

June 2011 Volume 2, Issue 5

# MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Fanice Morris

LOR conducted its annual meeting in April. There were three positions whose terms were expiring. The three Board members whose term was expiring all placed their name on the ballot for reelection and the ballots were sent to the residents of LOR. After a tally of all ballots received, the three Board members were re-elected for a second term of two years. The re-elected Board members are Richard Murphy, David Westmoreland, and Janice Morris. Details of LOR's current budget as well as a presentation by ACC member Mark Riordan were also covered. The Board appreciates everyone's vote and participation at the annual meeting, and we will continue to work to make LOR the best place to live as it can be.

Dry conditions and no rain are presenting more than just high water bills for LOR residents. From a safety perspective, the lack of rain is causing the local population of snakes to come into our yards in search of water. The snakes like to nest under low lying plants that provide cover all the way down to the ground level. You and your pets may be a risk of getting bitten if you are not cautious. My own pet cocker spaniel was bitten by a snake on his nose, believed to be a copperhead, and had to be rushed to the veterinarian for treatment. PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS and educate your children about the potential danger in their own backyard and avoiding contact with the snakes. Types of snakes that I have personally seen in our yard are the copperhead (venomous) and the diamondback water snake (non-venomous), garter snake (non-venomous), and ribbon snake (non-venomous). Of those snakes, both the diamondback water snake and copperhead should always be avoided. Though non-venomous, the diamondback water snake is a very aggressive snake with a particularly mean disposition that will inflict a nasty bite that will still require immediate medical attention.

Another problem with the lack of rain that affects LOR is our lakes and our ability to keep the lake levels above the seals. After discussion with our contractor Steve Arrington of Lake Pro about the lake water levels, he responded with the following information:

"On average lakes in the Houston area lose around 14" of water per month due to evaporation. This drought has put a strain on the lakelevels here recently. We will try our best to keep the lake levels up. Keep in mind that the HOA only gets to use 4.6 MG of water total from the two wells in aggregate. As of April 30th we have used 3.1 million gallons from the wells since the beginning of the permit term. The permit term ends 8-31-2011. We only have 1.5 million gallons left and it has to last until 8-31-11."

There are things that the Board can do such as amend the permits with Harris County, but it will come at a cost of \$1.75 per 1000 gallons pumped. We can also purchase ground water certificates that will allow us to pump water, but that rate will range from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per 1000 gallons pumped. Also, the cost of the ground water certificates is not yet known. The Board is bringing this to your attention because we clearly have some decisions to make about our water usage and what we need to do going forward. Our lack of funds in the budget will clearly be a determining factor in what we will be able to do. This is a current action item with the Board that we will be working to resolve. In the meantime, you may witness the lake levels dropping. This does not mean that the Board is not addressing its responsibilities for the common areas; rather we may have to make some water sacrifices until we are able to pump. Something that you can do during this drought is to educate your children to stay out of the

(Continued on Page 3)

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281-890-4285
713-439-6260
. 1-800-275-8777
713-207-2222
713-686-6666
anmor58@att.net
, 1-888-687-6444

## **COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Janice MorrisPresident
16606 Rose Trail · Cypress, TX · 77429
Mark RiordanVice President
17318 E. Blooming Rose Ct. · Cypress, TX · 77429
David Westmoreland Secretary
16002 Drifting Rose Circle · Cypress, TX · 77429
Mike FinkeTreasurer
16033 Drifting Rose Circle · Cypress, TX · 77429
Richard MurphyDirector at Large
16602 Rose Trail · Cypress, TX · 77429

To contact the Board, email Board@lakesofrosehill.com

#### **ACC MEMBERS**

Mark Riordan, Donny Morris and David Westmoreland

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#### Message From President - (Cont from Cover Pg)

lakes and not wade by walking on the seals that support the retaining walls. The seals can be compromised and damaged if walked on, which will be another very expensive repair that LOR simply does not have the funds to address.

After working with an engineering firm to develop a scope of work, the job of erosion repair was sent out for bids to multiple qualified contractors and ultimately awarded to Champions Hydro-Lawn. The engineering study included a survey of the affected area as well as a hydrology study to calculate water flows and its impact on the canal. The repair work began the week of May 2 with the process including a clean-up of the eroded area, re-grading of the slope in the affected area, fortification of the soil with clay, compaction of the fortified clay/soil, positioning of geo-textile fabric, and placement of rip-rap. The Board approached this work in a very methodical manner with the goal being a permanent repair.

As a final note, everyone needs to be aware that a large portion of Skinner Road has been adopted by Harris County and is no longer private. What this means to you is that law enforcement will be able to issue violations under the law that they witness. This would include moving violations as well as GOLF CARTS on public roads. There are a number of children that routinely take their golf carts to the different lakes to fish. Please be advised that doing so may come at a price in the form of a ticket. The Board would like to wish you all a safe and wonderful summer season as well as safe travels if you are vacationing.

#### American Business Women's Association Cy-Fair Express Network (CYFEN)

Event: Cy-Fair Express Network Monthly

Networking Luncheon

When: June 23, 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 June 17 @ www.cyfen.org or call Darlene Hajduk @ 713-939-9730.

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.



## CRIMSON CADETTE DRILL TEAM DANCE CLINIC

- Cypress Woods High School
- 16925 Spring Cypress Rd.
- 8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

The Cy-woods Crimson Cadettes Drill Team will host their 6th annual dance clinic for K-12 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on August 10-12. This is a major fund-raiser for the team and enables them to participate in activities throughout the 2011-2012 school year. The fee is \$55 and includes dance technique, specially choreographed routines for each age group, a t-shirt, drinks and snacks each day and a picture for each participant. Showoffs will be held the last day at 11:30 a.m. For more information email **goodsonms@comcast.net** or check out our website at **www.crimsoncadettes.com.** On the website, you will find a sign-up form and a link to PayPal for easy payment.

## **BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS**

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## **CY-RANCH HIGH SCHOOL**

If your son/daughter will be attending CyRanch High School next school year and you are not currently on our email list, please email us at cypressranchvips@gmail.com and let us know that you'd like to be on our list and tell us what grade(s) your child(ren) will be in.

See ya down at the Ranch,

VIPS Coordinator



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### **MEET NATHAN**

What is life like today for a typical ten year old boy? Skateboards, bicycles, computer games, school with kids he has known since he started kinder garden, neighborhood friends to hang out with, parents that make him clean his room and take a bath on a regular basis, but are always there for him; grandparents that spoil him? For a child in the foster care system, many of these things are missing. And those are the most important, namely the relationships with family and long term friends that tend to build trust and security that help the child develop a strong sense of self and build on self-esteem.

Meet Nathan, an active 10 year old child in foster care. He loves the Texas Longhorns and is a talented football and basketball player. He enjoys school, has lots of friends and is always respectful to his teacher. Nathan has so much potential for the future and in finding his forever home, he is destined to reach all of it!!

Stability of loving relationships and predictability in a safe environment are essential elements to help each child reach their potential. Finding a "Forever Family" for a child like Nathan is critical to his continued growth and development. As long as kids like Nathan remain in the foster care system, they always have the mindset that tomorrow may mean another foster home, another school, another set of parents to adjust to. Could you help Nathan or other children like him to gain the trust and security that comes with having a permanent family?

Adopting a child from the foster care system requires little or no cost to the adoptive family and funding may be available to help the adoptive family support the child or sibling group.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Berka, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, Adoption Coalition of Texas at



512-450-8750 or email at stephanieberka@ adopttexas.org

To learn more about the adoption process and the Adoption Coalition of Texas, please call Bruce Thompson at 512-301-2825 or visit our website at http://www.adoptioncoalitiontx.org



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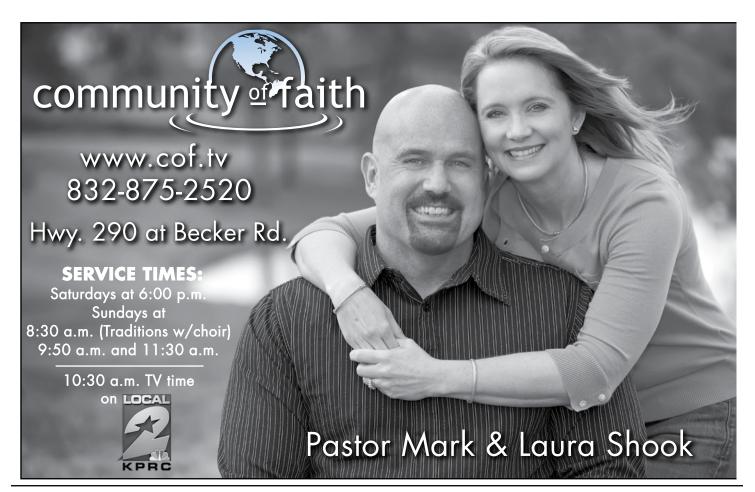
## **SUMMER MIXERS FOR NEW AGGIE MOMS - 2011**



The Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club will be hosting "Summer Mixers" for new Aggie Moms throughout the northwest Harris County region. The NWHC Aggie Mom's organization provides an opportunity to meet other Aggie Moms, provides valuable information about Texas A&M University, and funds scholarships for Aggie students and on campus student organizations at Texas A&M. If you are a new or current Aggie Mom, we welcome you to join us at one of the following locations in your area. Please RSVP to Judy Thompson at 281.798.4312 or Tish Otten at 832.722.5983 so our hostesses know how many people to expect. We look forward to meeting you!

Monday, June 21, 2011 – 7 pm (Lakewood Oaks Estate Area) Alicia Collins, Hostess 13510 Cahill Lane, Cypress 77429 Saturday, June 25, 2011 – 2 pm (Lakewood Forest Area) Tish Otten, Hostess 13114 Chriswood, Cypress 77429 Sunday, June 26th, 2011 – 2 pm (Spring Area) Mary Holub, Hostess 18419 Falling Oak Way, Spring 77379 Thursday, July 7th, 2011 – 7 pm (Tomball Area) Jo Miller King, Hostess 11918 Mariposa Canyon Drive, Tomball 77377 Sunday, July 10th, 2011 – 2 pm (Copperfield Area) Judy Thompson, Hostess 7519 Wisteria Ridge Ct., Houston 77095 Thursday, July 14th, 2011 – 7 pm (Jersey Village Area) Denise Jungels, Hostess

8529 Wyndham Village Drive, Houston 77040



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## **COMMUNITY CHANGES LIVES**

By Sarah S. Jordan, MS

In late April, I was fortunate enough to be a small part of an incredible event in my neighborhood called "BBQ4JD." The theme on the back of the event t-shirts read "Community Changes Lives," and I don't think any other words could have summed it up better than those three words did.

What I witnessed was a large community coming together to support a child and family with love, donations, many hugs, and ongoing prayers. I could not believe how many people, children, volunteers, and businesses came out to contribute their time, energy, and love to the event. It definitely showed the true colors and generosity of the neighborhood and the wonderful people that live there.

We moved there almost two years ago, and I have to say that I feel very fortunate to be part of such a great community. Through family time at the pool on weekends, attending business networking meetings, offering free women and stroller fitness classes, attending

holiday events, and volunteering at a few things, great connections have been made and a large community feels much smaller to me.

This got me thinking... what are some ways that we can all get more plugged into our own neighborhoods? Here are some great ways to do just that.

#### **VOLUNTEER**

Communities put on so many great events throughout the year, and there are always volunteer opportunities and ways to get more involved.

#### **DONATE**

If you own a business or have a product that could be helpful to an event or silent auction, donate your time and/or an auction item. As they say, you have to give in order to receive, and there is so much to be gained in the spirit of giving to others. I cannot tell you how many incredible people I have

been fortunate enough to meet through the giving of my time and services.

## READ THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH

A great deal of time and energy is spent in creating those newsletters, and they are a great way to stay updated on what is happening around you and to connect with the members, events, and local businesses in your community.

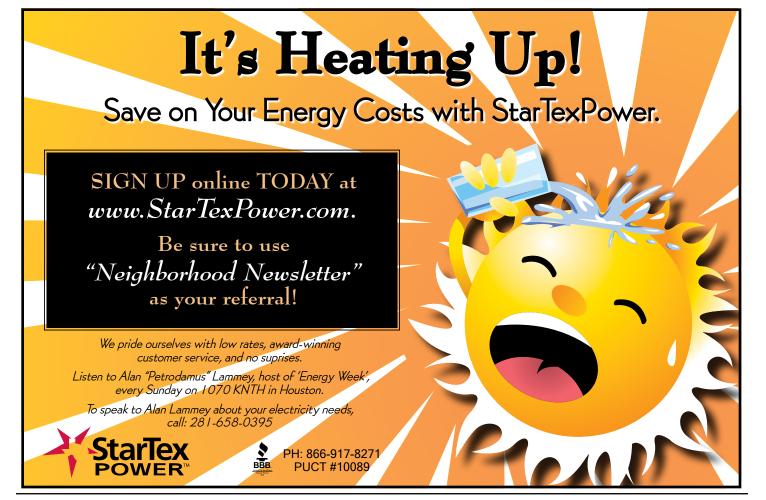
#### **GET MOVING TOGETHER**

Start a running or walking group. Plan a fun run/walk for parents and their children in your area to promote being active.

## FIND PEOPLE WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS,

and join or form a group, whether that is a book club, moms group, or businessnetworking group. So much is gained from partnerships and networking.

(Continued on Page 10)



Community Changes Lives - (Continued from Page 9)

#### WELCOME NEWCOMERS

Within a day or two of moving in, one of my neighbors had already showered us with free ice cream coupons to his shop. And other neighbors had already given us their cell phone numbers in case we needed anything. A little bit goes a long ways in making people feel welcome.

#### PLAN A POTLUCK FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS ON YOUR STREET ONCE A YEAR Food + Families = Fun!

What ever you find to work for you and your family in getting involved, may you find immeasurable enjoyment from your efforts. Community really does change lives.





Photos courtesy of Sarah and Jessica from MilesofSmilesPhotography.com.

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The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

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## **CY-RANCH CLASSICS GOLF TOURNAMENT**

#### Wednesday, June 15, 2011

#### **Longwood Golf Club**

(13300 Longwood Trace Cypress, Texas 77429)

Please join the Cy-Ranch High School Classics Parent Club as they host the Cy-Ranch Classics Golf Tournament on Wednesday, June 15, 2011. The tournament will be a four-man scramble which will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a shotgun start. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Cy-Ranch High School Classics Drill Team. All entry forms MUST be turned in to Amy and Warren Janak by June 3, 2011!

#### Tournament Registration & Check-In will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Individual ~ \$125 Foursome ~ \$500 (Entry Fee Includes: Green fees, cart, range balls, shirt, goodie bag, lunch, and silent & live auction opportunity.)

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