

The Ranch Review

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A Newsletter for Riata Ranch Residents

BSA Life Saving Award awarded to Sammy Armstrong

Local scout from BSA Troop 533 saves girl's life

Sammy Armstrong is a seventh grade student attending Salyards Middle School. He is the son of Stacey Armstrong and Kelley Armstrong, and he is a member of the BSA Good Shepherd United Methodist Troop 533.

On October 3, 2013, Sammy was awarded the Honor Medal, a National Lifesaving Award, from the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) during an award ceremony at Fairfield Baptist Church in Cypress, TX. The BSA Honor Medal is a special award, only awarded to a scout that demonstrates courage, unusual heroism and skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save a life at considerable risk to self. Only 2,354 Honor Medals have been awarded since 1923, and 52 were awarded nationwide in 2012.

While on vacation with his family, Sammy proved his outstanding and unusual heroism, scouting skills and bravery while attempting and accomplishing the mission of rescuing a young girl from drowning at McKinney Falls State Park in Austin in June of 2012.

After having finished a trip down the creek on their kayaks, Sammy, his younger brother, and father, Stacey headed for a swim at the bottom of the upper falls. In a moment of family fun as Sammy rested on a rock at the edge of the creek as his father and brother looked on from the ledge above, Sammy saw a 5- year old girl standing near her field trip group at the top of a the waterfall. According to Sammy's recollection of events, the young girl was reaching for a water bottle, when she slipped and fell into the water as the current swept her over the falls. The girl's chaperones were in a panic; they could not see her. She had been rolled back



by the current and concealed from the 15 foot stone they stood on. "All you could see was the top quarter-inch of her head," Stacey recalled. "Sammy was the only person down at the bottom of the falls. He looked around and got the bearings of the situation, and then he looked at me. I was scared to death but I tried to stay extremely calm for him. I said, 'You got this. You have to get her out of there.' He jumped in and went after her." Sammy was able to pull the girl out and above the 20-foot-deep water surface and pulled her to shore. Sammy was

able to keep the girl calm even in a state of panic. Even though Sammy earned his Swimming Merit Badge with the Scouts and has proved to be a good swimmer as part of the Texas Terrapins Swim Team, Sammy's Father, Stacey feared the young girl would pull both Sammy and herself under water due to her panicked state. Sammy states, "I was afraid she might die. My dad couldn't get to her, but he told me that I could do it. So, I went in, and then when I was afraid that I might not be able to save her, I think God helped me." It is clear that Sammy was driven by his quick instincts ability to stay alert and he says that he had always been told to stay alert in the water and always know the quickest exit route and those principles he had learned from scouting and from his parents definitely played a role.

The family of the young girl is very thankful and grateful for Sammy's heroism. In the 15 months since the incident occurred, the family has been an important part in providing testimony to the BSA to help with the Honor Medal vetting process. Stacey said, "I can't tell you how many times they've said 'thank you.'"

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
Postma Elementary	281-345-3660
Rennell Elementary	281-213-1550
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

HCMUD #196	
Billing.....	281-579-4500
Repairs	281-398-8211
Centerpoint Electric	713-207-2222
Centerpoint Entex Gas	713-659-2111
AT&T/SBC.....	800-464-7928
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

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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Want to submit a photo, article, or both? It's easy!! Email your articles to riataranch@peelinc.com by 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.

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FIGHT HEART DISEASE ONE STEP AT A TIME

JOIN THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION FOR THE 2013 GREATER LAKE HOUSTON HEART WALK



Heart Walk®
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WHAT: Fun Activities and non-competitive 3-mile walk to promote walking as a part of healthy lifestyle and raise funds to support cardiovascular research and educational programs for the American Heart Association.

WHEN: Saturday, November 23, 2013, 8:00 a.m.

WHERE: Lone Star College – Kingwood, 20000 Kingwood Dr., Kingwood, TX 77339

WHY: Heart disease and stroke — the nation's No. 1 and No. 4 killers — and all other cardiovascular diseases, claim more than 870,000 American lives a year. The American Heart Association's goal

is to raise \$100,000 for the 2013 Greater Lake Houston Heart Walk. Research funded by the American Heart Association has yielded or contributed to many important innovations such as CPR, life-extending drugs (including clot-busters), pacemakers, bypass surgery, the heart-lung machine and surgical techniques to repair heart defects.

HOW: To participate in the annual event, walkers can register online by visiting www.greaterlakehoustonheartwalk.org or by calling 713-610-5000. There is no registration fee, but donations are appreciated. Walk as part of a company team or form your own team with family and friends.

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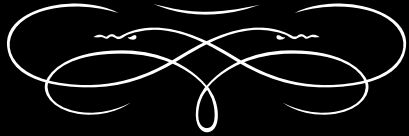
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*Houston Repertoire Ballet to Collaborate with the
Cypress Philharmonic for its Holiday Classic*

THE Nutcracker



Sell-Out Performances Set for December 7 & 8

WHEN/WHERE:

Saturday, December 7 at 2 pm & 7 pm
Sunday, December 8 at 1 pm & 4:30 pm
Tomball High School Theatre
30330 Quinn Road
Tomball, Texas 77375

TICKETS:

For ticket information, call 281-940-HRB1 (4721) or visit www.hrbdance.org. Cost is \$18 for students and seniors, \$22 for all other.

WHO:

Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB), featuring guest artists Jared Matthews as the Cavalier and Yuriko Kajiya as the Sugar Plum Fairy, both soloists of American Ballet Theatre, as well as Glynness Lanthier, President and Music Director of Cypress Philharmonic.

WHAT:

The premier pre-professional ballet company in Northwest Houston proudly presents its 12th annual The Nutcracker performance series, this year for the first time in collaboration with the Cypress Philharmonic. The program attracts and develops some of the finest young dancers in the greater Houston area, with many of the dancers advancing to professional ballet companies throughout the country. HRB graduates can be seen with New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and other prestigious companies.

OUTREACH:

The dancers of HRB perform excerpts from each production and make costumed appearances at various nursing homes, libraries, group events and at Arts & Education performances. Also, HRB brings two matinee performances to Tomball ISD third grade students, fulfilling the arts component of their curriculum. To schedule an outreach event for your organization, call 281-940-HRB1 (4721).

ABOUT HRB:

The Houston Repertoire Ballet (HRB) is a non-profit 501(c)(3), founded by Victoria Vittum and Gilbert Rome, both nationally acclaimed teachers and choreographers who served as its co-artistic directors. Today, Ms. Vittum oversees training and programming with an equal eye to serving the needs of the community.

Since 1994, HRB has contributed to the cultural fabric of Harris and Montgomery Counties by providing excellent dance training to the area's young ballet stars and dance educators of tomorrow, while also presenting two high-quality productions annually at affordable prices.

The Nutcracker and a Spring Program, introduce area children and their families to the world of classical and contemporary ballet.

Today, HRB is considered to be the premier pre-professional ballet company in the Houston region, and is recognized for sharing its gifts with the community and beyond.

The Nutcracker's brilliant blend of costumes, sets and choreography creates a magical storybook world enjoyed by children and adults alike.

With a cast of more than 100 HRB dancers and area children, HRB's masterful production is the highlight of the holidays!

CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB

Kiwanis wants YOU! 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 representatives as well as individual memberships.

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 Crowl 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.

CHILDREN PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club sponsors nine Key Clubs and two Builders' Club in the Cy-Fair School District. If you would like to work with teens and preteens, join us and work with the outstanding youth in these organizations. We sponsor the Kids Triathlon; Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Sea Scout troops and activities; award scholarships to outstanding Key Club members in our district; provide assistance to Cypress Assistance Ministries and Bear Creek Ministries; the Houston Food Bank; and many other nonprofit organizations.

We welcome your visit at our Club meeting and your consideration of membership in our service organization. Join Now.

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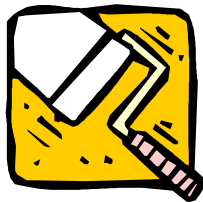
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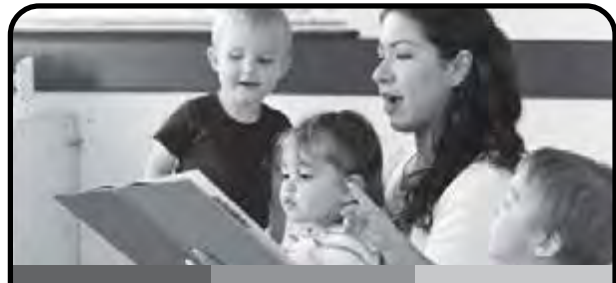


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