



## A NEWSLETTER FOR TOWNE LAKE RESIDENTS

JANUARY 2019

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

# CyFair Student Says No To Cancer

Believe it or not, cancer across the Houston region is becoming a household word. Maybe it's because for more than 75 years the Texas Medical Center has been a global leader in the fight to end cancer. Just this year, the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center was ranked No. 1 in cancer care by U.S. News & World Report's annual "Best Hospitals" survey, the 14th time in 17 years.

Many in our community, or one of our family members, have been diagnosed with cancer. Frankly, that's reason enough to support Andrew Nichols—N.W. Houston's Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's 2019 Student of The Year Candidate—in raising funds to find a cure for blood cancers. LLS focuses on improving the quality of life of patients and their families through research, access to drugs, and advocacy.

Although cancer awareness is increasing, it is likely many of us rarely give pause to the kids affected by the cancer experience. The fact that flies under the radar is that 24% of adults with cancer are parenting children younger than 18 years of age and about one-third of women with breast cancer have children living at home.

Statistics offer us critical hard data, but after interviewing Andrew, it became apparent that our community could benefit from learning about the young man behind the campaign and his passion for helping, close connection to the disease, and the coping mechanisms that have helped him survive.

Andrew explained, "Cancer is a family disease; not only the patient but the entire family is affected, especially young children and adolescents. That's why it is important to address the needs of children also living with the consequences of their parent's cancer and its treatment."

Supporting Andrew's comments, his mother Susan continued.



"On August 20, 2014, when I was diagnosed with leukemia, I had only three days to live. It was very quick, sudden, and life-threatening. Fortunately, immediate care and current cutting-edge drug therapies put



me in remission quickly. However, follow-up chemotherapy was required."

The road to recovery lasted two and a half years. For literally hundreds of days, she was graced with rotations and 'round the clock supervision by friends, colleagues, or family members who kept vigil over her.

Unlike many, an incredible community of caregivers embraced the Nichols family. Susan's husband, Rob, significantly reduced his work load to care for her around the clock and her dad relocated to Texas. Her brother sold his business in Arizona and relocated his family to the Lone Star State. Susan's sister moved from Copperfield to Fairfield. Her adopted son, Josh, took up residence in Fairfield as well. It was all-hands-on-deck to care for Susan and help raise their kids, Andrew and Amanda.

The Nichols siblings were more fortunate than most. Buoyed by a loving support network, they had people they could lean on for reassurance and who also encouraged them to seek outside interests. Over time they developed thriving businesses upon which to focus. Andrew baked, decorated, and sold cakes through his business Andrew's Artisan Cakes. Then, he moved into woodturning creating and selling handcrafted pens through Andrew's Artisan Pens. Amanda established herself as a seamstress. She markets her products through Amanda Faith Designs. Unfortunately, as most children dealing with parents challenged with life-threatening diseases, at times, they still wrestled

*(Continued on Page 2)*

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- Auto Theft .....	281-550-0458
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- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence.....	713-967-5743
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Cy-Ranch High School .....	281-373-2300

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### OTHER NUMBERS

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Harris County Health Department .....	713-439-6260
Post Office.....	281-859-9021
Harris County Public Library.....	281-290-3210
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
North Cypress Medical Center.....	832-912-3500

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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 [townelake@peelinc.com](mailto:townelake@peelinc.com). The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

(Continued from Cover Page)

with increased levels of distress and anxiety.

Andrew acknowledges, "It's not uncommon for children in those circumstances to take a "back seat" to the issues of cancer. With this campaign that is also something that can be addressed."

Continuing, he added, "My mom's battle with Leukemia deeply affected our family and every aspect of our lives. The only reason my mother is alive and in remission is due to medical research breakthroughs and her clinical trial drug Ponatinib that she will take every day for the rest of her life. This breakthrough drug has been possible due to the help of LLS funding research."

LLS helped fund 15 out of the 18 drugs the FDA approved for blood cancers in 2017. The LLS campaign that Andrew is heading up this year will help raise funds to pursue more research and develop more ways to save lives like his mom.

Andrew's campaign efforts kick off January 11th and will continue through March 1st. You can make a tax-deductible donation by going online to his fundraising page using the link that follows: <https://events.lls.org/txg/HoustonSOY19/anichols> and click on the "Donate Today" link.

Aside from financial donations, you can donate goods or services for auction items, sponsorships, donation matching opportunities, or tickets/tables to the Grand Finale on Friday, March 1st at the Junior League in Houston.



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## Field of Dreams a Huge Success

by Janet Guthrie

The First Annual FSA Fairfield of Dreams Tournament was held, on December 1, 2018 at the Fairfield Athletic Association's fields.

According to Michael McDaniel, "It will be an annual event now that it is established. We had 10 teams, five recreational and five competitive. The difference is recreational has buddies on the field with them and competitive does not have a buddy. We had teams from all over Houston area. From Conroe all the way to Lake Houston area up to Cypress. For team names we basically used local high school mascots."

One hundred-and-seven special needs players participated, and 162 local Fairfield volunteers unselfishly gave up time to assure the event was a success.

The event was organized by Chad McDaniel, Laura Edgorf, and Becky Portzline.

Special thanks to Texas Roofworks LLC for being the lead sponsor of the event. Additional sponsors include: Children's Lighthouse, Bahama Bucks, Webb Automotive, Texas Children, Urgent Care, JNL Plumbing, Buzz Tees, Athletic Threads, CFI Mechanical, More Than Signs, Crazy Apes Tees, YMCA, and Miracle League.



## Texas Christian High School Alumni News

Elisa Kendall, a graduate of Texas Christian High School, is now ranked 14th nationally and 3rd regionally in NCAA DIII Women's Tennis. This is so exciting to hear for her junior year at ETBU. Texas Christian is so proud of your hard work Elisa!!! We are praying for you!



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## Covenant Academy News

Covenant Academy held Crazy Sock Day on Dec. 6 honoring President George H. W. Bush #41!

Basketball season is in full swing for our middle school and high school teams. Our athletes are training hard on and off the court. We are proud of our student athletes. Go Patriots.

On Nov. 9, during our Veteran's Day Chapel, we honored those who served from our school families, 4th grade recited a psalm, and our Concert Choir performed Precious Lord. The seniors ended the celebration by distributing red carnations with handmade thank you cards from our grammar school students. We are so thankful for our veterans!

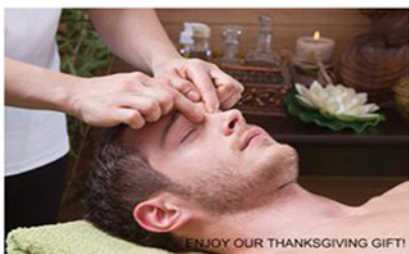




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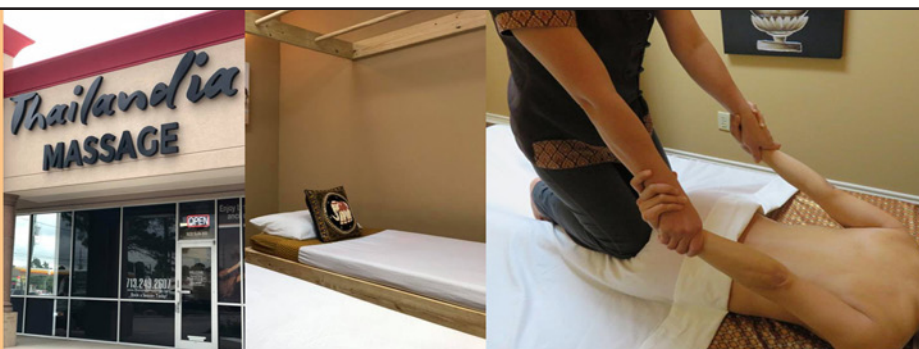
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## VFW Honors President George Bush

by Jackie Devine



Donna Morse, VFW Auxiliary President representing Cypress VFW Post 8905, along with Honor guards from VFW Post 8790 were among the flag waving-crowd that lined the tracks of Spring, TX as the special funeral train pulled by locomotive 4141 carried George H. W. Bush to his final resting place on the grounds of his presidential library.

VFW members and other patriotic Americans dedicate millions of hours each year working to spread patriotism and honor our nation's heroes.

From volunteering at VA hospitals and visiting classrooms to youth scholarships and recognizing teachers and scouts, the VFW is in the community.



**Saluting our Kids** - Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students from across the country enter to win a share of the \$2.2 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the VFW's Voice of Democracy audio-essay competition.



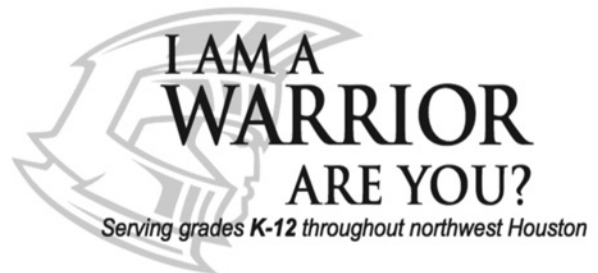
And annually, more than 125,000 students in grades 6-8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. The first-place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$50,000, with each first-place state winner receiving a minimum of \$500 at the national level.

On January 9th, VFW Post 8905 will host a dinner to honor Cypress area winners.

**Additional Events:** Steak Night on January 4th



## CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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## CYPRESS AREA FOOD PANTRY New Days And Times

Do you know of someone who has trouble putting food on the table? Maybe their employment was suddenly terminated; maybe it's a choice between medications or food; for whatever reason a family can find themselves in a situation where they need a little help.

Fountain of Life Church of God on Mueschke Road runs a food pantry twice a month from 3:30 pm till 5 pm. Please call 281-373-9337 for days of service.

The only requirement is that the family requesting food should live in zip code 77433 and west of Skinner 77429.

Food donations and volunteers are also greatly appreciated.



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