NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BRIDGELAND

JANUARY 2020

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Volume 14, Issue

Tomball Art



to paint! She likes, as often as possible, to surround herself with creative people who are comfortable with an occasional bout of fun, who don't mind getting messy with paint and who consider it a point of pride to wear staining colors under their fingernails. Susan never attended kindergarten and is on a lifelong remedial journey toward achieving that skill set.

The Tomball Art League welcomes guest demo artist Susan Giannantonio who loves

"To play is to discover."-SG

Our meetings are held in the LSC-Tomball Community Library meeting room, 30555 Tomball Pkwy, 77375. Join us at 10:30 (doors open at 10:00) for a brief business meeting followed by socializing/networking and finish

with an inspiring demo artist.

Are you an artist? Do you work in watercolor, acrylics or oils? Do you work in clay? Pastels? Are you a photographer? If you enjoy fine art we invite you to join the Tomball Art League and see what we are all about. Memberships are a nominal annual due of \$25/single or \$35/family. We gather together to promote Art Appreciation in Tomball and the surrounding communities and are always striving to meet new artists in the area! Meeting and demo is free and open to the public! Check us out, you/'ll be surprised!

Visit our website for more information. www.thetomballartleague.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

BRIDGELAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS (HOA)

16902 Bridgeland Landing Cypress, TX 77433 281-304-1318 **Community Manager**

Melissa Hargrovemelissa.hargrove@inframark.com

*Lakeland Community Manager Valier Bir.....*valerie.bir@inframark.com

Administrative Assistant - Activities Director

Iliana Zuniga.....iliana.zuniga@inframark.com

Administrative Assistant - Compliance & Architectural Suzanne Hilton...... suzanne.hilton@inframark.com

> **Parkland Assistant Community Manager** Tiffany Polichnia

Receptionist & Front Desk

Fritzy Lopez...... fritzy.lopez@inframark.com

Landscape Manager

Kevin Brown kevin.brown@inframark.com

Maintenance Manager Robert J. Allard

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North Cypress Medical Center		
Willowbrook Methodist		
Memorial Hermann Cypress		
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Cy-Fair ISD		
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Pope Elementary School		
Robison Elementary School		
Warner Elementary School		
Wells Elementary School		
Spillane Middle School	281-213-1645	
Smith Middle School	281-213-1010	
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Cy Ranch High School		
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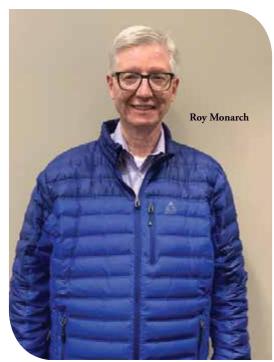
THE TIMES A newsletter for Bridgeland residents.

The Times is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Bridgeland residents. Each newsletter is filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports activity, social group, etc. and would like to submit an article for the newsletter you can do so online at www.PEELinc.com or you can email it <u>bridgeland@peelinc.com</u>. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations, birthday announcements and military service are also welcome.*Our goal is to keep you informed*!



Why Join the Cypress Hot Talker Toastmasters (TM) Club?



Ask Roy Monarch, who belongs to Cypress Hot Talkers Toastmasters, who just completed Level Four Presentation Mastery. Many Congratulations to Roy!

The Hot Talkers TM club provides a great opportunity for meeting new residents within the Cypress community, while building confidence, developing communication, and leadership skills.

Our meetings afford everyone an opportunity to:

- Facilitate Meetings (leadership track)
- Deliver prepared speeches (communication track)
- Members present one-to two-minute impromptu speeches on assigned topics
- Offering constructive evaluation

When does the Cypress Hot Talkers Toastmasters club meet?

Our club meets Tuesday January 14 of from 7:00 p.m. – 8: 00 p.m. at the Bridgeland Fire Station #13, 10222 Westgreen Blvd Cypress, Tx 77433. Visitors are very welcome.

Join Us for a Special Business Networking Event

On Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 pm just before the Toastmasters Meeting, please join us for a half n hour social networking event for business owners in the Cypress area. Business owners are invited as well as folks interested in learning about Toastmasters.





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AHFC Junior Hurricanes (JH) Soccer Registration For the Spring 2020 Now Open

The Junior Hurricanes Soccer League (JH) is led by professional United States Soccer Federation (USSF) licensed staff and is designed for boys & girls who want to play and have fun in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment. The JHSL program is being offered at multiple locations and in conjunction with CFSA at the Schiel Road Complex. To learn more about each location and to register please visit www. albionhurricanes.org. Season begins in February!

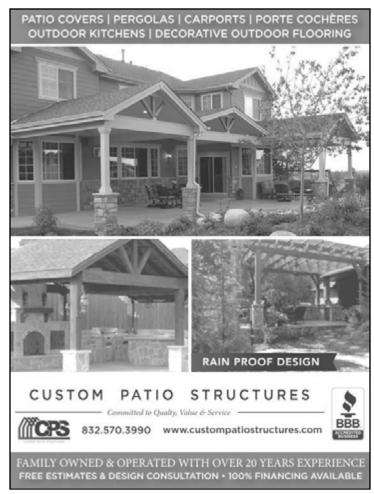
For those wishing only to train, join us in Katy for AHFC Friday Night Academy. Visit Katy Youth Soccer to register for this Friday Fun Program.

AHFC is proud to partner with New Territory and offer New Territory Thursday Night Academy, a 5-week Skills Program.

Email us at jhsl@albionhurricanes.org for more information or questions.

Office Phone:713-939-7473

Want a more competitive program? Join AHFC! Call us and we can find you a team: 713-939-7473. Website: www.albionhurricanes.orgRegards,



Cypress Christian School Update

Senior Swimmer Qualifies for Olympic Trials

Elliott Jones is already committed to Auburn University as he looks to defend his TAPPS state titles from the last two seasons. This summer, he qualified for the Olympic Trials being held in Omaha, Nebraska in June of 2020 with a qualifying time of 2:02.88 in the 200-meter backstroke. At the end of the summer, he reached the finals in the Speedo Summer Junior Nationals in both the 100 and 200-meter backstroke. He made the top eight in the 200-meter, which earned him a medal and spot on the podium.



Eighth-Graders Serve at Houston Food Bank

The eighth-grade class went to the Houston Food Bank in early December. One group of students worked in the refrigerated section sorting fruit while another group sorted and boxed up dry products. It was a great day spent working together to help provide food for families in need!

Operation Christmas Child

Elementary and middle school students donated items, wrote letters and packed 90 Christmas boxes for the Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child" project. The organization works together with schools to assemble shoe boxes filled with various gift items and messages of God's love. The Christmas boxes will be delivered to children in countries all around the world.

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Are You New to Houston or Gardening?

Join Us at Messiah Lutheran Church for Free Winter Gardening Classes! February 4-18, 2020

New to Houston or to gardening? Messiah is offering free gardening classes to the community this winter. Join us at Messiah Lutheran Church to learn best practices in organic gardening.

The free gardening classes will consist of three one-hour sessions happening on Tuesday, September 10, 17 and 24 at 7 pm in the Messiah's Community Room. In addition to the gardening classes we will also be offering a free session on Bee Pollination on Saturday, September 21 at 10 am given by Matt Brantley of BZ Honey in our Fellowship Hall.

Evening Gardening Class @ 7 pm

September 10: Planning a Successful Garden September 17: Soil Management and Plant Selection September 24: Time to Plant Selection and Resources to Use If you are interested in learning more about organic gardening, please sign up at http://www.messiahlc.org/current-events

Messiah Lutheran Church is a Lutheran Faith Community, 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.

Northwest Flyers Kids

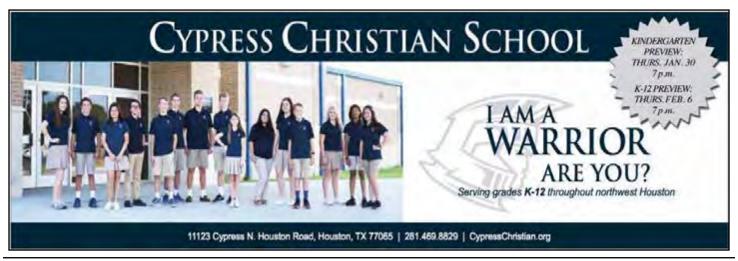


Register for the Northwest Flyers Kids Track Club 2020 Season Ready, Set, Go! Calling all youth ages 6 - 18! Join the Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club for its 33rd Anniversary season by attending a free team Registration/Orientation Breakfast on Saturday, February 1st, 2020. The Breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

This event is an opportunity for you to learn about the team, 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 member of USA Track & Field (USATF) and offers a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and "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@sbcglobal.net, or "Like" the club on Facebook.



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Bridgeland Garden Club Update

On December 4, 2019 after gathering and cutting fresh pine branches, each Bridgeland Garden Club member decorated a grapevine wreath with the pine boughs, ribbons, pinecones, mistletoe, & ornaments. Each wreath reflected Christmas cheer and unique artistry.

The Bridgeland Garden Club continues to pay it forward. On December 7th, 2019 over 300 Carlton Daffodils were added to the First Bend Butterfly Garden by club members Nancy Hanson, Kathy Rowe, Lisa Baxter, and Club Co-President Kay Burkhalter. Daffodils bloom in early Spring. Come see the riotous display of color.

Bridgeland Garden Club January 8, 2020 Monthly Meeting Lakeland Village Activity Center 9:30 a.m.

Program: Bridgeland Birds and Plants that Attract Them **Part I:** Selecting Plants that Attract Birds to Your Garden

Nancy Hanson discusses how to attract birds to your garden by selecting plants that grow well in our east Texas climate and that also provide nectar, berries or seeds for our local birds. \$10 fee for nonpaid members.

Part II: Identifying Bridgeland Birds – Photography by Bridgeland Photography Expert

Wayne Wendel shares his professional photography featuring local garden birds, birds of prey, and a large variety of water birds that are attracted to our neighborhood. You will improve your ability to identify these birds as you see photos of them in their native habitat.

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Lunch at a nearby restaurant







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<u>THE TIMES</u>



The Power of Volunteerism

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

I often say that I'm working harder now as a volunteer president of a board of directors than I ever did as a paid employee. The hours are long, the work can be frustrating, and worrying about keeping our doors open is very stressful. But all it takes is for me to hold a tiny, helpless little opossum in my hand or witness the release of an animal back to the wild and I know why I do it. A sense of calm and purpose takes over and I feel great about what I'm doing.

People volunteer for a number of reasons. Some are retired and are looking for something meaningful to do. Some are students wanting to learn more about their chosen field of study. Some feel it's a way to pay it forward and some don't have a choice. They have to complete court-ordered community service.

I think we would all agree that helping others makes a person feel good but did you know that studies show there are health benefits from volunteering? According to Rodlescia Sneed, a public health research associate at Michigan State University who has studied the impacts of volunteering, "In my own work I've shown it's linked to improvements in factors like depressive symptoms, purpose in life, and feelings of optimism." It's also been shown to lower blood pressure and reduces the feelings of depression.

Here's a list of all the benefits of volunteering according to Non-Profit Hub:

• Boosts self-esteem

• Expands your connections - some people are just born with the "gift of gab" and have no trouble talking to others. For those that tend to be shy, it's the perfect opportunity to make new friends with people who share the same interests.

• Makes you feel good

• Contributes to a longer life - volunteers encounter greater longevity and less frequency of heart disease. It can also slow the progress of Alzheimer's and other memory loss diseases. • Gives purpose – as we age, we sometimes feel isolated but no matter who we are or what our age is, volunteering can give our lives new meaning.

• Combats stress – studies actually show the more you volunteer, the happier you become. Your body releases dopamine in the brain when you help others. This has a positive effect on how you feel.

• Sets a good example – as parents, our greatest hope is that our children grow up to be caring, giving adults. What better way to make that happen than to set a good example?

• Teaches new skills – we see it all the time. Volunteers are afraid to pick up a bird, a squirrel or opossum. With encouragement and instruction, they gain confidence and learn not only to pick them up but to feed them. You can see the pride on their faces!

Don't let fear stop you from volunteering. It's very much like starting a new job and for those of you who work, you know how stressful that can be. Every non-profit knows how valuable volunteers are. Volunteers provide their time, energies and talents to help non-profits fulfill their missions. Most non-profits have limited budgets and volunteers are the reason many non-profits are able to operate and keep the bills paid.

The most important thing to remember is to do what interests you. Do you like working with senior citizens? The homeless? Dogs and cats? If you volunteer somewhere and find it's not for you, keep looking until you find your passion.

If caring for injured, orphaned or displaced wildlife is of interest to you, please contact us. Maybe you don't want to handle animals but would like to recruit fellow volunteers, work in fundraising or design brochures. We have many different areas where you can offer your time and talents. Give Berri a call at 713.468.8972.

Make a New Year's resolution to volunteer. You'll be pleasantly surprised how this will add to your life!

Fruit Flies



Fruit flies can become a nuisance problem at any time of year. They can enter homes from ripe fruits or vegetables picked from the garden or purchased at the grocery store. Fruit fly adults may also fly into homes from outdoors.

Adult fruit flies are small (about 1/8 of an inch) and often have red eyes. The front portion of the body is tan while the back portion is dark brown to black. If given the opportunity, females can lay up to 500 eggs. Larvae are surface feeders on fermenting foods or other organic matter, which means that you can cut off the overripe parts of the fruit or vegetable and eat the rest.

To prevent bringing fruit flies into your home, do not purchase over ripened fruit and vegetables. Eat fresh produce in a timely manner and store items in the refrigerator or a paper bag that is clipped closed. All recyclables should be rinsed thoroughly before placing them into the recycling bin. Recycling and garbage bins should be cleaned on a regular basis with soapy water to eliminate any spilled material.

If your home already has fruit flies, locate all sources of infestation

(where the larvae are living) and eliminate them. Insecticides only target adults and will not control the problem. While searching and eliminating breeding sources, a trap can be constructed to capture adult flies. Create a paper funnel by rolling paper and taping it closed. Place the funnel into a jar that has a small amount of apple cider vinegar in the bottom.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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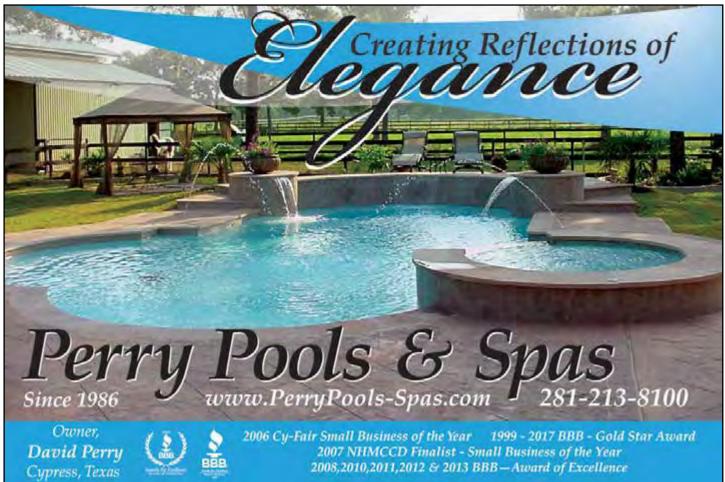
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