

Alvin ISD set to recognize school board members, past and present at January 10 Board Meeting

January is School Board Appreciation Month, which means school districts across the State of Texas will honor and celebrate this dedicated group of individuals, that spend hours upon hours tackling the enormous role of leading school districts.

"School board members are an essential component to ensuring that students across Texas have limitless opportunities for success, and we are truly thankful for their commitment," said Dr. Buck Gilcrease, superintendent of Alvin ISD.

In an effort to show appreciation to Alvin ISD Trustees, the district will recognize past and present school board members at the January 10, 2017 meeting of the board. The meeting will take place in the auditorium of Shadow Creek High School, located at 11850 Broadway St., in Pearland. A private tour of the campus will be led by current Shadow Creek High School students, starting at 5:30 p.m., and then dinner will be provided for the special guests of honor at 6 p.m. The actual board meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m.

"We will honor the past, while embracing the future, which is important as we continue to grow as a district," added Gilcrease.

All past, and of course current board members, as well as community members and families are invited to attend the meeting to participate in the special recognition.

Past board members will receive invitations to attend the meeting in the mail. If for some reason a past member of the board does not receive an invitation, they should contact the Alvin ISD Communications team at 281-388-1130, so that they can promptly receive their invitation.

School board members are elected by parents, community members and stakeholders. The current Alvin ISD board members serving local students are President Cheryl Harris, Vice President Nicole Tonini, Secretary Regan Metoyer, and members Tiffany Wennerstrom, Julie Pickren, Earl Humbird and Vivian Scheibel.

"It's a blessing to have such a dedicated group of citizens provide vision and leadership in their roles as advocates for Alvin ISD students. They have committed countless hours to serving as a link between our community and the district, and their actions and decisions have a direct impact on the present and future lives of our students. For that we are thankful for them," Gilcrease said.















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EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
EMERGENCY	911
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Ambulance	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	
Pearland Police Department	281-997-4100
SCHOOLS	
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
UTILITIES	
Electricity - Reliant Energy	713-207-7777
Gas - Center Point	
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	
CITY	
Pearland City Hall	281-652-1600
Pearland Utility Billing - Water Dept	
Pearland Animal Control	
Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	
Pearland Public Works	
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Pearland Post Office	281-485-2132
Poison Control	
Brazoria County Health Department	
Animal Control	
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BASEBALL & TBALL SPRING COMPETITION

Shadow Creek Baseball completed a successful fall league with competitive play, and all teams are now preparing for spring ball starting in March. Experienced and new players are welcome in all levels – Kid Pitch (grades 4&5), Coach Pitch (grades 2&3), and Tball (grades K-1). Advanced 3rd graders have the option of playing up in Kid Pitch, and newbie 1st graders can play Tball.

Games will be played at the Shadow Creek Baseball Park on Kingsley for grades 2 & up. Practice times decided by team parents. Teams coached by team parents. Deadline to register is February 14. More info and registration at www.ShadowCreekSports.org









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ALVIN ISD STUDENTS SEND "GET WELL" WISHES TO PATIENTS AT MEMORIAL HERMANN PEARLAND HOSPITAL

This season is a time to reflect upon the blessings we have and to think of others who may not be feeling their best during the Holidays

One of the focuses in Alvin ISD is to ensure that students are well-rounded citizens, meaning that they do not only perform well academically, but are also responsible, respectful, and above

Late in November, Angela Riggs, manager of food and nutrition services at Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital, contacted Alvin ISD to invite the elementary school students to decorate the hospital placemats with "get well" and "happy holidays" wishes. The Alvin ISD Communications Department contacted the elementary art teachers and they immediately offered to make accommodations to include this project into their lessons plans.

"Art speaks to all, especially during the Holidays. Giving Hood-Case Elementary art students the opportunity to show compassion, empathy, and joy through creative design is an excellent way to involve students in a fantastic community project," said Melanie Valdez, art teacher at Hood Case Elementary.

The final result was 850 beautifully decorated placemats that Alvin ISD students made for the patients at Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital.

"It made me feel good to decorate the placemat for the hospital because I like to make people feel happy," said Colt Nolan, 3rd grader at Hood-Case Elementary.

We really love the Alvin ISD Partnership with Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital, and the opportunity given to our students to show care and compassion for others through art," said

> Ana Pasarella, Alvin ISD family engagement coordinator.

> "We're grateful for the students in Alvin ISD who have taken the time to decorate these placemats," said Riggs at Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital.

> In the picture: Colt Nolan, Madison Maddox, Jillian Brooks, and Christie Lopez, 3rd graders at Hood-Case Elementary proudly presenting their placemat creations.







Finding Resolution

I am a goal-oriented, list-making individual. It's how I'm wired, and it has helped me be productive and successful in many ways. However, being goal-oriented doesn't always work so well when building relationships. What if the other individual doesn't have the same goals as you do?

This has been the case many times in my life, and my tendency was to bulldoze over them with my lack of concern for their goals. My goals were better, more thought out, more important, etc. What does that do to this relationship that I valued to work on so much? It completely undermines the whole thing! So, how did I learn to stop this destructive pattern in my relationships? Horses!

How many of you have tried to get an animal that weighs over 1000 pounds to meet your personal goals? It's not easy. Yes, it is possible to force them to do many things, but can you catch them easily the next day? Do they really want to have a relationship with you after you have met said goals? Mine didn't.

Mine ran away and fought many things I tried to "teach".

What did it take for me to listen to the horse's thought on our relationship? An unplanned dismount is the nicest way I've heard it phrased. When a horse goes to bucking, it is pretty clear it doesn't respect your leadership. A wise man once asked me what happened before that buck. I answered, "Lots of little things that I ignored, actually."

I'm too old to ignore those little signals anymore. It hurts to hit the ground with that kind of force! As I've learned to listen to horses better, it has also helped me to listen to people better. Have you ever asked a friend what they want to receive out of the relationship you have? Do they have needs that aren't being met? If they aren't treated respectfully and valued, they may not stick around.

Setting goals is still helpful, especially in helping me think of the steps to help myself achieve them. I just want to make sure I am not ruining relationships along the way. So, my goal setting

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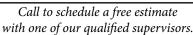


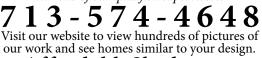
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(Continued from Page 4)

looks different now as I make sure it includes the friends I value the most.

These are a few of my relational goal ideas for the next year. They are all oriented toward preventing those blow ups, like my horse gave me, with one of my friends or husband.

Be a better friend by:

- 1. When feeling annoyed or offended- stopping to question why and if it is really that important?
- 2. Plan monthly dates to build relationships.
- 3. Check in with my friends to find out their needs, before they ask!
 - 4. Be more available by being less BUSY- say no to more things, so I can say yes to important ones.
 - 5. LISTEN better- friends are giving you early signs of needs, but we are distracted with our own.
- **If you find these things to be true in your own life, and would like to make a change, please visit our website at www.fivehorses.com to learn more about our new Goal-Setting Workshop this January**

SHADOW CREEK SOCCER SPRING REGISTRATION

Ages 4-9 – Saturday games 8-12 noon

Ages 10-15 - Sunday games 3-6 pm

Girls only league Ages 9-12 – Saturday games 8-12 noon First Game = March 26. Registration includes a full uniform, practice equipment. Trophy for ages 4-9. Practice times decided by team parents. Teams coached by team parents. Deadline to register is February 14.

Register at www.shadowcreeksoccer.org



Fungus Gnats



Fungus gnats often become a problem in homes due to an overwatering problem. Since this time **EXTENSION** of year can bring poinsettias or other

plants into the home, fungus gnats are a pest to watch for.

Fungus gnat adults are small, black, long-legged flies with long antennae. Most adults are about 1/16 an inch but some can get up to ½ an inch. They are weak fliers and generally remain near potted plants, growing media, foliage or leaf litter.

Larvae, or immatures, have a black head capsule and long whitish body without legs. They feed on organic matter such as mulch, compost, grass clippings, plant roots and fungi. When conditions are very moist, fungus gnat larvae can become abundant and may leave slime trails on media that looks similar to trails left by snails or slugs.

While these gnats are a nuisance they are fairly easy to manage. Indoors, it is a good idea to use yellow sticky cards as a monitoring tool. Potato pieces may also be used as a monitoring tool for fungus gnats. To do this, imbed a peeled potato cube into media and inspect the underside of the potato and the media directly below it twice a week for fungus gnat larvae.

To manage fungus gnat populations, work on reducing excessively

moist conditions. Avoid overwatering and make sure that there is good drainage. The surface of container soil should be allowed to dry before watering again.

If using compost, make sure that items have been fully composted. Compost piles should be turned regularly and kept away from doors or windows. Inspect all doors, windows, vents and screens for a good seal to reduce the number of gnats that may enter a structure.

Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis or the nematode Steinernema feltiae can be applied in containers to control larvae. Either spray on the media or apply as a soil drench. Biologicals work best when they are applied early in an infestation. If a population is already large, they may not provide the control desired.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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