



CYPRESS MILL *Chronicle*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS MILL

August 2013

Volume 13, Issue 8

Two Families Receive Keys to New Habitat for Humanity Home

*Thrivent Financial and area churches support
affordable home construction*

Habitat for Humanity Northwest Harris County (Habitat NWHC) celebrates the construction of two more Habitat NWHC homes at a dedication ceremony on July 20, 2013 at 8:30am at Hamill Crossing, a completely designed and built Habitat NWHC neighborhood. The new homeowners, Katherine Garrett and Martha Turcios will thank all those who worked so hard to help them reach this goal and there will be an open house of the newly completed homes directly following.

Each Habitat for Humanity homeowner puts in what we call 'Sweat Equity' by working on the construction site to build their home alongside local volunteers. Ms. Garrett and Ms. Turcios were no exception and both put in well over the minimum of 350 Sweat Equity hours required by the program. They will both be closing on their homes the week following the dedication ceremony.

Ms. Garrett's home is unique because it was sponsored and built by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and area Lutheran churches. Sponsorship is the process by which a church, company or organization gives a financial donation that Habitat then uses to purchase the materials to build the house. This generosity helps increase Habitat's ability to build more homes in its ongoing effort to eliminate substandard housing here in Northwest Harris County.

Ms. Turcios is unique because upon closing on her home, she will be the oldest homeowner that Habitat NWHC has ever had. At 74 years of age Ms. Turcios has never owned her own home or even had her own bedroom. Ms. Turcios' home was also sponsored and built by area churches.

Ms. Turcios and Ms. Garrett worked hard and formed a warm relationship with the volunteers that helped build their homes and the end result is two beautiful homes that their families can enjoy for many years to come.

Through donations of money, materials and volunteer labor, Habitat NWHC was able to build the homes and sell them at an affordable price. Ms. Garrett and Ms. Turcios will purchase their homes with a no-profit loan, and their monthly mortgage payments will be used to build more Habitat houses.

"It has been exciting to get to know these two neighbors during the construction of their homes and the completion of the Habitat program. I was talking to Katherine [Garrett] just the other day about how amazing it is that all these people that didn't even know her before came out and worked so hard so that she and her family could have a decent place to live. It truly is an amazing and awe inspiring process." – Karly Grilliot, Habitat NWHC Development Manager

If your company, church or organization is interested in partnering with Habitat NWHC please contact Karly Grilliot at kgrilliot@habitatnwhc.org or at 281-477-0460

For more information please visit www.habitatnwhc.org



CYPRESS MILL

Important Numbers

Cy-Fair High School	281-897-4600
Cy-Woods High School.....	281-213-1919
Cypress Lakes Golf Club	281-304-8515
Cypress Mill M.U.D. #1, (24 Hour Emergency)	281-374-8989
Constable Ron Hickman, (24 Hour Emergency)	281-376-3472
DPS Sex Offenders website	http://records.txdps.state.tx.us/
Centerpoint Energy Gas.....	713-659-2111
Centerpoint Energy Gas-Emergency Gas Leaks.	713-659-3552
CenterPoint Energy.....	713-207-2222
Irrigation Leaks/Common Area Repairs - Principal Management	
Poison Control Center	800-764-7661
Principal Management	713-329-7100
Robison Elementary	281-213-1700
AT&T Repair Center	800-246-8464
Spillane Middle School.....	281-213-1645
Street Light Outages.....	713-207-2222
Comcast Cable.....	713-341-1000
Waste Corporation of America (WCA) Recycling.....	281-368-8397

Pipeline Company – Exxon Mobil.....
281-925-3816

Mowing of Pipeline easement; Standing water; Smells or leaks

Street Lights – Center Point Energy
713-207-2222

Damaged or Burned Out Street Lights

They will need 6-digit pole number when calling

Constable Ron Hickman (24 Hour Emergency)
281-376-3472

Harris County Road and Bridge
281-463-6300

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Newsletter Publisher

Articles..... cypressmill@peelinc.com

Peel, Inc. advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the newsletters is the 9th of each month.

Please email articles to: cypressmill@peelinc.com

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

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Messenger. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Cypress Mill residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 888-687-6444, advertising@PEELinc.com

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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Ms. Angell Swedlund, Treasurer

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

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How Key Club Changed My Life

*By: Nikki Carter
Cypress Woods Key Club Editor*

For my freshman and sophomore years, I was a part of Key Club. However, I use the word “part” very loosely. My friends were joining. It looked good on college applications. Sometimes we get fed at the events. It sounded appealing enough to me, so I joined. Why not, right? I went to the meetings and completed my hours on time, figuring that was all there was to it. At the end of my sophomore year, I applied to be a Junior Representative; I needed another leadership position to list for my National Honor Society application. I got the position with no idea that it would turn out to be one of the best developments of not only my high school career, but my life. It was after this promotion that I finally threw myself completely into the wonderful world of Key Club and figured out that it is so much more than a bullet point on a college application.

Volunteering is a strange concept to many. One gives of his own time and resources willingly to help someone else and expects nothing in return. In a society so focused on personal material growth, the motivation behind this is notion is confusing. However, one detail that is overlooked by those with a financial mindset is that the volunteer actually does get something in return. It sounds cliché, but the sense of worth that one gains after helping another is something that can't be bought or exchanged, and it makes one forget about and not mind not getting paid for his time. This is a fact that I have come to know throughout my time as a Key Clubber; the long, late hours of working concessions at sporting events and the impatient, frustrated parents of Jr. High cup stackers could never dampen my spirits enough to make me want to stop giving my time, because it's not about my own comfort at all.

Another aspect of volunteering that I haven't truly experienced anywhere else is the knowledge that no matter your race, gender, social circle, or past, you can always find a place to belong in Key Club. At my first DCON this past April, I was blown away by how friendly and accepting everybody was. The spirit of volunteering carries over easily into Key Clubbers' social interactions; we put others before ourselves. Making a first-timer like me feel welcome and comfortable at a giant convention like DCON was more important to seasoned attendees than sitting and talking with old friends. That's a hard thing for most high schoolers to do, and it demonstrates just how incredible the bond is between people who live their lives for others.

This organization is so much more than an extracurricular activity to those who truly pour their hearts and souls into it. Key Club has become a beacon of light in my own life by offering me countless opportunities to do the same in the lives of other people, which is, in itself, priceless.



SEND US YOUR **EVENT PICTURES**

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to cypressmill@peelinc.com. Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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CYPRESS MILL

Have Book. Will Donate.

By Gaurav Lalsinghani, Cypress Woods Key Club Representative Coordinator

The course of nature is in harmony during the summer months as the activities of Cypress Woods Key Club continue. Along with recruiting new and eager members, we have occupied ourselves with various donations, events, and socials. In order to encourage literacy and celebrate the wealth of reading, the Cypress Woods Key Club, along with several other Division 3N Key Clubs, will be collecting books, school supplies, and back-to-school necessities at summer Presidential Council Meetings and other various events to mitigate the worry of financially-struggling families.

I feel this project is significantly important for two major reasons. One being that it is unarguably aimed at celebrating and bolstering children. This is such a great cause in general, but it is also in accordance to the motto of Kiwanis International: Serving the Children of the World. This allows us to support the goals of our parent organization and thus our club itself. Furthermore, the donation drive encourages literacy and thus will teach the importance of reading to the children affected. Even more, this project will also teach them the importance of education in general.



Cypress Woods Key Club members organize books collected during their book drive. Photo by Dang Dinh.

Such a valuable outcome facilitates the success and progress of the leaders of tomorrow. Our simple donations are stepping stones for children who aim for a better future, wisdom wells for the students whose thirst for knowledge is infinite, and escapes for individuals dreaming of prosperous future. As Dr. Seuss said, "The more that you read, the more things you know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go."

In the course of these summer months, many books will be donated and will begin their journey to transform the lives of many children, eager to learn and prosper. And hopefully, these children will grow to transform the lives of even more people. A cycle as elegant as this could transform

the world undoubtedly for the better. The practicality and applicability of such an event are simple, allowing clubs across T-O to partner up with neighboring organizations and small businesses to reach out to the entire community. The efforts of Key Clubbers are the first steps towards such a future, and I encourage you to fervently imitate these steps in this positive direction for the sake of children everywhere.

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CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB

The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club meets 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 at 281-463-0373, George Cowl at 832-467-1998 or Peggy Presnell at 281-304-7127. We invite you to be our guest at one of the meetings and enjoy the fellowship of Kiwanians from your community as you learn about our organization.

The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club is actively seeking new members who are interested in giving service to improve our community and our world. Visit the Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club and learn about the projects in which its members participate to enrich and improve life for citizens in our community. We sponsor the Key Clubs in the Cy-Fair, Jersey Village, and Katy communities and work with them in service to the Cy-Fair area. Internationally, both Kiwanis and Key Club are participating in the ELIMINATE



PROJECT aimed at the eradication of maternal/neonatal tetanus.

Businesses of the community are encouraged to support a representative for membership in Kiwanis. If you work for a business that is oriented toward involvement in community improvement and leadership, suggest to them that you would like to represent that

business through membership and involvement

in work with Kiwanis. We welcome business and organization as well as individual memberships.

CHILDREN PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club sponsors nine Key Clubs and one Builders' Club in the Cy-Fair School District; sponsors the Kids Triathlon; Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Sea Scout troops and activities; awards scholarships to outstanding Key Club members in our district; provides assistance to Cypress Assistance Ministries and Bear Creek Ministries; the Houston Food Bank; and many other nonprofit organizations.

We look forward to welcoming you to our meetings.

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Summer Service Opportunities in the Cypress Area

By: Aranka Barbe

Cypress Woods Key Club Junior Representative

Summer: that time of year every high school student looks forward to the most. For Cy Woods High School Key Club members, however, it means having copious amounts of time to volunteer and serve the community.

Because wildlife flourishes in summer's plentiful sunlight, neighborhood parks need a lot of maintenance. To make their neighborhoods look their best, students can call their Home Owner's Association and offer to trim or mow these parks, or even build a bench or picnic table to make them more people-friendly.

For those who would rather stay indoors, nursing homes are always looking for extra hands. Seniors who need assistance doing everyday tasks often don't have many visitors and spend much of their time without company. Spending time with them can teach teens compassion as well as brighten the day of the community's elderly. Food banks also need helpers. Organizing food drives and distributing the items donated is a great way for Key Club members to volunteer during the summer because it supports the lives of those in need.

Over the course of the year everyone accumulates old paraphernalia that isn't used, but is still in usable condition. An efficient way to get rid of this "junk" is to host a yard sale and donate the proceeds to charities, reducing trash and giving back to the community simultaneously. The items that were not sold can also be donated to organizations like Cypress Assistance Ministries or Goodwill.

Everyone loves animals, and a fun way to turn this love into community service is by volunteering in animal care at the Cypress Science Resource Center. During the school year, volunteers visit elementary schools throughout the district to teach kids about various animals and animal behavior by exhibiting live critters. These furry teachers need to be cared for year-round, and summer is an especially fun time to help because the more time you spend

with the animals, the better you get to know them. Animal shelters also look for animal-friendly volunteers, but unfortunately often have an age limit for applicants. For those who are eligible, caring for rescue animals is a fulfilling way to spend the summer.

Although most teens spend their summer relaxing, not all members of the community have this luxury. Troops overseas are in constant need of personal care items and means of amusement. Donating extra (unopened) containers of shampoo, toothpaste, magazines, books, etc. to organizations like Cypress Cares supports our forces abroad.

Cypress has lots of volunteering opportunities during the summer, and for any Key Club member looking to catch up, keep up, or get ahead on their hours, they don't have to look far to find service opportunities that fit them.



The results of a food drive run by Cypress Woods Key Club to help the less fortunate in the Cypress area. Photo by: Aranka Barbe

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Kids' Cross-Country Team's Season Starts September 10th

The Northwest Flyers Track Club Youth Cross-Country Team kicks off the fall season with registration and a mandatory orientation for parents and athletes on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. Registration will be held at Cypress Creek High School, 9815 Grant Rd., Houston, TX. The first practice will be held at the Cypress Creek YMCA on Thursday, September 12.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a member program of USA Track and Field (USATF), the national governing body for track and cross country. The club is in its 26th year in the northwest Houston area. Ages 6 - 18 may participate in the team, and both beginners and experienced runners are welcome.

Contact Coach Eric Wentworth at emw1105@gmail.com, 281-961-6603, or Coach Donnell Carter at dcarter.nwflyers@yahoo.com, 281-467-4727, for more information. Email Coach Carter to get on the email list and you will receive a free running training video. Visit www.northwestflyers.org to get updates and learn more about the team.

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Elisha Roberts Chapter

The wonderful ladies of the Elisha Roberts Chapter, NSDAR, extend an invitation to any female, 18 years or older, who can prove direct lineal descent from someone who either fought in or provided aid during the American Revolution. We are a family oriented group of ladies who promote patriotism, education and historic preservation. Our motto is God, Home and Country. If this sounds like you, please come and join us for a meeting. We meet the third Thursday of each month, September through May, at the Backyard Grill, located at 9453 Jones Road. Our next meeting will be on September 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the chapter Regent, Cheryl Partney at cpart86@comcast.net or by phone at 832-654-0306. We look forward to meeting you.

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo awarded \$866,000 in scholarships to 49 deserving high school seniors in the Cypress Fairbanks Independent School district in May. Community Liaison, Jeanne Mason, is shown here at Cy-Springs High School.

Jeanne says, "Thank You! to our community for their continued support with our fundraising efforts. It's such a wonderful feeling to present scholarships to deserving students knowing full well that it will change their lives forever."



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NORTHWEST HARRIS COUNTY AGGIE MOM'S CLUB

nwhcaggiemoms.org

The Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club wants to extend a big "Howdy" to all Moms of freshman Aggies and current Aggie students.

Please join us for our HOWDY PARTY on Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at 7 p.m. at the Houston Distributing Center, 7100 High Life Drive, conveniently located near Willowbrook Mall at the intersection of High Life Drive and Cutten Road. This fun-filled Aggie evening is a great way to meet other Aggie Moms, find out about upcoming events and Aggieland trips, buy care packages for your student and win door prizes! Enjoy light refreshments while you shop our Boutique for that one-of-a-kind Aggie treasure. Our hand crafted items celebrate the heart-warming TAMU traditions.

Aggie Moms as an organization, encourages parents to become familiar with A&M during their student's freshman year. Aggie Moms has been here for 25 years and we're committed to helping your student and you enjoy the TAMU experience through graduation.

The Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club meets August thru May on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at 7100 High Life Drive. All meetings are open to Aggies, future, present or past. You will also enjoy hearing from dynamic speakers throughout the year like, Brigadier General, Joe Ramirez, Commandant of the Corp of Cadets or a visit from the Texas A&M yell leaders! For more information on monthly speakers or upcoming events visit our website at www.nwhcaggiemoms.org, or contact Shannon Eberle, Club President at clubpres2012@gmail.com. We are looking forward to meeting all our Aggie Moms!



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Sat 9AM - 4PM





Back To School

School starts in August, so now is the time for drivers to pay closer attention to the school zones in the neighborhood. We want to remind you that the speed limit in a school zone is 20mph and traffic fines double!

Other changes to be aware of include;

- Children behaving unpredictably
- School Bus Stops
- Crossing Guards – please obey the guards! Remember, they are there for the safety of you and your children
- New areas of traffic congestion
- Be prepared for delays
- Use of cell phones in schools zones is prohibited!

Please give yourself extra time in the mornings and mid-afternoons and remember if you are traveling in a school zone to slow down.

Time To Slow Down!



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Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

2013-2014

2013

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Important Dates

Aug. 14-15.....New Staff Orientation
Aug. 16, 19-23.....Professional Days
Aug. 261st Day of School
Sept. 2.....Student/Staff Holiday
Oct. 14.....Professional Day /
Elem. Parent Conferences
Nov. 25-29.....Student/Staff Holidays
Dec. 23-27, 30-31.....Student/Staff Holidays
Jan. 1-3.....Student/Staff Holidays
Jan. 6.....Professional Day
Jan. 20.....Student/Staff Holiday
Feb. 17.....Professional Day /
Inclement Weather Day
March 17-21.....Student/Staff Holidays
April 18.....Student/Staff Holiday
May 26.....Student/Staff Holiday
June 5.....Last Day of School
June 6.....Professional Day /
Inclement Weather Day

Grading Periods

Elementary Schools

1st: Aug. 26 - Oct. 25
2nd: Oct. 28 - Jan. 17
3rd: Jan. 21 - March 28
4th: March 31 - June 5

Secondary Schools

1st Semester

1st: Aug. 26 - Oct. 4
2nd: Oct. 7 - Nov. 8
3rd: Nov. 11 - Dec. 20

2nd Semester

4th: Jan. 7 - Feb. 21
5th: Feb. 24 - April 11
6th: April 14 - June 5

Legend



Student/staff holiday



Professional day (student holiday)



First and last day of school



Parent conferences
Holiday for all students
Professional day



Inclement weather day

2014

January

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April

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May

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June

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

CYPRESS MILL

SHALOM

Hi Jewish Community!
Let's get connected!

- Shabbat dinners
- Chanukah parties
- Passover Seders
- or simply get together!

INTERESTED?

E-mail us at
info@shalomcypress.org.
Or visit our website at
www.shalomcypress.org



DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE



Volunteer - Donate
COLINSHOPE.ORG



Ongoing: Volunteers needed to distribute water safety packets, info@colinshope.org
August 19: Got2Skate for Colin's Hope Fundraiser, 6:30-8:30pm at Playland Skate Center
August 29: Colin's Hope Got2Swim Lake Austin 10K/10 miler, <http://www.tinych.org/got2swim>
September 8: 5th Annual Colin's Hope Kids Triathlon, <http://www.tinych.org/KidsTri>
October 19: Sharkfest Austin Swim benefitting Colin's Hope, www.sharkfestswim.com



ALERT: 36 Texas children have lost their lives to a fatal drowning this year.
Many more have survived non-fatal drowning incidents.
Be a Water Guardian and Watch Kids around Water.
Drownings are preventable!

LAYERS OF PROTECTION



CONSTANT
VISUAL
SUPERVISION



LEARN
TO
SWIM



WEAR
LIFE
JACKETS



MULTIPLE
BARRIERS ON
POOLS & HOTTUBS



KEEP BACKYARDS
& BATHROOMS
SAFE



LEARN
CPR



CHECK POOLS
& HOTTUBS 1ST
FOR MISSING CHILDREN



VISIT
US
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Not Available Online

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*Put the Mike Schroeder Team
to work for you!!*



- Marketing on multiple websites for 24/7 exposure of your home.
- The Mike Schroeder Team has over 30 years of combined real estate experience.
- The market is HOT, homes are selling at a record pace and we would be honored to sell your home.
- Flexible commission plans

Cypress Mill Year-to-Date Sales Report

	Sept '12	Oct '12	Nov '12	Dec '12	Jan '13	Feb '13	Mar '13	Apr '13	May '13	June '13
\$201,000 and above	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
\$176,000--\$200,999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
\$151,000--\$175,999	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	3	3	0
\$141,000--\$150,999	3	3	1	2	0	1	0	2	3	1
\$121,000--\$140,999	4	0	4	4	1	1	2	2	3	2
\$101,000--\$120,999	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
\$100,000 and below	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total	9	6	6	6	4	4	2	9	11	7
Highest \$/sq ft	\$84.95	\$75.72	\$82.36	\$81.79	\$73.77	\$79.82	\$82.55	\$83.00	\$84.10	\$82.51

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selling homes in Cypress”***