

THE Ranch Review

July 2018
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A Newsletter for Riata Ranch Residents

Paige Powers named TAPPS State Fine Arts Student of the Year!



T A P P S (T e x a s Association of Private and Parochial Schools) recognizes the top male and female Fine Arts competitors in the state each year through their coveted "Of the Year" awards. These elite honors are extremely difficult to receive, as all TAPPS schools can

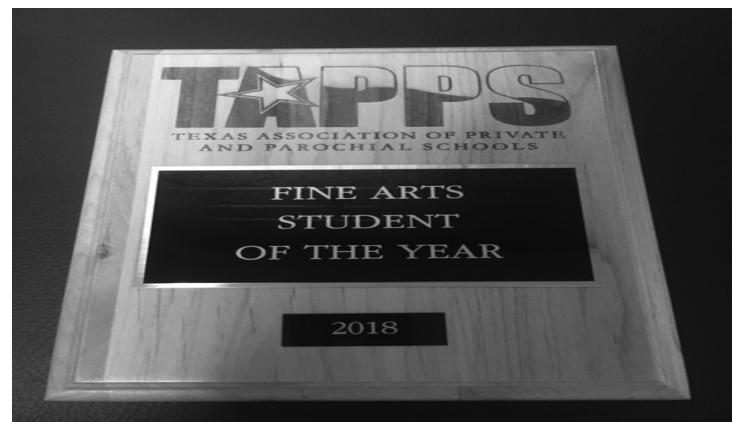
TAPPS State Art, Paige placed 4th, 4th, 5th, and 5th in Painting, Printmaking, and Senior Portfolio, with her team placing 5th overall two years in a row. In TAPPS One Act Play, Paige was named All Star Cast (State) three times, All-Star Cast Honorable Mention (State), All Star Cast (District) three times, Best Actress (District), 4th, 5th, and 5th at state (team), and District Champion (team) four years in a row.

In TAPPS State Speech, Paige's four-year career of competing in Poetry, Prose, Solo Acting, and Duet Acting includes 4 state championships, 4 times as the state runner-up, 1 bronze medal, 1 fourth place, 1 sixth place, and the Virginia Wirth Distinguished Speaker (top speaker in the state overall). Her speech team is also the reigning back-to-back state champion, as well as two times being named the state runner-up. Furthermore, Paige has accomplished all of this while being an RCS honors student, Drama Student of the Year three years in a row, and a member of the National Honor Society, with a smile on her face and the love of Jesus in her heart, shining through to everyone who meets her. We are so proud of you, Paige! RCS loves you, and we cannot wait to see how God uses all of your talents as you serve Him in the next stage of your journey.

Congratulations!

nominate competitors from any TAPPS fine art, and then one male and one female in each classification are selected via an executive TAPPS panel. We are pleased to announce, that for the second year in a row, and for only the fourth time in school history, the TAPPS 3A State Fine Arts Female Student of the Year has gone to an RCS student. This year's State Fine Arts Student of the Year award recipient is our own Paige Powers.

Paige's TAPPS career accomplishments are undeniable: In TAPPS State Instrumental Music, Paige received a rating of 2 on her piano solo. In TAPPS State Vocal Music, Paige received 4 ratings of 1 (highest), and the choir was also the state runner-up overall. In



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Memorial City Hospital.....	713-932-3000
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Woodard Elementary.....	281-373-2303
Spillane Middle.....	281-216-1645
Cy-Ranch High.....	281-373-2300
Cy-Fair College.....	281-290-3200

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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, Crest Mgt.....	281-579-0761
United States Post Office.....	800-275-8777

LIBRARY

Cy-Fair College Library.....	281-290-3210
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Articles.....	riataranch@peelinc.com
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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.

ARE YOU READY?

In the aftermath of Harvey, the arrival of hurricane season is undoubtedly stoking some trepidation from Houstonians still reeling from last year's unprecedented storm, but there's no reason to panic if you have a proper plan in place.

While June 1 marked the official start of Hurricane Season, the Gulf of Mexico has already seen its first named storm, Subtropical Storm Alberto, which made landfall last week on the Florida coast, dumping rain and wreaking havoc across the country.

It's notoriously difficult to predict how active a hurricane season may be, but forecasters have already warned that the U.S. could expect to see a higher-than-average number of named storms and hurricanes this year.

When Harvey swamped Greater Houston last year – flooding homes and forcing many to flee – many residents who were new to the region hadn't experienced a storm before and were unprepared for what happened. Even some who had weathered Houston's hurricanes and floods in the past were caught flat-footed by the extreme, widespread flooding caused by a storm of epic proportions.

Read the full list of the top seven things Memorial Hermann experts say you need to do now to get ready.

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LEARN HOW NETWORKING MAKES YOUR BUSINESS HAPEN

ABWA Houston Area Professional Express Network (HAPEN) also Inducts New Executive Board

Luncheon Details

Thursday, July 19, 2018
 Registration/Networking 11 a.m.; Luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m.
 Sheraton West Houston Hotel
 11191 Clay Rd., Houston, TX 77041
 Early Registration Costs \$30; or pay at the door for \$38.

Join the Houston Area Professional Express Network on Thursday, July 19th for a networking luncheon and a presentation by, Texas Motor Transportation Consultants LLC, CEO, Sheri Parrack. Parrack, a successful entrepreneur, established her business in 1980 as the sole employee. Today she employs 18 staff members with a combined service experience of over 250 years. In 2013 Parrack established a partnership with her daughter Lisa L. Parrack Keith. Lisa represents TMTC as CFO/Vice President.

Parrack attributes her numerous Houston Community Honors & Awards to the American Business Women's Association (ABWA). Her success grew in large part by maintaining and growing her ABWA network. Parrack will be sharing her wisdom to show us how to make that HAPEN ourselves.

Julie Burch the National Vice President of ABWA will be joining us on this inaugural event to install the 2018-2019 HAPEN Board of Directors. New inductees to the 2018-2019 HAPEN Board include: President – Sheri Parrack, Texas Motor Transportation Consultants LLC; President-Elect – Jessica Smith, IBERIABANK; VP of Communications – Larkin Spires, Family Heritage; VP of Finance – Michele Barnes, QB Data LLC; VP of Marketing – J Zubire Franco, Franco Innovative; VP of Membership – Nicole Travis, Texas Realty Select and VP of Programs – Diana Saufley, Keller Williams Platinum.

This month's HAPEN meeting begins with registration and networking at 11:00 a.m. followed with a prompt 11:30 a.m. start of the program. Luncheons are held at the Sheraton West Houston Hotel, 11191 Clay Rd.

About Houston Area Professional Express Network (HAPEN)

Houston Area Professional Express Network's mission is to GROW our membership TOGETHER through strength and vitality of positive relationships with each member's experiences. Our members have opportunities to pursue excellence and achieve both local and national recognition. HAPEN is part of the national organization of American Business Women's Association (ABWA), for more information visit www.HAPEN.org.

About American Business Women's Association (ABWA)

Founded in 1949, ABWA provides business training and

networking opportunities for women of diverse occupations and backgrounds. ABWA has dedicated 60 years to women's education, workplace skills, and career development training. For more information visit www.abwa.org.



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GUESTS IN YOUR ATTIC

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



Who doesn't enjoy seeing squirrels scamper from tree to tree? Everyone loves seeing birds at their feeders. Who doesn't love seeing the does with their fawns? We live side by side with wildlife. Is it any wonder that conflicts arise between humans and the animals?

This is baby season for raccoons. You may find that a mama raccoon has taken up residence in your attic or garage. The best advice we can offer you is to leave her alone. Within a couple of weeks, she will lead her babies out of your attic or garage to live in the wild. If you just can't wait, here are a couple of things you can try. Put a bright light in the area at night and play some LOUD music. Some say talk radio is best. You can throw some moth balls in the area or ammonia-soaked cotton balls. She will probably choose to move the babies to a darker, quieter place outside. When she moves out, it's your responsibility to find out how she got in and block the entrance or your attic will always look like an apartment for rent to wildlife.

We often receive calls from homeowners asking for advice on how to stop raccoons that are getting into trash cans. Solution: try using some bungee cords to secure the top. Another issue we hear about is that raccoons are eating food that is being put out for feral cats. Since raccoons are nocturnal, simply removing the cat food at night will fix the problem except in the spring when mama raccoons can be seen looking for food during the day. No, they are not rabid! They are just hungry. Some homeowners ask about trapping and relocating. While removal may seem like a solution, it usually only creates an enticing vacancy for another animal in search of a meal. Remove raccoons from an area and it's only a matter of time before others move in to take their place. Additionally, the survival rate of relocated raccoons is very low. Raccoons are territorial and putting a lone raccoon into an area already populated with other raccoons can often result in death as the other raccoons will consider him/her as an intruder.

There are products available that may help not only with raccoons but other animals as well. One such product is the motion-activated

sprinkler. When an animal gets close to the food source, the sprinkler goes off and scares them away. Just do an internet search and I'm certain you'll find other products that may work as well.

With urban sprawl and loss of habitats, we need to learn to live in harmony with wildlife. TWRC Wildlife Center can often help you find solutions to your issues. Check our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org or call us at 713-468-8972.

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We will provide a weekly training schedule and opportunities for group training throughout the week with our distance runs on Saturday morning at Pope Elementary on N. Bridgeland Lake Parkway in Bridgeland.

Registration for our Winter Season is open and the programs will begin on July 14th. Please visit us at <http://www.usafitcypress.com> for addition information.

CY-FAIR REPUBLICAN WOMEN JULY MEETING

CFRW will meet on Tuesday, July 10th at 10:30 AM.

Hearthstone Country Club, 7615 Ameswood, Houston, TX 77095

Meeting is \$3 – Meeting with Lunch at Noon is \$23.

On our July meeting date, we will welcome Jacob Monty, a long-time supporter and fundraiser for Republican office holders and candidates, and is also recognized as one of the leading immigration attorneys in the United States. Jacob will give an overview on the various issues being discussed locally and in Washington surrounding immigration, DACA, the border fence, and other related issues. This speaker was rescheduled from April.

See the website for details and RSVP to www.cfrw.net by July 3rd.

Several candidates attend our meetings regularly so come and get to know them.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Check our website for the August Social, an evening event on Friday, August 3rd.

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NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

APRICOT STREUSEL BARS



INGREDIENTS:

1 cup dried apricots, coarsely chopped
1 cup sugar
1 1/2 cups water
2 cups flour
2 cups old-fashioned or quick-cooking oats
1 cup packed dark brown sugar
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 pound (2 sticks) unsalted butter, melted
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Confectioners' sugar, for garnish

DIRECTIONS:

In medium saucepan, bring apricots, white sugar and water to boil over medium-high heat, stirring often. Reduce heat to medium low and simmer, uncovered, stirring often, until fruit has softened and thickened into a puree, 20 to 30 minutes. Remove from heat and cool completely.

Position rack in center of oven and preheat to 350 degrees. Lightly butter 13-by-9 inch baking pan. Line bottom and short sides of pan with 14-inch-long sheet of aluminum foil, folding the excess foil back to make handles. Butter and flour foil and long sides of pan, tapping out excess flour.

In large bowl, thoroughly mix flour, oats, brown sugar and baking soda. Add melted butter and vanilla and stir well. Mixture will be crumbly. Press half of the oat mixture evenly into prepared pan and spread with cooled apricot mixture. Crumble remaining oat mixture on top and gently pat into filling.

Bake until streusel topping is golden brown and looks set in.

Cool on a wire rack and cut into bars. Makes 36 bars.



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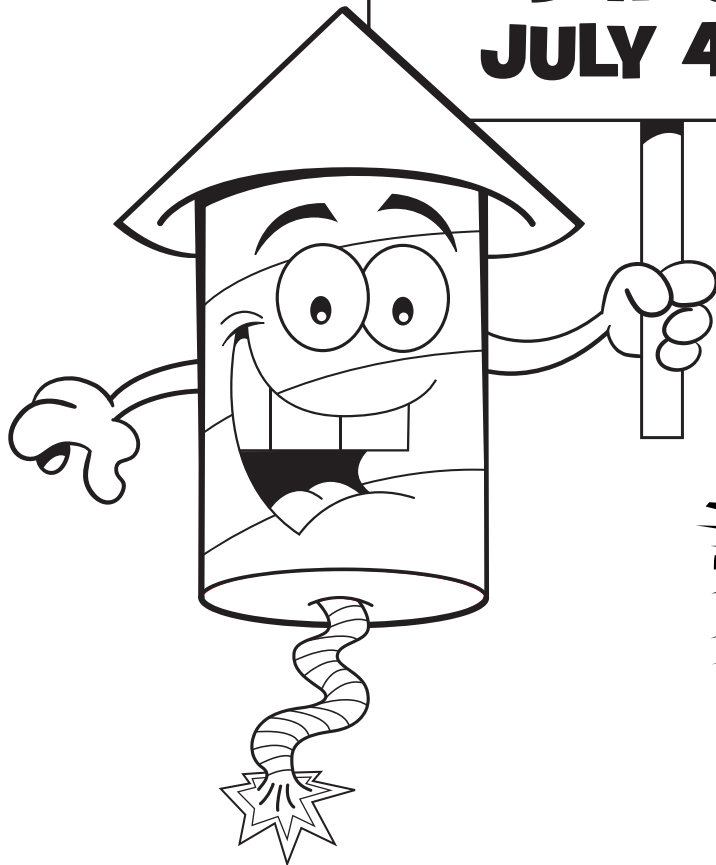
We will select the top few and post their artwork on our website at www.peelinc.com/index.php/kids-club

DUE: July 31st, 2018

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name (first name, last initial): _____ Age: _____

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