

May 2013

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS CREEK LAKES

Volume 2, Issue 5

Drowning Is Preventable

The Texas weather is warming up. Summer is almost here. Pools will soon open and the cool water will be calling your name. You can almost hear your kids laughing and the playing in the pool. Your family deserves to have many Best Day Ever moments in the water this summer. Please do not let those moments be ruined by the sound of a life guard whistle blast or the need to do CPR in order to save your child's life. Most families love a trip to the swimming pool, the lake or the beach during the summer... but the water can be deadly for a child.

Did you know that drowning is a leading cause of accidental death for children between the ages of 1 and 14, with kids under the age of 5 at even higher risk?

Colin Holst's parents did not know either. Sadly, June 13th marks the 5 year anniversary of his drowning in a public, lifeguarded pool in Austin. Since Colin's drowning in 2008, Central Texas-based Colin's Hope has become a nonprofit leader in water safety and drowning prevention.

My name is Alissa Magrum and I am the Executive Director of Colin's Hope. But I am also a parent to 8 year old Ella. So, from one parent to another, please listen to this message. It is simple but filled with purpose: DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE. YOU can help protect your children. Following a series of simple water safety tips creates multiple layers of protection. These layers WILL keep children safer in and around the water and CAN prevent drownings.

THE FIRST 3 OF THESE TIPS ARE KEY.

Practice constant visual supervision. Always assign an adult "water guardian" whose ONLY responsibility is to watch children who are in, near and around the water. If that water guardian needs to take a break, they must transfer their "watching" duty to another adult.

Learn to swim. Enroll children (and adults too) in formal swim classes. For kids under the age of 4, taking formal swim lessons reduces the risk of drowning by 88%.

Wear life jackets. Children who cannot swim should ALWAYS wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket when in and around the water.

You can see additional tips, as well as more information on water safety and drowning prevention, on our website at www.colinshope.org..

Each year, Colin's Hope volunteers stuff and distribute 75,000 water safety packets to families in zip codes that have been targeted due to the high number of near drownings and drownings in recent years. This life saving information along with a Peel Inc. ad campaign, a Reagan National Adverstising billboard campaign and a presence at many community events is helping to raise water safety awareness to prevent children from drowning.

WE ALSO NEED YOUR HELP. PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION with family, friends, neighbors, teachers, babysitters... everyone! We have seen the difference that being aware and being prepared can make. Communities that have received our water safety information in prior years have seen child drownings and near drownings in their areas reduced to zero!

Please visit www.colinshope.org to find out how you can get involved in your own community. Find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, subscribe to our monthly newsletter or even support our efforts with a donation.

We envision a world where children do not drown. Please share that vision and together we will get there.

Wishing you the SAFEST AND BEST SUMMER EVER, Alissa Magrum Executive Director, Colin's Hope

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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Constable
Sheriff - Non-emergency
 Burglary & Theft
- Auto Theft
- Auto Theft
- Child Abuse713-529-4216 - Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence713-967-5743
- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence713-967-5743
- Runaway Unit
Poison Control
Traffic Light Issues713-881-3210

SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD Administration	281-897-4000
Cypress Fairbanks ISD Transportation	281-897-4380
Warner Elementary	281-213-1650
Smith Middle School	281-213-1010
Cy-Ranch High School	281-373-2300

UTILITIES

CenterPoint Energy	713-659-2111
Reliant Energy	713-207-2222
Water - Severn Trent	
Waste Management - Trash	713-686-6666

OTHER NUMBERS

Animal Control	
Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center	
Harris County Health Department	713-439-6260
Post Office	
Harris County Public Library	
Cy-Fair Hospital	
North Cypress Medical Center	832-912-3500

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Advertising advertising@	PEELinc.com, 1-888-687-6444

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ARTICLE INFO

The *Tribune* is mailed monthly to all Cypress Creek Lake residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to *cypresscreeklakes@peelinc.com*. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.



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SNAKE BITES A CONCERN AS WEATHER WARMS UP

Warmer weather coaxes snakes out of hiding, and it's important to know what to do after a snake bite, according to a medical toxicologist at Baylor College of Medicine (www.bcm.edu).

"Many people don't realize how much of an issue snake bites are in this area of the country," said Dr. Spencer Greene, director of medical toxicology and assistant professor of medicine – emergency medicine at BCM. "In fact, our regional poison center reported 235 snake bites – including 148 from known venomous snakes in the Houston area in 2012, and I am sure many more are going unreported".

According to Greene, the first step is avoidance.

"Never reach into a hole or a bush blindly, a snake may be resting there," he said. "It is also important to maintain an appropriate distance from a snake. Most pit vipers, which include rattlesnakes, copperheads and water moccasins, can strike at a target up to twothirds of their body length when provoked."

If you are bitten by a snake, Greene suggests the following important steps:

- Stay calm.
- Call 911 immediately to be evaluated.
- Take off anything that is constricting the affected area, such as a ring or watch.
- Position the affected area at or above heart level. This means that if you are bitten on the hand, bring it to heart level, and if you're bitten on the leg or foot, elevate it if possible. This minimizes the amount of local tissue damage and swelling, which is the most common finding in pit viper bites.
- Go to the emergency room the sooner the better. Greene also dispels several myths about treating snake bites and suggests heeding the following advice:
- Do not apply a tourniquet or a constriction band.
- Do not apply ice; it can cause local tissue damage.
- Do not apply heat.
- Don't cut the affected area and attempt to suck the venom out
 - this increases the amount of local tissue damage.

- Don't use a commercially-available extraction device. These have also shown to be ineffective in removing venom and actually increase the amount of tissue damage.
- Don't use electrical therapy.
- Don't apply any type of lotions or ointments.

The management of snake bites has changed over the years and the newer type of anti-venom has proven to be very effective in reducing pain, bleeding complications, swelling and tissue damage, Greene says. Although anti-venom has been shown to have the maximum effectiveness within the first 12 hours of the bite, it can still be effective a few days after the bite.

At the hospital, physicians will determine if anti-venom and hospital admission is necessary.

"Ideally, patients should be evaluated by a medical toxicologist with experience in managing snake bites," Greene says.

If a patient requires anti-venom, he or she usually spends one or two days in the hospital. After hospital discharge, patients will need to follow up twice a week for two weeks to watch for any signs of recurrent toxicity.





SPECTATOR

CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB

PLAY GOLF with the Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club: MAY - annual Golf Tournament at the Hearthstone Country Club! Bring your own team or we will team you up with other players.

You do not have to be a Kiwanis member to play in or sponsor a team in the Golf Tournament. We welcome any who wish to participate. Businesses are encouraged to sponsor teams for their organization. It,Äôs good publicity to have your clients know you support activities that return all profits to the community through projects that support our youth and others in need. Play will be at the Hearthstone Country Club. For information, call Aaron Mackey at 281-865-2663.

The Kiwanis Kids Triathlon will be one of only 6 triathlon Citywide events this year and will be held at Langham Creek YWCA. Events include swimming, running, and bicycling and begin at 8 a.m. Registration information will be given out at the schools and can be found in the newspaper and community newsletters. All children 6 years through 12 years of age are invited to participate.

The Cy-Lakes Key Club was chartered in February by the Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club, sponsor. Congratulations to these outstanding students. They have a charter membership of 169 students!

Attention, graduating seniors! It's time to get your applications in for Kiwanis college scholarships. Information should be available from your sponsors by the time this newsletter is published. We look forward to rewarding the outstanding service and academic achievements of our Key Club members.

Wouldn't you like to be a part of this organization that assists in these activities that promote good citizenship and leadership in our youth? We invite you to a complimentary lunch to hear more about the children's activities we sponsor. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club sponsors nine Key Clubs in the Cy-Fair Schools; Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Sea Scout troops and activities; we provide scholarships to outstanding Key Club members in our district; and support other family oriented groups such as Cypress Assistance Ministries and Bear Creek Ministries; the Houston Food Bank; and many other nonprofit organizations. CHILDREN PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide.

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 Peggy Presnell at 281-304-7127; John Carroll at 281-463-0373 or George Crowl at 832-467-1998.

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NORTHWEST HARRIS COUNTY AGGIE MOM'S CLUB

nwhcaggiemoms.org

Calling all Aggie Moms! Please join us Tuesday, May 14, 2013, at 7 pm. We meet at the Houston Distributing Center conveniently located where Cutten meets SH 249 at the corner of Cutten Road and 7100 High Life Drive.

All meetings are open to Aggies, future, present or past. We provide light refreshments and you can shop our Boutique for that one-of-a-kind Aggie treasure. Our hand crafted items celebrate the heart warming TAMU traditions.

TAMU President Loftin was our March speaker. Next year November, Brigadier Joe Ramirez, Commandant of the Corp of Cadets will offer his help to students wanting to attend TAMU through this prestigious program.

New Aggie Mom? Are you sending off your first to Aggieland? Find out how we help your student succeed that first year at one of our informal Summer Mixers. Dates and locations on our website at www. nwhcaggiemoms.org.

Aggie Moms, as an organization, encourages parents to become familiar with A&M during their student's freshman year instead of waiting for graduation to visit as is the custom on other university campuses. The path to graduation can be a challenging journey; don't go it alone. Northwest Harris County Aggie Moms has been here for 25 years and we're committed to helping your student and YOU enjoy the TAMU experience.

The Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (August-May), at the Houston Distributing Company, 7100 High Life Drive and Cutten Road. Drop on by and say Howdy. We'll be darn glad you did! Feel free to contact Tish Otten, Club President at clubpres20122gmail.com.





Deputy Voter Registrar Training Available

at Cypress-Tomball Democrats Meeting

The Cypress-Tomball Democrats will offer Deputy Voter Registrar training during their Tuesday, May 21st meeting. It will be held at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Xavier Herrera, Manager of Outreach from the Harris County Tax Office, will conduct training for anyone interested in becoming a Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar.

All are welcome to attend and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month. For more information, visit the website at www.cytomdems.com or contact Glenn Etienne at cytomdems@yahoo.com.



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Food Safety Tips Help Prevent Food Poisoning

When getting together to cook for loved ones, the last thing you want is to get sick from the food you eat. Roberta Anding, a registered dietitian at Baylor College of Medicine, has a few tips to keep your food safe.

• Always use a meat thermometer to check if meat is fully cooked. The color of the meat can't determine the safety of the meat. All meat should be cooked to 165 degrees Fahrenheit.



- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly during food preparation.
- Wash all produce before cutting and chopping.
- Refrigerator leftovers within two hours.
- Use a thermometer when reheating food as well.
- Following these basic guidelines will ensure that the food you serve is safe to eat, said Anding.

TEXAS HOLD-EM TOURNAMENT

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DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE

COLIN'S HOPE WATER SAFETY TIPS AT WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG



May is Texas and National Water Safety Month

LAYERS OF PROTECTION

Ongoing: Volunteers needed to stuff and distribute water safey packets info@colinshope.org Ongoing: Colin's Hope Athlete Ambassadors needed! http://www.tinych.org/signup Now-June 18: Discount Schlitterbahn Tickets for sale. http://www.tinych.org/tickets May 18: Colin's Hope Got2Swim Pure Austin Quarry Lake. http://www.tinych.org/QuarryLake

Volunteer - Donate COLINSHOPE.ORG



Water Safety Alert: 74 Texas children drowned last year. Keep your children and families safe in, near and around all bodies of water. Multiple layers of protection can prevent drowning.

CONSTANT VISUAL SUPERVISION



KEEP BACKYARDS &

BATHROOMS SAFE

LEARN TO SWIM

LEARN CPR



MULTIPLE BARRIERS ON ALL POOLS & HOTTUBS



CHECK POOLS/HOTTUBS VISIT US 1ST FOR MISSING CHILDREN ONLINE

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ADOPTION COALITION OF TEXAS

Marcus

Marcus is a smart, funny and passionate young man. He is a thinker and a planner who likes to explore new ideas and gain knowledge. He likes to write and listen to rap music. Marcus craves acceptance and responds well to positive attention from adults. He is determined to have a bright future and works hard to reach his academic potential.

Marcus wants very much to be adopted so that he can have a family to love and support him in the future. His adoptive family needs to be nurturing, firm, patient and willing to provide him with much needed one-on-one attention. Marcus will do best in a family with older children and one with parents that can help build his self-esteem while encouraging him to discover his strengths and find his place in the world.

For more information on Marcus, please contact Stephanie Berka at the Adoption Coalition of Texas by email stephanieberka@adopttexas.org or by phone: 512-450-8750.



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