

October 2018 • Volume 12, Issue 10

RANCH RECORD

News for the Residents of Blackhorse Ranch



BRIDGELAND HS THEATRE PRESENTS

Big Fish THE MUSICAL



October 11, 12, 13, and 15 at 7PM

Tickets:

Students/Senior Citizens: \$12 Pre-Sale | \$15 At the Door

General Admission: \$15 Pre-Sale | \$18 At the Door

Purchase tickets at: bridgelandhstheatre.org

Big Fish: The story shifts between two timelines. In the present-day real world, sixty-year-old Edward Bloom faces his mortality while Will prepares to become a father himself. In the storybook past, Edward ages from a teenager, encountering a Witch, a Giant, a Mermaid, and the love of his life, Sandra. The stories meet as Will discovers the secret his father never revealed.

RANCH RECORD

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Drivers License Info.	281-955-1100
Harris County Tax	713-224-1919

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Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Ranch Record. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Blackhorse Ranch residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.



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Fairfield Choir Sings at the Vatican



Since 1626 the finest choirs in the world have sung masses at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. In 2018 Fairfield's own, Good Shepherd United Methodist Church Chancel Choir joined the list that includes Coro della Cappella Musicale Pontificia (The Pope's Choir), the Vienna Boys Choir, the choir of Notre Dame Cathedral Paris, Choir of Men and Boys from St. Thomas on 5th Avenue in New York, etc. Each year leading

conductors from around the globe are invited by the Vatican to lead choral masses at the high altar when the St. Peter's Choir is on summer sabbatical. This year, Dr. Sterling Allen, Director of Music and Worship Arts at Good Shepherd received this prestigious invitation from the Cardinal who oversees all liturgical services at St. Peter's Basilica and in the Sistine Chapel.

Dr. Allen led the choir on tour to Venice, Florence, Assisi, Sienna,

Pisa, and Rome. They embraced Italian culture, enjoyed the beauty of the country, and explored the ancient sites. The tour culminated with the beautiful evensong mass at the High Altar of St. Peter's Basilica. During the mass the choir sang favorite settings of Mack Wilberg's Amazing Grace featuring choir, organ, and flute; Mark Hayes' Fairest, Lord Jesus; Go to the World (the song Good Shepherd uses weekly as their benediction song); and Mozart's Ave Verum Corpus.

The Chancel Choir of Good Shepherd is not new to traveling and singing in prestigious venues. In 2016 the choir sang while on a concert tour of Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and England. In 2017 the choir sang two concerts at the invitation of President Donald Trump at the White House during it's Christmas celebrations. In 2020 the choir is looking forward to outreach concerts in Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Oberammergau, and Munich. Each of these concert/outreach tours includes not only singers and instrumentalists, but also friends and family. If you're interested in joining the next tour to the Czech Republic, Austria, and Germany email Dr. Allen at sterlinga@goodchurch.us. To hear this incredible choir locally you can attend worship at Good Shepherd every Sunday at 9:15 AM and on December 9th for their annual Christmas at Good Shepherd concert.

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Breast Cancer Survivors Give Confidence to Others

by Jackie Devine



Whether a friend or family member is newly diagnosed or in the midst of cancer treatment, she has a lot on her mind and plenty to think about. Giving her another tuna casserole might be helpful, but gifting her a Pink Warrior Calendar might give her hope. And, in the final analysis, faith in the future is a priceless commodity,"

claims Christine Lewis. "Hopefulness can make a big difference in the outcome of her treatment. Without it, she doesn't have much to look forward to during her journey through breast cancer."

"My vision," says Christine, "is to help restore confidence in breast cancer survivors while providing hope for the newly diagnosed by creating a calendar of women that have survived breast cancer. Targeted to the general market, my objective is to create a refined, tasteful, and creative work of art—not just another fundraising calendar but something that fosters the expectancy of healing."

"In the future, after we have launched the calendar, I am considering publishing a 'lookbook' for reconstructive surgeons. Another of my plans includes establishing a modeling agency that is similar to typical agencies but offers the services of cancer patients models to support the expanding marketing needs of the related medical industry and suppliers of products and services," she explained.

According to Christine, this year, she is concentrating solely on the calendar. Currently, her primary focus is to obtain funding for the photo shoot and completing the calendar. Other product lines

(Continued on Page 7)

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Senior and Volunteer Spotlight

by Jackie Devine and Jill Bright

Recently, local Cypress seniors visited the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. Bill and Beth Wilson accompanied me out to the lovely Barbara Bush memorial and gardens. On the way, Bill told me of the time he spends at A&M because of his involvement with the Corps of Cadets.

As a Missourian, I knew little Corps history and asked Bill to grant me an interview. He agreed but said the Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets Association had just published an article on Beth and him---of which I requested and received in short order. It was a perfect accounting of my friends and their dedication to the things they hold dear. Jill Bright, the author of the article, graciously granted me permission to reprint it. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did.

Volunteer Spotlight: Bill & Beth Wilson

by Jill Bright

When William “Bill” and Beth Wilson took their son, Jonathan ’08, to Freshman Orientation Week (FOW) in 2004, little did they know that the Corps of Cadets would not only change his life but theirs too. Jonathan is a first-generation Aggie and, much to the Wilson’s delight, chose to join the Corps.

As a senior in high school, Jonathan spent the night with Squadron (SQ) 2, and thought he would be a Gator. At FOW, however, he was assigned to SQ 3, and he became a Thunderbird, although he remained friends with the Gators. Taking an active role in Jonathan’s Corps experience, the Wilsons came to College Station for all of the march ins, reviews, and outfit BBQs. They met other SQ 3 parents and quickly developed a friendship with Henry ’66 and Linda Goodwin, whose son, Michael ’03, was in SQ3.

The Wilsons started helping at the outfit BBQs and attending the Goodwin’s tailgate. The Wilsons met Don Crawford, Executive Director of the Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets Association (CCA), at the CCA trailer, which began the foundation for a relationship that still goes strong to this day. As CCA members, Crawford asked them to volunteer at Rally to the Guidons in 2009. “I remember being surrounded by Ol’ Ags waiting to get their shirts,” recalls Bill. “There was so much excitement in the room and we just loved it! We

were hooked.” Since that time, the Wilsons have rarely missed the opportunity to volunteer at CCA and Corps events.

In 2015, the Wilsons chose to move to Cypress—exactly 67 miles from the A&M Koldus garage—in order to be closer to College Station. “We really wanted to be close enough that we could reach College Station easily and not need to spend the night,” says Bill.

Although Jonathan graduated in 2009 (with a bachelor’s and a master’s degree), the Wilsons never stopped attending SQ 3 BBQs. They would purposely seek out those Cadets whose parents lived out of state and most likely could not visit often and try to make them feel special and part of a “family away from their family.” They have “adopted” Cadets and are known to some as “my Aggie Par-ents.”

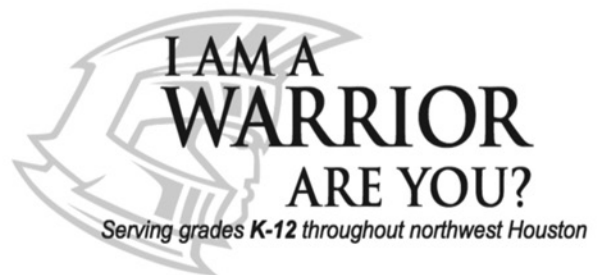
Bill is blessed with the love of photography and has taken photos of Ca-dets for the last 14 years. Each time he returns to Aggieland, his backpack is loaded with photos in separate Ziploc bags with different years and outfits on them to hand out accordingly. He also faithfully shares his photos with the CCA to be passed on to other parents through the CCA’s Flickr* account.

As one could imagine, the Wilsons are in high demand because of their devotion and loyalty to volunteering. When people ask them to volunteer, Bill says, “We would love too, but let me check our calendar.” He checks his calendar to make sure there is not a CCA or Corps event that conflicts. “The CCA and the Corps are our number one priority,” says Bill. “We will not miss a CCA event!” In the past ten years, Bill can recall only missing a few, and only recently because of the birth of their grandson, Wesley.

When the Wilsons are not volunteering for the CCA or the Corps, they are active in the Harris County Republican Party and spend as much time with their grandson as possible. A recent photo received of Wesley from Bill included a note that says: “Sending you a photo of why we need to stay in good health. Eighteen years from now, I want to be at FOW when our grandson checks into the Corps.” What a

(Continued on Page 7)

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(Breast Cancer Survivor Continued from Page 4)

are at least 12 months away.

The Pink Warriors are planning to have signing events which will be published at <https://www.pinkwarriorcalendargirls.com/save-the-date>. Those interested will be able to purchase calendars (which can be pre-ordered; advance orders receive a \$5.00 discount). Schedules will also be available on the site. "If readers want to order a calendar and have it delivered by mail, they can order online. Or," Christine added, "if they would like the shipping fee waived, we will post events where they can order a local calendar and have a meet and greet."

Anyone interested in donating items to an upcoming silent auction can contact Christine to arrange to pick up donations. For those interested in sponsoring an event, please submit a proposal of what you have in mind. We will get back to you promptly to arrange something. Likewise, if you are interested in hosting a calendar signing, meet and greet, or other public relations event, feel free to contact us. All of these inquiries can be sent to calendargirls@att.net.

"Lastly," concluded Christine, "if local women who are newly diagnosed would like to join a group of women to help comfort and guide them through their treatment I can also direct them to a wonderful group of pink sisters. We meet for lunch once a month, but some of us can also reach out more often."

(Senior and Volunteer Spotlight Continued from Page 4)

legacy to carry on with proud grandparents right there to cheer him on from the sidelines.

The Wilsons are not only Aggie parents, but also Aggies for life. After the first visit to A&M they fell in love with the University, the Corps of Cadets, and with the CCA. "We volunteer because the CCA strongly supports the Corps," says Bill. "The Corps makes leaders and the Cadets are some of the finest young people we have ever known." The Wilsons have played a large role volunteering at the CCA for many years. The CCA could not do it without Bill and Beth and we are honored to have them not only as wonderful volunteers, but also as members since 2004! Thank you Bill and Beth for all you do for the CCA!

The Corps is known as the "Keepers of the Spirit and Guardians of Tradition" because the cadets are charged with preservation and execution of time-honored traditions. Whether it's the Ross Volunteer Company conducting a three-volley salute at Silver Taps or Aggie Muster, Parsons Mounted Cavalry firing the Spirit of '02 cannon every time the Aggie football team scores, or caring for Reveille, Texas A&M's official mascot, the Corps of Cadets ensures Texas A&M traditions live on, just as they have for over 140 years.

If you are interested in finding more out about the Corps of Cadets Association, please checkout their website: corpsofcadets.org.



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