

SPECTATOR

March 2019

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS CREEK LAKES

Volume 8, Issue 3

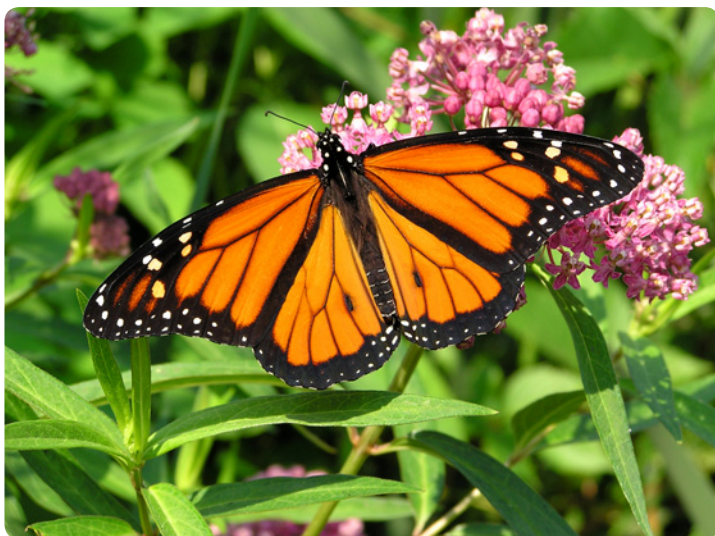
See A Live Butterfly Release!

Come see a LIVE butterfly release, have some great food, and enjoy some family fun! Messiah Lutheran Church is hosting its annual Butterfly Family Festival on Sunday, March 31, 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM.

The event will include a BBQ lunch, silent auction, raffles for adults and children, games, and activities for all ages. Activities include an inflatable slide and basketball, cake walk, book walk, train on wheels, music with a local DJ, and an egg hunt for children ages 1 to 5 and another one for ages 6 to 10. Raffle items include a Ring Doorbell security system and a basket full of gift cards from local businesses. Tickets for all activities can be purchased that day. Craft booths are available for vendors; please call 281 807 0764 for details.

The day's events will benefit Chrysalis, A Grace Place for Children, by providing scholarships to families that attend our school and improvements to the playground. Chrysalis features a Christian preschool, after school, and summer camp programs. Chrysalis Christian Preschool admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin. Call 281-807-0764 or go to www.messiahlc.org/events for further information.

Messiah Lutheran Church is a grace place, 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 9:15-10:30 am on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or www.messiahlc.org. All people are welcome at Messiah.



11:30 am - 3:00 pm
Messiah Lutheran Church
Butterfly Family Festival
Sunday, March 31, 2019
11522 Telge Rd., Cypress, TX 77429

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Ambulance.....	911
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- 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.....	800.222.1221
Traffic Light Issues	713.881.3210

SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD Administration	281.897.4000
Cypress Fairbanks ISD Transportation	281.897.4380
Warner Elementary	281.213.1650
Smith Middle School	281.213.1010
Cy-Ranch High School	281.373.2300

UTILITIES

CenterPoint Energy.....	713.659.2111
En-Touch (Customer Service)	281.225.1000
Reliant Energy.....	713.207.2222
Water - Severn Trent.....	281.646.2383
Waste Management - Trash	713.686.6666

OTHER NUMBERS

Animal Control.....	281.999.3191
Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center.....	281.890.4285
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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Free Community Event!

2nd Annual Northwest Preschool Preview

Come learn more about NW area preschools. Representatives from multiple area preschools will be in attendance. This is a free interactive event, including Budding Engineers, Scholastic Books, Houston Phot Booth, the Balloon Lady of Houston and more! Open to everyone!

Date: Sunday, April 7, 2019

Location: Cypress Christian School | East Gym
11123 Cypress N Houston Rd
Houston, TX 77065
Time: 2-4 p.m.

ACSI Elementary Spelling Bee

CCS had nine elementary students from grades 3-5 participated in the ACSI Spelling Bee in Huntsville, TX in January. These students worked hard and competed strong against many other private schools in our area. We are proud of their hard work!

Swimmers Advance to State Meet

CCS took 11 swimmers to the TAPPS regional meet and will be sending four relay teams and two individual swimmers on to the TAPPS State Swim Meet in February.

Elliott Jones set two school records, both of which he had set last year. Jones will be the number one seed in the 200 IM with a time of 1:54.8 and in the 100 Back with a time of 50.44. Preston Witschonke also broke his own school record in the 100 Breast with a time of 1:16.88. He finished 4th and advanced to the state finals!



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8TH ANNUAL WINE FAIR CY-FAIR

Celebrating Cy-Fair by celebrating Sponsors, Restaurants & Vendors - Raising Funds for Deserving Organizations



The eight annual Wine Fair Cy-Fair presented by H-E-B, Tom Peacock Cadillac, Animal ER of NW Houston, is returning to Cypress Village Station on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This year's Wine Fair Theme is "International Flair" and will celebrate cultural diversity and how it translates to wine and food.

Wine Fair Cy-Fair celebrates Cy-Fair businesses and residents with a vast array of food and beverage selections, fun engaging features, sponsor displays, home zone exhibitions, vendors, local artisans as well as the Bridgeland live music stage featuring local favorite The Sound Advice Band which will keep the crowd dancing throughout the event.

This year's event will also honor local resident and wine aficionado, Vince Foligno, as Honorary Chairman. Vince is a much beloved Wine Steward and has served at H-E-B since the year 2000 as Wine and Beer Manager, and is currently serving at the Vintage Market location.

Attendees enjoy the festival atmosphere as they sip, savor and meander through the displays featuring over 200 wines, 35 restaurants, the H-E-B Culinary Corner, and more. Getting ahead of the crowd is easy with an upgrade to the All That Sparkles pre-party sparkling hour. Only 100 people can start the evening sipping on champagne and bubbly wines at Hanan's Café for a \$20 upgrade. Limited tickets are available to both the pre-party and the Mercantil Bank VIP Premium Lounge, featuring premium wines and culinary fare. VIP ticket holders walk away with a swag bag full of surprises and an upgraded keepsake wine glass.

General admission tickets are \$40 per person, and include access to unlimited food samples, wine tastings, and interactive displays. Five dollars from every general admission ticket will benefit Reach Unlimited. Reach Unlimited will also host a wine pull and silent auction. VIP tickets are \$75 per person, and include early entrance to the festival with a VIP lounge offering elevated food selections by Grupo Herrero. Grupo Herrero's international offerings will feature upscale VIP tastings by Alicia's Mexican Grille, Dario's

Steakhouse & Seafood, Marvin's Italian Kitchen, and Galiana's Bakery & Café.

Wine Fair offers a robust Beer Garden for craft beer enthusiasts presented by The Nest Wisely Realty Group and America's ER. The Beer Garden will feature host and beer expert, Chad Pilbeam, Certified Cicerone®, Host of What's On Tap Radio and Founder of Beer Logic Conferences and Events, will be the resident craft brew specialist. Scores of cold craft beers include local favorites such as Karbach, 11 Below, and Cy-Fair's newest brewery Klaus Brewing. Wine Fair's Beer Garden will also offer an expansive beer list and interactive display.

There will be 35 tasting stations from a diverse restaurant scene serving international treasures to delight your taste buds and satisfy any appetite. Designated driver tickets are available for a reduced amount.

Other sponsors to date include Mercantil Bank, Wonder Pet Rehab & Recovery, Crowned Regent Productions, America's ER, Nest Wisely Realty Group, Cypress Village Station, The Tippet Dental Group, Encompass Health, Bridgeland, Celebrity Cruises, VillaSport, Team Tookey Martial Arts, Banfi Vintners, Constellation Brands, Llano Estacado Winery, Palm Bay International, The Wine Group and PGA Superstore. Also, special thanks to Acme Party and Tent, All About Katy, Artistic Experiences, Balloon Décor, Chad Gaulding Kwik Kopy Business Solutions, Cypress Lifestyle Magazine, Genesis Photographer, Hanan's Café, Hometown Social, JPL Entertainment, Kelley Sweet Photography, Lindsay Lakes, Linens and Events, Lunalux, SpeedPro Imaging, and Zero Point Organics.

Sponsorship, restaurant and vendor opportunities are still available. If interested in participating in Wine Fair Cy-Fair, visit www.winecyfair.com or call Food & Vine Time Productions at (713) 557-5732 or the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce at (281) 373-1390.



Aeration Now Can Help Your Spring and Summer Irrigation

In order to prepare your lawn for a healthy spring growing season, you should employ basic lawn care practices at this time of year, which includes aerating your yard. It is important that nutrients reach the soil beneath your grass, and aeration can help you get that done.

Aeration involves making small holes in the soil to allow air, water and nutrients to get to the grass roots.

This helps the roots grow deeper and produce a stronger, more vibrant lawn.

Aerating helps alleviate soil compaction. Compacted soils have too many solid particles in a space, which prevents proper circulation of air, water and nutrients within the soil. Excess lawn thatch or heavy organic debris buried under the grass surface can also starve the roots from these essential elements.

So when is the right time to get this aeration done? These next six to eight weeks leading up to the spring season, when grass begins to grow again, is a good time to aerate.

The two main aeration tools are the spike aerator and a plug aerator. The spike aerator poke holes in the ground with a solid piece of metal. Plug aerators remove a core or plug of grass and soil from the lawn. Most landscaping companies and horticulturists recommend the use of the plug aerator. The machines can be rented or you can have a lawn care service aerate for you. After aerating, it's always a good idea to apply about a half-inch of compost over the aerated yard. The compost fills in the holes left by the plug aerator and brings organic materials into the root zone.

If you have noticed that your turfgrass isn't looking its best or that water has difficulty penetrating through the soil surface, it may be time to aerate your lawn. Lawns with clay soils that get a lot of foot traffic typically require aeration more often as they become compacted over time. Here's a great tip to check to see if your yard needs to be aerated.

Using a shovel, dig a square-foot section of grass about six inches deep and take a look at it. If the grass roots don't extend further than two inches deep into the soil, your lawn would benefit from aeration.

If you plan to aerate your own yard, here are a few helpful tips to get the job done.

- Before you get started, make sure the soil is moist enough. There's nothing more frustrating than trying to aerate soil that is bone dry. Aerating the day after a rain shower or watering your lawn the day before is advised.

- Most aeration machines cover only a small percentage of soil surface per pass, so make multiple passes over the most compacted areas. Save resources (and your energy) by leaving unaffected areas alone.

- The soil plugs can be left on the ground after aeration and allowed to decompose. Or, you can rake them into piles to throw in the compost bin. However, this isn't necessary as it should take about two to four weeks for the soil cores to break down naturally. Sprinkle compost (sand or peat moss can be used instead of compost)

over the lawn to fill in the holes.

- An aeration myth is that if you apply a pre-emergent herbicide on your lawn in the spring, aerating your lawn will destroy the herbicide "barrier." This is not true — research shows that aeration will not affect crabgrass control or weed prevention.

After aerating, it's important to continue appropriate lawn care practices.

Aerating will help you save water over the spring and summer seasons. Instead of running off or only penetrating a few inches, water will be better absorbed in an aerated yard. That makes your entire landscape and your water bill happier.

Did you know...

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, outdoor water use varies greatly depending upon geographic location. In dry climates such as that in the Trinity Glen Rose District, a household's outdoor water use can be as high as 60 percent. Some experts estimate that as much as 50% of that irrigation water is wasted due to inefficient watering techniques, wind and evaporation.



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Conference Center, 1st Floor
Houston, TX 77070

Refreshments and giveaways

To register, visit houstonmethodist.org/events or call 281.737.2500.

Blessings for Food Pantry & Children: Messiah Lutheran's Community Garden



Why are people growing little plants under lights in their dining room? Why are other people growing 35 sweet potatoes in pots on their porch? It might seem suspicious or odd, but these people are getting ready for the spring planting at Messiah Lutheran's Community Garden.

Mike Strickler notes, "It is awesome to be part of this team project. Besides delighting in God's creation,

we donate these vegetables and fruits to Cypress Assistance Ministries (CAM). We recognized a need for fresh produce for those who are less fortunate and decided to use our varied talents to make a difference." In the past year, over 365 lbs. of fresh produce were donated.

Imagine the weight of crates filled with produce or the smell of cilantro filling the car. When Diana and Mike Kalb witnessed these deliveries to CAM, they were filled with pride and joy. They understood the hard work of preparation, planting, and harvesting that had been involved.

Henry Lombrana, the Director of the Food Pantry at CAM, notes that clients love having fresh produce, instead of only canned goods. This option is not available at some other food pantries. Fortunately, CAM's partners like Messiah Lutheran and some local grocery stores provide fresh vegetables and fruits, which are otherwise too expensive for a limited budget. Also, CAM has "Special Delivery" clients (mostly seniors or individuals with disabilities) who appreciate receiving fresh produce. These items are a God-send, especially if they are on low-sodium or low-sugar diets and cannot use most of the canned goods at the food pantry.

Gardening also evokes good memories of working with soil, mulch, and plants for many people. If you like getting your hands dirty, come and join us in tending to God's creation. If you want to learn more about gardening, take some free classes from our master gardener, Ron Richter, and maybe make small plots in your own yard. These classes are offered on a regular basis.

Messiah's Chrysalis Preschool has their own bed in the Community Garden, and Messiah members have developed a preschool



(Continued on Page 7)

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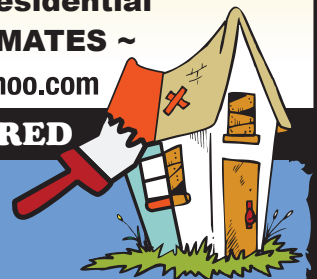
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(Continued on Page 6)

curriculum, which passes on the legacy of gardening. They really like being outside and having hands-on learning. They are excited to work their own plot, water the plants, and harvest the goods. Plus, the children get to taste different varieties of vegetables and to take a baggie of delicious home-grown produce to share with their families. Given that a theme this summer is "Garden to Table," some kids might be imagining their own garden one day!

Gardening is special in so many different ways. Messiah Lutheran is deeply grateful to connect with God's creation and care for God's people with their Community Garden.



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