



The Official Newsletter
of the Lakes of Rosehill
Homeowners Association

The Rosehill *Report*

February 2019

Volume 10, Issue 2

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

94 Is Just A Number!



That is what Sam Riccaforte said the day he celebrated his 94th birthday and took the leap for the 4th time at Skydive Spaceland in Alvin, Texas.

He was surrounded by a bevy of family, friends and church members, including Jo Ann Lambert and Jackie Devine, coordinator of Fairfield Seniors of Cypress—his traveling buddies, to watch him sail through the air with the exclusive Tandem Progression and Skydiver Training Team, some of the most experienced skydivers in the industry.

Not one to sit still, Sam also coordinated the March trip for the Fairfield Seniors of Cypress. Sam arranged for the Seniors to tour state of the art Mounted Patrol and

Houston Police K-9 Facilities. The complex is located at Houston Police Department Mounted Patrol Facility, 5005 Little York Rd. Houston, Tx.

At present, there are thirty-eight (38) horses in their herd. These horses represent many different breeds, some of which are: Percheron; Belgium; Quarter Horse; Hanoverian; Tennessee Walker; Dutch Warmblood; Thoroughbred; and Spotted Saddle Horse. There are currently thirty-two (32) police mounts assigned to patrol duty. Each officer is issued one mount and is responsible for the care and wellbeing of the horse.

Originating in 1959, the Houston Police Department's K-9 Unit Program is one of the oldest Patrol Divisions on the department. There are currently thirty-nine teams in the K-9 unit which are assigned to various sections throughout the police department.

Let Sam be an inspiration to us all for staying active, involved and well connected in Cypress.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire	911
Ambulance.....	911
Constable	281-376-3472
Sheriff - Non-emergency	713-221-6000
- Burglary & Theft	713-967-5770
- Auto Theft	281-550-0458
- Homicide/Assault	713-967-5810
- Child Abuse.....	713-529-4216
- Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence	713-967-5743
- Runaway Unit	713-755-7427
Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Traffic Light Issues	713-881-3210

SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD Administration	281-897-4000
Cypress Fairbanks ISD Transportation	281-897-4380
Cypress Fairbanks Senior High	281-897-4600
Cy-Woods High School	281-213-1727
Goodson Middle School	281-373-2350

OTHER NUMBERS

Animal Control	281-999-3191
Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center	281-890-4285
Harris County Health Department.....	713-439-6260
Post Office Box Assignment – Cypress.....	1-800-275-8777
Street Lights - CenterPoint Energy.....	713-207-2222
- not working (Report Number on Pole)	
Waste Management	713-686-6666

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Join The Circus And The World Is Your Oyster

Have you ever thought about running away and joining the circus? The truth is, becoming a circus acrobat is not as easy as you think. But if you could accomplish it, your life would be changed by epic proportions.

"As a street kid growing up in a St. Louis inner-city Black neighborhood, never venturing from the two-block area where I lived, the only thing I knew about life was what I saw around me" commented Sidney Bateman, Hoop Diving and Chinese Poles acrobat.

"Left motherless at three; I was raised by my grandmother and never knew my dad. I had seven siblings and with little supervision, it was more or less every man for himself. I don't know that I ever felt a real sense of family. To make matters worse, I was a hyper kid, craved attention, and frequently sought approval and acceptance from the gang. Looking back on it, you might say I grew up in a combat zone. The sound of gunshots, sirens blaring, and having friends and family members shot or killed were all regular occurrences."

Toys, bikes, and athletic equipment were a scarce commodity for Sidney. For recreation, the kids in the Walnut Park community where he lived, would gather on vacant barren lots and have flip-offs competing against one another by flipping, spinning, and doing acrobatics.

"I joined Circus Harmony when I was eleven, even though I had one foot in the door of joining the gang. I honestly can't tell you when I joined the gang," he confessed. "My brothers and uncles were gang members. I thought that was in my future as well. But miraculously, Circus kept nudging me. For a time, I was pulled in both directions, Circus and the gang. I was always trying to balance out the two."

For those that have never heard of St. Louis-based Circus Harmony, it is a social circus-based program that uses circus arts to motivate social change. They do it by building character in individuals and building bridges between communities. Titles and labels are nonexistent. The only thing that matters is what they (the individual) bring to the ring.

From the beginning, learning to trust and be part of a team were hard lessons for Sidney to grasp. Working with others was a struggle. Having someone telling him what to do and dealing with accountability felt like insurmountable challenges. He suffered from bouts where he just gave up and dropped out.

"But, somehow, even though young and naïve, I began to develop a degree of trust and make sense of acrobatics. The sport became my magnet drawing me back into the program. Somehow, I recognized that my talent could take me somewhere. Circus classes became my escape from the harsh reality I was dealing with at home and in the neighborhood. Unknowingly, using circus arts with a definite intention, I began my journey.

"In my junior year of high school, I got into a huge gang fight at school and was expelled. Then my friend got shot and killed. That was my turning point. I knew I didn't want to be another statistic." Musing on the problems he faced, he said, "There had to be a different path for me."

(Continued on Page 3)

LAKEs OF ROSEHILL

(Continued from Page 2)

Shortly after committing to training more seriously, Sidney joined the Elite Troupe of Circus Harmony; a pre-professional program that was focusing on mastering specific circus disciplines. And, at the end of high school, Sidney decided to make a career out of the circus. Believing in his talent, the manager of Circus Harmony helped him to get to Montreal, Canada to audition for the National Circus School. To his surprise, Sidney got accepted in the College Program with a specialization in Hoop Diving.

École Nationale de Cirque (ENC) gave him a purpose and hope of international in scope. The ENC is a higher-education institution dedicated to the education and training of professional circus artists, as well as to research and innovation in circus arts and academic curriculum.

Sidney proudly emphasized, "Not only could I relate, but I was also willing to give it my all. I trained my butt off. I became a much better human being. After acceptance, I entered into a week-long acrobatic audition process that I've been told was harder to accomplish than getting into Harvard or Yale. On April 1, 2011, I got the news: "I HAD MADE IT." And that felt like I had arrived home because I knew that was the beginning of something amazing."

Studying at ENC for three years, Sidney was introduced to the world of contemporary circus. He even conquered the French language and became fluent in it. He successfully graduated in 2014 alongside his St. Louis friend Melvin Diggs (also a Circus Harmony alumnus) as a Hoop Diving duo.

For two and a half years, the pair took part in the creation and international tour of Cuisines & Confessions, a production of the Montreal-based circus company 7 Fingers. Other career highlights include a summer with the Chicago Midnight Circus, a fashion show for Hermès in Hong Kong, and a collection launch for Bench in Manila.

In 2017, Cirque du Soleil got in touch with Sidney and Melvin and invited them to join the cast of LUZIA on tour. Cirque du Soleil, headquartered in Montreal, Quebec, Canada is a Canadian entertainment company and the largest theatrical producer in the world.

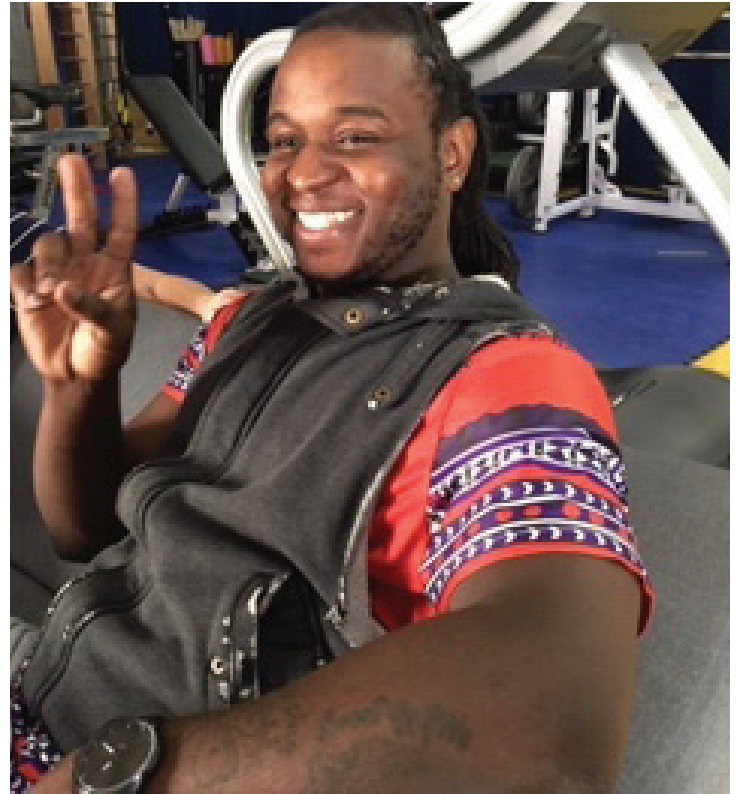
Reflecting, Sidney smiled, saying, "Now I am finally part of a family where I've found a place of love, accountability, and commitment."

Sidney is thrilled to have jumped into this adventure and to have been given the opportunity to share his passion with thousands of people every night through his two favorite circus disciplines: Hoop Diving & Chinese Poles.

Not only does he feel that his ultimate childhood dream has come true, but he has also found his life's purpose: to share his story with youth around the world and to help the "kids" who need help by inspiring them to work hard toward achieving their goals.

When you have the opportunity to see Cirque du Soleil's LUZIA at the Sam Houston Race Park, be sure to pay special attention when Sidney performs his Hoop Diving and Chinese Poles acrobatics.

LUZIA opened in Houston on January 10th, 2019 for a limited engagement through February 24th, 2019.



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LAKES OF ROSEHILL

Community of Faith to Host Night to Shine Prom for People with Special Needs

Sponsored by Tim Tebow Foundation

Community of Faith announced today that they will serve as one of nearly 500 churches around the world already registered to host Night to Shine 2019, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, simultaneously on Friday, February 8 of next year. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older, hosted by local churches in all 50 states and across the globe all on one night. COF is excited to be a part of this worldwide movement that God is using as a catalyst to change how culture embraces people with special needs and to rally the church worldwide to stand up for those who are differently-abled.

Every guest of Night to Shine enters this complimentary event on a red carpet complete with a warm welcome from a friendly crowd and paparazzi. Once inside, guests receive the royal treatment, including hair and makeup stations, shoe shining areas, limousine rides, corsages and boutonnieres, a catered dinner, karaoke, prom favors, a dance floor... all leading up to the moment when each guest is crowned king or queen of the prom.

"I am blown away by how we are seeing God use the Church to step into this space as an advocate for people with special needs. It's not about my foundation or the churches themselves, but about communities coming together to love and celebrate people with differences. Every town, every village, every state, every country needs a Night to Shine for their special needs community – a chance to be a part of something significant and life-

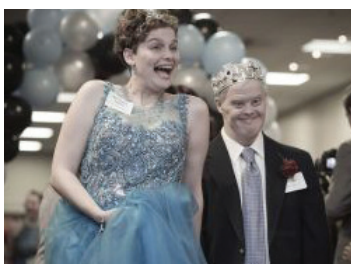
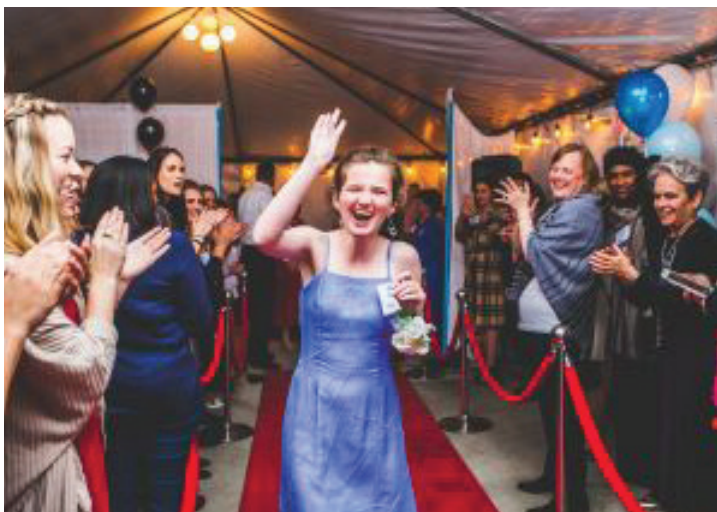


changing...and to be blessed in the process," said Tim Tebow, founder of the Tim Tebow Foundation.

As sponsor of Night to Shine, the Tim Tebow Foundation will provide each host church with the official 2019 Night to Shine Planning Manual, the official Night to Shine Prom Kit, complete with decorations and gifts for the guests, and personalized guidance and support from a Tim Tebow Foundation staff member. The foundation also has committed millions of dollars in financial support to hundreds of churches needing assistance in hosting the event.

When Night to Shine launched in 2015, 44 host churches and 15,000 volunteers worked together to honor more than 7,000 kings and queens of the prom. This past February, 537 host churches and 175,000 volunteers came together to celebrate 90,000 honored guests with special needs. Now in its fifth anniversary year, the Tim Tebow Foundation is seeing new churches sign up continuously and the event is expected to take place in over 700 locations this coming February.

For additional information on the Night to Shine hosted by Community of Faith in Hockley, visit COF.church or on the worldwide movement of Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, visit: <http://www.timtebowfoundation.org/index.php/night-to-shine/>



KNOW YOUR RISK

Take this first step in protecting yourself against heart disease. Join the experts at Houston Methodist Willowbrook Hospital for:

- Free heart screenings, including cholesterol and blood pressure readings, to learn your 10-year risk for heart disease
- Talk with an expert about your results

Free Heart Screening Event
Thursday, Feb. 28 | 6-8 p.m.

Houston Methodist Willowbrook Hospital
18220 State Hwy. 249
Conference Center, 1st Floor
Houston, TX 77070

Light refreshments provided.

Visit houstonmethodist.org/heart-event to reserve your spot.



LAKEs OF ROSEHILL

Second Baptist Church

Come join us on February 24th for Round Up Sunday in Bible Study at 9:30am and Worship at 11:00am! This will be a Sunday you'll want to come in your best western gear – cowboy boots included! Adult Bible Study will have a fun breakfast in each class! Second Kids (ages birth – 5th grade) and Second Students (middle and high school) invite you to come dressed up in your cowgirl or cowboy outfits and be a part of the fun western games, snack, and festivities.

We would love for you and your family to come be part of this exciting Sunday with us!



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Adult English Classes At English Gateway



English Gateway is a program designed to teach conversational English. The vision and desire of English Gateway is to assist international families in learning and improving English skills to help them live and be successful here in the United States. We offer 6 different levels and have open registration throughout the CFISD school year. Childcare is available for free for pre-school

children as long as they are registered beforehand.

- Where does English Gateway meet? We meet at Bayou City Fellowship, 12715 Telge Rd., Cypress, TX 77429.
- When does English Gateway meet? We offer two options: Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:30 am; Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:30 pm.

- What is the school calendar?

English Gateway classes coincide with CFISD school calendar

- When can I register and start class?

There is open registration so you can come any Thursday, take a placement test, and go immediately to class.

How much does it cost? There is a one-time fee of \$20 for the books; classes are free.

For more information, please contact the English Gateway Program Coordinator: esl@bayoucityfellowship.com.



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 to 5 pm. Please call 281-373-9337 for days of service. The only requirement is that the client should live in zip code 77433 and west of Skinner 77429.

Food donations and volunteers are also greatly appreciated.

School Athletes Can Register for Club Track

Now in its 32nd year, the Northwest Flyers Track Club is accepting registrations for all middle and high school athletes for the spring and summer 2019 season. The team is sanctioned by USA Track & Field, and offers a full program of "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, discus, shot put and javelin and pole vault. It is an excellent "off-season" program for young athletes who currently compete on their middle school or high school track teams.

The team was founded 32 years ago by local Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the northwest Houston area. In July, 2018 the Northwest Flyers

had one of its most successful competitions ever at the Junior Olympics in Greensboro, NC.

In order to register, athletes must first attend one of the orientation sessions in March or April, 2019, which are listed on the team website at www.northwestflyers.org. For additional information about the team, email linette.roach@sbcglobal.net and "Like" the club on Facebook.



Cy-Fair Republican Women February Meeting

Cy-Fair Republican Women February Meeting
CFRW will meet on Tuesday, July 10th at 10:30 AM.

Hearthstone Country Club,
7615 Ameswood, Houston, TX 77095
Meeting is \$3 – Meeting with Lunch at Noon is \$23.

See the website for details and RSVP to www.cfrw.net
by February 5th.

You can register and pay on the website also.

There is much to be done prior to the next election cycle. We look forward to many new faces and opportunities to promote our Republican candidates. We need you with us to get our ideals advanced locally, statewide and nationally. Give CFRW a try!

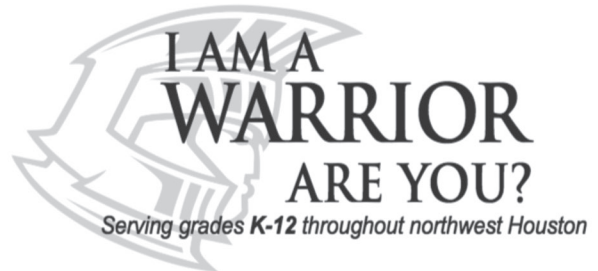
Check our website for the August Social, an evening event on Friday, August 3rd.

Nancy Roberts-Publicity Chair

713-466-4199 or nancyroberts004@att.net

Cy-Fair Republican Women: info@cfrw.net

CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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