



CYPRESS MILL *Chronicle*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS MILL

September 2018

Volume 18, Issue 9

A Restaurant's Plea to the Community to Help Save "The Cheese Bar"

by: Metta Archilla



Without the help of the Cypress community, The Cheese Bar, currently located in The Boardwalk at Towne Lake, could become a thread in memory without the backing of the very community they opened to support.

As Melissa and Troy

Boyce revealed their fears of losing everything, I recognized them as true modern-day entrepreneurial risk takers and felt compelled to share their story.

"When you have spent most of your waking hours and have poured personal finances into a dream that feels to be slipping through your hands, it's scary," whispered Melissa. "As of this month, the hard reality facing us has become glaringly apparent. Struggling from lack of cash flow, wrestling with the day to day demands of running the business and dealing with and the worry of being behind on bills are taking its toll."

Troy commented, "We have a great reputation, quality food, an award-winning Mac-n-Cheese and loyal following, but what most people don't realize is that despite these measurements of "success," it is excruciatingly difficult to manage costs without sufficient cash flow.

"The upside," Troy added, "is we are blessed with loyal employees who have stood by our side through thick and thin and embraced the very meaning of family. But the fact is, even though it's a hidden gem in plain sight, the complex is new, and people still don't know about The Boardwalk area. With customers so few and far between during the week, we can't even afford to pay ourselves a salary.

Melissa added, "We need people to come to visit us! I can't encourage people enough to support the little guys."

Melissa and Troy spoke about their once spirited ambition of opening a unique Mom and Pop shop here in Cypress. They realized their dream and with it came long hours, most days from sun up to sunset. "It's something you have to love doing, and we love it," Melissa explained.

"Troy and I live in the heart of Fairfield, so we know the Cypress area, and feel that there are residents who really crave something besides the usual chains. Realizing that Cypress is still a suburb, our concept is deliberately casual and kid-friendly, but offers a great date-night or experience for the "grown-ups" without having to get dressed up."

Fairfield has a strong sense of supporting its community, so being a tiny Mom and Pop shop appealed to them. I hope that folks will rally behind The Cheese Bar and give Melissa and Troy a chance to turn things around.

The success of the Cheese Bar is much more than personal, it benefits the communities of Cypress, Fairfield and the surrounding areas, in other ways. For their contribution during Hurricane Harvey, the Cy-Fair Fire Department awarded them with a Certificate of Appreciation for helping to raise funds that provided them with generators to keep their rescue operations up and running. They took meals to the Berry Center and provided food for the nearby neighborhoods that had flooded.

Aside from helping with Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts,

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(Continued from Cover)

Melissa and Troy are promoting a "Pay it Forward" program to feed the hungry locally in Cypress.

"Cypress has a growing population of homeless and displaced families, children, teens, and elderly. Not everyone is out on the street, but many are no longer welcome, or able, to stay at or in a home. After having seen similar "Pay it Forward" programs on Facebook, we decided to do something comparable. Customers can now "buy" a meal for \$7, and it will be used to feed someone less fortunate."

"We aren't just a restaurant! Although we are known for our food, we also sell cheeses and meats by the pound and cheese trays as well. Some unusual items can only be found in our shop.

"I encourage people to come to grab some cheeses, meats, nuts and a bottle of wine, and take it home for a quick dinner. We also have a small catering menu (our famous MAC is on it!)" Troy offered.

Melissa and Troy are working on a few weekday specials and keep their Facebook and Web Page up to date with offerings such as Mimosa Monday (all day happy hour), Wine Wednesday (all night happy hour on Wines and Cheese Boards) and Pint Night Thursday.

"We are planning on offering future cheese classes, and now that our space is larger, we can host small parties like showers, birthdays, etc."

On a high note, she wants you to know they are more than just a comfy-casual place to get great food and relax with friends and family. They are also a unique combination of a European-style cheese shop and an intimate American bistro.

I encourage you to share this story and support this hard-working family and The Cheese Bar.





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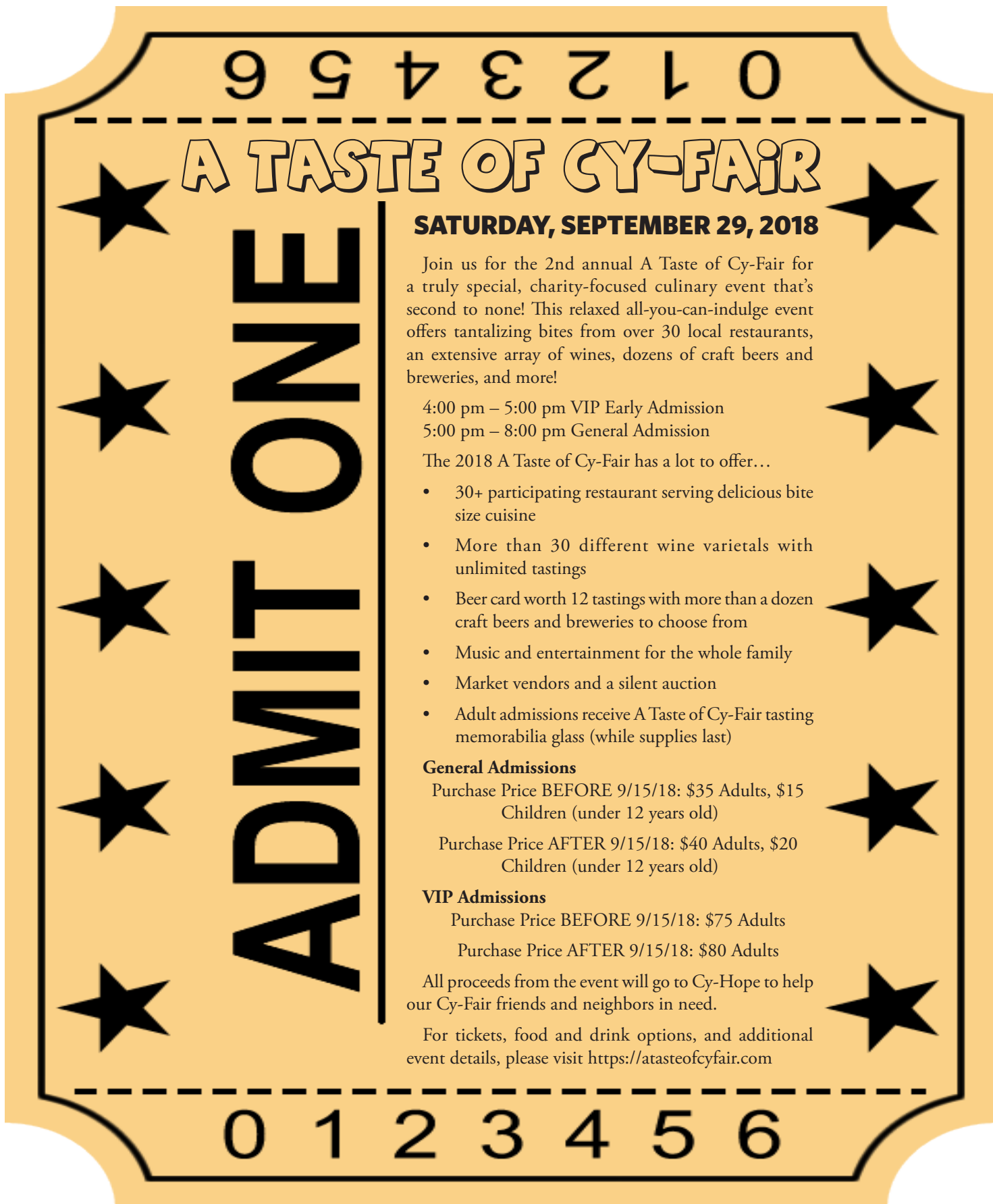
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A TASTE OF CY-FAIR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

Join us for the 2nd annual A Taste of Cy-Fair for a truly special, charity-focused culinary event that's second to none! This relaxed all-you-can-indulge event offers tantalizing bites from over 30 local restaurants, an extensive array of wines, dozens of craft beers and breweries, and more!

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm VIP Early Admission

5:00 pm – 8:00 pm General Admission

The 2018 A Taste of Cy-Fair has a lot to offer...

- 30+ participating restaurant serving delicious bite size cuisine
- More than 30 different wine varietals with unlimited tastings
- Beer card worth 12 tastings with more than a dozen craft beers and breweries to choose from
- Music and entertainment for the whole family
- Market vendors and a silent auction
- Adult admissions receive A Taste of Cy-Fair tasting memorabilia glass (while supplies last)

General Admissions

Purchase Price BEFORE 9/15/18: \$35 Adults, \$15 Children (under 12 years old)

Purchase Price AFTER 9/15/18: \$40 Adults, \$20 Children (under 12 years old)

VIP Admissions

Purchase Price BEFORE 9/15/18: \$75 Adults

Purchase Price AFTER 9/15/18: \$80 Adults

All proceeds from the event will go to Cy-Hope to help our Cy-Fair friends and neighbors in need.

For tickets, food and drink options, and additional event details, please visit <https://atasteofcyfair.com>

Mission to SERVE: Loving Our Community

by Claudia Mattox

This summer, our family and student ministries teamed up together to help serve and love the people in the Ranch Country community. Every Thursday evening our Family Pastor, John Walls, and our HS/College Pastor, Mark Julian, gathered volunteers to put on a party in the park! Families in the community could come and enjoy each other's company as they ate, worked on crafts, played games, and most importantly – worshipped together. We desire to cultivate relationships within our community and are overjoyed to say that several people came to know and grew closer to our Father God because of those who served others.

This fall, we look ahead to our 9th Annual Running for Greater Things Race & Fall Fest on October 20th! RGT's goal is to support adoptive and foster families. For 8 years now, through RGT, many have played a role in helping families grow through adoption and get the support they need after they are home. This event is so much more than just a fun run and family entertainment.

We desire to raise awareness and share opportunities with our community about adoption, foster, and orphan care needs close by and abroad. You can impact a child's life and the lives of adoptive/foster families in our community for generations to come by getting

involved, and together we can move mountains for children looking for forever homes. You can sign up at RunningForGreaterThings.com or attend Fall Fest after the race that day to help make a difference!



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Photographer Marks Off the Top of Bucket List Wish!

by Thomas Coffman



I have been a photographer for a decade and a KISS fan for over 40 years. Although I photograph a lot of high school seniors, families, kids, etc., the last couple of years I have been shooting concerts on the side as a hobby, and it's been great.

I've shot a lot of big names, but a few months ago I was invited to go see KISS at the Smart Financial Center in Sugarland, Texas.

A friend of mine, who knows KISS and is a photographer herself, had an all-access pass to the band and wanted to hang with me in the deluxe suites. So of course, I was willing.

Just about the time the show started, she told me that she had shot photographed them before and wanted to know if would I like to take control of her camera and capture the show?

Needless to say, I was in heaven! These were my boys--my idols for most of my life.

It was a dream come true. After the performance, my friend took me backstage to hang with the band and take a few photos.

In addition to their fabulous show, KISS should be applauded for their generosity. They donated a big check to Kingwood High School Band because the school had lost all of their instruments in the flood.

Dreams really do come true!!!!

On a final note: The photos were professionally shot using a Canon 60D. The lens was a 70-200. Most professional concerts carry enough electrical transformers and generators to power a small town. KISS' lighting and pyrotechnics, which included lasers, fireworks, confetti, smoke, high-powered fans, and streamers, was second to none. Their performance was one of the biggest and most exciting shows ever.



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