

# The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

March 2011

Volume 6, Issue 3

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

## Cy-fair Residents To Perform In Houston Repertoire Ballet's Spring Concert, *Along Side American Ballet Theatre Stars Jared Matthews & Yuriko Kajiya*



*Jared Matthews and Yuriko Kajiya of  
American Ballet Theatre in Romeo and Juliet*

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## Stone Gate Gators Swim Team

We would like to invite all young swimmers to come join us for the 2011 spring season. Registration is March 5th-6th from 1-5:00 PM, and late registration on April 6th from 6-9:00 PM. Our 1st practice will begin on April 18th. We practice 4- times weekly, and have (5) inter-divisional meets and 1-final end of season Divisional contest. Registration is open to all of the following subdivisions; Stone Gate, Riata Ranch, Canyon Lakes, Canyon Lakes Villages, Canyon Lakes West, Copper Grove, Copper Lakes, Copper Stone, Copper Village, and Wheatstone.

So bring your kids out for some fun, competitive swimming, as well as meet new friends, (for children ages 6-18). This is a great place to take your child beyond the "water-safe" swim level, with a very low cost.

Please look for a download of our registration information on our website; [www.stonegators.org](http://www.stonegators.org).

## Volunteers Needed!

If you would like to volunteer in your neighborhood please go to [www.riataranch.net](http://www.riataranch.net) and go to contact us. Without volunteers many of our special functions we hold for our neighborhood cannot take place. The next event is the BBQ event which needs many volunteers. Unless we have some the event might not take place.



**Sat, April 9, 2011, 7am – 2pm**

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY

Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Fire Department.....	281-855-1110
Cy-Fair Medical Center.....	281-890-4285
Memorial City Hospital.....	713-932-3000
Poison Control.....	800-222-1222

### SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD.....	281-897-4000
Posta Elementary.....	281-345-3660
Spillane Middle.....	281-216-1645
Cy-Fair High.....	281-897-4600
Cy-Falls High.....	281-856-1000
Cy-Woods High.....	281-213-1800
Cy-Fair College.....	281-290-3200

### UTILITIES

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Comcast Cable/High Speed Internet..	713-341-1000
Waste Mgt.....	713-686-6666
HOA, SCS Mgt.....	281-463-1777
United States Post Office.....	800-275-8777

### LIBRARY

Cy-Fair College Library.....	281-290-3210
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## NEWSLETTER INFO

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.....	888-687-6444
Advertising.....	advertising@Peelinc.com, 888-687-6444

### ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Want to submit a photo, article, or both? It's easy!! Email the editor at editor@riataranch.net. Articles for the newsletter are finalized on the 10th of the preceding month So if you get your ideas in before the deadline, you should see them in the very next month's newsletter.

We are glad to hear all of the positive feedback and we intend to continue to improving the look and feel of the newsletter according to what you tell us. So get as involved as you like! We look forward to hearing from you.

## HELLO FELLOW RIATA RANCH NEIGHBORS

Please take a look at the new RR website at [www.riataranch.net](http://www.riataranch.net). It has a new format and looks very nice. Here you will be able to get information on our community and any upcoming events and information regarding them. We also put a message board in the main entrance of RR to communicate any events or news as well. If you haven't seen the message board, take a drive and take a look.

## ARTICLES/IDEAS NEEDED

Do you have ideas for an article or story that you would like your Riata Ranch community to hear? If so, please go to <http://www.peelinc.com/> and go to the link to submit an article under the Residents tab.

### Riata Ranch Homeowners Meetings

The Riata Ranch HOA Board of Directors encourages all homeowners to participate in the monthly board meetings. The meeting is held on the last Tuesday of every month. If you are interested in participating please contact SCS management in order to add your topic to the meeting agenda.

[riatahoa@riataranch.net](mailto:riatahoa@riataranch.net)

or

Debbie Spaw

[dspaw@scsmgmt.com](mailto:dspaw@scsmgmt.com)

Association Manager

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Cy-Fair Residents to Perform - (Continued from Cover Page)

## Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB) Brings Collection Of Diverse Repertoire To The Berry Center In Their "Creation Of Dance"

The Houston Repertoire Ballet is excited to announce their Spring Performance *The Creation of Dance*, to be performed April 9-10 at the Berry Center in Cypress, TX. Featuring three original works and Act III of La Bayadere, *The Creation of Dance* takes the audience through the evolution of dance beginning with classical ballet to contemporary ballet and modern dance. Along with exceptional dancing and beautiful costumes, audiences of all ages will enjoy the musical score to accompany the ballets, which consists of Gershwin, Ravel, Minkus and Phillip Glass. Houston Repertoire Ballet will give 2 full-length performances of *The Creation of Dance*. There will be an educational session for children offered as part of our Arts & Education program that will take place 30 minutes prior to the show on April 10. To purchase tickets to HRB's Spring Ballet or for more information on our Arts & Education program call 281-861-0199 or visit [www.hrbdance.org](http://www.hrbdance.org). Ticket prices range from \$15-\$18.

### THE CREATION OF DANCE

*La Bayadere "Kingdom of the Shades"*: This beautiful and classical ballet was originally choreographed by Marius Petipa in 1877 and was set in the legendary India. The Kingdom of the Shades scene from Act III relates hallucinatory dreams of a noble warrior being reunited with his lost love. The scene begins with 24 dancers in white costumes slowly making their way on to the stage creating a somber tone. In addition, audiences will enjoy guest artists Jared Matthews and Yuriko Kajiya performing the lead roles in one of the most celebrated excerpts in classical ballet.

(Continued on Page 4)

## SECTIONS 6 AND 7!

Good news we are in the process of selecting a vendor to replace our gates. As all of us are quite aware our gates are run down and in dire need for replacement. Coming soon you will see the removal of the current gates and them being replaced with new ones. Timeframe is still to be determined. If you have any comments or questions please go to our website of [www.riataranch.net](http://www.riataranch.net) and go to contact us.

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# Riata Ranch

## Cy-Fair Residents to Perform - (Continued from Page 3)

**Rhapsody in Blue:** Set to the popular Gershwin score, this contemporary ballet is a lighthearted and fun piece that features many different characters whose personalities are conveyed through the unique movement vocabulary. This new ballet was choreographed by Kristy Nilsson, a former member of HRB, who is now a dance instructor and choreographer in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Il Duomo:** Inspired by the beautiful stained-glass windows of the Il Duomo Cathedral in Milan, Italy, this modern ballet piece uses color and the music of Phillip Glass to create a peaceful tone and transports its viewers to the cathedrals of Italy. This piece was choreographed in 2005 by Houston Repertoire Ballet's artistic director Victoria Vittum and will be recreated this year and performed by HRB's Junior Company.

**Romeo and Juliet:** Guest artists Jared Matthews and Yuriko Kajiya from the American Ballet Theatre will perform a romantic pas de deux from Romeo and Juliet. Matthews and Kajiya are soloists with the American Ballet Theatre and are the rising stars in the world-renowned company. HRB is thrilled to bring back Matthews, a former member of the Houston Repertoire Ballet and Kajiya as guest artists to perform the pas de deux from two classical ballets.

**Bolero:** This exciting new ballet by Victoria Vittum was inspired by Maurice Ravel's climactic score Bolero. Featuring bright costumes, this Spanish-style piece begins with 18 dancers on stage who perform one-by-one in succession. This contemporary ballet builds up

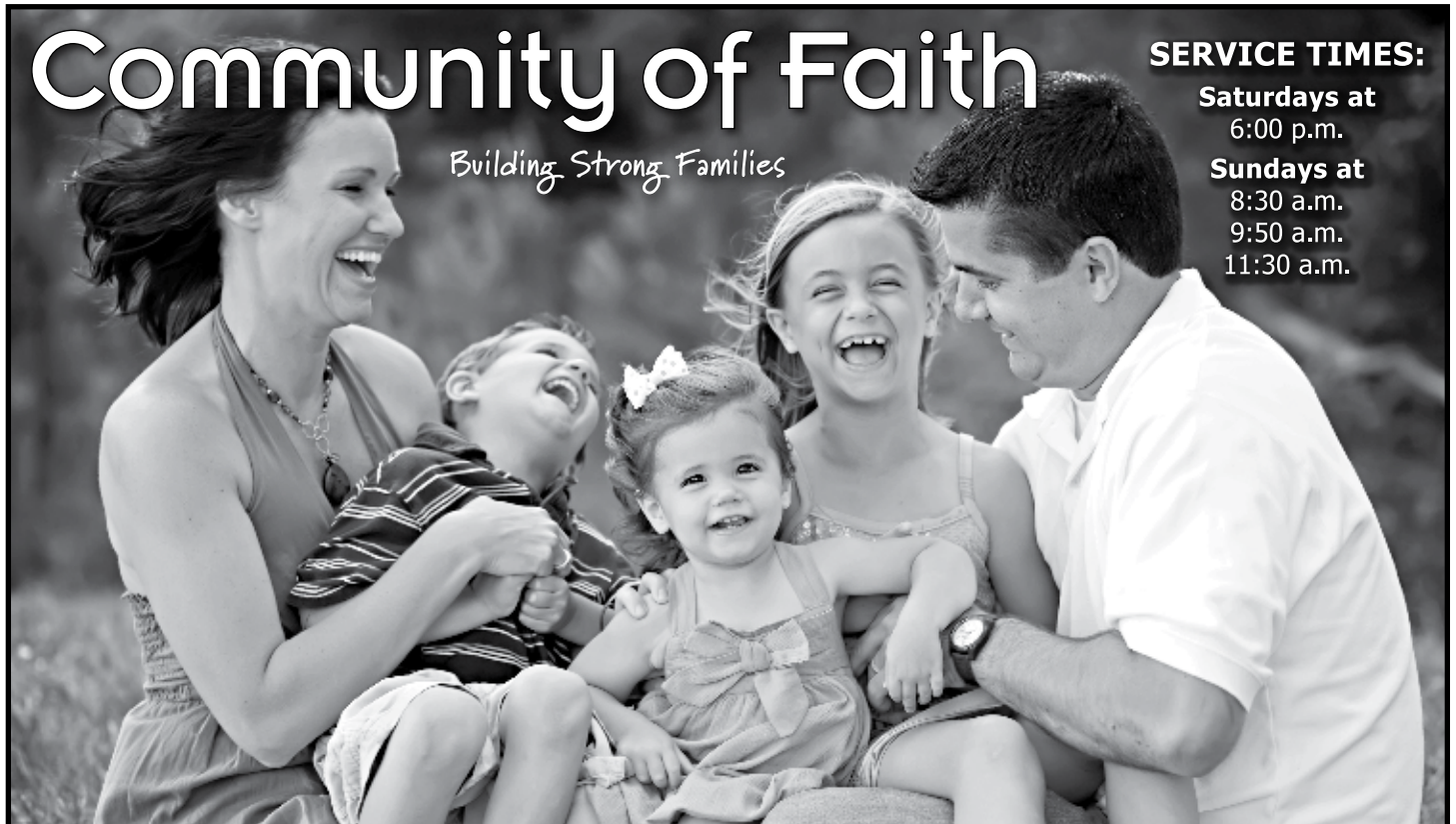
anticipation throughout, creating a provocative tone that culminates in an exciting finish.

## HRB SPRING CONCERT SHOWCASES CY-FAIR'S RISING YOUNG TALENT

This season's Spring Concert will showcase the 41 members of the HRB Company. These company members are all students of the Ballet Center of Houston and are residents of the Cy-Fair community. Among the 41 company members are four senior members who will perform lead roles in their last performance with HRB. Various ballet companies and universities have already shown interest in these talented seniors who will surely be added to HRB's impressive group of alumni. In addition, the members of HRB have the wonderful opportunity to perform with American Ballet Theater professionals Jared Matthews and Yuriko Kajiya.

Tickets for **The Creation of Dance** may be purchased on-line at [www.hrbdance.org](http://www.hrbdance.org) or by calling HRB at 281-861-0199. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors/students. Major funding for HRB is provided by the Houston Endowment inc. ConocoPhillips Company and Statoil. The HRB Spring Concert is funded in part by grants from Harris County and the Texas Commission on the Arts through the Houston Arts Alliance. Arts in Education School Outreach Programs are generously sponsored by Target.

(Continued on Page 5)



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## Cy-Fair Residents to Perform - (Continued from Page 4)

HRB is a non-profit civic organization dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in the art of classical ballet. HRB dancers have gone on to dance professionally with the New York City Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Walt Disney World, Texas Ballet Theater, American Ballet Theater (ABT), and Dayton Ballet. Artistic director is Victoria Vittum, a nationally recognized teacher and choreographer. She has been a faculty member of the Houston Ballet Academy and served as Resident Choreographer for the Gwinnett Ballet Theater, in Atlanta. She is the recipient of a Choreography Fellowship awarded by the Cultural Arts Council of Houston and the Texas Commission for the Arts.

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*More information on the EWG, as well as the full list of fruits and vegetables ranked, can be found at <http://www.ewg.org>.*



## TIPS FOR MASTERING THE FARMERS' MARKET

*By Melanie Dragger, M.Com.*

Many people are taking steps to improve their health and the environment by eating organically grown and raised foods. While some people are selecting organic items at their local grocery store, farmers' markets are becoming increasingly popular. Over the past year, according to the Department of Agriculture, the number of farmers' markets in the U.S. increased by 858, or 16 percent, from 5,274 in 2009 to 6,132 in 2010. When the USDA first began tracking farmers' markets in 1994, there were only 1,755 markets.

Outside of growing your own produce and raising your own livestock, shopping at a farmers' market is the best way to obtain fresh, local, and seasonal fruits, vegetables, and herbs, as well as farm-fresh eggs, meat, poultry, and dairy products. Many farmers' markets also offer artisan breads, honey, and seasonal jams, jellies, and preserves.

### **Below are tips to help you master your local farmers' market:**

1. Do Your Research – Before heading to the market, research what produce is in season in your area. Since all products sold at a farmer's market may not be organic, and some organic products sold may not be certified, familiarize yourself with the organic certification process and product labeling. Information on the USDA's National Organic Program can be found at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>.
2. Bring Your Own Containers – While some

vendors have bags and boxes available for customers, bringing your own containers is the best way to ensure you will be able to transport and protect your purchases properly. Additionally, recycling containers helps the environment by reducing the number of natural resources used to produce new ones.

3. Bring Cash – Swing by your bank or ATM before hitting the farmers' market. Most vendors do not accept checks or credit cards. Bring small bills, since it may be difficult for some vendors to make change.
4. Go Early or Go Late – The best items usually go first, so try to get to the market early. However, before making a purchase, take a quick trip down the aisles, since prices can vary greatly among vendors. If you can't make it to the market when it first opens, go at the end of the market day to catch deals from vendors trying to unload their remaining products.
5. Speak with Vendors – Shopping at a farmers' market allows you an opportunity to speak directly with growers and farmers. Not familiar with Swiss chard? Looking for a new way to prepare eggplant? Most vendors love to share their knowledge, including discussing their production methods, providing storage and transportation advice, and sharing recipes and cooking tips.

Buying organic products at your local farmers' market offers numerous benefits, including boosting the local economy, reducing the amount

of toxic chemicals that enter your body and the environment, and decreasing the amount of fossil fuels used to transport products to consumers. However, organic products can be more expensive than conventionally grown and raised products, and some organic products may be difficult to find in some areas. If going 100% organic is not feasible, use the following list as a guide. According to the 2010 report of the Environmental Working Group, a non-profit organization specializing in research and advocacy related to public health and the environment, these 12 fruits and vegetables consistently contained the highest amount of pesticides when conventionally grown, and should be consumed in organic form when possible:

1. Celery
2. Peaches
3. Strawberries
4. Apples
5. Blueberries (domestic)
6. Nectarines
7. Sweet Bell Peppers
8. Spinach
9. Cherries
10. Kale/Collard Greens
11. Potatoes
12. Grapes (imported)

The EWG's annual ranking of produce pesticide contamination is based on its analysis of tests conducted by the USDA and the federal Food and Drug Administration. More information on the EWG, as well as the full list of fruits and vegetables ranked, can be found at <http://www.ewg.org>.

## Foundation for Foreign Study

Families from all over the Houston area are opening up their homes and lives to foreign exchange students through the EF Foundation for Foreign Study.

EF Foundation is a leader in high school foreign exchange, bringing more students to the United States than any other exchange program. A nonprofit committed to promoting global awareness for over 30 years; EF Foundation leverages a committed network of local coordinators to connect thousands of students with caring American families each year.

EF exchange students come from more than 30 countries around the world and are between the ages of 15 and 18. The majority of students stay for a full high school year. In the past, exchange students have come to live in Texas from as far away as Germany, Hong Kong, Australia and Norway, to name a few.

I am an International Exchange Coordinator for EF Foundation. I will be working with the community to secure host families for a number of students this year.

In order to raise awareness of this life-changing opportunity, we need the community to see local narratives of the wonderful families and students who have had unforgettable experiences through the program.

### CHECK OUT OUR INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS!

- <http://vimeo.com/1154826>
- <http://vimeo.com/10247951>
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLldRF-4x04&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLldRF-4x04&feature=player_embedded)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSFCbQFCT5k&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSFCbQFCT5k&feature=player_embedded)

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any inquiries, as we would be happy to work with you.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Tausworthe  
EF Foundation for Foreign Study  
713-203-6556  
jenn423124@aol.com  
www.effoundation.org



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### *How You Can Help Our Soldiers...*

By donating your old cell phones and/or accessories, you not only eliminate electronic waste, you help our deployed troops stay in touch with their loved ones. Your old cell phones and cell phone accessories (gladly accepted, but not required) are recycled and their recycled value is used to purchase calling cards for our deployed soldiers.

### *How You Can Help Our Earth...*

Approximately half of the phones collected will be reused – considered the ultimate form of recycling. Functional phones are reconditioned and reprogrammed before being sold to wholesalers from more than 40 countries. Phones that cannot be resold are dismantled and recycled. It's easy to protect the planet and our environment by simply collecting obsolete cell phones and recycling them.



- The average person upgrades their phone every 16 months.
- An estimated 130 million phones will be retired this year in the United States.
- Approx. 202,000 ounces of gold could be recovered if these phones

had been recycled.

### *Call to Action...*

Bring your old cell phone(s) and/or cell phone accessories to Post Net located at 12320 Barker Cypress Road #600 Cypress, TX 77429 in the Randall's parking and deposit them in the collection box now through January 31st. Cub Scout Pack 438, in conjunction with Cell Phones for Soldiers, will take care of the rest. If you have questions, please contact Beth Patterson at 281-304-6036 or [bethpatterson@gmail.com](mailto:bethpatterson@gmail.com). For your donation receipt, please visit [http://cellphonesforsoldiers.com/media\\_docs/CPFS\\_Donation\\_Reciept.pdf](http://cellphonesforsoldiers.com/media_docs/CPFS_Donation_Reciept.pdf).

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## The M.A.N.E. Event – Mustang Stampede 2011 1K & 5K Fun Run

The M.A.N.E. Event will host its first annual Mustang Stampede on Saturday, April 9th. The Fun Run will be located at the Bridgeland Activity Center and will start at 8AM. Children and adults can participate in either the 1K or 5K run. Early registration fee for adults is \$25 and for children and students the fee is \$15. It's a great event for the entire family, so come and join the fun. All proceeds and donations go to support the 1st graduating class of seniors at Cypress Ranch High School. The M.A.N.E. Event is a non-profit organization sponsoring a drug and alcohol free after-prom event for the Cy-Ranch senior class.

Visit our website to register at [www.sites.google.com/site/mustangstampede2011](http://www.sites.google.com/site/mustangstampede2011) or email us at: [mustangstampede@gmail.com](mailto:mustangstampede@gmail.com)

## April 2011 Craft Show

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website: [www.cywoodsffa.org](http://www.cywoodsffa.org)

### Classified Ads

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**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales @ 512-263-9181 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

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## Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club Information Sessions

THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 7TH, 2011 AND  
FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 22ND, 2011

The Northwest Flyers Track Club will host 2 open house/ registration sessions for all middle and high school athletes and their parents interested in joining for the 2011 season. The events will be held on **Thursday, April 7, and Friday, April 22, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM** in the **Cypress Room at the Methodist Willowbrook Hospital**, 18220 Tomball Parkway, Houston, at the corner of FM 1960 and Highway 249. The sessions will begin with a very important program overview/orientation at 7:00 PM. All interested athletes and parents should report on time.

The Northwest Flyers is a youth (ages 6 -18) track organization, affiliated with USA Track & Field. The club provides a full program of “track” events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance, relays and “field” events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and javelin. **It is an excellent “off-season” program for young athletes who currently compete on their middle school or high school varsity track teams.**

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. Last year the Northwest Flyers qualified 36 young athletes to compete at the US Junior Olympics National Championships in Sacramento, California.

Visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org> for registration forms and information prior to the sessions, or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or [linette.roach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:linette.roach@sbcglobal.net).





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