

A NEWSLETTER FOR TOWNE LAKE RESIDENTS

OCTOBER 2018 VOLUME 7, ISSUE 10

VFW COOK-OFF

Thirty-three of the hottest cooks in Texas circled their wagons and were fired up and ready to strut their stuff on Friday and Saturday, September 17th and 18th during the VFW Post 8905's Auxiliary Annual BB Cook-Off at 21902 NW Freeway in Cypress. Competitors came prepared to prove their skills smoking

brisket, chicken, ribs and Bloody Mary & Beans.

The Auxiliary made \$ 9,646.00 from the proceeds of the cookoff, auction and silent auction.

Steak Night is October 5th at 6:30. Come out, support the VFW and our troops. Meet the guys and gals that made our freedom possible.



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ARTICLE INFO

The *Tribune* is mailed monthly to all Towne Lake residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to <u>townelake@</u> <u>peelinc.com</u>. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.



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

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Fairfield Choir Sings at the Vatican

by Archibald Franklin



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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Bridgeland HS Theatre Presents: Big Fish the Musical

Dates: **October 11, 12, 13, 15**

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.





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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 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 preordered; 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."

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Two Years, Many Milestones

by Jonathan Spenser, Adult Ministries Pastor



It is hard to believe, but Second Baptist Church is already coming up on the second anniversary of their new Cypress Campus! The Second Family opened their doors in Fairfield on October 30, 2016

and have been very busy since that day. Every Sunday, they offer outstanding Bible Study classes to the community for all ages and stages and dynamic worship featuring live preaching from Pastor Stephen Bailiff. But if you've been around Second, you know that Sunday mornings are just the beginning of their mission. Since our Grand Opening two years ago, the Cypress Campus has already experienced these incredible milestones:

- They've offered state of the art VBS programs the past two summers with over 5000 in attendance from the local Cypress area.
- Second adopted 3 local CFISD schools. Every month, Second comes alongside them by mentoring students, supporting teachers, and sponsoring school events.
- They've developed CFISD partnerships including hosting district wide training meetings and seminars. They've also recognized the superintendent and Cypress' two state championship teams on Sunday mornings (Cy-Fair HS and Cypress Christian).
- Christmas events and services have impacted thousands in the area. From their annual Kids Crazy Christmas Shows, to their amazing train displays for the kids, to last year's memorable Christmas Spectacular event, Second has provided an incredible Christmas calendar filled with programs for the entire community.
- They've made the Easter season memorable with a free "Passion Week Experience" exhibit, a 20,000 Easter egg hunt, and incredible celebration services on Sunday mornings.
- Their All American Sunday event on 4th of July weekend was a community favorite, as it featured a carnival and a professional fireworks show for the entire community.
- They've hosted a Dave Ramsey conference, a marriage conference, and special sports camps for kids.
- Following Hurricane Harvey, the Cypress Campus played a pivotal role in ministering to impacted families in NW Houston. Over 1000 volunteers from their church remediated over 240 flooded homes. The church also served as a donation and distribution center and were able to get nearly 300 pallets of goods to families in need.
- They weekly host 500+ ladies from the local Community Bible Study organization.
- Most importantly, they've baptized over 700 people and joined over 1400 new members since opening their doors!

It has been an amazing two years of ministry for the Second Family, but the staff and leadership truly believe the best is yet to come! They'd like to invite you to come worship with them this fall as they celebrate all that God has done, and look forward with great anticipation to all that is yet to come. For more information you can visit their website at www.second.org/cypress or their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/secondcypress

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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 Parents."

Bill is blessed with the love of photography and has taken photos of Cadets 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 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.

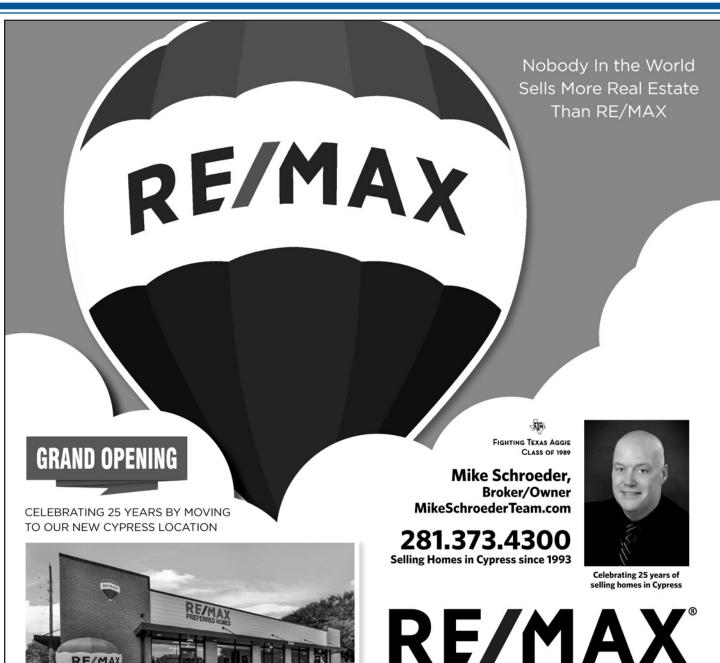
If you are interested in finding more out about the Corps of Cadets Association, please checkout their website: corpsofcadets.org.

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