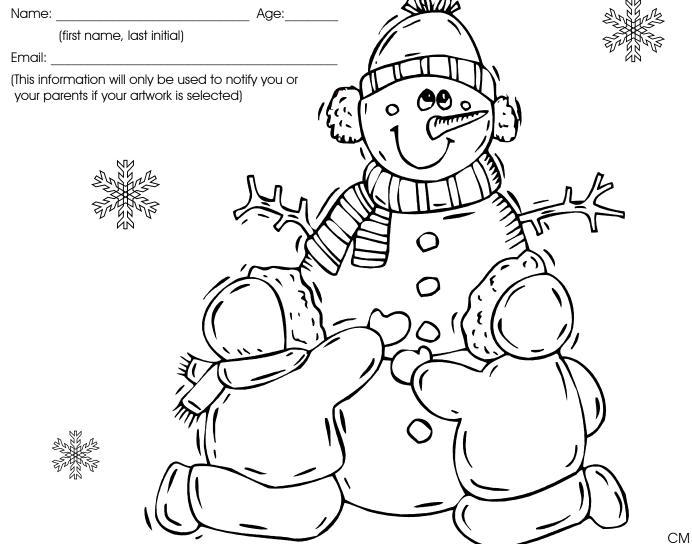
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We will select the top few and post their artwork online at www.PEELinc.com. DUE: January 31st

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!



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\$500,000 and above	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
\$176,000\$200,000	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
\$151,00\$175,000	2	1	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
\$141,000\$150,000	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	0
\$121,000\$140,000	3	3	2	3	4	1	1	2	3	3
\$101,000\$120,000	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
\$100,000 and below	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8	7	5	11	6	4	5	2	4	3
Highest \$/sq ft	\$70.57	\$77.72	\$75.74	\$77.09	\$84.71	\$73.16	\$68.41	\$70.66	\$74.85	\$70.77

This information is taken from the Houston Multiple Listing Service

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