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LITTLE LEAGUERS THAT BECOME BIG LEAGUE



Submitted by Bruce Worley, grandfather

This is a short story about my grandson, Elijah MacNamee, and his rise to prominence as a valued member of Mississippi State University's baseball team.

It all started in Cypress, Texas. Elijah's love of baseball was recognized early on when he began tee ball at around the age of five to six. Even at that young age, he demonstrated unusual skill, natural ability, and a deep love for the sport. But, we in the family recognize that it took a village of friends, family members and mentors through elementary, middle school and high school to give him the boost that would offer him the opportunities and notoriety that he has enjoyed at Mississippi State University.

I hope this story offers up

some encouragement and motivation to the youth of Cypress to utilize and embrace the support offered by a dedicated network of family, friends, teachers, and coaches that exist in our community and are willing to see you through to your dream.

Elijah and his family recognized his natural talent early on and took his abilities very seriously. As he grew and developed, he qualified to join Fairfield Little League travel team. The relationships that he developed with his Fairfield teammates formed the inner circle that would support his future dreams of becoming a professional league player.

As he moved into high-school and on to the Cy-Ranch baseball team, along with some of his former Fairfield little leaguers, Elijah excelled on the field and was named one of the top seven outfielders in

the State of Texas. Cy-Ranch won the 6A High School Championship in 2015. Elijah was honored as one of the top 50 athletes in the greater Houston area. These achievements helped him receive an offer to attend Blinn Junior College on a baseball scholarship. While there, he excelled and earned honors after leading the Bucs in batting average, hits, runs scored, stolen bases and RBI's.

Elijah's playing field achievements at Blinn College led to a (Continued on Page 3)





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(Continued from Cover)

scholarship offer to play for Mississippi State University. Starting as a sophomore outfielder, he showed continued improvement. Even with the slow start and some administrative team issues, he and his teammates finished with a strong ending in the regular season. They beat the number one team in the nation (Florida State) in a three-game series. Elijah excelled again when needed.



Mississippi State won the regional after losing their first game. The stats indicated a 7% chance to get to Omaha (College World Series). With Elijah winning "most outstanding player in the regionals," the whole team stepped up to win the Super Regionals and the trip to Omaha. Although the stats inform the public of players and teams performances, they did not measure the "hearts" and the "will to win." They were on to Omaha. MSU won their 1st two games, but unfortunately lost their 2nd two and was eliminated. But, they could still hold their heads high!

As a loving grandfather and avid supporter of Elijah, I must say, all this began in right here in Cypress. A community made up of parents, teachers, families and community leaders that want to offer the best chances for our youth to participate and grow to the best of their abilities in sports and academics. Elijah's immediate family, Jennifer, Phil and his two sisters Emma and Ellie deserve all the credit in the world for their enduring support and lovefor my Grandson Elijah MacNamee.



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The Beacon PHOTOZRAPHER MARK? OFF THE TOP OF BUZKET LI?T WI?H!

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 alwwl-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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Giveaways • Complimentary dinner and dessert

Lindsay Lakes Banquet Center 16536 Mueschke Rd. Cypress, TX 77433

To register, visit **houstonmethodist.org/events** or call **281.737.2500**.





Mission to SERVE: Joving 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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ADVANCING HEALTH



Good Shepherd Classic Adults Welcomes Judge Ed Emmett

submitted by Joan Hagen



Join Good Shepherd United Methodist Church "Classic Adults" on Monday, September 10 to meet Judge Ed Emmett and get updates on Harris County, post Harvey.

Each month, the Classic Adults have a luncheon in the youth room of Good Shepherd Church. Any person 50+ is invited to gather with us for Christian fellowship, great food, entertainment, adventure, and programs that are

sometimes light hearted, but always inspirational!

On September 10th, Classic Adults welcomes County Judge Ed Emmett as our guest speaker. Judge Emmett is the presiding officer of Harris County Commissioners Court. In his position, he serves as the director of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and represents the county on numerous boards, committees, and regional councils of governments. Join us as we learn more about our county government, what a county judge does, what the county has learned after Hurricane Harvey, and how it affects us way out here in Cypress, Texas!

You do not have to be a member of Good Shepherd UMC to attend Classic Adults. For more information and to register for the luncheon go to the Good Shepherd website www.goodchurch. us and click on registrations.

This month, lunch will be catered by Marvino's Italian Kitchen. The cost is \$12. You are always welcome to bring your own. For more information, please call the church at 281-373-2273.



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The Beacon Homecoming Mums in Fairfield



Homecoming Mums and garters are a tradition as big as Texas and just as important as the Homecoming game itself. If the local high school's hallways are any indication, mums are here to stay and are bigger, bolder and shinier than ever!

As a native Cajun girl from Louisiana, I had no idea what a Homecoming Mum was much less how it would change my life! I am the owner of Twinkie Designs located right here in our Fairfield community.

When I first started Twinkie Designs I was just doing custom wreaths and hats. A friend approached me about 6 years ago to help make a homecoming mum for her daughter. I told her I had no idea

what a homecoming mum was, much less how to make one, but she insisted I was crafty, and we could figure it out together." Her friend's daughter was thrilled with the mum, and I realized that I not only had a knack for creating it but really enjoyed putting the mum together.

Several years later, I am creating custom mums and garters for schools in the Cy-Fair and surrounding districts and have even mailed a mum and garter to Alpine, Texas.

Each creation is as individual as the wearer. Mums can have anything on them related to the sports they play to their clubs or organization. The mums are adorned with bears dressed in band uniforms, cheer uniforms or cute outfits in school colors. Each bear takes an hour or so to create, and Twinkie Designs does its best to match the uniforms down to the trim. I created unique mums such as a Storm Trooper garter and a Unicorn Mum.

"My goal is always to get that gasp of delight or jumping up and down in excitement when the girl or guy receives their custom creation by Twinkie Designs. I spend many sleepless nights during homecoming season, but it is all worth it to have satisfied customers."

Mums range in sizes from a Single mum, Double mum, Triple

mum, Mega Single mum, Quad mums, Mum sashes or 6-8 flower mums. The sky is the limit only dictated by the client's budget.

Twinkie Designs is pleased to announce that we have a website to make ordering faster and easier than ever: https://twinkiedesigns. ecwid.com/. I can be reached also at sguidry2@yahoo.com or 832-978-8355. Our Facebook page is: https:// www.facebook.com/TwinkieDesigns



Kevin Howard, Attorney At Law, Certified Public Accountant Presents:

"WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR PROPERTY IN TEXAS WHEN YOU PASS WITHOUT A WILL".

Topics included:

- Surviving Spouse's Inheritance Rights
- Separate Property Distribution
- Community Property Distribution
- Surviving Children's Inheritance Rights
- Inheritance Rights of Children From Previous Relationships
- Inheritance Rights of Children Born Out of Wedlock
- Inheritance Rights of Siblings of Whole & Half Blood
- Inheritance Rights of Parents When Children Without Issue Pre-decease Parents

This will be a "questions & answers" presentation. Wednesday, September 19, 2018 11:00am—12:00pm

Be sure to sign up or call 713-274-3188 Juergen's Hall C.C. 26026 Hempstead Hwy Cypress, TX 77429

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SALYARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL 2018-2019 FALL SCHEDULES

CROSS-COUNTRY (XC) - FOOTBALL - VOLLEYBALL

Date	Sport	Against	HOME	AWAY
		Aragon, Cook, Goodson,		
9/12/18	XC	Hopper, Thornton		Hopper
		Anthony, Campbell, Hopper,		
9/19/18	XC	Labay, Smith		Labay
0/26/19	ХС	Bleyl, Hopper, Kahla, Truitt, Spillane	HOME	
9/26/18	٨C	Arnold, Dean, Hamilton,	HOME	
10/3/18	XC	Hopper, Watkins		Campbell
		Aragon, Campbell , Goodson,		
10/10/18	XC	Labay, Truitt		Aragon
10/17/18	XC-District Meet	District		Cy-Woods
9/18/18	Football (7th)	*A/B - Hopper		Hopper
9/25/18	Football (7th)	*B/A - Aragon	HOME	
10/2/18	Football (7th)	*A/B - Smith		Smith
10/9/18	Football (7th)	*B/A - Watkins	HOME	
10/16/18	Football (7th)	*A/B -Goodson		Goodson
10/23/18	Football (7th)	*B/A - Thornton	HOME	
10/30/18	Football (7th)	*A/B - Hamilton	HOME	
11/6/18	Football (7th)	*B/A - Anthony		Anthony
11/13/18	Football (7th)	*A/B - Spillane	HOME	
9/18/18	Football (8th)	*A/B - Hopper	HOME	
9/25/18	Football (8th)	*B/A - Aragon		Aragon
10/2/18	Football (8th)	*A/B - Smith	HOME	
10/9/18	Football (8th)	*B/A - Watkins		Watkins
10/16/18	Football (8th)	*A/B -Goodson	HOME	
10/23/18	Football (8th)	*B/A - Thornton		Thornton
10/30/18	Football (8th)	*A/B - Hamilton		Hamilton
11/6/18	Football (8th)	*B/A - Anthony	HOME	
11/13/18	Football (8th)	*A/B - Spillane		Spillane
9/20/18	Volleyball	*7AB-8BA - Hopper		Hopper
9/27/18	Volleyball	*7BA-8AB - Aragon	HOME	
10/4/18	Volleyball	*7AB-8BA - Smith		Smith
10/11/18	Volleyball	*7BA-8AB - Watkins	HOME	
10/18/18	Volleyball	*7AB-8BA - Goodson		Goodson
10/25/18	Volleyball	*7BA-8AB - Thornton	HOME	
11/1/18	Volleyball	*7AB-8BA - Hamilton	HOME	
11/8/18	Volleyball	*7BA-8AB - Anthony		Anthony
11/12/18	Volleyball	*7AB-8BA - Spillane	HOME	
9/13/18	Volleyball-SCRIMMAGE	*7BA-*BA - Hamilton		Hamilton
10/29/18	Volleyball-Tournaments	B-TEAM-Various Sites**	TBD	TBD
11/3/18	Volleyball-Tournaments	B-TEAM-Various Sites**	TBD	TBD
11/5/18	Volleyball-Tournaments	A-TEAM-Various Sites**	TBD	TBD
11/10/18	Volleyball-Tournaments	A-TEAM-Various Sites**	TBD	TBD

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Swenke Elementary Submitted by Shelly Cooper



The Swenke PTO would like to welcome you to this school year! Swenke Elementary will be celebrating 10 years of education, and the PTO is excited to be a part of this milestone.

We have many new events and additions to look forward

to, such as the Adventure Dash Fun Run in the Fall, new Parent Reader days, our new digital marquee, a new phone app to replace the paper directory as well as some updates to familiar events. We have been working hard this summer to design new spirit shirts, make the PTO website more "user-friendly", and more.

In addition, we will continue some of the much-anticipated activities like Bingo Night, Winter Dances, Candy Cane Fun Run, End of the Year Parties, and Staff Hospitality Events. The PTO has a packed calendar filled with events for everyone and with help from our Swenke families, will make it all happen for our students and faculty.

Please visit the PTO website and login/register to stay informed (www.swenkepto.org). The PTO is always looking for volunteers to help make our events successful and our school a place for educational enrichment. When exploring the PTO website, make sure to visit the "Volunteer" tab for all types of volunteer opportunities as well as immediate volunteer needs.

Please let us know if you have any questions, suggestions or if you would like to volunteer. We are ready for another exciting school year!

For more information, please contact Swenke Elementary PTO, Shelley Cooper, at swenkepresident@gmail.com.



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VFW POST 8905



Since 1914, the VFW Auxiliary has been fulfilling its original objectives by supporting the Veteran of Foreign Wars, serving veterans, active-duty service members, and their families, and fostering patriotism nationwide.

Your local VFW Post 8905 is located at 21902 Northwest Freeway is just the place Veterans, their families, and

friends can go to enjoy fun, friendship and a sense of belonging.

May 9th, the Auxiliary installed their 2018-19 president, and she was none other than our own Donna Morse of Fairfield who assumed the reigns July 1st. She is no stranger to acting as the head honcho. Donna also served as post president back in 2009-10.

As she explained, Post 8905 is very active in both Cypress, Houston, and in District IV, where it resides. The Auxiliary is currently managed by both men and women who are a family member of the military serving overseas. Donna emphasizes that our local VFW is seeking not only new members, it is seeking Auxiliary volunteers to enhance their presence and their services in our area.

As president, Donna is responsible for planning the year's calendar and presiding over all functions and events. She is also responsible for attending monthly meetings and four district meetings per year. As the new president, she was honored to participate in the 119th VFW National Convention in Kansas City held in July.

According to Donna, "Not only was it exciting and memorable, but it was also awe-inspiring. I met patriotic, dedicated people from all over the county interested in helping our veterans. I also got to cheer the state delegates as they paraded through the conference halls. Another unforgettable highlight was attending the special meeting at the Municipal Auditorium where President Trump acknowledged a 94-year old war veteran and invited him to the White House for his 95th birthday. And to top it off, I attended a patriotic concert by Trace Adkins who, as everyone knows, is always at his best when performing for our nation's servicemen and women."

Of all her duties, Donna admits that her favorite veteran's program is the time-honored Buddy Poppy initiative. Spanning back to before Memorial Day in 1922, the VFW conducted their first poppy distribution, becoming the first veterans' organization to organize a nationwide distribution. In 1923 VFW "Buddy"* Poppies were assembled by disabled and needy veterans who were paid for their work providing them with much needed financial assistance. The next year, disabled veterans assembled VFW Buddy Poppies at the Buddy Poppy factory in Pittsburgh. The designation "Buddy Poppy" was adopted at that time. On May 20, 1924, the VFW was granted their organizational trademark rights in the name of Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers. No other organization, firm or individual can legally use the name, Buddy Poppy.



Today, Buddy Poppies are still assembled by disabled and needy veterans in VA Hospitals who are provided compensation for assembling the poppies. The initiative also offers financial assistance in maintaining state and national veterans' rehabilitation and service programs and partially supports the VFW National Home For Children.

Donna created a project highlighting the importance of Poppies. After winning a local and state competition, she was invited to display her artwork at the VFW gathering in Kansas City.

Home from the convention, Donna, is

ready to hit the ground running. Steak dinners, hosted on the first Friday of the month, will continue as usual. In August, the VFW conducted its yearly orientation. September's main event will be the annual fund-raiser, the VFW Auxiliary Cookoff. Post 8905 will continue to participate in the monthly Bingo at I-45 and 1960. Along with the March of Dimes, our VFW will provide baby showers for mothers while military fathers are overseas. In October, the Cypress Chapter will collect sweatshirts, underwear, and socks to donate to the patients at the VA hospital. During November they deliver food to nursing homes, and in December they celebrate Christmas at a lovely Christmas party for members.

Donna is a very busy person. She loves what she does, and invites all veterans and military families to join in the fun and lend a helping hand.





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