

THE *Current* Shadow Creek Ranch

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SeaPerch: Great Programs Happen When Parents and Teachers Join Efforts

On March 7, almost 300 Alvin ISD elementary, junior high, and high school students from 70 different teams came together to the Pearland Natatorium for a full day of learning, sharing, competing and fun at the Regional SeaPerch Competition.

SeaPerch is the innovative K-12 underwater robotics program, sponsored by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and managed by the Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International Foundation (AUVSIF). The organization trains teachers and group leaders to inspire their students to build their own Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) following an academic curriculum consistent with national learning standards supporting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects with a marine engineering-based theme.

"Having all these teams from 15 different schools would not have been possible without the dedication of teachers and parents, who teamed up and dedicated their time to coach hundreds of students and give them the opportunity to have this enriching learning experience," said the SeaPerch coordinator at Mary Marek Elementary, Michelle Pedalino.

For William "Randy" Teal, a teacher from Alvin Junior High, having the opportunity to serve as the SeaPerch District Coordinator has been a fantastic experience.

"I see this responsibility as an extension of the same passion I use with students in the classroom. An aspect of the SeaPerch program I am particularly proud of is the problem solving skills required to be successful. In addition, the program instills a personal determination in students through the engineering design process. I hope to see this program continue to flourish in our district," commented Teal.

When parents were asked why they decided to volunteer as team coaches, the common answer was that they wanted their own children and other children in the district to have the opportunity to experience programs like SeaPerch, and to provide them with the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, and mathematics (STEM) while building an underwater ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle).

"Our kids had an amazing experience. They learned so much.

Most of the kids on our team stepped out of their comfort zone and stepped up when their team needed them. A child that was once a shy/timid public speaker is now a confident/proud speaker in front of fully uniformed and intimidating Navy officers. A child who wanted to do things their way or no way before joining SeaPerch, now knows the importance of team work," said Vivianne Cao, parent and coach of one of the Mary Marek elementary teams.

For students participating in the program, SeaPerch is not only fun but it also teaches them academic, technical, and social skills that they will definitely be able to use in their future careers. During their practice time you often hear students discussing terms such as buoyancy and propulsion or talking about the physics of motion.

For Garret Sassin, a 5th grade student at Savannah Lakes Elementary, the aspect he likes the most about SeaPerch is learning how to problem solve, figuring things out, and being creative to get the right results. Camila Luevano, a 4th grader also at Savannah Lakes said that she really enjoyed building the ROV from scratch and learning how to make it reach "zero buoyancy" so that it could be controlled under the water.



(Continued on Page 2)

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

(Continued from Cover)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	281-331-9000
Pearland Police Department	281-997-4100

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Mary Marek Elementary	281-245-3232
Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	281-245-3090
Manvel Junior High	281-331-1416
Alvin Senior High	281-331-8151
Manvel High School	281-245-2235
Alvin ISD Administration	281-338-1130
Alvin ISD Transportation	281-331-0960

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Gas - Center Point	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	281-652-1600

CITY

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Pearland Animal Control.....	281-652-1970
Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	281-652-1100
Pearland Public Works.....	281-652-1900

OTHER NUMBERS

Pearland Post Office	281-485-2132
Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Brazoria County Health Department	979-864-1484
Animal Control.....	281-756-2265
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST	713-341-1000

NEWSLETTER

Articles	shadowcreekranch@peelinc.com
Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	1-888-687-6444
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Alvin ISD schools offering SeaPerch:

Alvin Junior High, Fairview Junior High
Harby Junior High, Rodeo Palms Junior High
Nolan Ryan Junior High, Manvel High School
Alvin High School, Passmore Elementary
EC Mason Elementary, Glenn York Elementary
Red Duke Elementary, Mary Marek Elementary
Wilder Elementary, Savannah Lakes Elementary
& Mark Twain Elementary

For additional details about SeaPerch offerings in Alvin ISD contact William Teal at wteal@alvinisd.net or visit <http://aisdseaperch.weebly.com/>

Cutline: The Marek Elementary Sea Dragons placed second at the SeaPerch competition in the Interview category. Pictured from left to right with their coach, Michelle White, are 4th grade student Veronica Nuval, and 5th graders Michelle Guajardo, Jordan Nguyen, and Roman Lopreto.



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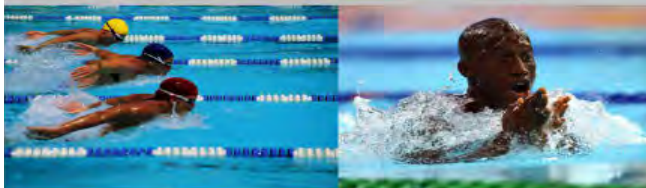
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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

INEOS Go Run For Fun gets Alvin ISD students running

Five Alvin ISD Elementary campuses recently participated in the pilot tour of the INEOS GO Run For Fun event. The fun run, which started in Europe and is sponsored by INEOS, is just now spreading to the United States. Alvin ISD is one of the first school districts to host the event, which simply encourages students to get active and have fun while doing so.

E.C. Mason Elementary, Duke Elementary, Alvin Primary, Alvin Elementary and Don Jeter Elementary all hosted GO Run For Fun events at their campuses.

The events, which are backed by U.S. Olympians, consisted of students having the opportunity to get active with their classmates by running around a 1-mile roped off course. They were also able to meet various Olympians. American 1,500 meter champion Bernard Leget was in attendance, at some campuses, as well as 200 meter indoor record holder Wallace Spearmon, who stopped by Jeter.

"This was a great opportunity for our students be active, and have fun doing so," mentioned Syreeta Presley, E.C. Mason Elementary assistant principal. "We appreciate INEOS for reaching out to us and providing this great service to our students. They had a blast!"

The concept for the GO Run For Fun campaign was developed by Jim Ratcliffe, owner of the global manufacturing company, INEOS, which has a number of facilities in the Houston area. Millions have

been donated by the organization to fund the running initiative at schools around the world. The campaign intends to get 100,000 children up and running by 2016, making it the biggest children's running initiative in the world.

"I'm passionate about getting as many children running as possible as early as possible. The idea is simple – to get children out of the house having fun. If our children can catch the running bug early, they're more likely to stick to it, and this can only lead to them having more active and healthier lifestyles in the future," said Ratcliffe.

Dennis Seith, CEO INEOS Olefins & Polymers USA, headquartered in League City, Texas, said: "Healthy, active kids tend to be better engaged, and more successful in school, and I'm very excited about the opportunity to help motivate kids to be more physically active. Being active also teaches the values of teamwork, accountability, fair play, and a drive for doing your best. We are bringing the GO Run For Fun Event to the US to see what reaction it gets. If things go well we will consider whether

it becomes a regular feature in our calendar."

For additional details in regards to all of the great things occurring in Alvin ISD, visit www.alvinisd.net. To learn more about the INEOS GO Run For Fun, visit www.gorunforfun.com.



Two Alvin ISD students from E.C. Mason Elementary running during the GO Run For Fun event.



Olympic runner Bernard Legat gives students a high five prior to the start of their race.



E.C. Mason Elementary students have a little bit of selfie fun with an INEO exercise leader before the start of the fun run.

Portable Fire Extinguishers



A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out a small fire or containing it until the fire department arrives; but portable extinguishers have limitations. Because fire grows and spreads so rapidly, the number one priority for residents is to get out safely.

Use a portable fire extinguisher when the fire is confined to a small area, such as a wastebasket, and is not growing; everyone has exited the building; the fire department has been called or is being called; and the room is not filled with smoke.

To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the word PASS:

- **PULL** the pin. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you, and release the locking mechanism.
- **AIM** low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- **SQUEEZE** the lever slowly and evenly.
- **SWEEP** the nozzle from side-to-side.

For the home, select a multi-purpose extinguisher (can be used on all types of home fires) that is large enough to put out a small fire, but not so heavy as to be difficult to handle. Choose a fire extinguisher that carries the label of an independent testing laboratory.

Read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher and become familiar with its parts and operation before a fire breaks out. Install fire extinguishers close to an exit and keep your back to a clear exit when you use the device so you can make an easy escape if the fire cannot be controlled. If the room fills with smoke, leave immediately.

Know when to go. Fire extinguishers are one element of a fire response plan, but the primary element is safe escape. Every household should have a home fire escape plan and working smoke alarms.



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

GET MORE FROM YOUR GARDEN

Raspberries require little care to grow, but can cost a lot at the store. You can even freeze them.

Mixed salad greens, like baby lettuce and arugula are tough and quick growing, even after cutting.

If you cut them correctly they will grow again. Start at one end of your garden and cut plants about an inch from the ground. The plant could grow back 3-4 times in a season.

Flat gardening was popular years ago, but now raised beds are much better. They prevent weeds from taking over, let water drain more efficiently and plants thrive in aerated soil.

A very common error in gardening is over watering and drowning plants. If it rains at least one inch per week, you can probably skip heavy watering. Purchase a rain gauge (under \$10) at garden stores to keep track of how much or how little water your plant is getting and add or subtract from there.



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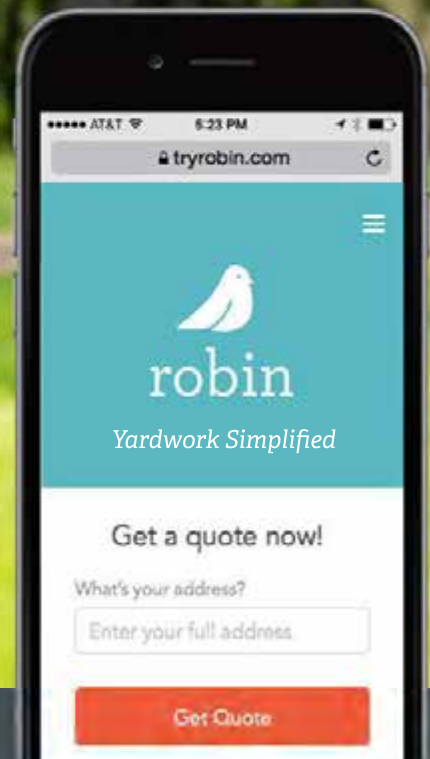
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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

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Outsmart the airline reservation system. Try shopping for each passenger ticket separately. When you purchase two or more tickets in a single transaction, most airlines require seats be sold at the same price. If shopping for two people, and there is only one seat left at the \$150 promotional price, you will pay a higher amount for each ticket unless you do two transactions.

Price shop hotels online, but then call the front desk. You may get a better deal.



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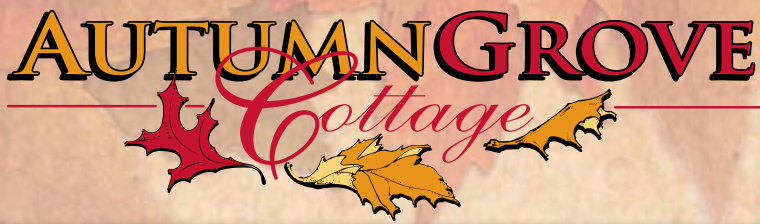


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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

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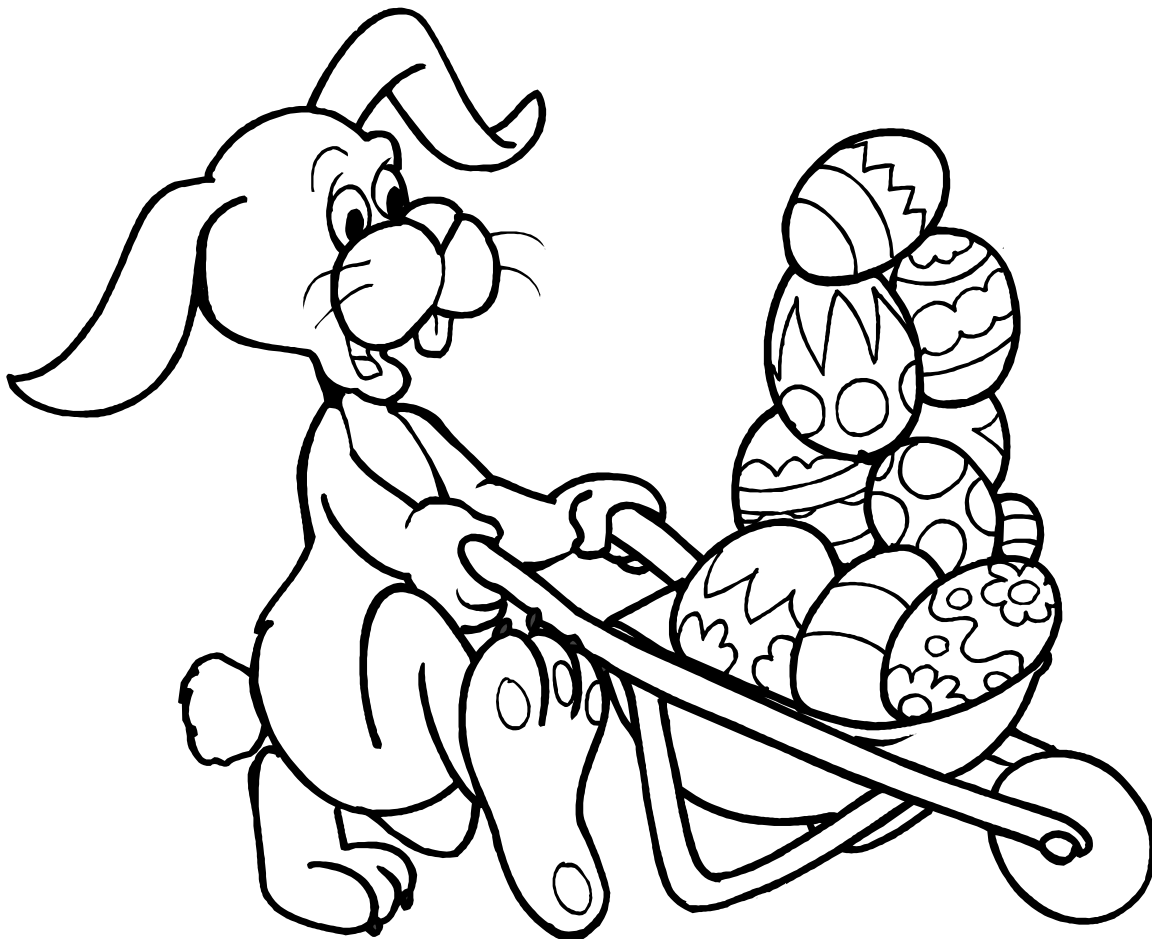
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