

THE *Current* Shadow Creek Ranch

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Shadow Creek Author

WILL OF THE WISPS, is a newly released novel by Shadow Creek Ranch resident and novelist Matthias Miles (pen name of Marrick Armstrong).

It is December 31, 2007 in Houston, Texas when the novel begins. The main characters are Cooke, Rolie, Marcus and Josh, four long time friends of different ethnicities. It is the midst of America's lost decade. They are young professionals and the world is theirs. But with all of the changes on the horizon in the country and abroad, Cooke, the most serious-minded of the four, feels the guys could be contributing more to their city and to their country.

Angst-ridden, Cooke goes on a late night walk through Houston, culminating in an exhausted overnight stay at a sketchy hotel on a not so choice side of town. While in bed, he says a prayer for he and his friends to live purposeful lives in 2008. From there, the new romances, career changes and life events that happen give the boys more change than Cooke anticipated.



Alvin ISD Education Foundation raises \$12,000 in Ford's Drive 4 UR School Campaign

Ford's Drive 4 UR School campaign was a huge success for the Alvin ISD Education Foundation. On Saturday, May 2, 2015, the Alvin ISD Education Foundation, students, parents and community supporters turned out to take test drives in a new Ron Carter Ford vehicle. With the Alvin ISD Education Foundation board members acting as salespeople, the program which was sponsored nationally by Ford Motor Company, provided \$40 to the foundation for every driver that got behind the wheel.

Sheila Olson, executive director of the Alvin ISD Education Foundation, was all smiles as lines formed in the Alvin High School stadium parking lot and she was in constant motion making sure everything was just perfect.

"We've done this for about four years now and this was the largest and most energetic one yet," said Olson. "We had over 300 drivers and will receive \$12,000 from Ron Carter Ford and Ford Motor Company! This equals grants and scholarships for the students and teachers of Alvin ISD."

Alvin parent Jody Garza is one of the hundreds of parents who took a test drive.

"I love that we are supporting our schools and kids," she said. "I also love that the event keeps getting bigger and better."

(Continued on Page 2)

Alvin ISD Librarians



Alvin ISD Librarians Rachel Hinds, Rodeo Palms Junior High, Sheri Howard, Wilder Elementary, Kendra Duckworth, Longfellow Elementary, and Erin Milton, E.C. Mason Elementary, take a photo with authors at the Texas

Library Association Convention held in Austin. Alvin ISD supports librarians and their quest to keep informed about the upcoming books and educational application of each and newly-released education apps

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

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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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This year the Alvin ISD Police Department was out with pedal karts and allowed teenagers a chance to “drive” on a course while using impaired goggles to experience what it is like to drive while under the influence of drugs and alcohol. “That’s a very helpful and informative program and I know it had a tremendous impact on my teenager,” Garza said.

“We had an incredibly successful day,” said John Barron, Foundation Board Member and Ford Drive Chairman. “We could not have done it without the support of the community, parents, students and staff of Alvin ISD. The Alvin ISD Education Foundation does so much for our students and teachers and we are so glad we were able to raise money to help out this wonderful organization.”

Cutline: Alvin ISD student Blake Garza enjoys attempting to drive the Alvin ISD Police Department provided pedal kart, while wearing impaired glasses. This was a great opportunity for him to learn the effects of driving under the influence.

Alvin ISD students in attendance take a moment to pose with the Alvin ISD Education Foundation Mascot, Mr. Turtle, during the event.



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Keep Pearland Beautiful

A huge CONGRATULATIONS to all of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Wolves who contributed to the plastic bag recycling competition. Wilder an elementary school in Pearland broke their previous record with a whopping 42,062 PLASTIC BAGS! On April 28 representatives from HEB Plus! Pearland and Keep Pearland Beautiful picked up the plastic bags that were packed into 55 gallon garbage bags.

Plastic bags and other plastic films are recyclable but not in your recycling cart or at the recycling center. This category of plastics includes shopping bags, dry cleaner bags and the plastic film that wraps your paper products like toilet paper and paper towels. Just stuff them all in one bag and drop off at a local retailer like Walmart, HEB or Krogers.

Second grade blew it out of the water with 11,280 plastic bags and will be receiving the movie and snack party at the end-of-the-year, sponsored by HEB Plus! Pearland and Keep Pearland Beautiful. Mrs. Holland's 2nd Grade Class collected the most bags in the entire school. They brought in a huge 4,420 plastic bags all by themselves!

Keep Pearland Beautiful commends the entire school for such an amazing feat! To find out how your school can participate next year call 281-652-1779 or email info@mykpb.org and help us keep Pearland beautiful!



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Nolan Ryan Junior High

On Saturday, May 2nd, bands from Nolan Ryan Junior High competed in the Space City Showcase of Music. The Nolan Ryan Beginning Band, Symphonic Band I, Symphonic Band II, and Symphonic Band III all received First Division, or Superior, Ratings from all three judges at the contest, and Symphonic Band IV received a rating of Excellent.

At the conclusion of the competition, the judges reviewed all of the groups that they heard over a two-day period. Bands from Nolan Ryan were awarded the following honors:

Beginning Band – Outstanding in Class for all first-year ensembles

Symphonic Band III – Outstanding in Class for all sub non-varsity ensembles

Symphonic Band II – Outstanding in Class for all non-varsity ensembles

Symphonic Band I – Outstanding in Class, for all varsity ensembles

Symphonic Band I – Overall Outstanding ensemble for the entire contest

The bands at Nolan Ryan Junior High are directed by Josh Mooney, Freddy Patrick, Hannah Colvin, and Lou Boldrighini.

Manvel High School Percussion Ensemble

The Manvel High School Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Louis Boldrighini has been invited to perform at The Midwest Clinic, an International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago. The annual Midwest Clinic is the largest of its kind in the country, showcasing world class ensembles, educators, and performances.

The students rehearsed their music for two months; then recorded and submitted selections for consideration by The Midwest Clinic at the beginning of March. Selected groups were notified in April.



(Continued on Page 5)



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"It is an amazing honor to be selected to perform at the prestigious Midwest Clinic," Boldrighini said about the invitation. "I am so proud of the students' hard work and the incredible progress that they have made. It is a credit to them, to their parents, to the community, and to the music education that they received in Alvin ISD's elementary schools and junior highs."

The students will perform in front of a national audience of musicians and educators. "It is very exciting," added Boldrighini. "The Manvel High School Percussion Ensemble is proud to represent Alvin ISD and our community. This is something that the students and I will remember for the rest of our lives."

Members of the selected Manvel High School Percussion Ensemble include Junior Joshua Berry, Sophomores Anthony Allen, Bailey Gray, and Breanna Nwankwo, and Freshmen Catherine Lloyd, Donovan Pik, and Joshua Villanueva.

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Nolan Ryan Junior High's Symphonic Band

Nolan Ryan Junior High's Symphonic Band I earned a Sweepstakes award at UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest on Thursday, April 16. The band performed three prepared selections, then had to perform a new song with only eight minutes of preparation time. The Nolan Ryan Band received a first division, or Superior, rating from all six judges at the contest, earning the Sweepstakes award.

"We are always very proud of all of our students," band director Josh Mooney said about the accomplishment. "They performed extremely challenging music at a very high level. I know that the students are thrilled with the results!"

One contest judge commented, "This is such a great band with so many great players! Really impressive teaching and learning going on here...great things are going on at your school! Bravo!"



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