

# SPECTATOR

November 2018

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS CREEK LAKES

Volume 7, Issue 11

## Northwest Flyers Kids Track Club Holds Registration for 32nd Season



The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club will celebrate its 32nd Anniversary Season by hosting its annual free Registration/Orientation Breakfast on Saturday, February 2nd, 2019, for all boys and girls who are interested in joining for the 2019 track season. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

The event is an opportunity for youth athletes to register for the 2019 spring/summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches, staff, and other new and returning athletes. The event will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic organization (USATF). All athletes and parents who wish to join the Northwest Flyers must attend the orientation before registering.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track club, affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and sanctioned "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org>, contact Linette Roach at [linette.roach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:linette.roach@sbcglobal.net), or "Like" the club on Facebook.



## Want to Play Soccer?

AHFC (Albion Hurricanes FC) has multiple campuses in and around Houston. The club invites all interested players from the ages of 7 to 18 to Evaluations December 3 - 6, 2018 and become part of our success. Visit [albionhurricanes.org](http://albionhurricanes.org) for details about your particular campus (Southwest, Katy, Central Cy Fair).

AHFC offers JHSL (a recreational program for 5 - 10 year olds) at our Cy Fair and Central locations along side our Competitive programs. Additional training is also offered at Katy Friday Night Academy and New Territory Thursday Night Academy. All information regarding all of the programs can be found at [albionhurricanes.org](http://albionhurricanes.org).

**AHFC Royals USL2 & WPSL Tryouts!!**

AHFC Royals is back the summer 2019 (May - August). The Royals USL2 (formerly PDL) and WPSL are a pathway for players desiring to play at a higher level. It is a proven pathway to the pros! Don't miss out. Join our team this coming season.

Tryouts will be held December 15, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at CRSP (3601 Campbell RD, Houston TX 77080). Registration is required prior to tryouts. Fee for the December tryouts will be \$50 while the March tryout fee will be \$75. Register at [www.ahfcroyals.com](http://www.ahfcroyals.com). #LIVetheDREAM #BEROYAL

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## Cypress Christian School

### Senior to Compete in Essay Contest

Lauren Storey was selected to represent Cypress Christian School in the Daughters of the American Revolution annual essay contest. Lauren's essay will be sent to the local chapter where one student will be moved on to the state competition. The scholarship is awarded to students showing dedication to the pursuit of degrees in diverse disciplines including history, law, nursing and education.

### National Merit Hispanic Scholar

Each year students of Hispanic background are recognized for their outstanding scores on the PSAT-NMSQT. Congratulations to Sophia Slabic on this accomplishment!

### Senior Receives State-wide Football Award

Congratulations to Senior Christian Fleischhauer for being honored as the Texas Private School Built Ford Tough Player of the Week. This award is presented to one player, selected from all private schools across the state of Texas.

### Admissions Information

Call to schedule a tour, 281.469.7745

Upcoming Admissions Events:

- K-12 Preview - November 6
- Student Visitor Day - November 13



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## 5 Ways to Honor Your Local Veterans on Veterans Day



While most of us are quick to post on social media, fly an American flag, or offer a quick handshake to a local servicemember on Veterans Day, many are unsure how to show our full appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Below are five ways to truly honor veterans this Veterans Day:

### 1. Volunteer Your Time

There are hundreds of volunteer organizations that work both directly and indirectly with veterans. Turn your appreciation into action by offering your time and energy to any one of these noble causes. Contact your local VFW or American Legion to see what upcoming events may be in need of volunteers. Offer assistance to a local elderly or disabled vet, or volunteer a few hours to a local veteran-owned business. Whatever your skill, put it to use in your community by helping out the veterans closest to you. Visit [texvet.com/volunteer](http://texvet.com/volunteer) to search for opportunities available in your area.

### 2. Donate Your Dollars

If you're short on time, making a monetary donation is another great way to show support. There are many organizations that offer various forms of aid and assistance to our country's servicemen and women. For instance, Homes for Our Troops builds specially-equipped homes for injured servicemembers. Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers financial assistance and scholarships. The Gary Sinise Foundation creates and supports unique programs specifically for veterans. There are countless organizations dedicated to improving the lives of American veterans, and they can only continue to do so with the financial support of grateful citizens like you.

### 3. Take Time to Listen

Taking time to have a real conversation with your neighbor seems to be a lost art in today's virtual world! Veterans have a wealth of knowledge and interesting stories to share for those willing to listen. Of course, not every veteran will be willing to share the details of his or her time in the service, but many enjoy reminiscing and sharing their unique perspective. Rather than simply thanking them for serving their country, take a moment to open up a meaningful dialogue about their military service and how it has shaped their views on life and liberty.

### 4. Stay Informed

How much do you really know about how our country's military works? What is the status of current legislation regarding today's active-duty troops and veterans? Which political leaders have a military background? Many people have little more than basic knowledge of America's armed forces. One of the best ways to show your appreciation is to take the time to understand exactly what role the military plays in today's world. Arm yourself with knowledge by reading (and verifying) information about the military's mission and its history, and always exercise your rights by voting for people and policies that support veterans.

### 5. Pay it Forward

The service of veterans is the cornerstone on which American freedom stands. It is important to appreciate both the rights and responsibilities of being an American and to work together to ensure that veterans' sacrifices are not in vain. Honor a veteran this Veterans Day by being a good citizen, a good neighbor, and a good friend. Even the smallest good deed can go a long way towards making America a better place for everyone.





## Cypress Ranch Theatre Presents: The Little Mermaid

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. With music by eight-time Academy Award winner, Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater and a compelling book by Doug Wright, this fishy fable will capture your heart with its irresistible songs, including "Under the Sea," "Kiss the Girl" and "Part of Your World."

Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to trade her tail for legs. But the bargain is not what it seems, and Ariel needs the help of her colorful friends, Flounder the fish, Scuttle the seagull and Sebastian the crab to restore order under the sea.

Disney's *The Little Mermaid* offers a fantastic creative opportunity for rich costumes and sets, as well as the chance to perform some of the best-known songs from the past 30 years.

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**THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR THE COMMUNITY!**

Messiah's A Night in Bethlehem is an outdoor, interactive event where individuals and families are invited to stroll through Bethlehem at their own pace. Imagine what life was like during this miraculous time in history as you visit the Spice Merchant, the Produce Market, sample the wonderful treats at the Bakery and taste the savory soup at the Soldier's Tavern. Listen to the storyteller, and visit the shepherds, & the Inn. Listen for the Kings arrival at the stable with gifts for Jesus, as Mary & Joseph look on. Don't miss this living, interactive recreation of the original Christmas story. Join us for free activities for the family including candle making, creating a clay pinch pot, sewing a coin bag or playing Bethlehem dress-up. Pet the live animals and enjoy cookies, hot cider and coffee.

Messiah A Lutheran Faith Community is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, ½ mile north of Highway 290. Regular Sunday worship times are: 8 am—Traditions; 9:30 am—The Gathering; and 10:45 am—The Crossing. The Discovery (education) Hour is 9:15-10:15 AM on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or [www.messiahlc.org](http://www.messiahlc.org). All people are welcome at Messiah.



# 10 Ways to Give Thanks This Thanksgiving

The spirit of Thanksgiving is all about showing gratitude for your good fortune and giving to those who are less fortunate. Express your thanks this holiday season by involving the whole family in volunteering, donating, and spreading kindness. Try these great ideas to teach your children graciousness and goodwill. And don't forget -- you can use these ideas all year round!

From [familyeducation.com](http://familyeducation.com)

## 1. Express thanks in your decorations and traditions.

Decorate your home with words of thanks. For your holiday feast, create a thankful Thanksgiving tablecloth, use Thanksgiving napkins and place cards, or craft cute turkey place cards with your kids. During the meal, ask everyone at the table to voice a few things they are thankful for this year.

## 2. Donate to a favorite charity, such as the Salvation Army or Goodwill.

Some items in your home may no longer be of use to you, but they could be extremely valuable to others. Gather up gently used toys, clothes, home furnishings, or other items in your home and deliver them to the Salvation Army, Goodwill, or another charitable organization. You could also give a monetary donation — even small amounts are welcomed. Include a little note on a piece of paper or on the check about why you've chosen the charity and why you support the cause.

## 3. Visit a hospital.

The hospital can be a very lonely place for patients, especially during the holidays. Spend some of your time this holiday season with those who aren't able to be at home. You might visit the children's hospital and hand out stuffed animals or treats to children who need the extra cheer. Ask your kids to pick out a gift they think a kid like them would love.

## 4. Send a care package to soldiers overseas.

A holiday care package can be a great pick-me-up for soldiers who are far from home during the holidays. Gather up everyday necessities like soap, razors, toothbrushes, and travel-sized toiletries. Don't forget to include some goodies to keep their bellies full, like cookies, Rice Krispies® Treats, canned foods, and gum. Games, like small sudoku or crossword puzzle books, will help them stay busy during their free time.

## 5. Volunteer at an animal shelter.

It's important to keep family and friends in mind during the holidays, but don't forget the animals! Hundreds of homeless animals need your time, love, and hugs. Take your son or daughter to an animal shelter to volunteer for a day, or sign up to volunteer once a week to spread the love throughout the year. And if your family is ready for a pet, adopt one of your own!

## 6. Provide Thanksgiving dinner for a family in need.

You can make this holiday season one to remember for a hungry family. Offer a complete Thanksgiving dinner through your church or an outreach organization in your community. Ask your children to help you with the shopping list.

## 7. Donate money or volunteer at a women's shelter or an orphanage.

Give a Thanksgiving gift to one or more of the shelters or homes in your community. Your gift can be anything from a turkey to a homemade decoration or a toy. For an extra-special gift, take time out of your busy holiday schedule and help out by serving food at a homeless shelter. You undoubtedly will brighten many spirits, including your own.

## 8. Volunteer at a senior center or a veteran's home.

"Back in my day..." Have you ever noticed how the elderly love to talk about when they were young? This Thanksgiving, volunteer to chat, listen, or play a simple game with those of a different generation. They will surely appreciate spending time with youngsters, and you just might learn a thing or two. Visiting a veteran's home is also a great way to honor America's veterans, and this is the perfect time to do it — November 11 is Veteran's Day!

## 9. Sponsor a child in an impoverished country.

Spread Thanksgiving kindness across the globe by sponsoring a child in another country this year. You can keep track of how your contribution is helping the child, and it can be an opportunity for your own children to learn about other places in the world.

## 10. Invite extra guests to join your family for dinner.

The holidays are a time for giving and togetherness. If you know someone who will be alone for the holidays, make them feel loved by inviting them to your family's holiday dinner this year. The more, the merrier!

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## THANKSGIVING TRIVIA

Did you know.....

- Americans eat approximately 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving.
- The heaviest turkey on record, according to the Guinness Book of Records, weighs 86 pounds.
- The average turkey served for Thanksgiving weighs 16 pounds.
- Campbell's Soup created green bean casserole for an annual cookbook over 50 years ago. Now, Campbell's sells about \$20 million worth of cream of mushroom soup, most likely purchased by folks making what has become a thanksgiving tradition- green bean casserole.
- Historians say turkey was not served at the first Thanksgiving dinner, a three-day meal shared between the pilgrims and Wampanoag tribe in 1621. Instead, venison and seafood are most likely what was eaten.
- The first Thanksgiving dinner was eaten with spoons and knives — but no forks! Forks weren't a popular utensil until the 18th century.
- President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863, to be celebrated each year on the last Thursday of November.
- Benjamin Franklin said in a letter to his daughter in 1784 that he believed a turkey would be “a much more respectable Bird” for the young United States than the bald eagle. He said the turkey is “a true original native of America” and “a bird of courage.” Franklin's take on the national bird was not popular enough to displace the bald eagle.
- In 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey (260 tons) that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like sweet potatoes — and thus the first TV dinner was born.
- Each year, the president of the United States pardons a turkey and spares it from being eaten for Thanksgiving dinner. The first turkey pardon ceremony started with President Truman in 1947.
- The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade began in 1924 with 400 employees marching from Convent Ave to 145th street in New York City. During this time the parade was accompanied not with oversized balloons of our favorite cartoon characters, but with live animals borrowed from the Central Park Zoo.

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