



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 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.

Article by Crystal Glade



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Harvey Knocked Us Down, but A Night in Bethlehem is Back!

Saturday, December 1st & Sunday, December 2nd
5:00-8:00 pm
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. All people are welcome at Messiah.

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Please support the businesses that advertise in The Beacon. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Lakes of Fairhaven 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 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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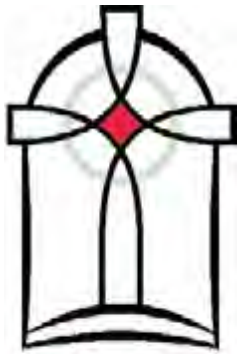
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**CHRIST the
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Fair Ladies of Christ the Redeemer

Fair Ladies of Christ the Redeemer, or FLOC, is a faith and fellowship group for the women who live in Fairfield and Lakes of Fairhaven that attend Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church.

We generally meet once a month, usually at a member's home, or a local restaurant, and occasionally at Christ the Redeemer. Our meetings consist of food and drinks, prayer and fellowship! We occasionally have a speaker on topics that pertain to our faith, have fun craft nights, attend Christ the Redeemer events, try out new restaurants,

and we also "give back" to the community and the church with some sort of charity or donation activity several times a year.

Our main goals are:

- To bring the CtR women of these two neighborhoods together to make social connections with each other,
- To support one another,
- To surround ourselves with women who share a common faith, and

- To bring those that are hesitant to attend CtR each weekend for Mass (due to the large size of the parish) back to Mass because there will be a friendly face in the crowd.

For more information, please contact Amy Wilkes at apw1974@juno.com, or search for our group on Facebook - Fair Ladies of Christ the Redeemer (FLOC) - and request to join our closed group.

We look forward to meeting you at our next event!



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The Cypress Ranch High School Choirs Present "Candles & Carols"

The Cypress Ranch Choirs will perform their Winter Concert, "Candles & Carols",

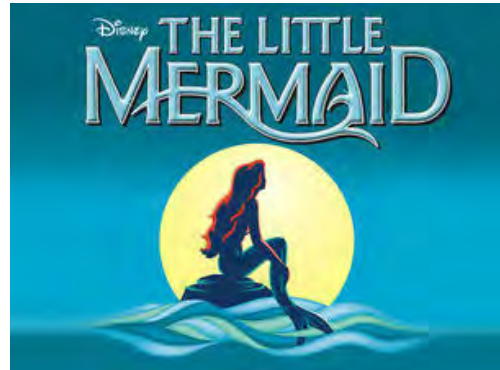
Tuesday, December 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cypress Ranch High School Auditorium.

Join us for hot chocolate, cookies and holiday cheer!

For more information, please check the Cypress Ranch Choir website <http://www.ranchchoir.com>



Cypress Ranch Theatre Presents The Little Mermaid



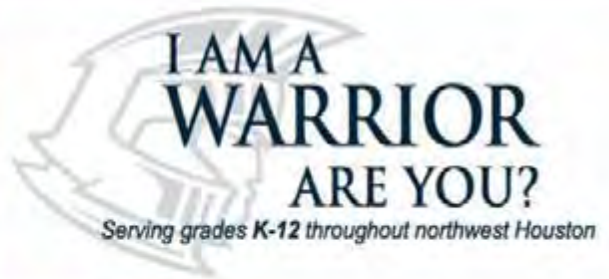
Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. With music by eight-

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.

CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



11123 Cypress N. Houston Road, Houston, TX 77065 | 281.469.8829 | CypressChristian.org

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.

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Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club

www.nwhcaggiemoms.org

Calling all Aggie moms!!! Whether you are a mom of a past, current, or new Aggie, come check out the Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club!! We meet the second Tuesday of every month (Aug-May), at the Houston Distributing Company, 7100 High Life Drive, Houston, Texas. Socializing and dinner starts at 6:30 pm, and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Each month, we have interesting speakers, and a chance to win a door prize, and a chance to enter the book award drawing! We have a lot of fun in our quest to support our Aggie students, and in awarding a number of student scholarships each year. The scholarship applications are due by early Feb. and are awarded in April.

We hope you will join us!! Please refer to the website for details on upcoming events. Gig 'Em and God Bless!

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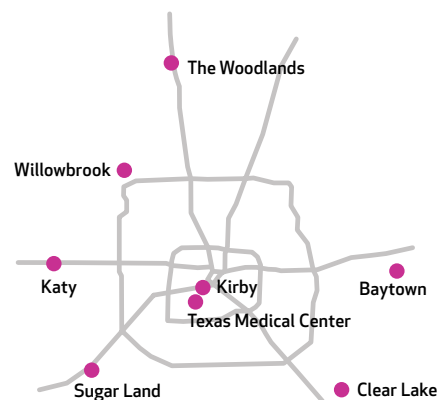
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